

A HISTORY OF FREEMASONRY IN LINCOLNSHIRE:

BEING A
RECORD OF ALL EXTINCT AND EXISTING
LODGES, CHAPTERS, &c. ;
A CENTURY OF THE WORKING OF
PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE AND THE WITHAM LODGE ;
TOGETHER WITH
BIOGRAPHICAL NOTICES OF
PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTERS AND OTHER
EMINENT MASONS OF THE COUNTY.

BY
WILLIAM DIXON, P.M. 297,
Honorary Librarian of Provincial Grand Lodge.

WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY
W. J. HUGHAN,
Past Grand Deacon of England.

Lincoln :
BRO. JAMES WILLIAMSON, 290 HIGH STREET.

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LINCOLN :

BRO. JAMES WILLIAMSON, PRINTER, 290 HIGH STREET.

To
William Henry Smyth,
Esquire,
of Elkington Hall,
Provincial Grand Master of Lincolnshire,
and for Fifty Years a faithful Brother of the Craft,
this History of Freemasonry in the County
is respectfully dedicated,
with most sincere and fraternal regard,
by
The Author.

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Preface.

IN view of the Centenary Celebration of Provincial Grand Lodge in 1892, it was suggested that some account of its past meetings would be acceptable to the Brethren, and add interest to the event.

When proceeding to carry out this suggestion, it was very soon apparent that the simple minutes of P.G.L. could not be satisfactory without considerable explanation, necessarily involving a search among the records of Grand Lodge and those of the several Lodges in the Province.

Thus finding it impossible to complete the work by the Festival, the plan was enlarged, and a history of the Lincolnshire branch of the Craft attempted.

It is pleasing to state that with very few exceptions the applications—nearly a hundred—for information and assistance were met with every courtesy and attention.

Thanks are especially due to Mrs. Gerard Ford for the memoir of her husband's ancestor, the Rev. Matthew Barnett; and to Brother W. J. Hugan, of Torquay, and to Brother Henry Sadler, Sub-Librarian at Grand Lodge, for the very valuable aid which they have so heartily afforded from the commencement of the work.

Well knowing the prevailing opinion concerning much of what has hitherto held to be reliable Masonic history, every effort has been made to verify the statements contained in the following pages, either by a personal inspection of the original documents wherever possible, or from reliable official information.

The result in some cases may probably occasion a slight shock to existing traditions, but on the other hand the names of several brethren almost forgotten will be found occupying the honourable positions their services to the Craft have merited.

The book is now submitted to the Brethren in the hope that they may derive as much pleasure from a perusal of the contents as the writer has had in their collection and arrangement, and also that they will look kindly upon any shortcomings which they may observe.

LINCOLN, *October, 1894.*

WILLIAM DIXON.

Introduction.

I THINK Bro. Dixon has acted very wisely in committing his memoranda as to "Freemasonry in Lincolnshire" to print, for reliable data as to that Province, and so many others, are much needed, particularly during the early part of last century.

According to Dr. Stukeley's testimony, Freemasonry in Lincolnshire began in 1726, for in June of that year he tells us in his *Common Place Book* :—

"I retired to Grantham thinking by country exercise to get the better of it [the gout]. Here I set up a lodg of freemasons, wh. lasted all the time I lived there."

He left this town for Stamford in 1730, and retired from the craft "for good and all, on his removal from Grantham to Stamford, in February, 1730."

The first Lodge constituted in the Province, under Grand Lodge auspices, was No. 73 at the "Saracen's Head," Lincoln, to meet on the "First Tuesday," and dated Sept. 7th, 1730. The numeration was agreed to 26th Nov., 1728, the successive additions being numbered consecutively in order of precedence. In the oldest engraved list preserved of the "Regular Lodges according to their Seniority and Constitution"* of the fourth decade of the last century, the sign of the inn at which the Lincolnshire Lodge assembled is duly depicted.

Another old Lodge is in the engraved lists from 1738, and described as "*Angel Above Hill*, Bailiwick of Lincoln, 23 Dec. 1737." We know nothing as to this Lodge, but of the senior one there are happily records extant from 1732, which were reproduced by Bro. Dixon in an excellent paper,†

* HUGHAN'S "Engraved List of Regular Lodges for A.D. 1734," *fac-simile*, 1889.

† *The Old Lodge at Lincoln*, by William Dixon, "Ars Quatuor Coronatorum," 1891.

and likewise appear in the present history. These minutes have been known, more or less, to Masonic students for some time, as it was my good fortune to publish a number of them, from a transcript made by Bro. Frederick Watson, of Lincoln, many years ago.* Their importance cannot well be over estimated, there being so few particulars known of the craft in England 1732-1740.

A remarkable feature of these minutes at Lincoln is the absence of any reference to the Fellow Craft Degree, which has led some brethren to infer that the ceremony was not worked there and then, but to my mind such silence is not of itself sufficient to prove the Degree was not conferred in that Lodge 1732 onward. Secretaries during this period, and so often later, were provokingly reticent as to details, but so long as we sometimes meet with records of the F.C. Degree in Lodge minutes of that decade, it is reasonable to suppose that the custom was generally observed of conferring the *three* Degrees, as provided for in the Book of Constitutions, 1738, and dating from the year 1725, when the "Master of a Lodge with his Wardens and a competent number of the Lodge assembled in due Form" were allowed to "make Masters *and* Fellows at discretion." Unless by dispensation, Dr. Anderson declares that prior to this date (22 Nov., 1725), "Fellow Crafts *and* Masters" were only admitted or passed, &c., in Grand Lodge, which may or may not have been the case.

So early as 1724-5 we meet with the records of brethren being "pass'd *Fellow Crafts*" and "pass'd *Masters*" in one or more private Lodges,† and we know that from 1730-1 there is no lack of evidence as to such separate and distinct ceremonies, sometimes the E.A. and F.C. being conferred at the same meeting; at other times the F.C. and M.M., and frequently the whole three given at the one assembly. The F.C. appears to have been thought but little of, and apparently when communicated the same eve as the E.A. was not always recorded, but absorbed in the word "making."

* See page 108.

† Hughan's *Origin of the English Rite of Freemasonry*, 1884.

We read of "Passing Fellow Craft" Jan. 15th, 1735, and "Passing Master" Aug. 3rd, 1737, in the Salisbury Lodge,* and at Edinburgh, 31st Mar., 1735, a brother was "admitted Fellow Craft" and three others "Master Masons."† Also in the very suggestive and valuable extracts from the "Old King's Arms Lodge" from 1733, cited by Bro. Dixon, it is recorded, March 27th, 1734, Lord Vere Bertie and Wm. Todd "were severally admitted in Form F.C. and E.P.," and yet (with the knowledge of these three degree being conferred) in the records of the "Lodge of Felicity" from 1737, there is not a single reference to the Fellow Craft ceremony for many years, nor is the degree noted in the By-laws of 1737.‡

The earliest By-laws of a Regular Lodge that I know of which provide for the *three* degrees being conferred, are those of No. 83, of Jan. 5th, 1731 (old style), when it was enacted—

"That all & every Person, or Persons recommended & accepted as above, shall pay for his or their making the sum of Three pounds three shillings. And for their admittance the sum of Five shillings, and every Brother who shall pass the Degrees of F.C. and M. shall pay the further sum of Seven Shillings and Sixpence."§

Bro. Dixon's researches have been most successful, and have resulted in the accumulation of a mass of material of the greatest importance and interest in relation to what is known as "Modern" Freemasonry, amply justifying him in his decision to do justice to his own Province and the Lodges in the county by writing this exhaustive history.

Lincolnshire did not take kindly to the "Atholl" or "Ancient Masons," whose Grand Lodge was formed on July 17th, 1751. In many Provinces they flourished, but it was not until 1803 that the "Ancients" obtained support in the county of Lincoln, the Lodge being called the

* *History of Freemasonry in Wiltshire*, F. H. Goldney, 1880.

† *History of the Canongate-Kilwinning Lodge, No. 2*, by Allan Mackenzie, 1881.

‡ *History of Lodge of Felicity, 1737 to 1887*, by W. Smithett, 1887 and 1891.

§ *Freemason*, April 27th, 1872.

"Good Intent," and was held at Stamford. It was the second issue of No. 87, the first having been chartered in the Leicester Militia, and existed for two or three years from 1761.

The second Lodge of this organization was warranted at Grimsby as No. 61 in 1811, duly noted by Bro. Dixon. It also was a second issue, the premier No. 61 having been established in London in 1757, but according to Bro. John Lane's invaluable *Masonic Records, 1717-1886*, died out the same year: The revival in this Province does not appear to have been successful, for the Lodge soon collapsed, and was erased in 1823.

Singular to state, these are the only two subordinates of the "Ancients" that were ever in Lincolnshire (excepting Military Lodges), and poor representatives they were.

I am very pleased to see a reproduction of the Royal Arch Warrant of No. 58, held at Barton-upon-Humber, of 1788. The Grand Chapter for the "Moderns" was formally constituted in 1767, and though not officially recognised was warmly supported by many influential members of the regular Grand Lodge. The numbers of the Chapters were distinct from those of the Lodges, hence the Chapter of A.D. 1788 was 58, though the Lodge held in the same town (whose members were favourable to the degree) was 497 and warranted in 1787.

The next Chapter under the "Moderns" was No. 183, the "Aletheia," Great Grimsby, of 1813, and the third was the "Concord," No. 184, Lincoln, which, though not warranted until 1817, had an independent existence for at least some ten years before. Until Bro. Dixon's *History* was being written I had no idea that another Charter had been issued after 183, which in my *Origin of the English Rite of Freemasonry*, 1884, ends the roll, but evidently 183 was not the last, but No. 184 of A.D. 1817. The latter was the only one of the three that seems to have come on the United Roll, which is printed in the Laws and Regulations of 1823, the numbers then being those of the Lodges to which the Chapters were attached.

Bro. Dixon also affords particulars of a "Modern" R.A. Chapter, meeting from 1807 or earlier, without any regular authority.

The earliest reference to the Mark Degree in the Province is of 1798, but it was worked in England as far back as the year 1769, at Portsmouth, as traced lately by Bro. Alexander Howell.

Surely I have said enough to prove the great importance and interest of these old records, so fully reproduced in the following pages, and also to lead Masonic students generally to thank the author of *Freemasonry in Lincolnshire* for thus giving them to the craft in such a compact and useful form, with much valuable information besides respecting the Province during the last century. I am not aware of any other work of the kind that has been so thoroughly and ably done, and involving so much labour to produce. The publication of old Lodge records has been a matter in which I have taken great interest for many years past, and it is always a pleasure for me to aid in any way in securing their reproduction, especially in the form of histories, by competent brethren.

W. J. HUGHAN.

DUNSCORE, TORQUAY,

October 20th, 1894.

Freemasonry in Lincolnshire

PRIOR TO THE FORMATION OF PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

WITHOUT entering into the question of the connection of Modern Speculative Masonry with the old Guilds of Operative Builders, a question which has been so exhaustively treated by the historian of the Order, Bro. R. F. Gould, but which is nevertheless a subject of the greatest interest to the craft of our county, with its noble ecclesiastical buildings,—it may truly be said that, though we are one of the latest-formed Provinces, existing records establish the fact of Lincolnshire Speculative Masonry being well to the front in the early years of the Society's organization, Doctor Stukeley, the noted antiquarian (a Lincolnshire man, born at Holbeach), recording in his *Diary* that he assisted in founding a Lodge at Grantham as early as 1726.

The Doctor, after practising medicine several years in London, writes in his *Common Place Book*, under June, 1726:—"I expected my great friends who encouraged me in the pursuit of Antiquarian Studys, would have made some provision for me. But seeing no probability of that after 7 years waiting I was resolved to provide for myself and get a little money in the country where I could confine myself to practise & indulge in the pure simple way of the country life at the same time. I chose Grantham, because a very pleasant place, in a very fine country, in my own county & near my estate & place of nativity at Holbech. Here I set up a lodg of Freemasons, wh. lasted all the time I lived there." (It may be as well to remark here that the Doctor's hopes were realized, being well supported by the gentry of the neighbourhood, and doubtless enabled to "get a little money.")

There is no record of the Grantham meetings at Grand Lodge, that body as yet having asserted no authority outside the Metropolis. No regular Warrant to constitute is believed to have been issued by the Central Authority for several years after its formation in 1717, the verbal consent of the Grand Master or his Deputy being apparently all that was required.

The large increase of Lodges about this time was, in Stukeley's opinion, not by any means a gain to Masonry, and the worthy Doctor would have no scruples as to constituting and carrying on his Lodge without any connection with Grand Lodge and its fashionable supporters.

The foregoing extract from Stukeley's papers is a very early, and, if we except the meagre York records, probably the earliest record of the establishment and continual carrying on of a purely Speculative lodge outside London; and the Doctor's connection with the early days of Grand Lodge, together with his antiquarian researches, learned friends, and aristocratic acquaintance must have made the meetings of "the lodg he set up" remarkably interesting.

The year following "the setting up" at Grantham saw the institution of the office of Provincial Grand Master, and the commencement of Grand Lodge to extend its authority beyond London and Westminster. It is not improbable that the proceedings at Grantham may have helped to bring this matter forward.

THE OLD LODGE AT LINCOLN.

The earliest documentary evidence of Lincolnshire Masonry in connection with Grand Lodge is a portion of a Minute Book now in the archives of the Witham Lodge, Lincoln. A perusal of this interesting book identifies it as being a record of the proceedings of the Lodge shown in the Constitutions of 1738 held in "Lincoln at the Saracens Head. Constituted 7th Sep. 1730 and meets first Tuesday." Number on the Engraved List, 73. The book in size is

about sixteen inches by six inches, bound (probably about half a century ago) in paper boards. It consists of General Laws (eleven), Regulations (seven), and By-Laws (thirteen), and also of continuous minutes for over three years.

These records are exceedingly interesting and valuable, for several reasons. In the first place, as being a portion of the earliest Private Lodge minutes yet brought to light (leaving out, of course the old Operative records and those at York, which are of little service as regards masonic procedure). Secondly, as clearing up and deciding a long-disputed point of Masonic authorship; and, lastly, as showing work of the then most approved fashion, owing to the fact of the Master, Sir Cecil Wray, filling at the same time the chair of a noted London Lodge and the office of Deputy Grand Master of England.

As these minutes have been recently edited by me, and published in the Transactions of Lodge Quatuor Coronati, I shall only give such extracts as will enable one to compare the Lodge procedure with similar extracts half a century later and with that of the present time, stating for the information of the studious brother that he may find in Parts 1 and 2 of Volume iv., *Ars Quatuor Coronatorum*, a full account of the Old Lodge at Lincoln, together with an excellent Sketch of the famous mason, Martin Clare, by R. F. Gould, in which that brother has incorporated and reproduced in *fac-simile* several Lincoln minutes:—

“Monday January ye 2nd 1732.

“At a Lodge held this Day at the Place aforesaid when were present—Sir Cecil Wray Barrt. Master; Coningsby Sibthorp Esq. Senr. Warden; Thomas Becke Gent. Junr. Warden; Sir John Tyrwhitt Barrt.; Mr. Willm. Rayner Alderman; The Revd. Mr. John Curtois; Mr. Isaac Clarke and Mr. John Cooper.

“When it was proposed by our Right Worshipful Mastr., that Sr. Christopher Hales Barrt. be voted a Member of this Society who being well recommended the Same was agreed to on Brother Thos. Becke’s undertaking to pay the

usual Sum of Five Guineas for and on behalf of our said Brother Elect. And in Regard our Right Worshipful Master was going for London in a few Days it was agreed that Willm. Carter Esq. together with the said Sr. Christopher Hales should be initiated the same Evening, which was done accordingly with due Solemnity when our Right Worshipful Master gave an elegant Charge and in Respect to our new Brother it was further agreed to cloath and entertain the Lodge.

	£	s.	d.
"Paid for Gloves and Aprons ...	2	17	0
"Expended	2	3	1
"Total of Payments	5	0	1
"Recd. of Sr. Christopher Hales ...	0	10	6

The By-Law referring to this custom, viz., new Aprons and Gloves, is as follows :—

"When there have been Two new Brethren thus admitted to the Lodge, The Lodge shall then be decently cloth'd and entertaind ; The Time of wh. shall be appointed by the M^r and Wardens ; but it shall never be on a Lodge Night.

"The new Brethren shall when the Lodge is thus clothed &c. put each of them more into the Box for the Uses of the Lodge."

"Wednesday October ye 23rd 1734.

"At a Lodge held this Day at the Place aforesaid when were present—Sr. Cecil Wray Barrt. Master D.G.M. ; Coningsby Sibthorp Esq. Senr. Warden ; Thomas Becke Gent. Junr. Warden ; Sr. Christopher Hales Barrt. ; Henry Every Esq. ; The Revend. Mr. John Curtois ; Willm. Rayner Gent. Alderman ; Charles Newcomen Gent. ; Mr. Isaac Clarke ; Mr. John Becke Visitor ; at which time Mr. Henry Goakman & Mr. Stephen Harrison were severally initiated in Form with due Solemnity, when our Right Worshipful Master gave an Elegant Charge also went thro' an Examination and the Lodge was closed with a Song and decent Merriment."

“Tuesday December ye 3rd 1734.

“At a Lodge held this Day at the Place aforesaid when were present—Sr. Cecil Wray Barrt. D.G.M. Coningsby Sibthorp Esq. Senr. Warden Thomas Becke Gent. Junr. Warden (and seven others) when it was proposed that there should be an Election of new Members and at the Request of the whole Lodge Sr. Cecil Wray was re-elected Master of the Same who was pleased to nominate Sr. Christopher Hales Bart. Senr. Warden and Henry Every Esq. Junr. Warden for the ensuing Year.

“But in Regard our said two new Wardens as well as several other of the Brethren of this Lodge well qualified and worthy of the Degree of Master had not been called thereto; Our said Right Worshipful Master was pleased to direct that a Lodge of Masters should be held at the Place aforesaid on Monday ye Thirtieth instant. At which Time the said Sr. Christopher Hales & Henry Every Esq. as also Bro. Curtois Bro. Rayner Bro. Newcomen and Bro. Clarke should be severally admitted to the Degree of Master; on their paying severally 5s. apiece to ye Box & 12d. to ye Doorkeeper.

“After which it was proposed by Bro. Rayner that Mr. William Kelham Master of ye House should be voted a Member of this Society, who being well recommended the Same was agreed to on his paying for his Gloves, Apron & 2s. 6d. to ye Doorkeeper only.

“And it was therefore further agreed, that after making of the several Masters abovenamed, a general Lodge should be formed for ye initiating our said Bro. Elect, and yt ye Lodge should be entertained with a Dinner at 18d. Ordinary.

“And then it was proposed yt every Member should pay $\frac{1}{2}$ a Guinea towards a Bank for defraying ye Expenses of ye ensuing Year into ye Hands of Brother Thomas Becke as Treasurer who is to be accountable for ye Same. After which the Master went thro’ an Examination and several of ye Regulations out of the Book of Constitutions were read and the Lodge was closed with a Song.”

“December ye 31st 1734.

“At a Lodge of Masters held this Day at the Place aforesaid when were present—Sir Cecil Wray Barrt. D.G.M. ; Coningsby Sibthorp Esqr. who acted as Senr. Warden ; Thomas Becke Gent. who acted as Junr. Warden ; And in pursuance of ye Order of ye last Lodge the several Brethren following were in due form admitted to ye Degree of Master to wit &c. &c. After which a general Lodge was formed in the persons of Sir Cecil Wray &c. &c. At which Time Mr. Willm. Kelham Master of the House was initiated in Form with due Solemnity When our right Worshipful Master gave an Elegant Charge, also went thro’ an Examination, and the Lodge was closed with a Song and decent meriment.”

From the foregoing it will be seen that the proceedings were a combination of Lodge-work and supper, and that only two degrees were known, the Master’s degree not following as a matter of course, though apparently its possession was a necessary qualification for the Warden’s Chair.

By-law No. 5 provides that in cases of initiation the Lodge shall meet two hours earlier. This points to an elaborate ceremony, requiring time to properly carry out, and also strengthens the now almost accepted theory that the first degree included all the secrets and privileges of what are now the first two degrees. The penalty for a breach of discipline or omission of duty was the forfeiture of “a Bottle of Wine to be drank by the Brethren after the Lodge is clos’d to make them some part of Amends.”

Regulation No. 6:—“On the Lodge nights next preceeding Lady Day and Michaelmas a Master shall be elected to fill the Chair for the half year next ensuing.”*

* Notwithstanding this and other corroborative testimony as to the half-yearly elections, we are still gravely informed at every installation that “from time *immemorial* it has been customary *once* in each year to elect a Master for the ensuing *twelve months*.”

This regulation is somewhat remarkable, inasmuch as it was (I believe) the universal custom in the Speculative Lodges to elect their Masters on the festivals of the two Saints John.

One of the few Operative Lodges of which there is any account, namely, that at Alnwick, held the election at Michaelmas. This opens out rather an interesting question as to whether the Lincoln Lodge was not a survival of an earlier one under operative guidance, a supposition considerably strengthened by the facts of the new Church of Saint Peter-at-Arches being just completed, and, that after the Lodge had been meeting a few years "it was agreed to purchase a Sett of new Columns with Jewells of both kinds throughout."

Meetings were regularly held up to January, 1735, the new year commencing at Lady Day.

At the Lodge held the preceding October the minute says "it was agreed by all the Members present that our right Worshipful Master should buy for the use of the Lodge a Sett of New Columns with Jewells of both kinds throughout with other Implemts. necessary to furnish the Lodge & to be allowed the Same out of the public Stock in Fund belonging to ye Lodge."

In the following May Sir Cecil Wray died from an attack of asthma, and the Lodge meetings were apparently suspended, nothing being recorded until Sept. 27th, 1742, when "It was voted Nemine Contradicente that Henry Every Esq. be elected Master of the said Lodge for the year ensuing Who was pleased to accept the Same and nominated Coningsby Sibthorp Esq. Sen. Warden and Thomas Becke Gent. Junr. Warden. After which it was agreed that the next Lodge should be held on Monday ye 25 of October next."

The succeeding minutes (if there were any) are unfortunately lost, and nothing further is known of the Lodge except the information supplied by the late Grand Secretary, Bro. Shadwell H. Clerke, that the number of the Lodge

was changed to 63 in 1740, and again in 1755 to 38. It was erased by Grand Lodge 17th Nov., 1760, because no representative had attended the quarterly meetings for a considerable time.

An Officer's Jewell, presented by one of the Welbys in 1742, is said to have been in the possession of the Witham Lodge, but I have not been successful in tracing it.

The following names appear in connection with the Old Lincoln Lodge :—

Sir Cecil Wray, Bart.	}	Members.
Coningsby Sibthorp, Esq.		
Thomas Becke, Gent.		
Sir John Tyrwhitt, Bart.		
John Becke, Alderman.		
The Rev. Mr. John Curtois.		
William Rayner, Alderman.		
Sir Christopher Hales, Bart.		
Henry Every, Esq.		
John Welby, Esq.		
Richard Welby, Esq.		
Charles Newcomen, Gent.		
Mr. John Cooper.		
Mr. Isaac Clarke.		
Doctor Samuel Finley.		
Sigismund Trafford, Esq.		
Henry Goakman, Apothecary.	}	Visitors.
Mr. Stephen Harrison.		
Mr. William Kelham.		
Bro. Manderson, Doorkeeper.		
William Carter, Esq.		
Edward Walpole, Esq.		
Christopher Neville, Esq.		
George Neville, Esq.	}	
Henry Polixfen, Gent.		
Thomas Maples, Gent.		
Mr. John Becke.		
Mr. John Goodchild.		

Sir CECIL WRAY, Baronet, of Glentworth, Lincolnshire, succeeded his brother, Sir Christopher, 10th baronet, in 1710. High Sheriff of Lincolnshire in 1715. Died 9th May, 1736; buried at Branston. Life-sized busts of Sir Cecil and Dame Mary (Harrison) his wife are on either side of the monument in Branston Church, doubtless excellent likenesses, as the inscription states that Sir Cecil prepared them some years before his death.

The founder of the family was Sir Christopher Wray, Lord Chief Justice in the reign of Elizabeth. The title became extinct on the death of the 15th baronet in 1809.

During the Civil Wars the Wrays took an active part on the Parliamentary side.

Sir Cecil, the 13th baronet, was the one who contested the famous Westminster Election of 1784 against Charles James Fox. The polling lasted forty days, and was decided in favour of Fox, a result said to be owing in a great measure to the assistance rendered by Georgiana, the beautiful Duchess of Devonshire, who it is affirmed bribed a sturdy butcher with a kiss.

During the time Sir Cecil Wray presided over the Lincoln brethren he filled the position of Deputy Grand Master and also that of Master of the Lodge *now* The Old King's Arms Lodge No. 28. Brother H. Newland, the Treasurer of No. 28, has kindly supplied me with a copy of the minutes which refer to Sir Cecil. These extracts, together with those of Lincoln, bear ample testimony to the baronet's zeal for the Craft, and show him to have been equally esteemed in the two Lodges. They record, in addition, the close connection existing between Sir Cecil and Martin Clare, the author of the celebrated *Defence of Masonry*,* and will be found of especial interest when read in conjunction with the Lincoln record of attendance and procedure.

* See *Masonic Celebrities*, No. 2, by R. F. Gould, in the *Transactions of Lodge Quatuor Coronati*.

Extracts from the Minutes of the Lodge held at the Cross Keys, Henrietta Street, now The Old King's Arms Lodge No. 28:—

“Monday Sepr. 3rd 1733.

“This being the time for the election of a Master to serve for the ensuing six months it was unanimously agreed to adjourn the nomination and election till the next Lodge night. And agreed in the meantime a letter be sent to our very worthy Bro. Sir Cecill Wray to request him to accept of the chair for the half year ensuing which was undertaken by the present Master.”

“Monday October 1st 1733.

“Bro. Robt. Goodchild for his Brother informed the Lodge that Sir Cecil Wray had been applied to and that he was pleased to accept of the office offered by the goodwill of the Bretheren provided Bro. Clare would support the chair till his arrival in town. This Bro. Clare could not refuse so good a Master & so worthy affriend and being desired by the Bretheren to accept the chair he did so.”

“Mr. John Beck Son of Mr. Thom. Beck a Member of our Sister Lodge at Lincoln was at the recommendation & by the order of our Rt. Worshipful Master Sir Cecil Wray proposed as a Candidate for Masonry. A person so well recommended & so handsomely spoken of by some of the Lodge that personally know him was voted a Brother Elect and his Health was toasted with a general satisfaction.”

“Monday Novr. 5th 1733.

“Bro. Beck elect not having been well could not attend for Institution at this time.”

“Wednesday Feb. 13th 1733-4.

“The Master Sir Cecill Wray being come to Town his Wor'p was pleased to convene as many of the Members of the Lodge as could be conveniently got together this evening at 8 o'clock in order to give Mr. Jno. Beck our Bro. elect according to the transactions of the 1st of October last in regard his Father there mentioned happend to be in Town

and was desirous to see justice done his said Son before he left it, which was therefore complied with & the Ceremony performed by the Master assisted by the Bretheren named in the list with great Solemnity and order."

"His Wor'ip retir'd about high time & the members early not very early next morning."

"Monday March 11... 1733-4.

"The late Master Sir Cecill Wray convened a Committee of the Lodge this evening at 6 when he informed the Lodge that the Lord Viscount Weymouth and the Lord Viscount Killmurray had by their Friend our Bro. Capt. Needham desird admission into the craft by his hands. This was seconded and supported and Institution ordered them immediately provided their Lo'ps deposite each 3 Guineas to the use of the Lo: & defray the expences of this extraordinary Convention. Their Healths were severally proposed and drank too with all possible Satisfaction."

"The two Bretheren elect attended and recd. Institution in Form about 8 o'clock."

"Wednesday March 27 1734.

"The late Mar. Sr. Cecill Wray conven'd a Committee of the Lodge this Evening at 7 o'clock consisting of the following Members vizt. Bro. Weymouth, Bro. Killmurray, Bro. Douglas, Bro. Streatfield, Bro. Smith, Bro. Maculloch, Bro. Jno. Goodch'd acting J.W. Bro. A. Clare acting S.W. Bro. Robt. Goodchild To whom his Wor'p communicated the desire of the Lord Vere Bertie* and Wm. Todd Esq. both Relations of his Wor'p, who desird they might be privately admitted into the Craft by his Wor'p who was pleased to give the Members a very good Acct. of them and so good a Recommendation having its due Wei't with the Assistants they voted them Bretheren elect and drank

* Son of the Duke of Ancaster. Afterwards married Sir Cecil Wray's illegitimate daughter.

"Lord Vere Bertie to Miss Casey at Lincoln—worth £70,000."—*Gentleman's Magazine*, Oct., 1736.

to their healths with much Satisfaction provided they deposite according to the Statutes for the Uses of the Lodge which was agreed to. They were severally admitted in Form F.C. and E.P."

"Monday March 3rd 1734.

"The Rt. Worlpl. the Lord Crauford Gd. Mast. the Rt. Wl. Sr. Cecill Wray D.G. Mr. the Worlpl. Bro. Trafford Sr. G. W., Br. Carter Jr. G.W. with the Major part of the Stewards for the present year did this Lodge the favour of a Gd. Visit this Evening at 8."

"The Rt. Wopl. the D.G.M. was pleased to propose to the Bretheren of this Lodge Dr. Edward Hody F.R.S. as a person everyway qualified to make a worthy Bror. This motion was seconded and supported by several worthy Bretheren of this Lodge and Institution ordered him this day sevensight at 7 o'clock, the D.G.M. was pleased to undertake for the deposit Money and his Health was proposod and drank to with great Satisfaction."

"Monday April 7th 1734.

"The D.G.M. was pleased to recommend the Rt. Honble. John Lord Visct. Tyrconnel to be admitted a Mason at their convenience this was seconded in the warmest Manner and supported and his Health was drank to with a particular regard."

"Fryday April 11th, 1735.

"Lord Tyrconnel having changed his mind did not appear and it being suggested to the Lodge that his Lop. desired to withdraw his claim the Lodge not only approved thereof but also ordered the restitution of his Deposite."

"Fryday May 2nd 1735

"The same Gentleman (Bro. Hody) from Sir Cecill Wray late D.G.M. proposed the admission of John Wreden Esqr. and so singular a good character was given of him and it was so affectionately recommended and seconded by Bro. Hellot that he was voted a Bro. elected nemine contradicente and Institution ordered him on Monday."

"Monday May 5 1735.

"Sir Cecill Wray late D.G.M. was pleased to act on this occasion as S.W.

"It was taken notice of by the Junr. Gd. Warden that the 17th of the General Regulations establishd in the year 1721 expressly said that the Gd. Officers can not act at the same time in a private Officers in a private Lodge. It was therefore by him apprehended that the Chair of this Lodge was vacant by the Promotion of Lord Weymouth and that therefore it would be proper to think of a proper person to succeed his Lop. for the Residue of his Mastership the Lodge immediately turned their eyes upon their old Friend & Benefactor Sr. Cecill Wray and he was unanimously chosen Mar. for that Purpose with a general Satisfaction and he took the Chair accordingly."

"Monday Decr. 1st 1735.

"A Motion was made that the Foot Cloth made use of at the Initiation of new Members should be defaced on Acct. of Convenience carried nemine contradicente."

"A second Motion was made that our Rt. Woripl. Bror. Sr. Cecil Wray's Picture late D.G.M. and that the Cloth mentioned should be applyed to that Purpose and that our Brother West be appointed to draw the same and that the Lodge do pay for it when done."

"Bror. West was pleased to desire that he might have the pleasure to present the Lodge with Sr. Cecill's Picture if his Worp. will do him the Honour to sit to him this was a most acceptable Proposition to the Society and Bror. West's Health was proposed and drank to with great Satisfaction."

"Monday March 1735-6.

"There were present also the Rt. Woripl. Sr. Cecill Wray Bart. late D.G.M. and the Rt. Honble. the Lord Loudon G.M. did this Lodge the Honour of a visit and they favoured the Society with their Company to Midnight when the Lodge was closed by the Officers of the Lodge."

"Fryday Aprill 2 1736.

"The Master convened a Lodge this evening at Bro. Long's Jn. Holles Street, present besides Sr. Cecill Wray Bart. John & Robt. Goodchild and Martin Clare When Sr. Cecill Wray proposed the admitting Mr. Christopher Taylor a Candidate for Masonry (a Relation of his Worships) a good acct. of him was given to the Society, this was Seconded and Supported by others present & he was voted a Candidate for Masonry, & a ballot ordered him on Monday Night next his health was proposed & drank to with great pleasure."

"Munday April 5 1736.

"The Minutes of the last Convention were read and . . . & Mr. Christopher Taylor (Candidates for Masonry) were all Balloted for & Institution orderd them next Lodge Night.

"Bro. John Goodchild requested the Master to call an extraordinary Lodge to give Institution to Mr. Christopher Taylor and Mr. John Clarke two of our Bros. Elect they being Desirous to be made before the Ensuing Grand feast."

"Tuesday 6 April 1736.

"The Lodge was this Night regularly opened by the proper Officers pursuant to the adjournment in order to Admit Mr. Christopher Taylor to Institution Bror. Christopher Taylor accordingly recd. Institution in full form this Night."

"Monday 6 of June 1736.

"Brr. West was pleas'd to bring his kind Present [of the picture] of our late Friend and Venerable Masr. Sr. Cecill Wray according to his Proposal of Decr. 1st last which happend to be finished but just before it pleased Almighty God to call him to himself, which [the picture] appeared to the Society to be done with so much Dexterity and Happiness that it was by a majority carried that in order

to make this worthy Bror. some sort of Amends and to show a decent gratitude for the same it would be proper to make him a present of ten Guineas."

CONINGSBY SIBTHORP, Esq., of Canwick, Colonel of Royal South Lincoln Militia; High Sheriff of the county of Lincoln, 1733.

The Colonel successfully contested the city of Lincoln at the elections of 1734, 1744, 1747, and 1761; in the latter year the poll was adjourned through the riotous doings of the mob. The supporters of the successful candidates, the Hon. George Monson and Colonel Sibthorp, were paid as follows:—"Freemen residing in the City Three Guineas, Out'ners Four Guineas and Londoners Five Guineas."

Colonel Sibthorp died at Canwick, July, 1779.

Two of his descendants have presided over the Witham Lodge, one of whom, Col. Charles De L. W. Sibthorp, was for many years a well known character in the political world.

THOMAS BECKE, Esq., Alderman JOHN BECKE, and JOHN BECKE, Junr., were members of a very old Lincoln family.

The former was buried at Cherry Willingham, where his monument records that he was "The Founder and Patron of this Church, whose experienc'd Abilities in the Profession of the Law, and unparalled Industry enabled him to acquire a Fortune (without the sordid means of avaricious Parsimony) in times to whose Extravagance few Patrimonys sufficed." He dyed 19th Oct., 1757."

This little Church, like that of St. Peter-at-Arches, Lincoln, is built, as the old Constitutions would say, in the "Augustan" style.

Alderman John Becke was Mayor of Lincoln in 1727.

The initiation of the younger John Becke is shown in the records of the "Old King's Arms." He is noted in the Lincoln minutes as a visitor "from our Sister Lodge in London."

A curious and interesting tablet of the Beckes is to be seen in the vestry of St. Peter-at-Arches, having been removed there from St. Benedict's.

Sir JOHN TYRWHITT, of Cammeringham, Member of Parliament for Lincoln City, 1722-34.

The Rev. JOHN CURTOIS, LL.B., Rector of Branston. Died 1767.

WILLIAM RAYNER, Mayor of Lincoln, 1731 and 1748. His gravestone, date 1757, is to be seen on the west side of St. Swithin's churchyard.

Sir CHRISTOPHER HALES, Bart., of Lincoln, son of Sir Edward Hales, Bart., of Coventry. Married in 1736 a step-daughter of Sir Cecil Wray. Died May 8th, 1776.

HENRY EVERY, Esq., eldest surviving son of the Rev. Sir Simon Every, Bart., of Egginton, co. Derby, and Rector of Navenby, co. Lincoln. Brother of Rev. John Every, who held the livings of Bracebridge and Waddington. He was born at Navenby in 1708; in 1742 he was styled "of Armston co. Lincoln." High Sheriff of the county of Derby in 1748. Succeeded his father in the title in 1753. Died in London, 1755.

JOHN and RICHARD WELBY, Esqrs., belonged to the Welbourn branch of that name.

CHARLES NEWCOMEN is sometimes designated "Gent." and at others as "Mr." The Newcomens were of Scremby in the early part of the last century, and a Charles Newcomen was Mayor of Lincoln in 1707.

Doctor SAMUEL FINLEY is recorded as living at Hale.

SIGISMUND BŒHM TRAFFORD, Esq., of Dunton Hall, Tydd, was born about the year 1693. He was High Sheriff of Lincolnshire in 1723, and married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Gilbert Heathcote, who was Lord Mayor of London in 1711. Sigismund Trafford was admitted a member of the Spalding Gentlemen's Society in 1740. He was the author of an essay on the Fen Drainage, and died in 1741. He is doubtless the one referred to in the Old King's Arms minute of March, 1734.

The family was founded by John Trafford, who died in 1666. He was succeeded by his son Sigismund, who rebuilt Dunton Hall on a magnificent plan, at a cost of £22,000, and died in 1723, at the age of 80.

The estate then passed to his great nephew, Sig. Böhm, the subject of this memoir, who was succeeded by his nephew, Clement. Clement Trafford was High Sheriff in 1760, and was knighted the following year. He squandered the estate, pulled down the fine mansion at Dunton, and sold the materials and fittings.

HENRY GOAKMAN, Apothecary, was Mayor of the City in 1752.

STEPHEN HARRISON, Chorister of the Cathedral, 1712; Junior Vicar and Master of the Boys, 1730. Died 1756, aged 58. Buried in the Cathedral Cloisters.

The minute which records Bro. Harrison's entrance into the craft runs as follows:—

"Then Brother Every recommended Mr. Stephen Harrison of the Close of Lincoln Music Master as a proper person to be admitted a Member of this Society and proposed to give a Guinea towards the Charges of his Admission; Sir Cecil Wray proposed to give another Guinea, Sir Christopher Hales half a Guinea to which Sir Cecil Wray added another Guinea. And in Regard Mr. Harrison might be useful and entertaining to the Society, The Lodge agreed to admit him for the sum of £3 - 13 - 6." It also states that on his initiation "the lodge was cloathed and entertained with a dinner," and that at the conclusion "Our Right Worshipful Master gave an Elegant Charge and the Lodge was closed with a Song and decent merriment."

WILLIAM KELHAM was mine host of the Saracen's Head.

EDWARD WALPOLE, Esq., of Dunston, the author of an imitation of the sixth Satire of the first book of Horace, and other works. He was, I believe, a Roman Catholic, and died in 1740 at an early age.

CHRISTOPHER NEVILLE was a Grand Steward in 1734. The Nevilles were probably located at Aubourn.

JOHN GOODCHILD, Esq., of Teddington, married one of the Wrays.

Brothers GOODCHILD and CARTER were doubtless members of the sister Lodge in London.

The Lodge No. 73 and "Saracen's Head" appear in Picart's celebrated engraving of 1735.

The old inn was chiefly built of timber.

The *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1802 contains an engraving of some curious oak carved panels found in the Saracen's Head Inn, Lincoln, "lately taken down."

THE SECOND LINCOLN LODGE.

The second Lodge in the county, according to the Official Record was at "Lincoln Above Hill in the Baily Wyke at The Angel, constituted 23 Dec. 1737 and meets 1st and 3rd Monday."

The Lodge is shewn on the Engraved List as No. 166.

Of whom this Lodge consisted it is impossible to say, as unfortunately no record of either proceedings or members is extant, Grand Lodge simply showing the erasure from its Roll in 1754.

The death of Sir Cecil Wray and the apparent discontinuance of the meetings at the Saracen's Head suggest the idea of the brethren of that Lodge moving up-hill, but if that were the case why should a new Constitution have been obtained or the day of meeting changed? Two meetings each month indicate a full complement of members, and the fact of one of these being fixed for the day previous to the below-hill meeting favours the idea that an interchange of visits if not of membership was contemplated. We have, moreover, the statement of Dr. Stukeley that

the craft "became a public fashion and ran itself out of breath thro' the folly of its members."

One of the By-laws of the Saracen's Head Lodge was as follows:—"This lodge will at no time hereafter admit more than one and twenty Members into the lists at the same time."

This wording is somewhat ambiguous, but I am of opinion that it was intended to limit the number of members to twenty-one. That masonic procedure of the last century took a more convivial turn than is the case now, is evidenced not only by the old Lincoln minutes but by the early Constitutions and publications of the craft, in all of which masonic songs and toasts occupy a prominent place.*

The custom up to the early part of the present century was for the brethren to sit at a long table placed up the centre of the room. When the Lodge was "called off" a loyal or masonic toast would be proposed, the wine or punch go round and the Master's or Wardens' Song given by some brother present.†

It is very probable that a score of members were considered a sufficient number to ensure perfect good fellowship; failing this I cannot suggest any reason for the establishment of a second Lodge in Lincoln, the population of the city at

* An early regulation for the Grand Feast at Grand Lodge reads:—"After the Oration, the Five Public Healths may be toasted and before or after each a Masonic Song with the best Instruments of Music."

† No Member of this Lodge shall take his place at the Table without his full clothing in Lodge Hours.

The Lodge hours are from Six to Ten, from Michaelmas to Lady day and from Seven to Ten from Lady day to Michaelmas.—*Regulations of the Old Lodge at Lincoln.*

Dr. Oliver writes:—"At this period Song appears to have been incorporated into the ceremonies of the Order, Music being one of the seven liberal sciences, which the Craft profess to cultivate in these Lodges, it was not thought inconsistent that it should be reduced to practice, and become part and parcel of the details which constituted the legitimate business of their private and social meetings. Labour and Refreshment relieved each other like two loving brothers; and the gravity of the former was rendered more engaging by the characteristic cheerfulness and jocund gaiety of the latter. Labour, amongst other important duties, taught the theory of Music as a science connected with the Order; and the song of Refreshment shed a bright lustre over Labour, by its animated recommendation of the pursuits which the laws of Masonry prescribe."

the time precluding the idea that the Lodge might be composed of citizens or others of a somewhat lower social status.

The Angel Inn, where the Lodge met, was then, and for many subsequent years, the chief inn above hill. It had galleries all round, and is said to have been erected by Sir Christopher Wren. The Inn and yard occupied ground north of the road enclosed between the two Gateways formerly existing in Eastgate. One of these gates was at the corner of the White Hart, immediately on the Bail; the second further eastward, near the Black Horse Inn, on a line with the present Exchequer-gate and with one which formerly stood at the south-west of St. Mary Magdalene's Church. They were, together with the Roman East-gate, taken down at the instigation of Sir Cecil Wray (not the baronet previously mentioned) about the time—1757—he built the house in Eastgate now occupied by Mr. A. Shuttleworth.

The Angel yard ceased to be a public thoroughfare some few years back, the old buildings abutting on the street being pulled down and the roadway widened.

THE OLD SPALDING LODGE.

All we know of the Old Spalding Lodge is the place and date of its institution, viz., "The Black Bull," 22nd June, 1739, No. 186, and its erasure in 1754.

The Black Bull, where the Lodge was constituted, was also for a time the meeting place of the famous Gentlemen's Society of Spalding.

This Society, founded by Maurice Johnson (a native of Spalding) about the year 1710, had amongst its members many of the noted literary men of the day—Sir Isaac Newton, Sir Hans Sloane, Pope and Gay the Poets, &c. The names also of many eminent Freemasons appear on the list, including several Grand Masters and Deputy Grand

Masters, Doctor William Stukeley, the Antiquarian, together with the following members of the Lincoln Lodge, viz., Sir Christopher Hales, Sigismund Trafford, Edw. Walpole, and Richard Welby, Esquires.

A notice of the Lincoln brethren has already been given, as well as an account of Stukeley's introduction of the craft into Grantham. A recent publication of the Doctor's famous *Diary* has brought much interesting matter to light, and places his testimony as regards the craft in a very important position.

WILLIAM STUKELEY was born at Holbeach in 1687. After studying medicine at Cambridge he began a practice at Boston, afterwards practising in London and Grantham. M.D. Cambridge, Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians; eventually entered the Church, and became successively Vicar of All Saints', Stamford, and Rector of St. George the Martyr, Queen's Square, London.

The *Diary*, under date Jan. 6, 1721, states:—

"I was made a Freemason at the Salutation Tavern Tavistock Street with Mr. Collins, Capt. Rowe, who made the famous diving Engine."

A paragraph in the *Autobiography* says:—

"His curiosity led him to be initiated into the mysteries of Masonry, suspecting it to be the remains of the mysteries of the Antients, when with difficulty a number sufficient was to be found in all London. After this it became a public fashion, not only spread over Britain & Ireland, but all Europe."

In another place we read:—

"I was the first person made a freemason in London for many years. We had great difficulty to find members enough to perform the ceremony. Immediately after that it took a run & ran itself out of breath thro' the folly of the members."

"1721 Dec. 27. We met at the Fountain Tavern Strand & by consent of Grand Mr. present Dr. Beal (D.G.M.) constituted a new lodge there where I was chose Mr."

"1722 May 25. Met Duke of Queensboro, Lord Dunbarton, Hinchinbroke &c. at Fount. Tav. Lodg. to consider of Feast of St. Johns."

"Nov. 3. The Duke of Wharton and Ld. Dalkeith visited our Lodg at the Fountain."

"1723 Oct. 4. I read my discourse of the Dorchest. Amphit. at the Lodg. & deliver'd to every Bror. a Copy."

"June 1726 being sadly plagu'd with the gout I retir'd to Grantham, thinking by country exercise to get the better of it. Here I set up a lodg. of Freemasons, wh. lasted all the time I lived there."

No mention of the Grantham Lodge is to be found in the records of the Grand Lodge, Stukeley probably not deeming any connection with that body either necessary or desirable.

Doctor Stukeley died from the effects of a paralytic stroke in 1765.*

If any records were kept of the proceedings of the Old Spalding Lodge, which scarcely admits of a doubt, there may be yet a possibility of something interesting turning up amongst the mass of material collected at Spalding by the old Society.

According to Bro. Gould's *History*, the year 1754 witnessed, in addition to the erasure of the two Lincolnshire Lodges, that of 19 other country Lodges and about 50 in the metropolis. The cause assigned for these erasures is non-attendance at the Quarterly Communication, and the consequent omission to "pay to the Grand Charity" the amounts occasionally levied by Grand Lodge,

Attendance even by country Lodges appears to have been necessary, as a By-law of the Saracen's Head Lodge† allows the Master and Wardens a sum "towards their Expences at the Qy. Communication that they may there attend and take Care of the Interests of the Lodge."

* See an excellent paper on Dr. Stukeley, by R. F. Gould, in Vol. 6 of the *Transactions of Lodge Quatuor Coronati*.

† Lodges ceased to be known by the signs of the houses where they were held after about 1770.

This compulsory visit to Grand Lodge would be all very well providing the members were in town, but an especial journey for the purpose would soon become very irksome.

Circumstances other than these may have conduced to the decline of the craft in country districts, and probably Doctor Oliver was not wide of the mark in the reasons he assigns, viz., "the alterations which took place in the customs of the higher ranks of society about the middle of the last century, in the time of taking meals, appear to have caused the discontinuance of their meetings, as they did also those of the aristocratic club at the Green Man on Lincoln Heath and several other convivial associations of a similar nature in various parts of the kingdom."

Whether or not this was the case, the fact remains, that with the extinction of these Lodges the craft appears out of fashion in the county, no warrant being granted for nearly half a century, nor with two or three exceptions, so far as I have been able to trace, is a Lincolnshire family mentioned in connection with any of the metropolitan Lodges. A change will be noted in the social status of the brethren on the revival in 1787. We no longer find the majority in the Lodges consisting of county gentry, but composed of people in the middle class and clergymen; the latter, indeed, appear to have entered zealously into the working of the order, several names being mentioned as attending the early Provincial meetings.

DR. WILLIAM DODD.

One of the most famous and eventually most notorious men of his day was the Reverend William Dodd, Doctor of Laws. Dodd was born at Bourne, Lincolnshire, where his father was Vicar, in the year 1729. A man utterly devoid of principle, yet possessing marvellous gifts of eloquence and persuasion. As a popular preacher he was unrivalled, and although his true character was again and again exposed, such was his popularity, that a continual career of

dissipation appeared to be ignored, and the people flocked in overwhelming numbers to listen to his oratory. Nothing, apparently, was too gross for Dodd to attempt; amongst other things recorded against him is the offer of a direct bribe of £3,000 for the living of St. George's, Hanover Square. Notwithstanding the amount of money he must have received, he was always in debt, and most unscrupulous in the means of extricating himself. One of the Doctor's lucrative positions was that of tutor to Philip Stanhope, son of the Earl of Chesterfield. Being hard pressed for money Dodd forged his pupil's signature to a bond for £4,200, and although a great part of the money was repaid he was arrested, tried, and convicted for forgery, and sentenced to death. The most strenuous efforts were made to obtain a pardon, the "Case of the unfortunate Dr. Dodd" being the absorbing topic of conversation. One petition alone is said to have contained over 20,000 signatures, but without avail, and the unhappy wretch was carried from Newgate in a cart and hanged at Tyburn.

Doctor William Dodd was neither better nor worse than the majority of his contemporaries. While he for his misdoings was punished in this world, they, in this respect more fortunate, were perhaps equally deserving of punishment. Thackeray, in his *Four Georges*, writes:—"A few years ago his [Hervey] heirs opened the lid of the Ickworth box; it was as if a Pompeii was opened to us—the last century dug up, with its temples and its games, its chariots, its public places. Wandering through that city of the dead, that dreadfully selfish time, through those godless intrigues and feasts, through those crowds, pushing and eager, and struggling—rouged, and lying, and fawning—I have wanted some one to be friends with. I have said to friends conversant with that history, 'Show me some good person about that Court; find me, among those selfish courtiers, those dissolute, gay people, some one being that I can love and regard' I read that Lady Yarmouth (my most religious and gracious King's favourite) sold a

bishopric to a clergyman for £5,000. He betted her £5,000 that he would not be made a bishop, and he lost, and paid her. Was he the only prelate of his time led up by such hands for consecration. As I peep into George II.'s, St. James's, I see crowds of cassocks rustling up the back stairs of the ladies of the Court; stealthy clergy slipping purses into their laps; that godless old King yawning under his canopy in his Chapel Royal, as the chaplain before him is discoursing about righteousness and judgment. Whilst the chaplain is preaching, the King is chattering in german almost as loud as the preacher, so loud that the clergyman actually burst out crying in his pulpit because the Defender of the Faith and dispenser of bishoprics would not listen to him! No wonder that the clergy were corrupt and indifferent amidst this indifference and corruption, that sceptics multiplied and morals degenerated."

Dodd doubtless saw in the masonic body and its aristocratic connection a means of rising to eminence, and evidently exerted himself to the utmost to achieve popularity. He was initiated in the St. Alban's Lodge, No. 25, London, April 3rd, 1775, and on May 1st of that year, when the foundation stone of Freemasons' Hall was laid, he was appointed the first Grand Chaplain.

At the dedication of the building in the year following the Doctor delivered a magnificent oration, a portion of which I append:—

"But, give Masonry once to exert her heaven-descended talents, let her rear the dwelling, and teach the lofty temple to emulate the clouds;—see what a train of Arts immediately enter, and join, in ample suite, to give their patron Architecture completion and glory!—Lo! at their head, Sculpture with his animating chisel bids the forming marble breathe! See Painting with his vivid pencil steal Nature's fairest tints, while the glowing canvas starts beneath his touch into beauty and life. But not the manual arts alone attend: hark!—through the finished dome divine Music pours her soul-commanding sounds; with her artful hand and finely-

varied tones sweetly enforcing the lofty and instructive lessons of heaven born Poesy ! which, whilst it wraps the delighted mind in deep contemplation, gives birth and being to those sage, those civil, those legislative and moral plans ; or in one word, to all that round of speculative Masonry, which secures, adorns, and dignifies society ; and represents in strong contrast the savage and the civilized man. And, while amidst the scientific labours of the Lodge, elevated schemes of improving Art engage and enrapture our Minds ; while holy and ancient mysteries warm the imagination with improvement's kindred glow ; while in the mournful investigation of a Brother's wants pleading pity melts our eye, and generous compassion swells the feeling breast ; While amidst the cheerful exertions of inoffensive mirth, of heart enlarging, friendly communication, reflection shall be enabled to look back with pleasure, and impartial conscience shall find nothing to disapprove : then, my brethren, may we with comfort and with confidence, lift up our adoring hearts ; And we do lift them up to Thee, great Nature's adorable and wondrous Geometrician ! Almighty Parent of the World ! wise Former of Man ! imploring on this, and on all other laudable undertakings, Thy favour, Thy blessing, Thy aid : without which vain and fruitless are all the efforts of feeble man ! 'Tis from Thee beneficent Founder of our frame, that we have received the heart to feel, the hand to labour, the eye to behold ; the ear to hear, the tongue to proclaim ; and all the faculties which make us susceptible of moral, partakers of natural good ! Teach us, then, to delight in them, to improve them as Thy blessing ; and through the beauty, order, and excellence of created things, to view, contemplate, and adore Thy uncreated excellence and beauty ! Formed as Thy Temple, and enriched with the ornaments of Thy creative wisdom—consummate Architect of Thy master building, Man !—we look up to Thee, to inspire us with understanding, with science, with virtue, with all which can dignify, refine, and exalt our nature, and render the temple at least not wholly

unworthy of its sacred inhabitant ! To this end, direct us to make the Blessed Volume of Thy instructive wisdom, the never erring square to regulate our conduct ; the compass within whose circle we shall ever walk with safety and with peace ; the infallible Plumb line and criterion of rectitude and truth. Enable us to fill up every sphere of duty with exactness and honour ; and by our amiable attention to all the sweet and blessed offices, the endearing charities of social life in particular, teach us to win the love of those who unite in those tender offices with us ; and as fathers, husbands, friends—as worthy men and worthy masons, to distinguish and exalt the profession which we boast.”

THE REVIVAL OF MASONRY IN LINCOLNSHIRE.

Though dormant in Lincolnshire, Masonry was not by any means in this condition generally. The great schism in the government of the craft had arisen and prospered to such an extent as to almost equal in authority the original Grand Lodge. In 1775 was published with the approbation of the Grand Master *The Spirit of Masonry*, by William Hutchinson. This excellent work was the earliest of a class which treats of the philosophic aspect of Masonry. Its title, “The Spirit of Masonry,” was happily imagined. It has had many successors, but as an English Masonic Classic it still holds sway with many of the craft’s best members. Hutchinson, who for upwards of four-score years led a blameless and upright life, was born at Barnard Castle, Durham, in 1732 ; a solicitor by profession, but an antiquarian and archæologist by taste and conviction. *The History and Antiquities of the County Palatine of Durham* is a well known work from his pen.

A few years after the publication of *The Spirit of Masonry* Hutchinson became the first Master of the Raby Lodge at Staindrop, near Darlington. One of the early members of the Lodge was Matthew Barnett. It is exceedingly probable

that the zeal and devotion to the tenets of the order which were so conspicuously exhibited by Bro. Barnett during many years as D.P.G.M. of Lincolnshire owe their existence to Hutchinson and his admirable book.

THE SAINT MATTHEW'S LODGE AT BARTON-UPON-HUMBER.

It is somewhat remarkable that the craft should almost simultaneously spring up in different parts of the county, viz., Barton in the north and Gainsborough in the west. Only six months intervene between the formation of the two Lodges, and so far as existing records show there was no connection beyond an occasional interchange of visits.

As the Barton warrant was issued first, its precedence seems always to have been acquiesced in.

The written proceedings of the St. Matthew's Lodge are very scanty, a list of members and a cash book being the most important. The warrant, together with a portion of the Lodge furniture, have been preserved, but it is much to be regretted that no minutes of its proceedings are forthcoming.

The circumstances of Barnett's coming into Lincolnshire and his connection with the celebrated Hutchinson are given elsewhere. Hutchinson being an officer of Grand Lodge would naturally conduct the proceedings in a strictly constitutional manner. Barnett of course would in the St. Matthew's Lodge carry on as far as possible in the same lines, and there can be no doubt, from his well known business habits, that proper minutes of the Lodge business would be made.

Could these be found, not only a valuable contribution to the doings of the Province, but an extremely interesting record of the best working of the day would be shown.

Bro. Barnett, after settling at Barton, appears almost immediately to have set about establishing a Freemasons'

Lodge. In the latter part of 1786 three of the intended founders of the new Lodge received the three degrees in the Minerva Lodge, Hull.

On the 20th of March, 1787, a warrant was granted to form a Lodge at the George Inn (Bro. J. Morley's), Barton-upon-Humber, to be called the Saint Matthew's Lodge, and numbered 497.

On the first list of members, dated March 30th, 1787, the following brethren are styled Institutors of the Lodge:—

Matthew Barnett, Schoolmaster, Barton-upon-Humber, W.M.

Rev. Thomas Robinson, S.W., Barton-upon-Humber.

Field Dunn, Tanner, J.W., Barton-upon-Humber.

Rd. Nicholson, Attorney-at-Law, Brigg.

John Western, Mariner, Hull.

John Stevenson, Hull.

Thomas Matteson, Silk Mercer, Hull.

On the 21st of September (St. Matthew's Day) the Lodge was constituted or dedicated by Brother Fletcher, of the Minerva Lodge, assisted by brethren of the Rodney Lodge, Hull, and St. George's, East York Militia.

The bill for the furniture amounted to £16 4s. 5d., and comprised three chairs (Chippendale), £6 18s.; a malet and two truncheons; 3 candlesticks, £2 10s.; 2 Dorick columns, 11s. 6d.; and a wainscot boot jack, 8d.

The proceedings at the dedication of the new Lodge included an oration by Bro. Barnett, a procession to the Church of St. Peter, and Sermon by the Rev. Thos. Robinson. About this time, also, three new members of St. Matthew's, together with three of the founders, were exalted in the Minerva Chapter.

As neither of the Barton churches are dedicated to St. Matthew, we may presume that the new Lodge was named after its principal founder.

The officers of St. Matthew's in Dec., 1794, were:—Matthew Barnett, M.; James Bygott, Draper and Grocer, P.M.; Field Dunn, Tanner, S.W.; Wm. Benton, Surgeon,

J.W.; Wm. Hesleden, Solicitor, Trea.; Thos. Marris, Solicitor, Sec.; Wm. Johnson, Joiner, S.D.; John Nicholson, Surgeon, J.D. Admiral the Hon. Thomas Shirley, of Horkstow, a past Warden of Grand Lodge (1764), joined the St. Matthew's in 1796. The cash book contains entry of payment of one guinea to Bro. Hilton, of Lincoln, for a flag, provided according to order of P.G.L. in 1804. Many entries are also made of cash to a distressed brother.

In 1819 Daniel Greenwood, of Barton, printed an *Account of the present state of The St. Matthew's Lodge No. 488 Barton upon Humber*. The book consists of "Observations," "The Excellency of Masonry displayed" (chiefly a reprint from Preston), and new By-laws.

No statistics or anything approaching a history is included. A paragraph in the "Observations" runs:—

"Since Free-masonry was first introduced into Barton, numerous changes have taken place, some occasioned by the removal of its members from the town, but far the greater number, by peremptory calls to that 'bourn from whence no traveller returns!' The Society however, has been fortunately supplied with a succession of zealous friends and advocates who by a strict adherence to the systematic rules and precepts, and attention to the discipline of the By-laws, have, in a short time, enabled it to discharge all the heavy pecuniary claims: and the members can now with pleasure boast of having a surplus in the hands of their treasurer, with a prospect of such rapid increase, as will enable the Lodge to relieve the poor and needy; to reward merit and virtue in distress; persons who are incapable of extricating themselves from misfortune in the journey through life; industrious brethren, who from inevitable accidents, and acts of Providence have fallen into ruin, and the aged, whose spirits are exhausted, whose arms are unbraced by time, and thereby rendered unable to procure for themselves that sustenance they could accomplish in their youthful days."

The By-laws were 31 in number. The Lodge met twice a month in winter and once in summer.

The ballot for a candidate must be unanimous.

The fees for making :—Three guineas and a half, which included the G. Lodge registry half-a-guinea, and half-a-crown to the Tyler. Certificates were furnished by the Secretary, the charge being half-a-crown.

The yearly subscription was ten shillings and sixpence for Lodge expenses, and two shillings to the Fund of Benevolence.

The Festival was kept on Saint Matthew's Day, "at which time the brethren shall dine together, and the whole of the Fraternity shall be bid, including residents of Barton, and non-residents; and the R.W.M. and Wardens shall invite the brethren of any provincial or other lodges they may think proper, towards promoting brotherly love, good fellowship, and the reciprocal interests of the fraternity."

By-law 22.—"When the Candidate has obtained his first Degree, the R.W.M. or his deputy, shall read the initiatory prayer with proper solemnity from the pedestal; and also deliver the exordium on Masonry, the brethren all standing. He shall further explain to him the nature and advantages of the Order, and the importance of his undertaking."

The Rev. Matthew Barnett removed from Barton to Market Rasen some time between 1813–1816.*

The Lodge apparently steadily progressed up to about 1820. At the P. G. Lodge held at Lincoln in April of that year the St. Matthew's was represented, and new Stewards appointed as usual.

This, so far as the records show, was the last attendance at P.G.L. No initiation took place between 1820–1825; whether or no the brethren met during this interval it is impossible to state with certainty. In 1825 George Capes is notified as W.M.

* At a Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge, Dec. 7th, 1842, a sum of £50 was voted to the widow of the late Rev. M. Barnett. When discussing the petition it was stated that Bro. Barnett had not subscribed to any lodge after 1815. J. Lee Stevens, a personal friend of Dr. Oliver, had the case in hand on behalf of the widow. The determination of the Committee appears to have been adjourned several times, but whether on account of the non-subscription, or mere opposition to its supporter, is difficult to say.

Bro. Capes, a Draper, of Barton, was initiated in the St. Matthew's Lodge in 1808. He appears as Prov. G. Secretary in 1816, and held the post for several years. In conjunction with C. Curtois, he selected the design for the P.G.L. Banner, painted by the famous Hilton.

In 1826 Bro. Capes published his *Reminiscences of Free Masonry*. This little book shows the writer to have been a most earnest and intelligent craftsman. It is, indeed, surprising to find a country draper of that age possessed of such a thorough grasp of the subject.

Bro. Capes' accession to the chair was signalized by the admission of eleven new members, one of the last of these being William Hiram Shearwood, Surgeon, of Barrow.

After 1825 no initiation fees are entered in the cash book, and the Lodge appears to have gradually declined.

Notice was served on the W.M. to produce his books at the P.G.L. held at Lincoln in May, 1834. The last entry in cash book is dated Sept., 1836.

The few remaining members (seven in 1836) continued their dues to Grand Lodge for many years, but so far as the Province is concerned no mention is made of St. Matthew's after the 1820 meeting. That the Lodge met occasionally is evident from a copy of a petition to the P.G.M. (Tennyson) appealing against the decision of the D.P.G.M. (Barnett) in refusing a dispensation to enable the Lodge to lay the foundation stone of a new school.

The St. Matthew's Lodge was erased from the roll of Grand Lodge in 1851. The warrant is now in the possession of the present Lodge, as well as a portion of the furniture, the latter including Masters' and Wardens' chairs, columns, ballot box, and a copy, painted on a board, of the Ten Commandments and the Apostles' Creed.

James Bygott, whose name has previously been mentioned, continued a member of the Lodge for many years, and undertook the duties of Provincial Secretary in 1807.

He appears also to have been a subscriber, and possibly a contributor, to the *Freemasons' Magazine*, at the starting

of that periodical in 1792. Three volumes of this work, bearing the signature James Bygott, Barton, came into the possession of Bro. W. G. Moore, of Lincoln, and were by him presented to the Witham Lodge Library during his year of office as W.M. (1868). The perusal of these books considerably influenced the compiling of the present work.

THE PRINCE OF WALES' LODGE, GAINSBOROUGH.

A few months after the warrant was issued for the St. Matthew's Lodge another was granted for a Lodge to be held at the White Lion Inn, Gainsborough, bearing date 28th November, 1787, numbered 514, and to be called the Prince of Wales' Lodge.

This warrant is now in the possession of Brother T. E. Jacobson, of Sleaford, having, together with a jewel of the Lodge, been confided to his keeping by one of the old Hope members. The document, written on vellum, is in an old gilt frame and glazed.

The old minute book of the Prince of Wales' Lodge, now among the archives of the Yarborough, contains its history for over twenty years, and shows it to have been one of the most energetic and prosperous Lodges in the county, due probably in a great measure to the position which the town held as the key to the navigation of the Trent and the Midland Counties, and also to the zeal and energy of Bro. Gervas Parnell, Surgeon, who for over twenty years presided over its destinies as Worshipful Master. The copious extracts which I have taken will, I believe, interest both the student and the youngest mason—the former as showing how the Lodge procedure had changed during the fifty years between the Lincoln and Gainsborough records, and the latter by enabling him to compare the working of 1787 with that of the present time.

Edwd. Peart, R.W.M., held a Lodge and passed five brethren through the chair. This custom of passing the chair is continued right through the records, though I do not find another instance where only two held a Lodge. In the following month a Lodge of Emergency was held when the "Brothers met and the Lodge open'd in the first Degree, when the Right Worshipful Master Edwd. Peart appointed Brother Parnel to fill the Chair as W.M. who appointed Bro. Woodhead S.W. and Bro. Groombridge J.W."

The R.W.M. and W.M. are frequently mentioned as being in Lodge together, the latter sometimes being styled D.M.

Brother Edward Peart was a Physician of some eminence in his day, and the author of one if not more medical works. He soon resigned the management of the Lodge to Bro. Gervas Parnel, and there is no future record of his presence on any important occasion.

On Dec. 1, 1788, the Lodge ordered "A proper Case with folding doors for the Warrant or Constitution."

Lodges were frequently held twice a week; the first and second degrees usually conferred at the same time. The Lodge was opened at once in the degree required, and the lectures were invariably worked. The night's bill averaged about seven shillings. There are many entries showing that the Lodge carried out its principles of relief to the distressed.

Visitors attended nearly every meeting, and included brethren from all parts of England and very frequently from abroad, several hailing from the West Indies; one brother is entered as Moses Pinto, a Turk, another as Bro. Cozens, or Cousans, Lodge of Antiquity No. 1. The Master and Officers were elected, and the feast kept, on St. John's Day in a right loyal manner.

The Tyler appears to have been somewhat *shaky*, as there is several times appended to his election the warning *Dum bene gesserit*.

On July 20, 1789, a motion was made "that Mr. Richd. Wharam an Antient Mason be made a Modern Mason and become a Member of this Lodge."

Bro. Gervas Parnell, of course, would not countenance any disloyalty to the Grand Master, consequently Mr. Richard Wharam was re-obligated or re-initiated in the ordinary manner.

This was the usual custom of the Lodge, but it redounds to its credit that relief was always afforded to Antient brethren.

Notice was inserted in the Lincoln papers the preceding three weeks that the Lodge would celebrate the Prince of Wales' birthday on the 13th Aug., 1792. Accordingly, on the day named, the brethren went in procession to Church, in the following order:—

A Tyler with his sword.

Union Flag displayed.

Band of Music of the 16th Reg. of Light Dragoons.

Brethren of the North Nottinghamshire Lodge, Retford.

Corinthian Lodge, Newark.

St. George's Lodge, Doncaster.

Doric Lodge, Grantham.

St. Matthew's, Barton-on-Humber.

Provincial Grand Officers.

Prince of Wales' Lodge, Gainsborough.

The sermon was preached by the Rev. B. Jordan from 1 Tim. 1-5.

Visitors present from Birmingham, Epsom (Surrey) Sandwich, St. George's 1st Dragoon Guards, St. George's East York Militia, and Congleton (Cheshire).

"1799. A motion was carried that a Proper Gown Trousers be made for the Initiating of the new made Brethren."

In January, 1800, most of the members joined the Masonic Benefit Society.

The last entry, made in 1808, shows the Lodge in a flourishing condition. Unfortunately the next minute book is missing, and nothing is known as to the cause of its decline.

The Grand Lodge records state that the warrant was removed to New Sleaford in 1818, being called the Lodge of Hope. It there appears to have flourished for a few years, a very successful Provincial Lodge being held under its banners in 1821. It was erased from Grand Lodge in 1828, and with the exception of the warrant and jewel before mentioned no record of the Sleaford working exists.

GERVAS PARNELL, to whose energetic management the Gainsborough Lodge doubtless owed its success, was born about the year 1753, and initiated in the Prince of Wales' Lodge, Gainsborough, 21st Jan., 1788. He appears to have been highly esteemed, and an excellent mason, being elected W.M. of the Lodge the April following his initiation. To him and the Rev. M. Barnett must be allotted the credit of carrying on the formation and business of the new Province. Parnell successively filled the chairs of P.J.W., S.W., and D.P.G.M., and was probably a contributor to the *Freemasons' Magazine*.

The following congratulatory letter, sent to him on his marriage, shows the estimation in which he was held by his brethren in the Lodge:—

“Sep. 18th 1797.

“Right Worshipful Master.

“I am desired by the Worshipful Master and Brethren of the Prince of Wales' Lodge to congratulate you on the Honourable Bands of Wedlock. May Prosperity, Health and Happiness attend you Both and may you ever continue to be what you have been, A Friend to the oppressed, Candid in your Undertakings Not equal'd in your Profession and we may with propriety say an Ornament to Mankind, Particularly to our Antient and Honourable Society.

“That you and yours may long enjoy in Peace and Harmony the Nuptial Band is the sincere wish,” &c.

This nuptial band lasted for nearly thirty years. A massive gravestone under the east window of the Parish Church records the death in 1825 of “Anne Wife of Gervas Parnell aged 70 years. Also of Gervas Parnell who died December 19th 1831 Aged 78 years.”

Thomas Cooper, the sometime Chartist Leader, but latterly Baptist Preacher and Lecturer, was a Blue-coat boy at Gainsborough in 1813. His reminiscences, published 1879, say, "The day after Christmas Day was a high day with us as Bluecoat boys. We then received our yearly new coat and cap, at the house of Dr. Parnell. Gervase Parnell Esquire, was his full name and title; and a finer specimen of the old-fashioned gentleman, with his powdered head and gold-headed cane, you would nowhere see."

The motion for Brother Parnell's re-election to the chair was usually as follows:—

"Bro. B. then proposed 'that the universal Satisfaction and Happiness which the Brothers had been impressed with during the time the R.W.M. Gervase Parnell had been in the Chair, that he be again solicited to continue that office for the Ensueing Year.'"

The last entry in the minute book is a truly Masonic record:—

"Dec. 28th 1808.

"Brother Trevor proposed that the Brethren present do contribute such sums as they think proper for the assistance and Relief of Brother J. Buxton Master of the Hope Transport, who had been taken prisoner by the French, where he then was in prison, but no particulars had then been heard of him, and it was not known how to address to him—when the sum of £3 - 17 0 was immediately collected from the Bros. present and paid into the hands of the R.W.M. Bro. Parnell with a request from the Lodge to administer any part of the sum raised to the Relief of the Wife of Bro. Buxton who was left by the unfortunate Event with Six children in great distress."

A similar motion for the relief of a sick brother produced the sum of £2 3s.

The chairs so ably occupied by Bro. Parnell and his Wardens occupy a similar position in the present Gainsborough Lodge. To fill them as worthily may properly be the emulation of every Yarborough brother.

The following letter from the D.P.G.M. to the Grand Secretary shows the decline of the Lodge:—

“Market Rasen Jany. 22 1817.

“Dear Sir & Brother,

“I have had an application from the Master of the Prince of Wales's Lodge at Gainsbro, to allow them to dispose of their Warrant of Constitution to the Brethren of the Welland Lodge at Spalding. Through want of Economy and without a due observation of the Rules of Masonry they have got a little wrong in their Finances. I exhorted them to live up to the Duties and precepts of Masonry, to use Economy, and they would soon again increase and flourish. But they still persevere in the Idea of disposing of their Warrant in answer to which I told them, that as a true Friend of the Institution I would not encourage their Intention and they might if they chose, write to you on the Subject—you will therefore act as you think proper, and if you have any directions to give me please to forward them on the blank part of the last Quarterly Communication, which I have not yet received.

