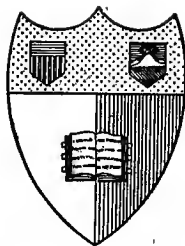




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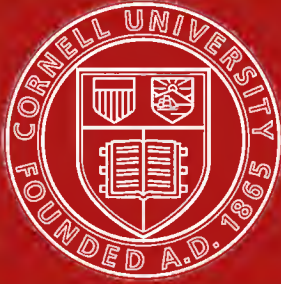
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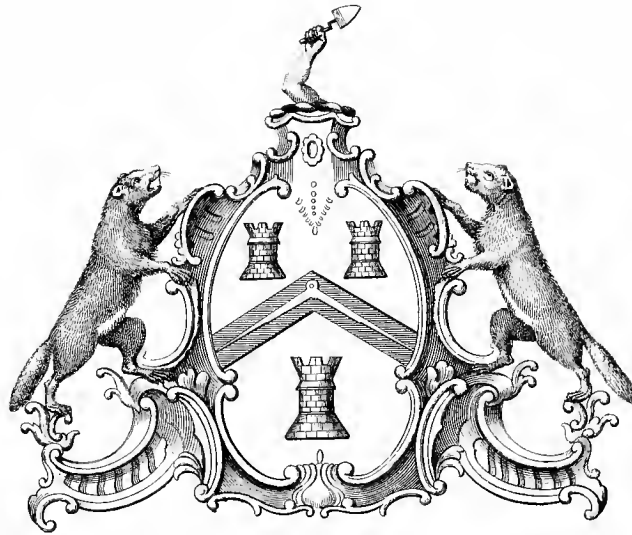
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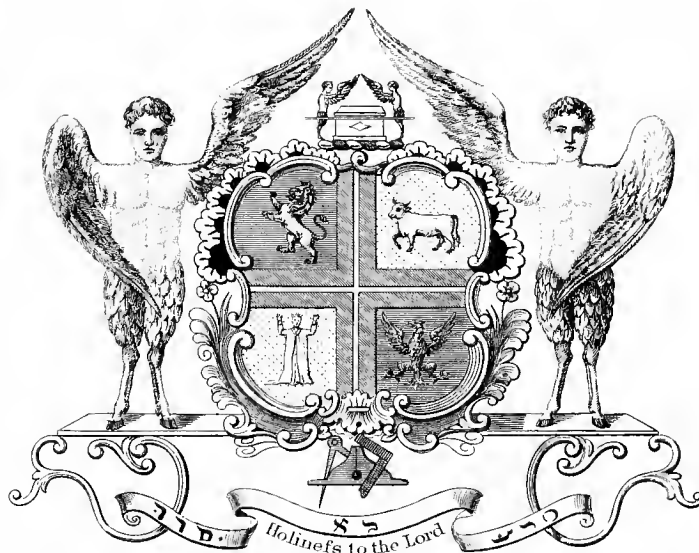
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ARMS FROM AHIMAN REZON - 1764.



The Arms of the Operative or Stone Masons



*The Arms of y^e most Ancient & Honorable Fraternity
of Free and Accepted Masons.*

THE
YORKSHIRE LODGES:

A Century of Yorkshire Freemasonry. /

BY

J. RAMSDEN RILEY,

BRADFORD

(HISTORIAN OF 387),

P.P.G.D.C. WEST YORKSHIRE.

LEEDS:

THOMAS C. JACK, 48 PARK LANE.

LONDON: 45 LUDGATE HILL.

1885.

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TO

THOMAS RILEY, ESQ., HARROGATE.

P.M. AND P.Z., No. 600, BRADFORD, YORKSHIRE,

This Work is Dedicated

AS A TRIBUTE OF FILIAL AFFECTION;

AND

IN APPRECIATION OF HIS ACKNOWLEDGED SKILL AND ABILITY

IN ALL THAT PERTAINS

TO THE

RITES AND CEREMONIES OF FREEMASONRY.

P R E F A C E.