“I am dear Sir & Brother

“Yours very sincerely

“Matthew Barnett D.P.G.M.”

Several letters on the subject are also among the Barnett papers in P.G. Lodge.

THE DORIC LODGE, GRANTHAM.

We now come to the last of this series.

As noticed in the memoir of our first Provincial Grand Master, the Rev. W. Peters was instituted to the Rectory of Woolsthorpe, near Grantham, in 1788, coming into residence about 1790. It is very probable owing to this circumstance, that Masonry in Grantham came again into activity. The presence in the neighbourhood of one so famous in his profession as an artist, so specially honoured

in the craft, and also Incumbent of one of the Rutland livings, would naturally be an inducement to those who had been initiated to start a Lodge under such favourable auspices, and, to others, to join a society which numbered amongst its adherents the highest in the land.

Who first mooted the idea is not known, but, as will be seen, the reverend gentleman gave it encouragement.

From the old minute book now in possession of the present Doric Lodge we learn that the following petition, bearing date Sept. 22nd, 1791, was forwarded to Grand Lodge :—

“We the undersigned Brethren in Masonry, being Masters, having signified our intention to Brother Peters G.P.P. of applying to the Grand Lodge in London for a Warrant. He having assisted us by giving a Recommendation, we the undermentioned Masters forward our Petition requesting a Warrant to empower us to hold a Lodge at the George Inn Grantham to be called the Doric Lodge.

“Signed John Dodsworth
 John Langwith
 Peter Tyler.”

Brother Peters had evidently well backed the petition, for in a very short time a warrant was received from Sir Peter Parker, Deputy Grand Master, numbered 582, dated 1st October, 1791, “in consideration of the great trust and confidence reposed in every one of the Petitioners, do hereby constitute the said Brethren into a regular Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons under the Title or Denomination of the Doric Lodge, to be held at the George Inn, Grantham.”

A preliminary meeting of the brethren was held on Oct. 5th, and on the 13th of the same month the officers were duly installed, the Master of the Corinthian Lodge, Newark, Sherbrooke Lowe, Esq., (late High Sheriff of Notts.), Bro. W. Gibson, and eight other brethren coming over to Grantham for the purpose. The minute book records as follows :—

"Lodge night Oct. 13th 1791

"at the George Inn

'Lodge opened in ye Degree of Master, & ye officers
Installed by Brother Gibson.

"John Dodsworth R.W.M.

"P. Tyler S.W.

"R. Winter J.W.

"W. Cooper Sec.

"T. Liddiard

"C. Costal

"Wm. Bradley Tyler

"W. T. Catlett

"J. Langwith

"After ye Installation & Charge the Lodge proceed &
made Wm. Todhill Catlett Master.

"Clos'd the Lodge in Mrs. Degree & Open'd in ye F.C.
R. Winter Ma'd F.C.

"Lodge Closed in ye Degree of F.C. & opened in ye
E.P. Wm. Bradley Mai'd E.P.

"Closed ye lodge in ye E.P. degree & opened in ye
degree of F.C.

"Wm. Bradley Past to F.C. & made Tyler."

All the above mentioned brethren, with the exception
of Dodsworth, had been a few months previously initiated
in the Newark Lodge.

"Nov. 3rd 1791. An Order is this Day made in the
Doric Lodge, that the R.W.M., Deputy M., Wardens, or
any Brothers wish to visit any of other Lodges it must be
agreed upon at a Lodge Night in the Lodge, and if any
Brother go for the Benefit of the Lodge, only his or their
expences are to be pay'd out of the funds."

The Lodge about this period consisted of a R.W.M.,
D.M., S.W., J.W., Sec., Trea., and seventeen others.

The Lodge relieved strange brethren, including several
Turks.

" May 18th 1792.

" It is agreed that a Lodge of Emergency is held on Thursday ye 21st of June next being the Day fix'd for holding the Anniversary of the Doric Lodge and a Sermon is to be preached by Our Revd. Brother Nicholson.

" And letters must be sent to all the neighbouring Lodges And to wright to Darby & Gainsboro."

This 21st of June was the date of the first meeting of P.G.L. The Rev. W. Peters presided at the June Lodges, and from the small attendance it seems almost as if the Doric members were not very enthusiastic over their new ruler.

" June 14 1792. The Rev. W. Peters P.G.M. presided. The Rev. Mr. Hoe of Knipton ballotted for and accepted. Only 6 Brethren present. Eleven absent including the R.W.M. D.M. & Rev. Brother Nicholson."

On June 20, the day before P.G.L. Meeting, Peters again presided, five only being present, thirteen noted as absent.

No mention of the proceedings of Prov. G. Lodge are recorded in the Doric minutes.

On the 5th of Oct., 1792, the Rev. J. Nicholson, of Aswarby, was installed Master. In the following December, a Royal Proclamation having been issued concerning the circulation of seditious writings, &c., the Lodge passed a resolution "expressing their loyalty and attachment to the King and Constitution."

Jan. 11. "Bro. Thos. Robins conduct being taken into consideration it was unanimously agreed that he is an Injured Individual & this Lodge is satisfyd that the Stigma was unjust."

Mar. 14, 1794. Lodge removed from the George to the Ship Tavern.

In April, 1794, the by-laws were revised, and two initiations are recorded.

Oct. 10, 1794. Brother Winter was elected Master.

Nov. 14, 1794. Lodge met, but no record of business is made.

With this entry the written proceedings abruptly terminate, not the slightest hint or clue, beyond the usual complaints as to arrears of subscriptions, being given, whereby any reason can be assigned for such a sudden collapse.

The following extracts from the records of the Prince of Wales' Lodge, Gainsborough, somewhat elucidate the mystery:—

“Dec. 17th 1792.

“A letter being read from the Provincial Grand Master respecting the additional sum of five shillings being paid by every new made Br.—it was proposed by the R.W.M. & seconded by Br. Bromby that it be *decanted* from and a Proper Letter be sent to the Pro. G. Master.”

We have already noticed the apparent coolness between the P.G.M. and the Doric brethren. If this were so, the feeling would be much intensified by the impost of five shillings, and probably, when the levy was *decanted* from, the Proper Letter would not be written.

At the second P.G.L., held at Barton, August, 1793, the D.P.G.M., Chap., Sec., Trea. (members of the Doric Lodge), were not present. The Doric is not recorded as being “represented,” though Bro. Langwith as P.G.Arch. and Bro. Bradley as Tyler attended.

Another Gainsborough minute, dated April 18th, 1796, reads:—

“A memorial from the Provincial Grand Master was then read as follows ‘The Doric Lodge at Grantham having ceased to meet or refused to comply with the laws of the Provincial Society of Free-Masons founded on the Constitutional Law of the Grand Lodge of England, is by the Provincial Grand Master’s command erased from the list of Provincial Lodges.

‘Signed Peters P.G.M.’

"It was therefore unanimously agreed that the R.W.M. be re-imbursed the sum of Thirteen Shillings, being this Lodge's proportion of the Arrears due from the Doric Lodge for expences of the Provincial Grand Meeting in the year 1794 which was accordingly paid him."

The advertisement inserted in the *Stamford Mercury* convening the Lincoln meeting concludes:—

"The Doric Lodge at Grantham having ceased to meet or declined conforming to the constituted Laws of the Grand Lodge of England is no longer acknowledged by the Prov. G. Master as a Lodge of Regular Masons.

"Knipton near Belvoir Castle.

"May 23 1796

"Peters

"Grand Master for the County of Lincoln

"John Bullen Grand Secretary."

On 4th April, 1798, nine Lodges, including the Doric, were erased by Grand Lodge from the list, having ceased to meet or neglected to comply with the laws of the society. No return by the Doric was made after 11th Oct., 1792. In the course of correspondence which took place at the formation of the present Lodge, 1819-20, it was elicited that the names of several brethren initiated in 1791 had never been returned for registration. There can be little doubt, from the frequent communications passing between the P.G.M. and the Grand Lodge officials, that the social status of the leading Doric members was well known at head quarters, and that the omission in making the regular returns was looked upon somewhat in the light of contumacy, hence the summary and unusual course of erasure within so short a time of commencement.

THE OFFICE OF PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER AND PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

As an introduction to this stage of our history some few remarks appear necessary regarding the formation and growth of the Grand Lodge of England, that body from which our Provincial Masters derive their authority.

There can be no doubt that when the few London brethren met together in 1717 to form the first Grand Lodge not the remotest idea would be entertained of its authority being extended over all England.

Indeed, according to Doctor Stukeley's account of his initiation, the Society for some time made no progress at all. In 1721 the brethren experienced the "happy Prospect of being again patronized by Noble Grand Masters" by the acceptance of the office by the Duke of Montagu. After this the Lodges increased rapidly, too rapidly for the Doctor, who writes as if he were disgusted with the course of events. It is evident that no design of extending the authority of Grand Lodge existed at the time of the publication of the *First Book of Constitutions* in 1723, as the Regulations are expressly stated to be for the "Use of the Lodges in and about *London and Westminster*." A minute of Grand Lodge of the same year also states that it was "agreed that no new lodge *in or near London* should countenanced without it be Regularly Constituted."

Several similar regulations are applied only to Lodges within the "Bills of Mortality" or "*within ten miles of London*."

These extracts suffice to show that Stukeley transgressed no law or custom of the craft when he "set up his lodg. at Grantham."

Bro. Gould, in his *History* (which every one should consult on this interesting epoch of the craft), gives the list of Lodges, eighteen in number, which were represented at Grand Lodge in December, 1727. These without exception were Metropolitan Lodges.

He also records an application by the members of the Lodge at the King's Head, Salford, Manchester, at the same meeting, "that their names might be entered in the Grand Lodge Books and themselves taken under the care and patronage of Grand Lodge," which was acceded to. Bro. Gould goes on to say that this application deserves to be recorded, both as showing the existence at that time of Lodges other than those forming part of the *regular* establishment, as well as the tendency of all such bodies to gradually become absorbed within the central organization.

A similar course of action to that of the Salford brethren would doubtless be taken by the other country Lodges whose names appeared on the early Engraved Lists, a fact which would at once suggest to Grand Lodge the desirability of an extended sphere of authority.

It should also be noted that, notwithstanding the independence of the York Grand Lodge being always acknowledged, no scruple appears to have been felt by the London Lodge as to the propriety of appointing Deputations to the north of England.

The office and duties of the Provincial Grand Master, or as it was then styled, *Deputation*, appear in

THE
NEW BOOK
OF
CONSTITUTIONS
OF THE
Antient and Honourable FRATERNITY
OF
FREE and ACCEPTED MASONS.
CONTAINING
Their *History, Charges, Regulations, &c.*
COLLECTED and DIGESTED
By Order of the GRAND LODGE from their old *Records*,
faithful Traditions and Lodge-Books,
For the Use of the LODGES.

By JAMES ANDERSON, D. D.

L O N D O N: M DCCXXXVIII.

The first appointment to the office is recorded as follows:—

“Thus on 10 May 1727.

“INCHQUIN *Grand Master* granted a **Deputation** to HUGH WARBURTON, Esq; to be **Provincial Grand Master of North-Wales at Chester.**”

A second edition of this work, printed “in the Vulgar Year of Masonry 5746” has a title page with table of contents, “To which are added

“VI. A List of the Lodges in and about *London* and *Westminster*; with the Deputations of several grand Masters for the forming of Lodges in *Wales*, the remote Parts of *England*, and in foreign Realms.”

We must presume that Lincolnshire was not then considered a remote part of England, as three of these Deputations, viz., Lancashire, Durham, and Northumberland, were granted during the Grand Mastership of the Earl of Craufurd, whose Deputy was Sir Cecil Wray, the Master of the Lodge held at the Saracen's Head, Lincoln, and also of one (now No. 28) in London—a most zealous and energetic mason, in fact just such a man, had he lived in our day, as the Grand Master would delight to honour by conferring upon him a Provincial Mastership.*

The early manner of forming a new Lodge in London, and doubtless followed in Lincolnshire, was by petition to the Grand Master to constitute. On the prayer being granted the Grand Master, or his Deputy, together with the Grand Wardens, would attend on the day agreed upon and perform the usual ceremony. Little is known beyond the account in Anderson's *Constitutions* of the “Antient Manner of Constituting a Lodge.” The ceremony was apparently somewhat on the lines of our present installation; and, as

* It should be stated that Bro. H. Sadler gives in *The Freemason*, June, 1886, an official list of the members of a Chester Lodge dated Nov., 1725, which is headed by the name of Col. Columbine, Provincial Grand Master. Bro. Sadler, however, remarks that no account of the appointment is to be found, neither did any Chester member ever attend Grand Lodge, nor pay anything to the Charity.

mention is there made of "the several parts and usages being gone through in the just Solemnity," it may also have included some form of dedication.

When the idea began to be entertained by Grand Lodge of extending its authority outside the Metropolis, the impossibility of the Grand Master attending to constitute in a distant part of the country must at once have suggested a delegation of this function to some resident brother, who would also foster the formation of loyal Lodges, and discountenance those (of which no doubt there were several) who owned no allegiance.

Whether the new Provincial Rulers answered the expectations of Grand Lodge it is impossible to say. In the course of a few years the warrant became of paramount importance, and was styled "The Constitution." The old ceremony, whatever that may have been, whether much or little, being apparently of no consequence. This at least was the case in our own county, no Grand officer or Provincial officer being recorded as present at the opening of any Lodge prior to the appointment of Doctor Oliver as D.P.G.M.

It is very remarkable, considering the calling of our first P.G.M., and the determination he exhibited at all times of keeping up the dignity of the office, that he should have shown no interest in the consecration or installation ceremony of the Witham Lodge; yet it is a fact that neither he nor any of his officers were present, and that not only the consecration ceremony but the carrying out of the instructions contained in the warrant were due to the masonic zeal of an official from another Province.

Bro. Henry Sadler, in his *Life of Thomas Dunckerley*, whom he terms "the Father of the present race of Provincial Grand Masters," says, "In the year 1767 the office was virtually dormant in England, as were also most of those who held it. At the outside there were not more than a dozen, some of whom had not been heard of by the Grand Secretary for several years; this however, was not of much

consequence, as in the early days, the appointments were generally made without the slightest regard to either expediency or efficiency, social standing and local influence being the chief considerations. The advent of Dunckerley, and the earnest and methodical enthusiasm which he brought to bear upon his new duties, with the most satisfactory results, doubtless awakened the authorities to the knowledge that it was possible for a Provincial Grand Master to be a real help to the Society, instead of merely an ornamental addition to it."

The Province of Lincolnshire was doubtless founded to give honour in Grand Lodge to one eminent in his profession, and who had by the exercise of his skill placed that body under an obligation, which this distinction was probably the best way of acknowledging; whilst our second P.G.M. must be classed in the category of the ornamental members, as it is almost certain that he never set foot in the county in his official capacity.

The articles of the *Book of Constitutions* bearing on the selection and appointments of the Prov. G. Master and his Deputy are somewhat anomalous; whilst the latter must have previously served the office of Master in a Regular Lodge, the Grand Master may appoint *any* brother of eminence and ability in the craft whom he may think worthy to the dignity of Prov. G. Master.

The authority to form or constitute new Lodges which we learn from the old Constitutions was the original duty of the Prov. G. Master has long been discontinued.

The Witham warrant, and probably that of the old Lodge at Brigg, were issued entirely by the Prov. G. Master and without the signature of any Grand Lodge official; the Rev. M. Barnett, as D.P.G.M., up to the time of his death also granted dispensations to hold Lodges pending the drawing up of the regular warrant. This privilege is now, according to Art. 116, reduced to an expression of opinion as to the desirability of the new Lodge, though a previous section (82) declares that a Prov. G. Master is by the patent

"invested with a rank and power in his particular Province similar to those possessed by the Grand Master." In concluding these few remarks on the office, it may be truthfully affirmed that, with a few rare exceptions, the Prov. Grand Masters have during the past quarter of a century worthily filled their position, and the flourishing state of the craft in this country is owing in a great measure to the zeal and ability with which they have managed its concerns in their respective districts.

The following addition to their privileges, which might prove beneficial to the craft, is respectfully submitted, viz.: Giving the Prov. G. Masters the authority, on the recommendation of any Lodge, of conferring the degree and dignity of a Past Master on a brother who has done good service to his Lodge or the craft generally, but who, owing to various causes, has never been elected W.M.

The honour was regularly conferred by the old Lodges up to half a century ago, and its partial restoration would, I believe, conduce to a better attendance on the part of the elder brethren. It is scarcely seemly for a thirty or forty year brother, possibly an ex treasurer, secretary, or warden, to be seated amongst the youngest E.A.s whilst the dais is occupied by P.M.s many years his junior.

Provincial Grand Lodges, if not originated by Thomas Dunckerley, unquestionably owe much of their popularity to that indefatigable brother.

Dunckerley's authority extended over eight Provinces, the first appointment, that of Hants., being made early in 1767. The Constitutions of that year gave (possibly through Dunckerley's instrumentality) the officers of Prov. G. Lodges the privilege, hitherto restricted to Grand officers, of wearing Aprons lined and edged with blue silk, in place of the plain white Aprons then in use in private Lodges.

It is not a little remarkable, considering the intimacy of Brothers Dunckerley and Peters, that they should have taken such opposite views of the "additional degrees of Masonry," and, that whilst we find the former zealously promulgating

both the R. A. and K. T. the latter warns his Deputy as to their evil effect in a very strongly worded epistle.

Notwithstanding this difference of opinion, Dunckerley's successful career doubtless exercised considerable influence with the Rev. Wm. Peters in the formation and management of the new Province. Both men fully realized the importance of the office, and allowed no infringement of its dignity and privileges. The Lincolnshire records and those given by Bro. Henry Sadler in his *Life of Thomas Dunckerley* show several points in common, the Doric incident and the contest with the Athols both having their counterpart.

The appointment of a Prov. Grand Master for Lincolnshire appears to have been received with approval by the two senior Lodges, both of which gave a ready and loyal support. The junior Lodge, on the other hand, was not very enthusiastic, notwithstanding the chief honours of the event falling to its share. Whether any other grievance existed besides the fees question it is impossible to say, but it is a significant fact that the name of the first D.P.G.M. never appears again on the records. Matthew Barnett, of Barton, and Gervas Parnell, of Gainsborough, had from the beginning been loyal supporters of the Constitution, and they both seem to have entered zealously into the new order of things and made Prov. G. Lodge a success.

To Barnett especially is a debt of gratitude due for his able management of the Province during the long period of nearly forty years, a considerable portion of which he had no superior.

When estimating and comparing the attendance and popularity of the early Lincolnshire Provincial Meetings the extent of the county, and means of locomotion a century ago, must necessarily be taken into consideration.

We have no record of the number of brethren attending until the year 1804. At the meeting held at Louth in that year upwards of 60 brethren dined at the King's Head. The county then had only 4 Lodges, viz., Barton, Gainsborough, Lincoln, and Louth, and I should say, judging

from the records of these Lodges, that nearly every member would be present in P.G.L.

At the Lincoln meeting in 1820 seven Lodges were represented and 132 brethren were at the dinner table. These attendances speak well for the popularity of Pro. G. Lodge in the early years and for the zeal of its early members. The Centenary Meeting of P.G.L. at Grantham, out of a roll of 24 Lodges with an aggregate of 1,085 members, shewed only an attendance of 285.

The first Grand Feasts held on the Grand Master's birthday lasted two days—one day for business and the other, after attending Church Service, for a social gathering and renewal of old acquaintance.

After a few years this arrangement was doubtless found inconvenient. We accordingly find P.G.L. summoned to meet at nine o'clock in the morning, thus allowing a good long day.

On Doctor Oliver's accession to power the annual business meeting was agreed to be held in spring, with an occasional assembly of a strictly social nature in the summer. The worthy D.P.G.M. was a firm believer in the utility of Provincial assemblies.

He writes in 1841 :—"The influence of a P. G. Lodge in stimulating private Lodges to the practice of that regularity which alone can secure permanency and success, operates not merely towards the preservation of a just discipline and the dispensation of honorary rewards to worthy and meritorious brethren ; but by its periodical meetings, it introduces distant brethren to each other, promoting the interchange of mutual good will and fraternal courtesy, and cultivating those great principles by which Freemasonry is adorned and supported. And the Charges which are usually delivered *ex cathedra* on those occasions, embracing all the points which are of practical reference to the state of the Province, as well as much important information on the structure of the science in general, and the management of a lodge in particular—have often proved a powerful means

of ensuring success. It is a duty incumbent on the Lodges of Masons, dispersed as they are, not only throughout this Kingdom, but also in every country under the canopy of heaven, to show themselves to the world as being endowed with a corresponding activity in the performance of every moral and social duty. Mankind are too apt to entertain an unfavourable opinion of a society from which they are carefully excluded; and, as suspicion generates envy, and envy uncharitableness, so they do not hesitate to reduce evil surmises to words, and speak with bitterness respecting practices, of whose existence they do not possess the means of obtaining accurate information. But our periodical Grand Lodges, by bringing the science ostensibly before the public, have tended in a great measure to soften these feelings, and produce a more favourable construction of our motives, in the minds of those who are unacquainted with the true intent and meaning of our benevolent association."

Times have changed since the Doctor thus expressed his views. The craft is no longer looked upon with suspicion; processions are regarded with disfavour by many of the brethren, though it is a question whether we have not gone to the other extreme in the matter of outside demonstrations. One strong point of the Doctor's was sociability. Whether it is owing to the number of members or the infrequency of meetings, sociability now-a-days appears out of joint; very few attempt to fraternize with a strange brother, each Lodge keeps to itself, and worse than this, some of the members occasionally dine elsewhere.

There is doubtless a reason for all this, and probably a remedy. If the institution is to fulfil its original purpose, it is worth while considering what are its weak points.

Provincial Grand Lodge is now, from the nature of its constitution, a fairly representative assembly, the majority of the officers sitting both as Past Masters and Provincial Officers. Its members have increased concurrently with those of Grand Lodge from the original Master, Deputy, Wardens, and Stewards, to nearly thirty different officers.

Nearly all these vacate their seats each year, but retain their rank and status so long as they continue to subscribe to any Lodge in the Province. In addition to the work done in P.G.L., an elaborate arrangement for the collection and disposition of the various local and general charities is carried on by the Secretary and Charity Committee.

The appointment of officers is an opportunity for the Prov. G. Master to show his appreciation of services rendered by brethren to their respective Lodges or the craft generally.

To give honour where it is due makes the selection not the least onerous of his duties, especially in a large Province. In addition to the moral and intellectual qualifications of a new member a little care is advisable in fitting the office and its occupant, as the profane world, naturally looking at these things from a strictly operative point of view, is apt to make sarcastic remarks when it finds a little man Grand Sword Bearer, the Superintendent of Works one who cannot or dare not climb a scaffold, or a Grand Organist who cannot play a hymn tune.

THE PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF LINCOLNSHIRE.

The following advertisement was inserted in the *Lincoln, Rutland, and Stamford Mercury* of June 1, 1792:—

“Most Ancient & Honourable Society of Free
& Accepted Masons.

“A Grand Feast of the Provincial Grand Officers and Brethren of this Masonic Honourable Society will be held at the George Inn Grantham on Thursday the 21st of the instant June. The Brethren are requested to assemble at the George Inn by Eleven O'clock in the morning to proceed to Church where a Sermon will be preached by the Rev. Brother Nicholson on the Principles of Masonry viz.—

“Universal Charity, Brotherly love and Peace.

“Dinner to be on the Table at Two O'clock precisely.

"The Company of every Brother will be esteemed a favour. Those who dine are requested to send their Names to the Bar of the George Inn Two Days at least previous to the Meeting that Dinner may be provided accordingly.

"By command of the Most Worshipful

"the Provincial Grand Master for the

"County of Lincoln.

"Cooper Secretary Grantham."*

On June 21st, 1792, the members of the St. Matthew's Lodge, Barton-on-Humber; the Prince of Wales' Lodge, Gainsborough, and the Doric Lodge, Grantham, met at the George Inn, Grantham, for the purpose of installing their first Provincial Grand Master, and to assist in the formation of the first Provincial Grand Lodge. A diploma of appointment by H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, Grand Master, was read, and the Rev. William Peters, LL.B., was installed Provincial Grand Master of Lincolnshire by John Dodsworth, of the Doric Lodge.

The following address, signed by the P.G.M. on behalf of the Lodge, was ordered to be forwarded to the Grand Master enclosed in a Column of Heart of Oak of the Doric Order :—

"To His Royal Highness
George Prince of Wales &c.
Grand Master of Masons,

The humble address of the most antient and
honourable society of
Free and Accepted Masons
resident in the County of Lincoln.
In Grand Lodge assembled.

"May it please Your Royal Highness,

"We, the Provincial Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master,
Grand Wardens and Brethren of the most antient and
honourable Society of Free and Accepted Masons, in the
County of Lincoln, in Grand Lodge assembled, Do humbly

* See minute of the old Doric Lodge referring to this date.

beg leave to approach your Royal Highness with our unfeigned thanks for the great honour you have done the craft, by graciously condescending to accept the Chair as Grand Master. It is an Era which will ever be recorded in the future annals of Masonry with exultation and gratitude; and we embrace with joy this opportunity of our first meeting together in Grand Lodge to express our unshaken Loyalty to our King, Duty to your Royal Highness, and firm Attachment to that Constitution and Form of Government by which we are enabled through every part of the Globe, to meet each other free and uninterrupted, and in the fullest extent to pursue the great objects of Masonry, in promoting and diffusing among men Universal Charity, Brotherly Love and Peace. These are the leading principles of our hearts, and will ever be the great rule of our actions—and by due submission, and ready obedience to the Laws of our Country, to testify to the world, that we are men, neither insensible of, nor ungrateful for the invaluable blessing of Liberty, so essential to Masonry, which we Britons at this moment enjoy, in a far more enviable degree, than is known to any other of our fellow-creatures under the canopy of Heaven.

“That our Almighty Creator, the great Architect of the Universe, may ever preserve you in his holy keeping, is the heartfelt prayer of us, and of all true Masons.

“Grantham

“June 21, 1792.”

The Grand Festival was ordered to be kept on the 12th August, the Prince of Wales' birthday. A procession to Church; sermon preached by the new P.G. Chaplain, the Rev. J. Nicholson. The following brethren were nominated the first P.G. officers:—

P.G.M.	.....	The Reverend Wm. Peters, LL.B., Chaplain to the Prince of Wales, &c.
D.P.G.M.	.....	John Dodsworth, Esq., M.D., Doric Lodge.
P.S.G.W.	..... ..	The Rev. Matthew Barnett, St. Matthew's Lodge.

P J.G.W.	The Rev. Thomas Smith, Prince of Wales' Lodge.
P.G. Treasurer	Thomas Liddiard, Doric Lodge.
P.G. Chap.	Rev. John Nicholson (V. of Aswarby), Doric Lodge.
P.G. Archt. ...	John Langwith, Doric Lodge.
P.G. Painter	Wm. Pulteney Pudsey, Prince of Wales' Lodge.
P.G. Stewards..	{ Rev. Thos. Robinson (V. of Horkstow), St. Matthew's Lodge.
	{ Martin Brumby, Prince of Wales' Lodge.
	{ James Douthwaite, Doric Lodge.
P.G. Sec.	William Cooper, Doric Lodge.
P.G. Sword Bearer...	Peter Tyler, Doric Lodge.
P.G. Tyler	W. Bradley, Doric Lodge.

A letter from Mr. Peters to Matthew Barnett, dated Aug. 2nd, after thanking the latter for services, &c., proceeds:—

“The absence of the Prince of Wales from London prevented my waiting upon him with the address until a few days ago. . . . it has been in the *Oracle* (the Paper the Prince of Wales takes in) The Prince was much flattered by the attention of his brethren, & we have had much credit & honour in being the first who paid that very necessary and proper compliment to His Royal Highness.”

The names of the D.P.G.M. and other Grantham brethren, with the exception of Bro. J. Langwith, for reasons already stated in the account of the Doric Lodge, do not again appear on the roll of attendance at Prov. G. Lodge. The Prov. G. Architect was a loyal supporter for many years.

Wm. Pulteney Pudsey was a most energetic mason, a painter by profession or trade, and also “Mine Host” of the White Lion, Gainsborough, for several years. The office of

Grand Portrait Painter held in Grand Lodge by the Rev. Wm. Peters and by Bro. Pudsey in our Province, was not again filled up.

Bro. Pudsey also for a short time acted as Pro. G. Sec. He and three other members of the old Prince of Wales' Lodge signed the petition for the present Yarborough Lodge (Trent), Gainsborough, and on its formation resumed his old post as Secretary. Bro. Pudsey, however, did not live to attend many meetings of the new Lodge, the minutes recording his death on Nov. 17th, 1834, aged 75 years.

In the following August the Provincial officers were the guests of the Prince of Wales' Lodge, at their celebration of the Grand Master's birthday.

1793, 11th and 12th August. P.G.L. at the George Inn, Barton-upon-Humber.

Notice having been sent by the Prov. G. Master to the several Lodges of his appointment of the Reverend Matthew Barnett as Dep. Prov. G. Master—Bro. Barnett presided accordingly. Only five of the officers appointed at Grantham, including the Tyler, were present.

Three Lodges were represented, the Urania, Brigg, in place of the Doric.

There was a large attendance of brethren. The first day was devoted to business, the nature of which, unfortunately, we have no account, but doubtless the Doric incident would be fully gone into. The proceedings appear to have terminated satisfactorily.

The following day the Grand Feast was held, it being the anniversary of the birthday of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Grand Master.

The brethren went in procession to the Church of St. Peter; the new Chaplain read the prayers, and the D.P.G.M. preached the sermon.

The *Freemasons' Magazine* of that date says:—

“Nothing could exceed the regularity and decorum with which the Procession was conducted; and the day was

spent with the greatest Harmony, Loyalty, and Unanimity, diffusing Joy and Gladness through the whole Society; every one happy with himself and pleased with each other."

The next Grand Feast to be held 12th August, 1794, at Gainsborough, unless a Lodge should be formed before that period in the county town and city of Lincoln.

A complete set of jewels of gilt was ordered.

1794, Aug. 11 and 12. P.G.L. at the White Hart, Gainsborough. The Rev. M. Barnett presided.

"Brothers met and the Lodge opened in the Third Degree to celebrate the Anniversary of the Birth of His Royal Highness George Prince of Wales Grand Master, assisted by Brethren from the Neighbouring Lodges all which being properly cloathed and arranged walked to Church in the following procession

"A Tyler with his Sword

Band of Music

Union Flag displayed

Royal Brunswick Lodge Sheffield

North Nottinghamshire Lodge East Retford

Corinthian Lodge Newark

Witham Lodge Lincoln

Urania Lodge Brigg

Prince of Wales's Lodge Gainsborough

Saint Matthew's Lodge Barton

The Provincial Grand Lodge.

"The Order of the Procession was regular and well conducted, the crowd of spectators from Town and Country very numerous. Prayers being read by the Revd. Bro. Jordan and an excellent Sermon adapted to the occasion preached by the Revd. Bro. Robinson Grand Chaplain from the 22nd Chaptr. of Proverbs Verse the 2nd

"The Rich and Poor meet together

The Lord is the maker of them all.

"They returned from Church in the same order they went.

"Thanks were then returned to the G.C. for his excellent Sermon after which they dined in a very numerous body at the Town Hall when many Loyal, Constitutional and Masonic Toasts were Drank and the Day being spent in great festivity and Hilarity ; the Lodge closed in good order and harmony."*

The Rev. Thos. Robinson was appointed Vicar of Horkstow 1781.

1795, May 8th. P.G.L. at the Angel Inn, Brigg, to celebrate the nuptials of H.R.H. George Prince of Wales, G.M., with a Princess of the illustrious house of Brunswick. The brethren, wearing cockades in their hats, went in procession to the Chapel at Brigg, where a sermon was preached by Bro. Rev. G. Marris, and after their return dined together.

1795, Aug. 11 and 12. Annual P.G.L. at the Rein Deer, Lincoln. Procession from the Assembly Rooms, Above-hill, to the Cathedral, where a sermon was preached by Rev. Bro. E. Jordan ; returning to the Rein Deer.

The Rev. E. Jordan was appointed Vicar of Messingham 1785.

1796, June 13th. P.G.L. at the Rein Deer Inn, Lincoln. The Doric Lodge, Grantham, was erased from the list of Provincial Lodges, by command of the P.G.M., for having ceased to meet or refused to comply with the laws of the P.G.L.

The brethren dined together, and the Lodge was closed and adjourned to the Fourth Monday in Trinity, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon, at the Rein Deer Inn, Lincoln.

Provincial G. Lodge was summoned by advertisement in the *Stamford Mercury* to meet at Lincoln on July 3rd, 1797. This, however, apparently not suiting the convenience of the P.G.M., was not held.

1797. In the minute book there is no record of any P.G.L. held this year, but there is an entry, signed by Bro.

* Copied from the Gainsborough minutes.

Pudsey, P.G. Sec., dated Gainsborough, June 26, 1797, stating that the D.P.G.M. (Gervas Parnell) had yesterday received a letter from the P.G.M. "signifying that on finding no particular business which rendered it necessary to call them together there would be no P.G.L. this year. But that whenever any occurrence either National or Masonic might occasion the brethren to consult together, or that on the Masters and Wardens of any two Lodges signifying their wish of calling a Grand Lodge, that he would immediately issue his summons for that purpose." The D.P.G.M. (Barnett) to be invested on the first meeting in St. Matthew's Lodge by the present D.P.G.M., if in his power to attend; if not, by the Master of that Lodge.

1804. The next recorded P.G.L. was Aug. 13th, at the New King's Head, Louth. Ordered a Grand Architect's jewel, and that the Lodges provide for themselves flags with suitable emblems. A procession to Church; sermon by the Rev. Dr. Orme, P.G.C. A current newspaper account says:—

"A very appropriate sermon was preached by the Rev. Dr. Orme, in which he gave a short account of the antiquity of the institution and adduced such strong arguments in favour of its utility, and the brotherly love and charity it enjoins to its members, as well as the strictest observance of their duty to both God and their King, that as Felix said to St. Paul, 'Thou almost persuadest me to become a Christian'—so many might have replied to the Dr. 'Thou almost persuadest me to become a Brother Mason.' The text was from the 2nd Chap. 1st Epistle to St. Peter V. 17—Honour all men, Love the Brotherhood, Fear God, Honour the King. Upwards of 60 brethren dined, and the day was spent with the utmost good order and sociality."

The advertisement convening the Louth meeting concludes:—

"As the Masons of Lincolnshire pride themselves on preserving pure and unsullied those chaste principles of English Masonry which dignify the Man and do honour to

the Craft it is expected that no Person whatever shall appear in their Procession to Church or at their Dinner, in any other dress or insignia of Masonry or pretended Masonry than such as is used in and sanctioned by the Grand Lodge of England."

A Witham minute records that the R.W.M., Saml. Thorold, sent to all the Regular Lodges in the county "a Staff proper for the Flag which each is to exhibit at the Provincial Meeting at Barton on the 12th Aug. 1805."

1805, Aug. 12. P.G.L. at the George Inn, Barton-on-Humber. No record of business. A procession to Church, and sermon by Dr. Orme.

A Gainsborough minute of Sept. says:—"It was unanimously agreed that the silk aprons provided for the Procession at Barton should be disposed of to the Members wishing to purchase them to prevent the expences falling upon the funds.

The advertisement announcing the Grand Feast at Barton continues:—

"The Provincial Grand Master thinks it necessary to make known that as the pure and uncontaminated principles of Religion and Loyalty are zealously cherished by the Masons of this County, no Man who belongs not to a Constitutional Lodge, or who hath not in times past been a Member of such Lodge shall be permitted to walk in the procession or be at the Feast on the 12th of August.

"It is in an especial manner thought proper to give this notice, as attempts have been made by men who pass under the name of what is falsely called *the higher degrees of Masonry* to obtrude themselves into this County, whose impious and destructive principles are of such a nature as shall never gain admittance into the county of Lincoln without the names of the parties concerned being made public.

"By the Provincial Grand Masters command

"Wm. Gray Grand Secretary.

"Vicars' Court Lincoln June 3rd 1805."

1806, Aug. 12. P.G.L. at the Prince of Wales' Lodge Room, Gainsborough.

A letter was read from Rev. W. Peters, in excuse for his absence, and circumstances respecting a Lodge of Masons at Stamford were stated, and reasons given for avoiding communication with them, and the pure and upright principles of English Masonry strictly enjoined to be observed.

The Lodge referred to was doubtless "The Good Intent," meeting at the Salutation Inn, Stamford, being at that time No. 87 on the Roll of the Ancients. Bro. Peters' sentiments towards the "schismatics" is fully shown in the Athol account. Curiously enough, in ten years' time the same Lodge is censured for not fraternizing with the Province.

A red apron was ordered to be given to Bro. Charles Curtois, Acting W.M. of the Witham Lodge, Grand Steward.

Dr. Oliver speaks of Bro. Curtois as a talented and zealous mason, whose early and lamented death prevented him from rising to the highest honours in masonry. He attached the R.A. Chapter to the Witham Lodge.

There appearing to have been some difficulty in obtaining and settling the accounts at former Provincial Meetings, it was resolved that in future the Lodge of that place where the Grand Festival is held be at the charge of music and other incidental expenses.

The meeting next year was settled to be held at the Witham Lodge Room, Lincoln, on the 12th August, at nine o'clock in the morning.

A grand procession, headed by the Retford Volunteers' Band, then proceeded from the Town Hall to Church, each Lodge having its flag displayed. A large muster of Provincial officers, six of the number being Clergymen.

The Rev. Bro. Smith read prayers, and Dr. Orme preached from Acts vi. 26, "Sirs ye are brethren."

The brethren afterwards dined together at Bro. Moody's, "and the Day spent in that Festivity, Hilarity, and good order peculiar to Masons."

A Witham minute of July, 1807, records that the Master (S. Thorold) was desired by the D.P.G.M. to consult the Witham Lodge respecting the propriety of deferring the Provincial Meeting, on the ground of the P.G.M. and his Deputy being unable to attend.

The Witham brethren unanimously agreed that it *was* desirable to hold the meeting according to previous arrangement. The decision evidently did not suit the Prov. G.M., as the following minute records that the Secretary do "write to all the Lodges in the Province informing them that the P.G. Meeting is postponed, it not meeting the approbation of the Prov. G. Master."

From letters written to the D.P.G.M. by the Rev. W. Peters we learn that the lives of the prebendal lease at Langford, Berkshire, had recently fallen in, thereby yielding its fortunate possessor £1,100 per annum, together with certain other privileges, and that "he was much engaged in making a large house comfortable."

1808, Aug. 12. P.G.L. at the Rein Deer Inn, Lincoln. First attendance of the Lodge of Harmony, Boston. Procession up to the Cathedral. Dr. Orme preached; 66 brethren dined. Names entered in the Witham books.

A newspaper account says:—"The splendid Insignia of office which many of the members wore, several beautiful flags and an excellent band of music contributed to make the procession effective. It might be said to be 'true beauty borrowing the aid of ornament,' so that there was at once what delighted the benevolent who contemplated the object of the Institution, and those who looked no further than the glitter of the procession."

1809, Aug. 15. P.G.L. at the Town Hall, Boston.

A letter was read from the Prov. G. Master wishing the Grand Feasts to be suspended for some time; unanimously agreed to!

A vote of thanks was passed to Dr. Orme for his excellent sermon. No record of meeting until

1813, Aug. 12. P.G.L. at Grimsby, to dedicate the Apollo Lodge (Room).

The new Lodge was dedicated in masonic form by the Rev. M. Barnett, D.P.G.M.

A procession to Church and sermon by Dr. Orme.

The Rev. W. Peters, P.G.M., be solicited to favour the P.G.L. with an emblematical design for a Provincial flag.

Two Stewards from each Lodge appointed, the Rev. Geo. Oliver representing the Apollo, of which he was the first Master.

The design for the flag does not appear to have been furnished.

The year following (1814) the deaths of the Rev. Wm. Peters, P.G.M., and the Rev. Dr. Orme, P.G.C., took place.

Authority from the Grand Master was sent to the Rev. M. Barnett to transact the necessary business in the Province during the vacancy of the office of P.G.M. This was probably supplemented by a similar document from Peters' successor, W. H. White.

From this time till his death in 1833 Barnett virtually ruled the Province. In the communications to the Grand Secretary, White's name scarcely ever occurs, Barnett apparently always acting as if the office of P.G.M. were vacant. Towards the latter part of his life, Dr. Oliver relieved him to a great extent in the Provincial work.

Oliver writes:—"In 1813 P.G.M. Peters presented me with the red apron of a P.G. Steward. Three years afterwards I was appointed P.G. Chap. by P.G.M. White, and preached my first sermon at Barton-upon-Humber. From that year till 1818 no Prov. G. Lodge was held in Lincolnshire. About this period I was taken into the counsels of Bro. Barnett, the D.P.G.M., who was the actual manager of masonry in the Province; for neither Bro. Peters nor Bro. White, held a Prov. G. Lodge in my time.

"Thenceforward Bro. Barnett never convened a P.G. Lodge or took any step in the execution of his office without consulting me."

1816, Aug. 14. P.G.L. at the George Inn, Barton-upon-Humber.

The Grand Master's authority for holding the Lodge was read, and the Acting P.G.M (the Rev. M. Barnett) pronounced an eulogy on the Rev. Wm. Peters, P.G.M., deceased since the last meeting of the Lodge.

Ordered a flag with an appropriate emblem for P.G.L.

Notice made, that there had been no representation of the Prince of Wales' Lodge, Gainsborough, since 1809.

A current newspaper account says:—

“The Barton ringers welcomed the day with a most harmonious peal of bells in their accustomed masterly style. Prayers were read by Brother the Rev. G. Marris Prov. G. Treasurer, and to the service were added a masonic hymn written by Bro. Porter of St. Matthew's, an ode by Bro. Dunckerley, and an anthem with the grand Hallelujah chorus from the Messiah judiciously appended thereto, and which sung by the brethren of the St. Matthew's Lodge, assisted by the most skilful of the Church choir had a most inspiring and sublime effect.”

A most eloquent discourse was delivered by Bro. the Rev. G. Oliver from the 10th chap. of the 1st Cor., latter part of 31st verse, “elucidating the central point of Masonry to be Religion, and showing the approximation of its rules and precepts to be identified therewith.”

The brethren returned to the George, concluded their business, and “sat down to a very sumptuous entertainment provided by Brother Baynton and which did honour to his purveying ability.” A long list of toasts, songs, and glees followed.

“The A.P.G.M. retired at eight o'clock, amid the acclamation of the brethren; and the conviviality of the meeting was continued with masonic spirit, uncontaminated by tumultuous disorder or irrational indecorum. All was harmony and concord, the natural concomitants of brotherly love. The social order that prevailed, the reciprocal interests and general pleasure of the brethren, characterised this truly masonic meeting as ‘the feast of reason and the flow of soul.’”

1818, Aug. 14. P.G.L. at the Town Hall, Spalding.

First attendance of the Hope Lodge, Sleaford, and the Welland, Spalding.

The P.G.L. flag was produced ; painted by Bro. Hilton, of Lincoln, design selected by Bros. Curtois and Capes. The emblems represent the genii of the masonic order lighting their torches as figurative of friendship and social union, and at the same time unfolding a mantle containing the mysterious emblems of the order under the scrutinizing inspection of the Eye of Providence.

"A remonstrance to be sent to the Good Intent Lodge for having neglected to correspond with the D.P.G.M. and to fraternize with the Welland Lodge on the present occasion."

The Good Intent, reference to which was made in P.G.L. in 1806, was No. 87 on the Athol Roll. At the union of the two Grand Lodges in 1813-15 it was numbered 109, but like several of the Athols, it made no return to the new authority.

In the calendar of the day it is classed as a Lincolnshire Lodge ; hence the apparent authority of our P.G.L. for sending the remonstrance. Considering the orders promulgated at Gainsborough, it is not surprising to find the Good Intent absent on the present occasion.

It is very probable that Peters' letter intensified the illwill between the rival bodies to such an extent that the time intervening since the union had not sufficed to heal the breach.

Note is afterwards made that "An apology was sent by the W.M. of the Good Intent Lodge to the D.P.G.M. and accordingly the remonstrance was not sent."

The county Lodges were ordered to communicate once a year to the D.P.G.M. a list of members, date of admission, profession, &c.

Procession to Church, and sermon by Rev. G. Oliver, P.G. Chap.

From a printed order of proceedings we learn that the D.P.G.M. would take his seat in the Lodge at 9.30 a.m.

"On the D.P.G. Master's entering the Church he must be conducted by the R.W.M. of the Welland Lodge, or his Deputy, to a commodious and convenient seat, previously provided for the exclusive accommodation of himself and the Prov. Grand Officers.

"An appropriate anthem or psalm to be sung during Divine service, is indispensable.

"It is unnecessary to remark to Brother Masons that the utmost propriety of conduct must be strictly observed.

"The Grand Occasion imperiously demands that a corresponding seriousness unmingled with unbecoming levity, should be observed during the whole of the proceedings."

1820, April 21. P.G.L. at Lincoln.

Lodge opened at the Witham Room, about 10 a.m.

A procession was formed, headed by a band of music, to the Church of S. Peter-at-Arches, "the use of which was very politely offered for the occasion by the Rev. F. Swan, after the Cathedral had been refused by the Dean and Chapter contrary to all former precedent." The Rev. Mr. Galland read the prayers, and Bro. the Rev. G. Oliver preached from the text, "As concerning this sect, we know that it is everywhere spoken against" (Acts xxviii. 22).

The new Doric Lodge attended P.G.L. for first time.

An address of condolence to George IV., Grand Patron, on the death of his father, forwarded to Bro. Chas. Tennyson, M.P., for presentation.

The D.P.G.M. expressed his wish—That no public masonic meeting or procession should at any time be held by any of the county Lodges without his special permission; that Lodges be held in private rooms in preference to public-houses; Sunday evening Lodges of Instruction should be dispensed with; and that returns of members should be transmitted the first week in January.

The Rev. G. Oliver, having eulogized the character of the Rev. M. Barnett, D.P.G.M., who had introduced masonry into Lincolnshire, had been elevated to the rank of D.P.G.M. in 1793, and had subsequently presided as Acting P.G.M. at fourteen different meetings, proposed, "That a piece of Plate should be presented to the Acting Grand Master, the expense of which to be defrayed by the County Lodges."

The office of Provincial Grand Master of Ceremonies was formed and conferred on Bro. Charles Curtois, of the Witham Lodge. Bro. Widdowson, of the Rein Deer, provided an excellent banquet. A sum of nineteen guineas was raised for the Barnett testimonial. Bro. Jas. Simpson, of Lincoln, supplied "A New Fashionable Silver Tankard, Gilt inside & Engr^d in front."

The engravings consisted of appropriate masonic emblems, and the following inscription:—

"Presented to
Brother the Reverend
Matthew Barnett D.P.G.M.
for the County of Lincoln
Pursuant to
the unanimous Resolution
of a P.G. Lodge
of Free and Accepted Masons
holden in the City of Lincoln
April 21st 1820.
As a small tribute
of Gratitude
for the benefits
Masonry has derived
from his unwearied exertions
in its behalf
during a period
of more than
27 years."

A letter from Barnett to the Grand Secretary, dated "Market Rasen 25 Apl. 1820," after referring to business connected with the formation of the Doric Lodge, continues:

"On Friday last I held a Grand Lodge and Feast in the City of Lincoln which was numerously attended, it was

a fine Day—a gay procession—and we had a very excellent Sermon by the P.G. Chaplain which will be published in the course of a few days. At the above Meeting I moved an Address of Condolence and Congratulation to the King which was unanimously approved of. I signed it on Behalf of the Meeting, and I expect it was yesterday presented to His Majesty.

“We dined 132 and I do not recollect that we ever had a more pleasant Meeting.

“The Brethren of this County very much wish that instead of Provincial Deputy Grand I shou’d be Grand Master, but I think myself quite as well in the Situation which I hold unless I retire altogether.

“As the P.G.M. has left the Country (I shou’d suppose for ever) and as the Brethren would not be satisfied with a Grand Master who is not a native or resident in this County. Shou’d it be thought necessary to appoint a new one, Charles Tennyson Esq. M.P. for Great Grimsby wou’d be a proper person.”

The writer then, curiously enough, advances his own claims to the dignity, and concludes, “The Grand Masters have never been present but once at any of the meetings but confided the whole of the business to me.”

1821, June 28th. P.G.L. at the Hope Lodge, Sleaford.

The A.P.G.M. returned thanks for the piece of plate voted at the last Lodge and presented through the Rev. G. Oliver. The following letter had previously been sent to the subscribing Lodges:—

“Brethren, I thank you most sincerely for this token of your regard and attachment. It gives me great pleasure to find that any exertion of mine for the prosperity & welfare of the Craft should meet with your approbation. Your steady adherence to the Rules & Regulations of the Society has afforded me at all times great satisfaction, and will always secure to you my assistance and protection.”

Every Lodge was required to pay the Treasurer five shillings for each Provincial meeting, to defray certain incidental expenses. A procession of over 100 brethren to Church; sermon by Rev. G. Oliver. Banquet at the Old White Hart Inn.

The P.G.L. banner to be in charge of the brethren where the ensuing meeting is to be held.

1822, June 27th. P.G.L. at the Sessions House, Grantham. The usual Church procession and sermon by Rev. G. Oliver. Banquet at the Town Hall. No record of business.

Oliver writes:—"Owing to Bro. Barnett's infirmities no P.G.L. was held from that time [1822] till 1825 when it was convened at Boston on the petition of the Lodge of Harmony."

1825, Sept. 21. P.G.L. at the Guildhall, Boston.

Six Lodges represented. Rev. M. Barnett presided. A procession to Church, and the display exceeded every former meeting of the kind in Lincolnshire. A sermon (composed by the Rev. G. Oliver, P.G. Chap., unable to attend through indisposition) was preached by Rev. W. Smith, P.G. Sec. The music to the cantata, "Let there be light," composed expressly for the occasion by Bro. Reddie, who also played the organ. 120 brethren dined at the Guildhall.

The original of which the following is a copy is in the Witham archives:—

"Free Masons Hall London

"W. Master

"18th December 1826.

"I am commanded by the M. W. Grand Master, The Duke of Sussex, to acquaint you that His Royal Highness has been pleased to appoint The R. W. Brother Charles Tennyson Esqr. of Bayons Manor Lincolnshire, M.P. to be Provincial Grand Master for the County of Lincoln, and to whom therefore all applications and references are to be made on Masonic Business, except the Returns of your Lodge and applications for Grand Lodge Certificates.

"With fraternal Regard I am

"W. Master

"Your obedt. Servant & Brother

"William H. White G.S."

1827, Feb. 20. An address of condolence to H.R.H. the Duke of Sussex, G.M., on the death of his brother, the

Duke of York, was signed on behalf of P.G.L. by Charles Tennyson, P.G.M., and Matthew Barnett, D.P.G.M., Lincoln. A reply from the Duke on Feb. 24th.

With the exception of this address and reply there is no entry of a P.G.L. between the years 1825-32. The stirring movements in the political world doubtless engrossed nearly the whole time and energies of the new Prov. G. Master.

Oliver gives a very gloomy account of the period. He writes:—"Masonry during this inauspicious period declined so much that there was scarcely an efficient Lodge in the Province. The Barton, Grantham, Grimsby, and Sleaford lodges had entirely discontinued their meetings. Even the Lincoln and Boston Lodges were feeble. Bro. D'Eyncourt [Tennyson] was at length roused to the necessity of doing something; and he accordingly convened a P.G.L. at Lincoln." On 7th June, 1832, proposal made in the Witham Lodge to write to H.R.H. the Duke of Sussex about the P.G. Master's neglect.

1832, Nov. 19th. P.G.L. at the Guildhall, Lincoln.

The Rev. Matthew Barnett opened P.G.L., and then installed the Rt. Hon Charles Tennyson into the office of P.G.M., in the room of Bro. W. H. White.

Procession to St. Martin's Church; sermon by Rev. G. Oliver.

Banquet at the City Arms Hotel.

First attendance of the Olive Union Lodge, Horncastle.

1833. P.G.L. at the Olive Union Lodge, Horncastle.

The Prov. G. Master presided, and installed the Rev. George Oliver D.P.G.M., vice the Rev. Matthew Barnett deceased.

A motion to discontinue the Church processions, made by Bros. Hickson and W. A. Nicholson, of Lincoln, was negatived without a division. The brethren attended Church as usual. Banquet at the Bull Inn. The new D.P.G.M. zealously commenced his duties by proposing a

Code of By-laws, and appointing new men to office, many of which had not been changed for years. He appears also to have at least remodelled if not originated the procedure and ritual of Prov. G. Lodge. The Doctor's draft MS., in possession of P.G.L., tallies with that now in general use, but whether he was the first to introduce it into the craft I am not able to state. So far as our own Province was concerned, no particular formality was used prior to 1834.

1834, May 22. P.G.L. at the Guildhall, Lincoln.

A new office was created, that of Prov. Grand Registrar, and conferred upon Bro. Z. Barton, the first W.M. of the Bayons Lodge, Market Rasen. The Rev. G. Oliver presided. The By-laws prepared by the D.P.G.M. were passed, and ordered to be printed and sold for 1s. per copy.

1834, October 23rd. P.G.L. at the Mansion House, Louth.

A procession to Church; prayers were read by the Rev. R. Fenton, of Waltham; sermon by Rev. G. Oliver.

The Lindsey Lodge, Louth, the Bayons Lodge, Market Rasen, and the Trent Lodge, Gainsborough, attended P.G.L. for first time; 23 officers were appointed, four being styled P.G. Marshalls. The P.G.M. presided.

There is no record of Prov. G. Lodge attending at the opening or consecration of either the Bayons or Trent Lodges, Bro. Hickson, of the Witham Lodge, presiding at the opening of the latter.

At the Louth meeting in 1834 the new jewels for officers of P.G. Lodge were first worn. Bro. Acklam, of London, supplied them for the sum of £33, this amount being contributed as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Olive Union Lodge	3	3	0
Lindsey Lodge	1	0	0
Bro. Z. Barton	1	0	0
Right Hon. C. Tennyson ...	5	5	0
Sir W. A. Ingliby	3	3	0
Lord Yarborough	20	0	0

1835, June 11th. P.G.L. at the Town Hall, Spilsby.

The Rev. G. Oliver presided, and dedicated the Shakspeare Lodge in masonic form, Major Ed. Brackenbury, W.M., and the Rev. G. Coltman, J.W. of the new Lodge, taking office as P.S.G.W. and P.G. Chap. respectively. The new Chaplain, who was Rector of Stickney, preached at Church Service.

1835, Aug. 27. P.G.L. at the White Hart, Gainsborough.

No record of business. Procession to Church; the Bible, Constitutions, &c., carried by four sons of Bro. Jerrams, of the Trent Lodge. Sermon by Rev. G. Coltman. Thirty-four brethren took office. A Prov. G. Inner Guard and Prov. G. Organist appointed, the former being conferred on Bro. J. Whitehouse and the latter on Bro. W. Gandy, both of the Witham Lodge. Major Brackenbury, in the absence of the P.G.M., presided.

1836, May 12. P.G.L. at the Guildhall, Lincoln.

By-laws revised and ordered to be reprinted.

A proposition was carried limiting the price of the dinner ticket to 2s. 6d., to enable brethren in every station to participate. This was not confirmed at the next Lodge.

Banquet at the White Lion Inn.

Dr. Oliver presided, and made a splendid oration, in the course of which he referred to his recent appointment to the Collegiate Church of Wolverhampton, which would necessitate his resigning the office of D.P.G.M.

1836, Oct. 20. P.G.L. at the National School Room, Market Rasen.

This meeting appears to have been convened out of compliment to the P.G.M., who on succeeding to the family estates a short time previous had assumed the additional name of D'Eyncourt, in compliance with his father's will.

Amongst other festivities and rejoicings which had been going on at Willingham House during the early part of the week a parade of Yeomanry was not the least attractive.

Prov. G. Lodge was announced to be opened at eleven o'clock, and shortly after that hour the procession issued from the School Room to the Church. The way was kept by the dismounted Yeomanry, who closed their ranks as the procession passed, and joined the brethren in the Church. The P.G. Chaplain, Bro. Coltman, preached the sermon. A portion of the Cathedral Choir from Lincoln attended, including Messrs. Brook, Ashton, Jones, and Martin, the anthem being by Dr. Boyce, "I have surely built thee a house." About eighty brethren sat down to dinner at the White Hart. The Rt. Hon. Charles Tennyson-D'Eyncourt, P.G.M., presided, supported on either side by Dr. Oliver, D.P.G.M., and Rev. G. Coltman, P.G.C., Major Sir Edward Brackenbury, P.S.G.W., filling the vice-chair.

After the cloth was drawn, "Non Nobis Domine" was sung by members of the Cathedral Choir.

The P.G.M., in proposing the toast of the Duke of Sussex, Grand Master, referred to the recent severe affliction (blindness) of His Royal Highness. The speaker continued:—"Having the honour to be connected with the household of His Royal Highness he had had opportunities of witnessing the exemplary fortitude which he displayed under the most trying circumstances of deprivation and pain; bereaved of the power of enjoying literary pursuits, which had for years been his chief solace, he still found consolation in those sublime truths which every true Mason is acquainted with; and the craft will fully estimate the intensity of his zeal in the mystic art when they know that his first public exertion after his happy recovery will be to attend a Masonic festival; and that the last exercise of his power of vision previous to his calamity was to append his signature to a Masonic document."

In returning thanks for the toast of his health, the P.G.M. expressed his gratification at the meeting being held at a Lodge which had done him the honour to adopt the name of his residence as its title, and in a town with whose interests and prosperity he had been identified through

many long years. With the most able and valuable assistance of his excellent friend, Bro. W. A. Nicholson, Prov. G. Sup. of W., he was repairing his old house, where he trusted, he should at no distant period be found to discharge the duties of hospitality among his neighbours after the old English fashion; and when the P.G. Lodge next assembled at Market Rasen, he should hope to have the gratification of receiving his brethren at Bayons Manor.

Dr. Oliver, in the course of his reply to the toast of his health, proposed by the Chairman, informed the brethren that he had made arrangements to live six months of the year in Lincolnshire, and thus be enabled to retain his office, the worthy Doctor concluding his speech with a magnificent testimony to masonic teaching.

Various other toasts followed, bringing to an end this very red letter day in the annals of Prov. G. Lodge.

1837, Oct. 19. P.G.L. at the Sessions House, Spilsby.

Procession to Church; sermon by Bro. G. Coltman.

"The Church was crowded with attentive hearers; and seldom have we heard the vocal performances in a country choir so truly chaste and tasteful as in the curious old fabric of Spilsby."

Bro. Marshall, of the White Hart, provided a most excellent dinner. The Prov. G.M. presided.

The D.P.G.M. read a communication from Dr. Crucifix relative to his proposed visit to P.G.L. to secure its support to the projected Aged Asylum. Oliver expressing his approval of the scheme, said:—"In this point of view we may consider Freemasonry as a beautiful polished column of pure white marble, based on Charity. Its plinth as the fund of benevolence for the destitute virtuous Mason; the fluted shaft composed of those noble institutions the Girls and Boys Orphanages. But it still wants a capital; and what can be so effectual to complete the sublime fabric as an Asylum for aged and decayed Brethren! While the superannuated soldier and sailor have their hospitals of Chelsea and Greenwich as places of honourable retirement

from the storms and privations of life, why should not the aged Mason have his Asylum, where he may not, indeed, like the gallant defenders of our Country,

‘Fight all his battles o’er again,’

but ‘Work all his lectures o’er again.’”

The rev. gentleman's sentiments were fully reciprocated by the brethren, the P.G.M., Sir Edw. Brackenbury, and the Rev. G. Coltman all speaking in favour of and promising their support to the Institution.

1839, Nov. 21st. P.G.L. at the Doric Lodge Room, Grantham.

Dr. Oliver presided, and preached at Church.

Two special anthems composed by Bro. Wm. Dixon, Organist of the Parish Church, Grantham, were sung during the service.

Dr. R. T. Crucifix, P.G.D., attended and explained the principles on which the Asylum for Aged and Decayed Freemasons is founded. A Masonic Conversazione was afterwards held at the Red Lion. Crucifix and Oliver met for the first time, a meeting long anticipated. Crucifix, in the course of his speech, observed:—“The literature of Dr. Oliver (for it is a literature of itself) is most unexceptionable, its grandeur and its simplicity are so sweetly contrasted—the learning of the philosopher and the piety of the divine are so happily blended, that while man admires, woman can approve.”

Fifty guineas were promised to the Asylum.

1841, Sept. 9th. P.G.L. at the Assembly Rooms, Boston.

Sir Ed. Ffrench Bromhead, Bart., resigned his office of P.S.W. owing to indisposition (blindness).*

A proposal was made by Bro. Goodacre, W.M. of the Witham Lodge, for the establishment of a County Fund of Benevolence.

A procession to Church; sermon by Dr. Oliver, in place of P.G.C.

* An account of Sir E. Ff. Bromhead appears in the Witham notes.”

Banquet at the Wool Pack, Bro. Button's.

The P.G.M. presided both at Lodge and banquet.

During the interval between this and the next Lodge the dismissal of Dr. Oliver from his office of D.P.G.M. took place, particulars of which are given elsewhere.

The P.G.L. minutes are exceedingly reticent on the subject.

It should also be noted that the Prov. G.M. and several of his officers had been on 16th April previously the guests of the W.M. (Bro. R. S. Harvey) and brethren of the Witham, at the laying of the foundation stone of the new hall in Saltergate. Reasons why the 1840 annual Lodge was not held were given.

1842, Sept. 29th. P.G.L. at the Town Hall, Spalding.

The P.G.M. presided.

The Rev. George Coltman was installed D.P.G.M., in the place of Rev. Dr. Oliver, removed.

The P.G.M. gave an explanation of his dismissal of the Rev. G. Oliver, D.D., from the office of D.P.G.M.

A vote of thanks to the Rev. G. Oliver for his masonic services, deeply lamenting his loss as D.P.G.M., and a contribution of five guineas towards a masonic offering to him unanimously carried.

A procession to Church; sermon by Bro. W. Mockler, from Ps. 133, v. 1.

1843, Mar. 7th and Aug. 31st. P.G.L. at the Freemasons' Hall, Lincoln.

The advisability of establishing a Provincial Fund of Benevolence was discussed, and various resolutions passed, but none of them appear to have been carried out.

A procession to St. Martin's Church; sermon by Rev. J. O. Dakeyne. Banquet at the City Assembly Rooms.

Dr. Oliver announced that Grand Lodge had voted £50 to the widow of the late D.P.G.M., Rev. Matthew Barnett.

1844, March 12th—Lincoln.

1845, May 29th—Boston. Sept. 11th—Gainsborough.

1846, June 4th—Spilsby. Again on October 1st.

1847, March 8th—Lincoln.

1848, March 6th—Lincoln. First attendance of the Ancholme Lodge, Brigg.

There is scarcely any record of business at these meetings. The Prov. G. Master's name appears as presiding only at Gainsborough.

Sometimes a dinner, sometimes a supper, is recorded.

The Provincial Lodges from 1843 to 1849 evidently were not popular.

Three of the meetings were convened at Lincoln during the Assize-week ; certainly a most inauspicious time to hold a masonic gathering. The arrangement was doubtless made under the impression that a larger attendance would be the result, but (as will be noted) it almost caused a collapse of the Lodge.

Several Lodges are recorded at every meeting as "not being represented," the Doric Lodge, Grantham, not attending at all until 1850.

Brethren remained in office several years, though it is difficult to say whether this was owing to so few coming up to the Deputy's standard of merit or to a lack of brethren willing to occupy the various chairs. A motion, that on a brother being re-elected to office, no fee of honour should be required, points to a scarcity of brethren ; whilst on the other hand, notwithstanding the well-known apathy of the P.G.M., the high character and energy of the D.P.G.M., the Rev. G. Coltman, which had been so conspicuous from the time of his entering the Province in 1836, required a corresponding energy on the part of his subordinates, not always obtainable.

In 1845 the Church processions, by the order of the D.P.G.M., were to be discontinued. This very probably would not meet with general approval, the previous attempts, when moved in open Lodge, having been defeated by a large majority.

At the Lincoln meeting in 1848 only nine officers were present, the P.G.M., together with the majority of the officers, being probably engaged at the Assize Court. The D.P.G.M. was absent through illness. Only one brother (the P.G.O.) occupied his proper place in the Lodge. Five of the nine present were members of the Witham ; Shakspeare, Harmony, and Trent furnishing the remainder.

According to the Provincial By-laws, the annual meeting was to be held in Spring, at which all business matters were to be determined. If a second were held, it was understood to be a gathering of a purely social kind.

The old custom of a Church procession and banquet carried out this intention admirably. The Deputy's veto put an end to a custom which had been in regular use since the establishment of the Province, the propriety of which had moreover been always strenuously advocated by Dr. Oliver and the old masons.

It does not appear upon what ground the rev. gentleman objected to Church procession, but that its discontinuance was not approved of by the bulk of the brethren is evidenced by their absence from the meetings.

On the 23rd of November, 1848, a meeting was held at Lincoln "to take into consideration the present state of Freemasonry in Lincolnshire," and a letter of remonstrance was sent to the P.G.M. At a following meeting, held at Boston, another letter was forwarded, requesting him to resign his office. With this request the right worshipful brother complied, the Deputy's resignation taking place after his installing the new Pro. G. Master.

1849, April 12th. P.G.L. at the County Assembly Rooms; Lincoln.

Lodges represented—Witham, Harmony, Trent, Shakspeare, Ancholme.

The Rev. G. Coltman installed the Earl of Yarborough, D.G.M., in the office of Prov. G. Master for Lincolnshire, vacant by the resignation of the Right Hon. Charles Tennyson-D'Eyncourt.

The P.G.M. appointed the Rev. Charles Nairne, D.P.G.M., in the place of the Rev. G. Coltman, resigned.

A rate of 1s. on all subscribing members to be laid upon the several Lodges towards defraying expenses of P.G.L.

The Masters of the various Lodges to be a Committee to revise the By-laws.

1849, Aug. 23. P.G.L. at the Assembly Room, Boston.

Report of the Committee adopted, and new code passed.

The Hundred of Elloe Lodge asked for time to pay their arrears, owing to their furniture and regalia having been destroyed by fire.

Dec., 1849. The name of the Trent Lodge, Gainsborough, was by permission of the P.G.M., changed to the Yarborough Lodge.

1850, April 18. P.G.L. at the Old Hall, Gainsborough, adjourned to May 2nd at the Great Northern Hotel, Lincoln, to assist the P.G.M. in laying the first stone of the Penitent Females' Home. P.G.L., in number about 90, went in procession, preceded by the band of the Blue Coat School, from the Great Northern Hotel, along the High Street, and past St. Martin's Church and the Asylum to the site of the new building, when the first stone was laid in due masonic form by the Earl of Yarborough, D.G.M. and P.G.M. The procession returned by the same route, and the proceedings terminated with a dinner at the Great Northern.

1850, Oct. 3rd. P.G.L. at Spalding.

The Elloe Lodge was excused £3 arrears.

The best thanks of P.G.L. voted by acclamation to the Earl of Yarborough for his donation of six jewels for Stewards and one for S. of W.

Lodge met at Lincoln following 6th of December, to receive the M.W. the Earl of Zetland, G.M. His Lordship being prevented by illness from attending, an address of condolence was passed to him. Ninety members present.

1851, June 12. P.G.L. at Town Hall, Spilsby.

An additional shilling was levied on each subscribing member for this year, in order to meet the extra expenditure incurred by P.G.L.

Banquet at the White Hart.

1852. P.G.L. May 26, at the Town Hall, Brigg.

A petition for relief from a Lincoln brother was read ; there being no Provincial funds, a subscription was made.

Banquet at the Lion Hotel.

1853, June 6th. P.G.L. at the Assembly Room, Boston.

The Rev. C. Nairne presided.

A letter of apology from the P.G.M. for his non-attendance was read, and also his request to the brethren to assist in laying the foundation stone of the new Town Hall at Louth.

1853, June 16th. P.G.L. at Louth.

The brethren walked in procession from the Lodge, held at the King's Head, to the Mansion House, when they were most munificently entertained at a *dejeuner* given by the Mayor, S. Trought, Esq., after which they proceeded to the site of the intended new Town Hall, when the foundation stone was laid in due masonic form by the R.W. the Earl of Yarborough, D.G.M., and P.G.M. for Lincolnshire.

1854, May 18. P.G.L. at the new Masonic Hall, Grantham Street, Lincoln.

The brethren went in procession to St. Martin's Church, where a sermon was preached by Bro. E. R. Larken, Chaplain to the Witham Lodge. The new Lodge Room was then solemnly dedicated by the R.W. the Prov. G. Master.

Banquet at the Saracen's Head.

1855, May 31. P.G.L. at the Old Hall, Gainsborough.

No returns having been made by the Ancholme and St. Botolph's, the D.P.G.M. was directed to write to the W.Ms. of those Lodges.

Banquet at the White Hart.

1856, May 8th. P.G.L. at the Assembly Rooms, Boston.
The Rev. C. Nairne presided.

A resolution of regret at the indisposition of the P.G.M.,
and hearty prayer for his restoration unanimously carried.
Banquet at the Guildhall.

1857, May 7th. P.G.L. at Lincoln.

The propriety of the brethren attending Church at the
P.G.L. meetings was discussed, and the Prov. G. Master
expressed his approval of such a course being adopted.

Bro. C. Pocklington gave notice of his intention to
propose the formation of a P.G.L. Benevolent Fund.

1858, July 1st. P.G.L. at the Assembly Rooms, Boston.

Brother Cabourn Pocklington brought forward his
motion for the formation of a P.G.L. Benevolent Fund, and
a Committee was duly appointed.

No further steps appear to have been taken in the
matter, probably owing to the serious indisposition of the
P.G.M.

Procession to Church, and sermon by Bro. Rev. B. J.
Wood, P.G. Chaplain.

1859, May 26th. P.G.L. at the Assembly Rooms, Lincoln.

The Deputy Prov. G. Master reported that the Ancholme
Lodge, Brigg, had ceased to meet, and that he had returned
the Warrant to the Grand Secretary.

Banquet at the Saracen's Head.

1860, April 20th. P.G.L. at the Assembly Rooms,
Boston.

A special meeting, for the purpose of laying the founda-
tion stone of the new Masonic Hall.

The Rev. Charles Nairne, D.P.G.M., presided, and laid
the stone in masonic form.

Annual meeting at Sleaford, July 12th.

No change of officers,

1861, May 23rd. P.G.L. at the City Assembly Rooms, Lincoln.

The D.P.G.M. presided.

First appearance of the Franklin Lodge, Boston.

A silver epergne, of the value of eighty guineas, presented to Bro. Richard Hall, Pro. G. Secretary.

The Prov. G. Secretary to write to the Lindsey and Pelham Pillar Lodges to express surprise that they had never been represented at Prov. Grand Lodge.

In the following June the Rev. C. Nairne, in consequence of failing health, resigned his office as D.P.G.M.

The Reverend CHARLES NAIRNE was initiated at Cheltenham in 1828; Passed in St. John's Lodge, Dunkeld, Perthshire, 1845; Raised in the Witham Lodge, Lincoln, 1846; Exalted in the Chapter of Concord, 1847; W.M. of the Witham Lodge, 1848, and Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Lincolnshire in 1849. Brother Nairne was indefatigable in his exertions for the good of the craft. It is, I believe, owing to his care and research that the records of Prov. G. Lodge were collected and tabulated, and it is due to his memory to state that neither time nor trouble were spared in the work. He was born on shipboard during a voyage from China to England; this, coupled with the fact of his mother being a native of China and his father a Scotchman, rendered Brother Nairne's nationality somewhat complex.

The reverend gentleman was Perpetual Curate of St. Botolph's and St. Peter-at-Gowts, Lincoln, in 1837; Prebend of St. Botolph's in the Cathedral, 1845; and Vicar of Bonby, on the presentation of Lord Yarborough, in 1860. Died in Scotland about 1867. Bro. Nairne is said to have been an inveterate smoker.

Death of the Earl of Yarborough, Prov. G. Master.

January 7th, 1862, died, in his 53rd year, the Right Honourable Charles Anderson Worsley Pelham, 2nd Earl of Yarborough, Past Deputy Grand Master of England and Provincial Grand Master for Lincolnshire. His Lordship died at Brighton after a prolonged illness.

1862, April 29th. P.G.L. at the County Assembly Rooms, Lincoln, for the purpose of installing as Prov. G. Master His Grace the Duke of St. Albans, in the place of the late Earl of Yarborough.

The venerable brother, the Rev. Geo. Oliver, D.D., P.D.P.G.M., presided.

The patent of appointment having been read by Bro. Rd. Hall, P.G. Secretary, his Grace, introduced by the R.W. Brother T. H. Hall, P.G.M. for Cambridgeshire, took the obligation. After an address by the installing Master, the Duke, accompanied by Dr. Oliver and the past Masters of the Province, retired to an ante-room, when his Grace took the usual ob. and "passed the chair." On the return of the procession the installation ceremony was continued in masonic form by Dr. Oliver.

Bro. R. S. Harvey was appointed D.P.G.M., and delivered a warm eulogium on the late P.G.M.

A resolution expressing the deep sense of the loss P.G.L. had sustained was passed, and a copy was forwarded to Adelaide, Countess of Yarborough, and to the present Earl. A banquet was held at 3.30 in the City Assembly Rooms. A ball at the County Assembly Rooms in the evening.

1863, May 28th. P.G.L. at the Assembly Rooms, Boston.

The new Masonic Hall, in Main Ridge, was dedicated in due masonic form by the Duke of St. Albans, Prov. G.M.

1864, May 19th. P.G.L. at the Town Hall, Louth.

The Prov. G.M. presided.

The W.M. and Wardens of the Witham Lodge having made complaint against the W.M. and brethren of the Yarborough Lodge for initiating persons from Lincoln of whom they disapproved, both parties were summoned to attend P.G.L.

The D.P.G.M., the W.M. of the Yarborough Lodge, the W.M. and I.P.M. of the Witham Lodge, and the Rev. G. Coltman, P.D.P.G.M., having spoken on the subject, the

W.M. of the Yarborough Lodge resigned his office of P.G. Steward. The P.G.M. hoped that in future proper courtesy would be exercised between the different Lodges in the Province whenever candidates sought admission from neighbouring towns which possessed Lodges.

Bro. Major W. H. Smyth was appointed D.P.G.M., in the place of Bro. R. S. Harvey resigned.

Banquet at the Masons' Arms.

1865. P.G.L. at Grantham 25th May, and at Boston 24th August.

A vote of condolence was passed to the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland, M.W. Grand Master of England, on the death of the Countess.

A proposition made by Brother C. E. Lucas, P.G. Secretary, and seconded by Brother Cabourn Pocklington, Boston, that a Prov. G. L. Benevolent Fund be established, was carried unanimously, and the rules and regulations which had been drawn up by the P.G. Secretary were adopted.

A new code of By-laws having also been submitted by the P.G. Secretary, and approved by a committee appointed to consider the same, was unanimously adopted.

A sum of £30 was voted from P.G.L. funds to the new Benevolent Fund, and £2 2s. each to the three Central Charities.

Banquet at Town Hall, Grantham, and the Peacock Hotel, Boston.

1866, May 10th. P.G.L. at the Corn Exchange, Lincoln.

W. Bro. the Rev. Dr. Oliver, P.D.P.G.M., delivered an oration "On the superiority of Freemasonry over all other Social Institutions," and also "A Farewell Address to the P.G. Lodge." A cordial vote of thanks being passed, the venerable Doctor placed the MS. in the hands of the P.G. Secretary for publication, desiring that the profits arising from the same might be given to the Benevolent Fund.

A sum of £30 was ordered to be transferred from the P.G.L. Fund to the Benevolent Fund.

The P.G. Sec. stated that he had already received for this charity, in response to his application, nearly £200.

A minute was entered in the books alluding in feeling terms to the loss the P.G. Lodge had sustained in the death of Brother Greenwood, the P.G.D. of C.

The By-laws were unanimously confirmed, and ordered to be printed.

A vote of thanks was accorded to Brother C. Ferneley, P.G.J.W., for publishing his interesting lecture entitled "Speculations on Speculative Masonry," and devoting the profits arising from the sale of it to the P.G.L. Benevolent Fund.

Banquet at the Saracen's Head.

1867, May 2nd. P.G.L. at the Mechanics' Institute, Grimsby.

On the motion of his Grace the Duke of St. Albans, P.G.M., seconded by Bro. Major Smyth, D.P.G.M., the following resolution was entered upon the minutes :—

"The Officers and Brethren of the P.G.L. here assembled, desire unanimously to record their deep sense of the loss they have sustained in the death of their venerable Brother Dr. Oliver. They feel well assured that this feeling will pervade the hearts of Masons, not only in this Province, but throughout the world. Few indeed are spared to be united to Masonry for so long a period as our deceased Brother, and still fewer who can leave behind them so magnificent a proof how truly and constantly during a period of sixty-five years our revered Brother's heart beat in accord with the highest principles of the Craft, and how hard he laboured to advance the prosperity of the Order.

"May the last words which he uttered in his Farewell Address to this Lodge a year ago be fully verified : 'I withdraw in the firm belief that the Order will continue to increase, under the protection of the Most High, until it includes all mankind who may be worthy to participate in its inestimable principles.'"

A sum of three shillings to be paid to the Benevolent Fund by every new brother in the Province.

The P.G.M. addressed the brethren at considerable length in reference to the great increase in their number.

Banquet at the Royal Hotel.

1868, Aug. 6th. P.G.L. at the Corn Exchange, Spalding.

Bro. W. G. Moore, 297, stated what had been done in connection with the Oliver Memorial.

£10, proceeds of sale of the Oliver oration, were given to the Benevolent Fund.

A vote of congratulation to the Prov. G. Master, on his marriage, was carried with the warmest enthusiasm.

Towards the close of the banquet, held in the Assembly Rooms, Bro. F. Binckes, Secretary of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, made a powerful appeal on behalf of that excellent charity.

1869, July 27th. P.G.L. at the Assembly Rooms, Boston.

Major W. H. Smyth, D.P.G.M., presided.

A weekly allowance was granted to an old and faithful officer of P.G.L.

Bro. C. E. Lucas, Prov. G. Sec., reported that the Province had subscribed £121 to the R.M.I. for Boys.

The Prov. G. Registrar notified the consecration of the Hereward Lodge, Bourne, No. 1232, on Monday, 9th Nov., 1868, by the D.P.G.M., assisted by many officers and brethren of the Province.

All business connected with the charities to be carried out by the Charity Committee. "That no candidate shall be eligible for selection unless the same be duly proposed and seconded by two members of the Committee, who must be present, and have made themselves well acquainted with the case."

1870, Nov. 3rd. P.G.L. at the Old Hall, Gainsborough.

Bro. E. Locock, Prov. Steward at the festival of the R.M.I.B., announced contributions from the brethren of the Province amounting to £189.

A Provincial Seal was ordered.

1871, Aug. 17th. P.G.L. at the British School Room, Lincoln.

Major W. H. Smyth, D.P.G.M., presided.

A Steward to be elected annually to represent the Province at the festivals of the Central Charities. Bro. W. H. Radley, P.P.G.W., was appointed to the office.

After the Prov. G. Officers had been duly invested the brethren walked in procession to the site of the proposed Masonic Hall, where the foundation stone was laid by the R.W.D.P.G.M. with the usual masonic observances.

The D.P.G.M. alluded in a most feeling manner to the great loss the Province had sustained by the death of Bro. C. E. Lucas, the late Prov. G. Secretary.

1872, May 30th. P.G.L. at the Corn Exchange, Sleaford. Major W. H. Smyth, D.P.G.M., presided.

The following congratulatory address was ordered to be forwarded—

“To the Queen’s Most Excellent Majesty.

“We the members of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Antient Free and Accepted Masons of Lincolnshire, in Provincial Grand Lodge assembled, humbly tender to your Majesty our sincere congratulations that the Great Architect of the Universe has been pleased in His infinite mercy to raise His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, P.G.M., from a bed of sickness to his present satisfactory state of convalescence.

“We further sincerely trust that His Royal Highness will be speedily restored to perfect health, and that he may long be spared to his Family, the Nation, and the Craft.

“In conclusion, we beg to assure your Majesty of our devoted and loyal attachment to your Throne and Person.”

Bro. E. Locock was appointed Prov. Charity Steward.

Banquet, provided by Bro. Sharpe, of the Bristol Arms, held in the Corn Exchange.

1873, May 29th. P.G.L. at the Town Hall, Louth.

Major W. H. Smyth presided.

The Lodge was in masonic mourning for the late Earl of Zetland, G.M.

The Prov. Sec. notified a reply from Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen to the vote of congratulation forwarded from last Lodge.

Bro. J. Sutcliffe undertook the duties of P. Charity Steward.

Bro. W. H. Smyth announced his intention of endowing the chair of D.P.G.M. as Vice-President of the R.M.I.B. in perpetuity.

A letter of condolence to be sent to the present Earl of Zetland on the death of the late Grand Master.

Banquet at the Corn Exchange, provided by Bro. Richardson, of the Masons' Arms.

1874, May 28th. P.G.L. at the Corn Exchange, Grantham. The Prov. G. Master presided.

The Charity Committee congratulated the Province in their being able to afford relief to the whole of the petitioners who have made known their claims.

Bro. W. Pigott accepted the Charity Stewardship.

A vote of thanks passed to Bro. J. Sutcliffe for his services in the past year.

Bro. Binckes, Sec. of the R.M.I.B., also attended, and conveyed the thanks of the Governors of that Institution to Bro. Sutcliffe for his services and liberality on their behalf.

Banquet at the Guildhall, St. Peter's Hill.

1875, June 10th. P.G.L. at the Assembly Rooms, Boston. Major W. H. Smyth, D.P.G.M., presided.

Subscriptions amounting to £575 18s. had been received by Bro. Pigott for the Aged Freemasons' Charity, and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded Bro. Pigott for his exertions.

Bro. J. R. Boyall accepted the Charity Stewardship.

An address of congratulation to be forwarded to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, on his elevation to the dignity of Grand Master of England.

On Monday, 2nd August, 1875, P.G.L., under the presidency of Bro. T. Slator, Act. D.P.G.M., met at the

Mechanics' Institute, Grimsby, and proceeded to the site of the new Masonic Hall in Osborne Street, when the foundation stone was laid by Brother J. Sutcliffe with masonic honours, in the presence of a large gathering of gentlemen and ladies of the neighbourhood.

1876, June 6th. P.G.L. at Brigg.

The P.G.M. presided.

An acknowledgment from the Grand Master of the illuminated address designed and forwarded at the request of P.G.L. by Bro. Jas. Fowler.

Bro. Boyall's list of subscriptions, amounting to £564 14s., in aid of the R.M.I. for Girls, was presented, and hearty thanks were recorded for his services.

Bro. H. Watson, P.G. Registrar, having explained the object of the Oliver Memorial Fund, this charity was recommended to the special consideration of the Province for the ensuing year.

Provincial Charity Steward, Brother Jas. Fowler.

Banquet, in a marquee, provided from the Angel.

1877, June 7th. P.G.L. at Horncastle.

A P.G.L. banner presented by Bro. John Hadfield, 792.

A new jewel ordered for the office of P.G. Standard Bearer.

Bro. Fowler was requested to continue as Charity Steward.

Banquet at the Bull Hotel.

1878, July 11th. P.G.L. at the new Masonic Hall, Osborne Street, Grimsby.

Installation of Brother William Henry Smyth, Esq., as Provincial Grand Master in the place of the Duke of St. Albans, resigned, to become P.G.M. of Nottinghamshire.

P.G.L. was opened at one o'clock by Bro. the Rev. G. Coltman, P.D.P.G.M.

The P.G.M. designate was accompanied into the Lodge by a deputation of seven Past Masters, and presented to the A.G.M. by Bro. James Fowler.

After the patent of appointment had been read by the P.G. Sec., and prayer offered by the Acting P.G. Chaplain, the P.G.M.-Elect took the ob., and was duly invested and enthroned. The Prov. G. Master then appointed Bro. E. Locock his Deputy.

An address of congratulation to the P.G.M. on behalf of the brethren was given by Bro. the Rev. G. Coltman, and duly acknowledged by the Right Worshipful Brother.

Bro. James Fowler announced that the sum of one thousand guineas had been contributed to the Oliver Memorial Fund.

Bro. W. H. Sissons presented the Lodge with a set of Stewards' Regalia.

An illuminated address to be forwarded to the late P.G.M., His Grace the Duke of St. Albans, on the occasion of his installation as P.G.M. of Nottinghamshire.

In October following his Grace acknowledged the address in a very fraternal letter to the P.G.M.

A memorial of the late esteemed brother, John Sutcliffe, was unveiled by the P.G.M.

223 brethren signed the attendance sheet.

Banquet at the Town Hall.

1879, June 19th. P.G.L. at Corn Exchange, Spalding. Procession to Church, and sermon by the Rev. G. W. Lowe, P.G.C.

Bros. J. Hodgins and Jack Sutcliffe, Joint Charity Stewards.

The banquet, provided by Bro. Harper, White Hart, held in a marquee erected in the spacious grounds of Ayscough Fee, the residence of Bro. C. F. Bonner, W.M. 469, which were kindly thrown open to the brethren.

On Dec. 1st P.G.L. met at Gainsborough.

Several alterations were made in the Benevolent rules.

The brethren afterwards lunched in the Banqueting Room of the Old Hall with the Companions of the P.G. R.A. Chapter, whose meeting had been previously held.

1880, June 24th. P.G.L. at Lincoln.

Ordered "that a Form of Enquiry respecting Candidates for Initiation &c. who are non-residents be adopted by the Province."

A motion by Bros. W. H. Sissons and W. H. Radley, that contributions be solicited for raising the sum of one thousand guineas for educational purposes, was unanimously carried.

An honorarium of £20 was voted to the Prov. G. Sec. for his faithful services to the Province, and "that in consequence of increased duties the Prov. G. Sec. shall in future be paid a yearly honorarium of £20 from the Lodge Fund."

Bro. W. H. Sissons accepted the Charity Stewardship.

The new charity to be designated the "Smyth Scholarship Fund," as an acknowledgment of the earnest services of the P.G.M.

Banquet at the Corn Exchange.

1881, April 21st. P.G.L. at the Estate Offices, Skegness.

A special meeting to dedicate the Lumley Lodge, 1893.

June 20. P.G.L. at the Old Hall, Gainsborough.

After the disposal of routine business, the brethren were formed in procession by Bro. W. H. Roberts, and proceeded, headed by the band of the 1st Rifle Volunteers, to the site of the proposed new Church of St. John the Divine.

After an address by Bro. T. H. Oldman, and prayer by the P.G. Chaplain, the W.M. of the Yarborough Lodge, Bro. the Rev. J. R. U. Elliott, presented an elaborately chased silver trowel to the Prov. G. Master, and the foundation stone was duly laid and tried according to "Antient Custom."

Banquet at the Old Hall, provided by Bro. Lindley.

1882, June 22nd. P.G.L. at the Corn Exchange, Sleaford.

The brethren from Lincoln, Louth, Gainsborough, &c., journeyed from Lincoln to Sleaford by special train, kindly placed at their disposal by Brother Ralph Firbank, the contractor for the new railway.

The P.G.M. was heartily congratulated on his appointment as High Sheriff of Lincolnshire.

Banquet by Bro. Sharpe, Bristol Arms.

1883, May 31st. P.G.L. at the Town Hall, Louth.

Previous to the assembling of P.G.L. a Court of Enquiry as to alleged breach of By-laws in one of the Lodges of the Province was held.

The thanks of the Lodge were accorded to Bro. F. D. Marsden for his services as P.G. Secretary during the past twelve years.

Banquet at the Exchange Hall, provided by Bro. Richardson, Masons' Arms.

July 26th. P.G.L. at the Guildhall, Grantham.

A special meeting to lay the north-east corner-stone of the extended nave of the Church of St. John the Evangelist, Spittlegate, Grantham.

The brethren went in procession, preceded by the Volunteer Band, to the Parish Church, where a short service was held, and appropriate sermon preached by the Rev. C. Elsmere, W.M. 362. The procession being re-formed, proceeded to the site where the stone was to be laid.

After the Antient Opening Address, given by Bro. the Rev. C. Elsmere, and prayer said by the Rev. J. A. Chalmers, P.G. Chaplain, the corner-stone was duly laid by the Prov. G. Master, and tried according to Antient Custom.

An interesting address was then delivered by the P.G.M., on "Historical Operative Masonry and its Speculative application," the proceedings being closed by prayer from the P.G. Chaplain.

1884, May 29th. P.G.L. at the Corn Exchange, Market Rasen.

Bro. W. H. Sissons, P.G. Charity Steward, reported that the required sum of one thousand guineas had been subscribed to the Smyth Scholarship Fund.

Numerous alterations were made in the By-laws, to bring them in accord with the new *Book of Constitutions*.

An address of condolence to Her Majesty the Queen on the death of the Duke of Albany was signed by the P.G.M. and Sec. on behalf of P.G.L.

Banquet at the Town Hall, provided by Bro. Scott.

1885, May 21st. P.G.L. at Boston, in the Assembly Rooms.

A resolution expressing the thanks of Prov. G. Lodge to be illuminated on vellum and presented to Bro. W. H. Radley on his retirement from the Secretaryship of the Charity Committee, a position he has filled for sixteen years.

On the motion of Bros. H. Clark and A. Bates, it was resolved to solicit contributions towards raising a sum of one thousand guineas, to be called the Sutcliffe Memorial Fund, after the late Brother John Sutcliffe, of Stallingborough, to be applied to the relief of necessitous Freemasons and their widows.

Bros. Clark and Bates appointed Stewards for the Fund.

A resolution deprecating the practice of reporting masonic business in non-masonic publications was approved.

New jewels and clothing ordered for the additional officers.

Bro. J. W. Woodall, Grand Treasurer, was present, and received the congratulations of the brethren.

Banquet at Shodfriars' Hall, provided by the Misses Jackson, Peacock Hotel.

The P.G.M. dedicated the St. Lawrence Lodge, Scunthorpe, on February 10th, and the new hall at Spilsby on 9th April, 1885.

1886, May 27th. P.G.L. at Grantham.

Bro. Hewson appointed Charity Steward, in conjunction with Bros. Clark and Bates.

Several necessary alterations were made in the rules of the Oliver Memorial Fund.

Banquet at the Westgate Hall.

1887, June 2nd. P.G.L. at the Masonic Hall, Lincoln.
Celebration of the Queen's Jubilee.

Loyalty to the Queen and country, which has ever distinguished the craft in England, was conspicuous in the Province of Lincolnshire on the 2nd of June, 1887, when a large number of brethren attended the Prov. Grand Lodge, held in the county town, to celebrate the Jubilee of Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, the illustrious patron of our Order.

After the transaction of routine business, P.G.L. was adjourned, for the purpose of proceeding to the Cathedral.

The brethren formed in procession under the direction of Bros. Roberts, Mackinder, Mortimer, and Dickinson, and preceded by two brothers of the 10th Regiment, and the band of the 1st Volunteer Battalion, passed along Beaumont Fee, Asylum Road, and Drury Lane to the Cathedral, which was kindly granted by the Dean and Chapter, for a special service at 2.30.

The Prov. G. Chaplains, Bros. the Rev. W. H. Mills and the Rev. J. G. Bayles, by the courtesy of the Cathedral body, read the lessons. The canticles were sung to the beautiful setting by E. J. Hopkins in the key of F; Handel's magnificent "Zadok the Priest" being the appropriate anthem.

The sermon was preached by Bro. the Very Rev. A. P. Purey-Cust, D.D., Dean of York, Past Grand Chaplain of England, the offertory for the masonic charities amounting to £21.

Service being ended, the brethren grouped themselves about the west door-way, and Bro. R. Slingsby succeeded in getting an excellent photograph of the gathering.

The procession re-formed, and passed down the New Road and Silver Street to the Masonic Hall, where business of P.G.L. proceeded.

It was unanimously resolved that the following Address be presented to Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen on attaining the fiftieth year of her reign :—

"May it please your Majesty,

"We, the Provincial Grand Lodge of Lincolnshire, consisting of the Prov. G. Master, Dep. Prov. G. Master, Officers and Brethren of 22 Lodges of Antient Free and Accepted Masons, now assembled in Provincial Grand Lodge humbly approach your Majesty as the Patroness & Head of our Order.

"As representatives of 1000 Members of this Province, we tender most sincerely our loyal and dutiful congratulations on the happy attainment of the 50th year of your Majesty's prosperous and glorious reign.

"And we earnestly pray that it may please the Great Architect of the Universe to long spare your Majesty to reign over your vast Empire, and over the various races of mankind, who have gratefully enjoyed your Majesty's beneficent rule."

A banquet was held in the Corn Exchange.

The P.G.M. presided, and was supported by the D.P.G.M., Bro. Gerard Ford (D.G.M. for Sussex), the Very Rev. the Dean of York, and several members of the Cathedral Chapter. The assemblage was also graced by the presence of several ladies. Brethren wore their masonic clothing, the company numbering about 300.

The P.G.M. and several of the officers of P.G.L. afterwards attended a soiree given by the Lincoln brethren in the large room of the Masonic Hall.

1888, May 31st. P.G.L., Spilsby.

Bro. H. Clark reported that the required sum of one thousand guineas had been subscribed towards the Sutcliffe Memorial Fund.

Twenty guineas over and above the usual sum of £8 were granted to the Witham Lodge, in consideration of the heavy expenditure incurred at the last P.G.L.

Bro. H. E. Cousans was appointed Charity Steward.

Jubilee honours were conferred upon four brethren.

The following letter was read :—

"Sir "Whitehall 19 July 1887.

"I have had the Honour to lay before the Queen the loyal and dutiful Address of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Lincolnshire of Antient Free and Accepted Masons, on the occasion of Her Majesty attaining the Fiftieth Year of Her Reign. And I have to inform you that Her Majesty was pleased to receive the same very graciously.

"I have the honour to be Sir

"Your Obedient Servant

"W. H. Smyth Esq."

"Henry Matthews.

Banquet in a large marquee.

1889, June 6th. P.G.L. at the Masonic Hall, Grimsby.

Bro. H. E. Cousans reported subscriptions amounting to £450 towards the Central Charities.

A Charity Jewel to be presented to brethren who have twice filled the office of P.G. Charity Steward.

Bro. James Fowler was installed Deputy P. G. Master, in the place of Bro. Locock, resigned through ill health.

Bros. C. E. Ward and H. J. Bellerby appointed Charity Stewards.

Banquet at the Town Hall.

1890, June 5th. P.G.L. at the Dock Buildings, Sutton Bridge.

Bro. Ward's list of subscriptions for R.M.I. for Girls amounted to £550.

Bros. Ward and W. Goodwin Charity Stewards for the ensuing year.

After the close of P.G.L. the brethren went in procession to the Parish Church. Sermon by Rev. G. A. F. Foxton, P.P.G.C.

Banquet in the Dock Buildings.

1891, June 8th. P.G.L. at the Volunteers' Hall, Barton.

Bros. M. Smith, T. Staniforth, and C. Smyth, Charity Stewards for ensuing year.

Rev. J. G. Bayles presented a Chaplain's Jewel.

Prov. G. Lodge to celebrate its Centenary at Grantham, the first meeting having been held there in 1792.

THE CENTENARY FESTIVAL AT GRANTHAM, JUNE 9, 1892.

The first meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge having been held at Grantham, it was deemed fit and proper that its Centenary Festival should be held at the same place. The desire of the Prov. Grand Master having been notified to the Grantham brethren, the Worshipful Master, with other members of the Doric Lodge, attended the half-yearly Committee Meeting at Louth, held in the latter part of September.

A suggestion that the Doric Lodge should appoint a Committee to co-operate with the representatives of P.G.L. was adopted, Bros. H. E. Cousans, W. Dixon, and B. Vickers (P.G. Sec.) being nominated on behalf of the Province.

In the following March Bros. Anderson, Beeson, and Russell, as representatives of the Doric Lodge, attended at Lincoln and submitted their suggestions.

The 21st of June, the actual anniversary, being deemed inconvenient, several other dates were suggested, and eventually it was decided to hold the gathering on Thursday, June 9th.

This in one respect proved an unfortunate date, as by a strange coincidence the two adjoining Provinces of Notts. and Northampton had fixed the same day for holding their annual meetings at Newark and Peterborough, which no doubt prevented many visitors from attending our gathering.

The suggestions adopted comprised a procession to the Parish Church, headed by a band of music, and a musical ceremony, as far as practicable, in the Lodge.

The correspondence which afterwards took place between the Prov. G. Secretary and the Grantham Committee resulted in a decision to hold the service at St. John's Church, Spittlegate. The facts that a few years previously the foundation stone of a new aisle had been laid with

masonic honours; the Vicar, Churchwardens, and Organist being members of P.G.L.; and the majority of the Doric brethren attending St. John's, marked it as being especially fitted for P.G.L. commemoration.

The following indicates the ground of the selection of the music. Within a few months of the establishment of P.G.L. 1792, one of the world's best masons and greatest men—Mozart, the immortal musician—breathed his last. His biographer says:—

“Freemasonry was to Mozart as to many others, the basis of a deep religious conviction, he was a pure minded, honest straightforward mason, one who took the principles and teachings of the craft thoroughly to heart—of his last sickness it is said ‘that he contemplated the approach of death with equanimity and that the lesson of the third degree had prepared his mind to await with calmness the opening of the door which leads to eternity.’”

What more proper than a performance in Lodge of this excellent and renowned brother's music, especially (though strange it may appear) since his latest completed work, “*Laut verkünde uns're Freude*” (a performance of which is portrayed in a well-known picture as taking place at the bedside of Mozart two days before his death) was composed for a similar festive gathering.

Bro. H. P. Dickinson, to whose zeal and ability the carrying out of the suggestion is chiefly due, is to be congratulated on the performance, doubtless for the first time in an English Lodge, of a work equally worthy of its author and the occasion.

It must also be noted that the very excellent translation from the original German was done by Mr. Vernon Howard, of the Peterborough Grammar School.

The 9th of June was a glorious summer's day; the weather, so important a factor in an out-door ceremony, was all that could be desired.

The town was *en fête*, flags were flying from many houses, from the Town Hall and the tower of St. John's Church, while the bells of the Parish Church rang out a joyous welcome to the visitors.

Contingents of brethren arrived by the various routes, and wended their way to the Town Hall, where refreshment was provided.

Grantham has undergone many changes since the Rev. W. Peters opened his P.G. Lodge at the George Inn. An attendance at either Barton or Grantham in the pre-railway times must have been a considerable undertaking.

Prov. G. Lodge was summoned to meet at the Theatre at High Twelve.

The M. M's. Lodge having been opened by the W.M. and officers of the Doric, the Prov. Grand Master and his officers entered, the band playing the "Priests' March" from *Zauberflöte*.

The P.G.M. and many members of P.G.L. were seated on the stage, a background of shrubs and plants making a very pleasing effect.

The Wardens and brethren occupied the body of the building, from the walls of which were suspended the banners of the various Lodges. In the north-east corner were seated the brethren comprising the small orchestra, the vocal contingent occupying the adjoining seats.

After P.G.L. had been opened, and the "Hymn of Invocation" sung, the cantata commenced, under the direction of Bro. H. P. Dickinson, the solo portions being sung by Bro. G. H. Gregory.

The following extract from the opening recit. shows how ably the translator had grasped the spirit of the occasion:—

"After a century of years, noble brothers, we re-assemble in the abode of knowledge and virtue. Sweet is the sensation of the mason on such a festal day, which binds anew and firmer the chains of brotherhood; sweet the thoughts of that order in which every Brother's heart shews him

plainly what he was, what he is, and what he can become, where example teaches him, where genuine brotherly love surrounds him and Charity the best and holiest, the Queen of all virtues, is enthroned in silent splendour."

The cantata being ended, the Prov. Grand Master read the following address to the brethren :—

"After a century of years ! these words just sung by our brother in his opening solo doubtless form the key-note of our thoughts to-day.

"After a century of years, this Provincial Lodge meets again in this Town of Grantham. A Century of years !

"As Masons we have been forcibly instructed in the advantages of contemplation, it is therefore especially fitting on the completion of the hundred years of our corporate existence that we should turn our minds back and contemplate the changes which have taken place during the last century in our beloved Craft and Province.

"As with individuals so with Kingdoms and Societies—time brings many vicissitudes. The Craft of Masonry has been no exception to this rule, yet I would that each of us individually could show such a balance to his credit at the completion of a long term of years, as is shown by the annals of the Craft in general and those of this Province in particular.

"In the short time we have at our disposal, it is meet and proper that I should recall to your notice some of those events in our history which will stamp the past hundred years as a golden age in masonry.

"As you all know, in 1792 the Rev. Wm. Peters was appointed Grand Master of the New Province of Lincolnshire. The Grand Master of England at that time was the Prince of Wales, afterwards George IV. Of those great institutions of our order, the three Central Charities, one had only just been founded, viz., the Girls' School, which owes its existence to the efforts of the Chevalier Ruspini; this worthy and excellent mason was I believe a member of the famous Prince of Wales Lodge, the first Secretary of which was the Rev. W. Peters the celebration of whose appointment as P.G.M. of Lincolnshire we celebrate to-day.

"This noble institution the Girls School was shortly followed by a similar one for Boys, and eventually by the

Institution for Aged Freemasons. The flourishing state of these valuable Masonic Institutions bears ample record to the vitality of one of the great landmarks of the Order.

"As just stated The Prince of Wales was Grand Master at the time our Provincial History begins; on his appointment as Prince Regent he resigned the Grand Mastership in favour of his brother the Duke of Sussex.

"Shortly after the appointment of this noble Brother the unfortunate schism which had divided English Masonry for many years was healed, and the United Grand Lodge of England was established. The accomplishment of this desirable event was due in a great measure to the true masonic spirit of the Duke of Kent the Father of our beloved Queen and the Grandfather of our present Royal Ruler.

"It needs no words of mine Brethren to remind you, that the same high regard in which the Duke of Kent was held in his day, exists at the present time between the brethren and their Grand Master.

"Leaving the Craft in general and coming to our own Province we see a similar advance in the application of one of our great principles.

"In 1841 a proposition to establish a Provincial Benevolent Fund was made by Bro. Goodacre of the Witham Lodge but owing to an unfortunate misunderstanding in the Province the scheme fell through. It was again mooted in 1843 and again in 1857, when a committee was appointed on the motion of Brother Cabourn Pocklington of Boston. Nothing however apparently came of it, and it was not till 1865 that practical steps appear to have been taken.

"On the 25th of May of that year the motion made by our late Brother Lucas P.G. Sec. and seconded by Bro. Pocklington that a Fund be established was adopted. A Code of By-laws was agreed to and P.G.L. started the fund with a subscription of £30.

"This has been followed by the Oliver Memorial Fund for the education of Boys, The Smyth Scholarship Fund for the education of Girls, and The Sutcliffe Memorial Fund for the Aged Freemasons and Widows. Each having a thousand guineas invested. With these local charities and the support which is afforded to the central, we, brethren of this Province may I think claim to a faithful carrying out of one of the great virtues of Freemasonry."

The Right Worshipful Brother went on to mention several past and present members of P.G.L., bestowing a warm eulogy on several tried and trusty brethren. He then continued:—

“A Century ago the Province contained only three Lodges and there were probably not a hundred masons in the County, to-day our Roll contains 24 Lodges and nearly 1100 members. Here as your Prov. Grand Master let me add a word of admonition. The strength of Masonry lies not in the number of its adherents, but in the spirit by which its members are actuated. As with the general body so with individual lodges: The prosperity of a lodge is not always advanced by a large increase of members. Each lodge should be composed of brothers in deed as well as in word—therefore let none be initiated be his position what it may, who seeks entrance from unworthy motives or whose character will not bear the strictest investigation.

“I cannot better close this address than by quoting an extract from a masonic oration, delivered over a century ago by a famous Lincolnshire brother—words equally true to-day as then:—

“At the present hour while we find the brotherhood successfully established in every kingdom of the earth, we are happy to rank in that list many names which do honour to their own—would have done honour to any age. To enumerate them would be a task abundantly pleasing; but the time allows me not. It is remarked with peculiar pleasure that in whatsoever else men may dispute and disagree, yet they are all unanimous to respect and to support a singularly amiable institution; which annihilates all parties; conciliates all private opinions and renders those who by their Almighty Father were made of one blood, to be also of one heart and one mind; Brethren bound, firmly bound, together by that indissoluble tie the love of their God, and the love of their kind.”

An address of condolence on the death of the R.W. Brother the Duke of Clarence was moved by the P.G.M.

Bro. W. Harling Sissons was installed D.P.G.M. in the room of Bro. Jas. Fowler.

Bro. C. M. Nesbitt was elected Treasurer for the twenty-seventh consecutive year.

A jewel, subscribed for by the Lodges in the Province, was presented to Bro. J. Fowler, P.D.P.G.M.

The Prov. Charity Stewards announced contributions amounting to £624.

To mark the Centenary of P.G.L., it was decided that endeavours should be made to raise the Provincial Benevolent Fund to 1,000 guineas.

It was also resolved that a Library in connection with the Province be established. Bro. W. Dixon was appointed Librarian.

Brothers M. Smith and T. Staniforth again undertook the duties of Prov. G. Charity Stewards.

The brethren then walked in masonic order, headed by the band of the 4th Battalion Lincolnshire Regiment, to St. John's Church, Spittlegate.

Brilliant sunshine, and the clothing and jewels of the brethren, made the procession very effective, the whole route being lined with interested spectators.

The Churchwardens, Messrs. A. G. Gamble and J. Hall, with their wands of office, met the procession at the west door, and conducted the brethren to the places allotted to them. A profusion of flowers and some magnificent palms were placed in the chancel, making a most effective decoration. Copies of the special order of service were distributed through the Church. These had, on the front page, views of the two Grantham Churches attended by P.G.L. 1792-1892, and the symbol of the "Point within a Circle with the two Great Parallels," the latter being depicted in such a manner as would have rejoiced the heart of our good old D.P.G.M., Dr. Oliver.

The musical portion of the service was admirably rendered by the choir of St. John's, Bro. H. P. Dickinson, the Organist of the Church, conducting, Bros. G. H. Porter and H. L. Burtonshaw assisting at the organ.

The anthem was "Where shall wisdom be found?" by Doctor Wm. Boyce, a prominent mason in his day, and composer to the Chapels Royal.

Prayers were read by the Prov. G. Chaplain, the Rev. T. Gregory; and the P.P.G. Chaplain, the Rev. C. Elsmere, Vicar of St. John's, preached from 1 Cor. xiii. 13, "And now abideth faith, hope, and charity." Towards the close of an eloquent discourse the preacher said:—

"I regard our gathering in this Church as a link, which our Order has assisted us to make.

"One hundred years ago P.G. Lodge probably went to the grand old Parish Church, and it is linking the old with the new in assembling here to-day.

"It is a new link in the chain of the endless circle.

"Brethren, the centuries pass, and carry us away with them. Nothing is lasting but God and His love. None here remember the first P.G. Lodge Church Service. The centuries see whole generations fade. The very years see individuals. A scarcely closed grave is before the very eyes of our own Lodge to-day. The years pass; the centuries come round. Man passes away in the one, and his place is no more found in the other. But God is still the centre and His love encircles all. Passing time only tells us of work to do and a mission in life to fulfil."

The offertory was devoted towards a window-light representing St. John the Evangelist, which will occupy a position over the corner-stone laid in 1884, and be a record both of that event and the Centenary Service.

Service being ended, the procession re-formed and returned by another route; the usual business resumed, and the Lodge closed.

The meeting was honoured by the presence of the Earl of Mount-Edgcumbe, D.G.M. of England.

Several congratulatory telegrams were received, and duly acknowledged by Bro. Vickers, the Prov. G. Secretary.

A banquet took place at the Exchange Hall, provided by Bro. Fillingham, of the George. The P.G.M. presided over a large assembly of brethren, due honour being paid to the usual loyal and masonic toasts.

On the suggestion of Bro. Vickers, Prov. G. Sec., an artistic memento of the gathering, drawn by Bro. W. Mortimer, was distributed to each brother in the Province.

The design is an illuminated summons, in the form of an arch. Portraits of the Provincial G. Masters, connected by a chain, are suspended from the key-stone (letter G), three on either side, with Grantham Parish Church in the centre. Various symbols are distributed about the ground, and the twenty-four Lodges composing the Province appear round the border in chronological order. The inscription reads:—

“The first Prov. G. Lodge was held at Grantham
21st of June 1792
Wm Peters P. G. M.

The Centenary Lodge to be holden at Grantham
on Thursday 9th June 1892
at High Twelve
W. H. Smyth P. G. M.”

A silver medal of exquisite workmanship was also struck to commemorate the event.

One of the most significant signs of the times is the extension of and interest taken in masonic literature. The long-standing reproach of the Craft having no history has been met by the magnificent work of Bro. R. F. Gould, and a taste for masonic study and research is being fostered and disseminated throughout the craft by the publications of the Quatuor Coronati Lodge.

Many interesting facts have been brought to light, but many more yet remain to reward the persevering and industrious craftsman along his journey up the Winding Stairs. The Inner Chamber of the Temple has not yet been reached, but it is encouraging to believe that increased numbers are making the ascent.

As regards the English branch of the Craft, masonic literature until recent times received but little encouragement from its rulers. It was not until 1880 that energetic steps were taken to form a library worthy of the Grand

Lodge of England. As far back as 1837 that Institution voted £100 for the purpose. Ten years afterwards Bro. J. R. Scarborough proposed in Grand Lodge that the sum of £20 should be laid aside annually for the formation of a Library and Museum, and in a characteristic speech is reported to have shown "the desirability of possessing the means of cultivating intellectuality more than gastronomy; that the other bottle did not do half so much good as the other volume; that it was laughable to tell a poor but inquiring brother to make a daily advance in masonic knowledge, and the arts and sciences his particular study, if we withheld from him the means of doing so, and did not even give him a hint where masonic knowledge could be gathered."

There can be no question as to the desirability of establishing a Library and Museum in connection with the Province, and that such an establishment will also worthily commemorate the Centenary of Provincial Grand Lodge. Many interesting and valuable mementos of our history are doubtless scattered about the county. If these were placed in a central collection and properly catalogued, they would not only be of service to the brethren generally, but stand a far better chance of being preserved than in their present position. It is surprising to find what a very few years suffice for an important occurrence to be forgotten.

The following is a case in point:—

Casually reading a work published half-a-century ago, I saw mention of an old MS. record. After considerable search this was found. Apparently only a single member of the Lodge knew of its existence, and strange to say, afterwards finding extracts from this MS. in the handwriting of a well-known brother, and calling his attention thereto, he had not the slightest recollection of either the MS. or copying.

TABLE OF MEETINGS
OF
PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

Barton	1793, 1805, 1816, 1891.
Boston	1809, 1825, 1841, 1845, 1849, 1853, 1856, 1858, 1860, 1863, 1865, 1869, 1875, 1885.
Brigg	1795, 1852, 1876.
Gainsborough ...	1794, 1806, 1835, 1845, 1850, 1855, 1870, 1879, 1881.
Grantham	1792, 1822, 1839, 1865, 1874, 1883, 1886, 1892.
Grimsby	1813, 1867, 1875, 1878, 1889.
Horncastle	1833, 1877.
Lincoln	1795, 1796, 1808, 1820, 1832, 1834, 1836, 1843, 1844, 1847, 1848, 1849, 1850, 1854, 1857, 1859, 1861, 1862, 1866, 1871, 1880, 1887.
Louth	1804, 1834, 1853, 1864, 1873, 1883.
Market Rasen ...	1836, 1884.
Skegness	1881, 1893.
Sleaford	1821, 1860, 1872, 1882.
Spalding	1818, 1842, 1850, 1868, 1879.
Spilsby	1835, 1837, 1846, 1857, 1888.
Sutton Bridge ...	1890.

THE NAMES OF BRETHREN WHO HAVE HELD OFFICE IN
THE PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF LINCOLNSHIRE.

Notwithstanding every care having been taken to give the following names correctly, doubtless some errors will appear. The identification of brethren with their respective Lodges in the early years of P.G.L. has been a work of considerable difficulty.

The Lodges to which the numbers refer are shown in the following Tables.

At the time Provincial Grand Lodge was established the officers took rank in the following order:—

Grand Stewards.	Grand Master.	Grand Stewards.
	Deputy Grand Master.	
	Senior Grand Warden.	
	Junior Grand Warden.	
	Grand Treasurer.	
	Grand Secretary.	
	Grand Chaplain.	
	Grand Architect.	
	Grand Portrait Painter.	
	Grand Sword Bearer.	
	Grand Tyler.	

Year.	Provincial Grand Masters.	Deputy Masters.	Treasurers.	Registrars.	Painter.	Tylers.
1792	The Rev. Wm. Peters	John Dodsworth 582	Thos. Liddiard 582	...	W. P. Pudsey 514	Wm. Bradley 582.
1793	...	Rev. M. Barnett 406	Thos. Marris 406...	...	...	J. Burton 406.
1795	...	Thos. Browne 530	...	...	...	J. Young 530.
1796	...	(Gervas Parnell 423	Rev. G. Marris 406.	...	...
1797	...	Rev. M. Barnett 406.	...	...	...
1806	...	...	...	...	...
1813	...	...	...	...	...	W. Dawson 423.
1814	Wm. Henry White.	...	...	...	...	— Robinson.
1816	...	...	...	...	...
1818	...	...	...	...	...	R. Goy 488.
1821	...	...	...	...	...	J. Kew 557.
1826	Chas. Tennyson, M.P.,	...	R. Brown 488.	...	...
1833	[afterwards styled	Rev. Geo. Oliver 362.	W. Hickson 557...	...	...
1834	the Rt. Hon. C. T.	...	R. S. Harvey 374..	Zach. Barton 612	Marshalls.	G. Rushby 362.
1835	D'Eyncourt].	...	J. W. Pashley 611.	...	{ C. Wright 374	
1837	...	...	W. Walker 617.	...	{ P. Tuxford 339	
1841	...	...	...	...	{ T. Rainey 587	W. Howell 339.
1842	...	...	F. D. Cooke 617.	...	{ S. C. Blakelock 602	
1843	...	...	Z. Woodward 339.	...	{ R. Duckle 611	
1845	...	...	C. Rice 339	G. Bourne 617.	[office not men-	
1849	Chas. Anderson Worsley	Rev. Geo. Colman 617	E. F. Broadbent 374	R. J. Tait 617	tioned after	
1850	Pelham, 2nd Earl	Rev. Chas. Nairne 374	...	Rev. W. N. Jepson 374	1837].	H. Cotton 374.
1852	of Yarborough.	...	...	R. C. Moore 374.	...	
1858	...	...	G. H. Shipley 374	...	...
1862	Wm. Aurelius De Vere,	Rid. Sutton Harvey 374	...	W. J. Whalley 792.	...	
1864	10th Duke of St.	W. H. Smyth 712	C. M. Nesbitt 712.	...	...
1866	Albans.	...	...	W. G. Moore 297.	...	B. Box 422.
1869	...	...	...	Henry Watson 297.	...	
1870	...	...	...	...	...
1875	...	...	...	...	...
1878	Major Wm. Henry Smyth	Edmund Locock 712.	...	...	...	W. Donner 1447.
1886	...	...	...	...	...
1889	...	James Fowler 712.	...	...	...
1892	...	W. Harling Sissons 1447	...	...	...

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Stewards.</i>	<i>Wardens.</i>
1792	Rev. T. Robinson 497, M. Brumby 514, J. Douthwaite 582 ...	Rev. M. Barnett 497... Rev. T. Smith 514.
1793	F. Dunn 406, J. Trevor 514, J. Taylor 582, R. Nicholson 510 ...	W. Hesleden 406 .. Gervas Parnell 514.
1794	T. Parkinson 510, J. Simpson 530	Gervas Parnell 423 ... Rd. Nicholson 510.
1795	J. Scott 530, R. Robinson 530	J. Simpson 530 ... J. Peacock 530.
1796	J. Bygott 406 ... ..	... ..
1797	F. Dunn 406 ... ..	... ..
1801	... ..	... ..
1804	W. Johnson 406, R. Ward 406, J. Wharam 423, H. Brumby 423, C. Curtois 530, J. Brotherton 530, S. C. Pettener 510, G. Hindley 510.	Samuel Thorold 530 (J.W.)
1806	M. Atkinson 530	S. Thorold 530. C. M. Clarke 510.
1808	W. Raby 423, W. Brotherton 453, G. Thompson 453, J. Wray 530	... ..
1813	C. Gregory 406, J. Bygott 406, Bromby 423, G. Oliver 510, G. Parker 510.	R.E. Johnson 406(J.W.)
1816	W. Harmston 557, B. Jacklin 557, W. Langton 544	R. E. Johnson 488 ... Chas. Curtois 557.
1818	W. Morley 488, C. Wellman 512, T. Carritt 544, Shacklock 496, J. Baxter 496, W. Vise 679, W. Cartwright 679.	... ..
1820	Robinson 488, R. C. Clayton 512, W. Hickson 557, Rev. W. Smith 544, Clement 679, R. Turner 719, F. Newcomb 719.	C. Wellman 512 ... R. Cropper 544.
1821	P. Cartledge 557.	
1822	W. Brocklesby 557.	
1825	Richmond 544	R. Cropper 544 ... Joseph Williamson 512.
1832	J. Morley 858, S. Fowler 858.	
1833	C. T. White 587, J. Grey 374	J. W. Morley 587(J.W.)
1834	E. L'Oste 602, J. J. Moody 602, J. Smedley 587, J. W. Pashley 611, J. Wood 466, S. Harris 587, J. Thorpe 612, J. Donovan 602.	Major E. Brackenbury 617 W. Hickson 374.
1835	W. Walker 617, E. Pennington 612, W. A. Cavie 617, W. Howden 339, J. Garner 466, G. Thompson 339, W. Jerrams 611.	R. Turner 466 (J.W.)...
1836	... ..	... ..
1837	W. Procter.	
1839	J. Wilkinson, R. C. Moore, F. Malin, H. Button, J. Evans, Z. Woodward	Sir E. F. Bromhead 374 J. Wood 466.
1841	J. Roberts, J. R. Bull, R. Goodacre, G. Oliver, jun., C. Rainey, J. Clarke, W. R. King.	F. Newcome 466 (J.W.)
1842	G. Edwards, W. Barnes ... ..	... ..
1843	J. Ward, E. A. Bromehead, J. Middleton	W. H. Adams, 339 ... Rev. J. O. Dakeyne 374
1844	.. ... ..	... ..
1845	... ..	... ..
1846	C. Fardell, T. Rainey	Rev. J. O. Dakeyne 374 R. Mansel 617.
1849	R. Stainbank, W. H. Lewin	Sir E. Brackenbury 617 E. A. Bromehead 374.
1850	J. Guy, J. T. W. Bowden ... ..	... ..

<i>Secretaries.</i>	<i>Chaplains.</i>	<i>Architects.</i>	<i>Sword Bearers.</i>
W. Cooper 582 ...	Rev. J. Nicholson 582 (V. Aswardby).	John Langwith 582 ...	Peter Tyler 582.
W. Benton 406 ...	Rev. T. Robinson 406 (V. Horkstow).	... ..	J. Holgate 406.
... ..	Rev. E. Jordan 423. (V. Messingham).	... ..	W. Bristow 530.
J. Bullen 530 ...	Rev. C. Gordon 530... (V. Wellington).	... ..
W. P. Pudsey 423. J. Bygott 406.	... ..	John Scott 530.	
Rev. W. Gray 530 ...	Doctor Orme 510. (Louth).		
M. Atkinson 530. G. Capes 406...	... ..	... ..	S. Peacock 530.
... ..	Rev. G. Oliver 544. (V. Clee).	Jos. S. Langwith 557.	
...		
Rev. W. Smith 544.			
... ..	... ..	W. A. Nicholson 374.	J. Hawson 374.
...	
H. Wilson 617 ...	Rev. G. Coltman 617. (R. Stickney).		
Rev. R. Fenton 602.			
H. Goddard 374.			
... ..	... ..	<i>Superintendents of Works.</i>	
T. Thimbleby 617.	... ..	J. S. Langwith 466.	
... ..	... ..	... ..	R. Taylor 374.
... ..	Rev. E. R. Larken 374. (R. Burton).	... ..
... ..	... ..	... ..	W. Howell 339.
J. Middleton 374 ..	... ..	J. Wilson 466.	

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Stewards.</i>	<i>Wardens.</i>
1851	G. T. W. Sibthorp, T. Fricker, Rev. B. J. Wood	C. Rice 858 J. W. Pashley 611. ...
1852	W. Nicholson, E. Coupland ... ..	... ..
1853	... ..	J. Guy 611. C. Fardell 617.
1854	L. Daulton, F. L. Hopkins, E. R. Cousans, G. Smith	W. Howden 339 B. Williamson 690.
1855	R. Hall, J. Moxon .. ..	... ..
1856	E. Rainey, C. R. Worsley	F. Cook 339 T. Wood 466.
1857	J. Penney, H. Bates, J. W. Robinson.	
1859	J. Shuttleworth, S. Shaw, J. Howard, W. Clegg	J. W. H. Tidswell 690 S. B. Roberts 339.
1860	J. Nicholls, A. Woodrow.	
1861	... ..	G. T. W. Sibthorp 374 F. L. Hopkins 858.
1862	R. J. Taylor, V. Grantham	F. L. Hopkins 339 J. U. S. Smith 785.
1863	T. H. Oldman, R. W. Payne, W. Snart, W. L. Mason	W. H. Smyth 712 W. Clegg 272.
1864	... ..	W. Clegg 272... .. C. Feneley 362.
1865	E. D. Johnson	C. Pocklington 272, S.W.
1866	J. Best, C. Harrison, F. Rainey, E. H. Clark, E. Locock	G. H. Shipley 297 W. Snart 272.
1867	H. V. Clive, J. B. Betham, B. Fountain	F. P. Cupiss 792 H. Bates 469.
1868	H. Josse, W. Plunkett, E. F. Cole	R. Hall 297 A. F. Cartwright 469.
1869	F. R. Larken, W. W. Copeland, T. J. Tomlinson, H. Johnson, J. Laughton, T. W. Ramplin.	E. Locock 712 W. H. Radley 838.
1870	H. E. Turnour, S. W. Johnson, G. Wise, Rev. C. J. Browne, A. Kirk, W. Watkins.	V. C. Elwes 1282 Dr. Mackinder 422.
1871	T. M. Ashton, G. Jackson, H. J. Parker, S. S. Mossop, A. Chambers.	J. Sutcliffe 1294 C. Harrison 297.
1872	F. Foster, H. Shepherd, J. G. Settle, E. Crow, J. Scarborough, J. Sutcliffe.	F. R. Larken 297 T. E. Jacobson 588.
1873	J. G. Tupholme, C. Jackson, C. Scorer, J. T. Slator, M. Cook, G. Nelson.	J. Fowler 712... .. J. Bellamy 588.
1874	E. F. Hudson, Rev. J. C. K. Saunders, H. Watson, W. Pigott, J. Allen, W. B. T. Hamlin.	T. H. Oldman 422 R. J. Boyall 362.
1875	T. Fryer, F. Watson, W. H. Sissons, W. S. Bladon, W. H. B. Bratley, J. W. Palmer.	T. Slator 838 J. A. Thomas 272.
1876	F. Goodhand, H. Sharp, E. R. Dihhen, E. E. Jevons, W. A. Field, H. Snaith.	W. Pigott 1282 F. Watson 1386.
1877	R. Goodman, J. Robinson, W. B. Oliver, H. Clark, H. Nicholson, R. Garfit.	R. J. Ward 297 H. Sharp 1304.
1878	J. Woodward, T. Cleugh, A. A. Padley, S. Haddelsey, F. C. Ramshaw, M. Woodhall.	D. Hanson 792 T. Coates 1294.
1879	J. Eley, T. M. Wilkinson, J. W. Richardson, E. Wilson, A. L. Peacock.	C. F. Bonner 469 W. H. Sissons 1447.

<i>Secretaries.</i>	<i>Chaplains.</i>	<i>Superintendents of Works.</i>	<i>Sword Bearers.</i>
... ..	... ..	... ..	H. Young 690.
... ..	Rev. W. N. Jepson 374 (S.Martin's, Lincoln).	J. U. S. Smith 785 ...	J. W. H. Tidswell 690.
T. Heffernan 374 ...	... ..	W. P. Astley 611.	
... ..	Rev. J. Wood 617.		
Rd. Hall 374 ...	... (resigned 1859) ...	F. L. Hopkins 339 ...	G. Waghorne 339.
... ..	... ..	Doctor Mackinder 611.	
... ..	... ..	J. Fowler 1014.	
... ..	Rev. E. R. Larken 374		
... ..	... ..	... ..	J. Noonan 297.
C. E. Lucas 712 ...	Rev. G. Nash 712.		
... ..	... ..	W. H. Wheeler 272 ...	C. C. Wardell 469.
... ..	... ..	C. H. Clark 792 ...	J. Wellington 297.
... ..	... ..	G. Young 272 ...	R. J. Taylor 297.
... ..	Rev. E. E. Hadath 1232	F. Rainey 426 ...	H. Josse 792.
... ..	Rev. W. H. Hewitt 712	A. Johnson 272 ...	F. R. Larken 297.
F. D. Marsden 712 ...	Rev. J. C. Browne 1304	W. Watkins 297 ...	T. M. Ramplin 362.
... ..	Rev. J. R. Humble 469	F. Long 1294... ...	G. Jackson 838.
... ..	Rev. Daniel Ace 422...	C. Hensman 1304 ...	A. Richdale 426.
... ..	... ..	W. J. Mantle 297 ...	F. Foster 588.
... ..	Rev. J. C. K. Saunders 1286	A. Parkin 1482 ...	W. Swallow 1447.
... ..	Rev. G. W. Lowe 272	E. Chamberlain 1232...	W. S. Bladon 422.
... ..	Rev. W. Lynes 588 ...	E. J. Bell 1482 ...	J. H. Gray 426.
... ..	Rev. G. W. Lowe 272	C. A. Kirby 712 ...	C. Scorer 297.
... ..	Rev. T. P. Holdich 1286	J. Chapman 1294 ...	R. Garfit 1600.

Year.	Stewards.	Wardens.
1880	C. F. Liversidge, H. J. Seels, jun., J. R. Dudding, W. Cocking, W. Rainforth, W. Gray.	T. M. Wilkinson 297 G. M. Lowe 1386.
1881	W. R. Fowler, G. Howsham, C. R. Farmer, W. Hipkins, F. J. Green, J. Casterton.	A. Kirk 422 ... J. Ferguson 838.
1882	F. Thomas, J. Chambers, S. Cartwright, J. Ferguson, R. P. Mossop, H. C. Chambers, S. Taylor.	R. Thorpe 588 ... W. J. H. Wood 838.
1883	W. Mortimer, J. W. Curtis, J. Hewson, J. Hemingborough, R. Cartwright, W. C. Wood.	G. G. Birkett 712 .. W. Gray 1447.
1884	C. Reeve, J. Padley, G. Majer, W. Wheeldon, J. A. Gifford, B. H. Russell.	Rev. J. C. K. Saunders 1286. M. Perry 469.
1885	F. Cartwright, W. Pollit, J. Staniforth, J. H. Carter, R. Mackinder, J. A. Robinson.	J. Eley 272 ... J. Allen 838.
1886	H. E. Cousins, J. Duke, S. Beaumont, J. Spring, J. Benner, R. Wood.	A. G. Gamble 362 ... W. Pollitt 1294.
1887	A. Robinson, H. H. Kirby, W. Goodwin, J. J. Musgrave, R. Dannatt, G. Green.	C. J. Fox 426 ... H. E. Cousins 297. (A. V. Grantham 426. C. M. Nesbitt 712. J. Sutcliffe 1294. H. Watson 297.
1888	F. D. Davy, J. E. Mason, R. Collingwood, H. J. Bellerby, W. W. Harn, W. F. Read.	G. H. Porter 712 ... A. Clark 792.
1889	J. C. Jackson, W. H. Close, J. Barber, E. H. Shepherd, J. Hadden, G. C. Bimrose.	W. F. Read 1294 ... W. Goodwin 792.
1890	C. R. Morton, B. Beeson, C. F. Bedford, G. Todd, A. Meggitt, M. Enderby.	C. E. Ward 985 ... R. Collingwood 362.
1891	D. Stevenson, S. Thurlby, J. Clare, M. Smith, J. Reddish, J. Norfolk.	F. D. Davy 1447 ... W. T. Sharpe 1304.
1892	J. S. Battle, C. F. Carter, J. Constable, H. Cottingham, J. J. Rainey, J. F. Spring.	F. Higgins 1600 ... R. W. Anderson 362.
1893	F. Baines, W. Hurst, G. Clark, T. Bennett, R. Gibson, J. E. Townsend.	T. Staniforth 1482 ... Mark Smith 712.

Queen's
Jubilee.

<i>Secretaries.</i>	<i>Chaplains.</i>	<i>Superintendents of Works.</i>	<i>Sword Bearers.</i>
... ..	Rev. W. P. Jones 1294	S. G. Gamble 362 ...	J. B. Swallow 1447.
... ..	Rev. J. R. U. Elliott 422	P. P. Dickinson 297 ...	W. Henson 1286.
... ..	Rev. C. Elsmere 362...	A. Harrison 469 ...	W. Waddingham 1447.
B. Vickers 297 ...	Rev. J. A. Chalmers 1304	S. T. Haddelsey 1294	R. P. Mossop 985.
<i>Assistant Secretaries.</i>			
J. L. Rayner 297 ..	Rev. E. T. Wigg 297...	R. Cartwright 426 ...	A. L. Peacock 1386.
A. Bott 1232	Rev. W. H. Insull 2078	G. Howsham 422 ...	M. Woodhall 1447.
Jas. Williamson 297 ..	Rev. C. R. Patey 426.	A. S. Steffenson 792...	G. H. Williams 588.
C. Smith 588... ..	Rev. B. Matthews 469	C. H. Brady 712 ...	J. Waldram 792.
	Rev. W. H. Mills 712.		
	Rev. G. F. H. Foxton 985		
	Rev. J. G. Bayles 297.		
A. Robinson 426 ...	Rev. E. N. Weigall 2078	W. Challans 838 ..	J. Padley 272.
H. J. Bellerby 1482 ...	Rev. C. Laing 422.	W. H. Kirby 838 ..	W. Abbott 985.
W. H. Close 1386 ...	Rev. R. Thomas 1294	M. Cox 985	J. Hadden 1304.
H. W. Meggitt 1447...	Rev. J. B. Le Gassick 1482	W. Langbridge 2078...	C. F. Bedford 588.
	Rev. P. Lawrence 1286	W. Wheeldon 422 ...	J. B. Morton 792.
R. C. Hallowes 2351...	Rev. J. G. Munday 712.	J. Clare 588	J. Read 2078.
J. S. Battle 297 ..	Rev. T. Gregory 2351		
	Rev. C. Elsmere 362 ..		
	Rev. R. Cowburn 1304		
	Rev. R. G. Ash 469.		

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Directors of Ceremonies.</i>	<i>Deacons.</i>	<i>Organists.</i>	<i>Pursuivants.</i>	<i>Standard Bearer.</i>
1820	C. Curtois 557.	T. Sandars 617.	W. Gandy 374.	J. Whitehouse 374, I.G.	Henry Cotton 374. (3 years).
1822	P. Cartledge 557.	B. Williamson 339.			
1833		R. C. Clayton 339.			
1834	T. Sandars 617.	J. Moody 602.			
1835		P. Tuxford 339.	J. C. Osborne 374.	B. H. Cheney 611.	
1837	B. Williamson 339.	E. Lansdale 611.			
1839		W. H. Adams 339.			
1840	J. Nicholson 374.	C. Rainey 617.			
1841		C. Rice 339.	A. L. Keller 617.	R. N. Macintosh 617. S. Hardcastle 374.	
1842		W. Jerrams 611.			
1843		W. Jerrams 611.			
1845		T. Broughton 339.			
1846		E. A. Bromehead 374			
1848	R. Goodacre 374.	J. Middleton 374.			
1849	R. Taylor 374.	J. W. Pashley.			
	H. E. Packe 339.	C. Fardell 617.			
1851	R. Taylor 374.	J. Guy 611.		J. Norton 374.	
1852	W. Howden 339.	W. Howden 339.			
1853	T. Rainey 617.	T. Wood 466.			
		F. Cook 339.			
1854	W. Greenwood 339.	J. W. H. Tidswell 690.			
1855	W. Greenwood.	T. Rainey 617.			
1856	D. Jackson 339.	C. Pocklington 339.			
1859	W. Greenwood 339.	J. Moxon 611.			
	J. W. Robinson 858.				

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Directors of Ceremonies.</i>	<i>Deacons.</i>	<i>Organists.</i>	<i>Pursuivants.</i>	<i>Standard Bearers.</i>
1861	W. Greenwood 339. G. D. Pennell 858.	T. Small 1140. R. Dyer 339.		G. M. Fox 297.	
1863	W. Greenwood 339. T. E. Jacobson 588.	E. F. Cupiss 792. J. F. Waite 712.	W. Mason 297.	R. J. Boyall 362. W. H. Radley 838.	
1864		J. Norton 297.		B. Milne 422.	
1865	W. Greenwood 339. T. E. Jacobson.	E. Rainey 426. R. W. Payne 588.	C. Starmet 426.	J. Bellamy 588.	
1866	T. E. Jacobson 588. W. Griffin 712.	J. Harup 792. E. D. Johnson 362.	G. H. Porter 712.	T. G. Hessay 838.	
1867	T. E. Jacobson 588. W. Griffin 712.	C. Harrison 297. J. Best 838.	G. Robinson 422.	J. H. White 469.	
1868	T. E. Jacobson 588. W. Griffin 712.	G. Smith 426. E. B. Bogg 588.	W. H. Burland 272.	B. Fountain 469.	
1869	W. Griffin 712. W. E. Howlett 422.	W. J. Bland 838. W. W. Copeland 792.	J. G. Bayles 297.	S. S. Mossop 985.	
1870	W. Griffin 712. R. C. Carline 297.	W. Seaton 712. M. Crowden 838.	H. P. Dickenson 362.	T. Marris 1282.	
1871	S. W. Johnson 1232. T. J. Tomlinson 588.	J. Laughton 422. H. E. Turnour 1286.	J. C. Lambert 588.	C. Smyth 712.	
1872	T. J. Tomlinson. A. Bates 1294.	T. B. Hildred 272. W. H. Barker 985.	J. Barraclough 1386 ...	A. Kirk 422.	
1873	A. Bates. W. Griffin 712.	J. Hadfield 792. F. Snaith 272.	W. Mason, jun., 297 ...	J. Queenborough 272.	
1874	J. R. Boyall 362. W. Pooles 858.	A. Woodrow 469. G. Ford 1286.	T. H. Nicholson 1386 ...	G. G. Birkett 712 ...	W. Marshall 792.
1875	W. Pooles. G. Nelson 1282.	T. W. Thimbleby 426. J. Sutcliffe 1294.			
1876	G. Nelson. R. Nicholson 1304.	J. Robinson 792. T. Fryer 1282.			
1877	R. Nicholson. W. F. Vise 469.	H. Shepherd 838.			

Year.	Directors of Ceremonies.	Deacons.	Organists.	Pursuivants.	Standard Bearers.
1878	W. H. Roberts 792	T. H. Dodds 426	G. H. Porter 712	H. Nicholson 1304	B. Vickers 297.
1879	G. F. Barrell 469.	J. Robinson 469.	A. W. Lambert 588	R. Thorpe 588 ...	T. C. Lazenby 297.
1880	B. Vickers 297.	J. Hodgins 985.	W. H. B. Bentley 272 ...	J. Laughton 422	P. P. Dickinson 297.
1881	J. W. Palmer 838.	T. C. Johnson 1600	G. H. Porter 712	J. Mawer 712 ...	J. S. Codd 297.
1882	W. H. Roberts 792	A. Taylor 1482.	A. W. Lambert 588	T. Thomas 272...	A. L. Peacock 1386.
1883	W. H. Roberts 792	F. Higgins 1600	E. Cammack 469	J. R. Dudding 1282	J. J. Allott 1386.
1884	T. C. Lazenby 297.	J. Woodward 469.	J. W. Curtis 985	J. Ward 1304 ...	W. Mortimer 1386.
1885	H. J. Seels 1893.	J. M. Read 1386	G. R. Welsh 1447	T. Cleugh 1282.	I. Cook 792.
1886	W. H. Roberts 792	W. A. Field 1282	W. H. Scott 985	W. C. Wood 1232	L. Hemingborough 1482.
1887	B. Mackinder 426.	C. R. Farmer 422.	J. Spring 1282 ...	W. Marshall 792.	W. Hoff 426.
1888	W. H. Roberts 792	W. Cook 792 ...	G. H. Gregory 838	T. Stanforth 1482	C. F. Liversidge 422.
1889	J. H. Carter 985.	J. Scarborough 362.	W. Dixon 297 ...	H. Cartwright 1893.	J. Walter 1304.
1890	W. H. Roberts 792	J. J. Allott 1386.	H. S. Forman 712	W. S. Clitherow 1304	F. J. Green 1232.
1891	J. Barber 1447.	H. Pratt 1386 ...	H. L. Burtonshaw 1482	C. Reeve 1286.	R. Wood 1482.
1892	W. H. Roberts 792	I. A. Robinson 1386	W. R. Lilley 297	F. J. Green 1232	J. Duke 792.
1893	G. F. Barrell 469	E. Organer 272.	J. Constable 1482	G. Green 1600.	G. Dunkley 1893.
	A. Bott 1232.	T. C. Hobin 1482		G. Mager 838 ...	R. J. Tonge 2284.
		W. Mansell 297.		W. Cocking 1286.	T. B. Jacobson 588.
		G. T. Wigelsworth 362 ...		G. C. Binrose 469	J. Ferguson 838.
		W. Heseltine 1447.		J. R. Clark 985.	E. H. Shepherd 838.
		G. W. Ham 469		F. G. Shilcock 1232	G. Middleton 792.
		H. Wright 422.		A. Wykes 2284.	M. Enderby 1893.
		T. Mountain 1294		J. Burtonshaw 1482	J. Reddish 792.
		C. R. Morton 272.		D. Stevenson 272.	R. L. Wherry 1232.
		B. Beeson 362 ...		H. Tyler 272 ...	J. J. Rainey 426.
		J. Norfolk 712.		E. Hancock 469.	H. A. Cottingham 1386.
		H. V. Tippet 1893			
		C. F. Carter 2284.			

POSITION OF THE VARIOUS LODGES OF THE PROVINCE
ON THE ROLL OF GRAND LODGE.

<i>In and between the years</i>	1781.	1792.	1814.	1832.	1863.
St. Matthew's, Barton (18)	497	406	488	321	1447
Prince of Wales, Gainsboro' }	514	423	496	...	...
Hope, Sleaford
Harmony, Boston (2)	544	453	512	339	272
Doric, Grantham (3)	582	491	719	466	362
Urania, Brigg
St. James, Louth }	510	544	362	...
Apollo, Grimsby }
Witham, Lincoln (1)	530	557	374	297
Welland, Spalding	679	441	...
Olive Union, Horncastle (16)	858	587	1304
Lindsey, Louth (8)	602-1014	712
Yarborough (Trent), Gainsboro' (4)	611	422
Bayons, Market Rasen (14)	612	1286
Shakspeare, Spilsby (5)	617	426
Elloe, Hundred of, Spalding (6)	690	469
Ancholme, Brigg (13)	785	1282
St. Botolph's, Sleaford (7)	858	588
Pelham Pillar, Grimsby (9)	1094	792
Franklin, Boston (10)	1140	838
Alexandra, Sutton Bridge (11)	985
Hereward, Bourn (12)	1232
St. Alban's, Grimsby (15)	1294
St. Hugh, Lincoln (17)	1386
Isle of Axholme, Crowle (19)	1482
Hamilton, Alford (20)	1600
Lumley, Skegness (21)	1893
St. Lawrence, Scunthorpe (22)	2078
Smyth, Grimsby (23)	2284
Ermine, Lincoln (24)	2351

The seniority of the present Lodges as regards the Province is shown within the brackets.

SUMMARY OF THE REGISTER OF THE PROVINCE.

	1836.	1841.	1851.	1867.	1871.	1881.	1891.
Witham	15	39	44	64	103	91	85
Harmony	14	19	46	56	69	59	66
Doric	16	20	8	16	33	49	65
Olive Union (old)	13	18	...	...	...	...	...
Lindsey (old)	14	...	...	...	...	...	...
Trent—Yarborough	20	17	20	20	47	53	44
Bayons (old)	13	13	...	...	...	...	...
Shakspeare	14	33	27	21	24	54	50
Elloe ... ..	...	13	19	16	44	51	74
Ancholme (old) ... ..	...	...	12	...	...	...	...
S. Botolph's ... ..	...	...	12	21	19	29	26
Lindsey (new) ... ..	...	...	...	35	47	46	60
Pelham Pillar ... ..	...	...	...	40	78	117	167
Franklin .. ...	...	...	...	22	45	61	59
Alexandra ... ..	...	...	...	...	20	32	38
Hereward ... ..	...	...	...	...	12	20	32
Ancholme (new) ... ..	...	...	...	...	29	39	26
Bayons (new) ... ..	...	...	...	...	20	20	21
St. Albans ... ..	...	...	...	...	20	23	26
Olive Union (new) ... ..	...	...	...	...	24	34	49
St. Hugh ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	70	67
St. Matthew's (new) ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	47	32
Isle of Axholme ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	21	45
Hamilton ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	30	30
Lumley ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	12	23
St. Lawrence ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Smyth ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	33
Ermine ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
TOTAL	119	172	188	311	634	958	1164

THE PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTERS OF LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE REV. WILLIAM PETERS.

Shortly after the formation of the Doric Lodge at Grantham, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Grand Master, was pleased to appoint another Deputation, the honour being conferred upon the Rev. Wm. Peters, with the County of Lincoln for his Province.

William Peters was born in the Isle of Wight. His father soon afterwards being appointed to a post in the Irish Customs, the family removed to Dublin, young Peters being eventually placed under the care of the famous Dr. Sheridan, with a view to entering the Church. During this period he showed such a decided artistic talent and desire to see the works of the great masters, that his friends decided to suspend his studies and permit him to travel and gratify his inclination. He twice visited Italy, making most excellent copies of the celebrated pictures of Corregio, Titian, and Rubens. During his first visit, in 1763, he was elected a member of the Imperial Academy of Florence; and on returning to England in 1777, after his second visit, he was made a Royal Academician.

His career up to this time must have been most gratifying both to himself and his friends. Well educated and connected, and gifted with exceptional talent, it is not surprising to find him in the first society of the day. The Earls of Rutland, Exeter, and others, men of great wealth and influence, gave the young painter their patronage and friendship, adding his works to their galleries, and forwarding his interests on every possible occasion.

Having now reached the summit of the profession, Peters determined to take up that career which his parents had first intended he should follow—the Church.

This decision was probably influenced by his accidentally discovering a skilful fellow artist in an almost destitute condition.

A lady desiring some landscapes, asked Peters to recommend the artist. Wilson, a man of talent, industry, and integrity was selected for the work. A visit to Wilson's house, with the commission for four pictures, found the poor man in such a condition that he had not the wherewithal to buy canvas and colours for the work.