It is fifteen years since I took a sufficiently active interest in the Masonic History of Yorkshire to feel the want of a few guide-posts on a then trackless waste (as in my inexperience it seemed), which in this book I have endeavoured to supply; partly because the detail of the first division was prepared between 1870 and 1875 for personal use, necessitating but slight additions; but chiefly in deference to the wish of many highly esteemed Past Masters, with whom, Masonically and otherwise, I have been associated during the past eighteen years.

In the prosecution of one idea—that of seeing the history carefully compiled of every lodge dating before the “Blessed Union” (as my indefatigable and dear
A

friend Bro. Hughan has designated it), my unceasing energies have been actively devoted. But the very earnestness with which those labours have been pursued has convinced me that without some assistance the difficulties of successfully collating Masonic records appear too great, and the risk of errors too prominent, to encourage brethren, in many respects well qualified, to devote themselves to the work.

As will be seen, I have avoided becoming in any sense the historian in these pages; rather attempting to excite so much interest, by defining the landmarks of history, as may tend to inspire confidence, and thereby *induce one* in every lodge, but more particularly for those of the last century. Many are unwritten; and if these were compiled, not only would minute-books be better taken care of, because valued, but inducements be removed which at present cause their frequent appearance, where, of all places, they should never be found—on the old-book stalls.

Let me add that a Lodge History, carefully preserved, may be a source of much delight to the members,

and answer every archæological purpose, when needed, without being published. And it is certain that Masonic History can never be so interesting to brethren, and never so well written, as when faithfully compiled for purely Craft purposes.

To those brethren far and near who have aided me by replying to innumerable inquiries extending over many years, thereby enabling a mass of Masonic evidence to be acquired, and to those zealous assistants in my personal researches, whose hospitality and fraternal attentions will never be forgotten, I am truly grateful.

To my friend and brother, Geo. L. Shackles, P.M. 1511, I am specially indebted, and tender my sincere acknowledgments for many of the valuable seals engraved in this book. It is not generally known that Bro. Shackles probably possesses the finest collection of Masonic medals in England, and his suggestions have therefore been peculiarly valuable.

To my dear friend, Bro. W. J. Hughan, I owe so many expressions of thoughtfulness and the kindest

feeling on his part of late years, during which I have had the gratification and privilege of proving his self-denying zeal in the cause of Freemasonry, that I should have applied for permission to dedicate this work to him, had not a claim, which I feel he will readily acknowledge, interposed on this occasion.

I have to add, that since its completion, Bro. Hughan has generously expressed a desire to write an Introduction to this volume. This I am not only pleased to acknowledge as a personal favour, but appreciate as a very high honour and compliment that I could not possibly have expected at his hands.

BRADFORD, *July* 1885.

INTRODUCTION.



ONE of the most hopeful characteristics of Freemasonry of late years is the attention that is being devoted to the records of old lodges by competent brethren who are making known to the craft, from time to time, particulars of last century organisations which have recently been brought to light. Many of the MSS. have for long been unheeded, and their publication has been the means of affording authentic and valuable information as to obscure portions of the history of our beloved fraternity.

One of the most earnest workers in this direction, especially in regard to Yorkshire, is Bro. J. Ramsden Riley, and I am glad to take the opportunity now afforded me of congratulating him, and the other esteemed labourers in the same field of research, on the success which has

attended their well-directed investigations. There is still, however, no lack of unexplored "mines of wealth;" for, until all the old lodges have had their histories written, a complete account of the habits and customs of our Masonic forefathers cannot be compiled. This is the work, not of one, but of many brethren, and it is one also which the members of last century lodges particularly should promote to their utmost.

"Yorkshire Lodges," by Bro. Riley, covers a period of more than a century and a half, beginning with Scarborough in 1729, and ending with Leeds in 1884; the oldest existing lodge (at Halifax) having its third jubilee due in the year 1888. No less than 141 lodges are enumerated in the following pages, 100 of which are happily still on the roll of the Grand Lodge of England, though four have left the province of their "first love."

The premier *modern* country lodge was constituted at Bath in 1724 (the first, however, in Yorkshire was not granted until five years later); and the first Provincial Grand Master for that county was not appointed until

eleven years after the premier province was formed. William Horton's patent was the seventh issued in England and Wales; the older provinces being (1) North and (2) South Wales, 1727; (3) Shropshire, 1731; (4) Lancashire; (5) Durham; and (6) Northumberland, 1734.