Whether this incident disgusted Peters with the profession, or whether he desired a higher sphere of life, it is impossible to say; probably both had a share in forming a decision. A position in the Church would at least save him from such neglect as had befallen his friend, whilst the Clergyman's duties at that time were not so onerous as would debar him from spending a large portion of his time in his favourite occupation. Accordingly he matriculated at Oxford in November, 1779, entered Exeter College, took the degree of LL.B., and received orders in due course. In 1782, at the request of the Duke of Rutland, Peters went to Paris to copy a famous picture in the Carmelite Church. During this visit he became acquainted with the Duke of Manchester, at that time English Ambassador at the French Court. The Duke, who had been Grand Master of England for the five years preceding his appointment to Paris, manifested his friendship and patronage until his death; and Peters' appointment as Chaplain-in-Ordinary to the Prince of Wales was directly due to his Grace's influence. The following circumstance, so very characteristic of the then French Court, occurred about this time:—"The Duke asked permission of the Queen for Mr. Peters to paint a portrait of the Dauphin. Trifling as the request seemed to be, it occasioned a Council to be held, in which it was debated whether the health of the Heir Apparent might be affected by the smell of even the small quantity of paint which would necessarily be upon the pallet while the picture was proceeding. After due deliberation the request was

granted, notice of which was sent in a complimentary card from Madame de Polignac to the Duke in the name of the Queen." The chronicler* adds (writing in 1794, just after the great Revolution):—"What a dreadful proof of the vicissitudes of life and the instability of fortune has been seen in the fate of that Queen and her family within the space of twelve years!"

Among his most famous pictures are "The Resurrection of a Pious Family," "The Guardian Angel," "Cherubs," and "Scenes from Shakspeare." The engravings from the latter were exceedingly popular.

The picture formerly over the altar in Lincoln Cathedral was also his work.

This sketch amply shows us the conspicuous and honourable position attained by our first P.G.M. in the world of society and art.

Like the rest of the leading men of his time, Peters came under the satyric lash of the notorious Peter Pindar. The following two stanzas are from the XII. Ode on Peters' "The Angel and Child":—

"Dear Peters! who like Luke the Saint,
A man of Gospel art, and paint,
Thy pencil flames not with poetic fury:
If Heaven's fair Angels are like thine
Our Bucks, I think, O grave Divine,
May meet in t'other world the Nymphs of Drury.

The Infant Soul I do not much admire,
It boasteth somewhat more of flesh than fire—
The Picture, Peters, cannot much adorn ye.
I'm glad though that the red-fac'd little sinner,
Poor soul! hath made a hearty dinner
Before it ventur'd on so long a journey."

We will now turn to his masonic career, which in a great measure exhibits the same energy and success.

For much valuable information on this point we are again indebted to the researches of Bro. Henry Sadler, whose *Life of Thomas Dunckerley*, published recently, comes at a most opportune moment.

* *Freemasons' Magazine.*

The official records state that Wm. Peters was initiated in the Somerset House Lodge No. 2, on the 27th of Feb., 1769.

Bro. Sadler, than whom is no better authority, says that Peters was a friend of Dunckerley, who probably initiated him.

Of the quality and status of the brethren of the Somerset House Lodge the work just referred to says:—"The list of members included nearly all the earnest workers and leading lights in English masonry from about 1768 to 1800."

In 1785 Bro. Peters painted and presented to Grand Lodge the portraits (whole length) of Lord Petre and the Duke of Manchester. In acknowledgment of this elegant present, "which opened a prospect to the Society of having its Hall ornamented with the successive Portraits of the Grand Masters in future," H.R.H. the Duke of Cumberland, Grand Master, on the recommendation of the Duke of Manchester, D.G.M., conferred the title of Grand Portrait Painter, on the donor. Bro. Gould, in his great *History*, says—The Grand Portrait Painter ranked after the Grand Architect, and before the Grand Sword Bearer. The office was regarded as a purely personal one, to be held by Peters *quamdiu se bene gesserit*, and though his name is not included in the list of annual appointments declared on the Grand Feast Day, it duly appears among those of the Grand Officers of the Society published in successive editions of the *Freemasons' Calendar* from 1787 to 1814. The new Grand Officer proved himself to have been in every way worthy of the mark of distinction conferred by the Grand Lodge; and on the 28th Nov., 1787, a resolution was passed conveying the thanks of that body to the Rev. W. Peters for "his kind superintendence and great liberality, in the beautifying and ornamenting of the Hall."

To these portraits were afterwards added those of the Duke of Cumberland and the Prince of Wales. The following, copied from the original letter now in the archives of Grand Lodge, bespeaks the man:—

“ Sir,

“ I have received the Letter which by desire of the Hall Committee you did me the honour to write to me on the 14th inst.—& am happy that the Copy which I sent them from the Portrait of our late most excellent & sincerely lamented Grand Master, has met with their approbation.

“ From the first moment of my initiation into the Mysteries of Masonry, it has been my constant wish and endeavour to promote, on every occasion, the Honour & Prosperity of the Craft;—happy when my feeble efforts were crowned with success, & happier still when fresh opportunities of being useful presented themselves to me;— You say that the Committee desire to know what they are indebted to me for this Picture; permit me, Sir, to request that you would present my most affectionate Compliments to them, & to assure them that the pleasure I feel in showing my respectful Gratitude to the memory of his late Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland, & the duty I owe to my Master the Prince of Wales, & present Grand Master of Masons is far more grateful to my feelings, than any pecuniary return could possibly be; I beg then the Society would continue their kind indulgence by accepting of this picture; as a memorial of my attachment to men, whose doctrine and principles are, universal Charity, Brotherly love, & Peace.

“ I have the honour to be with great regard Sir

“ Your most obliged & Obed^t Servant

“ William Peters.

“ Great Newport Street,

“ Apl. 16th 1792.

“ Mr. W. White, Grand Secretary.”

These four portraits were unfortunately destroyed by the fire which devastated the Hall in 1883. A likeness of George III., now hanging in the Board Room, is believed to be by Peters, and is the only portion of his work remaining at Grand Lodge.

On 6th Feb., 1787, the Prince of Wales was initiated into masonry. Shortly afterwards H.R.H. became one of the founders of the now famous Prince of Wales' Lodge. Membership of this Lodge was at first restricted to those who were either in the service of His Royal Highness or

"firmly attached to his person and interests." The original plan seems to have been carried out most strictly, even to the extent of making masons of the household servants of the Prince, four of whom were initiated and passed at the first meeting, many others being afterwards made, although they were not received as members of the Lodge. The Secretary was the Rev. W. Peters, who, as already stated, was one of His Royal Highness's Chaplains.

The first list of members supplied to Grand Lodge, dated 10th May, 1788, is in Peters' own handwriting, and is, I believe, an unique return, the "Remarks" column being especially amusing. For instance:—

"Francis Broderif 37 Musical Instrument maker Haymarket.
'A good jolly fellow.'

"William Dickenson 34 Engraver Bond St. 'A well looking dark man.'

"John Hickey Sculptor. 'A very genteel young man.'

"George Saunders Carpenter. 'A smart dapper lad.'

"Henry Holland Architect. 'A comely man.'

"Thos. Ogle 40 Surgeon to the Prince of Wales. 'Very well—not too tall.'

"Thos. Hammersley 41 Banker, Pall Mall. 'Much the gentleman, but go not near him with forged drafts.'

"Wm. Addington 50 Justice of the Peace. 'Visit him not in Bow Street.'

"Arthur Robinson 45 gentleman, Pall Mall. 'Very well.'

"Thos. Dunckerley 63 gentleman, Hampton Court. 'Something royal about him.'

"J. J. Pritchard Attorney-at-law, Doctors Commons. 'Beware of the Law.'"

The Prince of Wales, afterwards George IV., presided over this Lodge until 1820, being followed by three of his brothers, and in 1874 by his great-nephew, our present Most Worshipful Grand Master.

The same year (1787) saw the Rev. William Peters a beneficed Clergyman in the Diocese of Lincoln, being instituted to the Rectory of Scalford, in Leicestershire, on the 19th May. Whether or not our rev. brother had previously laboured in any other diocese I am unable to state.

The Episcopal Register at Lincoln shows him to have been as fortunate in his ecclesiastical as in his art career. Even in those good old plurality times, three rectories, a vicarage, and a couple of prebend's stalls would doubtless be thought a fair proportion of the loaves and fishes. The ecclesiastical conscience is at times wonderfully elastic, reaping where they had not sown being by no means an exceptional occurrence amongst the higher ranks of the cloth. In addition to the Rectory of Scalford, Peters was instituted to the Rectory of Knipton 25th June, 1788, and again 30th Oct., 1795; the Rectory of Woolstrop (Woolsthorpe) 30th Oct., 1788, and again on April 26th, 1796; Vicar of Eaton 10th Sept., 1795; and Prebend of St. Mary Crackpool in Lincoln Cathedral 8th July, 1791, resigning this for the more valuable stall of Langford Ecclesia 11th June, 1795. A pretty good record, Art thus being the handmaid of religion in a material as well as a spiritual sense.

The second institution to the two rectories is, I believe, accounted for by the law at that time prohibiting the holder of a rich living from accepting a poor one, but allowing the holder of the poor living to accept a richer one. The temporary resignation just kept the letter of the law, the spirit being utterly ignored. It should, however, be remembered that many of the benefices were extremely poor at this time. In all this scheming Peters only followed the almost universal custom of the day, the Mother Church of Lincoln setting one of the worst examples. It is satisfactory to find the Rector faithfully fulfilling his parochial duties, and transferring to his new sphere of work the same conscientious energy which had distinguished him in his secular pursuits.

The entries in the Parish Registers of Woolsthorpe and Knipton (contiguous places) from 1790 to the beginning of 1808 are almost invariably signed by W. Peters, and those of the latter occasionally till his death in 1814. The Woolsthorpe Register records on June 12th, 1792, the burial "in the inner south east angle of the Chancel in the

old ruined Church of this Parish" of Elizabeth, infant daughter of the Rev. Wm. Peters, of this parish, and Margaret Hannah his wife.

The fact of Peters having become resident in Lincolnshire appears to have suggested to the Prince of Wales, G.M., another means of showing his appreciation of the munificent gifts and services rendered to the craft by his Chaplain.

The Rev. Wm. Peters was accordingly nominated the first Prov. G. Master for Lincolnshire.

The appointment was no doubt offered and accepted with great mutual satisfaction, Peters naturally being gratified at another mark of his august patron's favour, whilst the Prince on his part would get much credit for the selection.

The new P.G.M. was masonically well fitted for the post. His professional reputation and high moral character were calculated to create a favourable impression concerning the craft among the outside world, and Grand Lodge by the selection would in a distant county have a strong and loyal supporter of its interests and dignity, an important consideration in the then divided state of masonic authority.

About this time Peters' name also appears as the Deputy of Bro. Thomas Boothby Parkyns, P.G.M. of Derby, Notts., Rutland, and Leicester, though probably his superintendence did not extend outside the county of Leicester.

On the 3rd of January, 1793, the St. John's Lodge at Leicester (then, I believe, the only one in the county under the Grand Lodge of England) sent a letter to Bro. Peters "expressive of the satisfaction this Lodge feels at the appointment, and of their hopes of being frequently honoured with his attendance and assistance." Their hopes of a frequent attendance were never realized. Peters presided over the first meeting of P.G.L. on the 18th of June following, that so far the St. John's Lodge is concerned being his last appearance.

The Lincolnshire Prov. records show scarcely any attendance on the part of the P.G.M., ordinary and routine

business matters, as was then the custom, being left almost entirely to the Deputy. The Rev. Matthew Barnett was appointed D.P.G.M. in 1793, and continued in office, excepting 1795-6, for forty years. Barnett was an enthusiastic and energetic mason, well up in the craft, and fully capable of presiding over and managing the affairs of the Province. In 1793 the warrant founding the Witham Lodge was granted and signed by William Peters as P.G.M., the Urania, at Brigg, having been issued the year previous, probably by the same authority. After granting the charter the P.G. Master's duties apparently ended, the presence of no Provincial Grand Officer being recorded either at the opening or consecration of the Witham Lodge. The Witham minutes record a very rare instance of a Provincial Grand Master "making a Mason at sight," a privilege generally supposed to be restricted to the Grand Master.

On June 13th, 1796, the P.G.M. called a Lodge of Emergency, and made the following entry in the minute book:—

"For divers causes us hereunto moving, we do by these presents dispence with the usual previous notice of Initiating, & we do permit the Reverend William Gray of the Cathedral Church of Lincoln to be initiated into these mysteries at this Lodge.

"(Signed) William Peters
"Grand Master of the County of Lincoln."

This and a previous visit in 1794 are the only occasions where I find him personally presiding over the Lincoln brethren.

Peters died at Brashed Place, Sevenoaks, Kent, on the 20th March, 1814, having gone there for the benefit of his health.

A considerable quantity of the masonic correspondence of the Rev. W. Peters is now in possession of P.G.L.

These letters, some of which are made use of in the present work, indicate the writer as a man of strong personal character, giving homage where due, and requiring the same

from others. Although he rarely personally presided in P.G.L. after the first meeting, yet he through the D.P.G.M. directed the affairs for many years, and one gathers from the letters that had health permitted he would have attended on many occasions.

WILLIAM HENRY WHITE.

After the death of the Rev. W. Peters the Duke of Sussex appointed William Henry White as nominal ruler over the Province of Lincolnshire. What this brother's qualification was, or why an entire stranger to the county should be selected for the office, does not now appear, as, has been already noted, the business of the Province had for many years as regards personal attendance been conducted by the D.P.G.M. This indeed at that time was almost the usual custom throughout the country, the Prov. G. Master's duties being deemed at an end with the appointment of an efficient Deputy; a notable exception being that most excellent mason Thomas Dunckerley, whose superintendence of half-a-dozen Provinces was marked by such energy and zeal that has been rarely equalled. The authority deputed to Barnett appears to have been absolute. Indeed, so far as the Provincial records show, Bro. White was never installed, never attended a meeting, and never interfered or took any interest whatever in the Province. Barnett is frequently styled Acting Prov. G. Master, and I have not come across anything to show that he gave or was required to give any account of his stewardship. White's name only occurs once in P.G.L. records, when "Bro. C. Tennyson was installed P.G.M. vice W. H. White deceased."

Dr. Oliver, in one of his latest addresses, says, "Neither Bro. Peters nor Bro. White ever held a Provincial Lodge in my time." Oliver of course would derive his knowledge of White from Barnett, but he appears to have thought the appointment of so little consequence as to never refer to him again. Bro. Lucas, the late P.G. Secretary, who was

very intimate with the Doctor, and frequently discussed the affairs of the Province with him, seems to ignore the appointment altogether, as he marks the office between the years 1814-26 "vacant."

By a very curious coincidence the name of the Grand Secretary at that date was William Henry White; this similarity of names naturally suggested the idea that the Grand Secretary and the Lincolnshire P.G.M. were the same person.

No doubt this idea was strengthened by the modern custom of placing a vacant Province under the control of the Grand Registrar, this latter office being of comparative modern date, and instituted to relieve the Secretary of some of his duties. The opinion as to the identity of the G.S. with the Lincolnshire P.G.M. was held by our late Bro. Colonel Shadwell Clerke until a short time before his lamented decease

Brother Henry Sadler, Sub-Librarian at Grand Lodge, with his ever ready kindness and courtesy, has gone into the matter very thoroughly, and his account of these two masonic Dromios, W. H. White, G.S., and W. H. White, P.G.M., is so very interesting and to the point that I quote *in extenso* :—

"During the years 1811-12-13-14-15 both these brethren were in Grand Lodge at the same meetings; one as the R.W. W. H. White Esqr. Prov. G. Master and the other as Mr. W. H. White G.S. *Our* W. H. White was initiated in the Emulation Lodge (present No. 21) 15th April 1799 age 22 Attorney—Artillery Place; Master of his Lodge in 1801 and Grand Steward in 1805. He was also a member of several other well known and highly respectable lodges in the Metropolis, appointed joint Grand Secretary with his Father in 1810, and Grand Secretary from 1813 to 1857. He was exalted in the St. James's Chapter, then No. 60, in 1811; and another curious coincidence is, that *your* man was also exalted in that Chapter thirteen years earlier.

"William Henry White Gentn. was initiated in the Lodge of Regularity No. 130 (present No. 91) 23rd of March 1791. Address, Northampton. Grand Steward in

1809. Appointed Prov. G. Master of Westmoreland, by Patent dated 8th May 1811. Sometime in 1813 he appears to have been appointed P.G.M. for Wiltshire and was present in Grand Lodge under that title on the 1st of Dec. 1813, when an important meeting took place to ratify the Proceedings of the two Grand Lodges, and to confirm the Articles of Union.

"In the Official Calendar for 1814—printed in 1813—he is also described as P.G.M. for Wiltshire but Westmoreland is omitted. Against his name is written 'transferred,' I think in the handwriting of *our* W. H. White.

This probably meant that he was transferred to Lincolnshire, for in the Grand Secretary's Calendar for the year 1815 (printed in 1814) he is Prov. G.M. of Lincolnshire; and Wiltshire is omitted.

"In the register of St. James's Chapter No. 60 (present No. 2) appears the name of 'Capt. White' exalted 11th June 1798, and against it in Pencil is written 'Wm. Henry' undoubtedly in the handwriting of *our* White, who had nothing to do with these R.A. registers until he was appointed Grand Recorder in 1812 when probably examining the list of members of his own Chapter and having an intimate knowledge of the person referred to, he added the Christian names. *Your* man was appointed (or elected) Prov. G. Superintendent for Notts. 4th March 1806, Lincoln 7th April 1807, and in the minutes of Grand Chapter 10th Dec., 1811, he is described as Gd. Superintendent for Wilts., Notts., and Lincoln. This probably will account for his subsequent appointment as P.G.M. for two of these provinces. The minutes of Grand Chapter 30th April 1803 have the following—'Proposed as an associated member of the Grand Chapter, Wm. Henry White Esq. of Parliament Place and of St. James's Chapter.'

"*Our* man visited the Grand Chapter for the first time on the 2nd April 1811, directly after he was exalted (14th March 1811); *your* man was present at the time also. On the 18th June following he was appointed Gd. Standard Bearer, and in 1812 Grand Recorder. They were both frequently in Grand Chapter at the same time, one as Grand Superintendent the other as Standard Bearer or Recorder."

From the letter written by Bro. Barnett to the Grand Secretary in 1820, given in the Prov. records under that

year, we learn that Bro. White had then left the country ; the reasons for his going apparently were well known, as Barnett expresses the opinion that he would never return.

Charles Tennyson was appointed to the office in 1826, and in 1832 it is recorded that he was installed into the office of P.G.M., vacant by the death of Bro. W. H. White.

THE RIGHT HON. CHARLES TENNYSON-D'EYNCOURT.

The Rev. Matthew Barnett's letter to the Grand Secretary suggesting the name of Charles Tennyson, Esq., M.P. for Grimsby, as a "proper person" to be appointed Prov. Grand Master for Lincolnshire, together with the official appointment of that gentleman to the post, are given in the records of Prov. G. Lodge.

The new P.G.M. was a Lincolnshire man, the son of George Tennyson, Esq., of Bayons Manor, near Market Rasen. He studied at Trinity College, Cambridge, and graduated B.A. in 1805, and in the following year was called to the Bar. Mr. Tennyson commenced a very distinguished Parliamentary career in 1818 as member for Grimsby, representing that constituency till 1826. He took up the cause of Constitutional Reform with remarkable energy and success. An eloquent and fluent speaker, of excellent voice, he quickly made his mark in the fierce political warfare of the pre-reform period. He strenuously supported the cause of Queen Caroline, published a pamphlet on her case, and in a remarkable speech in the House of Commons urged the restoration of her name to the Liturgy. His first great stroke for Parliamentary reform was the introduction of a bill to disfranchise the then notorious borough of East Retford and transfer the representation to Birmingham. This debate, which was protracted through four sessions, caused such a split in the House as paved the way in a great measure for the introduction of Lord John Russell's famous Reform Bill.

In 1826 Mr. Tennyson was returned for Bletchingley, a pocket-borough of a relative.

In 1830 he pluckily contested, unsuccessfully, the borough of Stamford, in opposition to the influence of the Marquis of Exeter, but was triumphantly returned the following year after a very severe contest.

The amount of money spent over these two elections was said to be enormous, and political feeling ran so high as to cause a duel between Mr. Tennyson and Lord Robert Cecil, Lord Exeter's brother.

The result of the Stamford election was hailed with delight by the Reform Party, who thus saw one of their champions returned for a seat almost deemed impregnable.

At the next general election Mr. Tennyson was returned for the new Metropolitan Borough of Lambeth, and continued its representative for twenty years.

His subsequent Parliamentary exertions were principally devoted to a repeal of the Septennial Act. In this, however, he failed, though several close divisions occurred.

Mr. Tennyson was sworn a Privy Councillor in 1832, and in 1835, in compliance with the will of his father, he assumed the additional surname of D'Eyncourt, an ancient Lincolnshire barony. About this time, also, he was on very friendly terms with the Duke of Sussex, and was appointed one of His Royal Highness' Equerries.

In 1852 the Rt. Hon. Gentleman was, owing to purely local causes, defeated at Lambeth by a majority of 193, and retired into private life. Throughout the whole of his Parliamentary career Mr. D'Eyncourt appears to have been thoroughly consistent in his political principles. He was popularly known as "The Radical Member for Lambeth," and to the last advocated those opinions which many of his contemporaries in the contest were content to drop and to "rest and be thankful."

A magnificent vase, of the value of 400 guineas, was presented to him by his political friends, as a mark of their gratitude and esteem.

The vase, a beautiful work of art, bears the following inscription :—

“ Presented on the 22nd June 1853
by the Electors of the Metropolitan Borough of Lambeth
to the Rt. Honourable Charles Tennyson-D'Eyncourt
Their representative for twenty years in the first five
parliaments after their enfranchisement in 1832.
A Tribute of affectionate attachment and esteem for
his private worth, of respect for his patriotic and
independent character, and of gratitude for his able
consistent and faithful services in the cause of civil,
religious and commercial freedom, throughout a
parliamentary career of thirty four years.”

Brother D'Eyncourt's masonic career appears in the records of P.G.L. and in the memoir of Dr. Oliver.

His speeches on the rare occasions when he presided at P.G.L. were eloquent and interesting.

One feels bound to believe that the action in the Crucifix-Oliver business was owing in a great measure to his position in the Duke's establishment, and that our Right Worshipful Brother would have made a most excellent Prov. G. Master had he, in the words of the Old Charge, “been resolved against all politics, as what never yet conducted to the welfare of the Craft and never will.”

The Right Hon. Charles Tennyson-D'Eyncourt died in London, after a brief illness, at the residence of his son-in-law, Mr. J. H. Palmer, Q.C., on July 12th, 1861.

THE EARL OF YARBOROUGH.

Charles Anderson Worsley Pelham, 2nd Earl of Yarborough, was born April 9th, 1809.

He commenced an active public life at an early age.

In 1831, when in his 22nd year, being then the Hon. Charles Anderson Worsley Pelham, he was elected Member for Lincolnshire, with Sir W. Ingilby, Chas. Chaplin, Esq., of Blankney, the previous colleague of Sir W. Ingilby, not contesting the seat.

In 1832, after the passing of the Reform Bill, when the representation of the county was increased, and two members apportioned to each division, the Hon. Mr. Pelham and Sir W. Ingilby became candidates for the North Division, and were opposed by Sir R. Sheffield. Mr. Pelham obtained an immense majority. He was returned again in 1835, and also in 1837, having then become Lord Worsley, on the elevation of his father to the earldom. On the death of the first Earl, who was Prov. G. Master for the Isle of Wight* from 1826 to his death in 1846, Lord Worsley was called to the Upper House, after having represented the county fifteen years. During the whole of this time he was eminently a working member, and a more earnest county representative than Lord Worsley probably never sat in Parliament.

He undertook the arduous task of introducing and carrying through the House of Commons the Inclosure Bill, a measure which is still known as Lord Worsley's Act.

In 1847, the year after the right hon. gentleman was raised to the Upper House, a magnificent piece of plate, weighing 1,400 ounces, together with an address signed by 2,200 of his late constituents, were presented to him, as an expression of their appreciation of his services and upright conduct during the fifteen years he had been their representative.

His Lordship was appointed Vice-Admiral of the Coast of Lincolnshire in 1854, and Lord Lieutenant of the county in 1857. He married, in Dec., 1831, the Hon. Marie Adelaide Maude, second daughter of Viscount Hawarden.

Our noble brother (then Lord Worsley) was initiated into the craft in the Prince of Wales' Lodge (No. 324) in Feb., 1837, and was exalted in the same Chapter the following year.

In 1843 he joined the Royal Alpha Lodge, in 1846 the Witham Lodge, Lincoln, and the Medina, Cowes,

* The Earl gave a handsome subscription towards the cost of our Provincial jewels. See Louth meeting of P.G.L., 1834.

Isle of Wight ; in 1848 the Chapter of Concord, Lincoln ; in 1851 the Social Lodge, Manchester ; in 1856 the Royal York Lodge, Brighton, and in 1860 assisted in establishing the Yarborough Lodge, No. 1113 (now 811), in the same town. In 1846 his Lordship was appointed Deputy Grand Master of England, becoming in virtue of that office Grand H. of the Grand Chapter, and March 9th, 1849, he was appointed to rule over the Province of Lincolnshire.

The noble Earl was a Trustee of both funds of The Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows. In addition to a liberal support of the Central Masonic and other Charities, his Lordship's purse was always open to relieve real distress, and the various Lodges of which he was a member were used as a means to enable him to practice this great principle of the Order.

The death of the noble Earl took place at Brighton on Jan. 7th, 1862, after a protracted illness, the result of a paralytic seizure some years previous.

Lord Yarborough's successor in the Province was

WILLIAM AUBREY AURELIUS DE VERE BEAUCLERK,
tenth DUKE OF ST. ALBAN'S,

of Redbourne, Lincolnshire, and Bestwood, Notts. His Grace was installed Prov. G. Master at Lincoln 29th April, 1862, and filled the office for about sixteen years. On the death of the Duke of Newcastle, Prov. G. Master for Notts., the Duke of St. Albans was transferred from the Province of Lincolnshire to that of Nottinghamshire, over which he still presides.

WILLIAM HENRY SMYTH,
of Elkington Hall, Louth, our present Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, was initiated in the Scientific Lodge, Cambridge, Feb. 13th, 1845 ; exalted in the Royal York Chapter of Perseverance, Feb. 23, 1847, and joined the Middlesex Lodge same year. Towards the close of

1860 Bro. Smyth joined the Lindsey Lodge, and filled both Wardens' and the Master's chairs in due course. He was also one of the Founders and first Z. of the Oliver Chapter; the latter office he again filled in 1868. On the formation of the R. A. Province of Lincolnshire Comp. Smyth was by patent dated 25th March, 1875, appointed Grand Superintendent. Our Right Worshipful Brother's connection with P.G. Lodge commenced in 1863 by his appointment as Senior Warden. In the following year he was appointed Dep. P.G. Master in the room of Bro. R. S. Harvey, resigned, and Provincial Grand Master by patent dated April 1, 1878. Bro. Smyth has also taken several of the additional degrees of masonry.

It is recorded in the life of an early Grand Master of the craft (Sir Christopher Wren), that a visitor to St. Paul's asked to be shown the Architect's monument, and was told to look around. In like manner the flourishing condition of the Craft in Lincolnshire demonstrates the zeal and care of its venerated chief.

By a happy coincidence, the first Provincial Charity of One Thousand Guineas was announced as completed on the day our Right Worshipful Brother was installed. On the stone laid that day a superstructure has been raised, alike creditable to the craft and the Province, and which will be a lasting honour to the builders when time with them shall be no more.

LODGES FORMED SINCE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

THE URANIA, AT BRIGG ;
THE SAINT JAMES, AT LOUTH ;
THE APOLLO, AT GRIMSBY ; }

Warrant No. 510.

The first Lodge formed in the new Province was the Urania, warranted at the Angel Inn, Glamford Briggs, 20th October, 1792.

In the first return to Grand Lodge the following brethren are styled "Institutors of the Lodge" :—

Richard Nicholson, Attorney, Brigg.

Thomas Parkinson, Innholder, Brigg.

Michael Atkinson, Attorney, Kirton Lindsey.

Richard Nicholson was initiated, together with several from Barton, in the Minerva Lodge, Hull, 11th Oct., 1786.

He was appointed P.G. Steward in 1793, and Prov. G.J. Warden the year following.

Thomas Parkinson and Joseph Goodwin were initiated in the Saint Matthew's Lodge, Barton, in 1791.

Parkinson, doubtless the landlord of the Angel, was Prov. G. Steward in 1794.

The Witham records state that Michael Atkinson joined that Lodge in 1800. He was P.G. Steward and Secretary for several years. In 1803 his name appears in the *Gazette* as being appointed Master Extraordinary in the High Court of Chancery.

The choice of the name Urania would probably be influenced by the Minerva brethren, who were then a very flourishing and speculative Lodge.

Eight members of the Urania are noted as attending the Provincial meeting at Gainsborough in 1794.

In the following year the unfortunate marriage of the Prince of Wales with the Princess Caroline took place.

The Prov. G. Master, the Rev. W. Peters, as might be expected, considered this a favourable opportunity to do honour to the new Lodge, and at the same time express his loyalty and devotion to his august patron.

The notice convening P.G.L. was as follows:—

“Most Ancient and Honorable Society of Free & Accepted Masons.

“A Grand Feast of the Provincial Grand Officers and Brethren of this Masonic Society will be held at the Angel Inn Brigg on Friday the Eight day of May 1795 to celebrate the Nuptials of his Royal Highness George Prince of Wales Grand Master of Masons with a Princess of the Illustrious House of Brunswick.

“The Brethren are requested to assemble at the Angel Inn by Eleven o'clock in the Morning to proceed to Church where a Sermon will be preached by Brother G. Marris.

“The Company of every Brother that can make it convenient to attend will be esteemed a favour.

“Dinner to be on the table at Two o'clock precisely.

“By the Command of the Rev. William Peters Provincial Grand Master (acting under the authority of the Prince) for the County of Lincoln.

“William Benton P.G.S.”

Unfortunately no account of this interesting meeting is forthcoming save the short notice in P.G.L. record, viz. :—

“The Brethren wearing cockades in their hats, went in procession to the Chapel at Brigg where a Sermon was preached by Bro. Rev. G. Marris; and after their return dined together.”

The Rev. George Marris, of Croxton, was Provincial Treasurer for several years.

The condition of the county generally at the close of the last and early years of the present century was not conducive to the spread of masonry. It was a period of great scarcity and distress—wheat at one time up to nearly £9 per quarter, and the quartern loaf sold at 1s. 10d. Added

to this was the fear of foreign invasion by Bonaparte. Almost all the able-bodied men of the country were under military training, either as militia or volunteers.

Each parish was under the necessity of finding men for the militia, a bounty in some cases of £30 being offered for a substitute. Very strong bodies of volunteers were raised in every division of Lincolnshire. The "North Lincolnshire Legion" had their headquarters at Brigg, Lord Yarborough being in command, and Richard Nicholson having the management of the finances, &c.

The names of nearly all the officers of P.G.L. appear on the several rolls, not only as subscribing handsomely, but many also giving personal service.

It is very probable that this state of affairs may have been in a great measure the cause of the decline of the Craft in Brigg.

At the meeting of Prov. G. Lodge held at Lincoln in August, 1795, the Urania was represented, this, so far as the records show, being the last appearance.

As seen in the annals of that body, no meeting was apparently held between 1796 and 1804. During this interval, negotiations for removing the Lodge from Brigg to Louth took place.

In 1803 notice was returned to Grand Lodge of Warrant 510 being transferred to the New King's Head, Louth, and styled the Saint James' Lodge (after the patron saint of the parish church).

These removals were by no means uncommon at the time, Grand Lodge authorities apparently not troubling so long as the returns were regularly made.

A warrant was in many cases considered as an appendage to the inn, the landlord (generally having a vested interest in the document) occasionally selling it if the Lodge got hopelessly in arrears or ceased meeting.

The earliest mention we have in the Province of the St. James' Lodge is a Witham minute of 1803:—

“Resolved that a Congratulatory letter be addressed to the Master of the St. James Lodge at Louth, expressing our wish to assist the Lodge as far as we have ability.”

The following notice was inserted in the *Mercury*:—

“Freemasonry.

“The Friends of Freemasonry are informed that the Meeting of the St. James' Lodge (No. 510) is to be holden at the New King's Head Louth Lincolnshire on the Tuesday nearest the full Moon.

“Thos. Orme R.W.M. and P.G.C.

“C. M. Clarke M.D.—S.W.

“S. C. Pettener Warden of Louth J.W.

“January 17th 1804.”

The Rev. THOMAS ORME, D.D., F.S.A., Vicar of Barholm, was appointed Head Master of Louth Grammar School in 1796, having previously occupied a similar position at Oakham.

He was collated to the Prebendal Stall of Louth in Lincoln Cathedral by the Bishop in 1801.

Doctor Orme was an excellent Mason, and took an energetic part in the affairs of the Province.

He was installed Prov. G. Chaplain at the Louth meeting in 1804, and is recorded as preaching at every subsequent meeting of P.G.L. up to the time of his death. The fact of these meetings being held at Lincoln, Gainsborough, Boston, Barton, and Grimsby, places entailing a tedious journey for a person of three score years, testifies to the zeal and interest felt for the order by our Provincial Grand Chaplain.

Doctor Orme died 20th October, 1814, in his 70th year, and was buried under the altar of Louth Church.

A mural tablet to his memory, erected by his pupils, is just within the altar rails. The monument had originally masonic emblems on it, but these disappeared somewhat mysteriously between thirty and forty years ago.

C. M. CLARKE, M.D., was a leading man in the town and neighbourhood. He was in command of the local Volunteers, of whom it is recorded, that, soon after formation, they attended Divine Service at Louth Church, and after a sermon had been preached to them by Doctor Orme, the men advanced to the chancel and took the Oath of Allegiance.

Bro. Clarke was Prov. Warden in 1806.

S. C. PETTENER was a Surgeon in Louth.

"Warden of Louth" was the title of the head of the Warden and six Assistants of the Free Grammar School of King Edward VI. in Louth, which body, up to the passing of the Municipal Reform Act, was also the governing body of the town, so that the Warden's office corresponded with that of the present Mayor, plus his school functions. Bro. Pettener's name is among the Prov. Stewards for 1804.

Warrant No. 510 does not appear to have been more successful at Louth than Brigg. The St. James' Lodge was represented at the Boston Provincial Meeting in 1809, but between that time and the next meeting (1813) arrangements had been made for another removal.

No clue is given as to the decadence of the Lodge, unless it be the death of the landlord of the King's Head, Bro. Wolfe, who is said (on the authority of the late Bro. Blakelock) to have been buried with masonic honours. It is not unlikely that he may have had a vested interest in the effects of the Lodge. In any case the furniture, &c., were sold, the purchaser being George Oliver, Head Master of the Grammar School, Grimsby.

The removal of the Warrant to Grimsby was notified to Grand Lodge in 1811, the name being changed to "The Apollo," thus again reverting to its Minerva origin.

The foundation of a new hall was laid in 1812, and its formal dedication was deemed by the Prov. G. Master as a fitting occasion to call a Lodge and celebrate the annual Grand Feast.

At this Dedication Festival, which was held Aug. 12th, 1813, George Oliver, Master of the Apollo Lodge, was appointed Prov. G. Steward, and thus commenced a connection with Lincolnshire Provincial Masonry which continued for over half a century.

A Provincial Stewardship in the early days of Grand Lodge, seems to have been considered the highest honour.

The following letter (probably the last) written by the Rev. W. Peters, P.G.M., to his Deputy, the Rev. M. Barnett, is interesting as showing the beginning of Doctor Oliver's career in the councils of the Province. It is headed:—

“Brashed Place Sevenoaks Kent July 1st 1813.

“ Taking for granted that the Apollo Lodge (which name however I have no recollection of having heard of before) will nominate two respectable men to be their Stewards at the ensuing festival, I should be glad to add to their consequence by giving them the rank of Grand Steward on the morning of the Feast that they may be then invested with that Honour by you in my name—you will be pleased to make this known to the brethren that they may transmit to you their names and be prepared for Investiture. . . . I am sorry my health has obliged me for the present to breathe a more southerly air than Knipton, and fear I shall not be at Knipton this summer.

“I should have been happy to have presided on the 12th of August. Be pleased however to give the brethren my most affectionate Love, with every good wish of health to the Members and Prosperity to the Lodge.”

Bro. Oliver, when reporting his preparations for the Feast to the D.P.G.M., thus writes:—

“The honor you are about to confer on two of our Brethren by investing us with the Red Apron, merits a return of thanks greater than it is in my power to find words to express; and the only method by which we can return the obligation is by supporting the respectability of Masonry in such a manner that this Lodge may prove creditable to the Craft in general & to you its principal governor & the rest of the Grand Officers in particular.

"Myself & my S.W. (Bro. Parker) who are appointed to accept of that honor, have provided ourselves with Aprons for the occasion.

"As I presume you will arrive at Grimsby on the evening preceding the Festival, I hope you will favour me so far as to take a Bed at my House, there being one entirely at your service.

"I am Dr. Sir

"To Rev. M. Barnett "Your hbl. Servt. & Bro.

"D.P.G.M. for the "Geo. Oliver R.W.M.

"County of Lincoln. "of the Apollo Lodge."

The Apollo under Bro. Oliver's guidance at once entered on a most successful career, having at one time ninety members on its books.

Strange to say, our worthy brother up to this time (as will be seen from the following letter) had never been registered in Grand Lodge:—

"Freemasons Hall

"3rd Aug. 1819.

"Bro. the Rev. George Oliver, who was initiated in your Lodge about the year 1802-1803 having applied for a Grand Lodge Certificate, it has been found, upon examining the Books of the Grand Lodge that his name has never been returned for registry by your Lodge.

"This neglect on your part has been communicated to Board of General Purposes, and we are directed by that Board to require, that you will immediately register the Name of that Brother or of any other which may have been neglected to be transmitted for that purpose.

"The Master of 605

"We are &c.

"St. Peters Peterborough."

The Apollo was regularly represented at the Provincial meetings up to 1825. At the next meeting held in Lincoln November, 1832, the Lodge is not mentioned. Its last payment to Grand Lodge was made in 1829, the brethren then meeting in the Bull Ring. The following letter to the Grand Secretary, shows about the time the Lodge would leave its private room.

" Grimsby Apr. 24 1829.

" My dear Sir & Brother

" Having an opportunity of forwarding a Letter by a Friend, I write to thank you for your candid opinion on the subject of my enquiry, which as you desire it shall be strictly confidential. I should be glad however to know, before the ensuing Lodge night (Tuesday May 5th) whether you think it probable that the Grand Lodge will sanction the Billiard Room as the legitimate place of meeting for the Apollo Lodge.

" I may further observe that the Room is regularly open for Billiards at all times except the hours when the Lodge actually meets, and this has already caused many reflections derogatory to the purity of the Institution.

" I am Dear Sir

" Your faithful Brother

" E. Harper Esq."

" Geo. Oliver.

In 1833 the furniture of the Lodge was sold by auction. Some portion of it again reverted to Louth, having been purchased for the newly-formed Lindsey Lodge.

In 1834 Doctor Oliver returned the warrant to Grand Lodge, and the Apollo was erased from the roll in the following year.

Several relics of the Apollo now adorn the hall of the present Pelham Pillar Lodge at Grimsby.

Amongst these is a tablet formerly over the chimney-piece in the old hall, and which bears the following inscription:—

" This building erected for a Lodge, dedicated to Masonry on the Festival of St. John the Evangelist A.D. 1812. Bro. Geo. Oliver R.W.M.; Geo. Parker S.W.; T. Travis J.W.; W. Piercy P.M. This stone, a part of the Temple of Apollo at Delos, was brought and presented to the Lodge by Bro. Potter."

THE WITHAM LODGE, LINCOLN.

At the Prov. G. Lodge held at Barton-on-Humber in 1793 it was agreed that "The next Grand Feast be held 12th Aug. 1794 at Gainsborough, unless a Lodge should be formed before that period in the County Town and City of Lincoln."

The warrant of the Witham Lodge I have transcribed verbatim, as, in addition to founding what is now the senior Lodge of the Province, it is interesting as being granted by the Provincial Grand Master, an exercise of the authority allotted to the office at its formation :—

"William Peters P.G.M.

Seal.

"No. 530. "To all and every Our Right Worshipful, Worshipful & loving Brethren. We, The Reverend William Peters, LL.B. Rector of Woolsthorp in the County of Lincoln, & of Knipton in the County of Leicester, Prebendary of Lincoln, Chaplain to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales &c. Provl. Grand Master for the County of Lincoln, Acting under the Authority of His said Royal Highness Grand Master of the Most Ancient & Honorable Society of Free & Accepted Masons, send Greeting.

"~~Know Ye~~—That We, at the humble Petition of our right Trusty and well beloved Brethren, John Bullen, John Langwith, James Simpson, Thomas Grey, Myrton Hamilton, John Peacock, Robert Robinson, John Scott, John Beckett, James Eachus, Thomas Browne, and several other Brethren residing in or near the City of Lincoln, Do hereby Constitute the said Brethren into a regular Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons (under the Title or Denomination of the Witham Lodge) to be opened at a House known by the Name of the Rein Deer Inn, in the City of Lincoln. And do further at their said Petition and of the great trust and confidence reposed in every of the above named Brethren, hereby appoint the said John Bullen to be Master, Thomas Browne Senior Warden and James Simpson Junior Warden for

opening the said Lodge and for such further time only as shall be thought proper by the Brethren thereof; It being our will that this our appointment of the above Officers shall in no wise affect any future Election of Officers of the Lodge, but that such Elections shall be regulated agreeable to such Bye Laws of the said Lodge as shall be consistent with the general Laws of the Society contained in the Book of Constitutions. And we hereby will and require you the said John Bullen to take special Care that all and every the said Brethren are or have been regularly made Masons and that they do observe, perform and keep all the Rules and Orders contained in the said Book of Constitutions. And further that you do from time to time cause to be entered in a Book kept for that purpose an account of your proceedings in the Lodge together with all such Rules, Orders and Regulations as shall be made for the good government of the same, that in no wise you omit once in every Year to send to Us or our Successors Provincial Grand Masters or to the Revd. Matthew Barnett our Deputy Provincial Grand Master or to the Deputy Provincial Grand Master for the time being an Account in Writing of your said Proceedings and Copies of all such Rules, Orders and Regulations as shall be made as aforesaid together with a List of the Members of the Lodge and such a Sum of Money as may suit the circumstances of the Lodge and reasonably be expected towards the Grand Charity. Moreover we hereby will and require you the said John Bullen as soon as conveniently may be to send an Account in Writing of what shall be done by virtue of these Presents.

“Given at London under Our Hand & Seal of Masonry this 23rd Day of September A.L. 5793 A.D. 1793.

“By the Provincial Grand Master's Command

“Witness

“Matthew Barnett D.P.G.M.

“Wm. Benton P.G.S.”

The Rein Deer Inn comprised the whole of the south side of Guildhall Street to Water Lane, and abutted on the High Street to Much Lane.

According to a letter of Thomas Sympton, Clerk of the Works, &c., at the Cathedral, an excellent authority, the Common Chamber in 1741 purchased the old timber building, which they rebuilt “with brick and stone in a grand manner.

It is not yet finished [Sept., 1743] and will cost the City upwards of £2,000. There is one chamber in which the City purposes to have the public feasts which is 63 ft. long 21 ft. wide and 16 ft. high."

The old timber building referred to by Sympson was known as the George Inn. The account given in Nichols's *Royal Progresses*, of King James' visit to Lincoln, says:—"On Wednesday being the second of April [1617], his Majesty did come in his caroché to the Sign of the George by the Stanbowe to see a cocking thear, when he appointed four cocks to be put on the pit together, which made his Majesty very merrie."

The house was afterwards known as the City Arms.

Shops were erected on the site in 1847, that at the corner of High Street is now (1894) transformed into a Bank.

When clearing the ground for erecting the shops many interesting fragments were found of the ancient church of St. Peter ad Placita, which, with its churchyard, stretched far back in a narrow margin from the High Street.

The following brethren became founders of the Witham Lodge:—

Thomas Browne, Brazier.
John Scott, Gentleman.
James Simpson, Watchmaker.
Robert Robinson, jun., Gentleman.
John Peacock, Watchmaker.
John Ray, Gentleman.
Rev. Charles Gordon.
John Bullen, Farmer, Greetwell.

THOMAS BROWNE, an Ironmonger near the Stonebow, took a leading part in the Lodge for several years. He was D.P.G.M. 1795; Sheriff of Lincoln 1796.

JOHN SCOTT was Treasurer of the Witham and Prov. G. Architect for over sixteen years. It is recorded that he resigned the latter office "from great infirmity." He died

in Dec., 1821, and was buried in St. Botolph's with masonic ceremony; fifty-one brethren present. A tablet to his memory is on the wall of the south aisle.

JAMES SIMPSON, Prov. S.G.W., was Treasurer for twelve years and W.M. seven or eight times. He was Sheriff in 1817, and died in 1831.

ROBERT ROBINSON, Jun., appears as the landlord of the Rein Deer.

JOHN PEACOCK, Prov. J.G.W., died in 1804. Brother Peacock and his son Samuel (initiated in 1806) were in office as Secretary or Treasurer for upwards of forty-five years. It is very probable that the preservation of the Lodge records is due in a great measure to this fact.

JOHN RAY (or WRAY) died in London, 1826.

The Rev. CHARLES GORDON was Prebendary of the Cathedral and Vicar of Wellingore; Prov. G. Chaplain and Witham Secretary for several years.

JOHN BULLEN, Prov. G. Sec. 1795, probably identical with the Sheriff of that year. The Bullens took a leading position in the neighbourhood for several years.

The first name recorded after the founders is that of William Bristow, Publican.

In 1803 Bristow kept the Freemasons' Arms, near the Stonebow. "He has lately built very convenient stables near the House and has engaged three large paddocks near to the same for Beasts Sheep &c."

The population of Lincoln about this time was a little over 7,000.

“Witham Lodge No. 530.

“Lodge of Emergency, held at the Rein Deer Inn in the City of Lincoln the 28th September one Thousand seven Hundred & Ninety Three, by Virtue of a Dispensation being granted for that purpose, from our Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master the Revd. Willm. Peters.

“This Lodge being opened in Due Form on the three Degrees, Thos. Browne Master Pro Tempore, John Scott Senior Warden pro tempore, James Simpson Junr. Warden, on a Motion made by the Worshipful Master it was unanimously agreed that the Secretary do prepare and send a Letter (in the Name of the Brethren of the Lodge) to our right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master with our sincere Thanks for his kind attention to the Prayer of our Petition for a Constitution. . . .

“A Lecture from the Chair on the three Degrees, the Lodge clos’d in Harmony and due time with all Honours paid to the Grand.”

A Code of By Laws twenty-four in number was adopted.

“Every member shall behave himself in the Lodge with due decorum and appear therein in decent apparel and proper Cloathing. He shall not curse, swear, offer to lay Wagers, use any lewd or unbecoming language, in derogation of God’s Name, and corruption of good Manners; nor behave himself ludicrously or jestingly while the Lodge is engaged in any thing serious and solemn. He must never appear at the Lodge disguis’d in Liquor. He shall behave himself out of the Lodge, on all occasions as an honest Man, and carefully avoid every action that may bring an Odium upon his Reputation, and reflection upon the Fraternity.”

The initiation fee was £3 8s., and the subscription 5s. per quarter. A subscription of £3 3s. was entered into on Nov. 7th, 1793, and again in the following year, to furnish the Lodge, &c.

Dec. 5, 1793. Brothers Bullen, Simpson, Robinson, and Peacock were Pass’d the Chair by Brother Gibson, of the Corinthian Lodge, Newark. Bro. J. Langwith, from Grantham, was present, and received order to make three masonic candlesticks and a pedestal for the use of the Lodge.

Feb. 6th, 1794. "Our worthy Brother John Scott presented the Lodge with a Large Broad sword as a token of his respect for the Craft."

Notice of the consecration of the Lodge, ordered to be advertized in the *Lincoln Mercury*. Invitations to be sent to all the Lodges in the county and the Corinthian 470.

Saturday, Feb. 22nd, 1794. "In pursuance of the resolutions entered into by the brethren of this Lodge, the advertisements were made, the invitations sent, and the necessary preparations made for consecrating this Lodge, which was accordingly performed in due form by Brother Gibson, of Screveton, (in this county) [*sic*] and other brothers of this Lodge."

Visitors	{	Brother Gibson of Newark 470.
		Wallis ———
		Holt ———
		Atkinson, Urania.
		Parkinson ———
		Bankes ———
		Baxter, Union, Nottm.
		Davies.
		Ogle, 496, North Nottinghamshire.

Brother Wm. Gibson, who was the first Master of the Corinthian Lodge, Newark, was evidently a Mason of note in his day.

The Rev. W. E. Berry, Rector of Screveton, Bingham, Notts., kindly supplies the following from the tombstone (slate) in the churchyard:—

"William Gibson, A. P. G. M. for the County
of Nottingham, R. A. and K.T. St. J.
of J. K. D. O. S. H.

The Remains of Willm. Gibson rest near this place. He departed this life Oct. 20th 1820 in the 82nd year of his age."

The stone is embellished with masonic devices, and is a very early record of the Chivalric Degrees, these being probably taken in the last century.

The letters A.P.G.M. evidently represent Acting Provincial Grand Master for Notts, a position filled for many years in our own Province by the Rev. Matthew Barnett.

Wm. Gibson, gentleman, was about 1790 a member of the Chapter of Justice No. 68, Nottingham (which was for several years under the care of Thomas Dunckerley), Knight Templar of Saint John of Jerusalem, of Palestine, Rhodes, and Malta, H.R.D.M., K.D.S.H. Bro. W. J. Hugan says:—"The 30th deg. of the A. & A. Rite of England (the 18th Rose Croix) previous to 1845 was worked in connection with the K.T. Some Preceptories have conferred them from 1791 till very recently.

March, 1794. Resolved, that the *Freemasons' Magazine*, taken in by this Lodge, be distributed for perusal by the brethren. Thanks sent to Bro. Green, of this city, for the use of his masonic jewels, at the same time requesting the further use of them, and also expressing a wish that he would sometimes favour them with a visit.

Sept. 15, 1794. The Most Worshipful Provincial Grand Master was present, and the Lodge claimed the privilege of holding the annual Grand Feast in Lincoln, as agreed at the first Provincial meeting at Grantham.

The new officers of the Lodge were invested on St. John the Baptist's Day (June 24th). This continued the custom for half a century, when, at the request of the Rev. G. Coltman, D.P.G.M., the installation was changed to the Festival of St. John the Evangelist, Dec. 28th. After the lapse of another half century the Lodge in its wisdom (?) decided it should take place in the latter part of January.

June 13th, 1796. Lodge of Emergency duly opened by the Grand Master.

"For divers causes us hereunto moving we do by these presents dispence with the usual previous notice of Initiating a Person into the Sacred Mysteries of Masonry, & do permit the Reverend William Gray of the Cathedral Church of Lincoln to be initiated into these mysteries at this Lodge.

"William Peters

"Grand Master for the County of Lincoln."

This is the only instance known to me of a P.G.M. "making a Mason at sight."

The Rev. W. Gray was a Vicar Choral of the Cathedral, and also held the livings of Friesthorpe together with those of St. Mary Magdalen and St. Nicholas, Lincoln. Bro. Gray received the second and third degrees at the same meeting. This was frequently the custom for many years.

He was Master of the Lodge in 1800-1, and died in 1826; buried in the Cloisters.

About this time eleven officers of the Essex Fencibles were initiated in the Lodge. The regiment afterwards obtained a charter under the Irish Constitution.

June, 1797. A Senior and Junior Deacon appointed.

Nov., 1797. A subscription for the relief of the widows and families of those unfortunate men who fell in the late engagement with the Dutch Fleet by Admiral Lord Duncan.

April 5, 1798. "The Lodge being opened regularly on the first, second, third Degrees of Masonry & a lecture on each delivered, Bro. Plunkett being present & several Brethren Members of the Witham expressing a wish to be acquainted with the Degree of a Mark-Mason, He, in conjunction with other Brethren previously initiated in that Order did make & acquaint & regularly initiate Brothers Simpson, Caparn & Gray. After which a Lecture was given by Bro. Plunkett. The Lodge was then regularly closed with that peace & harmony characteristic of Men & Masons."

This is, I believe, the only reference in the Province to the Mark degree until recent times.

In 1800 the Master and several brethren attended by invitation the consecration of the new hall of the Rodney Lodge, Hull.

The names of the brethren present at each Lodge are duly recorded in a separate book up to the beginning of 1798. Then the following appears:—

"Tho' the subscribing members have regularly assembled since the first of Feby. '98, but from the Masonic Business having engaged their attention they have not been regularly entered yet their meetings have been very handsomely attended & the business of Masonry well conducted by the Witham Lodge No. 530.

"T. Browne P.D.P.G.M.

"Lincoln May 1st 1800."

1801, March. Samuel Thorold, the Squire of Harmston, received the E.A. and F.C. degrees the same evening. Bro. Thorold was elected R.W.M. in June, 1803, and occupied the chair five years in succession.

He appears to have been highly esteemed by his brethren and fellows, and was again elected to office, but declined to serve. A handsome pair of silver compasses, the gift of Bro. Thorold, are still in regular use in the Lodge.

The taking of the degrees in the Lodge did not confer membership, another proposition being required. No joining fee, except 2s. 6d. for registration.

1801, July. Three brethren were invested with the insignia of Provincial officers, by command of the P.G.Master.

1802. Six brethren "Pass'd the Chair."

A brother apologised to the Lodge for conduct unbecoming a Mason.

1803. Bro. Widdowson presented the Lodge with a very handsome sword.

Resolved that a congratulatory letter be addressed to the Master of the St. James' Lodge at Louth, expressing our wish to assist the Lodge as far as we have ability.

The R.W.M., Bro. Thorold, invested as Prov. G. Junior Warden.

All Master Masons to Pass the Chair on the first opportunity.

1804, June. Bro. Caparn, Secretary, records the attendance of several brethren "Members of the Volunteer

Infantry of Gainsbro' now on permanent duty at Lincoln," and concludes the entry with "God Save the King," to which the Chaplain, Bro. the Rev. J.R. Deacon, adds "Amen."

The Rev. Wm. Gray invested with a Blue Apron as Prov. G. Secretary.

The thanks of the Lodge given to Qr.-Master Scaley, of the 6th Dragoon Guards, for covering the Bible with his umbrella at Bro. Peacock's funeral.

1805. "Proposed that Five Guineas be subscribed out of the Lodge Funds in Aid of the Charitable Institution for Female Children St. George's Fields. Also that the Lodge Cheerfully imbrace the motion of 5s. being paid by every new Initiated Brother towards the same Institution and an Annual Subscription of One Guinea out of the Lodge Funds."

The *Freemasons' Callendar* and the last edition of *Preston* ordered for the Lodge.

1806, March. William Hilton, on the proposition of the Rev. Wm. Gray, was initiated in the Lodge.

Brother HILTON, who afterwards became so famous as a painter, was born in Lincoln in June, 1786, so that he was scarcely twenty years old when he was initiated.

He died in London Dec. 30th, 1839, and was buried in the churchyard of the Savoy.

Some years after his death a monument was placed to his memory immediately under the great east window of the Cathedral, bearing the following inscription:—

"In memory of William Hylton Esq. R.A. one of the most eminent historical painters this Country has produced; he was for many years keeper of the Royal Academy; in which office he was distinguished as well by his private worth as by the honourable and efficient discharge of his public duties."

In 1819 the Lodge paid Bro. Hilton £10 5s. for painting a white satin flag. A portion of this banner is now in the Lodge Room.

1806. The Rev. W. Peters, P.G.M., elected an honorary member.

"Every Master Mason who has not already pass'd the Chair, do go thro' that ceremony on the next Lodge Night."

1808. The meetings postponed for City Election and Burton Hunt Races.

A discussion as to the removal of the Lodge from the Rein Deer. Brother Capp to be tried six months longer.

"Six brethren passed the Chair in Regular form."

Samuel Peacock appointed Secretary, which office he filled, except for a short period, till his death in 1839, rarely missing a meeting.

1809. It was agreed "that a Boat should be engaged & fitted out for the accommodation of the Brethren to go to Boston for the Provincial meeting."

A Benefit Society in connection with the Lodge was established. The monies and fees previously paid to the Cumberland School to be given to the new Benefit Society.

The minutes for the next ten years are missing, the Register, made in 1843, being compiled from an Attendance Book and (probably) a Treasurer's Book. This book records the attendance of many visitors from various parts of England on 6th Dec., 1814, including Bro. Gibson, of Newark, who consecrated the Lodge.

A Lodge every week in April and May, 1815, visitors being frequently "re-obligated."

No entry between March, 1817, and March, 1819.

In the latter year Bro. Peacock, who in the meantime had filled the Wardens' chairs, resumed his post as Secretary, and the attendance and minutes are again carefully recorded.

There were doubtless several other initiations than those recorded in the Register.

The Lodge Register, to which reference has been made, is written on parchment, and contains the names, occupation, and date of brethren initiated or who have joined the

Lodge, and in many cases also records the date of death or removal from the city. It also notes various occurrences connected with the Lodge and Province, some account of Provincial Grand Lodge, and a list of the officers of the Lodge from its foundation. From a note at the commencement we learn that it was written about 1843. No name or initials appear to the note, and it is difficult to say with certainty whose work it is. I am strongly of opinion, after comparing the minute book of about that period, that the Register was written by Brother Robert Goodacre.

It is a work that would be a credit to any one, and is a model of painstaking research and industry.

The Chapter of Concord has a similar work, done in the same handwriting.

About 1814 the meetings were held at the Green Dragon, and in Dec., 1817, the Lodge removed to the room in the White Swan yard.

This room, built, I believe, expressly for the Lodge, was well adapted for the purpose. The minutes convey the impression that the building was owned or leased, Brother Peacock always writing "held in our own private room." It is also recorded that the Lodge afterwards let the room to the landlord of the White Swan.

The Chapter Register records its places of meeting as the King's Arms, August, 1808, and the Green Dragon, 1809. This implies that Bro. Capp was tried and found wanting.

1819. An organ was purchased for £26.

Jan., 1820. A proposition to establish a Catch and Glee Club in connection with the Lodge.

20th April, 1820. "This being the Night prior to the Provincial Grand Lodge, it was thought highly requisite to hold a Lodge for the mutual information of the Brethren from the different Lodges in the County; when the Brethren were assembled the D.P.G.M. entered the Lodge and was rec'd with every demonstration of respect."

Present 20 Witham brethren, 1 Grantham, 3 Newark, 6 Spalding, 2 Sleaford, 2 Hull.

Aug., 1820. A vote of thanks to Bro. P. Jilks, Green Grocer, Carnaby Market, London, "for the very polite manner in which he has always shown himself towards this Lodge in giving to the Brethren the Instruction in Masonry as laid down by the United lodge of Promulgation."

The following account of this famous Masonic Preceptor is extracted from Bro. R. F. Gould's *History*:—

"Peter Gilkes was born May 1 1765 baptized a Catholic and named after the then Lord Petre. By his industry and perseverance he acquired a small property, the interest of which amounted to about nine shillings a day. Upon this he retired from business and devoted himself wholly to Masonry.

"He filled the Chair in nine different Lodges and may be said to have died in harness as the Master of S. Michaels 211. It was his custom to teach gratuitously such brethren as were disposed to attend at his house every day from one o'clock until it was time for him to attend some Lodge or other, where his evenings were generally spent. His fame as Preceptor of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement was widely diffused, but though many times offered the collar of a Grand Officer, he invariably declined, on the plea that his circumstances in life were not equal to the appointment.

"His death occurred Dec. 11 1833.

"Bro. Gilkes was a great smoker, and averaged thirty pipes of tobacco and coltsfoot daily. He generally used the same pipe for three months, and when completely black would present it to some favourite pupil."

Jan. 1, 1822. Bro. Page Cartledge W.M.

An officer of the Lodge was requested to attend more regularly to his duties.

"The W.M. then strongly recommended the necessity of the Brethren appearing neatly and respectably clothed as Masons in order to add dignity and respect to the Eyes of Visitors," &c., &c.

"There being no other business to occupy the attention of the Worshipful Lodge, it was closed in regular order, a Lecture in the Anti Room & the Evening spent in Harmony, all Honor paid to the Grand."

1820. A basket containing a turkey, goose, and pheasant sent as a present, carriage paid, to Bro. Harper, the Grand Secretary. A similar present sent in 1821, 1823, and 1826.

May, 1822. A motion to repair and beautify the walls and ceiling being opposed by the Treasurer, "Bro. J. Ward proposed to give the Lodge credit for the amount for seven years, & if he should die in the time, the debt should die with him."

A brother, after admonition from the W.M., still persisting in his irregular conduct, a ballot was taken as to his expulsion from the Lodge.

Nov., 1822. Brethren attended Bro. Morris' funeral at Spridlington.

The Duke of Sussex's (G. Master) birthday was celebrated at Bro. Slack's, the Globe Inn.

An annual subscription to the Educational Charity.

Feb., 1824. Silver jewels for the Deacons were presented by Bro. Hickson, the W.M.

A brother's arrears excused through long and painful illness.

June, 1824. Bro. Robt. Tate, of the Tuscan Lodge No. 14, London, gave an explanation of the Floor Board of the First Degree.

A vote of thanks to Bro. Jilks for his kind instructions on all occasions to those brothers who have visited him in London.

Feb., 1825. A vote of thanks to Sir Ed. F. Bromhead, Bro. G. Neville, Esq., of Thorney, and Bro. the Rev. F. Glover, of Wispington, for their very handsome present of

game sent to the brethren of the Witham Lodge for their annual dinner to celebrate the birthday of His Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex, M.W.G.M.

August, 1825. Bro. Matthew White, W.M.

A new banner to be provided against the Prov. G. Meeting.

The meeting referred to was held at Boston Sept. 21, when it is recorded—"The display exceeded every former meeting of the kind in Lincolnshire."

Banner painted by Mr. Tuke.*

Bro. Peter Gilkes came to Lincoln and held four Lodges of Instruction in September.

Dec. 12, 1825. Donald Trafford was buried at St. Swithin's with masonic honours; 34 brethren attended.

February, 1827. An address of condolence on the death of the Duke of York sent to King George IV. and the Duke of Sussex.

July, 1827. A subscription of sixteen guineas towards defraying the expenses of a Prov. G. Lodge. The meeting did not take place.

June, 1828. A dispensation from Rev. M. Barnett, D.P.G.M., to enable Bro. Cartledge to occupy the chair for the third successive year; 27 members returned to D.P.G.M.

January, 1830. Brother Jno. Harmston was buried with masonic honours at Waddington.

Bro. Widdowson offered to supply a hearse and chaise, provided the Lodge paid the Post Boys.

Col. Sibthorp, W.M., sent £5 for the widow. Five shillings a week allowed by the Lodge.

Robert Ely Leary, Printer, initiated. In 1866 Bro. Leary published *The Lincoln Date Book*, from which several extracts have been taken for this history.

* Samuel Tuke afterwards attained considerable reputation as a painter. He died in 1857.

July, 1830. The funeral of King George IV. The Lodge accompanied the Corporation to St. Peter's Church.

1831. Brother William Leafe was murdered in the early part of this year. Great sympathy was shown to the widow and family. A grant of £10 from the Benevolent Fund, and an allowance of 5s. per week from the Lodge.

A Charitable Assembly for the benefit of Widow Leafe and family, under the patronage of Mr. Pretymen, the Mayor, Col. Sibthorp, and J. Fardell, Esq., M.P., realized £150. An Amateur Play for the same object added £26.

Sept. 7, 1831. The brethren celebrated the Coronation of William IV. by a dinner at Bro. Weston's. Dinner ticket 3s. each, malt liquors included.

1832. An emergency meeting "to consider the propriety of Petitioning His Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex to call a Provincial Meeting of the County, Bro. Tennyson P.G.M. having been wrote to on that subject but no Answer has been given to the Letter."

Remonstrances and petitions appear to have been sent from all the Lodges in the Province, and the P.G.M. was roused to the necessity of doing something.

1st Nov., 1832. The following letter received from Bro. Barnett, referring to the forthcoming Prov. Meeting:—

"I hope we shall have the use of the Minster, Bro. Tennyson will write to the Dean by this Post; and he thinks that the Lion Hotel will not be quite respectable enough—that if the Duke of Sussex be at Newstead Abbey he will probably attend if he be well enough, as will also Col. Wildman, Lord Yarborough, and perhaps some Brother or Brethren from London. Bro. Tennyson wishes we could dine at the Guildhall, Rein Deer, or Assembly Room Above Hill. Bro. Peacock will of course write to the neighbouring Lodges out of the County to invite them.

March, 1833. Bro. Levi Green resigned his office as Tyler after twenty years' service. Bro. John Hawson appointed in his place. It was resolved to let the large room to the landlord of the White Swan. "According to the present number of the Members the Lodge business might be conducted in the Ante Room."

July. A letter of condolence forwarded to Mrs. Barnett on the death of the D.P.G.M.

December. Captain Stevens was buried with masonic honours at St. Peter's-in-Eastgate.

Sept., 1834. It was proposed and seconded that Bros. Whitehouse, Harvey, Widdowson, and Brown should be Passed the Chair, and each of them having been examined as to his qualification and found competent, each was accordingly installed, and was greeted and saluted in ancient form.

This is the last recorded instance of brethren "passing the chair." Though not absolutely essential, the degree of P.M. was required by some R.A. Chapters previous to exaltation. This custom of "passing the chair" might have been retained with advantage to the Lodge, not as a preparation for the R.A., but as a means of acknowledging old and valued services.

1835. Part of the furniture, including the organ, ordered to be sold. Lodge removed to the White Hart. Meetings almost discontinued.

1836. Proposed that the unhappy dissensions of the brethren of the Witham Lodge, and the peculiarities of its circumstances at the present time, be respectfully submitted to the D.P.G.M. at the Provincial Meeting, for his counsel and advice.

Lodge removed to Bro. Weston's, the Lion Hotel.

Brethren resign and re-join several times over.

1838. Bro. Weston died from the effects of a fall from his horse.

The Lodge removed to the City Arms.

During the first thirty years of the century the Witham Lodge had practically but half-a-dozen Masters. These apparently were men of intelligence, and spared no effort to advance the craft.

James Simpson, as one of the founders, has already been mentioned.

Charles Curtois, a cabinet maker by trade, joined the Witham in 1802, and up to the time of his death, in 1822, was in constant attendance. He instructed the Lodge in the working laid down by the Lodge of Promulgation, and was doubtless one of those Witham brothers who visited the famous Peter Gilkes for instruction according to the new order of things. He was a founder of the R.A. Chapter, and occupied the First Principal's chair eleven times. Bro. Curtois was Prov. G. Warden for several years, and also the first to fill the office of Prov. G. Director of Ceremonies.

Under Bro. Matthew White's direction the Lodge also attained great efficiency.

Brothers Wilson Hickson, and Page Cartledge were prominent citizens in their day.

In 1826 Page Cartledge was Mayor, and Wilson Hickson and John Hayward Sheriffs. Page Cartledge again filled the civic chair in 1833. *The Lincoln Date Book* records that Mr. Page Cartledge on May 15th, 1817, lighted his shop with gas, made on the premises. It also, in 1837, records the death of Mr. Page Cartledge, after a long affliction, aged 53. "He was an Alderman of the old Corporation and for many years was numbered amongst the staunch and determined reformers of Lincoln, being one of the few who dared to advocate the correction of Abuses against the will of the Tory corporate brethren."

This line of action doubtless made him many enemies.

In 1834 the Lodge took into consideration grave charges made against the W.M., and "were unanimously of opinion that they are without foundation in fact, and are the result of base Perjury in unprincipled persons."

Doctor Oliver, writing in 1841, says:—

“The Craft in Lincoln at this period [1810] was in a palmy and prosperous state, and possessed several worthy and assiduous brethren under whose judicious superintendence the Lodge sustained its proper and legitimate rank. In 1820 there appear to have been seldom less than thirty or forty brethren present at the regular meetings of the Lodge, and on some occasions upwards of fifty, and for nearly forty years there was scarcely a Lodge night in which a candidate was not either initiated or passed or raised.

“About the year 1833 a great laxity of discipline appears to have prevailed. The Lodge was thinly attended, and sometimes the numbers were so small that it was incapable of being opened. In 1835 the fund was reported to be in a state of disarrangement, the meetings were no longer held with their accustomed precision, and chasms of many months occurred between one Lodge and another. Dissentions prevailed amongst the brethren, which made the restoration of order and harmony still more difficult. It was at length resolved to dispose of part of the furniture of the Lodge, and to discontinue the private room where the brethren had so long and creditably met, and remove to an Inn. This proceeding introduced unmasonic habits. The Lodge was often opened at a late hour, and the sittings were consequently protracted in an unseasonable manner; until at length the Lodge got into such discredit, that many of the Brethren ceased to attend and withdrew their subscriptions, and the remainder were obliged to resort to the most unworthy means for the purpose of procuring a meeting. And in the opinion of thinking Brethren the Witham Lodge had virtually ceased to exist.”

Matters were at this low ebb when Bro. W. A. Nicholson determined to undertake the task of restoring the popularity and influence of the Lodge. He consulted the Provincial authorities, and after accepting the office of W.M. in 1838, he entered into communication with Sir E. F. Bromhead, Sir E. Brackenbury, R. S. Harvey, and a few other masonic worthies of Lincoln and neighbourhood. He discovered that the defects in the former system of management principally consisted of irregularities in the time of opening

and closing the Lodge—little labour and abundant refreshment. The latter custom, from which so great an amount of evil had ensued, was strictly prohibited during Lodge hours.

The following resolutions, on the motion of Sir E. F. Bromhead, were adopted and printed on the circular summons:—

“That punctuality and early hours are essential to the character of the order and the domestic comforts of the brethren.”

“That the Lodge be not holden if it be not formally opened within ten minutes of the time specified in the notice.”

“That the question of adjournment be put at half-past nine o'clock, and every succeeding interval of ten minutes.”

A gratifying increase of membership immediately followed on the regulations; most of the seceding brethren re-entered their names, many initiations succeeded, and the Lodge once more resumed its former discipline and respectability.

1838, June 28th. Coronation of Queen Victoria.

The brethren accompanied the Corporation to the Cathedral, and from thence proceeded to S. Peter-at-Gowts, when the first stone was laid of the Victoria Schools by Bro. C. Beatty, M.D.

Aug., 1838. Doctor Oliver presided, and initiated a candidate, and delivered an eloquent address to the Lodge.

The Treasurer's Book, 1829–1840, shows the initiation fee to have been £4 4s. The account of the former year contains frequent payments to Levi Green, the Tyler, “for warming a Lodge of Emergency.” Two shillings were given to “distressed brethren,” who numbered on an average three a month, and hailed from various parts of the world. Payments are also recorded to the Ringers on the Grand Master's birthday, to Freemasons' Hall Fund, and for music at funerals or other public demonstrations.

1838. The back numbers of *The Freemasons' Quarterly Review* were bought, the following numbers being taken in due course. Mention is also made of a pianoforte, organ, and seraphine.

William Adams Nicholson W.M. Bro. Nicholson was one of the most energetic brethren who have presided over the Lodge. A Past Master's jewel was presented to him by "Thirty Brethren of the Witham Lodge, initiated or joined during his two years as W.M. June 24th 1841."

Bro. Nicholson was eminent in his profession as an architect. Bayons Manor, near Market Rasen, Wesley Chapel and the Old Corn Exchange, Lincoln, are amongst his numerous designs. He died suddenly at Boston in 1853.

1839, 10th Feb. (Sunday). Bro. Sam. Peacock was buried with masonic honours in St. Swithin's churchyard.

1839, Nov. 5th. George Oliver, junr., was initiated.

This being also the anniversary of the birthday of the D.P.G.M., the worthy Doctor, together with the Witham brethren, were entertained by Sir E. F. Bromhead at a banquet at the City Arms. A numerous company, including several non-masons, attended. A silver salver was presented to the Doctor, on behalf of the Lodge, "In Testimony of their warm regard towards him as a man, and as a Mason; And of their veneration for the learning and talent with which he has adorned the craft."

Sir EDWARD FFRENCH BROMHEAD, Bart., of Thurlby Hall, joined the Witham Lodge in 1838. He was the elder son of Sir Gonville Bromhead (an early Witham member), the first baronet, and Jane, daughter of Sir C. Ffrench, co. Galway, Sir Edward was born in 1789. Graduated at Caius College, Cambridge (with the founder of which he was ancestrally connected). B.A. 1812, M.A. 1815, and was called to the bar at the Inner Temple in 1813. He succeeded to the title in 1822, and died, unmarried, in 1855.

Sir Edward, who was afflicted with blindness several years before his death, is said to have been a gentleman of elegant and accomplished taste, an ardent lover of church architecture and antiquarian studies, and a zealous supporter of all charitable institutions in his county and neighbourhood. He was a most excellent and zealous Mason, and was highly esteemed throughout the Province. The Witham Lodge is especially indebted to him for assistance and support in a time of need. Sir Edward at the time of his lamented resignation was Senior Warden both in the Lodge and Province. The family has a very old connection with the parish of St. Peter-at-Gowts. The gallant conduct of Captain Bromhead, a brother of the present baronet, in the recent Zulu Campaign will be long remembered.

In Nov., 1840, the Lodge proposed to the Corporation to become tenants on a ground rent of the old gaol adjacent to the Guildhall,* and to erect thereon a suite of rooms for masonic and other purposes. The Corporation agreeing to the terms (one clause allowed the Corporation on payment of outlay and twelve months' notice, to acquire the new rooms), the requisite sum for completing the undertaking was raised in shares amongst the brethren. The following dispensation was granted :—

* This was formerly known as "The Kitchen," and the adjoining passage as "Kitchen Lane." It is supposed to have been originally the kitchen for preparing the Corporation feasts. In the Prison Survey of Howard, *circ.* 1780, it is described as one of the most loathsome gaols in the kingdom.

Nield, in his account of the prison at the Stonebow Gate in 1802, says :— "The rooms for criminals are two dungeons down three steps, one has a flagged the other a damp earthen floor; the dimensions are 13 ft. by 12 and about 9 ft. square. The rooms have neither light nor air but which is received thro' a small iron grated window to each room about 2 ft. square. Numbers of persons continue at the windows talking with the prisoners. The bars of the small iron grated window are wide enough to admit a pot of beer with which the publican supplies them at all hours and spirituous liquours are conveyed to the prisoners in the same manner by vagrants. Upstairs are similar compartments for debtors . . . the long neglect and scanty allowance not 2d. a day are a disgrace to the City and shocking to humanity."

The prison was closed in 1809, on the completion of the present City Gaol.

"To the Worshipful Master, the Past Masters and Officers of the Witham Lodge No. 374 holden in the City of Lincoln.

"Whereas it has been represented to me that you intend to erect a Hall for the purposes of Masonry in the City of Lincoln, the Foundation Stone of which is to be laid on Thursday the 15th of April next, and that you are desirous of giving solemnity to the ceremonial by a Public Procession and Divine Service in the Church of St. Peter's at Arches, in the said City—

"I, the Reverend George Oliver, Doctor in Divinity, Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Free & Accepted Masons for Lincolnshire, lawfully constituted, do hereby authorize you to assemble the members of your Lodge on the above named day at the house of Mrs. Weston, commonly called the Lion Hotel, and after opening and adjourning the Lodge in form, to proceed in your masonic clothing and insignia to the above Church; and also to invite the several members of the several Lodges in the Province to join in your said procession.

"You are further authorized, at the conclusion of Divine service to proceed along Silver St., Bank St. and Salter Gate to the site of the intended structure, and when the foundation stone shall have been duly levelled, to return in like manner to the said Lion Hotel. And you are strictly charged to take especial care that none of the brethren do appear abroad in any of the clothing or insignia of the Craft, except in going to and returning from the above place of worship, and that due order and decorum be preserved and the honour of the Craft maintained. And you are to cause this Dispensation to be read in open Lodge before the Procession takes place, and to be recorded in your minutes; and you are to transmit an account to me of what shall be done herein for the information of the Provincial Grand Master.

"Given under my hand and seal at Scopwick, this thirty-first day of March, in the year of our Lord 1841.

"Geo. Oliver D.D.

"D.P.G.M. for Lincolnshire."

Summonses and invitations were forwarded to the P.G. officers and to all the county Lodges, and on the day appointed a great number of brethren assembled to assist at the ceremonial.

The Lodge was opened at the Lion Hotel by Bro. R. S. Harvey, the W.M. of the Witham Lodge.

The procession, arranged by Bro. Williamson, P.G. Dir. of Cer., proceeded in the following order:—

Union Flag

Borne by the son of a Master Mason.

Band of Music.

Marshal with Baton.

Tyler with a Sword.

Visiting Brethren, according to the seniority of their Lodges.

Rough Ashlar, borne by the son of a Master Mason.

Entered Apprentices.

Tracing Board of the First Degree.

Corinthian Column, borne by the son of a M. M.

Brethren of the Witham Lodge, not being in office.

Tracing Board of the Second Degree.

Ionic Column.

Doric Column.

Perfect Ashlar on a Platform.

Trowel. Inscription Plate. Mallet.

Junior Deacon with Pillar. Senior Deacon with Pillar.

Director of Ceremonies.

Tracing Board of the Third Degree.

Salver with Corn, Wine, Oil, and Salt,

borne by the son of a M. M.

Secretary

Treasurer

With Book of Constitutions. With Coins to be deposited.

Junior Warden with the Plum Rule.

Banner of the Witham Lodge.

Senior Warden with the Level.

The Provincial Grand Officers.

P.P.G. Sup. of Works with Plans.

The Covenant, with Square and Compasses,

borne by four sons of M. M.

Steward. Dep. Prov. Grand Master. Steward.

Master of the Witham Lodge with the Square.

Union Flag.

Marshal with a Baton.

Passing from the Lion Hotel up the High Street, on arriving at the Stone Bow, an avenue was formed by the brethren from the Saracen's Head to the church gates of St. Peter-at-Arches, along which the Provincial Grand Master, C. Tennyson-D'Eyncourt, M.P., passed from the inn, attended by his Sword Bearer and four Stewards, the procession closing in after and following in inverted order. The banners of the several county Lodges; the Master Masons' sons, to the number of eighteen (two of these being the D.P.G.M.'s grandsons), decorated, in an uniform manner, with sky-blue scarves and rosettes; made the procession very effective. The Rev. G. S. Dickson, Incumbent of St. Swithin's, read the service of the day. The Choristers of the Cathedral were in attendance, and sang a hymn written for the occasion by Bro. Goodacre, the S.W. of the Witham Lodge, and Boyce's anthem, "Where shall wisdom be found."

Dr. Oliver preached from 2 Cor. v. 1. The following prayer preceded the sermon:—

"Almighty and everlasting God, Great Architect of the Universe, by Whose creative fiat matter was first invigorated by the prolific influence of Light, look down upon us thy unworthy servants, professing the tenets of a peculiar institution, whose origin and support are derived from the exercise of thy benignity and paternal love, accept and sanctify the work which is dedicated to holiness and virtue. We are about to build a House to thy glory—may it be known to all mankind that the design is acceptable to thee. When this house is opened by the labours of Freemasonry,—when the Master stands in the quarter where the sun rises to open the day that he may instruct his Craftsmen in wisdom, may thou sanctify his endeavours with thy approbation, and vouchsafe thy grace that all may unite to work out their salvation with fear and trembling. And when death, the great leveller of all human greatness, hath drawn his sable curtain round us, and the Angel of the Lord declares that time shall be no more, may we all attain possession of an immortal inheritance in those heavenly mansions veiled from mortal eye, where every superexcellent degree, shall be opened, never to be closed; and may the great I AM the Grand Master of the whole Universe, install us into that celestial Lodge, where order, peace and harmony shall eternally preside."

The service being ended, the procession re-formed and proceeded by way of Bank Street to Saltergate.

The ceremony of laying the stone was carried out most effectively. At the west end of the ground a rising platform had been constructed, on which about two hundred visitors, mostly ladies, were arranged, and on the south side another rising gallery was occupied by the Masons, members of the Corporation, and others.

The proceedings closed with a dinner at the City Arms. Bro. R. S. Harvey, W.M. of the Witham, presided, having the Prov. G. Master and Sir E. L. Bulwer, M.P., on his right, and the D.P.G.M. and the Mayor of the City on his left.

Some excellent speeches were delivered during the evening. Doctor Oliver, in the course of his speech, said :—

“I rejoice in the transactions of this day. I rejoice, because I am anxious—and I have expressed my anxiety for years, both in public & in private—that Freemasonry should take its station amongst mankind as an institution which may contribute to the advancement of their moral & social interests. And this effect it is well calculated to produce, when practised in the spirit which has recently characterized the proceedings of the Witham Lodge. The day I hope is approaching, when scientific men of all classes will assemble in a mason’s lodge with the same ardour which animates them in their attendance on an interesting literary society. And why should they not? Freemasonry, when properly defined, is ‘a science which includes all other sciences; but more especially that which teaches a knowledge of ourselves, and the duties we owe to God & man.’ If a general diffusion of knowledge, as a medium of producing universal happiness in society, be in unison with the progressive improvement of the times in which we live—Freemasonry, practised as it ought to be, is a most efficient agent for that purpose. It is well calculated to produce the greatest public & private blessings. And is not that a most valuable institution, which thus provides for the moral & religious advantages of the community at large? Nobody can deny it. And I hope—nay I am sure—under the present judicious management of the superior officers

of the Witham Lodge, the Masonic Hall, whose foundations have been so auspiciously levelled this day, will rise into an edifice, which will be hailed by all classes of society in the city of Lincoln, as a great public benefit."

The new hall was completed in about twelve months, and solemnly dedicated by Doctor Oliver, as Chaplain of the Lodge, on Thursday, 9th June, 1842. The day was also observed as the Centenary Festival of the Lodge, and appears to have been calculated from the last entry in the minute book of the old Saracen's Head Lodge.

The recent removal of Dr. Oliver from the office of D.P.G.M., particulars of which appear elsewhere, and which was at this time engrossing the attention of the Province, doubtless threw a gloom over what would otherwise have proved a very festal gathering.

The brethren were scarcely settled in their new hall when the Corporation gave notice of their intention to acquire possession of the building for municipal offices. This necessitated another change. Accordingly arrangements were made for the Lodge to meet at the County Club Hotel, Castle Hill.

The Rev. E. R. Larken, the present senior member of the Lodge, was initiated Jan. 7th, 1845. In the following July Bro. Larken, at the request of the D.P.G.M., was invested by the W.M. as Prov. G. Chaplain.

Dec., 1845. Lodge removed to the Coffee Rooms, No. 8, The Bail, opposite Eastgate.

The Honorary Fee Fund established. Besides those now in force, fees were to be paid to the fund when taking office in Provincial Grand Lodge.

"The Installed Masters to enquire how far the exact landmarks are usually adhered to in the various ceremonials. Also to request that they will take the requisite steps for reviving the Mark Masons' Lodge formerly held in connection with the Witham Lodge, and also to make inquiry as to the steps requisite to be taken to regain the early number and rank of the Lodge."

Bro. the Rev. Chas. Nairne, previous to being raised, satisfactorily answered the questions "according to the manner practised by the ancient lodge (that is, the present Scotch form)."

1846. Nearly thirty brethren attended the funeral of Brother Robinson at St. Mary Magdalene's Church.

July 21, 1846. Special Lodge at the County Assembly Rooms, the furniture having been removed for the P.G. Chapter to be held on the following day. The Rev. E. K. Lutt and Louis C. Tennyson-D'Eyncourt were initiated. It is noted that this is the first time since 1840 that the Lodge was prolonged after half-past nine.

August, 1846. "A Ballot was taken for The Right Worshipful the Lord Worsley, M.P., the Deputy Grand Master of England, as a joining member of the Witham Lodge, which was declared to be unanimous, amidst the acclamations of the brethren."

The W.M. and several brethren attended a Lodge in Hull presided over by the Earl of Zetland, "at which meeting the Grand Master was pleased to take especial notice of the Witham lodge."

Dec., 1846. A. L. Bromhead presented tracing boards, J. C. Osborne a Deacon's chair, and H. Cotton a large punch bowl.

Bro. Jennings, Grand Director of Ceremonies, visitor.

Brother Henry Cotton, the senior member of the Lodge for many years, was one of those brethren who was P.M. without being actual Master of the Lodge. He was initiated August, 1818, Passed and Raised in the Corinthian Lodge, Newark. In the books of that Lodge Bro. Cotton is described as "of Lincoln," and he also joined the Witham Lodge the same year—a somewhat curious proceeding. For a considerable period he was one of the officials of the County Court, and died in 1872.

The ritual in present use in the Lodge was probably revised about this time. The Revs. C. Nairne and W. N. Jepson are known to have taken part in the work, and most likely were assisted by Bros. Oliver, Bromehead, Taylor, Dakeyne, and Goodacre.

A certificate, written in Latin and English, by the Rev. J. O. Dakeyne, was furnished to a brother about to proceed to South America.

January, 1848. John Hawson, the Tyler, buried with masonic honours at St. Michael-on-the-Mount.

A brother of the Lodge rode forty miles to fetch the dispensation.

Bro. Goodacre presented the portraits of the Duke of Sussex and the Earl of Moira, and Bro. Broadbent that of Doctor Oliver. Bro. Durance presented a sword (dagger).

March, 1849. A congratulatory address sent to the Earl of Yarborough on his appointment as Prov. G. Master.

1852. Property in Grantham Street purchased for £180.

Pending the necessary alterations, the Lodge met for six months at the Great Northern Hotel.

The new hall was dedicated by the P.G.M. 18th May, 1854.

1855. Bro. J. G. Shotton was buried with masonic honours at St. Peter-at-Gowts. Bro. Shotton was accidentally killed.

November 12th, 1855. The following acknowledgment of a resolution of the Lodge, received from the Prov. G. Master:—

"Dear Sir & Brother,

"My excellent friend the D.P.G.M. of our Province has forwarded to me a copy of a resolution passed at a meeting of the Witham Lodge of Freemasons held on the 6th inst. and I will thank you at the next meeting of the Brethren of that Lodge to express to them in my name my warmest

acknowledgements for the congratulation on my much improved state of health, and the assurance that so long as the Great Architect of the Universe is pleased to give me health and strength to attend to the interests of the Brethren in the Province of Lincolnshire I shall be proud to continue to occupy the post of Prov. Grand Master of that Province.

"I am thankful to say I have made excellent progress towards recovery but am particularly cautioned against getting chilled or being over excited.

"With my best wishes for the prosperity of each Brother in the Lodge I remain yours fraternally

"Bro. Richard Hall." "Yarborough D.G.M. & P.G.M.

1855. Festival of St. John the Evangelist. Bro. Richard Hall installed W.M. Eighteen meetings held during the year. Doctor Oliver gave several lectures.

The Earl of Zetland's portrait presented to the Lodge by the Prov. G. Master.

The following election of W.M. not being confirmed, the new Master, the Rev. Chas. Nairne, was not installed till March. Twenty-two meetings were held during the year by the W.M. and I.P.M.

1857. Bro. E. A. Bromehead was elected an honorary member, in consideration of the many and valuable services rendered to the Lodge.

Three brethren erased from the roll for non-payment of subscriptions for five years.

1858. Music re-introduced into the ritual.

The Rev. C. Nairne's portrait subscribed for by a few brethren of the Lodge.

1859. Earl de Grey and Ripon, afterwards G.M., joined the Lodge.

1863, March 10th. Marriage of the Prince of Wales.

The Lodge entertained the Mayor and Corporation Bro. Bramley Moore, M.P., and several other citizens, at breakfast at the Great Northern Hotel.

The brethren afterwards joined the public procession to the Cathedral.

In 1864 a petition for a new Lodge in Lincoln was signed, but the matter was not carried further.

1869. The foundation stone of the Church of St. Peter-in-Eastgate was laid with masonic ceremonial.

1871. The Masonic Hall Company, Limited, was floated, for the erection of a suite of rooms for masonic purposes, together with others to be let for public meetings, &c.

A capital site was obtained in Newland. The foundation stone of the new building, from the design of Bro. W. Watkins, was laid by the D.P.G.M. on 17th Aug., 1871, and the Lodge Room was dedicated on 29th Oct. of the following year by the Duke of St. Alban's, P.G.M., a banquet, to which the leading citizens were invited, being held in the large hall.

The Masonic Hall Co. did not prove a commercial success, and ended most disastrously both for the shareholders and the Lodge. After a few years occupancy, the rent required by the then owners was found to so seriously cripple the Lodge, as to necessitate a removal to other quarters. Much discussion ensued as to the locality to be selected, one section of the brethren wishing to move the Lodge up-hill; eventually Bro. Robt. Dawber offered his premises in Mint Street on very advantageous terms, and the Lodge was moved thither in 1888.

The Lodge has now (1894) partially regained its financial prosperity, and in commemoration of the Centenary of the Warrant, the brethren are engaged in the erection of another home on the north side of Mint Street, in the immediate neighbourhood of the hall in Newland and of the temporary premises occupied during the last few years.

1887. Died, Bro. Charles Mann, for upwards of thirty-five years the worthy and respected Tyler of the Lodge.

The present Tyler, Bro. Wm. Strangward (Assistant 1871), is the fourth who has filled the office during the past eighty years.

In 1871 the Saint Hugh Lodge commenced its career in the city. It has, from the commencement, held its meetings in the Witham room, many brethren being members of both Lodges. A fraternal regard has hitherto existed between them, and the intentions of the promoters of the St. Hugh realized, viz., "that the welfare and prosperity of the Craft in Lincoln would be materially benefitted by the formation of another Lodge."

The Witham Lodge has among its furniture and ornaments several portions of value and interest.

The Bible is a fine black-letter breeches edition, with numerous genealogical tables, &c. Unfortunately, the title-page of the Old Testament is missing. The New Testament, "translated from the Greeke by Theo. Beza Englished by L. Tomson," is dated 1616. Appended is the metrical version of the Psalms, by Sternhold and Hopkins, "with apt notes to sing them withal," 1618.

The Master's and Wardens' chairs are massive and effective. The former was presented by the Rev. J. O. Dakeyne during his Mastership, the canopy being added about twenty years ago.

The supper room contains the two chairs formerly in Doctor Oliver's study, bought at the Doctor's sale by Bro. Richard Hall, and presented by him to the Lodge; the original Master's chair, a fine specimen of Chippendale, with an inlaid Rising Sun; and a very interesting oak chair, brought from Gloucestershire, and recently purchased by the Lodge. Of this latter chair, Vol. 5, pt. 1., *Transactions of Lodge Quatuor Coronati* contains a drawing, showing the Square, Compasses, Plumb, and interlaced Triangles on the lower panels; the name Pierpoynt, and date, 1683, along the top rail, and surmounted by a half-circle enclosing a Balance. The following account is appended:—

"As the name Pierpoynt upon the Chair indicated a connexion with the family of Earl Manvers a letter to his Lordship elicited the following information—

“From investigations we have made, it appears most probable that the chair must have belonged to William 4th Earl of Kingston, who was Lord Chief Justice (in eyre) beyond the Trent and died in 1690.”

The Lodge also possesses a small valuable library, several fine specimens of glass ware, a capacious masonic punch bowl, four large banners formerly used in Provincial processions, some interesting portraits, and a collection of tracing boards, pictures, &c.

BRETHREN WHO HAVE HELD THE OFFICE OF MASTER
OF THE WITHAM LODGE.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1793. Thomas Browne. | 1820. Wilson Hickson and |
| 1793. John Bullen. | James Simpson. |
| <i>June 24.</i> | 1821. Page Cartledge, died 1837. |
| 1794. Thomas Browne. | 1822. Page Cartledge. |
| 1795. Thomas Browne. | 1823. Wilson Hickson. |
| 1796. James Simpson, died 1831. | 1824. Matthew White, died |
| 1797. James Simpson. | 1854. |
| 1798. John Caparn. | 1825. Matthew White. |
| 1799. John Caparn. | 1826. Page Cartledge. |
| 1800. Rev. Wm. Gray, died 1826. | 1827. Page Cartledge. |
| 1801. Rev. Wm. Gray. | 1828. Page Cartledge. |
| 1802. James Simpson. | 1829. Col. Chas. de Laet Waldo |
| 1803. Samuel Thorold, died | Sibthorp, died 1855. |
| 1820. | 1830. Col. Chas. de Laet Waldo |
| 1804. Samuel Thorold. | Sibthorp. |
| 1805. Samuel Thorold. | 1831. John Gray. |
| 1806. Samuel Thorold | 1832. Charles Wright, died 1848 |
| 1807. Samuel Thorold | 1833. Page Cartledge. |
| 1808. Samuel Thorold | 1834. Joseph Whitehouse, died |
| | 1860. |
| 1809. James Simpson. | 1835. Thomas Brown. |
| 1810. Charles Curtois, died 1822. | 1836. John Ward, died 1845. |
| 1811. James Simpson. | 1837. John Ward. |
| 1812. Charles Curtois. | 1838. Wm. Adams Nicholson, |
| 1813. James Simpson. | died 1853. |
| 1814. James Simpson. | 1839. Wm. Adams Nicholson. |
| 1815. Charles Curtois. | 1840. Rd. Sutton Harvey, died |
| 1816. Charles Curtois. | 1882. |
| 1817. James Simpson. | 1841. Robert Goodacre. |
| 1818. Charles Curtois. | 1842. Wm. Adams Nicholson. |
| 1819. Wilson Hickson, died | 1843. Rev. J. Osmond Dakeyne, |
| 1843. | died 1860. |

Dec. 27.

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| <p>1843. Byrequestofthe D.P.G.M. the Installation was altered from St. John Baptist, June 24, to St. John Evangelist, Dec. 27. Bro. Dakeyne retained office 18 months.</p> <p>1844. Edmund Arthur Bromhead, died 1867.</p> <p>1845. Ralph Taylor, died 1874.</p> <p>1846. John Middleton.</p> <p>1847. Edward Farr Broadbent, died 1877.</p> <p>1848. Rev. Charles Nairne, died 1867.</p> <p>1849. Rev. Wm. Noah Jepson, died 1865.</p> <p>1850. Gervase Tottenham Waldo Sibthorp, died 1861.</p> <p>1851. George Hopkins Shipley.</p> <p>1852. Robt. Coddington Moore, died 1868.</p> <p>1853. Thomas Heffernan, died 1886.</p> <p>1854. Rev. Wm. Noah Jepson.</p> <p>1855. Richard Hall.</p> <p>1856. Rev. Charles Nairne.</p> <p>1857. Geo. Hopkins Shipley.</p> <p>1858. Richard Hall.</p> <p>1859. George Maples Fox, died 1878.</p> <p>1860. Richard Hall.</p> <p>1861. Charles Rawlinson.</p> <p>1862. George Brown.</p> <p>1863. John Norton, junr.</p> <p>1864. John Norton, junr.</p> <p>1865. Charles Harrison.</p> <p>1866. Charles Harrison.</p> | <p>1867. Wm. George Moore, died 1879.</p> <p>1868. Francis Roper Larken.</p> <p>1869. Richard Cotton Carline, died 1893.</p> <p>1870. William Watkins.</p> <p>1871. Richard John Ward.</p> <p>1872. Charles Scorer.</p> <p>1873. William John Mantle, died 1884.</p> <p>1874. Edward Jas. Cullen.</p> <p>1875. Peter Platts Dickinson.</p> <p>1876. William Watkins.</p> <p>1877. Benjamin Vickers.</p> <p>1878. Thomas Cradock Lazenby.</p> <p>1879. Thos. Marshall Wilkinson, died 1893.</p> <p>1880. John Smith Codd, died 1882.</p> <p>1881. John Edward Fox.</p> <p>1882. John Lumley Rayner.</p> <p>1883. Henry Edward Cousans.</p> <p>1884. James Williamson.</p> <p>1885. Stephen Thurlby.</p> <p>1886. William Mansell.</p> <p>1887. Charles Harrison.</p> <p>1888. John Scoley Battle.</p> <p>1889. William Dixon.</p> <p>1890. William Scorer.</p> <p>Installation changed to January 27th. Bro. Scorer remained in office 13 months.</p> |
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Jan. 27.

1892. Edward Percy Dalton, died 1894.
1893. Walter Dawson.
1894. Wm. H. Holdich Moore.

NAMES OF BRETHREN WHO HAVE BEEN INITIATED IN OR
WHO HAVE JOINED THE WITHAM LODGE SINCE ITS
FORMATION.

Names marked with asterisk (and probably others) were Joining Members.

1793.

*Browne, Thomas.....	Lincoln	.....	Brazier.
*Scott, John	do.	.....	Gentleman.
*Simpson, James	do.	.....	Watchmaker.
*Robinson, Robt., Jun. ..	do.	.....	Gentleman.
*Peacock, John.....	do.	.....	Watchmaker.
*Ray, John .....	.....	.....	Gentleman.
*Gordon, Rev. Charles.			
*Bullen, John	Greetwell	...	Farmer.
Young, James.....	Lincoln	... ..	Sheriff's Officer.
Bristowe, William	do.	.....	Publican.

1794.

Robinson, Rob., Sen.....	Lincoln	.....	China Dealer.
*Bankes, Henry.			
Broughton, Robert	Horncastle	...	Grazier.
Tusting, John	Newton.		
Tye, James	Wragby.		

1795.

Carter, Thomas	Sleaford	.....	Spirit Merchant.
Stevenson, Rev. Seth Ellis	Wellingore.		
Piotty, James	Lincoln	.....	Optician.
Newstead, Nathaniel .....	.....	Qr.-Master,	Norfolk Dragoons.

1796.

Howe, John .....	.....	Qr.-Master,	Norfolk Dragoons.
Gray, Rev. Wm.	Lincoln.		
Pilkington, Nicholas	Grantham	...	Attorney.
Band, Capt. F. H. ....	.....	Essex Fencibles.	
Daniels, Robert .....	.....	Cornet, Essex Fencibles.	
Caparn, John	Lincoln	.....	Schoolmaster.
Headon, Francis.....	.....	Qr.-Master, Essex Fencibles.	
Stirkey, William .....	.....	do.	do.

1797.

Canham, James	Qr.-Master, Essex Fencibles.	
Payne, Thomas	do.	do.
Morris, Joseph	Mr.-Music,	do.
Hutchins, Nicholas.....	do.	do.
Brock, James	Lieut ,	do.
*Byne, E.	do.	do.
Hawkins, John Everitt ...	Qr.-Master,	do.
Mauricio, Zacchaeus.		
Lane, Cornelius	Horncastle.	

1799.

Brotherton, John	Lincoln	Hatter.
Steel, Jeremiah.		
Bugg, Thomas	Lincoln.	
Laycock, Rev. [? M.D.]		
Goodlad, George	Horncastle ...	Hairdresser.
Tasker, Matthew, Jun. ...	do. ...	Shoemaker.

1800.

Bailey, John	Horncastle ...	Watchmaker.
Jacklin, Benjamin	Lincoln	Saddler.
Carratt, Samuel	do.	Leather Breeches Mkr.
Arnold, William	do.	Waiter.
*Atkinson, Michael	do.	Solicitor.
Capp, Robert	do.	Innkeeper.
Rose, John	Gainsburgh ..	Painter.
Kelsey, Charles	Morton	Miller.
Rainforth, George	Lincoln	Stationer.

1801.

Wharrie, Thomas	Horncastle.	
Thorold, Samuel.....	Harmston ...	Esq.
*Sharpless, George	Gainsburgh ...	Miller.
Millward, Richard	Lincoln	Gunsmith.
Deacon, Rev. John Rawlins	Waddington.	
Picking, Edward.....	Morton	Lieut., N. L. Mil.

1802.

Harmston, William.....	Lincoln	.....	Publican.
*Beaty, Charles, M.D.	do.	.....	Regimental Surgeon.
*Brocklesby, William	do.	.....	Cabinet Maker.
*Mimmack, William... ..	do.	.....	Letter Carrier.
*Gibson, George	do.	.....	Tailor.
*Curtois, Charles	do.	.....	Cabinet Maker.
Hawson, John, Sen.	do.	.....	Musician.
Widdowson, William	do.	.....	Mercer.

1803.

Hutchinson, William	Hale Fen.....	Grazier.
Jeffries, Samuel	Lincoln	Gov. House of Indust.
Glover, Rev. Robt.	Wispington.	
Elmhirst, Richard	Lincoln	Cap., N. L. Mil.
Hudson, Francis.		
Jeffries, Geo. Wm.	Lincoln	Woolcomber.
Broadbent, Rev. Wm. ...	Timberland.	
*Bennett, Charles	Lincoln	Gentleman.
*Harvey, Thomas.....		Sgt.-Major, 10th Foot.
Freeman, Richard	Helpringham	Excise Officer.
Broughton, Rd. Palmer ...	Lincoln	Corporal.

1804.

Nelthorp, Sir Henry	Cap., N. L. Mil.
Cust, Hon. John [afterwards Earl Brownlow]	Major, N. L. Mil.
Imlay, Walter	Boston.

1805.

Dodd, Edward	Lincoln	Mail Guard.
Atkinson, John.		
Morris, William	Spridlington	Farmer.
Baldwin [? Matthew]	Lincoln	Solicitor.
Marshall, Thomas	do.	Servant.
Wells, William, Junr.	Boston.	
Waite, West	do.	
Brotherton, West	do.	
*Brooke, Thomas	Lincoln	.. .. Servant.

1806.

Whittaker, Richardson.

Hilton, William Lincoln Painter.

Mettham, Charles do. Gentleman.

Scott, Wm. Lister Fenton Lieut.

Peacock, Samuel..... .. Lincoln Watchmaker.

*Peters, Rev. Wm.

Briggs, John Lincoln Roper.

*Bromhead, Sir Gonville ... Thurlby Baronet.

*Wray, John Lincoln Banker.

1807.

Carr, James Lincoln Captain.

Lang, Peter Thomas do. Plumber.

Foster, Aaron do. Victualler.

1808.

North, John Lincoln Schoolmaster.

Cresswell, Richard do.

Storr, John do. Brewer.

Kew, John Burton Blacksmith.

Colonett, Edward do. Gamekeeper.

Hill, John Lincoln Victualler.

Cooling, Robert do. do.

1809.

Evans, William Ruskington.

Trafford, Donald..... .. Lincoln Coal Merchant.

*Grant, Thomas.

Chambers, Joseph Lincoln Gentleman.

Langwith, Jos. Sylvester... Grantham ... Architect.

Mawer, George Sleaford Victualler.

Ashlin, George Lincoln Butcher.

Bennett, George Wrawby.

1810.

Jennings, Richard Lincoln.

Taylor, Thomas.

Hickson, Wilson Lincoln Grocer.

1812.

Gillson, William Lincoln Banker's Clerk.

1813.

Green, Levi.

1814.

Trafford, Robert.

1815.

Petchell, Thomas.

1816.

Wilkinson, William..... Lincoln Grocer.

1817.

Lunn, George Horncastle.

Cartledge, Page Lincoln Wine Merchant.

1818.

*Sharman, Matthew Lincoln Shoemaker.

Collinson, James..... do. China Dealer.

Mason, Joseph.

*Johnson, Christopher..... Lincoln Pensioner.

*Jones, Thomas do. Shoemaker.

*Agar, Thomas do. Excise Officer.

*Shepherd, William do. Tailor.

*Gandy, William do. Carver and Gilder.

*Cotton, Henry do. Waiter.

*Stokes, John do. Tailor.

*Clayton, Joseph do. Pensioner.

Pilgrim, Samuel do. Hosier.

1819.

*Burton, William Lincoln Shoemaker.

*Hawson, John, Jun. do. Tailor.

Barnes, Rev. Wm. Horncastle.

Wilson, John Hull.

*Tooley, John Lincoln Clerk.

Leafe, William do. Merchant.

1820.

Kirk, Richard Lincoln Victualler.

Sharp, John..... do. Merchant.

*Casson, William do. Clerk.

White, Matthew do. Confectioner.

Ward, John do. Plasterer.

Ealand, Thompson..... Hackthorn ... Schoolmaster.

Millson, James Lincoln Spirit Merchant.

1821.

Wright, James Lincoln Mariner.
Harland, Jas. Clark do. Excise Officer.

1822.

Baines, Joseph Sudbrook ... Yeoman.
Brotherton, John Lincoln Hatter.
Caparn, Thomas..... do. Banker's Clerk.
Slack, John do. Currier.
Glenn, Edward do. Sheriff's Officer.

1824.

*Tate, Robert London.
Peart, William..... Lincoln Musician.

1825.

Hunt, Marshall Lincoln Attorney's Clerk.
Whitehouse, Joseph Waddington Yeoman.
Wright, Charles Lincoln Currier.
Bavin, John..... Blankney ... Farmer.
*Morey, Barnett.
White, Robert..... Lincoln Confectioner.
Hall, John do. Printer.

1826.

*Lings, Robert Lincoln Attorney.
Harmston, John do. do.
Sibthorp, C. de Laet Waldo Canwick Esq., M.P.
Flower, John Lincoln Baker.

1827.

Corbett, Thomas George Elsham Hall Esq.
Ward, Richard Lincoln Bricklayer.
Harris, Samuel Horncastle ... Victualler.
Bills, John Lincoln Waiter.
*Brown, Thomas do. Attorney.

1828.

Errington, Matthew Lincoln Engineer.
Wilson, Jonthn. Pearson... do. Clerk.
Clifton, Rev. William .. Market Rasen.
Merryweather, Thomas ... Lincoln Tailor.
Moody, Joseph John Louth.
Grey, John, Jun..... Lincoln Butcher.

1829.

Hayward, John	Lincoln	.. ..	Attorney.
*Weston, George	do.	.....	Victualler.
Patterson, Richard	do.	.....	Confectioner.

1830.

Leary, Robert Ely	Lincoln	.....	Printer.
Ranshaw, Robert, Jun. ...	do.	.....	Coachman.
*Pearson, George	do.	.....	Quill Merchant.
Reynolds, John	do.	.....	Mariner.

1831.

Palmer, George	Lincoln	.....	Mariner.
Nicholson, William Adams	do.	.....	Architect.
*Rawlings, Wm.	do.	.....	Regimental Surgeon.

1832.

Thornton, Thomas	Lincoln	.....	Victualler.
L'Oste, Edward	Horncastle	...	Surgeon.

1833.

Widdowson, William, Jun.	Canwick	.....	Farmer.
Harvey, Richard Sutton...	Lincoln	.....	Surgeon.
Thornton, John Lawrence	Market Rasen		Victualler.

1834.

Pashley, John William ...	Gainsburgh	...	Wine Merchant.
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1836.

Snowden, Joseph	Ingham	Schoolmaster.
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1838.

*Melton, Thomas	Lincoln	Innkeeper.
*Bromhead, Sir Edwd. Ff...	Thurlby	Baronet.
*Oliver, Rev. George, D.D.	Scopwick.		
*Goddard, Henry.....	Lincoln	.....	Architect.
Wilkinson, John	do.	.....	Attorney.
Garton, Richard	do.	.....	Tobacconist.
Drury, Edward Bell	do.	.....	Printer.
Thornton, Joseph	do.	.....	Slater.
Williams, Henry	do.	.....	Solicitor.
Adcock, William.....	do.	.....	Pianoforte Maker.
Webber, William.....	do.	.....	Tailor.

1839.

Moore, Robert Coddington	Harmston	...	Schoolmaster.
Huddleston, Gent.	Lincoln	.....	Solicitor.
*Goodacre, Robert	do.	.....	Editor.
Oliver, George, Jun.	Newton	.....	Surgeon.

1840.

Hebb, Geo. Wriglesworth	Lincoln	.....	Solicitor.
Pratt, Charles	do.	.....	Spirit Merchant.
*Beeton, Durham Chadwell	do.	.....	Schoolmaster.
Richardson, Geo. Boness..	do.	.....	Cheesemonger.
Nicholson, John, Lieut....	do.	... ..	Gov. of Castle.
Osborne, John Cotes	Edlington	...	Farmer.
Hughes, Charles	Lincoln	.....	Schoolmaster.

1841.

Hardman, Robert	Lincoln	.....	Schoolmaster.
Bromehead, Edmund Arthur	do.	.....	Proctor.
Seely, Charles.....	do.	.....	Merchant.
Jepson, William Noah ...	do.	.....	Ironmonger.
Pepperdine, Lemuel	do.	.....	Timber Merchant.
Taylor, Ralph	do.	.....	Cabinet Maker.
*Watson, Lieut.-Col. Lewis	Leasingham...		Gentleman.
*Rylander, Oscar Gustave	Sg. in Lincoln		Artist.
*Evans, Edward	Gainsburgh ..		Engraver.

1842.

*Proctor, William Taylor...	Nettleham	...	Chemist.
Hardy, John Spence	Lincoln	.....	Architect.
Kirk, Frederick	do.	.....	Hairdresser.
Harrison, Stephen	do.	.....	Grocer.
Dakeyne, Rev. J. Osmonde	do.		
Oliver, Chas. Wellington	Nottingham...		Bookseller.
Middleton, John.....	Lincoln	.....	Ironmonger.
Inman, John	do.	.....	Innkeeper.

1843.

*Everard, Richard	Great Hale	...	Gentleman.
Robinson, Wm. Richard	Lincoln	.....	Watchmaker.
Wilson, John	do.	.....	Mariner.
Heffernan, Thomas	do.	.....	Banker's Clerk.

1844.

Swinton, Ahijah	Lincoln	Civil Engineer.
Broadbent, Edw. Farr ...	do.	Surgeon.
Taylor, Robert	do.	Cabinet Maker.

1845.

Larken, Rev. Edm. Roberts	Burton.	
*Dearle, Geo.	Grantham ...	Organist.
Tweed, John Thomas ...	Lincoln	Solicitor.
Shipley, Geo. Hopkins ...	do.	Schoolmaster.
*Nairne, Rev. Charles	do.	

1846.

Collins, Chas. Fras.	Lincoln	Chemist.
Crossby, Thomas	do.	Draper.
Bromhead, Rev. Alex. Leslie	do.	
Collins, Henry Ward	Sleaford	Solicitor.
Sandon, Rev. Thomas ...	Lincoln.	
Marshall, Chas.	do.	Plumber.
Lutt, Rev. Edw. Kefford	do.	
D'Eyncourt, L. C. Tennyson-,	London	Barrister.
*Barlow, Philip Beckett ...	London	Barrister.
*Rt. Hon. Charles Anderson	Pelham, ...	M.P.
Lord Worsley, [afterwards	Earl of	
Yarborough].		
Silvester, Thomas	Brigg	Bank Manager.
Nicholson, William.....	do.	Wine Merchant.
Nicholson, John	do.	Chemist.
Squire, William	do.	Innkeeper.
Kelsey, Amos	Waddingham	Farmer.
Woodcock, Matthew	Lincoln	Draper.

1847.

Durance, Joseph, Jun. ...	Lincoln	Stonemason.
Sibthorp, Gervase T. Waldo	do.	Esq.
Howard, Rev. Isaac Gossett	Hemswell.	
Cracroft, Peter	Hackthorn ...	Commander R.N.
O'Hare, John	Sleaford	Currier.

1848.

Mann, Charles	Lincoln	Parish Clerk
Smith, J. UppelbyStapylton	Brigg	Esq.
*Fardell, Charles	Holbech	Esq.
*Wilkinson, Frederick	Lincoln	Waiter.
*Gordon, George William	do.	Esq.
Postlethwaite, Thomas ...	Washingboro'	Farmer.
*Collins, James.....	Lincoln	Gentleman.

1849.

Toynbee, Robert.....	Lincoln	Solicitor.
*Moyes, John Andrew ...	do.	Hotelkeeper.

1850.

Heywood, Charles Samuel	Lincoln	Railway Agent.
Heseltine, James	do.	Innkeeper.

1851.

Mackinder, William	Bracebridge ...	Farmer.
Ward, Charles	Lincoln	Builder.
Sharp, Jonathan Plowright	Blankney Fen	Farmer.
Hartley, George	Lincoln	Miller and Merchant.
*Hardcastle, Stephen	do.	Supt. Police Officer.
*Thornton, John Lawrence	do.	Innkeeper.
Seagrave, William	Lissington ...	Farmer.

1852.

Hall, Richard	Lincoln	Attorney's Clerk.
Murr, Charles Henry	do.	do.
Shotton, John James Geo.	do.	Attorney.
Rutherford, Thomas Jones	do.	Warder at Castle.
Taylor, James	Newington ...	Merchant.

1853.

Cousans, Edward Ralph...	Lincoln	Stationer.
Penney, John	do.	Merchant's Clerk.

1854.

Trafford, George Robert	Lincoln	Tailor.
Lockyer, George James ...	do.	Stationer.
Walsh, Francis Delaval ...	do.	Surgeon.
Guilmette, Chas. Alexander	do.	Professor of Music.
Guilmette, James William	do.	Tobacconist.

1855.

Peppercorn, Benjamin ... Lincoln Druggist.

1856.

*Fox, George Maples Lincoln Ironmonger.
 Wallhead, George Edward do. Decorative Painter.
 Odling, Charles do. Draper.
 *Musson, William Edward do. Surgeon.
 Kirton, William Branston Farmer.
 Drury, Michael Lincoln Architect.

1857.

*Brown, John Owersby Farmer.
 *Josephs, Alfred Lincoln Factor.
 *Plaxton, Charles do. Merchant's Clerk.
 *Loder, Alexander do. Stationer.
 *Edwards, George do. Bank Agent.
 Holmes, Edw. Henry..... do. Shoemaker.
 Slight, John..... do. Chemist.
 Rawlinson, Charles..... do. Draper.
 Robinson, David do. Grocer.
 Grantham, Hen. Valentine Stourton Capt., R. N. L. M.
 Robinson, Charles Edwin Lincoln School Assistant.
 Taylor, Robert John Burnham Capt., R. N. L. M.
 Eaton, Charles Ormston... Tixover Banker.
 Norton, John, Jun..... Lincoln Draper.
 Pratt, Richard Montague do. Wine Merchant.
 Hanly, John Laffan do. Editor.
 White, Thomas Matthew do. Banker's Clerk.
 Pears, William Scopwick ... Miller.
 Ruston, Joseph Lincoln Engineer.
 Shuttleworth, Joseph do. Engineer.
 Hebb, Henry Kirke do. Solicitor.

1858.

*Tedswell, Jas. Wm. Hono. Spalding Accountant.
 Hall, Richard Lincoln Coach Builder.
 Simpson, Thomas do. Ironmonger.
 Godson, William, Junr. ... Market Rasen Innkeeper.
 Imre, Ebeczky Pesth Gentleman.
 Ford, William Lincoln Soda Water Manufcr.

1859.

*De Grey and Ripon, George	Nocton	.....	Peer of the Realm.
Frederick, Earl			
Taplin, Benjamin Dutton	Lincoln	.....	Surgeon.
*Gadsby, Henry	do.	.....	Cutler.
Coleman, John	do.	.....	Artist.
*Brown, George	do.	.....	Reporter.
Hibbert, George	do.	.....	Confectioner.

1860.

*Odling, Anselm	Louth	... ..	Draper.
Hayward, Charles John	Lincoln	.....	Chemist.
White, Henry	do.	.....	Dentist.

1861.

*George, William	Lincoln	.....	Bandmaster, Mil.
Dawber, Robert	do.	.....	Brewer.
*Wellington, James	do.	.....	Sergt., Militia.
*Owston, Robert Henry.			
Glasier, George	Lincoln	.....	Surgeon.
Barker, William Ross	do.	.....	Grocer.
Seely, John	do.	.....	Confectioner.
Mountain, William	do.	.....	Clerk.
*Frost, William Toplis	do.	.....	Grocer.
Reeve, William	do.	.....	Plumber.

1862.

Mason, William	Lincoln	.....	Professor of Music.
*St. Albans, Duke of,	Redbourne	...	Peer of the Realm.
Wm. Aurelius Aubrey de Vere			
Spafford, Edward	Boothby	.....	Farmer.
Thornton, Lawrence Thos.	Skellingthorpe		Farmer.
Rudgard, John Richard	Lincoln	.....	Gentleman.
*Noonan, John	do.	.....	Sergt., Militia.
Harrison, Charles	do.	.....	Surgeon.

1863.

Cooke, John	Lincoln	.....	Merchant.
Jones, Bartholomew	do.	.....	Draughtsman.
Huddleston, Wm.	do.	.....	Builder.
Ehrenfeuchter, C. A.	do.	.....	Professor of Music.

Bacon, George	Lincoln	Brewer's Clerk.
Frost, Ralph	do.	Grocer.
Slingsby, Robert.....	do.	Artist.
*Bannister, Ed. Jas.....	do.	Stationer.

1864.

Kirkup, George	Bracebridge ...	Steward.
Waller, James	Lincoln	Painter.
Chichester, Thos. Ely ...	do.	Gentleman.
*Pratt, Walter George	do.	Watchmaker.
Moore, William George ...	do.	Solicitor.
Locking, John	Market Rasen	Doctor of Medicine.
Hart, George	Lincoln	Gas Engineer.
Smith, John	do.	Innkeeper.
*Branthwaite, Harrison ...	Heighington...	Surgeon.
Ashley, John	King's Cross...	Goods Manager G.N.
Keeling, Ricd. Ratcliffe...	Lincoln	Post Office Clerk.

1865.

*Handley, James	Lincoln	Super. of Police.
Porter, J. T. B.	do.	Gas Engineer.
Mantle, Wm. John	do.	Schoolmaster.
Fisher, John Dixon	do.	Watchmaker.
Carline, Rd. Cotton	do.	Solicitor.
Shepherd, Jas. Wood	do.	Auctioneer.
Morgan, George	do.	Builder.

1866.

Phillips, Aaron	Lincoln	Commercial Traveller
Blyth, Henry	do.	Gentleman.
Betham, William	do.	Gentleman.
Moore, Henry Reg.	Gray's Inn ...	Gentleman.
White, Thomas	Lincoln	Banker's Clerk.
Bayne, Kenneth	do.	Soda Water Manufr.
Watson, Frederick	do.	Engineer's Clerk.
Rex, William	do.	Solicitor.
Haviland, George	do.	Club Manager.

1867.

Howse, Henry	Lincoln	Veterinary Surgeon.
Loder, Charles	do.	Bookseller.
Chapman, G. Chatterton	Brattleby	Farmer.
Watkins, William	Lincoln	Architect.
Raymond, W. G.	do.	Surveyor of Taxes.
Liddell, Edw.	Newark	Super. of Police.
Cook, Robert	Lincoln	Coal Merchant.
Andrew, Frederick	do.	Solicitor.
Arnold, F. E. M.	do.	Grocer.
Mills, Samuel	do.	Surgeon.
Larken, Fra. Roper	do.	Solicitor.
Cullen, Ed. Jas.	do.	Merchant's Clerk.
Prickett, G. F.	do.	Hotelkeeper.
Woodward, Henry	do.	Draper's Assistant.
Dickinson, Peter Platts ...	do.	Auctioneer.
Savage, George	do.	Chemist.
Turnour, H. Ed.	Market Rasen	Doctor of Medicine.
Bayles, John Glenn ...	Cherry Willingham	Gentleman.
*Thropp, Frederick	Lincoln	Articled Clerk.

1868.

Ward, Richard John	Lincoln	Solicitor.
Scorer, Charles	do.	Solicitor.
*Goshawk, Edwin	do.	Waiter.
Shipley, G. H., jun.	do.	Banker's Clerk.
Moore, Bernard	do.	Lieut. R.N.
Berwick, W. Menzies ...	do.	Banker's Clerk.
Tingey, Henry	Sandy, Beds...	Lace Manufacturer.
Chambers, H. Croft	Market Rasen	Solicitor.
Carline, H. Snow	Lincoln	Solicitor.

1869.

*Hill, Henry	Lincoln	Engineer's Clerk.
Jevons, Ed. Enos	Market Rasen	Chemist.
Mantle, Edward	Lincoln	Clerk.
Makins, F. Waite	Market Rasen	Draper.
Barsby, Thos.	do.	Sup. of Police.
Motley, George	Caenby	Gentleman.

Watson, Henry	Lincoln	.....	Accountant.
Langford, James	do.	.....	House Steward.
Vickers, Benjamin	do.	.....	Accountant.
Barrett, Jas. Michaelmas	do.	.....	Clerk in Holy Orders.
Adcock, Halford	do.	.....	do.
*Johnson, William	do.	.....	G.N. Station Master.
*Escritt, Fred Michael.....	do.	.....	Publisher.
Cooling, William.....	do.	.....	Attorney's Clerk.

1870.

Drury, Robert	Lincoln	.....	Chemist.
Hind, Henry Harper	do.	.....	Cabinetmaker.
Bourne, Thos. Chas.	do.	.....	Solicitor.
Lowe, George May.....	do.	.....	Doctor of Medicine.
Goddard, Francis H.	do.	.....	Architect.
Truman, S. J.	do.	.....	Surgeon.
Seymour, W.	do.	.....	Hairdresser.
Emerson, Chas.	do.	.....	Auctioneer's Clerk.
Holder, C. H.....	do.	.....	Surveyor of Taxes.
Bentley, Jos.	do.	.....	Gardener.
Whitaker, Chas.	do.	.....	Grocer.
Read, Jas. Manning	do.	.....	Merchant.
Mann, Jas. Chris.	London	.....	Clerk.
Close, Hy. Stanley	Lincoln	.....	Builder.

1871.

Codd, J. Smith	Lincoln	.....	Butcher.
*Jones, Eus. Hinton	do.	.....	Publisher.
Barnsdall, Oswald	Newark	.....	Gentleman.
Thompson, Edwin	Lincoln	.....	Tailor.
Childs, Alfred.....	do.	.....	House Steward.
Fletcher, Thomas	do.	.. ..	Veterinary Surgeon.
Barraclough, John	do.	.....	Lay Vicar.
Pratt, William	do.	.....	Wine Merchant
Martin, Thomas	do.	.....	Builder.
White, William	Babworth	... ..	Farmer.
*Elwick, George	Market Rasen	.....	Instructor in Musketry
Hill, Rob. Markham	Lincoln	.....	Clerk in Holy Orders.
Smith, Haskett	do.	.....	do.
Crake, J. W.	do.	.....	Schoolmaster.
Boocock, Johnson	do.	.....	Hosier.
Strangward, Wm.	do.	.....	Tinner.

Chamberlain, Edw.....	Harmston	...	Coal Merchant.
Davies, Thos.	Lincoln	.....	Stonemason.
Mansell, Wm.	do.	.....	Chief Constable.

1872.

Sewell, Thomas	Lincoln	.....	Butcher.
Rainforth, Wm.	do.	.....	Merchant.
*Cass, William	do.	.....	Wine Merchant.
*Trafford, R. J.....	do.	.....	Innkeeper.
Lazenby, T. Cradock	do.	.....	Clothier.
Howard, W. H.	do.	.....	Cabinetmaker.
Craft, Thos.....	do.	.....	Bootmaker.
*Warwick, Thos.	do.	.....	Stationmaster, M.
*Bode, Albert	do.	.....	Engineer's Clerk.
Goodwin, T. C.	London	.....	Professor of Music.
Jay, George	Lincoln	.....	Accountant.
Dixon, William	do.	.....	Organist.

1873.

Hughes, Thos. Eady	Lincoln	.....	Solicitor.
Clench, Frederick	do.	.....	Engineer.
Bell, Thos.	do.	.....	Accountant.
*Mason, William, Jun.....	do.	.....	Organist.

1874.

*Arnold, Ed. Farr	Lincoln	.....	Plumber.
Else, Josiah	do.	.....	Builder.
Rayner, John Lumley.....	do.	.....	Sheriff's Officer.
Wilkinson, Thos. Marshall	do.	.. ..	Surgeon.
Haynes, George	do.	.....	Hotelkeeper.
Sims, William	do.	.....	Builder.
Reading, J. Bennett	Newark	.....	Architect.
Belton, Francis W.....	Metheringham		Builder.
Holland, G. A. Mackinder	Mere Hall	...	Farmer.
Housley, John	Rockley	.....	M.D.

1875.

Eckstein, Wm.	Birmingham	..	Commercial Traveller
Lovett, Jas.....	Lincoln	... ..	Clothier.
Hall, Albert Wingfield ...	do.	.....	Merchant.
Sneesby, Charles.....	Sheffield	.....	Cattle Dealer.

1876.

Conlon, F. Patrick	Lincoln	.....	Brewer.
Wileman, W. H.	do.	.....	Clerk.
Cooling, Edward.....	do.	.....	Builder.
Cooling, Thos.	do.	.....	do.
Ackroyd, J.....	do.	.....	Grocer.
Harrison, Ed.	do.	.....	do.
Peacock, Albert Louis ...	do.	.....	Surgeon.
Denton, J. H.....	do.	.....	Bank Manager.
Fox, John Edward	do.	.....	Articled Clerk.
Taylor, W. H.....	do.	.....	Chemist.

1877.

Williamson, James	Lincoln	.....	Stationer.
Cumberland, F. C.	do.	.....	Railway Clerk.
Hicks, Henry	Metheringham	.....	Veterinary Surgeon.
Taylor, W. Wood	Lincoln	.....	Builder.
Robson, Chris. Bell	Nettleham	...	Farmer.
Bramley, G. H.	Greetwell	...	do.
*Thurlby, Stephen	Lincoln	.....	Grocer.
Trotter, Reuben	do.	.....	Ironmonger.

1878.

*Pratt, Henry	Lincoln	.....	Wine Merchant.
Cousans, H. E.	do.	.....	Printer and Publisher.
*Hughes, Charles.....	do.	.....	Hotelkeeper.
*Allott, J. J.	do.	.....	Accountant.
Fitt, Walter	do.	.....	Auctioneer.
Piper, Reginald	London	.....	Wine Merchant.
Hood, F. Sinclair	Nettleham	...	Esquire.
*Gamble, E. L. G.	Lincoln	.....	Surgeon.
Stephen, Reg. Arthur.....	do.	.....	Solicitor.

1879.

Malby, J. Griffin	Brixton	.....	Woollen Merchant.
Turnell, J. C.	Lincoln	.....	Ironmonger.
*Ramage, Andrew	do.	.....	Banker's Clerk.
Broad, Thomas	Birmingham	...	Commercial Traveller

1880.

Dawson, Walter	Lincoln	.....	Currier.
Scorer, William	do.	.....	Architect,

1881.

Scott, W. Ed.	Lincoln	.....	Surgeon.
Wigg, Rev. Ed. T.	Broxholme	...	Clergyman.
*Le Tall, William.....	Lincoln	.....	Miller.
*Firbank, Ralph	Washingboro'		Railway Contractor.
Battle, Arthur Edwin	Lincoln	.....	Engineer.
Battle, John Scoley.....	do.	.....	Chemist.
Tredinnick, Stephen	do.	.....	Mining Engineer.
Morton, Wm. Henry	North Carlton		Farmer.

1882.

Dalton, Ed. Percy	Lincoln	.....	Solicitor.
Conlon, Augustus	do.	.....	Brewer.
*Robinson, J. A.	do.	.....	Maltster.
*Dashper, Gilbert J.....	do.	.....	Solicitor.
*Goy, James Dixon	do.	.....	Dentist.
MacBrair, R. A.	do.	.....	Civil Engineer.
Lansdowne, Ed. Vincent	do.	.....	Builder.
Moore, W. H. Holdich ...	do.	.....	Solicitor.

1883.

Cooling, Alfred	Metherringham		Ironmonger.
White, Thos. Harry	Lincoln	.....	Surgeon and Dentist.
Dalton, Chas. Gerald	do.	.....	Surgeon.

1884.

Lowe, Sutton Harvey.....	Lincoln	.....	Engineer.
*Betts, John	do.	.....	Surgeon.
Cousans, Eustace Allanson	do.	.....	Printer.
Wormal, Wm. Nathan ...	do.	.....	Bank Clerk.
*Jekyll, Herbert H.	do.	.....	Merchant.
Hayward, Chas. Pears ...	do.	.....	Manufactrg. Chemist.

1885.

Lilly, William Robt.	Lincoln	.....	Accountant.
*D'Ombrian, James	do.	.....	Clerk in Holy Orders.
Smith, Wm. Walker	do.	.....	Gentleman.
Smith, John.....	do.	Chemist.

1886.

Rowland, Bart. Richmond	Lincoln	Engineer's Draughtsman.
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1887.

- *Shepherd, Thos. Lincoln Pensioner.
 Sime, John do. Inland Revenue.
 Shaw, Fred. Wm. do. Auctioneer.
 Ward, Thomas do. Pawnbroker.
 *Roberts, Chas. Henry ... Bracebridge... Clerk in Holy Orders.

1888.

- Mc.Kelvie, William Lincoln Surveyor.
 Hattersley, Isaac Alf..... Bayswater ... Accountant.
 Whitton, Richard Lincoln Wine Merchant.
 Trotter, Alexander do. Solicitor.
 Thornton, Fred. Lawrence do. Wine Merchant.
 White, John Henry do. Accountant.

1889.

- Kirkby, Henry Barker ... Lincoln Land Agent.
 Wood, Ernest H. E. .. do. Organist.
 Andrew, William..... do. Tailor.

1890.

- *Kemp, Chas. Percival ... Lincoln Solicitor.
 Foster, Edwin Thos. do. Draper.
 Smith, Stapylton H. Gouger do. Solicitor.
 *Musgrave, John Jos. do. Surgeon Dentist.

1891.

- Dunkerton, Edw. Lincoln Lay Clerk.
 Dawson, James do. Currier.

1893.

- Elmitt, George Lincoln Chemist.
 Hart, Edwin E. do. Ironmonger.
 Dunn, Herbert H. do. Surveyor.

1894.

- Peel, Alfred..... .. Lincoln Merchant.
 Elsey, Henry do. Merchant.

THE LODGE OF HARMONY, BOSTON.

The third Lodge formed in the new Province (the second on the present Roll) was the Lodge of Harmony at Boston. The earliest reference to Freemasonry in Boston is (so far as I know) found in the minute book of the Witham Lodge. This records in 1805, the initiation of several from Boston, and also that "Bro. Brotherton at the request of several Brothers at Boston requested a copy of our By-laws for their use when they shall have obtained a Constitution." The Warrant of the Lodge of Harmony bears date 20th August, 1789, and was granted for a Lodge to meet at the White Hart, in the Drapery, Northampton. No return of members, however, was made to Grand Lodge after 1792.

This attempt to establish the craft in Northampton not proving a success the promoters would, according to the general custom, seek to recoup themselves by disposing of the warrant and effects; and eventually, through the agency of Bro. Whitwell, of the Peterborough Lodge, transferred them to the Boston brethren.

There appears to have been no difficulty with Grand Lodge in the matter, that body having doubtless learnt by experience the danger of holding the reins too tightly in the then divided state of masonic government.

The following endorsement appears on the Warrant, or, as it was then styled, the Constitution:—

"To all whom it may concern; be it known that the Lodge of Harmony formerly No. 544 but which by the general alteration of numbers in the year 1792 became No. 453 and held at the White Hart in the Drapery in the Town of Northampton on the application of the Brethren of the said Lodge and with the approbation of the Deputy Grand Master Admiral Sir Peter Parker Baronet was removed to the Ship Tavern in the Borough of Boston in

the County of Lincoln to be there held under the aforesaid name or denomination of the Lodge of Harmony."

"In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and the seal of the Grand Lodge this eighteenth day of January A.L. 5806 A.D. 1806.

"Wm. White G.S."

We gather from the records that the expenses incurred by the brethren in setting up the Lodge were £25 5s.

The following return of Founders' Names was made to the Grand Secretary:—

R.W.M., Owner Smith, Law Scrivener.

S.W., Charles Wellman, Brewer.

J.W., Walter Imlay, Joiner.

P.M., William Wells, Grocer.

Trea., West Waite, Ironmonger.

Sec., West Brotherton, Hatter.

William Wilkinson, Hosier

Anthony Allen, Tailor.

James Strofton, Builder.

Thomas True, Writer.

John Wilson, Joiner.

Adam Dods, Surgeon.

Richard Whitaker, Brewer.

William Drake, Schoolmaster.

The family of the Brothertons is mentioned several times in the *Harleian MSS.* in connection with the parish of Benington, near Boston.

Bros. Wellman (a Brewer, of Sutterton) and Brotherton took a leading part in the craft at Boston for many years.

The first meeting of the new Lodge was held at the Ship on 4th February, 1806. The brethren present entered into a subscription for expenses. Seven candidates for initiation were proposed, and a vote of thanks passed to Bro. Whitwell "in consideration of the marked attention shewn by him for the welfare of this Lodge."

Provincial Grand Lodge was held at Gainsborough in the following August, but the Harmony was not represented. This might be owing to distance, or possibly the P.G.M.

did not entirely approve of the Grand Secretary trespassing on his prerogative by transferring the warrant. A Benevolent Fund in connection with the Lodge was established in 1808. Grants from this Fund were made for the relief of English prisoners in France 1808-1811, and in 1857 to the Indian Mutiny Relief Fund.

The first meeting of Provincial G. Lodge at Boston was held pursuant to the following notice:—

“Grand Lodge and Feast.

“Peters Provincial Grand Master.

“A Grand Lodge and Feast of the most Ancient & Honourable Society of Free and Accepted Masons in the County of Lincoln will be held at Boston on Tuesday the 15th day of August 1809.

“The Grand Officers and Masters and Wardens of the different Lodges in the County will assemble in Grand Lodge at nine o'clock in the morning at the Lodge of Harmony in Boston, and afterwards proceed with the rest of the Brethren in procession to the Church to hear Divine Service.

“By order of the Prov. G. Master,

“Michael Atkinson P.G.S.”

A newspaper account says:—

“The scene at Boston attracted a great number of spectators.

“Dr. Orme preached an appropriate and excellent sermon from Romans 12, 10, ‘Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love.’

“A Dinner was provided at the Town Hall at which Barnett, Deputy Grand Master, presided and the day was spent as on former occasions in the greatest harmony.”

The account continues:—

“It occurs to one who was present;—not of the brotherhood, but highly respecting them;—to ask a few questions—By what authority are the following particulars in their hand bill (issued just before church time) warranted?

“The order of the *Masonic Service* to be performed in the Parish Church of Boston. *Proper* Psalms and Lessons—the *Communion Service*, the Collect & Epistle for Quinquagesima Sunday and the Gospel for the 13th Sunday after

Trinity. If the Order established by law for morning prayer in the Church of England, may be thus altered by the Free Masons what alteration may not be made by other associated bodies? and what will become of the *Uniformity* of the Public Service of our Church?"

It was long customary in the Lodge of Harmony to confer the degree of Installed Master, or, as it was styled, "Pass the Chair," on deserving brethren. On St. John's Day, 1806, eight brethren "Passed the Chair," in 1809 four, in 1815 six, in 1825 ten, and in 1836 two.

Similar customs are recorded in the Witham and Trent Lodges, as well as in the old Gainsborough Lodge.*

In 1812 twenty-nine initiations took place, seventy members being on the roll.

Dissension among the brethren caused the meetings to be suspended from 1830 to 1833. In the latter year the Lodge removed from the Ship to the New London Tavern, afterwards meeting in private rooms in Church Street and Corpus Christi Lane.

The following list of members of the Lodge of Harmony is dated 14th March, 1836:—

Benj. Williamson	Ship Agent	.....	Boston, W.M.
Wm. Howden	Engineer	.....	" S.W.
Peter Tuxford	Solicitor	.....	" J.W.
Jos. Williamson	Builder	.....	" Trea.
J. G. Heardson	Gentleman	.....	Surfleet.
Geo. Thompson	Machine Maker	...	Skirbeck.
R. C. Clayton	Boot Maker	... ..	Boston, Sec.
Henry Smith	Merchant	.....	" J.D.
E. M. Close	Tax Collector	.....	" S.D.
Jn. Dalton	Painter	.. ..	" I.G.
Wm. Howell	Mariner	.....	" Tyler.
W. T. Proctor	Druggist.		
J. C. Lambert	Comedian.		
Z. Woodward	Gentleman	.....	Donington Fen.

* "Passing the Chair" was worked as a ceremony preparatory to conferring the R.A. within the last fifty years, but was not then necessary; only the old custom was retained by some Chapters, which required a Brother to be a Past Master actual or assumed in order to qualify for the R.A.

Originally, the ceremony was for those who had passed the chair, and for long that idea was upheld by fictitious Past Masterships.—*Hughan*.

A Special Lodge and Banquet were held in 1856, to celebrate the jubilee of the Lodge's connexion with the Province.

On 20th April, 1860, the corner stone of the Masonic Hall, in Main Ridge, was laid by the Rev. Charles Nairne, D.P.G.M., and on May 28th, 1863, the building was dedicated by the Duke of St. Albans, Prov. G. Master. This remarkable edifice consists of an entrance hall, kitchen, and banquet room on the ground floor; extending over these is the Lodge room, 40 ft. by 20 ft.

The portico, a reproduction of the Temple of Dandour, in Nubia, is pure Egyptian. On either side of the entrance are two massive cylindrical pillars. The base of the pillars is adorned with leaves, and the chapters or capitals with leaves and the fruit of the palm tree; overspreading the entrance as well as on the cove of the cornice are winged spheres and twisted asps. Their connection with and application to Freemasonry are of exceeding interest to the intelligent craftsman.

The motto of the Lodge, "Know Thyself," is over the principal doorway in Greek characters; and the following inscription in Egyptian hieroglyphics, written by Brother Cabourn Pocklington, is upon the cornice and pillars of the portico:—

"In the 22nd year of the reign of Her Majesty, the Royal Daughter, Victoria Lady most gracious, this Hall was erected; May it be prosperous:

Zetland was Ruler of the Mysteries and St. Albans Ruler of the District when this building was dedicated to the God of Truth, who lives for ever, in the year 1863, 5th month and 28th day."

The upper room, in addition to the usual ornaments of a Mason's Lodge, contains several well-known Egyptian symbols in alto-relievo. A visit to the hall under the guidance of Bro. Pocklington is a source of great pleasure. Few have studied this division of Masonry more or have a better grasp of the subject than he.

Among other interesting articles belonging the Lodge are a copy of an old apron, printed and coloured on silk by R. F. Newman, 1708, a curious earthenware quart pot, and a handsome old poignard.

The brethren of the Lodge of Harmony have from the commencement well taken their part in the concerns of the Province. Brother W. H. Adams, whose name appears in connection with the Oliver dismissal and testimonial, was at that time Mayor of Boston. He was afterwards appointed Chief Justice of Hong Kong.

To Brother W. Clegg not only the Province but the English branch of the craft is indebted as the author of the hymns "Hail Eternal, by Whose aid" and "Now the evening shadows falling." These hymns have for several years been in constant use at opening and closing in Lodges throughout this country and America, but the copies rarely give the writer's name.

Bro. C. Pocklington's Masonic services were in February, 1892, acknowledged by his Lodge presenting him with an illuminated address, on his having celebrated his golden wedding and his fortieth year in Freemasonry.

THE WELLAND LODGE, SPALDING.

The Welland Lodge, number 679, was founded by a dispensation granted in August, 1816. Meetings to be held at the Talbot Inn, Spalding. Recommended by the W.M. and brethren of the Harmony Lodge. The dispensation (as was usual) was in force for twelve months. In the meantime negotiations were entered into for transferring the Prince of Wales', Gainsborough, warrant to Spalding.

This course, though frequently adopted, was strongly discountenanced by the authorities, and the Welland brethren at the earnest wish of the D.P.G.M. declined the proposal.

The Welland Lodge is first mentioned as attending Provincial Grand Lodge at the meeting held at Spalding, Aug. 14th, 1818. The Rev. Matthew Barnett presided and the Rev. George Oliver preached on the occasion.

The procession was memorable as being the first display of the new Provincial banner painted by Hilton.

Among the Barnett letters in possession of P.G.L. are several relating to the action taken by a member of the Welland Lodge, Bro. Cartwright, in relation to a Provincial appointment.

The Welland Lodge was regularly represented at the Provincial meetings until the break in 1825.

A letter (now amongst the Witham papers) recommending Bro. Thos. Brown to the notice of the Witham brethren was signed in the Welland Lodge 8th Feb., 1827, by Henry Young, W.M., James Thornton, S.W., Thomas Cansdale, J.W., and J. W. Burrows, Sec. Henry Young, Schoolmaster, and Jas. Thornton were afterwards founders of the present Lodge.

Bro. Thos. Brown, Solicitor, joined the Witham in Dec., 1827, and was installed W.M. in 1835.

There is no record of a Welland brother filling a Prov. office except as Steward. This office apparently at that day was the most coveted, the Red Apron no doubt showing to advantage in the processions. Oliver, writing on this period, says:—"The Provincial Officers had not been changed for years." This was not encouraging to a new Lodge, and may account for its decay, though the cause only admits of conjecture, as I understand there are no records (save the Barnett letters) of the Lodge proceedings nor any former member of it living.

Some relics of the Welland Lodge are supposed to be yet in existence, and will doubtless some day be secured by the present Spalding brethren.

When the Provincial meetings were resumed in 1833 the Welland is not mentioned.

It was erased from Grand Lodge Roll in 1838, probably having ceased to meet for several years previous.

An account of the Masonic impostor, John Middleton, and his doings at Spalding, appear in the memoir of the Rev. M. Barnett.

In the roll of the Corinthian Lodge, Newark, occurs the following:—"Vise, William, Spalding, E.A. June 1805."

THE HOPE LODGE, SLEAFORD.

At the Prov. G. Lodge held at Barton in 1816 "Notice was made that there had been no representation of the Prince of Wales' Lodge, Gainsborough, since 1809." Between this and the next meeting, 1818, arrangements had been made to transfer the warrant to New Sleaford. How this was effected will be seen by the following extract from a letter written by the Grand Secretary to the Master of the Hope Lodge, in answer to the latter's return of members and application for certificates:—

"London June 9th 1820.

" Other Names are given *improperly* (as Brethren who *purchased* the Dormant Warrant No. 423) without specifying the Name and Number of the Lodge they were made in or formerly belonged to.

"Signed, &c., E. Harper."

One would gather from this letter that the W.M. and Secretary had never known the Lodge in its palmy days at Gainsborough, when that excellent brother, the R.W. Gervas Parnell and his no less excellent Secretary, Bro. Pudsey, ruled its destinies and made it a model Lodge. Such a return as brought down the censure of the Grand Secretary would never have been sent, the utmost order and propriety distinguishing its work for over twenty years.

The Hope Lodge, like the Welland, appeared first at the Prov. G. Lodge at Spalding, 1818, and continued its attendance up to 1825.

A Provincial meeting was held at Sleaford 28th June, 1821. The account states that over 100 brethren attended Church, the Rev. G. Oliver preaching.

The Grand Lodge records say the warrant was removed to New Sleaford, 1818, and the Lodge erased in 1828.

The warrant, together with a silver-gilt jewel, were some years ago confided to the care of Bro. T. E. Jacobson by an old member. These are believed to be the only relics of the Lodge in Sleaford.

No names of Hope brethren appear on the Provincial roll except the two Stewards in 1818. One of these, Joseph Shacklock, joined the present Sleaford Lodge on its establishment in 1856.

Bro. Shacklock, who was a hatter by trade, took a great interest in the new Lodge until his death.

In a minute of April, 1859, the St. Botolph's brethren "desire to place on record the high sense they entertained of the character of Bro. Shacklock as a Mason and a member of Society as well as to acknowledge the services he rendered in the formation of the Lodge."

1828, October. Jonathan Pearson Wilson, Clerk, who had been initiated at Sleaford, but obtained no certificate, was re-initiated in the Witham Lodge. George Weston, another Hope brother, also joined the Witham in the following year, and became a prominent member of the Lodge.

THE DORIC (NEW) LODGE, GRANTHAM.

It appears that after the erasure of the old Doric Lodge at the close of the last century, the warrant was never returned, but remained in the possession of one of the old members. This fact, coupled with what has either been a case of neglect or loss of important document during transmission, has been a cause of considerable misunderstanding between the Grand Lodge authorities and the Grantham brethren.

To clear the matter as much as possible, it will doubtless be the better plan to give what correspondence has been brought to light on the subject.

The following is addressed to the Grand Secretary :—

“Market Rasen 4th Dec. 1819.

“I have rec'd a petition from several of the Brethren at Grantham to have their Warrant of Constitution restored, which warrant one of them is in possession of and on their having promised all due obedience to the orders &c.

“I have granted them a Dispensation until the further Will and pleasure of the Grand Lodge shall be made known.

“Signed. Matthew Barnett D.P.G.M.”

Barnett's dispensation was written on the back of the old 1791 warrant.

The reply to Barnett's letter :—

“Freemasons Hall 18th Dec. 1819.

“We are in receipt of your favour dated 4th inst.—in respect of certain Brethren at Grantham who wish to have their Warrant restored. You are aware it seems that this very Warrant, the holders of which for Nonconformity to the Laws of the Society, was in the year 1798 erased from the list of Lodges, and in consequence of the alteration of numbers at the time of the Union of the two Fraternities the Lodge was left out and the numbers altered accordingly. So that however respectable and deserving the Brethren may be who now wish to form another Lodge it is quite impossible that the old number can be ceded to them.”

The letter then goes on to give instructions as to the form of application for a warrant according to the Constitutions.

On December 20 (by return of post) Barnett forwarded the petition which had been sent to him by the Grantham brethren the previous November, together with the following letter, endorsed on the back of the document:—

“Market Rasen Dec. 20th 1819.

“To the Grand Secretary.

“Dear Sir & Brother,

“Not having an opportunity at present of consulting the Book of Constitutions, Cannot say whether the petition is precisely correct, if it cannot be accepted you will have the goodness to write to me immediately.

With respect to the old Warrant (if it is restored) a Dispensation I suppose will be granted to alter the number. As soon as the Business is settled, you will of course forward *to me* the Warrant or Dispensation with the expenses thereon, which I will take care shall forthwith be remitted to you.

“I am dear Sir

“Your obedient Servant & Brother,

“Mattw. Barnett D.P.G.M.”*

The petition was drawn up according to the usual form of application for a new Lodge, and was signed by five members of the old Doric Lodge, viz., John Langwith, Wm. Todkil Catlett, William Cooper, Richard Winter, and John Lynn, together with eight other brethren. J. Langwith to be W.M., W. T. Catlett, S.W., Rob. Turner, Jun., Hope Lodge, Sleaford, J.W.

Apparently this petition did not receive the usual scrutiny at Grand Lodge till the lapse of about six months, though the following remarkable dispensation was granted to the brethren named therein:—

* Bro. Barnett's application for a Dormant Warrant was apparently based on the following:—

“Constitutions, 1815, Art. 35. If the brethren holding a Warrant for a Lodge render themselves unworthy of longer possessing it, the Grand Master may, after the G. Lodge has decided on that, transfer such warrant to other Brethren whom he may think deserving, with a new number at the bottom of the Lodges then on record.”

"We do hereby authorize and empower our said Brothers to congregate and assemble &c. until such time as a dormant Warrant can be transferred under the Seal of the Grand Lodge.

"And for so doing this Dispensation shall be their sufficient authority.

"To be in force for the space of Twelve Months from the date hereof.

"Given under our hand and seal at Kensington the 22nd day of January, 1820."

Signatures of the Duke of Sussex, Wm. H. White, and Ed. Harper.

The next communication to hand is from Barnett to the Grand Secretary:—

"Dear Sir & Brother, "Market Rasen 25th Apl. 1820.

"I have this Day sent you Five Guineas for the Grantham Dispensation by my Neighbour Mr. Clark, who is not a Mason and probably will not see you; I have therefore requested him to give it to Mrs. Asperne 32 Cornhill, and shou'd he not pay the Cash soon you will have the goodness to enquire for it.

"In the Dispensation to the Doric Lodge it is specified to be in Force for one year only; now if a Dormant Warrant is not found previous to the expiration of that Time what is commonly done?

"Be so good as to alter the place of Meeting from the Angel to the Granby Inn.

"The Brethren of the Doric Lodge have their Original Warrant, what am I to do with it in this case? Will you give me Directions what I am to write upon it if it is restored them, or will you have it sent up to the Grand Secretary?"

The receipt for the money and reply are unfortunately not to be found.

On 2nd Sept., 1820, Brother J. Langwith, when making the first return of members of the new Lodge, concludes as follows:—

"The W.M. has desired me to say that the Old Warrant was never cancelled, it is in our possession & wishes to be informed, if it is sent to you whether that would be renewed to us, or whether it is obsolete."

The Grand Secretary acknowledged the receipt on Sept. 5th, and informed the W.M. that several of the brethren who signed the petition "are not registered Masons by reason of the Lodge in which they are represented to have been initiated neglecting to return their names for registry in the Grand Lodge Books.* In consequence of which they cannot be recognised as members of any Lodge until their names be recorded and the register fees paid."

The names requiring registration included the W.M. and S.W.-Elect, Wm. Cooper, and Richard Winter, all prominent members of the old Doric.

Towards the conclusion of the letter the G.S. writes:—"The Warrant of the former Lodge having been Cancelled is of no force or virtue whatever and should therefore be returned to the Grand Lodge."

This, so far as is known, closed the correspondence.

On 23rd Feb., 1821, the Rev. Matthew Barnett, D.P.G.M., again endorsed the old warrant:—

"By virtue of the Dispensation which you now hold under His Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex Most Worshipful Grand Master, I hereby empower and authorize you to continue to assemble as Masons and to proceed in and transact all business in a constitutional manner according to the Laws and Regulations of the Craft until the further Will & pleasure of the Grand Lodge shall be known to you."

No dormant warrant nor other document making known the "further Will and pleasure" having been received since the Duke's dispensation, and moreover, none of the foregoing correspondence known at Grantham, the Doric brethren have for many years been under the impression that they were working by the authority of the old charter, the account supplied twenty-five years ago to the then Prov. G. Secretary being understood as correct, viz., "The Doric Lodge was founded October 1st 1791—For some years the

* The Corinthian Lodge, Newark,

Charter was in abeyance, but in the year 1820 the Warrant of Constitution was restored under its original name and number by H.R.H. the Duke of Sussex G.M."

In October, 1890, application was made to Grand Lodge for a Centenary Jewel.

In the course of the correspondence the Grand Secretary (Bro. the late Shadwell Clerke) said, "The Doric Lodge evidently did not obey the order of Grand Lodge 5th Sep. 1820; but retained the old and worthless document and the dispensations and endorsement of Bro. Barnett, apparently based on the erroneous idea that the warrant was *dormant* instead of *dead*."

The sum of five guineas (the full fee at that time) having been received, a new warrant was granted, and "if the Lodge has lost the warrant under which it exists, it comes, I regret to say under Arts. 125 and 126 Book of Cons. and it should forthwith apply to the Grand Master for a warrant of Confirmation to enable it to legally continue its meetings."

There being no other course open, the Doric brethren accordingly surrendered the old document, remitted two guineas, and received a Warrant of Confirmation, which commences as follows:—

"Whereas it appears by the Records of the Grand Lodge that a Warrant of Constitution was granted bearing date the 3rd January 1820 to Brothers John Langwith as Master, William Todkill Catlett as Senior Warden, Robert Turner Jun. as Junior Warden, Wm. Parker, Jos. Silvester Langwith, Immanuel Manuel, John Tomkins & 8 others authorizing & empowering them and their regular Successors to hold a Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons at the Sign of the Angel Inn Grantham Lincolnshire, & which Lodge was then registered in the Books of the Grand Lodge as 719 and denominated the Doric Lodge—And Whereas it has been represented to us by the Brethren composing the said Lodge that the Warrant or Constitution granted to them has disappeared and cannot now be traced and they have therefore prayed us to grant them a Warrant of Confirmation in lieu thereof," &c., &c. Dated December 10th, 1890.

It should here be noted that the existence of the Sussex dispensation of Jan. 22, 1820, was not discovered till some

time after 1890. Had it been submitted to the Grand Secretary, doubtless the confusion of dates would have been explained in his letter.

The conclusion one may draw from this correspondence is—That on 3rd Jan., 1820, the order for the warrant was given, and pending the drawing up of the document and receipt of the fee the customary provisional authority would be sent off.

When Bro. Langwith made his return to the Grand Secretary in September, that official, on referring to the books, would at once note that the names and fees of the old members had never been remitted. Grand Lodge of course would delay issuing the warrant until the names had been properly registered, while the Grantham brethren would doubtless consider that the demand should have been made prior to the dispatch of the dispensation, and that, as they had paid the five guineas, being all that was asked for, declined further payment, at least for a time, and so the matter went on till it dropped out of recollection.

What became of Warrant No. 719 is, and probably will, remain a mystery. Evidently it had not arrived at Grantham on 21 Feb., 1821, or Barnett would not have renewed the Duke's dispensation. A Prov. G. Lodge was held at the Doric rooms in June, 1823, when the subject naturally would be mentioned. But the most remarkable feature is that for nearly seventy years no Doric brother should have had the curiosity to look into the matter.

A very successful P.G.L. was held at Grantham in 1839, which was attended by Dr. Crucifix. The Doric entered warmly into the Oliver dismissal question; and elected Crucifix an honorary member.

The Lodge possesses several very interesting masonic charts, engravings, &c. The following old Scotch certificate is extremely curious and rare:—

“No. 253.

“‘And the Darkness comprehended it not.

‘In the East a place of Light, where reign

‘Silence and Peace.’

“Be it known to all whom it may concern, that, We, the Master, Wardens, Treasurer, and Secretary

"St. Cuthbert's or Durham Militia Lodge No. 253 holding its charter under the Grand Lodge of Scotland, do hereby certify and declare to all worthy brethren round the Globe, that the bearer hereof William Dawkins of Barnard Castle in the County of Durham lawfully entered Apprentice in the said Lodge, passed Fellow Craft and after sustaining the painful Trials with Strength and Firmness obtained as a recompense the sublime Degree of a Master Mason.

"Given under our Hands and the great Seal of our Lodge at Barnard Castle aforesaid this twenty second Day of April in the year of Light 5819 & of our Lord 1819."

For several years after 1851 the Grantham Lodge was very feeble.

In 1866 Brother Charles Ferneley, at the special request of Prov. G. Lodge, published his *Speculations on Speculative Masonry*. This little book, the proceeds of which were devoted to the Provincial charities, may be read with pleasure and profit.

The Doric Lodge, No. 362, is now the third on the Provincial roll. A reference to the List of Past Officers will show its members to have taken a fair share of the work, and both the Central and Provincial Charities bear witness to a well carrying out of one of the great principles of the Order.

The following is the roll of Doric members, April, 1836:

Robert Turner.
Jos. S. Langwith.
Wm. Parker.
Thos. Pinder.
W. T. Catlett.
T. H. Mowbray J.W.
John Garner S.W.
T. C. Howson, Druggist.
W. Dawkins Sec.
John Wood W.M.
Thos. Winter, Solicitor.
J. K. Halison, Teacher of Languages.
Thos. Wood, Auctioneer.
John Wilson, Surveyor.
Geo. Pawson, Plumber.
Jos. Roberts, Auctioneer.

THE OLIVE UNION (OLD) LODGE, HORNCASTLE.

The earliest reference to hand of this Lodge is the following letter, forwarded to the Grand Secretaries, White and Harper, by the Rev. M. Barnett, dated

“Market Rasen May 26th 1831.

“A Certain Number of Gentlemen at and near Horncastle in this County applied to me for Instructions how to proceed to obtain a Dispensation to hold a Lodge there; accordingly a Petition was made out and sent to me which I forwarded to Bro. Tennyson the Prov. G. Master, who signed a Dispensation to open and hold a lodge by the name and title of the Olive Union until the further will and pleasure of the Grand Lodge was made known to them:

“I received the Five Guineas for the Dispensation which I paid to Bro. Tennyson, who amidst all his electioneering proceedings has neglected to pay Attention to the Business.

“You will probably now write to them or to me with any further Instructions you may think proper to give. . . .”

The Olive Union warrant was dated 20th April, 1831, the number being then 858, afterwards changed to 587.

It was first represented in Prov. G. Lodge at the meeting held at Lincoln Nov. 9th, 1832, when the Right Hon. Charles Tennyson was installed P.G.M.

In the following year P.G.L. was held at the Bull Inn, Horncastle, and Dr. Oliver was installed D.P.G.M.

The *Stamford Mercury* states:—

“The announcement last week of a Grand Masonic Festival excited general interest here; and to-day we have had an extraordinary influx of Visitors to witness the proceedings of ‘the Free & Accepted Brethren.’ At a few minutes past 12 o’clock, the Prov. G. Master Chas. Tennyson Esq. M.P. attended by the Members of the Olive Union, Doric, Good Intent, Welland, Apollo, Harmony, Witham,

St. Matthew, and the Prov. Grand Lodge, in their peculiar garbs and bearing the cymbols of the Society proceeded to the Church.

"The Service was read by the Rev. Mr. Smith of Great Coates, after which an excellent Sermon was preached by the Rev. G. Oliver P.G.C. from the 3 Chap. of St. James 11 Ver.

"The Church was completely filled during the service and the demeanour of the congregation was an evident proof of their regard for the interests of the craft."

The founders of the Shakspeare and Bayons Lodges were members of the Olive Union in 1834, the total number then amounting to 31.

The following return was made 3rd March, 1836 :—

Saml. Harris	.....	Maltster	.....	Horncastle, W.M.
C. T. White	.....	Gentleman	.. ..	" S.W.
Thos. Rayson	..	Bricklayer.....		" J.W.
Jos. Stevenson	...	Tailor	.....	" J.D.
Jno. Bailey	.....	Watchmaker	...	" Sec.
Geo. Nidd	.....	Painter	.....	" Tyl.
Major Brackenbury		Gentleman	.....	Skendleby.
Sir W. A. Ingilby		M.P.	.....	Ripley Castle.
Thos. Hammond...		Farmer.		
Robt. Button	.....	Innkeeper.....		Horncastle.
W. S. Northouse...		Wine Merchant		Lincoln.
Robt. Glover	.....	Clerk	.....	Wispington.
J. W. Morley	.....	Surgeon	.....	Horncastle.

The Rev. Robt. Glover, of Wispington, was initiated in the Witham Lodge in 1803. Several other Horncastle names also appear on that register about the same date.

On 24th Jan., 1839, Wm. Rose King, of Coningsby, was installed W. Master, and C. T. White Lecturer. Bro. King appears to have been an intelligent Mason, and commenced his year with good promise; but, according to the returns to P.G.L., no change of officers took place after.

The last return was made in June, 1843, and showed a roll of fifteen members, half of whom had continued from

the commencement. Dr. Oliver joined the Lodge in 1836 or 1837. Dissensions afterwards arose among the brethren of such a serious nature as to necessitate the interference of the D.P.G.M.

At the Prov. G. Lodge held at Spilsby in 1846, the warrant of the Olive Union Lodge was delivered up to the Prov. G. Sec. for transmission to London, and it was erased from the Grand Lodge Roll in the following year.

A portion of the furniture, &c., is now in use in the present Olive Union.

THE LINDSEY (OLD) LODGE, LOUTH.

After the lapse of over twenty years another Lodge was commenced at Louth, called the Lindsey, warranted in 1833, and numbered 602. The Apollo Lodge at Grimsby having ceased to meet, the Rev. George Oliver sold part of the furniture, &c., to the Louth brethren for their new Lodge.

At the P.G.L. held at Louth, 23rd October, 1834, three new Lodges were added to the roll, viz, the Lindsey, the Trent, and the Bayons. Prov. G. Lodge jewels were first worn at this meeting. Bro. J. J. Moody is mentioned as the first Master of the Lindsey, R. Cropper S.W., and E. L'Oste J.W.

The following return is dated March 5th, 1836:—

Geo. Oliver, D.D., Clerk, Wolverhampton, C.R.A.C.
J. J. Moody, 30, Woollen Draper, Louth, C.R.A.C., Trea.
Robt. Cropper, 47, Surveyor, Louth, C.R.A.C., W.M.
Stepn. Fowler, 33, Farmer, Ranby, C.R.A.C., S.W.
S. C. Blakelock, 46, Sadler, Louth, M.M., J.W.
W. T. Leake, 65, Builder, Louth, K.T., Steward.
Rd. Fenton, 47, Clerk, Waltham, M.M., Chaplain.
Jno. Otter, 40, Clerk, Ranby, M.M.
W. S. White, 26, Clerk, Horncastle, M.M.
N. Lyn, 38, Wire-worker, Horncastle, M.M., Tyler.
W. Heath, 46, Farmer, Louth, M.M., S.D.
E. Richardson, Painter, Horncastle, C.R.A.C.
J. Phillips, Clerk, Skidbrooke, M.M.
J. Thistlewood, 55, Farmer, Kelstern, M.M.

A joining member (David Simpson) in 1837 is described as of the Spurn and Humber Lodge No. 61. This was the Athol Lodge at Grimsby, to which reference is made in another chapter.

Financial difficulties appear to have been the cause of the Lodge's decline, which is somewhat surprising, if the status of the brethren returned in 1836 were maintained.

Brother Stephen Fowler, the Lodge Treasurer, writing to Dr. Oliver, the D.P.G.M., Dec. 5th, 1839, says :—" Altho' our subscription is but 10s. a year several of the brethren are from 10s. to 30s. in arrears. Three years quaterages to Grand Lodge and a year and a half rent are due." Altogether the worthy treasurer reckons he should be £10 out of pocket, and he asks the Doctor's advice (unofficially) what had best be done to recoup himself. The Doctor in reply states that he was placed in similar circumstances with the Apollo brethren, and advises Bro. Fowler to hold the Lodge furniture, promising to dispose of it for him on the first opportunity.

Accompanying the Treasurer's letter were the Minute Book and the Warrant. The latter was apparently returned to Grand Lodge a few days afterwards, and the Lindsey Lodge was erased from the roll.

THE TRENT (YARBOROUGH) LODGE, GAINSBOROUGH.

The following brethren signed the petition for a warrant from G.L. :—

Wm. Pulteney Pudsey	}	late of the Prince of Wales Lodge No. 423 late held in Gainsborough.
Wm. Rollit		
Wm. Smith		
Wm. Jerrems		
Thos. Travis	}	late of the Apollo Lodge late held at Great Grimsby.
Robert Duckle S.W.		
Isaiah Levy J.W., late of St. George's Lodge Doncaster.		
J. W. Pashley W.M., of the Witham Lodge Lincoln.		

The brethren met Aug. 9th, 1834, under the authority of a dispensation from Bro. the Rev. G. Oliver, D.P.G.M.

Bro. Pudsey resumed his old office as Secretary, Bro. Jerrems being Treasurer, and Bro. Smith S. Deacon.

On Aug. 11th Bros. W. Hickson, P.S.G.W., John Gray, P.G. Sec., W. A. Nicholson, P.G.A., and J. Gandy, P.G. Org., Commissioners of the Rev. G. Oliver, D.P.G.M., constituted the Trent Lodge, and installed the officers. Date of warrant, 29th Sept., 1834; number, 611.

In December following it is recorded that Bro. Pudsey "departed this life on 17th Nov. last."

J. W. Pashley died in 1886, having subscribed to the Lodge fifty-two years.

The Rev. Robert Duckle owned a considerable estate near Gainsborough. He resigned his membership of the Lodge some years before his death.

Bro. Levy left the town.

On 24th June, 1836, it was unanimously resolved that (as such of the Brethren as were of the Degree of Companions of the Holy Royal Arch had succeeded in obtaining an Order of the Grand Chapter for a Charter of Constitution to hold a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons to be attached to this Lodge) the Lodge adopt their proceedings therein.

It is frequently recorded that brethren "passed the chair."

July 13th, 1836. A congratulatory address forwarded to the G.M., H.R.H. the Duke of Sussex, on his restoration to health.

The brethren met (Aug. 1st) in their new room, Jerrems Street.

1837. A member expelled for ill conduct towards some of the brothers of the Trent Lodge. £1 is. was voted to the Asylum for Aged Masons.

The following return is dated Jan. 4th, 1836:—

J. W. Pashley, 29, Wine Merc., Gainsbro', C.R.A., W.M.
 Isaiah Levy, 47, Silver Smith, Gainsbro', C.R.A., S.W.
 Edric Lansdale, 30, Chemist, Gainsbro', M.M., J.W.
 Wm. Jerrems, 50, Grocer, Knt. Templr., Trea.
 Jno. Swift, 29, Auctioneer, M.M., Sec.
 Wm. Smith, 58, Plumber, M.M., S.D.
 Wm. Rollit, 63, Cab. Maker, M.M., J.D.
 Thos. Travis, 59, Buildr. & Auctionr., C.R.A., I.G.
 Wm. Raby, 77, Town Officer, M.M., Tyler.
 Thos. Agar, 51, Super. Excise, C.R.A.
 Robt. Duckle, 39, Clerk, Knt. Temp.
 J. Hawksworth, 33, Painter, M.M.
 Jno. Herratt, 46, Innkeeper, M.M.
 Josh. Osborne, Ironmonger, M.M.
 Jos. Guy, 39, Attorney, M.M.
 J. C. Williamson, 37, Merchant, M.M.
 Peter Johnson, 27, Innkeeper, M.M.
 T. C. Garfit, 27, Wine Merchant, M.M.
 Ed. Newmarch, 23, Joiner, M.M.
 T. H. Dobbs, 27, Innkeeper, E.A.P.

1841. Letter read from the Grand Secretary enclosing the resolutions adopted at the Quarterly Communication held 3rd March, 1841, concerning the publication of masonic proceedings.

In the following September Bro. Thos. Sissons, Junr., with the approval of the Lodge, forwarded a letter to the Earl of Zetland, P.G.M. Yorks., complaining that he had been requested to withdraw from the Humber Lodge, Hull, at an Emergency Meeting held to enquire into the alleged misconduct of some of its members.

The Earl's reply justified the action of the W.M. of the Humber Lodge.

In 1849 Bro. Raby, over ninety years of age, "gave the brethren in a very distinct manner the History of H.A."

Oct., 1849. Motion proposed that the name of the Trent Lodge be altered to that of Prince of Wales, in consequence of a letter being intercepted by the Secretary of a Lodge of Odd Fellows in Gainsborough bearing the same name.

The change of name received the approval of the Prov. G. Master, and was duly notified to the Grand Secretary.

In the following December "In consequence of a letter from the Grand Sec. stating that as Prince Albert was not a mason it was not to be expected he would allow a Lodge to take the Name of the Prince of Wales, neither was it right to take any personal name without leave from the person; it was proposed that permission be asked to call the lodge Yarborough."

Bro. J. Guy, W.M., received the following:—

"Brockelsby, Ulceby, Hull,
"Dec. 31st 1849.

"My dear Sir & Brother,

"Pray make known to the Brethren of your Lodge that I feel much flattered by their mark of respect as shown by requesting that your Lodge may be named after mine, and that I willingly accept the Compliment.

"It was with much pleasure that I granted your dispensation to hold the office of Master another year, tho' usually, I think it desirable that the office should be changed frequently.

"Believe me, yours truly & fraternally,
"Yarborough."

Dec., 1850. An illuminated address of thanks was presented to Bro. J. Guy on his having zealously filled the chair of the Lodge for five years.

At the re-numeration in 1863 the number of the Yarborough Lodge was changed from 611 to 422.

It is interesting to note that the present Master's and Wardens' chairs, and pillars for the lights, were in use in the old Prince of Wales' Lodge.

The Bible, printed 1613, originally belonged to the Phoenix Lodge, Hull, 368. Three very rare and interesting aprons, painted on leather, are also in possession of the Lodge.

THE BAYONS (OLD) LODGE, MARKET RASEN.

The Bayons Lodge, so called after Bayons Manor, Tealby, the seat of the then Provincial Grand Master, the Rt. Hon. Charles Tennyson, was warranted on the 29th Sept., 1834, No. 612, being next to the Trent Lodge on the Grand Secretary's list.

The first officers are shown on the following return made April, 1836:—

Rt. Hon. C. F. D'Eyncourt, M.P., Privy Councillor,
Bayons Manor, P.G.M.
Z. Barton, Surgeon, Mkt. Rasen, W.M.
J. Thorpe, Sen., Land Agent, Usselby, S.W.
Ed. Pennington, Surgeon, Mkt. Rasen, J.W.
Geo. Saffery, Solicitor, Mkt. Rasen, S.D.
C. Chapman, Stonemason, Mkt. Rasen, J.D.
J. Dean, Joiner, Mkt. Rasen, Steward.
J. Thorpe, Jun., Farmer, Usselby, I.G.
W. Hooke, Pensioner, Mkt. Rasen, Tyler.
E. Melton, Plumber, Mkt. Rasen, Sec.
T. L. Thornton, Innkeeper, Mkt. Rasen.
Thos. Greenwood, Sadler, Mkt. Rasen.
— Quickfall, Innkeeper, Castor, E.A.P.

The Bayons first appeared at P.G.L. in the October following its establishment.

A very successful Provincial meeting was held under its auspices in Oct., 1836, full particulars of which are given in the records of P.G.L. meetings.

Bro. Zephaniah Barton, the first W.M. of the Bayons, was selected to fill the new office of Prov. G. Registrar in 1834, and held the post ten years.

The Lodge does not appear to have made any return to P.G.L. after 1845, and was not represented at the meetings after 1843. It was erased from the Grand Lodge roll 3rd December, 1851.

On 5th June, 1845, Bro. Z. Barton, Treasurer, made the following entry in P.G. Register :—

“Geo. Saffrey—Z. Barton—The Rt. Hon. C. D'Eyncourt.

“No funds in the hands of the Treasurer except from ye above.

“Can get no dues, and am uncertain whether we have any other members ; I intend as soon as I can get time, to muster as many as possible, and come to some determination as to our existence.

Bro. Barton was an able and faithful Registrar. Like his successors, as seen in the following note, made in the Register, he was at times much troubled by the dilatoriness of the various Secretaries :—

“The Witham Lodge sent in their return in *Good time*, which was not enter'd, I, waiting for some others, that I might enter them at ye same time, none arriv'd until a day or two before I was oblig'd to join the regiment of N. L. Y. Cy. on permanent duty at Lincoln for 8 days, with the Rasen troop under my command. Having no time to enter them, I was under ye necessity of forwarding the original returns as sent to me to the D.P.G.M. wh. accts. for ye state of this Book at ye present time.

“Mt. Rasen June 5th 45.

“(Signed) Z. Barton P.G.R.”

THE SHAKSPERE LODGE, SPILSBY.

At a meeting of brethren held at Spilsby, on Friday, 27th March, 1835, it was unanimously agreed "that it is expedient to form a Masonic Lodge at Spilsby, and having purchased the Regalia formerly belonging to the Shakspeare Lodge at Stratford upon Avon, it shall be called the Shakspeare Lodge."

A petition for a warrant from Grand Lodge was signed by
Major Edward Brackenbury, Olive Union Lodge 587.
Henry Wilson, Olive Union Lodge 587.
George Coltman, Apollo Lodge, Oxford.
Thomas Sandars, Olive Union.
Wharton Amcotts Cavie, Olive Union.
Thomas Bradley, Olive Union.
Titus Rainey, Olive Union.
William Walker, Lodge of Harmony.
William Hairby, Lodge of Harmony.
Geo. Bourne, Banbury, Oxfordshire.

The petition, recommended by the Lodge of Harmony, the Lindsey, and Bayons, was forwarded to Dr. Oliver, D.P.G.M., for transmission to the Grand Secretary.

A meeting of P.G.L. was convened on June 11th for the dedication of the new Lodge.

The warrant not having been received, the D.P.G.M. granted the following dispensation:—

"To Brother Edward Brackenbury Esqr., Bro. Henry Wilson Esqr. and Bro. the Rev. George Coltman, greeting. I, the Rev. George Oliver Deputy Provincial Grand Master for Lincolnshire, by virtue of the power vested in me by an appointment under the hand and seal of the Right Hon. Charles Tennyson M.P., Prov. G. Master; do by these presents authorize and empower you to form a lodge of Free and Accepted Masons in the Town of Spilsby within my province, to be called the Shakspeare Lodge and to hold regular meetings at the Town Hall there on Thursday

nearest before the full moon of every month: and you as the Master and Wardens of the said Lodge are hereby empowered to open and close Lodges, to initiate candidates into Masonry in a constitutional manner according to the form of the order and the laws of Grand Lodge, and you are to take care that during the period in which this dispensation is in force, everything be conducted with order and decorum.

“This Dispensation to continue in force Sixty days.

“Given under my hand at Spilsby this Tenth Day of June in the year of Our Lord One Thousand, Eight hundred and Thirty five, and of Masonry Five thousand Eight hundred and Thirty five.

“(Signed) George Oliver D.P.G.M.”

The Lodge was dedicated in masonic form by the D.P.G.M. on June 11th. A procession to Church, and sermon by the Rev. Geo. Coltman.

The following return was made March 25th, 1836:—

Ed. Brackenbury, 50, Major in Army, Skendleby, R.A., W.M.

Henry Wilson, 40, Solicitor, Alford, P.M., S.W.

Rev. G. Coltman, 24, Clerk, M.A., Stickney, R.A., J.W.

Geo. Bourne, 54, Land Agent, Halton, R.A., Sec. and Trea.

Thos. Sandars, 51, Prison Governor, Spilsby, R.A.

Wm. Walker, 60, Solicitor, Spilsby, R.A.

Wm. Hairby, 66, Gentleman, Hundleby, P.M.

Titus Rainey, 29, Chemist, Spilsby, M.M., I.G.

W. A. Cavie, 30, Surgeon, Alford, M.M., S.D.

Thos. Bradley, 28, Brewer, Alford, M.M., J.D.

Thos. Hollis, 35, Auctioneer, Spilsby, M.M.

Thos. Hawling, 31, Tailor, Spilsby, M.M.

Rev. A. P. Dunlop, 25, Clerk, M.A., Mumby, M.M.

Geo. Booth, 56, Land Agent, Wainfleet, M.M.

Date of warrant, 12th May, 1835.

A Lodge banner was purchased in 1841, at a cost of four guineas. A piece of flooring from the Holy Temple at Jerusalem was presented to the Lodge by the Rev. G. Coltman.

In 1850 Bro. the Rev. G. Coltman proposed "that any member disgracing himself and his brethren by being drunk at supper or entertainment of the Shakspeare brethren or upon any other occasion when he appears as a mason, be fined £1 for the 1st offence & for the next expelled."

The regalia mentioned in the early minute is exceedingly interesting and unique. It consists of a Master's pedestal of mahogany, about 5 ft. high; a picture on copper let into the front panel represents Shakspeare leaning against a column and pointing to the working tools laying on the floor. At the foot of the pedestal are two steps, the lower about 6 ft. in length. At the upper end are square holes, cut to allow of pillars being let in. These pillars are of the same material and height as the pedestal; three sides of their base are ornamented with the working tools, the letters J. B. appearing on the front. The pillars have Corinthian capitals of brass. Resting on the capitals are square blocks of wood. On the sides of these blocks small masonic emblems are worked in silver wire and covered with dome-shaped glasses about two inches in diameter. Two rows of fine brass wire with little pendent pomegranates being suspended from the top.

The furniture also includes Master's and Wardens' chairs, pillars for the three lights, oak chest, sword, Bible, and two large wooden figures.

The sword is of great interest, and bears the figure of Shakspeare, his crest and coat of arms, together with about twenty masonic emblems worked in gilt on the blue steel.

The chairs are large gilded ones, the Master's having a square top, on which are fixed carved Prince of Wales' feathers flanked by a sun. The figures are about 5 ft. in height, and represent soldiers of the eighteenth century. What relation they bear to the craft is not as yet satisfactorily explained.

The following extract from the Minute Book and an old bill found in the oak chest contain all the information known as to their purchase:—

"At a lodge of emergency held June 20th 1835 a vote of thanks was passed to Brother Thomas Sandars for his unwearied exertion and perseverance in behalf of establishing the Shakspeare Lodge now first assembled, and for his indefatigable zeal in obtaining the handsome Regalia once belonging to the highly appointed Shakspeare Lodge at Stratford on Avon."

The bill states that Bro. T. Sandars purchased the furniture of a Mr. J. Machin, of Birmingham, on Nov. 25th, 1834, at a cost of £15, and that £10 was paid to a Mr. Mole for refitting it.

Brother Rainey has endeavoured to trace these parties, but so far without success, not the slightest clue being found of their identity.

The Bible has printed on it "Shakspeare Lodge Stratford on Avon No. 416" (*sic*). This inscription and the Prince of Wales' feathers on the Master's chair unmistakably show the original owners of the furniture to be the Lodge chartered during the Grand Mastership of the Prince of Wales at Stratford-on-Avon 25th Jan., 1793, called the Shakspeare Lodge, No. 516, meeting at the White Lion Inn.

The dedication of this Lodge, according to the *Free-masons' Magazine*, 1793, was held on Tuesday, 4th of June. The account says:—

"Never since the Celebration of the Jubilee has there been such a numerous and elegant assemblage of people; the Ladies in particular seeming to vie with each other, who should best express their respect on the occasion. On the next night a Free Ball was given, which for Beauty and Brilliancy, far surpassed anything of the kind ever remembered at Stratford. Every brother appeared in his Apron, and the Grand Provincial Officers, and the Masters and Officers of the different Lodges wore their Sashes and Jewels. One Brother wore a suit of Buttons with Masonic Emblems &c. elegantly set, which cost upwards of Ten Guineas, and many wore Aprons worth from Five to Ten Pounds each.

“Bro. J. Bisset, of S. Albans Lodge, Birmingham, wrote the customary song—

‘Great Shakspeare’s name the Pile shall boast
A name so much renown’d, Sir;
With flowing Bumpers let this Toast
Then chearfully go round, Sir,’” &c., &c.

Probably the zeal of the Stratford brethren outran their discretion, as the Lodge ceased to meet before the end of the century. The warrant was some years ago presented to the Shakspeare Lodge, Warwick.

The Spilsby brethren also possess an old apron, a picture of which appeared in *A.Q.C.* a short time ago.

In concluding my notice of this interesting Lodge I must express my obligations to Bro. J. J. Rainey, I.P.M. of the Shakspeare Lodge.

Bro. Rainey is the descendant of a long line of Masons; the roll of the Craft includes father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. He was initiated as a Lewis, and is the fourth of his name who has filled the office of W.M. of the Shakspeare, a record which has rarely, if ever, been equalled.

THE HUNDRED OF ELLOE LODGE, SPALDING.

The Hundred of Elloe Lodge was warranted 20th March, 1840. A little over a century previous Freemasonry (so far as the Grand Lodge of England was concerned) had been introduced into Spalding, an early engraved list of Lodges showing "Spalding At The Black Bull constituted 1739." In the second decade of the present century the Welland commenced operations, but, like its predecessor, was probably not in active existence more than ten years. The Hundred of Elloe is therefore the third attempt to plant Masonry in Spalding, and the Lodge has, so far as one may judge from the present status of the brethren, a long and prosperous career in store.

The names of the following brethren appear on the warrant:—"Hy. Young (first Master), Jno. Clark, Chas. Rainey, Thos. Draper, Jas. Thornton, Wm. Butterwick, Jarvis Rainey. Bros. Young and Thornton were members of the Welland Lodge.

The original number of the Hundred of Elloe was 690; at the last enumeration, in 1863, it advanced to No. 469.

Masonry in Lincolnshire at the time the Hundred of Elloe Lodge was founded was somewhat under a cloud.

The P.G.M. seemed to be out of touch with most of the brethren, especially with those of the Witham and Harmony Lodges, who had sent a remonstrance and openly expressed their dissatisfaction at the non-holding P.G.L. in 1840. And notwithstanding apparently satisfactory reasons being afforded for the course taken, affairs soon after assumed a most serious aspect, an aspect by no means productive of a good impression on the new Spalding brethren.

Between the Boston meeting, Sept. 29th, 1841, at which the Hundred of Elloe was first represented, and that at Spalding the year after, Dr. Oliver had been dismissed from his office of D.P.G.M.

The ill-feeling thus generated caused the preliminary assemblage at Spalding to appear more like two hostile factions than a meeting of masonic brethren.

Possibly the Rev. W. Mockler's sermon was equal to the occasion, and assisted in restoring harmony when all was discord.

In 1843 the Spalding brethren experienced a very serious calamity in the destruction by fire of their Lodge Room, furniture, and regalia. The Lodge Room, according to a paragraph in the *Lincoln Gazette*, March, 1841, was well fitted up, and included "a splendid chair for the Master of the Lodge, of massive construction of the Doric order, lately manufactured in Spalding, and situated under a throne or canopy."

This misfortune severely crippled the Lodge, so that between the years 1843 and 1849 no representation was made by the Hundred of Elloe at the Provincial meetings.

On the 23rd of Aug. of the latter year the Lodge asked for extension of time to pay the arrears due to P.G.L., as it had not had any regular meetings for some years on account of the fire.

In 1850 the arrears were cancelled, and the Lodge resumed a regular attendance.

The Hundred of Elloe Lodge has now for many years deservedly held a high position in the Province.

The following names, in addition to those on the warrant, were in the first return made to P.G.L. :—

W. Williams.

J. W. Greaves.

Matthew Thorp.

W. Earl.

R. N. Munton, Bourn.

J. Luff, do.

THE ANCHOLME (OLD) LODGE, BRIGG.

After a lapse of nearly half a century a second Lodge was founded at Brigg, under the title of "The Ancholme," the date of the warrant being 31st March, 1847, and No. 785.

The state of the craft in Lincolnshire at the time the Ancholme commenced its labours was most unsatisfactory. No meeting of P.G.L. is recorded in 1847, and only a very scanty attendance at the preceding and following meetings.

The Ancholme Lodge was constituted 11th Jan., 1848, by E. A. Bromehead, P.S.G. Deacon, and was first represented in P.G.L. at the meeting held in Lincoln 6th March, 1848. This meeting is memorable as being probably the smallest P.G. Lodge on record, and it is not unlikely that the representation of the Ancholme Lodge was solely owing to its W.M. being a resident in Lincoln and an old member of P.G.L. than to any particular desire for attendance on the part of the Brigg brethren.

The following members of the Ancholme Lodge, most of whom were initiated in the Witham, were returned on May 8th, 1849:—

Ralph Taylor, Cab: Maker, Lincoln, W.M.
John U. S. Smith, Gent., Melton Ross, S.W.
Amos Kelsey, Farmer, Wadingham, J.W.
Wm. Nicholson, Chemist, Brigg, Trea.
Adam Smith, Engineer, Grimsby, S.D.
Rob. Seaberry, Bookbinder, Brigg, Sec.
W. Squire, Innkeeper, Brigg, J.D.
Jos. Smedley.
J. Campbell, Farmer, Redbourne.
Ed. Farr Broadbent, Surgeon, Lincoln, P.M.
J. Rhoades.
— Paterson.
Earl of Yarborough, Peer, Brocklesby, P.G.M.

A Prov. G. Lodge was held at Brigg in May, 1852. In the following December the Ancholme made the last return of ten members, and on 10th Feb., 1859, the warrant was returned to Grand Lodge.

THE ST. BOTOLPH'S LODGE, SLEAFORD.

The warrant forming the St. Botolph's Lodge was granted by the Earl of Zetland, Grand Master, on March 1st, 1851, to be held at Boston. Numbered 858.

The following names appear on the document:—

Robert Stainbank, W.M.
Edward Coupland S.W.
Alfred Reynolds, J.W.
W. H. Adams.
Chas. Rice.
Edward Ingram.
Wm. Stainton.

Soon after the formation of the Lodge it became apparent that there was no prospect of carrying on the meetings satisfactorily; and it was, at the suggestion of Mr. T. E. Jacobson, ultimately decided to seek permission to remove the warrant to Sleaford.

A meeting was held at the Lodge Room, Corpus Christi Lane, Boston, 21st October, 1856; present, four members of the Lodge and three visitors.

It was resolved "that an application be made to the M.W. the Grand Master for permission to transfer the Warrant of the Lodge of St. Botolph to the Bristol Arms Inn at Sleaford."

The application being supported by the Prov. G. Master, an endorsement to this effect was made on the warrant by the Grand Secretary on Nov. 19th following.

The first meeting at Sleaford was held December 4th, 1856. Many visitors present, including the Masters of the Witham, Harmony, and Elloe Lodges.

The three first initiates were:—

Thomas Edmund Jacobson, Surgeon.
Joseph Bellamy, Merchant.
John Clarke Count, Silversmith.

Bro. T. E. Jacobson was installed W.M. in January, 1861. At the close of his year as Master he was elected Treasurer of the Lodge, the duties of which important trust he has continued faithfully to discharge up to the present day.

Bro. Joseph Bellamy was installed W.M. in Jan., 1865, and again in 1875, having in the meantime filled the post of Secretary.

Bro. J. C. Count was Secretary, and W.M. in 1863.

Among the early joining members at Sleaford were Bros. W. S. Greenwood, of Boston, Joseph Shacklock, P.M., and Ed. Foster, former members of the old Hope Lodge, and Joseph Smedley, of the Apollo, Grimsby.

Bro. Greenwood took great interest in the Lodge, and officiated as Installing Master until his death in 1865.

Some notice of Bro. Shacklock appears in the account of the Hope Lodge.

Joseph Smedley was returned by the Apollo Lodge in 1826. At the time he was initiated and for many years afterwards Bro. Smedley was one of a company of players which periodically visited the local theatres. On his retirement to Sleaford he kept a small stationer's shop.

At the Installation Meeting in 1860 the following letter was received :—

“ My dear Brethren,

“ Tho' absent in the body I am with you in the spirit, but after numbering 76 years & the consequent natural decline of social & I fear intellectual powers, I am forced to shun excitement if I wish for prolonged existence, this is my excuse; for bad as the world is, I have no wish to leave it as long as I can do any good in it—as an earnest of which I now beg that our Lodge will accept the accompanying works of my old & valued Friend Dr. Oliver and with a hope that my younger brethren will not fail to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them, whilst the author & the donor are quietly sleeping in their tombs. Wishing you every enjoyment within the Square

“ Believe me dear Brethren

“ Yours fraternally

“ J. Smedley.”

On Bro. Smedley's death in March, 1863, "the Lodge desire to record the high sense they entertain of their departed brother—who displayed every moral and social virtue in a truly masonic light, and to express their admiration of his honesty, integrity and straightforward conduct as a man in all the affairs of life."

1857. An address (very sincerely acknowledged) was forwarded to the Prov. G.M., the Earl of Yarborough, congratulating him on his recent escape when his yacht, *The Zoe*, was wrecked off the Norfolk coast.

1859. A Past Master's Jewel presented to Bro. J. W. Robinson, on the completion of his two years' presidency of the Lodge.

1869, January. Edward Beverly Bogg, M.D., Islington, was admitted a Joining Member, and immediately afterwards elected W.M.

Brother Bogg, who was connected with Sleaford, took great interest in the Lodge. He died in 1871.

1871. The thanks of the Lodge voted to Bro. Jacobson for four handsome brass stands, and to Bro. J. C. Lambert "for having painted and presented the Lodge with a Floor Cloth, the elegance and beautiful workmanship of which is not equalled in this Province & perhaps not in any other."

Bro. Lambert, in conjunction with Bro. Barsby, was also the promotor of a musical ritual in the Lodge.

A Masonic Library was started in 1884.

A Charity Fund was established in 1876, and taking into consideration the number of members, very few records show a better carrying out of this fundamental principle of the craft than do those of the St. Botolph's Lodge No. 588.

THE LINDSEY (NEW) LODGE, LOUTH.

The revival of Freemasonry in Louth and the establishment of the present Lindsey Lodge was due in a great measure to the interest manifested in the proceedings of the craft in 1853, when the foundation stone of a new Town Hall was laid by the Earl of Yarborough, P.G.M., a special meeting of Prov. G. Lodge being summoned for the purpose.

On the petition of Bros. the Rev. Benjamin J. Wood, Jesse F. Waite, Charles M. Nesbitt, Edward Watson, Thomas Lyall, Samuel C. Blakelock, and William Marshall, a warrant dated the 30th July, 1857, and numbered 1,014, was granted to form the Lindsey Lodge, the three first-named to be respectively Master and Wardens.

The meetings were held for some time in the Public Buildings. There is no record of any dedication ceremony, nor was the Lodge represented at P.G.L. for several years.

About 1860 Brother W. H. Smyth, of Elkington, joined the Lindsey, and was installed W.M. in 1863.

In 1864, after an interval of thirty years, the annual meeting of Prov. G. Lodge was held at Louth.

At this meeting Bro. W. H. Smyth was installed Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and C. E. Lucas, another Lindsey brother, invested as P.G. Secretary.

With these two appointments not only the Lindsey Lodge but the craft throughout the Province entered upon a long period of prosperity.

Bro. Lucas' tenure of office was signalized by untiring zeal and energy in the cause of the craft.

New by-laws for P.G.L. were drawn up, a scheme for working the Benevolent Fund was, in conjunction with Bro. Nesbitt also originated and carried out, and that systematic disposal of the charities adopted which now forms such an important part of the duties of the Prov. G. Secretary.

Bro. Lucas was also well acquainted with the speculative forms in the craft, a member of several of the modern additional degrees, and the editor of a concise history of Prov. G. Lodge.

In 1871 Bro. F. D. Marsden succeeded to the office of P.G. Sec., on the lamented decease of Bro. Lucas, and for several years ably carried on the work of his predecessor.

On the elevation of Bro. W. H. Smyth to the dignity of Provincial Grand Master, Bro. E. Locock was appointed his Deputy, and retained the office till 1889, when he was followed by Bros. Jas. Fowler.

To these brethren of P.G.L. should be added the names of Bro. G. H. Porter, an officer of twenty-five years' standing, and Bro. C. M. Nesbitt, the esteemed P.G. Treasurer. The present year (1894) is the twenty-eighth anniversary of Bro. Nesbitt's appointment to that important office, and he still continues his assistance and interest with the systematic and unflagging energy so characteristic of him.

All these brethren have filled the chair of the Lindsey.

The Lodge has, in addition to a well-appointed hall, a small library, including besides the usual standard works, several sermons, pamphlets, &c., connected with the old Provincial days. Many of these were collected by the late Bro. Lucas, who added from time to time the interesting current events connected with the craft.

Bro. Walter Shepherd is the Local Secretary for Lincolnshire in the C.C. of Lodge Quatuor Coronati 2076.

THE PELHAM PILLAR LODGE, GRIMSBY.

The Pelham Pillar, which gives its name to the mother Lodge of Grimsby, is a noble column, standing on one of the highest parts of the Lincolnshire Wolds, about ten miles south-west of Grimsby. The Pillar, which is rectangular in form, rises to the height of about 140 ft. The exterior is built of stone and the interior of brick; a staircase leads by easy stages up to the lantern, from which a most magnificent view is obtained. It was erected by the Earl of Yarborough, to commemorate the laying out of an extensive tract of country as woods, an inscription over the doorway stating that over twelve and a half millions of trees had been planted on the estate between the years 1787-1823. The foundation of the Pillar was laid in 1840, and the building was completed in about nine years.

Though a material landmark for many miles round, its special connection with Grimsby and Masonry is not very apparent; probably the name may have been suggested by the recent appointment of the then Lord Worsley as D.G.M. of England.

In 1846 a petition, signed amongst others by three members of the old Apollo Lodge, was forwarded to Grand Lodge for a Warrant of Constitution for a Lodge to be held at Grimsby by the title of the Pelham Pillar. This petition, which nominated Wm. Cooper Robinson, Solicitor, of Hull, as W.M., was granted in due course, and the usual Warrant signed on Jan. 22nd, 1847, No. 783. Money for defraying the cost of the Warrant and for the furniture and jewels of the Lodge was subscribed by the brethren and passed to the care of the W.M.-Designate, and arrangements were made for constituting the Lodge and installing its first Master.

After considerable procrastination on the part of this person, it was discovered that he had neither obtained the Warrant nor paid for either the furniture or jewels, but had appropriated the money to his own use.

An application was made to Grand Lodge for the Warrant in 1855, but as both Wardens and the W.M. named in the document were dead the authorities declined to issue it.

The present Pelham Pillar Lodge is due to the initiative in 1859 of Bro. Stephen Hardcastle, an old Witham member and Provincial officer. The date of the Warrant is 15th June, 1859, and number 1,094. The Lodge was opened at Chapman's Hotel on Sept. 29th, followed by a service at the Parish Church and sermon by the Rev. E. R. Larken, Prov. G. Chaplain. No mention of the event appears on the Provincial record.

The return made to P.G.L. 31st Dec., 1859, recorded thirty-one members and the following officers:—

Thomas Hewson, Clerk, Hull, W.M.

J. R. Sarle, Gent., S.W.

W. J. Whalley, Shipbuilder, J.W.

F. P. Cupiss, Surgeon, Trea.

J. Whitford, Postmaster, Sec.

D. H. Bunz, Shipbroker, S.D.

W. Marshall, Merchant, J.D.

E. H. Clark, Civil Eng., I.G.

In 1864 Dr. Oliver was elected an honorary member of the Lodge. The venerable brother, in his reply to the Secretary informing him of the event, wrote:—

“To be once more esteemed a Grimsby Mason is amongst my greatest honours. . . . We (Masons) simply seek to promote the best interests of mankind through the medium of a pure and Christian morality, and aim at that glorious result (which after all, may be unattainable) an universal brotherhood, and the promoters of undisturbed peace and good will amongst men.”

The Rev. Geo. Oliver took office in P.G.L. at the Meeting held at Grimsby in 1813, and it is a curious fact that

the next time the brethren met there, after a lapse of half-a-century, the minutes record their sense of the loss they had recently experienced by his death.

The Pelham Pillar has now been for several years, numerically, the strongest Lodge in the Province, its return in December, 1891, showing a membership of 167.

Bro. W. Goodwin, in addition to a very liberal donation to the Central Charities, has ably represented his Lodge at the Charity Meetings for several years past.

The Grimsby brethren in general, and those of Pelham Pillar in particular, owe much of their prosperity to the zeal of Bro. Anderson Bates. Bro. Bates, in his capacity as W.M. (1870), Secretary, Lecturer, and lastly as historian of the craft in Grimsby, has done infinite service to the cause; and it is but doing simple justice to state that, had it not been for his enthusiasm for the craft, much of its early history would have been lost.

THE FRANKLIN LODGE, BOSTON.

John Franklin, eventually one of the most renowned of England's naval heroes, was the youngest son of a Banker of Spilsby, and was born in that town April, 1786. At the age of fourteen he was entered as Midshipman on board the *Polyphemus*, and was present at the Bombardment of Copenhagen on 2nd April, 1801; afterwards serving on board the *Investigator*, on Australian Survey Service, and on the *Porpoise*, in which vessel he was wrecked on a coral reef near Cato Bank. Being desirous of returning to England, Franklin took his passage in the *Camden*, one of a convoy of East Indiamen, making the homeward journey. The Admiral of the French Fleet, who had obtained information of the traders' movements, waylaid them, in the expectancy of securing an easy and valuable prize. Franklin being in charge of the signals, well knowing that the whole of the convoy could not muster as many guns as the smallest of the French vessels, yet had the pluck and audacity to make signal to form line of battle, and the Admiral withdrew for the night. At daylight the convoy, instead of attempting to escape during the darkness, was, much to the Frenchman's surprise, still in line of battle. Franklin, emboldened by the success of the ruse, gave the signal to make chase, and the French Admiral actually ran away from a convoy of unarmed Indiamen. On his arrival in England Franklin joined the *Bellerophon*, and was present at the Battle of Trafalgar. He afterwards rendered important services in various capacities, and received the honour of knighthood, together with many other expressions of esteem from his countrymen.

On the projection of the expedition to discover a North-West Passage, Sir John Franklin was appointed commander. The expedition comprised two ships, the *Erebus* and *Terror*, and a combined crew of 138 men. With these Sir John set

sail on 19th May, 1845, everything, so far as human foresight could suggest, being carried out as regards fitting the vessels for their perilous journey. At no period of England's history had an expedition created more widespread interest, the high character and eminent abilities of Sir John leading the nation to entertain the most sanguine hopes of success, and a confidence that the problem of a North-West passage would at length be solved. No account of the party having been heard of for several years, Lady Franklin at length fitted out the screw yacht *Fox*, under the command of Capt. McClintock, to search for her husband and his comrades. This expedition returned to England in September, 1859, bearing the mournful tidings of the death of Sir John Franklin and the total loss of the two vessels and their crews. The intelligence created a most profound impression throughout the country, expressions of sympathy from all quarters being conveyed to Lady Franklin and the friends of the other members of the expedition. A statue of Sir John Franklin was soon afterwards erected in his native town of Spilsby by public subscription.

It was about this period that the Boston brethren determined to start a new lodge in the town. The name of St. Botolph, the Patron Saint of Boston, being already in the Province, the brethren (to quote the words of Brother G. H. Gregory at a recent commemoration), instead of ransacking the calendar for ancient saints of more or less mythical history, took the wiser course of looking around for some worthy of modern times.

The name of Sir John Franklin was then in everybody's thoughts and on everybody's lips.

The county connection, the seaman's profession, together with the heroic devotion to duty associated with the name, rendered it a fitting designation for a Boston Lodge of Freemasons. The new Lodge was accordingly named the Franklin, and shortly after its formation Bro. W. H. Radley, its sponsor, presented the Lodge with a banner portraying

an Arctic scene with the *Erebus* fast in the ice, and having beneath, the motto "Nulli Secundus."

The Franklin, the third Lodge established at Boston, was warranted 18th October, 1860, No. 1,140.

The first meeting was held at the Peacock Hotel on 18th Dec., 1860, the following brethren being present:—

Joseph Best,	Hundred of Elloe	(W.M.)
Edward Jackson,	Lodge of Harmony	(S.W.)
George Hackford,	do.	(J.W.)
E. Lewin,	do.	(S.D.)
T. M. White,	do.	(J.D.)
W. H. Radley,	do.	(I.G.)
Danl. Jackson, P.M.,	do.	(Treasurer).
T. Small, P.M.,	do.	(Secretary).
W. Greenwood, P.M.,	do.	
G. Jackson, P.M.,	do.	
E. Coupland, P.M.,	St. Botolph's.	
A. Reynolds, P.M.,	do.	
A. L. Keller, P.M.,	Shakspere.	
J. Bellamy,	St. Botolph's.	
C. Fendelow,	Lodge of Harmony.	
J. Marjason,	do.	

No official attendance was made on the part of Prov. G. Lodge. Bro. Greenwood, having read over the Warrant of Constitution, the Past Masters present installed the W.M. with the usual ceremonial, the various chairs being occupied as shown within the brackets.

The Franklin brethren, taking into account the events which had proved so disastrous to the former Lodge, agreed to adopt the following course, viz., "That all offices should be conferred according to seniority, combined with merit and ability."

This, though an unwritten law, has been pretty well carried out up to the present time, and without doubt much of the prosperity of the Lodge is owing thereto.

The Franklin Lodge was also fortunate in its place of meeting, Bro. Daniel Jackson, the owner and landlord of

the Peacock Hotel, was Treasurer until his death. He spared no pains to promote the comfort and to further the interests of the Lodge, and was much esteemed by the brethren.

Some few years ago the Lodge subscribed and purchased sufficient votes to qualify as a Vice-Patron of the Girls' School. These were placed in the name of Miss Jackson, who, with her cousin, had succeeded to the management of the hotel in 1868.

On the death of Bro. D. Jackson the treasurership was conferred upon Bro. W. H. Radley, Surgeon.

To none is the Province of Lincolnshire more indebted than it is to Bro. Radley.

For twenty years he laboured incessantly in the cause of the Masonic Charities. During this period the Provincial Charity Organization was originated and brought into working order, the Oliver and Sutcliffe Memorial Funds were collected and regulated, and the Province was placed in a satisfactory condition with regard to the Central Charities.

The work of Bro. Radley was truly a labour of love, the extent of which very few of the craft can form more than a slight idea.

At the meeting of P.G. Lodge in 1885 an illuminated address was presented to him on his relinquishing, after sixteen years' service, the position of Prov. Charity Steward.

Bro. Radley, who was in failing health for several years, died in London 8th December, 1890.

The liberal donations of furniture and money, made by the founders of the Franklin, started the Lodge almost free from debt. A steady addition of members has enabled this satisfactory position to be maintained, the Lodge apparently never having experienced any anxiety as regards financial matters.

On one or two occasions during the early years the funds were so flourishing as to admit of an allowance towards the installation banquet.

Soon after the appointment of Bro. Radley as Treasurer, the Lodge zealously took up the cause of the Masonic Charities. Starting in 1865 with the Prov. Benevolent Fund by qualifying as V.P., the Lodge has up to the present time annually contributed two guineas to the same charity.

In Bro. Henry Shepherd the Franklin Lodge has a worthy successor of Bro. Radley—a true and faithful craftsman. Bro. Shepherd joined the Franklin from a Chester Lodge in 1864. During the last sixteen years he has had the gratification of disposing on behalf of the brethren a sum of nearly £400 among the various charitable institutions.

The brethren recently testified their appreciation of Bro. Shepherd's services by presenting him with a very handsome and unique Past Master's Jewel.

1865, December. Bro. W. Greenwood, one of the founders, died, after a brief illness. Bro. Greenwood, who held a public appointment at Boston, was an excellent mason, and much esteemed in the Lodge. A memorial was erected over his grave by the Franklin brethren.

1890, January. Bro. J. T. Liddall, the senior member of the Lodge, was presented with an illuminated address, to commemorate his golden wedding.

In the month of October following Bro. John Fergusson, P.M. and Sec. of the Lodge, died somewhat suddenly. Bro. Fergusson, in addition to an active participation in the affairs of the craft, was also a prominent member of the Oddfellows' Society.

To perpetuate his memory in connection with the Franklin Lodge the brethren endowed the Master's Chair with votes of the Benevolent Institution.

Bro. Fergusson was an artificer in metals; several specimens of his handiwork are in possession of the Lodge.

The following appeared in a special number of the periodical *Work*, giving the awards at a recent exhibition :—

"We regret to record the sudden death of Mr. John Fergusson, of Boston, in Lincolnshire, at the age of 40, who applied for space on the 8th of October for an engraving on 'Delta' metal of St. Botolph's Church, Boston.

"He died on the 13th of October. Man proposes—God disposes. We apply for a few feet of space, and lo! instead, we have six feet of earth and the illimitable space of Eternity. The clockwork of the world goes on; a pivot drops out, another replaces it. Time loses naught—Eternity gains. Farewell, comrade, for now is done thy long day's work."

Bro. Fergusson's death was followed in 1892 by that of his father, who was also a P.M. and active member of the Franklin Lodge.

On 16th April, 1891, a Lodge of Emergency was held to celebrate the 105th anniversary of the birth of Sir John Franklin. After an interesting address had been given by the W.M., Bro. G. H. Gregory, the Franklin coat-of-arms, which now hangs above the Master's chair, was unveiled.

At the celebration of the Festival of St. John in 1892 a Past Master's jewel was presented to Bro. Capt. W. H. Gane, on the completion of a year of office that had witnessed the Centenary of Prov. G. Lodge and the Jubilee of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, a year during which the brethren of the Franklin Lodge had faithfully sustained the landmarks of the craft and their own traditions by endowing the office of W.M. as a Vice-Patron of that most excellent charity.

THE ALEXANDRA LODGE, SUTTON BRIDGE.

The national rejoicings which took place in 1863 on the occasion of the marriage of the Prince of Wales with the Princess Alexandra of Denmark are commemorated by the establishment in that year of two Masonic Lodges bearing the name of Her Royal Highness. One of these was founded in Lincolnshire, at Long Sutton, on 2nd September 1863, on the petition of Bros. R. J. Metcalfe, W.M.; J. A. Richardson, S.W.; E. F. Cole, J.W.; J. Bell, J. Johnson, and R. Flanders; W. Johnson, I.G. Number of Lodge 985, to hold its meetings at the Bull Hotel.

The Lodge was dedicated on Sept. 21st by Bro. W. Clegg, of Boston, Prov. G. Warden. Brother S. S. Mossop being appointed S.D. and Sec., and Bro. Patrick J.D. At the end of the year the Lodge-roll contained the names of eighteen brethren.

The Alexandra in its early years appears to have been unfortunate in the choice of a Master.

As already stated, the first meeting took place in September; on 21st March following Bro. J. A. Richardson, S.W., was elected W.M., and duly installed the following month. In July a Lodge of Emergency was held, and two initiations took place, the D.P.G.M. being also present.

At the Regular Lodge in September it is recorded that instructions had been received from Grand Lodge that the Master's installation was premature. Bro. Richardson was accordingly re-installed. At the next election (September, 1865) Bro. E. F. Cole was chosen to occupy the chair. The Master was unable, through serious illness, to attend the October and November Lodges. At the February and March meetings business was postponed owing to the absence of the officers. After this date (March 19th, 1866) no account of any Masonic transactions appear in the Minute Book for over eighteen months. On Nov. 18th,

1867, Bro. Richardson in the chair, it was agreed that Bro. Garthwaite be W.M. for the ensuing year.

“The members present in turn spoke with true masonic feeling, and expressed sentiments that proved the Alexandra Lodge meant to continue their meetings in good earnest.”

In the following January Brother Garthwaite told the brethren that his election was informal, but that he would occupy the chair as Past J.W. and hold Lodges of Instruction.

A lengthy correspondence ensued between the Lodge and the D.P.G.M. on the state of affairs. In 1869 Brother Cabourn Pocklington, of Boston, was elected a member and Master of the Lodge. Under this brother's able guidance and assistance, continued for several years, the Alexandra Lodge resumed its regular meetings.

The death of Bro. E. F. Cole is recorded in Jan., 1871. The brethren attended the funeral, and sent a letter of condolence to the family, and record “how much we regret having lost the services of so old and valued a member of the Lodge.”

October, 1871. Fraternal greetings from a native of Long Sutton, a member of a Washington, U.S.A., Lodge.

In 1874 the Alexandra being again in difficulties owing to irregular attendance, it was decided to hold the meetings at Holbeach.

At the Lodge held March 10th, 1884, being the twenty-first anniversary of the marriage of the Prince and Princess of Wales, a letter of congratulation was sent to the Grand Master. In October, 1886, the brethren removed to their present place of meeting, the Bridge Hotel, Sutton Bridge. A Charity Association in connection with the Province was formed during the Mastership of Bro. C. E. Ward, and has proved eminently satisfactory.

THE HEReward LODGE, BOURN.

It has been remarked that, unless it be desirable to honour some brother eminent in the craft, the name of a Masonic Lodge should denote its locality.

Looking over the list given in the *Freemasons' Calendar*, in how few instances does this course appear to have been carried out.

The brethren of Bourn are to be commended on their determination to preserve the connection of their town with the great Saxon patriot, Hereward the Watchful.

Hereward, Lord of Bourn, who was born about the year 1047, is one of the few famous men of that time of whom trustworthy records remain. These, considering the age in which he lived, show him to have possessed many noble traits of character.

At the meeting of the Lincoln Architectural Society at Bourn in 1861 a paper on *Hereward, the Saxon Patriot*, was read by the Rev. Edward Trollope (afterwards Bishop of Nottingham). This, together with genealogical tables of Hereward's descendants, the Wakes of Courteen Hall, Northampton, are printed in the Society's Reports of that year.

Of Charles Kingsley's romance of Hereward the Wake it is not necessary to speak.

The Warrant for constituting the Hereward Lodge, No. 1,232, was granted August 29th, 1868.

The Lodge was dedicated at the Angel Hotel on Monday, Nov. 9th, 1868, by Bro. W. H. Smyth, D.P.G.M., assisted by many Provincial officers and visitors.

Bro. the Rev. E. C. Hadath was the first Master, H. Lambden, S.W., S. W. Johnson, J.W., these, together with Bros. Campbell, Powne, and Sills, being founders of the Hereward.

Bro. Lambden, the second W.M., died during his year of office.

In 1873 the brethren subscribed for a memorial stone for the late Brother J. Campbell, one of the founders of the Lodge.

The Lodge banner, painted and embroidered by Mrs. Bott, wife of the esteemed Treasurer of the Lodge, was presented in 1873. It represents the arms of Hereward quartering those of Sir Baldwin Wake, and bearing the motto, "Vigila et Ora."

Gifts of furniture from Bros. Chamberlain and Truman are also recorded.

Brother the Rev. Doctor Ace joined the Hereward in October, 1875, and at the ensuing election in November was chosen W.M.

This proved to be a most unfortunate selection, and resulted in a very unsatisfactory year of work.

April, 1877. The Hereward brethren raised the sum of fifty guineas, which sum was placed to the credit of Miss E. B. Bott in the Central Girls' School, she thereby becoming a Vice-Patroness of that Institution.

The famous, notorious, and eventually unfortunate Dr. Wm. Dodd, the first Grand Chaplain, was a native of Bourn.

THE ANCHOLME (NEW) LODGE, BRIGG.

The present Ancholme Lodge was established by warrant dated 7th September, 1869 ; number, 1,282 ; to meet at the Town Hall, Brigg.

The following officers, together with six initiates, were returned the following December :—

V. D. H. Carey-Elwes, J.P., Brigg, W.M.
Geo. Nelson, Farmer, Limber, S.W.
Decs. M. Robbs, Solicitor, Brigg, J.W.
H. H. Cave, Gent., Brigg, Trea.
H. L. Simons, Draper, Brigg, Sec.
Thos. Marris, Farmer, Ulceby, S.D.
Thos. Geary, Valuer, E. Halton, J.D.
J. B. Kirkham, Farmer, Brigg, I.G.

Apparently none of these brethren belonged to the old Ancholme.

THE BAYONS (NEW) LODGE, MARKET RASEN.

The new Bayons Lodge, No. 1,286, was warranted on the 7th of October, 1869, the founders being H. E. Turnour (W.M.), G. J. Atkins (S.W.), E. E. Jevons (J.W.), G. Saffery (a member of the old Bayons), T. Barsby, N. E. B. Turnour, H. C. Chambers, and F. W. Makins.

The late Gerard Ford, a grandson of the Rev. Matthew Barnett, for many years D.P.G.M. of the Province, was a member of the Bayons, and took great interest in its welfare.

He was appointed Prov. G. Deacon of Lincolnshire in 1875 by dispensation, being then resident out of the Province.

Bro. Ford was a most excellent Mason—a Past Grand Deacon of England; D.P.G.M. and Grand Superintendent R.A. of the Province of Sussex.

The Rev. Matthew Barnett was for a long period Curate-in-Charge of Market Rasen and Vicar of Willingham. His grave is in Rasen churchyard, beneath the west wall of the north aisle. A tablet in the Church records his death on June 16th, 1833, in the 72nd year of his age.

The Bayons Lodge possesses a very unique Register, compiled by Bro. the Rev. J. C. K. Saunders, a P.M. of the Lodge. Besides being a chronicle of transactions connected with the Province, it traces most of the members of the old Bayons, and gives a full record of all the brethren of the present Lodge who have died or resigned membership. Its compilation must have entailed great labour and trouble.

Although it is impossible to carry out a Register like this in many Lodges, yet no one will deny that a Lodge of Masons ought to possess a more full account of the career of its members, than the customary short notice of death or resignation recorded in the minutes. In the case of old Lodges, a Register like this of Bro. Saunders's is invaluable to the historian.

THE ST. ALBANS LODGE, GRIMSBY.

This Lodge was warranted 19th Nov, 1869, No. 1,294, and named after the Duke of St. Albans, at that time Grand Master of the Province.

At the dedication ceremony, which took place at the Royal Hotel, on February 3rd, 1870, interesting addresses were given by the Prov. Grand Master, and the Rev. G. C. Hadath, Prov. G. Chaplain.

During the Banquet was read a "Dedication Ode," written by Brother A. Bates, which happily connected His Grace the President with

"St. Alban, who in great love, and intellectual might,
"To this our Isle first shewed Masonic light."

A return of twenty members was made in December, 1870, including the Duke of St. Albans, Prov. G. Master, and the following officers:—

J. Sutcliffe, Shipping Agent, Stallingboro', W.M.

F. Long, Timber Merchant, Grimsby, S.W.

H. Josse, Merchant, J.W.

F. P. Cupitt, Surgeon, P.M.

E. H. Clarke, Civil Engineer, S.D.

S. Walmsley, H.M. Customs, J.D.

C. B. Moody, Surgeon, Trea.

A. Bates, Solicitor, Sec.

R. T. Bord, Gent., Waltham, I.G. ,

Gifts of furniture, &c., for Lodge use, together with a very liberal endowment of votes in the various charities, have placed the St. Albans brethren in a very honourable position on the roll of the Province.

Brother Sutcliffe was Prov. S.G. Warden in 1871, and Provincial Charity Steward in 1873. And on the formation of the Mark Provincial G. Lodge in 1874 was nominated and installed as P.G.M. His exertions on behalf of the Masonic Charities are fittingly commemorated in the Province by the "Sutcliffe Memorial Fund." established in 1888, for the relief of aged Freemasons and their widows.

THE OLIVE UNION (NEW) LODGE,
HORNCASTLE.

The present Olive Union Lodge, No. 1,304, was founded 25th February, 1870.

The first return to P.G.L. showed a membership of 17, including the following officers :—

Rev. J. C. Brown, W.M.
J. C. Osborne, S.W.
H. Hose, J.W.
F. W. Kenrick, P.M.
J. Ward, Trea.
J. S. Settle, Sec.
Rev. R. Winning, S.D.
R. Nicholson, J.D.
H. F. Sharpe, I.G.
H. W. Seager, D.C.

None of these were connected with the former Lodge.

Bro. J. C. Osborne was an old Witham member, and P.G. Org. in 1846.

A considerable portion of the furniture and jewels of the old Olive Union are in use in the present Lodge.

THE SAINT HUGH LODGE, LINCOLN.

On the 23rd of November, 1871, a number of Witham brethren assembled by invitation at the house of Brother Richard Hall, to consider the advisability of establishing a second Lodge in the City. It being the unanimous opinion of those present, that the welfare and prosperity of the craft in Lincoln would be materially benefitted by the formation of another Lodge, the necessary steps for obtaining and forwarding a petition to Grand Lodge were resolved to be taken.

At the ensuing meeting of the Witham Lodge, a petition for a warrant to hold a Lodge in Lincoln, to be called the Saint Hugh, was signed by the brethren present, about thirty in number.

The warrant, which bears the name of John Glen Bayles, Frederick Watson, Henry Watson, William Watkins, Thos. Heffernan, Richard Hall, and John Norton, is dated the 16th of December, 1871, No. 1,386.

On the 20th of March, 1872, the St. Hugh Lodge was consecrated by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Brother W. H. Smyth.

Bro. the Rev. J. G. Bayles was installed as first Master, and Brothers Frederick and Henry Watson invested as first Wardens. The proceedings, which took place at the hall in Grantham Street, concluded with a banquet at the Great Northern Hotel.

The Lodge is presumably named after the famous St. Hugh of Lincoln, whose shrine in former days brought much honour and wealth to the Cathedral.

Of the 150 names on the present roll of Grand Lodge with the prefix of "Saint" the Lincoln Lodge is the only one which bears that of Saint Hugh.

The new Lodge entered at once on a season of prosperity, over thirty Witham brethren becoming Joining Members the first year. From its formation to the present the interests of the Witham and the St. Hugh Lodges have been identical.

In addition to occupying the same premises, the Lodges are governed by a similar code of by-laws, and many brethren are members of both Lodges.

Scarcely a meeting of either Lodge has been held, without the hearty good wishes of the other being expressed, and no festive gathering has taken place, without the toast of the mother or daughter Lodge being duly honoured.

In short, the object of the promoters of the St. Hugh Lodge has been fully maintained, "no strife between the two except that noble strife or rather emulation of who best can work and best can agree."

THE SAINT MATTHEW'S (NEW) LODGE,
BARTON-ON-HUMBER.

The warrant of the present St. Matthew's Lodge is dated 31st July, 1873, No. 1,447.

The following were the first members :—

Col. R. J. Taylor, Burnham Manor, W.M.
W. Swallow, Barton, S.W.
H. Ashton, Thornton, J.W.
W. H. Sissons, Barton, S.D.
J. B. Swallow, Horkstow. J.D.
T. M. Bennett, Barton, Steward.
W. Waddingham, Barton, Sec.
Rev. R. Bullock, Barrow, Chaplain.
G. R. Welsh, Barrow, Org.
F. Philpott, Barrow, I.G.
W. Hesseltine, Barton.
J. H. Shearwood, Barrow.
W. Gray, Barton.
J. E. Hall, Barton.
S. Kenningham, Barton, Tyler.

An interesting portion of the furniture used in the old St. Matthew's was secured for the new Lodge by Bro. W. H. Sissons. The early meetings being held in the Volunteers' Hall.

On the 19th May, 1875, the foundation stone of the Masonic Hall was laid by Bro. W. H. Smyth, D.P.G.M., and dedicated the same year.

The important part taken by the S. Matthew's brethren in the early days of Prov. G. Lodge has been stated. History once more repeats itself:—

In 1793 Brother Matthew Barnett, one of the first members of St. Matthew's Lodge, Barton-on-Humber, was

appointed to the office of Dep. Prov. G. Master; in 1893 this important position was filled by Brother Wm. Harling Sissons, a first member of the new St. Matthew's Lodge, Barton-on-Humber.

Another coincidence is that the brothers appointed to the office of Deputy Prov. G. Master in 1792 and 1892 were both members of the medical profession.

Brother Sissons is a Past Officer of the Grand Lodge of England, a Justice of the Peace for the Parts of Lindsey, and a Deputy Lieutenant of the County of Lincoln.

ISLE OF AXHOLME LODGE, CROWLE.

On 23rd January, 1874, a warrant (No. 1,482) was granted to constitute a Lodge at Epworth, in the Isle of Axholme. Members in the first return:—

A. Parkin, Doncaster, W.M.
Rev. D. Ace, D.D., Laughton, S.W.
J. K. Johnstone, Epworth, J.W.
G. J. Bell, Epworth, S.D.
J. Campbell, Owston, J.D.
Rev. W. M. Anderson, Epworth, I.G.
A. Taylor, Epworth, Sec., Trea.
W. E. Howlett, Kirton Lindsey, P.M.
And six initiates.

The establishment of a Masonic Lodge at the birthplace of the Rev. John Wesley excited much interest.

The dedication took place on Monday, 11th May, 1874. Brother the Rev. Doctor Ace delivered an oration on "The Psychology of Freemasonry."

A few years afterwards, the majority of the brethren, finding Crowle more convenient for assembling, moved the Lodge from Epworth to that place.

THE HAMILTON LODGE, ALFORD.

The founders of the Hamilton Lodge were Brothers C. Smyth (W.M.), R. Garfit (S.W.), F. Higgins (J.W.), C. H. Bycroft, J. S. Cooks (I.G.), T. C. Johnson (S.D.), and A. Veitch (J.D.)

The Lodge was named after the Lord of the Manor.

The date of warrant is 25th of February, 1876, and number 1,600.

There were during the first year nine initiations and three Joining Members, Bros. Nesbitt (P.G. Trea.) and Marsden (P.G. Sec.) being amongst the latter.

THE LUMLEY LODGE, SKEGNESS.

The Lumley Lodge, No. 1893, named in honour of Lord Scarbrough, was warranted 15th February, 1881.

The petitioners were H. J. Seels (W.M.), F. Cartwright (S.W.), S. Taylor (J.W.), Chas. Hildred, David Shaw (all members of the Shakspeare Lodge), Geo. Dunkley (Sec.), and M. Enderby.

The Lodge was dedicated at the Scarbrough Estates Offices by the Prov. G.M. on Thursday, April 21st, 1881.

About sixty brethren attended the Lodge and banquet.

THE ST LAWRENCE LODGE, SCUNTHORPE.

The St. Lawrence Lodge, named after the Patron Saint of the Parish Church, was warranted on 28th November, 1884, the number on Grand Lodge Roll being 2,078.

The petitioning brethren were the Rev. Walter Horace Insull, George Dove, William Moore, Roger Portington Goodworth, William Langbridge, Thomas Marris, William Campbell.

The Lodge was dedicated by the R.W. the Provincial Grand Master, Major W. H. Smyth, on Tuesday, 10th February, 1885.

The Rev. W. H. Insull was the first W.M., Bro. George Dove S.W., and Bro. William Moore J.W.

THE SMYTH LODGE, GRIMSBY.

The Smyth Lodge, named in honour of the Provincial Grand Master, was warranted Sept. 26th, 1888, number 2,284 on the Roll of Grand Lodge. The first officers were:—

Jack Sutcliffe, W.M.
Jas. Cook, S.W.
H. Clark, J.W.
Alf. Wykes, Chaplain.
Mk. Cook, Trea.
Jn. Tonge, Sec.
R. J. Tonge, D.C.
R. H. Sharpe, S.D.
W. S. Morris, J.D.
D. Smith, Org.
Geo. Doughty, I.G.
Wm. Martin, Tyl.

THE ERMINE LODGE, LINCOLN.

A petition for a warrant to form a new Lodge in Lincoln, was recommended by the Master and Wardens of the Witham Lodge at the regular meeting, Jan., 1890.

The Lodge meets in the County Assembly Rooms, adjacent to the old Roman "Hermin" or "Ermine" Street: hence its name.

The warrant, numbered 2,351, and dated 21st January, 1890, was granted to Henry Edward Cousans (W.M.), the Hon. Victor Ralph Anderson Pelham (S.W.), Col. Richard George Ellison (J.W.), Richard John Ward, Richard Cotton Carline, Thomas M. Wilkinson, and Edward Percy Dalton.

The Lodge was dedicated the following May by Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, Grand Secretary, assisted by several brethren of high standing in the craft.

Col. Richard Ellison was Worshipful Master in 1891, the Hon. Victor A. Pelham in 1892, and the Earl of Yarborough in 1893. At the Installation Meeting, 22nd May, 1894, the Earl of Yarborough, Senior Grand Warden of England, was again placed in the chair of the Lodge, the other officers remaining much as before.

It is recorded with great regret that since writing the above, and while these sheets were passing through the press, four of the founders of the Lodge have passed away, viz., Brothers Thomas M. Wilkinson, Richard Cotton Carline, Charles P. Kemp, and Edward Percy Dalton.

THE REV. SAMUEL OLIVER.

Among the brethren who attended the memorable P.G. Lodge at Spalding in 1842, none created more interest than the venerable father of the P.D.P.G.M.

Though never officially connected with Prov. G. Lodge, Samuel Oliver was long resident in the county, and also a member of the Grimsby Lodge for several years. His masonic and clerical life was in many respects most remarkable, and will doubtless be read with interest.

There can be little doubt that the eminent career of George Oliver was due in a great measure to the excellent example shown by his father, who through good report and evil report, and under the most disheartening circumstances, conscientiously fulfilled the duties of his high calling.

Samuel Oliver was born in the neighbourhood of Nottingham about the year 1756. Of his early history, which is somewhat of a romantic nature, little authentic is known.

He is said to have received his mathematical education under the celebrated Thos. Simpson, and to have been a most enthusiastic scholar, astronomy and astrological calculations being his favourite occupation during a portion of his early life.

He married Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. George Whitehead, of Bestwood, near Nottingham. The parish register of Papplewick records the baptism on 9th Nov., 1782, of George, son of Samuel and Elizabeth Oliver.

In 1788 the Rev. Samuel Oliver was, through the influence of Lord Denbigh, appointed Head Master of the Free School at Lutterworth, about thirteen miles from Leicester, and eventually undertook the clerical duties of several absentee incumbents.

It is on record that Oliver had over fifty boys under his care at Lutterworth, and that he was invariably at his desk at seven o'clock a.m.

It appears to have been his usual custom on Saturday night to ride over to one of his curacies, preach three times on the Sunday, reaching home about midnight, after travelling about forty miles.

On July 12th, 1797, Samuel Oliver was initiated in the St. John's Lodge, Leicester, and became a most zealous Mason, regularly attending the meetings, as a rule walking the long distance, starting after school hours, and returning when Lodge was over.

Bro. Oliver was doubtless held in high estimation by his brethren and fellows. One who well remembers him later in life says, that the old man when in company with his friends, was a host in himself, full of anecdote and reminiscences of a long career, thoroughly appreciating his glass and long pipe and the good things of this life, extremely fond of a joke, yet withal a God-fearing man.

On the S. John's Day after his initiation Brother Oliver undertook to write a song for each Lodge-night during the Master's year. The MSS. of these songs, twelve in number, afterwards presented to St. John's Lodge by the author's son, are now among the most cherished possessions of the Lodge.

Oliver shortly afterwards returned to his native district in the neighbourhood of Nottingham, where he joined the Union Lodge in that town 16th April, 1799, being returned to Grand Lodge as "S. Oliver, Clerk, Age 43 Gotham Notts."

In November, 1801, the Rev. Philip Fisher was inducted into the Vicarage of Whaplode, near Holbeach. This gentleman, being also Rector of Elton, Huntingdon, Prebendary of Salisbury, and Master of the Charterhouse, confided the spiritual oversight of his Lincolnshire flock to the care of the Rev. Samuel Oliver, to whom was allowed, to keep up the dignity of the Vicarage and bring up a family of nine children, a modest stipend of less than £100 per annum.

This amount Mr. Oliver endeavoured to increase by the exercise of his old profession, the following very characteristic notice appearing in the *Stamford Mercury* of 1809:—

“Vicarage House, Whaplode.

“The Rev. S. Oliver proposes receiving a few young Gentlemen as pupils, who will be genteelly boarded, tenderly treated, liberally educated and moderately charged. . . .

“Mr. Oliver cannot in conscience think of promising everything to every Parent, as though genius and ability were to be bought and sold; all that he presumes to say is, that no exertion shall be wanting to form the mind, and regulate the manners of his pupils, bringing them up in the fear of God; and ultimately ushering into Society a number of youths who may prove a credit to their teacher, an honour to religion, a comfort to their friends, and a blessing to themselves.”

It was Mr. Oliver's custom, after the year 1811, to make notes in the Parish Register. His summing up of the character of some of his parishioners in these entries is couched in very plain English, and one is simply amazed at the state of the parish so graphically pictured.

Mr. W. E. Foster, in his *Historical Notes of S. Mary's Church, Whaplode*, writes:—

“Mr. Oliver was a man greatly respected by the better class of his parishioners, and those residing at Holbeach used to greatly aid him in his work, realizing the cruelty of the non-resident vicar in taking the whole income from the living and giving his curate little more than labourer's hire to carry on the whole work of the Church unaided. There was scarcely a resident vicar in the whole of the villages from Spalding to Sutton. The large incomes from the vicarages were sent to the incumbents holding other livings far away, who never visited their fen parishes, and cared nothing for their Master's work, but left the whole charge to a curate, who often administered to the spiritual wants of more than one parish, the whole object of the pluralists being to get a curate to do as much as they could at the cheapest possible rate. The Rev. S. Oliver made many notes in the registers which show how keenly he felt his

position, and the total absence of religious feeling in Whaplode and the cruel persecution he endured at the hands of those to whom he 'wanted to do good.'"

On Feb. 12, 1813, Mr. Oliver makes note of his grief that none of the churchwardens or overseers had stayed sacrament since he had been there. Also the trouble he had with the parishioners because he would have a collection before the Communion Service.

Note is made on Sunday, Nov. 8, 1816, that the churchwarden stayed sacrament for the first time.

Mr. Oliver records on Sept. 28, 1814, the sad fate of those who confederated against me in the month of June, 1811, when the infernal explosion took place "which the scavengers of pandemonium had been engaged to prepare for my life."

On Jan. 1, 1813, he complains in a note that Mr. James Measure, who took upon himself the place of village esquire, withdrew from church, and that Mr. Measure consulted several attorneys to defraud Mr. Oliver of his surplice fees, but after paying the lawyer's fees Mr. Measure abandoned his cause.

On Sunday, Nov. 8, 1818, whilst Mr. Oliver was performing Divine Service, Joseph Blackith, farmer of the great tithes, and Wm. Heely, overseer, insulted him; but on Wednesday, the 11th, Blackith came and apologized and gave £5, which Mr. Oliver sent to the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge. Heely came a few days after and paid £7, which Mr. Oliver records he gave to the poor.

On Sunday, Dec. 20, 1818, James Blackith and Stavely Blackith, Mr. Oliver records, insulted him whilst leaving church. He reported it to the Archdeacon, who sent down a severe monition to the churchwardens.

On Thursday, Oct. 7, 1819, Joseph Blackith came to Mr. Oliver's house and made peace; but Mr. Oliver accuses him, in the absence of his maid, on going through the kitchen, of setting fire to his linen, which was drying.

On Thursday, July 20, 1820, Joseph Blackith was present at the funeral of Delia Rose. He disturbed the service in church, and when at the grave he frightened Mr. Oliver by shaking the "portable shed," and having a horsewhip, which he had "dextrously" used on some others, and by his threatening manner Mr. Oliver "was in fear he would use it on him."

Returning to Bro. Oliver's masonic life, we find his zeal for the craft unabated. Distance which to ordinary people would be insurmountable, seemed to be of no account, a walk of over twenty miles being regularly undertaken in order to attend the newly-formed Lodge in Peterborough. On the occasion of the consecration of the St. Peter's Lodge in that city in the year 1802, a sermon was preached in the Parish Church by the Rev. S. Oliver, R.A.M., Chaplain to the said Lodge, member of the Union Lodge, Nottingham, and hon. member of the Scientific Lodge, Cambridge.

About this time George Oliver, who was destined to be such a shining light in the craft, then a young man about eighteen, was initiated in the Lodge, father and son, on account of the latter being under age, taking the obligation together. In 1821 the Rev. Samuel Oliver's name was returned as a member of the Apollo Lodge, Grimsby, and probably remained until the dissolution of the Lodge, about ten years afterwards.

We will now pass on to the momentous event in the now aged Curate's career, viz., the death of the Vicar of Whaplode and his removal from the curacy. It can scarcely be believed that such a scandalous piece of business could have taken place; yet it is a fact, that so far as the patrons of the living or the new Vicar cared, Mr. Oliver would have been turned adrift into the world, of course, at his time of life, without the slightest chance of getting any employment.

Fortunately for him this calamity was averted, though perhaps not quite in the way he would have wished.

The piece of good fortune is given as told by one who had it almost verbatim from the old man's lips:—

"One day, whilst going my parochial rounds, I met a lawyer who periodically came down from London as Estate Agent. 'I say, Oliver, would you like a living?' 'Should I like a living,' repeated the Curate, 'Why I've not lived for over 60 years; I have only existed.' 'Well, I can offer you the living of Lambley, near Nottingham, if you like to take it.'"

From the conversation which followed Mr. Oliver easily understood the position of affairs. Similar cases had doubtless frequently come under his observation during his long connection with the Church, and even at the present day are occasionally heard of.

The Rector of Lambley dying rather suddenly, it was legally necessary to put in what has been denominated an "Ecclesiastical Warming Pan," to keep the living aired until arrangements could be made for its disposal. The lawyer, in duty to his clients, naturally looked for the oldest man he could find; hence the Rev. Samuel Oliver, 42 years Curate of Whaplode, age about 85, was advanced to the dignity of Rector, and was duly inducted into the living of Lambley, 2nd Dec., 1842.

Shortly after the old Rector was settled in his new home the usual advertisement appeared, setting forth the value of the living, its advantages and beauties, not forgetting that "the present Incumbent is approaching ninety."

The old man used gleefully to recount how one day a young clerical individual was noticed peering round the church and grounds, and trying to summon up his courage to interview the supposed tottering old man who stood between the purchaser and his purchase. The Rector, well knowing the errand, came round the house corner with coat off, shirt sleeves doubled up and spade over shoulder, looking the picture of health, and in answer to his visitor's enquiry as to his health exclaimed, "I never felt better in my life. I am just going to have some bread and cheese and porter, and shall be delighted if you will join me."

It is on record that when ninety years of age, Mr. Oliver drove into Nottingham to attend the Visitation at St. Mary's, afterwards dining heartily, in company with Archdeacon Wilkins, Clergy, and Churchwardens, amongst the latter being his grandson, B. Oliver, then a bookseller on Long Row.

The following is inscribed on a stone beneath the altar of Lambley Church:—

In memory of
The Rev^d Samuel Oliver
Rector of this Parish
Died Aug. IXth MDCCCXLVII.
Aged XCII. years.

Also of Betsey, wife of the
Rev^d Sam^l Oliver
Died Nov. 4th 1844
Aged nearly 84 years.

Non sumus digit
qui vel micas colligemus
sub mensa tua.

It only remains to be said that, notwithstanding the rotten state of affairs at that period and the scandalous treatment he had himself experienced, Mr. Oliver was a staunch upholder of his Church, and allowed no occasion to pass which gave him an opportunity of defending her position. "He considered it his duty to defend the principles of the Church of England to the utmost of his power; and he conceived that the best means of doing so was by exposing the errors of those who had dissented from her communion." He has been heard to say that he felt himself divinely commissioned to "cry aloud and spare not, and that if he omitted to do so he should grievously wound his own soul, and be guilty of an unpardonable offence against God."

Mr. Oliver's attendance at the Spalding Prov. Lodge in company with his son and grandson showed three generations of Masons at Lodge together, an event probably without a parallel.

THE REV. MATTHEW BARNETT.

The following biographical account has been furnished by Mrs. Ford, widow of the grandson of the Rev. Matthew Barnett

Matthew Barnett was born in the year 1761 at Asby, a village of Westmoreland near Appleby, itself a little sleepy town with empty, grass-grown streets. He was one of a large family. In those days wealth was not so distributed as it is now ; there was a much stronger demarcation between the rich and the poor. The immense fortunes of self-made commercial men were practically unknown, and wealth consisted much more than it does now in the possession of vast landed estates. These were generally owned by the good, old, historical families of the kingdom. Life was much less complicated, and wants were fewer. A man with two or three hundred a year was able to bring up a large family respectably and to place them out in the world. Population was lower, and competition less. Life moved quietly, and the breathless race for wealth had not begun. There is nothing known of the childhood of Matthew Barnett, but his parents were not rich, and a good deal of economy must have been practised to fit him for the position he afterwards held. There is a tradition of his having acted as teacher in a school at Asby, but it is difficult after such a lapse of time to verify the fact. Early in life he seems to have left his native county, and for a time he taught in Mr. Facer's school in Staindrop, a quiet little market town under the shadow of Raby Castle, in the county of Durham. It was there he met Mary Ford, his future wife.

In the year 1786 he came to Barton-on-Humber. He was then only twenty-five, but already the ruling passion of his life had shown itself—his love of Masonry. He was a member of the Raby Lodge, No. 372, of Staindrop, and

when he left there, to go to his new home at Barton, he missed the companionship of his brethren of the craft so much, and was such an enthusiastic lover of Masonry—such a firm believer in its beneficial effect in life, that he lost no time in applying to Grand Lodge for a warrant to found a Lodge at Barton. This warrant is dated 20th March, 1787. It was called the St. Matthew's Lodge, and was No. 497. The name still survives in the present Lodge at Barton. It was opened 21st September, St. Matthew's Day, the yearly "feast," as they called it then, being held on that day, a custom which is, I believe, still kept up.

In 1788 Mr. Barnett revisited Staindrop, and was married to Mary Ford, his true and faithful wife for forty-five years; and his survivor. Only one of his family, Emma, the youngest, seems to have left children. She married her cousin, John Ford, and in Gerard, her second surviving son, the love of Masonry, so strong in Matthew Barnett, sprung up again into vigorous life. He was a most enthusiastic, devoted Mason, when he was taken from us; he was P.G.D. of Lincolnshire, a member of the St. Matthew's Lodge and Chapter of Barton, the oldest subscribing member of the Bayons Lodge at Market Rasen, D.P.G.M. of Sussex, and P.G.D. of England. He was the founder of the Earl of Sussex Lodge at Brighton, and its first Master. He took the greatest trouble to collect memorials of his revered grandfather, and had time been given him, intended himself to have written his life, which he would have done most ably. Every now and then comes a hiatus in the records which he could have filled up; little difficulties which he could have elucidated must now remain unsolved.

After Mr. Barnett settled at Barton he still continued his educational labours. His school-room, oddly enough, was the old church at Barton. Very cold and very draughty it must have been, in spite of a most disfiguring, but no doubt, comforting fireplace put up by him, which remains to this day—a very ugly memorial of a good and worthy

man. Doubtless the seeds of the disease—rheumatism—from which he suffered greatly in later life, were laid here. It is interesting to think that the influence of his upright, energetic nature must still be lingering in the small town on the Humber, for he moulded the characters of the grandfathers or great-grandfathers of the present generation. In these days the duties of a pedagogue were very much more difficult than they are to-day. School books were of the fewest, and were so curiously stilted and disagreeable in style, that one ceases to wonder at the school-boy going “unwillingly” to school. The young schoolmaster, anxious to make the road to the learning he loved plainer for his pupils, published one or two books to help them. One was an English Grammar, published, I think, in Hull, in 1806. He took great pains with the education of his own children, and would write out for them in simpler language, any passage they found difficult in the books he wished them to study. Could he leave his quiet resting-place now for an hour or two, and enter one of our modern Board Schools, how the multitude of well-written, fascinating school-books would amaze and delight him!

In 1799 he published a little book for the benefit of the elder portion of his flock, *Serious Hints and Friendly Advice from a Minister to his Parishioners*. Two or three of his sermons were also published, one preached in 1804 at Barton, before the Volunteers, during the time when all agricultural districts shared with the ports the terror of the threatened Napoleonic invasion. Another, published in 1811, in compliance with an appeal made to him in his clerical capacity to obtain money from his congregation for the relief of upwards of ten thousand British prisoners in France. An interesting entry appears at a later period—that is, the debiting to his Lodge three-sixteenths of a lottery ticket. It would be curious were particulars of that kind brought into a treasurer’s account now. Among Mr. Barnett’s papers is also the copy of a “Loyal Address” to the Regent on his marriage, signed by Lord Moira, A.G.M., and dated

13th Feb., 1795. When we think of the scenes at the coronation of George IV., and later of the trial of the Queen at Westminster, these congratulations to the royal pair on their "felicity" are not without irony.

In 1799 Matthew Barnett became Vicar of Cranwell, but, as was very usual in those days, he held the post as an absentee, continuing to reside at Barton-on-Humber till the year 1812. In that year he was appointed Curate of Market Rasen, and went to reside there; and there he remained till his death, and there he was buried. He was Rector of Ludford Parva, and also Curate of Ludford Magna, during the lifetime of Mr. Holmes, the Incumbent; on the death or removal of Mr. Holmes he acted as sequestrator of the living. After 1828 his name does not occur in the registers of either of the Ludfords. He was also Perpetual Curate of Usselby. He appears also as Curate in the registers of the parish of North Willingham in 1814, and onwards till 1821. When he became Vicar he held that office, in conjunction with his many other cures, till his death.

No record is discoverable after his leaving Barton to show that he continued to carry on his work of teaching, so one may suppose that with his increased clerical duties, and his work as D.P.G.M., he found ample employment for his time and energy.

Mr. Barnett's connection with Masonry in Lincolnshire extends over a period of forty-six years, from 1787 to 1833. No Lodges were working in the county when he came into it.

A sermon, published in 1820, has a dedicatory letter to Matthew Barnett, in which Dr. Oliver calls him "Father of Masonry" in Lincolnshire.

It must have taken a very firm root and spread rapidly, for in 1792 the Rev. William Peters was appointed Prov. Grand Master, which office he held till 1814. He was a Prebendary of Lincoln. He, too, was a pluralist, and no doubt had plenty of this world's goods, independently of his duties as priest.

Writing to his Deputy in 1792, he says, "I live mostly in London." A journey to London from Lincolnshire was no trifle in those days. His town house was No. 10, Great Newport Street, Leicester Fields, a street that no longer exists, and a neighbourhood which would not now be considered very desirable.

In the year 1800 circumstances occurred which removed him still further from his Masonic duties. It will perhaps be best to give the account of it in his own words as addressed to Mr. Barnett:—

"Since I had the pleasure of writing last to you, a circumstance has occurred which will remove my residence from this part of the country,"—he writes from Knipton—"but my affection to the brethren and attentive care to all their concerns will not be diminished by the distance I shall be at. You know I am a Prebendary of the Church of Lincoln. My Prebend lies on the Borders of Gloucestershire, within three miles of the Post-Town of Lechlade in the Village of Langford and is commonly called Langford Abbey. The three lives which were in the lease of the Estate on my being collated into it, are dead, and as we could not agree about a renewal as the lives fell in, the whole of it is now mine, and it being a peculiar, which gives me all Ecclesiastical Power and a Vicarage of which I am the Patron, it enables me to live there and hold all my Preferments."

The end of it was that Lincolnshire saw less and less of her P.G.M.

Writing in 1813, Mr. Peters dwells with much emphasis on the perniciousness of the higher degrees, warning his Deputy to be aware of admitting them into the craft in Lincolnshire. He proceeds:—"As I have known some very respectable and good characters in the Royal Arch Degree, I do not suppose that anything very wrong is connected with it. It is very dangerous to proceed further, and I have reason to believe that beyond the Royal Arch it is impious, and when carried to the length of some weak and deluded men, approaches to Infernal!"

It is curious to read this to-day, when the Grand Master himself is a member of the Thirty-third Degree! One would like to know the "reasons" for the belief held by the Rev. W. Peters.

The whole machinery of Masonry^r moved more slowly then, and the organization was very different. Meetings were called together by advertisements in the newspapers. Amongst Mr. Barnett's papers is a note dunning him for the cost of such an advertisement. Lodges frequently met on Sunday evenings.

The magnificent Masonic charities were then in their infancy. The oldest of them was called, "The Masonic Society, established for the protection of the indigent Brethren, their Widows, and Families."

One provision to meet the cruel laws of the time was that "any member in reduced circumstances, imprisoned for debt, to be allowed Four Shillings weekly, provided such imprisonment be not occasioned by any act reflecting on his character."

It may be interesting to compare with the Masonic charities of to-day those of the year 1804. In December of that year those who were relieved weekly were:—

129 widows,
195 children,
23 orphans,
13 aged brethren,
58 brethren in sickness,
2 brethren in prison.

Naturally, a fraternity so kind and generous in its sentiments as Masonry was occasionally imposed upon. In 1806 a printed letter was sent to the Lincolnshire Grand Lodge from the Loyal Lodge, No. 365, Devon, warning all Lodges against "a person of very pleasing address, insinuating manners and calling himself Samuel Harris," who, the letter proceeds, "hath imposed on many brethren and swindled them of divers sums of money." This person is "about twenty-four years of age, five feet in height, of thin

make, delicate Complexion, dark, brown Hair, tied in a small Queue, generally wears powder, walks rather lame, appears in a state of great Weakness from Ill-Health arising from a wound in his Back, he constantly wears a green mixture Frock Coat, with white Buttons, Boots, silk Hat." Whether this "person" had any stockings or shirt, or whether he ever turned up in Lincolnshire, history telleth not.

But in 1817 the Welland Lodge, Spalding, was imposed upon by a gentleman of the same kidney. The Secretary writes to Mr. Barnett for advice in the matter. This man, John Middleton, Trinity Lodge 222, New York, "attended the Welland Lodge was relieved in consequence of being a Mason, contracted Debts with several of the Brethren without any probable or possible means of repayment. He borrowed 'Preston's Illustrations' from Brother Rhoadly which he immediately pawned at his Lodgings for 7/- and has frequently stated to divers persons that he could travel from Lodge to Lodge and obtain relief without work." Unfortunately, there is nothing to show what action Mr. Barnett took in the matter.

The Right Hon. Charles Tennyson, uncle of the late revered Laureate, and an M.P., the first of the family to assume the name of D'Eyncourt, held the honourable post of P.G.M. for Lincolnshire from 1827 to the time of Matthew Barnett's death and onward. Much correspondence naturally passed between Mr. Tennyson and his Deputy, and in every letter there are very solicitous enquiries as to Mr. Barnett's health. He must have suffered very severely from rheumatism, for in 1817, he completely lost the use of his hands for a time, owing to that terrible disease. He seems at a later period to have been tortured by the disease in his feet, and was consequently unable to walk any distance for some time before his death, being wheeled about in a Bath chair.

He died at Market Rasen on the 16th of June, 1833, in consequence (remotely) of a fall he had on some slippery steps at Usselby House, the residence of Mr. D'Eyncourt,

where he had been no doubt to confer with his chief on Masonic matters. He was buried at Market Rasen, and sincerely regretted and mourned by a very large neighbourhood. His upright, honourable character, and earnest, hearty manner, had inspired universal respect.

Amongst the papers of his grandson and disciple, Gerard Ford, is the following note:—

“He died when I was three years old, yet strange to say I remember him by unmistakable circumstances, having been taken down from London to Market Rasen, and accustomed to ride at his feet in his Bath chair.”

This visit must have taken place in 1833, as Gerard Ford was born in the year 1830. Tender as was the little fellow's age, there awakened in him there and then a loving reverence for his good old grandfather, and a desire to tread in his footsteps in Masonry, that grew and strengthened to his life's end. There can be little doubt too that the fine old man, at the end of his pilgrimage of three-score years and twelve, obliged at last to give up his active habits and laborious manner of living, appreciated the companionship of the little, happy child, and was soothed and gladdened by the loving light of the boy's blue eyes. One pictures him laying his kind old hand on the fair curls of his little grandson, and wishing him God-speed in the weary pilgrimage the small feet had entered upon. Anyhow his mantle fell upon Gerard Ford, and Masonry never owned among its sons a truer, more devoted servant than he. The old man's influence may still be said to live and flourish, for those brethren who have the happiness to be the Masonic sons of Gerard Ford must have felt that the spirit of the craft dwelt in him in no ordinary measure, and that spirit was his inheritance from Matthew Barnett.

THE REV. GEORGE OLIVER, D.D.

Few, if any, writers on Speculative Masonry, have been more popular amongst the craft than the Rev. Dr. George Oliver.

This excellent man and eminent Mason was born at Papplewick, near Nottingham, the parochial register recording the baptism of George, son of Samuel and Elizabeth Oliver, on November 9th, 1782.

Little is recorded of George Oliver's early days beyond that he attended the Grammar School at Nottingham. This would probably be during the time his father resided at Gotham.

As already noted in the memoir of the Rev. Samuel Oliver, the family removed to Whaplode in the latter part of 1801.

Soon after this, George Oliver was initiated as a Lewis in the St. Peter's Lodge, Peterborough, Brother Stephens being then W.M. It is somewhat remarkable that the precise date of the initiation has never been satisfactorily settled.

The following is transcribed from the Grand Secretary's Letter Book :—

“Freemasons Hall 3rd Aug. 1819.

“Brother, The Rev. George Oliver, who was initiated in your lodge about the year 1802–1803 having applied for a Grand Lodge Certificate, it has been found upon examining the Books of the Grand Lodge that his name has never been returned for registry by your lodge; this neglect on your part has been communicated to the Board of General Purposes, and we are directed by that Board to require, that you will immediately register the Name of that Brother, and of any other which may have been neglected to be transmitted for that purpose. “We are, &c.

“Master of 605 St. Peters Peterborough.”

What answer was returned to this request is not known, but apparently the matter was never cleared up.

Among the Doctor's MSS. now in possession of Prov. G. Lodge, is a draft of a speech delivered about 1842 relating his Masonic career. It begins, "When I was first initiated into Masonry, in I think 1801, I resided more than 20 miles from a Lodge."

From this expression it is evident that nothing fixing the date had come to hand.

The account of the proceedings of the St. Peter's brethren, both in ordinary meetings and initiations, as furnished in the Doctor's speech, is extremely interesting, and one is not surprised to find the Secretary occasionally omitting to register all their doings.

About 1803 George Oliver was appointed Usher or Assistant Master of the Grammar School at Castor, Lincolnshire, and on April 15th, 1805, he married Miss Mary Ann Beverley, of an old Caistor family dating back many years. According to the Doctor's reminiscences no Masonic connection was kept up during the time he was at Caistor.

On May 30th, 1809, Bro. Oliver was elected Head Master of the Grammar School at Great Grimsby, and very soon set about forming a Masonic Lodge. In 1811 Grand Lodge was notified that the Warrant No. 510, granted in 1792 to constitute the Urania Lodge at Brigg, afterwards removed to Louth, was established at Grimsby under the name of Apollo.

In the following year the foundation stone of a Masonic Hall was laid; the Lodge entered upon a very flourishing career, and its Master upon that study of the craft which has rendered his name famous.

An extract from one of the Doctor's later works tells us how absorbing at this time his thoughts and ideas of Masonry became, and it may well be taken as the keynote of those remarkable works which afterwards came so readily from his pen:—

"It was a noble Lodge Room appropriated to the sole purpose of Masonry. I had a private key, and many an hour have I spent in solitary enjoyment, when no one knew the building contained an inmate. Here my first aspirations to contribute to the benefit of the Order were imbibed. Here vast projects were formed, with none present but my Almighty Father and myself which have not yet been developed. Here surrounded by the Implements of Masonry, I became impressed with sublime ideas of its superlative blessedness, and universal application to science and morals, and determined to work out principles which were then so feebly scattered as to give rise, amongst the uninitiated, to fantastic notions and absurd opinions respecting the design and end of the Institution, that derogated from the virtue and holiness of this sacred handmaid of religion."

Brother Oliver appears to have been acquainted not only with the degrees of Freemasonry recognized at the present day, but with others now obsolete.

Several of the degrees were taken in Hull, where he was highly esteemed, and where recollections of his genial disposition and excellent company yet linger, among the brethren of the Minerva Lodge. In 1845 Dr. Oliver was one of the original members of the Supreme Council 33 Degree of England and Wales.

In the early part of the century some of these degrees were conferred "according to merit and ability" in the ordinary Lodge. No instance of such, however, appears in the Lincolnshire records except the Mark degree in the Witham. The P.G. Master's instructions to his Deputy (as seen in the life of the Rev. M. Barnett) on this subject probably discouraged the practice.

In 1813-15 George Oliver was ordained in the Church of England, and became Curate of Grimsby, under Dr. Tennyson, and Vicar of Clee on the presentation of the Bishop of Lincoln (Tomline).

The preferment which Oliver afterwards obtained, has occasioned his biographers, almost without exception, under the erroneous idea that he simultaneously held all his livings, to lay him open to a charge of being a pluralist.

The following extracts from the Episcopal Records show this imputation to be only partially correct, the reverend gentleman apparently never holding more than two livings together, the joint nett income from which only realizing a modest amount:—

George Oliver instituted to the Vicarage of Clee 11th July, 1815. His successor was instituted in 1835.

George Oliver instituted to the Vicarage of Scopwick 12th Oct., 1831; his successor in 1867. Patron, Bishop Kaye).

George Oliver was appointed to the Collegiate Church of Wolverhampton (a Royal Peculiar) in 1834. Patron, Dean of Windsor. His successor in 1847.

George Oliver instituted to the Rectory of South Hykeham 17th May, 1847 (exchange); his successor in 1867.

These appointments scarcely justify the expression used by one of his biographers, that "Oliver was a fine specimen of the Pluralist system." The duties appertaining to the ministry were always conscientiously performed, and gained for him the esteem and respect of his parishioners.

The following bespeaks the Man, the Mason, and the Christian Minister:—

At a vestry meeting held on 27th April, 1840, at Wolverhampton, to appoint Churchwardens for the ensuing year, the Rev. George Oliver, the Incumbent, addressed the parishioners on the subject of Church Rates—

"As to the legality of Church Rates," said the reverend gentlemen, "I continue to hold the sentiments I have heretofore professed; but when I consider that the granting of such rates is optional, and that the discussion of the subject only tends to create feud, to divide the town against itself—to set father against son, and son against father—to sever long-standing friendships, and to dissolve mutual ties; when I reflect also that the agitation of that question is little less than a scourge on the public peace of the town, I cannot consent to aim a blow so heavy and a discouragement so

great on what I consider to be the interests of the Church. I shall not give my consent, therefore, to the agitation of the question of the Church Rates. My motto is 'Peace,' and the banner I unfurl this day is the banner of Unity—a banner which cannot, as it shall not, be raised to lead you into contests in which all is to be lost and nothing is to be gained.

"I know I shall be asked how I purpose, without a rate to provide for the congregational expenses of the Church? My answer is simple. I have no doubt whatever of the success of the voluntary system if it is properly tested. I shall with the assistance of my warden and the colleague you may appoint to act with him, give this plan a fair and free trial; and so long as I continue the resident incumbent of this parish, I pledge myself never to go for a rate if you will support me, which I repeat, I have no doubt you will, in defraying the congregational expenses of the Church by your voluntary contributions."

Sentiments like these were by no means common fifty years ago; they show the character of the Doctor, and account in a great measure for the grief and indignation which was shown when one of the great sorrows of his life occurred—his removal from the office of D.P.G.M. Had not this event so greatly affected our Province, one would willingly have omitted so discreditable a chapter in Masonic history.

One of the most active and energetic of the London brethren was R. T. Crucifix, M.D., editor and proprietor of the *Freemasons' Quarterly Review*, and who was a personal friend of Dr. Oliver.

About the year 1834 Brother Crucifix, in conjunction with others, suggested in the columns of his *Review* the establishment of a third Grand Charity, "An Asylum for Aged and Decayed Freemasons."

The idea appeared to be warmly taken up both in London and the Provinces, and for a time every thing went smoothly.

But owing to some cause or other the proposal was coldly looked upon by an influential portion of the craft,

including the Duke of Sussex (Grand Master), C. T. D'Eyncourt (Prov. G. Master for Lincolnshire), and many others who, while not showing direct opposition, yet treated the scheme in a half-hearted manner.

The project dragged along till the close of 1839, the breach between the parties gradually becoming wider.

On Nov. 13th a meeting of the governors of the Institution was held, Dr. Crucifix being in the chair.

During the meeting it was alleged that two brethren, T. Wood and J. L. Stevens, had spoken disrespectfully of H.R.H. the Grand Master, and they were accordingly summoned before the Board of General Purposes to answer the charge, Dr. Crucifix, as Chairman of the meeting, being also summoned for not checking the speakers.

After a very one-sided trial the three were suspended for a time from their Masonic privileges, the following Grand Lodge dismissing their appeal and confirming the sentence. Crucifix, naturally indignant at the way these proceedings had been carried on, immediately took steps to sever his connection with the craft. The Lodges of which he was a member, viz., the Lodge of Concord, the Burlington, and the Bank of England Lodges, received his resignation with expressions of the deepest and most sincere regret, the latter placing on its minutes "That this Lodge desires further to record the expression of its extreme sorrow and indignation at the events which have produced a result so deeply to be deplored."

At the same time Crucifix addressed a very intemperate letter to the Grand Master, announcing his withdrawal from the craft, and charging the Duke with having been unmindful of his obl. as regards the Ancient Charges, also that on one occasion his language had been such "as was calculated to lower the respect due to the person of your Royal Highness and above all, to the dignified office of Grand Master."

There can be no question that this letter was ill-advised, especially as the writer was simply suspended, and merited from Grand Lodge the severest condemnation.

At an Especial Grand Lodge held 30th October, 1840, the case was gone into, and Bro. Crucifix tendered an apology.

Amongst the speakers who supported a motion for Crucifix being expelled, *i.e.*, "that the apology be not accepted," was the Rt. Hon. C. T. D'Eyncourt, P.G.M. for Lincolnshire.

On a division being taken, 127 were for expulsion and 145 against.

As to the right and wrong in these proceedings, one thing is very evident—both sides lost their temper and their dignity. There is no doubt H.R.H. the Grand Master fully appreciated his high position, and felt no misgivings as to his ability and fitness in carrying out the attributes of K.S. and H.K.T.; and it must be acknowledged that the craft attained much dignity and honour among the popular world at large during his long term of office.

As to Crucifix, though unpleasant rumours were in circulation as to his early life, the numerous letters received by Oliver, now in our P.G.L. Library, testify to the high character of the writer. He was an energetic worker in the cause, of excellent business habits, and a writer of considerable merit. A great number of aged brethren and their widows have had reason to bless the day that Robert Thomas Crucifix saw the light of Masonry, and the *Freemasons' Quarterly Review* for its persistent advocacy of what is now the third Central Charity of English Masonry, the Royal Masonic Institution for Aged Freemasons.

The publication in the Review of the proceedings in Grand Lodge, was strongly disapproved of by a large portion of the craft, as being both illegal and inexpedient, and it is pretty evident that the opposition to the Asylum scheme, partook more of ill-will to the Journal and its Editor, than to the charity itself.

In order to see how these events effected our own Prov. G. Lodge it will be necessary to turn back a little.

From the first suggestion of the new charity Doctor Oliver, as would naturally be expected, gave it his heartiest good wishes and support.

In his capacity as D.P.G.M. he sent to the various Lodges a circular-letter of several pages, not only advocating the cause as a Masonic principle, but giving a practical instance of its necessity.

At the P.G.L. held at Grantham in 1839 Crucifix was invited to attend and explain the principles on which the Asylum was founded. And throughout the whole of the proceedings in Grand Lodge, Oliver's sympathy and assistance were always with his friend to cheer and support him in his efforts. How these were appreciated is shown by the following quotation from the Review:—

“I must assure him (Dr. Oliver) that however I have been cheered and inspirited under most eventful and trying circumstances, by the sympathy of the kind, the generous, and the free; I have been mainly sustained by endeavours to observe his directions—‘to rely with reverence and humility on the justice of a merciful Providence.’”

Towards the end of 1839 a movement was set on foot to present Dr. Crucifix with a testimonial. A strong committee was formed, with Bro. J. Lee Stevens, of the Bank of England Lodge, as Secretary. Notwithstanding that individual subscriptions were limited to 10s. the fund rapidly amounted to £250, and the festival was fixed for 24th November, 1841, the presentation to be made by the Very Worshipful Brother, the Rev. Dr. Oliver, “Unapproachable in Masonic lore—inimitable as a Masonic writer—unequalled in the performance of Masonic rites and the practice of Masonic virtues—at once our oracle and historian, our model and our guide—to whom, but to him, should be confided this labour of love?”

The announcement was received with general satisfaction by the subscribers, to most of whom Oliver was personally a stranger, and they hailed with delight the prospect of seeing and hearing one who, besides being the intimate

friend of Crucifix, was by far the ablest writer on the staff of the *Review*.

The proceedings were held under the auspices of the Bank of England Lodge, the following summons being sent to members and subscribers:—

“Crucifix Testimonial Festival.

“Bank of England Lodge No. 329 New London Hotel Bridge St.
Bro. J. Lee Stevens W.M.

“Sir & Bro., “17 Nov. 1841.

“You are requested to attend the duties of the Lodge on Wednesday next the 24th inst. at 3 for 4 o'clock in the afternoon punctually. Dinner on table at Six o'clock.

“Subscribers to the Crucifix Testimonial & Festival are invited to visit the Lodge at 4 o'clock.”

Scarcely a member was absent on the occasion. As soon as the brethren were arranged in their places, the Lodge was opened, and the Rev. G. Oliver, D.D., was unanimously elected an honorary member, pursuant to notice previously given.

The Master then gracefully requested the Doctor to accept the chair and preside for the remainder of the evening, a request that was immediately complied with, and the “Philosopher of Masonry” presided for the first time in London, over the largest meeting of Masons ever assembled in a private Lodge.

A portion of the First Lecture was worked by brethren of the Emulation Lodge, and the Doctor delivered an oration founded on the Fifth Ancient Charge.

Dr. Oliver, according to arrangement, afterwards took the chair at the banquet, having Dr. Crucifix on his right and J. Lee Stevens on his left.

The usual Loyal and Masonic Toasts were admirably proposed, the toast of the evening, the health of Dr. Crucifix, being given in such a manner as to add to the Doctor's already high reputation! The evident sincerity of his praise, his sympathy with Crucifix in his late trials, and the flattering testimony he bore to the value of the *Review*, placing him in full accord with his audience.

At the close of his speech the Doctor, according to Lincolnshire custom, led off with the firing, a proceeding apparently novel at that time to the London brethren, but which pleased them intensely, and resumed his seat amidst the most enthusiastic applause.

The festival was a great success, and although it could not be otherwise but that some reference would be made to the recent proceedings in Grand Lodge, the matters were touched upon in such a manner as to convey no personal allusion.

It should be noted that subsequent to the proposition for the expulsion of Dr. Crucifix, moved, as already stated, by the P.G. Master for Lincolnshire, and also after the arrangements had been made for the Crucifix presentation, Dr. Oliver, doubtless actuated by a nice sense of honour and a desire of promoting the best interests of the craft, tendered his resignation as D.P.G.M.

The P.G.M. at the Boston meeting announced the tendered resignation, declaring his refusal to accept it, and making an urgent request to the Doctor to continue in his office.

This was on 29th Sept., 1841. Early in the following spring, the Witham brethren proceeded to make arrangements for consecrating their new hall, and the Doctor wrote to the P.G.M. to know his wishes on the subject, receiving, doubtless much to his amazement, the following answer:—

“5 Albemarle St.

“My dear Sir,

“4th Mar. 1842.

“I was at Gloucester when yours of the 28th reached London. I confess I feel uncomfortable on the subject of it. I do not know at this distance of time, whether I can attend, and if I do not, you would have to officiate for me. Now, it will probably have occurred to you, that I am placed in a very painful situation in consequence of your having presided at the dinner given to Dr. Crucifix. I have not seen the Duke of Sussex, and have avoided waiting upon him, because I think when I do so, I may have to deal with the subject, but I cannot postpone my visit beyond a few days. I know from private sources that His

Royal Highness has expressed a very strong opinion in regard to your presiding on the occasion I have referred to; and if you were now to be seen on a great public occasion officiating as my deputy, he might consider me a party. I came up to town above a year ago, when the case of Dr. Crucifix was before Grand Lodge in order to be present at the hearing, and took a prominent part myself in the course of it.

"Under these circumstances it may be better to postpone any reply to the Witham Lodge until it can be seen whether I can attend.

"I am My dear Sir

"Yours truly

"C. T. D'Eyncourt."

The Witham brethren having received no answer to their request, again wrote to the Doctor. He forwarded the letter to the Prov. G. Master, and received the following reply:—

"Bayons Manor Market Rasen

"Dear Sir & Brother

"28 April 1842.

"You are aware of the circumstances which have influenced my judgment when I feel myself called upon now to declare vacant the office of Deputy Provincial Grand Master for Lincolnshire, held by you. In communicating this my determination to you I beg to express my best acknowledgements for the service you have rendered the Masonic body within my jurisdiction during the time you have held the office, and my regret that the interests of Masonry should require me to deprive myself of your valuable assistance.

"The separation gives me, personally, as much pain as the cause of it; and none the less because my decision is one which I have thought it right to make on my own responsibility, without reference to or suggestion from any other party.

"I am dear Sir

"Yours fraternally

"Charles Tennyson D'Eyncourt

"Rev. George Oliver D.D."

"P.G.M. Lincolnshire.

The Doctor on receipt of this letter communicated at once with the various Lodges in the Province. The Witham

brethren, at a Lodge of Emergency, passed a strong resolution on the subject, copies of which were forwarded both to the P.G.M. and his late deputy.

This was acknowledged by the Doctor as follows :—

“Scopwick Vicarage June 7th, 1842.

“My dear Sir & Bro.

“I beg to acknowledge the receipt of a resolution passed in the Witham Lodge on the 2nd of May last, and beg the brethren will accept my cordial thanks for the kind expression of their sentiments on my dismissal from the office of Deputy Prov. G. Master for Lincolnshire.

“As I am not conscious of having violated any masonic law, or neglected the performance of any masonic duty in the above capacity, my conscience acquits me of any wilful disrespect to the authority of the P.G.M.

“It is true I have assisted at the formation of a Fund of Benevolence for the relief of worthy aged & decayed Freemasons, and I have been an instrument in the hands of the craft to reward the philanthropist who originated that beneficent plan.

“If these be crimes to call forth public indignation, then is my punishment just. But if on the contrary, Benevolence be a masonic virtue, then I must consider my dismissal to be undeserved.

“Believe me, Dear Sir,

“Your faithful Brother,

“Geo. Oliver,

“Past D.P.G.M. for Lincolnshire.

“The W.M. & Brethren of the
Witham Lodge.”

Two days after the date of this communication the Witham brethren met to dedicate their new Hall in Saltergate.

The P.G.M. having declined to fulfil his promise of summoning a Provincial Lodge, the ceremony was performed by the W.M. of the Witham, Bro. Robert Goodacre, assisted by Bro. E. A. Bromehead as D.C. and Bro. W. A. Nicholson, the Architect of the building, Dr. Oliver, in his capacity as Chaplain of the Lodge, taking the consecrating portion.

The proceedings appear to have been planned and carried out very effectively. Bro. Edw. Dearle, Mus. Bac.,

Cantab. (at that time a somewhat rare degree), directed the musical portion of the ceremony, two of the hymns being written respectively by the W.M. and D.C.

There was a large attendance of brethren, due in some measure to the notice that the Lodge would celebrate its centenary (how this was calculated is not recorded), but principally, no doubt, to hear what the Doctor had to say regarding his dismissal, it being his first public appearance since the event.

In this they were not disappointed. The Doctor, in acknowledging the toast of his health, read the letters received from the P.G.M., and made a very lengthy and telling speech, embracing the Constitutions, Provincial By-laws, and the leading Masonic virtues, summing up the matter as follows :—

“I was the instrument through whom the craft presented a testimonial to Dr. Crucifix, because he is a benevolent man, and has succeeded by a great sacrifice both of time and money in establishing a noble Institution. The P.G.M. proposed in Grand Lodge that this man to whom the craft is under such weighty obligations should be expelled. Now brethren, which do you think is to be most commended? I who was an instrument in rewarding virtue, or the P.G.M. who would have punished it. . . . I can conscientiously say that I have not sought popularity by illegitimate means I have never endeavoured to make a party by the sacrifice of masonic principles. I have on all occasions discharged my duty without fear, favour, or partiality.”

The following extract from the current number of the *Lincolnshire Chronicle* exhibited not only the opinions of the local brethren, but also of many others who saw in the recent proceedings of Grand Lodge the only key to the extraordinary action of the P.G.M. :—

“The only assignable motive which could have actuated the P.G.M. in this extraordinary step, after the repeated declarations he has made of how greatly he is indebted to Dr. Oliver for his aid in conducting the masonic affairs of the Province is, that he has been prompted by some high power to make the attack.

“The character of Dr. Oliver as a freemason, even with those who are inimical to the craft is too high to need any eulogy on our part; the only intelligible motive is, that there is a determination on the part of those behind the masonic throne, to discountenance and even to punish any who shall dare to promote a charity which is not yet recognised by the laws of the craft; and Dr. Oliver who has been justly termed the ‘Sage of Masonry’ has been selected as an illustrious example to prove that such determination will be carried out with no feeble or tardy spirit.”

At the close of the Lincoln meeting a Committee was appointed to take the necessary steps for presenting the Doctor with a General Masonic Testimonial. Accordingly a meeting was held on Thursday, 11th August, 1842, the Mayor of Lincoln (Bro. George Wriglesworth Hebb) in the chair, being supported by Bro. W. H. Adams (Mayor of Boston), Bro. Richd. Sutton Harvey, and representatives from most of the Lodges in the Province, a Sub-Committee being also formed in London to work with the Lincoln brethren, of which the very energetic Bro. J. Lee Stevens was Secretary.

There appears to have been an understanding that the various resolutions submitted should contain no allusion to the recent dismissal, and that the speakers should if possible avoid any irritating reference. Doubtless this was wise counsel, and the proper course to pursue, as it allowed both sides to take part, and above all, enabled the P.G.M. to show his appreciation of his late deputy's services without loss of dignity, and thus pave the way for a reconciliation. It was a most critical period for the craft in Lincolnshire, and the next Provincial meeting, which had been fixed to be held at Spalding, was looked forward to with great anxiety and apprehension. The publicity given in the local papers, the well-known character and ability of Oliver, his personal friendship with all the working Masons in the Province on the one side, against the evident unpopularity of the P.G.M., marked a serious state of affairs.

On 29th September the Rt. Hon. C. T. D'Eyncourt, Prov. G. Master, attended by his new deputy, the Rev. Geo. Coltman, Rector of Stickney, opened Prov. G. Lodge at Spalding.

The Rev. Dr. Oliver, P.D.P.G.M., supported by his friends, Dr. Crucifix and J. L. Stevens, who had come down specially to attend a testimonial meeting, the Doctor's father, the Rev. S. Oliver (then in his ninetieth year), and the Doctor's son—three generations—being also present.

After the usual routine business the brethren proceeded in procession to Church, the sermon being preached by the Rev. W. Muckler from Ps. cxxxiii., "Behold, how good and joyful a thing it is, brethren, to dwell together in unity."

Mr. Muckler's name does not appear on the Provincial roll. Whether he was merely the deputy of the P.G. Chaplain, the Rev. G. Coltman, who under the peculiar circumstances, could not very well occupy the pulpit, or whether he was specially selected to recall the brethren to a sense of their mutual obligation, is not known; but it may be truthfully said, that of the numberless times this masonic text had been preached from, there never was an occasion which presented a better opportunity for the preacher's eloquence, than this assembly of Lincolnshire Masons in Spalding Church on the Feast of St. Michael and All Angels, 1842.

On the Lodge resuming at two o'clock the P.G.M. entered into an elaborate review of the recent events, in the course of which there appeared, he said, to have been some misunderstanding.

The address, which lasted two hours, would doubtless show the eminent abilities of the speaker to the best advantage.

Dr. Oliver replied, and the debate was continued by Bros. J. L. Stevens and W. H. Adams. The Doctor's speech, a draft of which is among his MSS. now in possession of P.G.L., was a most impassioned appeal for justice, and one may easily imagine its effect upon the brethren.

From the meagre accounts to be found of the meeting, it appears that after mutual explanations had been entered into, a better spirit prevailed, which was cemented by the P.G.M. allowing the following resolution to be put :—

“That this Provincial Grand Lodge entertains the warmest feelings of gratitude towards the Rev. George Oliver D.D. late D.P.G.M. for Lincolnshire, for his unwearied and successful efforts to promote the best interest of Freemasonry in general and in this Province in particular, & for the unequalled talent, research & industry displayed by him as a Masonic writer. That being duly impressed with a sense of his great public, private & social virtues this P.G.L. cannot but deeply lament the loss of the very valuable services of Bro. Oliver as D.P.G.M., the duties of which office he for many years discharged so as to gain the veneration and esteem of the brethren generally and to call forth repeated marks of approbation from the P.G.M. That the sum of Five Guineas be paid from the funds of this P.G.L. in aid of the subscription now raising for the purpose of presenting to Bro. Oliver a Masonic offering as a mark of fraternal regard & of grateful acknowledgment of his invaluable services in the cause of Masonry.”

The proceedings, so far, point to a more harmonious feeling existing between the friends of the P.G.M. and those of his late Deputy ; but one is scarcely prepared for such an exhibition of true Masonic spirit as was witnessed at the banquet which followed the Lodge. Could anyone who has followed these proceedings, or could any Brother who attended at Spalding on that memorable day have imagined that the dread and gloom which ushered in the meeting would be dispelled, and the force of the preacher's text “Behold how good and joyful for brethren to be in unity” be exemplified in such a forcible manner as probably had never been experienced by those hundred brethren who had the good fortune to be present ?

And moreover, that the health of the P.G.M. should be proposed by Dr. Crucifix, the man whose expulsion from the craft had been moved in Grand Lodge by Brother D'Eyncourt ; that the P.G.M. in returning thanks should

say, "that he (Crucifix) had repaid unkindness by charity, and a too hasty judgment by the most benevolent construction of human error." Yet all this took place. Brother D'Eyncourt offered the right hand of fellowship to Brother Oliver; the worthy Doctor returned the greeting, comparing "the present gratifying re-union to nothing more apposite than the birth of Light. Freemasonry (said the Doctor) like the Sun in its refulgent brightness shed its glorious lustre over the plains of Lincolnshire, diffusing blessings wherever its light was displayed. Suddenly its brightness was obscured by a dense and threatening cloud. This symbol of evil was the harbinger of terror and alarm. The struggle between light and darkness was short and transient—the holy principles of Freemasonry prevailed—the heavy cloud was dissipated. The Sun, emblem of Wisdom, Strength and Beauty burst forth in all its splendour, and when the Brethren were called from labour to refreshment the brilliant prospect was renewed & the triumphant dominion of Light now promises to be permanent and enduring."

In closing the account of this very unfortunate dispute, it is only fair to note that the Provincial G. Master was placed in a very difficult position.

For some years prior to the Crucifix proceedings in Grand Lodge, Mr. D'Eyncourt had filled the post of Equerry to the Duke of Sussex, and very intimate relations were understood to subsist between them. The annoyance felt by the Grand Master with the contributors of the Review, would be considerably increased by the action of Bro. J. L. Stevens at the December Lodge, held to nominate the Grand Master for the ensuing year, when Bro. Stevens objected to the Duke's nomination and proposed the Marquis of Salisbury. This nobleman of course refused to stand, but the proceedings must nevertheless have been very disagreeable.

The intimacy between H.R.H. and Mr. D'Eyncourt accounts for the apparently anomalous action of the latter in Grand Lodge, for anomalous it certainly was, when measured by his well-known political principles.

The relation of the Crucifix party with the old members of Grand Lodge, may be likened in some measure to the two great political parties of the day. The views advocated by Crucifix in the *Freemasons' Quarterly Review* were not unreasonable, and it is certainly remarkable that the "Radical Member for Lambeth" should move the expulsion of one, who was looked upon by a section of Grand Lodge in the same light, as the hon. member himself was by the opposite party in politics.

Amongst other things commented upon in the columns of the Review, was the lack of interest apparently shown by many Provincial Grand Masters in not summoning their annual Lodges. That the complaint was well grounded could not be denied, and though Lincolnshire was not so flagrant a case as some of its neighbours, the arrow evidently struck. The Witham brethren appear to have memorialized the P.G.M. on the subject, for in a speech at Lincoln on the occasion of laying the foundation stone of their new hall, Bro. D'Eyncourt says:—

"The brethren at Lincoln were quite right in the respectful remonstrance which they had forwarded to him, in saying 'that according to the laws of Masonry the Provincial meetings ought to be held every year,' but," reasoned the speaker, "that was rather recommendatory than compulsory."

The *Review* in its criticism says:—

"Whatever may be the literal construction of the law, whether it be recommendatory or compulsory, there cannot be a difference of opinion as to its spirit—its true intent and meaning. It may be very easy for those who sit in judgment in their own case, either in Lincoln or in London, to construe the law in their own favour. This is part of their peculiar privilege; but neither common sense nor masonic justice will be thus hoodwinked."

These were unpleasant remarks from a paper which numbered Dr. Oliver amongst its principal supporters.

"Many mickles make a muckle," and doubtless they would weigh in the adverse balance with the Doctor's eminent services.

The testimonial, or as it was styled "Masonic Offering to Dr. Oliver," to which reference has already been made, was presented on 9th May, 1844. A banquet, towards which Bro. Colonel Sibthorp contributed venison, was held at Bro. Melton's, The City Arms. Owing to the lamented decease of Bro. G. W. Hebb, the duties of the chair devolved upon Bro. the Rev. J. O. Dakeyne, W.M. of the Witham Lodge.

The "Offering," which consisted of a silver cup together with a portion of silver destined for each of the Doctor's children, was borne into the room by four Past Masters, W. H. Adams, 339 Boston; W. A. Nicholson, 374 Lincoln; J. W. Pashley, 611 Gainsborough; and Z. Barton, 612 Market Rasen; preceded by Bro. R. Goodacre, 374, as Director of Ceremonies.

The presentation cup, in addition to the usual engraved heraldic and Masonic devices, bore an inscription written in Latin by Bro. Dakeyne, the following being a translation:—

To George Oliver,
 Doctor in Divinity and
 Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries Edinburgh,
 Vicar of Scopwick, Incumbent of Wolverhampton,
 Lately in the County of Lincoln
 Of Freemasons
 Deputy Grand Master,
 Also of the Witham Lodge 374 A Member and Chaplain,
 A Philosopher & Archæologist
 Second to none,
 In Historical subjects most learned,
 An Orator whether in Church or in our Councils,
 Both in Knowledge and in Eloquence most excellent,
 Of the Mystic Union
 Founded in Brotherly love and truth
 For 40 years the most Erudite Expositor,
 A Brother of Reverence unceasingly most worthy,
 The Brethren throughout the whole surface of the Earth
 Celebrating the Rites of Freemasonry
 For the sake both of Honour and love
 Have given this
 A.D. 1844. Offering. A.L. 5844.

It may now be as well to glance at the clerical life of Bro. Oliver. One might almost fear from the absorbing devotion paid to Masonry, that the duties appertaining to the ministry would be neglected: happily such is not the case; the parochial records of Grimsby, Wolverhampton, and Scopwick, all pointing to an exemplary discharge of the office.

Scopwick, at the time Mr. Oliver was appointed in 1831, was in such a state as to be a proverb and a by-word amongst the neighbouring villages. No schools nor school-room; the church walls and floor covered with green moss, from which drops of water trickled continuously; scarcely any congregation; the churchyard wall in a ruinous condition; and the vicarage house and premises uninhabitable. All these were remedied in a few years. A new vicarage built at the expense of the Vicar; the church made fit for service; a new school-room built, and a regular attendance of children both on Sunday and week-day.

In 1855 the Doctor decided to relinquish the personal supervision of his parish, a resolve made five years previously, but then withdrawn at the earnest desire of his parishioners.

He preached his farewell sermon on March 25th, 1855, in the course of which he said—

“I have been preaching the Gospel to you, my Brethren faithfully and sincerely these many years, until my physical powers are exhausted; and as I cannot continue to discharge the duties of the Church with satisfaction to myself or benefit to you, I reverentially conclude that it is the will of my Divine Master that I should no longer abide with you.”

The rest of the Doctor's life was passed in Nottingham and Lincoln, his son, Beverley Oliver, being in business as a bookseller in the former town.

His first residence in Lincoln was Norman Place, here Mrs. Oliver died in 1856.

For several years prior to his death the Doctor resided in Eastgate in the house nearly opposite James Street, Mrs. Pears, a widowed daughter, living with him.

Though not taking any active part in the Province during the administration of the Earl of Yarborough, the late Deputy still took a lively interest in the proceedings of P.G.L.

On the appointment of the Duke of St. Albans, in 1863, he presided at the installation, and at the next meeting at Lincoln, May 10th, 1866, he delivered his farewell address to Prov. G. Lodge.

On Sunday evening, March 3rd, 1867, after an illness of about nine days, the venerable brother departed this life, his last act of earthly business being to send a donation to the new Provincial Benevolent Fund. The funeral took place on the following Thursday in the cemetery belonging to the parish of St. Swithin. The brethren of the Witham Lodge attended, and a portion of the Prestonian Ritual was observed under the direction of Bro. Charles Harrison, the W. Master.

The burial ground is now in the midst of a thickly populated district, and was until recently about as desolate a spot as can be imagined. A modest monumental slate stone near the south-west corner marks the last resting place of this excellent man and renowned Freemason. One looks in vain for any sign on the stone indicating the grave of a Mason; not even a solitary square and compass appears to distinguish the grave from others around.

The following inscription is on either side:—

“In memory of
The Rev. George Oliver D.D.
who died the 3rd of March 1867
In the 85th year of his age.”

“In memory of
Mary Ann, Wife of the Rev. George Oliver D.D.
who died the 13th of October 1856
in the 80th year of her age.”

Doctor Oliver is yet well remembered in Lincoln. All agree in their testimony to his good qualities. Nothing has (so far as is known) ever been laid to his charge unworthy

of a Mason or unbecoming a Clergyman. In business matters straightforward, charitable according to the limited means at his disposal ; of a genial disposition, at the refreshment board would sing a good song, enjoy a good joke, and was excellent company ; but no whisper was ever heard that he exceeded the bounds of moderation. Many years ago, when hard drinking was the fashion, writing on what is now a popular degree in the craft, he says, "it is to be commended as containing an excellent charge on the beastly habit of drunkenness."

In the latter part of 1865 a movement was set on foot to gather subscriptions to aid the Doctor's somewhat slender resources. Bro. W. G. Moore, of the Witham Lodge, had the matter in hand, and a considerable amount was raised. After the Doctor's death it was decided to employ the money in founding an Oliver Memorial. Various schemes were proposed, and ultimately it was decided to raise the amount up to one thousand guineas, and devote the interest towards the education of necessitous boys of the Province.

The idea was warmly taken up, and the Oliver Memorial Fund now perpetuates the memory of our late D.P.G.M. in a manner doubtless he himself would have desired.

As a writer on Speculative Masonry Dr. Oliver has a world-wide fame. Prior to his time the mine of Masonic archæology had scarcely been worked ; the publications in circulation scarcely exceeded half-a-dozen, and even these were by no means common in the country Lodges. The amount of research brought to bear on the subject undoubtedly created a spirit of enquiry, and led many to join the ranks of the craft.

At the present day opinions vary considerably as to the value of many of Dr. Oliver's literary contributions. This is not to be wondered at, considering the vast range of Speculative Masonry, but it is yet a fact, that no author's works are more frequently enquired for in a Masonic Library than his.

The Doctor's weak point is undoubtedly history. It has been charged against him many times, that he made facts of what he merely imagined to have happened.

It cannot be denied that this is so, but it should, however, be borne in mind that the compilation of Masonic historical matter was up to recent times, attended with great difficulty. Grand Lodge records were jealously guarded, every enquiry for information outside the officers of Grand Lodge being looked upon with mistrust and discountenanced accordingly.

A well-known writer of to-day says, Dr. Oliver as an historian laboured under great difficulties. He had to make bricks without straw, as he never had access to the records of either Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter.

It is a remarkable fact, that the brother whose name even now is in the foremost rank of English Masonic writers, should throughout almost the whole of his literary labours have been discouraged by the rulers of the craft. This is seen by the following letter, sent to our late Prov. G. Sec. in answer to a request for permission to place the Grand Master's name on the Doctor's subscription list:—

“Freemasons Hall 4th Sep. 1865.

“ Lord Zetland believes that Dr. Oliver has been an earnest & enthusiastic mason, yet in the opinion of the best and oldest Masons in this Country, Dr. Oliver has written a great deal which it would have been better to have left unwritten, and that much both as to the laws of our Order and its ceremonies has been published which is not unlikely to lead Brethren astray. You will please to understand that it is solely on public grounds that Lord Zetland feels compelled to decline allowing his name to be used in any way; for his Lordship is unwilling to do anything that could in any wise lead the Brethren to suppose that he either sanctions or agrees in many of Dr. Oliver's writings.

“C. E. Lucas Esq.
P.G.S. Lincoln.”

“Signed W. Gray Clarke
G.S.

One wonders whether the octogenarian ever saw this letter, and if he enquired of the Grand Master concerning those points “which are not unlikely to lead Brethren astray”?

Our noble Grand Master little thought that within twenty years, a Lodge formed expressly to promote Masonic research, and to diffuse the same throughout the world, would be holding its meetings under the very roof of Freemasons' Hall, and that the Grand Master of England would not only give his sanction, but show his approbation by the acceptance of a record of its Transactions.

A Lodge formed on the lines of Quatuor Coronati would have fulfilled Dr. Oliver's highest aspirations, and one is sorry to think that he must have considered the feasibility of such a gathering very remote.

Dr. Oliver's family consisted of three sons and two daughters:—

Beverley, a bookseller in Nottingham.

George, a surgeon, accidentally drowned in the Fossdyke.

Charles Wellington, who held an official appointment in Bath, where he died recently.

Mrs. Pears and Mrs. Rainforth; the latter died at Boston in 1891.

The Doctor's brother, the Rev. Samuel Oliver, was for many years Vicar of Calverton, Notts. He lived to a great age. One of his sons is a Clergyman of the Church of England. The following is a curious fact:—

About the middle of the last century two lads were play-fellows in a village near Nottingham; their sons became respectively Vicar and Parish Clerk of Calverton.

Allusion has already been made to the Doctor's social qualities. The following is a sample of the tales with which he could entertain the brethren at the refreshment board:—

The Freemasons' Lodges of the eighteenth century could scarcely be denominated schools of science, but they constituted a very pleasant method of passing a vacant hour on a winter's evening in the company of a few select and tried friends. The old Lincoln brethren were a set of as jolly fellows as any that England could produce, Although the Master might be inflexibly rigid in the discharge of his

duty, and in exacting from them the same rule of conduct which he imposed on himself, yet, when the Lodge was closed, and supper placed on the table, hey, presto! he was quite another man. No one was more jocose or full of spirits than he was. He sang a good song, cracked his joke, and was the life of the company. No prosy speeches would he allow, for he said that time was precious at that hour of the night, and he was determined to make the most of it.

As an agreeable relaxation he introduced an amusement called "Crambo," a practice which contributed to the merriment of the Lodge during the hours appropriated to refreshment for many years. The Master starts the game with a line of poetry, ending with some rhyme which is capable of considerable extension, and each brother under a fine—which in these days was an extra glass of punch—was obliged to improvise a corresponding verse in the same measure and terminating in the same jingle.

On a certain evening, the business of the Lodge being concluded, the brethren adjourned as usual to the supper room. But they had scarcely seated themselves at the table when the landlord came in, and announced that there was a solitary Bagman in the commercial room who was out of his wits for want of company, and as he regularly used the house, hoped there would be no objection to his taking supper with them.

"Has he anything in him, landlord?" said the W.M., who was ripe for all kinds of fun.

"He is of the right sort," the landlord answered.

"Admit, admit him by all means," exclaimed the Secretary.

"Can he sing a good song?" enquired the S.W.

"Capital," the landlord replied.

"And carry away two bottles of wine under his belt," said the J.W.

"Half-a-dozen at a pinch," the landlord responded.

"That will do," shouted the brethren, "Let's have him in."

And he was accordingly introduced and placed near the chairman, and the supper was served up.

Supper being over, the tumblers replenished, and the pipes filled, the visitor remarked :—

“You seem to be a set of rare jolly fellows. Can you give me a sign by which I may be admitted into such good society elsewhere? But I suppose you keep all these secrets to yourselves.”

“Nay, friend,” replied Brother Clarke in Quaker dialect, “Thou art mistaken, for I will shew thee a Freemason’s sign if thou wilt consent to pay for a bottle of wine to be drank by the company present.”

“Agreed,” said the Bagman, and the bottle was produced.

“And now, friend,” the brother continued, “thou must come with me into a private room, for there may be others present who are not Masons, and it would not be fair dealing to thee if I were to let them into the secret gratuitously when thou hast contributed so liberally to the reckoning. And if thou does not confess that I have shown thee a genuine Freemason’s sign, I will pay for the wine myself.”

The proposition was too reasonable to be refused, and the curious candidate for Masonic knowledge retired into another room with his formal friend, when the following dialogue took place :—

“So, friend, thou art desirous of seeing a Freemason’s sign?”

“I am.”

“Canst thou keep a secret?”

“Try me.”

“Good! Thou knowest that our friend the landlord is a Mason?”

“I do.”

“Very well.” Then taking him by the arm, Bro. Clarke led him to a window and said, “Dost thou see that gaping head of the bloody Saracen, which swings from yonder upright post in the light of the moon?”

“To be sure I do; it is our landlord’s sign.”

“Good. Then, friend, our landlord being a Freemason, thou art satisfied that I have shown thee a Freemason’s sign, and thy bottle of wine is forfeited. For thine own sake thou wilt keep the secret.”

The Bagman returned to the room with a look of astonishment, confessing that he had received the desired information, and the chairman, filling his glass out of the forfeited bottle, and passing it round, proposed the new brother's health, and the toast was merrily responded to.

The new brother, however, felt rather moody about it, and continued silent, but Brother Clarke roused him once more by saying, "Friend, does not the Freemason's sign satisfy thee? Well then, what dost thou say to being made a Freemason at once? The token of brotherhood which we can confer will open all the toll-bars in the kingdom, and give thee free passage without the payment of a fee."

The Bagman pricked up his ears at this. He had heard some hints of this privilege before, and as he passed through several of these taxed gates every day of his life, he was satisfied that the saving to him annually would be immense, and he offered to pay the supper bill for his initiation.

The proposal was agreed to, and the party adjourned to the Lodge-room, when, after many ridiculous ceremonies, which will scarcely bear repetition, although they formed a standing joke with the Lincolnshire Masons fifty years ago, they told him that when he desired to pass free through a turnpike-gate he was to place the first finger of his right hand on the side of his nose and repeat the word "Twig." The next morning, when passing through the south bar of the city, he summoned the keeper of the gate, who happened to be Tyler, and was consequently present on the preceding evening, and exhibiting the magic sign, significantly exclaimed "Twig."

The keeper of the gate held out his hand and said "Pay, sir, if you please," but the Bagman still continued to cry "Twig," and the toll-bar man pertinaciously kept the gate closed and demanded his fee. The Bagman, with his finger on his nose, still cried out, "Twig, Sir, twig—don't you understand me?"

"I understand that you are a Freemason, Sir," said the keeper, quietly, "and as such you may pass through the gate free of toll, but your horse is not a Mason, and therefore you must pay for him!"

LINCOLNSHIRE LODGES UNDER THE ANCIENT OR ATHOL CONSTITUTION.

The history of Freemasonry in Lincolnshire could not be deemed complete without an account of these Lodges, which, though from the nature of their constitution never came under the control of Prov. G. Lodge, nevertheless, were popular in their respective parts of the county.

Until these last few years the origin and history of the Athol Constitution, the only important schism in English Masonry, were very imperfectly understood, the older historians scarcely deigning to notice those whom they deemed schismatics, doubtless taking their cue from the Grand Lodge, which, having in vain tried to stamp the rebellion out, ignored it as much as possible. Even at the present day the majority of the brethren are very hazy in their knowledge of the subject; a few remarks therefore on this most important epoch in our history may probably be acceptable.*

As early as 1739 Grand Lodge took into consideration the complaint concerning the irregular making of Masons. It is difficult to say whether these irregularities at the beginning were done on principle, or were simply carelessness or a rebellious spirit. In any case, if their proceedings were to be carried on, it would be necessary for the so-called culprits to justify their position. This they appear to have done effectually, as their body steadily increased.

In 1751 they were governed by a Grand Committee, and in February of the following year Laurence Dermott was appointed Grand Secretary. This famous Mason was initiated in Dublin, and joined one of the regular London

* See R. F. Gould's *History of Freemasonry* and H. Sadler's *Masonic Facts and Fictions*. The former gives an authentic narration of the proceedings of the Ancients from the origin to the union in 1813, whilst the latter puts forth a very interesting theory as to the principle cause of separation.

Lodges in 1748. At the time of his election as Grand Secretary Dermott, it is said, was working twelve hours daily as a journeyman painter.

Bros. Mackey and Gould thus speak of this extraordinary man:—"As a polemic he was sarcastic, bitter, uncompromising, and not altogether sincere or veracious; but in intellectual attainments he was inferior to none of his adversaries, and in a philosophical appreciation of the character of the Masonic institution, he was in advance of the spirit of his age. As an administrator he displayed qualities which we find united in no other members of the craft, who came either before or after him. As Grand Secretary, and later as Deputy Grand Master he was simply the life and soul of the body with which he was so closely associated. He was also its historian, and to the influence of his writings must be attributed in a great measure the marvellous success of the schism." Soon after the separation or secession, Dermott compiled a Book of Constitutions under the title of *Ahiman Rezon*—"the law of selected brothers,"—ultimately securing a nobleman as Grand Master, and so educated and ruled his party as to become a most formidable rival to the older institution.

One of Dermott's greatest and most successful pieces of audacity was, calling his own party Ancients and the old Grand Lodge adherents Moderns—a most brilliant idea and a marvellous success; the appellation stuck to each party, and in a very short time the terms Ancients, and Moderns became their common designation. Towards the latter end of the century the rival parties were known as Ancients or Athol Masons, and Moderns or Prince of Wales' Masons, after their respective Grand Masters, the Duke of Athol and the Prince of Wales.

The number of Lodges warranted by the Ancients was almost on a parallel with that of the Moderns. One Ancient custom, which accounts for the apparent seniority of some of our present Lodges, was to keep the lapsed charters and dispose of them to the highest bidder. A handsome

donation to the Grand Charity would secure a twenty or thirty years old warrant, and thus at once place the new Lodge high on the roll.

What the points of divergence were between the Ancients and Moderns have not yet, and probably never will be satisfactorily settled. That they were considered of importance is evidenced by the fact that re-initiation was necessary in the case of members of either body. The question has of late years received much attention, and it must be allowed that the testimony so far adduced has placed the Ancients in a more favourable light than was formerly the case.

The following is one of several instances recorded in the old Gainsborough minutes of an Ancient being made a Modern Mason:—

“28th June 1797. Mr. Thos. Jeffries, Master Mariner of Lynn (An Ancient Mason) beg’d to be admitted as a Visitor, but, finding it contrary to our Constitutions, he was anxious to be made a Modern Mason. It was therefore proposed by the R.W.M. that he be initiated, paying the usual fee, and it being a Case of Emergency by reason of his going from this place to-morrow that he receive the Three Degrees this Evening.”

The same records also show that relief was afforded alike to Ancient and Modern, a noteworthy fact, when it is borne in mind that the Grand Lodge of the Moderns had none among its adherents more loyal, than Gervas Parnell, the R.W.M. of the Prince of Wales’ Lodge.

For obvious reasons, as will appear, no mention of the Athol brethren occurs in the Witham minutes.

Such was the state of parties at the time the warrants of the two Athol Lodges in Lincolnshire were issued.

Before, however, proceeding with the account of these Lodges it will be as well to continue briefly the narration of the events which led up to the formation of the United Grand Lodge of England.

Early in the present century the necessity and desire of re-union became manifest, several abortive proposals being submitted. However, in 1810 delegates from each Grand Lodge, with authority to associate with them from time to time—discreet and intelligent brethren—were appointed to meet and confer on the points of divergence. This was called the Lodge of Promulgation, and it so successfully carried out the intentions of its promoters, that Articles of Union between the two rival bodies were signed and sealed on November 25th, 1813.

In pursuance of one of these articles, nine worthy and expert Master Masons from each body were formed into a Lodge of Reconciliation, for the purpose of visiting the various Lodges and obligating and instructing the several members. On St. John's Day following (December 27th, 1813) both parties met at Freemasons' Hall, and having opened their respective Grand Lodges in adjoining rooms, advanced up the hall in similar procession. The Duke of Kent, G.M. of the Ancients, and the Duke of Sussex, G.M. of the Moderns, taking their respective places in two equal chairs on either side of the throne. After the Articles of Union had been read, one Grand Lodge was constituted, and the Duke of Kent, in an eloquent speech, proposed his Royal Brother, the Duke of Sussex, as Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of Ancient Freemasons of England for the year ensuing.

The whole of the proceedings reflects the highest credit on those to whom was deputed the task of conducting this delicate matter. It was entered upon in a give and take spirit, and neither side had cause to complain of a loss of dignity. The conduct of the two Royal Brothers is worthy of all praise, and our present M.W. Grand Master may feel justly proud of his descent from the last Grand Master of the Ancients.

THE GOOD INTENT LODGE, STAMFORD.

When taking into consideration the state of Masonic government in the early part of the century, the position held by our P.G.M., the Rev. W. Peters, both in the craft and in society generally, invests the line of action taken by him in connection with this Lodge, with a considerable degree of interest.

The Good Intent Lodge, No. 87 on the Roll of the Ancients, was held at the Salutation Inn, Stamford. Date of warrant, 1st May, 1803. As the Lodge never conformed at the union, nor made any return, Grand Lodge has consequently no records of the Good Intent, save that its number was changed to 109, and classed amongst the Lincolnshire Lodges.

Apparently, the Lodge was very active for some time and, being in Mr. Peters' immediate neighbourhood, was a source of great annoyance and irritation to him.*

The earliest notice to hand of the Good Intent Lodge, is the following advertisement inserted in the *Lincoln, Rutland, and Stamford Mercury* :—

“ Masonic Procession.

“The brethren of Lodge No. 87 of Free and Accepted Masons at Stamford acquaint the Fraternity that they intend on Monday the 28th day of July inst. to Walk in Procession to the Church of St. Mary, where a Sermon will be preached upon the occasion by Brother the Rev. Robert Lascelles Carr. Those brethren who intend honouring the Lodge with their company are requested to favour Brother Saile at the New Salutation Inn, in the Beast Market with their intention on or before Thursday the 24th day of July, that proper accomodation may be provided ; and to meet at his house at the latest by Nine in the morning of the above day, that time may be had to arrange the necessary measures for the order of proceedings.

“ Tickets to be had at the Bar 10s. 6d. each

“ By order of the Lodge

“ Geo. Goodwin, Secretary.

“ Stamford 8th July 1806.”

* See the advertisement concerning the Barton meeting, 1805, given in P.G.L. Record.

This advertisement was repeated in the next number of the paper, the following announcement from the Rev. W. Peters appearing just below:—

“Grand Lodge and Grand Feast.

“Peters Provincial Grand Master.

“The Annual Grand Lodge and Grand Feast of the most antient and honourable Society of Free and Accepted Masons, in the County of Lincoln, will be holden this year in the Town of Gainsborough on Tuesday the 12th day of August next, being the Birthday of their Royal Grand Master George Augustus Prince of Wales.

“The Grand Lodge which will meet at Eleven of the Clock in the forenoon is composed of all present and past Grand Officers, and the Master and Wardens of every Constitutional Lodge in the County; at which time and place all matters relative to the prosperity of the Craft in General and the County of Lincoln in particular will be heard and discussed, and every step taken to diffuse the great blessing of Brotherly Love, Charity and Peace to all around us.

“The regular Constitutional Lodges are the St. Matthew’s Lodge, Barton-upon-Humber; the Prince of Wales’ Lodge, Gainsborough; the Witham Lodge, City of Lincoln; the St. James’ Lodge, Louth; and the Lodge No. 453 [removed from the Drapery at Northampton to Boston].

“And it is hereby made known, for the information of the Magistrates and Clerks of the Peace in & for the said County and whosoever else it may concern, that these above mentioned are the only regular Lodges of Free and Accepted Masons within their respective districts who are known to, or protected by the Grand Lodge of England.

“By order of the Provincial Grand Master

“William Gray, Grand Secretary.

“Lincoln July 12th 1806.

“N.B. All business relating to Masons or Masonry is to be addressed post paid either to the Rev. Matthew Barnett D.P.G.M. at Barton-upon-Humber; or to the Rev. William Gray P.G.S. Vicars Court Lincoln.”

It is necessary to notice here, that in the year 1799 an Act of Parliament was passed (which is still in operation) prohibiting secret societies. Provision was made in the Act

to exempt Freemasons' Lodges, provided they made a declaration, together with a return of their members, to the Clerk of the Peace, in the month of March in each year.

We gather from the following issue of the paper that the notice had the desired effect, very probably being supplemented by his Reverence with a direct communication to the Clerk of the Peace :—

Masonic Procession.

"The brethren of Lodge No. 87 of Free and Accepted Masons meeting at Stamford acquaint the Fraternity that the Procession to have taken place on Monday the 28th day of July inst. is Deferred till Thursday the 28th day of August next when they intend to walk in Procession to the Church of St. Mary in the said town where a Sermon will be preached upon the occasion by Brother the Rev. Robert Lascelles Carr Chaplain to Lord Mendip.

"It is with pity mingled with contempt that the Lodge 87 have viewed the late efforts of impotent malice in a certain Reverend Divine, pretending to high masonic authority, who has taken so much fruitless pains to vilify and defame them. To those of their own order, but little need be said; *their* minds can never be prejudiced against their brethren by such unwarrantable and wicked attempts.

"But to Magistrates, Clerks of the Peace and others not of the Masonic Order, it may be necessary respectfully to observe that the Lodge 87 is as legally constituted and consequently as much under legal protection as any Lodge whatever throughout the United Kingdom.

"Deliberately to investigate, and completely to expose the proceedings of the Reverend Gentleman in question, they avow to be the purport of thus delaying their intended meeting; in the meantime they cannot help advising him to pursue a line of conduct and make use of language more becoming his character as a Clergyman and more consistent with his obligations as a Mason.

"21st July 1806."

The following account of the meeting is from the same source :—

"Yesterday a very respectable, though not numerous meeting of free masons was held at the lodge in this town,

who went at noon in grand procession to Saint Mary's church, when a spirited and able discourse was delivered by the Rev. R. L. Carr from Luke ch. 10 v. 36 ['Which now of these three, thinkest thou, was neighbour unto him that fell among the thieves?']

"A vote of thanks for his excellent sermon and for his upright conduct and strenuous exertions in the cause of Masonry was signed by

W. Jackson	...	Master, Stamford Lodge.
J. B. Friend	...	557 Strict Benevolence.
J. R. Smart	...	Royal Cumberland Chapter.
C. Jeffrey	...	St. Peters."

In the meantime P.G. Lodge had been held at Gainsborough, and "A letter was read from the Rev. W. Peters in excuse for his absence, and circumstances respecting a Lodge of Masons at Stamford were stated, and reasons given for avoiding communication with them, and the pure and upright principles of English Masonry strictly enjoined to be observed."

So far as recent research has shown, there was not that difference between the two bodies to necessitate, much less to justify, this action of the Prov. G. Master. The newspaper account of the Stamford procession calls them "a very respectable" body, the term, respectable, at that time conveying the same idea as is now expressed by the word, influential. Such being the case, one is surprised to find that the rev. gentleman did not deem it the wiser course to ignore the schismatics and not rush into a contest, which had on almost every previous occasion been a losing one for the Modern side.

The annoyance of the Prov. G. Master a few months later may be easily imagined, when he found the heresy not only in full bloom in his county town, but receiving the countenance and support of the Prov. G. Secretary, the friend whom he himself had introduced into the craft.

At this time most of the British Regiments possessed a Masonic charter, granted either by the Grand Lodge of Ireland or by one of the rival bodies in England. Among

these was a warrant granted by the Athol Grand Lodge to the 76th Foot, commanded by the Hon. W. Monson, of Burton-by-Lincoln.

This Regiment in 1806 was stationed in Lincoln, and in November of that year a Parliamentary Election for the City took place, the candidates being Richard Ellison, Esq., the Right Hon. John Sullivan, and the Hon. W. Monson, the latter heading the poll by a considerable majority. An account of this election states that

“Colonel Ellison’s house of rendezvous was the Saracen’s Head Inn. This gentleman had 15 beautiful flags of pink, blue, and white, and the party was attended by the Lincoln Volunteer Infantry band.

“Mr. Sullivan and his friends were at the Rein Deer Inn. They had 15 elegant flags, alternative light blue and white, and a very good band of music.

“Col. Monson was at Mr. W. Widdowson’s house, but the appointed Inn for the party was the King’s Arms. Colonel Monson had 18 handsome flags, crimson and white, and the musicians of the 76th regiment, which he had the honour to command, attended his canvass”

It is easy to understand from this account that the Regiment and its Colonel were very popular, and that anything taking place in connection with them would be viewed with interest by all parties, varying, doubtless, according to the colour of the banner they had recently supported.

The following letter to the Rev. M. Barnett, dated London, May 30th, 1807, is now in P.G.L. Library:—

“ I did intend the moment I got a Frank to inclose to you a letter written to me the end of last year from Mr. Thorold complaining of an unheard of outrage committed by Mr. Gray the P.G.S. who had the audacity of forming and promoting a Procession of Athol Masons who are at Lincoln, Soldiers in Colonel Monson’s Regiment, and marching up and preaching a sermon to them as Brother Masons in the very Cathedral. He wanted Mr. Thorold to join with the Witham Lodge as followers of these People, to countenance, do honour to, and support

them; and they had the impudence to enter into the Witham Lodge with all their Harlequin Aprons and badges, but, Mr. Thorold much to his honour instantly closed the Lodge and went away.

"The disturbance made last year by the vagabonds at Stamford prevented me from immediately taking a strong measure with Mr. Gray, but it shall not die away, and I shall take care as soon as Dr. Pretymann comes into Residence that such a thing shall never more be heard of within the boundaries of that Church. And if I hear any more of Mr. Gray Preaching to these kind of People in any other Church, the Bishop shall be informed of it.

"I have long suspected Mr. Gray's private partiality to Athol Masons & Masonry, and from what I have heard, do believe he is very much inclined to be the *Mr. Lascelles Carr* of Lincoln I do therefore request you to take the acting part into your own hands, and to do and act as you may find or have reason to believe will be for the benefit of Masonry in general & of the County of Lincoln in particular, and lest the Athol Masons of Stamford should triumphantly say, as I have reason to believe *Carr* they will say—that they have put down the Constitutional Grand Feast & Grand Lodge, I think that the advertisement announcing the change should be in this manner.

"The most Antient and honourable Society of Free and accepted Masons in the County of Lincoln.

"On account of the Absence of the most worshipful the Provincial Grand Master, and the necessity of the Right worshipful the Deputy Provl. Grand Master attending his office as Chaplain to the High Sheriff about the time that the Grand Feast & Grand Lodge was appointed to be held, notice is hereby given that the Grand Feast & Grand Lodge must be delay'd until after the 12th day of August next—And while the P.G.M. is out of the County it is requested that all matters relative to Masons and Masonry be addressed to the Rev. M. Barnett D.P.G.M. at Barton upon Humber, on whom in that case the masonic government of the County of course descends.—By order &c.

". . . . I am ever most truly, Dear Sir,

"Your sincere friend,

"Wm. Peters."

No account of the Athols coming into the Witham Lodge appears in the minute book. The minutes of 1806 with one exception conclude:—"The Lodge was closed in due form and the evening spent in harmony and brotherly love, all honours being paid to the Grand Lodge." The exception is the Regular Lodge, February 6th, which consists of only a few lines of the usual page, and was evidently left to be completed afterwards.

Peters' letter conveys the idea that the visit to the Witham Lodge took place the same evening as the Cathedral procession. Whether this was the writer's intention it is impossible to say, but it is scarcely probable that the Rev. W. Gray would countenance such a proceeding after a refusal to join in a religious service. On the other hand, supposing the procession took place after the election, and the Witham Master (Samuel Thorold, the Squire of Harmston) to have been an opponent of the "crimson and white," his zeal for the Constitutional Grand Lodge would naturally be much strengthened by the result; hence his complaint to the Prov. G. Master. It was without doubt a very unpleasant position for all parties, especially for the Prov. G. Secretary, and it is not surprising to find that, though Bro. Gray attended the following P.G.L. and dined with the brethren, another brother had taken over the duties of Secretary. It is a fact that redounds to Bro. Gray's credit, that his regular attendance, as Chaplain of the Witham Lodge, is recorded for several years onward.

Little needs, or remains to be told of the Good Intent.

In 1813 the Solemn Act of Union took place; alternative numbers were given on the new roll, the Good Intent being placed 109. However, like many of the Ancients, the Stamford Lodge made only a nominal obedience to the new authority, and to P.G.L., as, notwithstanding a place in the public procession was reserved for it, the Good Intent Lodge is never recorded as being represented.

In 1817 the Rev. M. Barnett, in answer to the enquiry of the Grand Secretary, writes:—"As to the Good Intent Lodge No. 109 Stamford, I have not learnt any particulars, but understand that they have ceased to meet."

This supposition of Barnett's was, however, possibly incorrect, as may be seen on reference to the account of the meeting of P.G.L. at Spalding in 1818. After this year nothing is known of the Lodge, except its erasure from Grand Lodge roll on 5th December, 1827.

It may be stated, in conclusion, that enquiries at Stamford elicited the fact, that not a vestige nor even a tradition of the Good Intent Lodge exists.

The brethren of the present Lodge (Merit 466) meet on the opposite side of the Welland, and are consequently under the jurisdiction of Northamptonshire.

THE SPURN AND HUMBER LODGE, GRIMSBY.

The authority by which the Spurn and Humber Lodge worked was a warrant originally granted for a London Lodge half-a-century previous to its coming to Grimsby. Grand Lodge record fixes this latter date 26th February, 1811, No. 61, the new Lodge taking the position of the original, according to the Athol custom previously referred to. The first meeting, officially returned as being held at Richardson's, Crown and Anchor, Silver Street, shows the names of thirty members; about a dozen more were added during the twelve months, after which nothing further appears except the erasure of the Lodge in 1823.

It is a remarkable fact that even the very name of this Lodge should have been forgotten in the course of a few years. So far as is known, mention of it only occurs twice in the annals of the Province—once in a fragmentary Lindsey (Louth) list of members, 1837, where a brother is described as of the Spurn and Humber No. 61, and again in a speech by Doctor Oliver at Lincoln in 1841, when, speaking of lapsed Lodges, the Doctor asks, "Where the

Spurn & Humber, where the Urania, where the Prince of Wales? the very names are almost forgotten, and I have no doubt there are many Brethren present who never heard of their existence."

Bro. Anderson Bates, of Grimsby, who has gone into this matter very thoroughly, is strongly of opinion that the Spurn and Humber Lodge was working several years prior to 1811. Bro. Bates bases his theory as follows:—

In the year 1800 the docks at Grimsby were in course of construction. Naturally the work in a great measure would draw to the town business men, one of whom was David Simpson, a member of the Humber (Athol) Lodge in Hull, by trade a joiner and builder. Brother David Simpson (whose name is second on the return made to G.L. by the Spurn and Humber) about the year 1804 owned and lived in what is now 170-2, Lower Burgess Street, Grimsby. Behind these houses is a building now two cottages, but evidently erected for Masonic purposes. According to the statement made to Bro. Bates by Simpson's daughter, her father about the year 1805 built this room for the Freemasons, who assembled there for some time. An unfortunate dispute afterwards occurred between Simpson and the Masons, and the latter removed to what was probably their original place of meeting, the Crown and Anchor, Silver Street. Another strong point in Bro. Bates's contention is, that in August, 1809, the Duke of Brunswick landed in Grimsby and was feasted by the Freemasons, David Simpson being one of the entertainers. This of course implies the Freemasons as a body, and points at least to some sort of organization.

In 1811 George Oliver, Master of the Grammar School, Grimsby, started the Apollo Lodge, and built a new Masonic Hall. Whether this had any effect on the Spurn and Humber Lodge it is impossible to say with certainty, but it is very remarkable that after this date scarcely any mention occurs of the Lodge; neither do the members appear to have joined the Apollo.

In January, 1817, the Rev. Matthew Barnett, D.P.G.M., wrote to the Grand Secretary:—"I have made Enquiry respecting the Spurn and Humber Lodge No. 83 at Great Grimsby, and find they some Time since sold their Warrant & Furniture to a person in York."

Doubtless this information would be supplied to Barnett by Doctor Oliver. The Lodge Bible remained in Grimsby, having been pledged by the Tyler.

The last return (April, 1839) made by the old Lindsey Lodge to the Provincial G. Registrar concludes with the names of

David Simpson, 60, Gent., Grimsby, P.M.

Saml. Newby, 55, Builder, Grimsby, P.M.

The former of these was very probably the one referred to in the portion of the members' list "as formerly of the Spurn and Humber Lodge."

ROYAL ARCH MASONRY IN LINCOLNSHIRE.

The earliest account of the Royal Arch Degree being conferred on Lincolnshire residents occurs in the records of the Minerva Chapter, then No. 35, Hull.

The register of that Chapter shows the exaltation on 2nd March, 1787, of three brethren from Barton-on-Humber, viz., Field Dunn, Tanner; the Rev. Thomas Robinson; and Richd. Nicholson, Attorney-at-Law.

On July 6th following, three others from Barton are also recorded as being exalted:—Wm. Hesleden, Attorney-at-Law; John Nicholson, Surgeon; and Thomas Marris, Attorney-at-Law.

The first three named received all the previous degrees from the Minerva brethren, doubtless at the instigation of Matthew Barnett, and afterwards with him became founders of the St. Matthew's Lodge at Barton.

These brethren, in their turn, appear to have recommended the R.A. to Barnett.

Matthew Barnett (the prefix Rev. does not appear in the Masonic records for several years) came from out of Westmorland to Barton in the year 1786, and carried on the profession of a schoolmaster, founding the St. Matthew's Lodge at that place 20th March, 1787.

In the following year Barnett revisited the north and was admitted into the Royal Arch Chapter at Darlington.

The Chapter of Vigilance, No. 56, Darlington, was opened 24th February, 1788. The following is copied from the Minute Book:—

“At a meeting of the Chapter of Vigilance No. 56 held the third day of March A.L. 5792 A.D. 1788 present, Comps. . . . Companion *Basnett* was exalted. Companion *Basnett*'s exaltation Fee £1 7 - 0.”

Companion *Basnett* also attended Chapter March 10th, 1788, and December, 1790. A later minute also records that the registration fee was forwarded to Durham for transmission to London, which, from a communication of the G. Recorder to Barnett, now in possession of our P.G.L., appears not to have been done, at least for a considerable time.

Almost within two months of his receiving the R.A. degree we find Barnett's name as First Principal of the Saint Matthew's Chapter at Barton.

In this case, as well as that of the Lodge, he presided without having filled any other office, and one marvels how he learnt the working of either, especially that of the Chapter, seeing that the officers of the Vigilance were but a month his senior, and consequently could not have afforded him much instruction.

The personality of Barnett comes strongly out in these proceedings, for notwithstanding his comparative short residence at Barton, he not only took the leading part in the Lodge and Chapter but called them after his own name, and appointed the annual feast, or, as it is styled now, installation, on St. Matthew's Day, this probably being his own birthday.

THE ST. MATTHEW'S CHAPTER, BARTON-UPON-HUMBER.

The warrant of the Old Barton Chapter, being the earliest granted for Lincolnshire, is copied *verb. et litt.* :—

In the Name of the Grand Architect of the Universe



No. 58

The Almighty Jah

To all the Enlightened OUR Brethren of the Several Degrees of the Royal Craft : but more especially, those Citizens of the World, an 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 Matt^m Barnett

The Rev^d Thomas Robinson and Field Dunn

having made known to Us, their desire of holding a Chapter of Our Order for the Cultivation of the Grand, and Universal Science, in Hopes thereby, the more to extend their Aid to, and promote the Happiness of every terrestrial Being, and Link Mankind together by indissoluble Bonds of Friendship, Peace, and Harmony. And that We having taken their request into Consideration, and finding it concordant with Our Grand Scheme of Universal Benevolence, do hereby Grant to them, this Our Warrant of Constitution, with full Power for them, their Companions, and their Successors, to open and hold a Chapter of Our Order at

Barton upon - Humber

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 Wednesday the 18th day of June now next ensuing by the Title of

Saint Matthew's Chapter

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 16th day of May A.L. 5792 ; A.D. 1788—

James Galloway

Ja. Hesseltine

Jno. Allen

Inspectors Gen^l.



Ja. Hesseltine Z

Benj^a Lancaster H

John Frith J

T
H

John Frith G^d R^r.

The Reverend Thomas Robinson was appointed Vicar of Horkstow in 1781. Bro. Robinson was the second Prov. G. Chaplain. He died in the year 1808.

Field Dunn was an early officer of P.G. Lodge.

No record of the working of the St. Matthew's Chapter is known. A portion of the furniture, together with the warrant, are now in the possession of the present Barton Chapter, the latter being discovered a few years back in a solicitor's office. So far as the Grand Chapter records show the St. Matthew's Chapter ceased working about 1804.

Among the papers in Prov. G. Lodge Library is the following draft letter of Barnett's, dated Sept. 16th, 1799, in reply to a communication of the Grand Recorder, enclosing a copy of a recent Act of Parliament requiring all Chapters and Lodges to be registered by the Clerk of the Peace:—

“Am sorry I did not sooner receive your letter requesting a Certificate and Register of our Chapter, as it wou'd have saved us some Trouble.

“Before the receipt of yours we had transmitted a Certificate and Register of our Lodge to the Clerk of the Peace, and the same might have been done with respect to the Chapter, had we known it had been necessary: I mention this because we have not a Magistrate in the Town. I shou'd rather suppose it will not be necessary to have a Register of our Chapter as we never hold one but on our regular Lodge Nights. If it be absolutely necessary we must cease to meet till some future opportunity, which will be no great hardship upon us, as we are, I think, upon the Decline.”

The Warrant of the present St. Matthew's Chapter is dated 3rd November, 1880.

A Prov. G. Chapter was convened at Barton on Monday, 21st March, 1881. The Grand Superintendent, W. H. Symth, presided, and the Chapter of St. Matthew was duly dedicated; Comps. Wm. Swallow, Thos. Fryer, and Wm. Harling Sissons being installed as Principals.

The proceedings closed with a banquet at the George Hotel. The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were given,

the health of the Grand Superintendent being received with great acclamation, from the fact of this being the anniversary of his birthday.

In acknowledging the compliment the M.E. Superintendent congratulated the Companions on the fact of their having made him this day Superintendent of a Perfect Province by the constitution of a sixth Chapter, thus forming the double triangle.

THE OLD CHAPTER, AND THE SAINT BOTOLPH'S,
BOSTON.

The Minute Book of the Old Boston Chapter has fortunately been well taken care of. The first entry is as follows :—

“Holy Royal Arch Chapter Convened & held at the Ship Tavern Boston by the Sanction of the Lodge of Harmony No. 453.”

“Chapter convened in due form 15 March 1807 when R.W. Bros. Willman John Wilson & Cohen presided as Grand Chiefs and finding Bros. Willm. Wells Jn. Brotherton West Brotherton Adam Dods Wm. Wilkinson Jn. Barton Hanson Scarborough & Thos. Wilson duly qualified exalted them to the sublime degree of R.A. Masons.

“Chapter then adjourned until next Meeting.”

On March 18th Chapter again met and Comps. Willman, Wells, and J. Brotherton were duly elected Grand Chiefs for the ensuing twelve months. W. Brotherton Sc.E., J. Wilson P.S., &c. Five exaltations.

“The Chapter then adjourned until next meeting in the presence of the before mentioned Companions.”

Next meeting, Dec. 27th; two exaltations. Adjourned until the first Sunday in April.

1808, April. “R.W.Z. oblig'd the Companions with the Sojourners Lecture. Exaltation Fee £1 1 0. 1s. per quarter Subscription. Pd. for Life Line 9d.”

1808, July 17th. Bros. Curtois, Peacock, Cresswell, and Virtue were exalted.

These Companions became the founders of the Chapter of Concord, Lincoln.

"Paid for Gold Cord & for Tassils 6s. od."

Meetings held quarterly, on Sundays.

1810. "The Fund of the Chapter being indebted to the Craft Lodge in the Sum of Ten Guineas, 7 Comps. advanced the necessary amount."

1811. "Bro. Com. T. Robinson who had been exalted into the Degree under the Sanction of a Chapter held in the sixty ninth regiment of Foot quarter'd at Lincoln* was by us regularly exalted (to enable him to become a subscribing Member of this Chapter) without expense."

It was unanimously agreed "That every Companion resident in Boston who neglects to attend the Duties of the Chapter after receiving a summons signed with + + + shall pay a fine of one shilling unless he is sick or out of Town.

"And that Every Companion who neglects his attendance after receiving a Summons signed * * * shall pay a fine of two shillings and sixpence."

This order was soon afterwards rescinded.

1813. "Five Guineas given to the Craft Lodge towards the expenses at the procession" (P.G.L. at Boston).

1816. "On account of the absence of the P.G.M., Bro. Barnett D.P.G.M. be wrote too, to now his oppinion with Respect to gaining a Warrant for Holding a Chapter."

1818. Bros. R. Roberts, J. Baxter, and W. Ball, of Sleaford, exalted.

1820. "Cash to Br. Fortisque £4-15-0." Fortisque appears as a visitor, and presiding as Z. on one occasion ; probably a Masonic Preceptor.

* This Chapter was under the Irish Constitution.

1821. June 17th, an exaltation ; and it was proposed—
“that the Companions meet on Tuesday Evening June 19th
for the purpose of examining Accts., and Write to the Grand
Chapter for a Warrant.” *

This is the last entry as regards the Old Chapter. Near the end of the book is a cash account, “March 1st 1821” duly signed, showing a satisfactory balance paid over to Peter Tuxford the new treasurer. These dates, June and March, are puzzling.

Charles Wellman is recorded as presiding every year except one, when his place was filled by Joseph Williamson. Wellman, a brewer by trade, resided at Sutterton, about six miles from Boston. He was Prov. S.G. Warden in 1820, and died sometime about 1855.

Comp. Cohen, or Choen, was probably Preceptor, as the sum of Five Guineas is recorded as being paid to him for “his attendance and information.”

John Brotherton was Treasurer nearly the whole period.

Joseph and Benjamin Williamson, father and son, filled various offices in P.G.L. The latter afterwards removed to Spalding, and was returned with the members of that Lodge.

Some account of the other early members of the Chapter is given in the record of the Lodge of Harmony.

Soon after the union of the two Grand Lodges, pressure seems to have been brought to bear on those Lodges which sanctioned an irregular (*i.e.*, without warrant from Grand Chapter) assembly of the R.A. degree. These are believed to have been numerous, especially in the Provinces.

Grand Chapter, when granting a warrant would, in addition to the charge for this document, £5 5s., require a registration fee of 5s. for each member. This impost no doubt many of the old Chapters would resent, and rather than subscribe the money, and thus acknowledge a supreme authority, ceased meeting. It is pretty certain that this was the feeling at Boston, as the Treasurer had money in hand sufficient to pay all the demands of Grand Chapter

* No application from Boston at this date is recorded at Grand Chapter.

had the members been so disposed. But rather than take this course they gave up the meetings, and, so far as any records bear on the matter, never entered a Chapter again.

This decision, one must acknowledge, the vicissitudes experienced by the Regular Chapter in after years, gave whatever old members were living no cause to regret.

The revival of the R.A. in Boston appears to have been due to the initiative of the Rev. George Coltman, the D.P.G.M., a warrant being granted for holding the Chapter of St. Botolph (named after the Parish Church) on November 1st, 1843. The Chapter, however, as will be seen, does not appear to have flourished. Very few meetings are recorded, and these at long intervals. The minutes are transcribed in the old Chapter Book, in the handwriting of the Concord (Lincoln) Companions, who apparently took a prominent part in the Boston meetings for several years.

"Holy Royal Chapter of St. Botolph No. 339 convened in the Lodge Room Church St. Boston 11th June 1844.

"The Chapter was opened in due form by the Companions of the Chapter of Concord No. 374 Lincoln when Bros. Companions Jas. Dixon & James Thornton of Spalding were obligated afresh."

The Chapter was duly consecrated and Comps. the Rev. Geo. Coltman, Rector of Stickney; Benj. Williamson, of Boston; and Zachariah Woodward, of Donington, were installed as Principals. Coltman and Woodward had previously been exalted at Lincoln.

Jas. Dixon, who was obligated afresh, was among the last-named exalted in the old Chapter, he, together with Joseph Williamson, being the only old members present.

In this year petitions for the appointment of a Grand Superintendent for Lincolnshire were forwarded to Grand Chapter; and, very possibly, one of the names recommended for the honour did not meet with the approval of the Rev. G. Coltman, as he apparently never held another Chapter.

The same leaf, which bears the account of the meeting of 1844, also records that of May 28, 1846.

Twelve Comps. were present, including eight from Lincoln; the Rev. G. Coltman was present, but does not appear as presiding. Benj. Williamson appointed Z.

"The Grand Superintendent (The Rev. J. O. Dakeyne) produced the Patent appointing him to the office."

The next meeting is April, 1850.

Seven Lincoln and four Boston Comps.

Chas. Rice installed First Principal; six new members.

No meeting after this is recorded until June, 1862, when Chas Rice presided, and Comps. W. H. Bailes, J. H. Tidswell, and R. W. Stainbank were installed as new first officers.

Comp. W. H. Smyth, afterwards Grand Superintendent, joined the Chapter, September, 1862.

After meeting in February, 1863, the Chapter again slumbered until 1871. In that year a dispensation to enable Companions Small, Radley, and Marshall to occupy the various chairs, or, as the old Scribe would record, "Preside as Grand Chiefs," was granted; since which time the St. Botolph's has regularly carried on the work of its branch of the craft.

THE CHAPTER OF CONCORD, LINCOLN.

The early minutes of this Chapter, with the exception of those copied in the Register Book, have now been missing for a many years.

The Register compiled about fifty years ago, probably by Robert Goodacre and continued by E. A. Bromehead and the Rev. Chas. Nairne, gives, in addition to the exaltations, office bearers and number of meetings, the leading events and matters of interest.

Conjecture only is possible as to the reason why the Chapter was started without a warrant or dispensation.

That this was no unusual course is evidenced by the Boston Chapter; and the custom was doubtless encouraged by the divided state of Masonic authority at the period.

We have seen in the letters of the Rev. W. Peters that he took no interest in the R.A., and also that he was very bitter against the Athol adherents, who are believed to have been zealous promulgators of the Chapter degree. The nominal Master of the Witham Lodge in 1807 was Samuel Thorold, Esq., a staunch and loyal supporter of the Prov. G. Master and the Old Grand Lodge, his Deputy or Acting Master being Charles Curtois.

The proposal to establish a Chapter in connection with the Lodge, would of course necessitate the consent of the R.W.M. Brother Thorold, looking on the degree in the same light as the P.G.M. was apparently indifferent on the subject, though perfectly willing to acquiesce in the request of his able Deputy.

The Minute Book of the Old Boston Chapter records :—
 “Chapter convened in due form 17th July 1808. When Bros. Chars. Curtois Saml. Peacock Richd. Cresswell & David Virtue proveing them-selves worthy were by us exalted to the sublime Degree of Royal Arch Masons and paid the accustom'd fee.”

Companions Curtois and Peacock also attended the October Chapter.

The first entry in the Lincoln Register records under date :—

“1808, Aug. 21. Chapter of Concord opened at Comp. Aaron Foster's King's Arms Lincoln.

“ Founders }	Charles Curtois.
	Richard Cresswell.
	Virtue.
	Samuel Peacock.”

Charles Curtois, probably a member of the family of that name who were living in St. Swithin's in the early part of the century, is recorded as joining the Witham Lodge in 1802. Some further account of him appears in the Witham notes. Dr. Oliver, who doubtless knew Curtois well, writes of him as “a talented and zealous Mason, whose early and lamented death prevented him from rising to the highest honours of Masonry.”

His death (February, 1822) occurred whilst occupying the chair of Z. for the eleventh time.

Comps. Cresswell and Virtue, who in the register are marked as "sojourners in Lincoln," left the City shortly after the Chapter was opened.

Richard Cresswell was, on the proposition of Bro. Curtois, initiated in the Witham Lodge in May, 1808; F.C. in June, M.M. and "Pass'd the Chair" in July, R.A. the same month, and one of the Principals of the Chapter in August—a fairly good record. His attendance at the Lodge is regularly noted for about ten months.

David Virtue's name appears only once in the Lodge Book, viz., as attending the dinner at the meeting of Prov. G. Lodge, 12th August, 1808.

Samuel Peacock was initiated as a lewis in the Witham Lodge, in July, 1806. He is there described as following his fathers's trade of a watchmaker—but for many years previous to his death, he was a Sheriff's Officer.

Comp. Peacock was a most energetic mason, and seldom missed either Lodge or Chapter.

He, like Charles Curtois, "died in harness," having been three times Z., three times E., and twenty times P.S.

His death is recorded February 7th, 1839, and burial in St. Swithin's.

Four exaltations took place at the first meeting of the new chapter, and three the following month; these included the landlord of the King's Arms and Levi Green, the Janitor 1808—1834.

September 4, 1808. First election of officers. Meetings to be held monthly, on Sundays.

Quarterly subscription, 2s. 6d.

1809. Comp. Aaron Foster died, and the Chapter removed to the Green Dragon.

"Name altered to Chapter of Independence (Concord already in the County)."

This is rather a remarkable entry. Nothing is known at Grand Chapter of any Lincolnshire Concord save the

Lincoln Chapter. I am at a loss to suggest the place, unless it be in connection with the Athol Lodge at Stamford.

1810. Five shillings out of every exaltation fee to be paid to the Witham Lodge.

1817, August 21. "Triple Triennial Festival."

This, I suppose, means nine years since the Chapter was formed.

December 7th. "Correspondence with Grand Chapter to become conformable."

"Charter £5 5s. od., and 5s. each Comp. for registration."

Enquiry at Grand Chapter elicited the following information :—

"The Lincoln Chapter was the last Warrant granted by the 'Moderns' prior to the Union of the two Grand Chapters in 1817. It was numbered 184, being the next on the Roll to the Aletheia, Grimsby."

The register of the "Moderns," contains a list of seventeen names, headed by Charles Curtois, Z. ; John Scott, H. ; James Simpson, J. ; meeting at a private room in Lincoln. This Chapter was brought forward in the new Register, after the Union, as No. 557, attached to the Witham Lodge,* and was retained on the list until 7th August, 1861, when it was erased by Grand Chapter, in company with many other Chapters, for having neglected to make returns for several years past.

No meetings were held in 1818, probably waiting for instructions from headquarters.

On 7th August, 1819, a dispensation for reviving the meetings at the Lodge Room, White Swan Yard, was received.

1820, June 11th. Chapter of Concord Charter of Constitution received; delay from the signature of Grand Officers.

* By a resolution of United Grand Chapter "Every Chapter shall be attached to some Warranted Lodge, and the rank or precedence of the several Chapters shall be determined according to the priority of the Lodge to which they may be respectively attached.

Apparently the Companions misunderstood the regulation of Grand Chapter referring to the attachment of the warrant to the Witham Lodge, as it is recorded :—

“Payments of quarterage discontinued.

“No members but subscribers to Witham to be admitted.

“Funds of the Chapter paid over to Treasurer of Witham Lodge.”

The payment of exaltation fees to the Witham Lodge continued for about fifteen years.

The Chapter in 1822 sustained a serious loss in the death of Charles Curtois.

Between 1825 and 1832 the Chapter seldom met, and for several years, no record of officers is made.

1835, June 28th. “Meetings changed from Sunday to Tuesday. Grand Chapter of Promulgation convened. M. E. Wright, Z. deputed.”

Charles Wright was exalted October, 1834, and was elected First Principal in the following June, not having been elected to any subordinate office.

In July following a memorial was forwarded to Grand Chapter complaining of the Humber Chapter, Hull, charging only half fees, in consequence of which no exaltation had taken place in the Chapter of Concord for eleven years.

This action on the part of the Concord members, appears to have been due to the annoyance consequent on the exaltation in Hull, of the promoters of the new Chapter at Gainsborough.

From 1837–1842 meetings held only about once a year.

Doctor Oliver joined the Chapter in 1841, being described as “of the Witham Lodge. Initiated St. Peters Lodge Peterboro’ 1798. Exalted Industry Chapter No. 39 Hull May 8th 1813.”

Robert Goodacre, the Rev. J. O. Dakeyne, Ralph Taylor, E. A. Bromehead, together with several other skilful and energetic Companions, also became members of the Chapter about this period.

1843. Companion Wm. Burton was buried at St. Peter-at-Gowts with R.A. ceremony, the Rev. J. O. Dakeyne officiating.

1847. The warrant "brought back." Comp. Bromehead presented a frame and glass for it.

1848. The Earl of Yarborough, Second Grand Principal of England and Prov. G. Master of Lincolnshire, joined the Chapter of Concord.

After 1850 the Chapter became very feeble; few new members. Chapter frequently not opened through absence of officers.

The last entry in the Minute Book is November 17, 1857, seven Comps. being present. The minutes are signed by T. Heffernan. Upwards of £17 was due for rent, &c., from 1854 to 1857. Two exaltations are recorded in 1856. The Register shows the return to Grand Chapter in December, 1854, and also records in 1858 the names of the Principals—Thos. Heffernan, Rob. C. Moore, Richard Hall.

In 1859 the name of Richard Hall appears as Z., but no other officers are mentioned.

No return having been made to Grand Chapter for several years, the Chapter of Concord was erased from the roll on August 7th, 1861.

The warrant was mentioned in the last inventory taken, though no trace of it is known at present.

The following Companions have filled the chair as First Principals in the Chapter of Concord:—

Charles Curtois,	E. A. Bromehead,
Samuel Peacock,	R. S. Harvey,
Wilson Hickson,	Ralph Taylor,
Page Cartledge,	John Middleton,
Matthew White,	E. F. Broadbent,
John Ward,	Chas. Nairne,
Thomas Brown,	W. N. Jepson.
Charles Wright,	T. Heffernan,
Robert Goodacre,	Richard Hall.
J. O. Dakeyne,	

The new Charter of Constitution is dated 5th May, 1869, and contains the names of Rd. Hall, Thos. Heffernan, Henry Cotton, Rd. Sutton Harvey, E. F. Broadbent, Chas. Mann, members of the former Chapter; and J. R. Rudgard, Chas. Harrison, Fred. Watson, of the Minerva Chapter, Hull.

The Chapter was consecrated July 28th, 1869, by W. H. Smyth, P.Z. of the Oliver Chapter, Grimsby.

THE ALETHEIA AND OLIVER CHAPTERS, GRIMSBY.

On 8th May, 1813, (Rev.) Geo. Oliver, Master of the Apollo Lodge, at Grimsby, was exalted in the Royal Arch Chapter "Industrious," working in connection with the Humber Lodge, Hull.

This Lodge met under an Athol Warrant which was removed to Hull in the early part of 1809.

It is strange to find Oliver seeking exaltation in an Athol Chapter, and more especially as the Minerva, held in the same town, was the mother Lodge and Chapter of the early Lincolnshire Provincial Brethren.

The following correspondence relating to the Grimsby Chapter is, I believe, the only documentary evidence existing, showing that W. H. White took any interest in the Province over which he for so many years was the nominal ruler:—

"Parliament Place,

"Dear Sir,

"Westm. 3rd June 1813.

"Upon my return home from out of Kent whither I had been for some days past I found your favor accompanied by a Petition from certain of our Brethren to hold a Royal Arch Chapter at Great Grimsby which I shall have great pleasure in presenting to the Grand Chapter on the sixth of July next—not doubting but that the Prayer of such Petition will be most readily acceded to, & as soon as the Warrant of Constitution is obtained I will send it to you or rather Mr. Oliver of Grimsby aforesaid together with an Account of the expenses attendant—Assuring you at the same time I should feel particularly happy in attending the

Constitution of said Chapter if I knew when it was intended to take place & that I could make my arrangements accordingly.

"I will thank you to inform me if you have already got the necessary Regalia &c. for a R.A.C. or what you may particularly want & if I can procure it for you here I shall have great pleasure in doing & await your commands accordingly.

"I am Dear Sir

"Yours most fraternally

"The Rev. M. Barnett

"W. H. White, P.G.S.

"Barton on Humber."

"Dr. Sir & Bro.

"Grimsby June 18 1813.

"I received in due course your kind communication relative to the Royal Arch in answer to which I have to state, that however gratifying it might prove to the feelings of the Brethren belonging to the Apollo Lodge, to be honoured with the presence of Bro. White, the Grand Superintendent for this County, at the opening of the Chapter here; yet the low state of our Finances compels us to decline that honour: for, in fact we are possessed of no Funds at all and the Expenses already incurred have been so serious, that the Brethren have been under the necessity of contributing liberally to discharge the Debts of the Lodge, and I am of opinion that any new appeal to their Purses would be attended with great inconvenience, and would be injurious to the cause of Masonry in Grimsby.

"I with great pleasure accede to your proposal of opening the Chapter on the 13 of August; and I have no doubt, but on that day, there will be a sufficient number of Companions present to do it without any additional Expense; as to the Regalia, whatever is absolutely necessary, we are already possessed of, the Robes as not being immediately requisite we must defer the purchase of until our Funds are recruited.

"Rev. M. Barnett

"I am Dr. Sir & Bro.

D.P.G.M. for the

"Your Humble Servt.

County of Lincoln."

"Geo. Oliver.

Another letter, dated July 24, after giving details of the arrangements for the Provincial Meeting, &c., continues:—

"I have not yet received the Warrant of Constitution for a R.A. Chapter, which I presume, will be transmitted thro' the medium of you, our D.P.G.M.

"I need not mention how gratifying it will be to my feelings & to those of the rest of the Brethren of the Apollo Lodge, if Bro. White should arrange his business in Lincolnshire, so as to enable him to honour us with his Company on the 12th of August."

No evidence is forthcoming as to whether or not the Chapter was opened in August. The next reference is the following letter, among the Oliver papers in P.G.L. Library:

"Freemasons Hall

"6th September 1813.

"The Petition for a Royal Arch Chapter to be holden at Grimsby was laid before the Grand Chapter at its last meeting when an Order was made for a Warrant to be granted, but Mr. Dent one of the Grand Principals being out of Town & having been so almost ever since the order was made I have not been able to procure his signature, as soon as he returns to London you may rely on my forwarding the warrant with the least possible delay.

"I remain &c.

"Mr. W. Langton."

"William H. White, G.S.

The records at Grand Chapter show that on July 6th, 1813, a charter was granted to George Oliver, E. D. Wedge, John Green, and others, for the Aletheia Chapter, to meet at Freemasons' Hall, Great Grimsby, No. 183.

The warrant apparently, however, was never taken up, as it does not find a place on the register of that period, nor was it brought forward after the Union.

Whether the funds were low, or whether, having waited so long for their warrant, they determined to do like some of their neighbours and work without, it is impossible to state, no account of their proceedings being known.

That the Chapter flourished for several years is evidenced by a newspaper cutting among the Oliver papers:—

"On Tuesday evening last a gold medal and chain were presented to the Rev. Geo. Oliver, by the members of the Royal Arch Chapter, Grimsby. On one side, in bas relief, a pair of compasses are extended upon a line of chords; within which is the letter G. circumscribed by a pentagon;

the whole surmounted by a tessellated border. On the reverse is this inscription 'Presented to Bro. the Rev. G. Oliver, by the Companions of the R.A. Chapter, holden in the Apollo Lodge, as a small token of gratitude for services rendered to Masonry in Grimsby. A.L. 5820.'

After this year (1820) no mention of the Chapter occurs.

A seal or medal of copper, the size of a penny, bearing the inscription, "Aletheia Chapter Gt. Grimsby," is now in possession of Bro. G. L. Shackles, Hull.

The present OLIVER CHAPTER, which by its name connects in a measure the old and new, is attached to the Pelham Pillar Lodge, 792.

Date of warrant 3rd May, 1865. Comp. T. Walton, of Hull, dedicated the Chapter on 5th June, and installed as Principals Comps. W. H. Smyth, W. J. Whalley, and Jesse Waite.

ALL SAINTS CHAPTER, GAINSBOROUGH.

All Saints' Chapter, bearing the same designation as the Parish Church of Gainsborough, was warranted May 1st, 1836.

The first meeting was held 15th August following. No consecration or special opening ceremony is recorded; Comps. J. W. Pashley, I. Levy, and Wm. Jerrems, whose names are on the warrant, presided as Principals.

THE SAINT JAMES CHAPTER, LOUTH.

The name of this Chapter was selected as having been that of the earliest Lodge of Freemasons in Louth.

The three principal officers of St. James Chapter were: James Fowler, Edmund Locock, and Chas. Michael Nesbitt.

The warrant is dated 6th May, 1874, and the Chapter was consecrated 31st July by Comp. J. Pearson Bell, Grand Sup. N. and E. Yorks.

THE DORIC CHAPTER, GRANTHAM.

The founders of the Doric Chapter were :—

B. H. Russell, Z.	G. W. G. Beaumont.
A. G. Gamble, H.	R. W. Anderson.
E. J. Wigelsworth, J.	J. F. Lyne.
S. G. Gamble.	H. J. Bliss.
Rev. C. Elsmere.	

The Charter bears date 4th November, 1891. The consecration ceremony, which took place on the 26th of the same month, was performed by the M.E. Grand Superintendent, W. H. Smyth, assisted by Comps. Mark Smith and G. F. Buckle (Peterborough).

THE GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS AND PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER.

The Rev. W. Peters, the first Provincial G. Master of Lincolnshire was never a member of a R.A. Chapter. The Rev. brother writes thus to his Deputy, Barnett:—

“I am well persuaded that your own good principles both as a Christian and a Mason will insure your vigilance over the Brotherhood, that no pretended degrees beyond those sanctioned by the Grand Lodge of England get admittance among them—as I have known some very respectable and good Characters in the Royal Arch Degree, I do not suppose that anything very wrong is connected with it. It is not however known to the national Grand Lodge—That Power from whom I am delegated, and of which you are my Deputy, know no other denomination of Masons than Enter'd Apprentices, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason. It is dangerous to proceed further, and I have reason to believe that beyond the Royal Arch, it is impious, and when carried to the length of some weak and deluded men approaches to Infernal.”

This letter, now in P.G.L. Library, was written in 1813, just previous to the Solemn Act of Union between the two Grand Lodges, when the collective wisdom of the craft made the remarkable and lucid declaration “that pure Antient Masonry consists of three degrees and no more viz. those of the E.A., the F.C., and the M.M., including the Supreme Order of the Holy Royal Arch.”

The earliest record extant of a Grand Superintendent for Lincolnshire is the appointment of Walter Powell, 16th December, 1802. He was succeeded 7th April, 1807, by W. H. White, who seven years later was also appointed Provincial Grand Master.

Both these appointments were probably accepted as being merely honorary positions. As a matter of fact, so far as Grand Chapter was concerned, there was no Lincoln-

shire Chapter to superintend; the St. Matthew's ceased working about 1804, and the Boston and Concord Chapters had no warrant for many years.

The next allusions to the office are found in the Register Book of the Chapter of Concord, Lincoln, where, in the column set apart for "occurrences" is the entry, "1822 May 12 Rev. M^w Barnett recom^d as Gr Superintend."

No record exists in Grand Chapter of this recommendation, nor was the appointment ever made, nor is it even referred to in any portion of Barnett's known correspondence

1844, Feb. 22nd. A memorial signed by the three Principals of the Chapter of Concord was forwarded to the Earl of Zetland, praying for the appointment of a Prov. G. Superintendent, on the ground that many irregularities had lately taken place in the Province, and recommending Comp. Dr. George Oliver for the appointment.

In the following September a second memorial was forwarded, withdrawing the name of Dr. Oliver (who was retiring from the active duties of Freemasonry on account of great age) and substituting that of the Rev. John Osmond Dakeyne. No answer apparently was received to this petition until March, 1846, when a patent was granted appointing Comp. Dakeyne as G. Sup. of R.A. Masonry for the Province of Lincolnshire.

1846, July 22. The first Provincial Grand Chapter was held at the County Assembly Rooms, Lincoln, under the presidency of the Rev. J. O. Dakeyne, when the following Companions of this Chapter (Concord) were appointed to hold office in the Province:—

E. A. Bromehead,	P.G.H.
J. Middleton,	P.G. Reg.
R. Goodacre,	P.G.S.E.
E. F. Broadbent,	P.G.N.
R. Taylor,	P.G. Soj.
J. C. Osborne,	P.G. Org.
J. Hanson,	P.G. Sword Bearer.

The Rev. J. O. Dakeyne at the time he was appointed G. Sup. was Incumbent of St. Benedict's, Lincoln, and Rector of South Hykeham. The rev. gentleman was, I believe, also a County Magistrate. He is said to have been a clever and eloquent preacher; but out of the Church his conduct was by no means consistent with his high calling. He was initiated into Masonry in the Lodge School of Plato, Cambridge, No. 549, in 1824, and exalted in Chapter attached to that Lodge the same year. He joined the Witham Lodge in 1842, and the Chapter of Concord in the following year. Bro. Dakeyne was W.M. of the Witham Lodge 1843-1844, P.G. Warden same time, First Principal of Chapter in 1844-5, and Chaplain of Grand Lodge in 1847.

Never since their establishment had the Witham Lodge and Chapter such a muster of talented members as they had from about 1840-50, and it is a matter of much regret that the conduct of two of the most eminent should have brought discredit on the craft. In 1847 the Rev. J. O. Dakeyne exchanged livings with Dr. Oliver, and went to reside at Wolverhampton, and thus severed his connection with the Province. His death occurred in 1860. Whether or not he resigned his position as Grand Superintendent is not known; the last Masonic record we have is contained in the Concord Minutes—"September 1850 Comp. Dakeyne erased for none payment of dues, thirteen quarters arrears."

In 1849 the Earl of Yarborough was appointed P.G.M. and Grand Superintendent of Lincolnshire. The noble Earl, who had joined the Chapter of Concord, March, 1848, was duly enthroned at the County Assembly Rooms, Lincoln, on the 27th October, 1851, by Comp. E. A. Bromehead, P.Z. and Prov. G.H. Lincolnshire.

From this date to 1875 nothing is recorded save the appointment of the Rev. Charles Nairne as Deputy Superintendent.

Companion Wm. Henry Smyth, of Elkington Hall, Louth, D.P.G.M., was appointed Grand Superintendent by patent dated March 25, 1875, and was installed and

enthroned at Lincoln, on August 19th following, by Comp. J. Pearson Bell, G. Sup. N. and E. Yorks.

In September, 1893, Comp. Wm. Harling Sissons was installed in the room of W. H. Smyth, resigned.

The Officers of the Provincial G. Chapter of Lincolnshire, on its revival in 1875:—

W. H. Smyth, St. James,	G. Sup.
Richard Hall, Concord,	H.
John Moxon, All Saints,	J.
James Fowler, St. James,	S.E.
Francis Snaith, St. Botolph,	S.N.
W. W. Copeland, Oliver,	P. Soj.
Jas. Robinson, do.,	First Assist.
Wm. Marshall, do.,	Second Assist.
C. M. Nesbitt, St. James,	Treas.
Fredk. Watson, Concord,	Reg.
Thos. Heffernan, do.,	S.B.
Thos. Slator, St. Botolph,	St. B.
Wm. Watkins, Concord,	D. of C.
Rev. T. P. Holdich, Concord,	Org.
R. Goodman, All Saints,	Jan.
Benj. Box, do.,	O. Jan.

The Roll of the Province, according to seniority of warrant, shews the following number of Subscribing Members December 31st, 1893:—

All Saints	..	...	...	...	...	38
St. Botolph	...	...	...	...	...	40
Oliver	...	...	...	...	...	80
Concord	...	...	...	...	...	34
Saint James	...	...	...	...	...	26
St. Matthew	...	...	...	...	...	22
Doric...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Total, . . .						261

MARK MASONRY IN LINCOLNSHIRE.

The earliest reference to this degree in the county records occurs in the following minute of the Witham Lodge, April 5th, 1798:—

“The Lodge being opened regularly in the first, second, third Degrees of Masonry & a lecture on each delivered, Bro. Plunkett being present, & several Brethren, Members of the Witham expressing a wish to be acquainted with the Degree of a Mark-Mason,—he in conjunction with other Brethren previously initiated in that Order did make & acquaint & regularly initiate Brothers Simpson, Caparn & Gray, after which a Lecture was given by Bro. Plunkett. The Lodge was then regularly closed with that peace & harmony characteristick of Men & Masons.”

Unfortunately the attendance is not entered for the years 1798–99, so we have no means of knowing how many “brethren previously initiated in that Order” were present.

In June, 1794, among the names of visitors appear those of Geo. Law, Robt. Manson, and Jno. Plunkett, 10th Regt., 299 Ireland. In November, 1797, Bro. Plunkett is again marked as a visitor.

From these two entries, we may safely infer that the Mark Degree was worked at that time in some of the Military Lodges. The minute also points to a ceremonial of equal importance with the other degrees, as, like those, it concluded with a lecture.

Whether or not the three Witham members continued to work the Mark it is impossible to state, though an entry in the Attendance Book in May, 1800, “that much masonic business had engaged their attention since Feby. 1798” may refer to this.

About the time of the French Revolution, and for several years in the present century, there were frequent movements of troops to and from Lincoln. The majority of the

Witham visitors were connected with one or other of the various regiments, and many initiations of both commissioned and non-commissioned officers are recorded.

The next mention of the Mark Degree in Lincolnshire occurs in a minute of the same Lodge under date 27th December, 1845, when the installed Masters were requested "to take the requisite steps for reviving the Mark Masons Lodge formerly held in connection with the Witham Lodge."

The Mark Masons Lodge referred to was, it is thought, nothing more than the minute of 1798.

The Witham Lodge at this time (1845) was in a very flourishing condition; probably no Lodge had a more efficient succession of Masters than had the Witham, in Brothers Nicholson, Dakeyne, Goodacre, and Taylor.

The first Lodge in the County under the present Constitution of the Degree was opened in the early part of the year 1870, by Bro. F. Binckes at Sleaford, under the auspices of, and by the same title as, the St. Botolph's Lodge of that place.

The establishment of the degree in Sleaford was due in a great measure to the Masonic enthusiasm of Bro. Edward Beverley Bogg, the W.M. of the Lodge in 1869. Bro. Bogg, who was connected with Sleaford through marriage, was previously resident in Louth, and a Member of the Lindsey Lodge. He was in practice as a Physician at Islington, and is believed to have taken all the possible degrees in the Masonic system.

The Minute Book of the St. Botolph's Lodge records, in January, 1870, the grant of the use of its furniture, and the loan of ten pounds to the Mark Lodge, No. 68.

Bro. Bogg died in 1871, and the Mark brethren apparently could make no headway. After a languishing existence of a few years, arrangements were made with some of the brethren at Boston, and, after discharging its liabilities, the Lodge was moved to that town. Here, however, it was no more successful, and eventually the warrant of the St. Botolph's Lodge of M.M.M. was returned to London.

A warrant (No. 117) constituting a Lodge of the Mark Degree in Lincoln, with Bros. C. Harrison, F. R. Larken, and F. Watson, as principal officers, was granted on 5th September, 1870.

The selection of the name of "Remigius," the builder of the noble minster, as the designation of the new Lodge, was a happy inspiration, not only from the point of view apparent to all the Craft, but in addition, the strong probability of the old Norman, Remigius (A.D. 1075-1093), tool marks in conjunction with those, and the Mason marks of Bishop Alexander (1123-1147), recently discovered and tabulated, being of great service in elucidating this division of Masonry.

Authority to open a Royal Ark Mariner's Lodge, in connection with the Remigius, was granted February 20th, 1890, to H. E. Cousans, J. A. Robinson, R. C. Carline.

In 1874 Brother Frederick Watson, Master of the Remigius Lodge, introduced the question of forming a Provincial Grand Lodge of the Degree in Lincolnshire. A memorial to Bro. John Sutcliffe, of Stallingborough, to allow his name to be submitted for nomination as P.G.M.M.M. being favourably entertained, application was accordingly made to Grand Lodge, and a patent of appointment of Bro. Sutcliffe to the office was granted on 24th August, 1874.

The first Prov. G. Lodge was held at the Masonic Hall Newland, Lincoln, on 29th October, 1874, under the presidency of Bro. F. Binckes, when Bro. Sutcliffe was formally installed as Prov. Grand Master. Brethren to the number of 270 were entertained by the newly-installed P.G.M., who also presented the Grand Lodge with the officers' collars and jewels.

Provincial Grand Masters : Deputy Prov. G. Masters :

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1874. John Sutcliffe, died 1878. | Chas. Harrison. |
| 1880. Chas. Harrison, M.D. | Jack Sutcliffe. |
| 1883. Jack Sutcliffe. | Anderson Bates. |
| 1892. The Earl of Yarborough. | Rd. Cotton Carline, died 1894. |

The Province now comprises the following Lodges:—

- No. 117, Remigius, Lincoln. September 5th, 1870. Number of members, 58.
- „ 172, John o'Gaunt, Gainsborough. January 15th, 1874. Number of members, 24.
- „ 188, Sutcliffe, Grimsby. August 29th, 1875. Number of members, 68.
- „ 209, St. Wilfred, Alford. August 6th, 1877. Number of members, 21.
- „ 326, Urania, Louth. November 9th, 1883. Number of members, 26.
- „ 387, St. Oswald, Crowle. February 18th, 1888. Number of members, 37.
- „ 427, Nene, Sutton Bridge. January 26, 1891 (ded.) Number of members, 21.
- „ 445, St. Swithin, Horncastle. July 20th, 1892 (ded.) Number of members, 13.

THE FRATERNITY OF MASONIC KNIGHTS TEMPLARS IN LINCOLNSHIRE.

The early returns made to the Prov. G. Registrar, contain the names of several brethren who had taken the Masonic Degree of Knight Templar.

In the year 1848 some idea existed of forming a Preceptory or Encampment for the county, and a letter was forwarded to the Master of the Witham Lodge by Brother Ed. Farr Broadbent, P.M., stating that he and other brethren K. Templars contemplated forming an Encampment in the city, and were desirous of knowing on what conditions the Lodge would grant them the use of their room, &c.

So far as the Witham Lodge records show, no further steps appear to have been taken in the matter.

On 4th April, 1879, authority to meet in Lincoln under the designation of Temple Bruer was granted.

The consecration ceremony took place on June 12th, the following members of the Fraternity taking office:—W. Watkins, R. J. Ward, C. J. Hayward, G. M. Lowe, F. Watson, A. Kirk, and H. C. Turnour.

Temple Bruer, the famous Preceptory or Commandery of the Knights Templars, is situate near the old Roman Ermine Street, or High Dyke, about 10 miles S.E. of Lincoln, mid-way between the stations of Navenby and Leadenham, G.N. Railway.

The buildings, which stood somewhat in a valley, are said to have been erected in the latter part of the twelfth century, and consisted of four corner towers, one of which 51 feet high is yet standing, and the usual circular church.

In 1833, excavations and plans were made under the direction of Doctor Oliver, at that time Vicar of the adjacent parish of Scopwick. Several stone coffins and other archæological remains have also been brought to light in recent years.

So far as is known in the neighbourhood, no interest is taken in this once famous building by the modern representatives of the powerful Defenders of the Holy Sepulchre.

THE PROVINCIAL CHARITIES.

Prior to the year 1865 no organized system existed in the Province for the disposal of or collection for the charities, the usual custom being for each Lodge to apply its funds and votes for the benefit of its own members, or in case the votes were not required near home, to entrust them to the Provincial Secretary, who bestowed them on the most meritorious case brought under his notice.

On the appointment of Bro. Lucas as Prov. Secretary he, in conjunction with Bros. W. H. Radley and C. M. Nesbitt, succeeded in establishing a systematic organization in the Province, the efforts of Bro. Radley being continued for many years in the capacity of Prov. Charity Steward. The voting power for the Central Charities has now for some years been exercised by Bro. Vickers, the P.G.S. Under his skilful manipulation the Province has been most successful in placing the votes to the best advantage.

The Provincial or local charities, *i.e.*, the charities locally administered, and generally restricted to brethren of the Province, their widows or children, consist of the "Benevolent Fund," "Oliver Memorial Fund," "Smyth Scholarship Fund," and "Sutcliffe Memorial Fund."

THE BENEVOLENT FUND, after several unsuccessful attempts, was got into thorough working order about the year 1867.

It affords relief of a temporary nature to brethren, their widows and children; it also contributes a small annual sum to the Central Charities, and occasionally aids the Provincial Charity Stewards by a substantial grant to their collections. The Benevolent Fund is raised by contributions, fees of honour on taking office in P.G. Lodge, and a levy of one shilling from each subscribing member in the Province.

The Fund, which in 1892 amounted to £600 Queensland 4 per Cent. Stock, has since been raised to 1,000 guineas.

THE OLIVER MEMORIAL FUND.—The amount which afterwards became the nucleus of this Fund was a subscription begun shortly before the venerable Doctor's death with a view of adding to his somewhat limited means.

Various suggestions were made as to the disposal of the money, one proposition being the erection of alms-houses.

After considerable discussion, however, it was agreed that the amount should be transferred to Prov. G. Lodge, and increased to a sum of one thousand guineas, the money to be invested and the income arising applied to the education of boys of brethren belonging to the Province.

The Provincial Charity Steward met with a hearty response to his application.

Several sums from Lodges and brethren out of the Province were also received, including a donation of fifty guineas from Bro. Gerard Ford, a grandson of the Rev. M. Barnett, the worthy Doctor's friend and predecessor in the Province.

THE SMYTH SCHOLARSHIP FUND was subscribed and named as a mark of the respect and attachment felt for their Provincial Grand Master by the brethren of the county. Its funds are devoted to the education of the daughters of brethren, and are administered on similar lines to the Oliver Memorial.

THE SUTCLIFFE MEMORIAL FUND, consisting of a similar amount to the Oliver Memorial and Smyth Scholarship Funds (£1,050), worthily perpetuates the services rendered to the craft in general and the Province of Lincolnshire in particular by the late Bro. John Sutcliffe, of Stallingborough.

The income arising from the investment is applied in granting annuities to the aged brethren and widows of the Province.

In addition to the before-mentioned charities the Lodges of the Province have, this year (1892), about 2,400 votes in the Central Charities—Boys' and Girls' Schools and Aged Freemasons'.

The funds of the local charities are dispensed by the Provincial Benevolent Committee (each Lodge being represented by the W.M., I.P.M., and Wardens), at meetings held in Lincoln in the month of March, and at Louth in September.

The Committee also recommend to P.G. Lodge the candidate for the Central Charity; this selection as a rule meets the approbation of the brethren generally, who confide their votes to the Prov. G. Secretary, and thereby enable him to carry out their wish.

For further particulars of the charities reference should be made to the Annual Reports of Prov. G. Lodge. These Reports, which have been circulated among the members since the time of Bro. Lucas, give much interesting information relative to the charities and other matters in the Province.

If the present rate of increase continues in the craft, it is evident that some alteration will have to be made in the Central Charity Institutions to prevent their becoming unwieldly. The difficulty of placing candidates becomes greater year by year, especially in the smaller Provinces.

What this alteration or re-arrangement may be it is useless to speculate, though it is manifest that if our Province is to have a voice in the matter the effort to obtain votes must go on as heretofore.

Addenda.

THE OLD LODGE AT SPALDING.

The following references to this Lodge have been kindly supplied to me by Brother M. Perry, the President of the Spalding Gentlemen's Society:—

Spalding Gentlemen's Society's Minute Books.

Vol. I., fol. 144a.


"The Secr. shew'd the Soc. a caracature or satyirical Dutch Print upon a Sett of Italian Painters, being a Sort of Freemasons."

Vol. III., fol. 50b.

"Mr. Grundy communicated to the Soc. wch. the Secr. read to ye Company a MS. entitled Charges and Regulations laid down in the Several Rules which are to be Observed & strictly fulfilled by every Brother that now is or may be hereafter admitted a Member of our Antient & honble. Society of free and Accepted Masons at our Lodge held at Spalding in the County of Lincoln A.D. 1740 A.L. 5740."

Vol. III., fol. 128b.

"In a List of Regular Lodges according to their seniority & constitution by order of the Grand Officers all Engraven in 18 Copper Plates long 24 by T. Pine 1740 dedicated to the most Noble and Rt. honble. John Earle of Kintore Ld. Keith of Inverary & Keith Hall Grand Master wth. King Solomon directing ye building of the Temple At Jerusalem from a Frontispeice all neatly drawn & exquisitely engraved—their Lodge at this Town whereof Mr. John Grundy a Member of this Society is the Master at Page 15 is thus (in Manner as the others) described in Columns viz.

175	<p>BLACK</p> 	Spalding Lincolnshire	<p>Jun. 22 1739</p>
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"N.B.—The Reason of the 4th Square in these columns being here as in many Other Lodges left vacant is because this Lodge hath not, as some a certain day of meeting but is convened Occasionally or as the Master & Wardens call It, but by the 6th Rule of the Charges & Regulations given them in writing under the hand & Seal of the Rt. honble. Robert Lord Raymond Baron of Abbots Langley Grand Master in the Year following (viz.) 1740. The Time of opening and closing this Lodge is fixed to be from Seven O'Clock in the Evening till Ten and no longer; and to be held every first Wednesday in Each Month of the Yeaere; except it be convened occasionally.

"This Black Bull is an Inn on the East Side of the Towns hall kept by Mr. Matthew Everard where this Lodge was first held and fixed. He being the only one of the first Brethren here who kept a publick house when Mr. Richard Collins a Painter and Member of this Society together wth. Mr. De la Fontain another Painter and antient Brother of the Craft had held meetings and initiated Several persons of this & other Towns as Members in Masonry."

SHAKSPERE LODGE, SPILSBY.

REGALIA.—From further investigations, we gather that on the dissolution of the Stratford Lodge, the furniture passed into the possession of the brethren of the St. John's Lodge, Henley-in-Arden, Warwickshire, No. 492, who there-upon took the name of Shakespere, and added the sword (which bears this number 492) to complete the regalia. Lodge 492 removed to Birmingham in 1811, and was erased in 1837, doubtless having ceased to meet several years previously.

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