It is remarkable that the "deputations" to William Horton and Edward Rooke in 1738 and 1740 respectively were restricted to the "*West Riding*" of the county of York,* though at this period there was a lodge working in the "*North and East*," as well as one in the "*West*" Riding of Yorkshire.

Although considerable information has of late been published as to the proceedings of the "Grand Lodge of *All England*" (York), not only in my "Masonic Sketches and Reprints," and the *brochures* of Bro. T. B. Whytehead, but also by Bro. R. F. Gould in his invaluable "History of Freemasonry," † I should like to

* Constitutions, 1756 and 1767.

† Thomas C. Jack, London, Edinburgh, and Leeds. Vol. iv., Chapters xvi. and xviii.

say a few words on the subject, in connection with "Yorkshire Lodges."

It is a fact, unfortunately, that the MS. book beginning March 7, 1705-6, is missing, but the roll of 1712-30 still exists, and has been accurately reproduced.* The old lodge doubtless was at work during the seventeenth century and earlier, the "York" Lodge, No. 236 (as Bro. Riley mentions), being the honoured custodian of its numerous and most precious relics. The roll of Presidents from 1705 is very interesting, as also the minute (now missing) of the lodge which was held at Bradford in 1713. A still earlier assembly is noted at Scarborough in 1705, which in all probability was convened under the auspices of the old lodge (at York), and of which we have an account in the endorsement on a copy of the "Old Charges," now in the possession of the Grand Lodge of Canada.

As a Grand Lodge it appears to date from 1725, but no separate lodges seem to have been warranted until

* Thomas C. Jack, London, Edinburgh, and Leeds. Vol. iv., Chapters xvi. and xviii.

after the "Revival" of 1761, when the following were granted, with others:—

- (a) French Lodge, York, 1762.
- (b) Scarborough, 1762.
- (c) "Royal Oak," Ripon, 1769.
- (d) "Crown," Knaresborough, 1769.
- (e) "Duke of Devonshire," Macclesfield, 1770.
- (f) Hovingham, 1773.
- (g) Snainton, near Malton, 1778.
- (h) Druidical Lodge, Rotherham, 1778.
- (i) "Grand Lodge of England south of the River Trent,"
London, 1779. [Two Lodges warranted.]
- (j) Lodge of "Fortitude," Hollingwood, Lancs., 1790.

Four Royal Arch Chapters were also constituted, and the degree of Knight Templar was worked by authority of that Grand Lodge, all of which bodies (Grand Lodge and subordinates) collapsed prior to the advent of this century, and left no representatives.

I am glad that my friend and brother Riley has alluded to George Walker of Wetherby, as he it was who presented the York MS. No. 4 of A.D. 1693 to the Grand Lodge of *All* England; which unique document records the names of six members of the lodge of that year, but where held it is impossible now to decide.

The circulation of the valuable work on "Yorkshire Lodges" should lead to similar volumes being published in other Provinces, and I feel certain that such a result would soon be attained if Provincial Grand Masters generally were inclined to follow the excellent example set by the R.W. Bro. Thomas W. Tew, J.P., the Masonic chief for West Yorkshire, whose Masonic researches and addresses are deservedly appreciated.

W. J. HUGHAN.

TORQUAY, *July* 23, 1885.

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PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTERS.



PROVINCE OF YORKSHIRE.

- 1738—WILLIAM HORTON, Esq.
1740—EDWARD ROOKE, Esq.
1771—Sir THOMAS TANCRED, Bart.
1780—Sir WALTER VAVASOUR, Bart.
1787—RICHARD SLATER MILNES, Esq.
1803—RICHARD RICH, Esq.
1805—ROBERT PEMBERTON MILNES, Esq.

PROVINCE OF WEST YORKSHIRE.

- 1817—ROBERT PEMBERTON MILNES, Esq.
1821—LORD POLLINGTON, afterwards EARL of MEXBOROUGH.
1861—EARL DE GREY AND RIPON, afterwards MARQUIS of
RIPON.
1875—Sir HENRY EDWARDS, Bart., C.B.
1885—THOMAS W. TEW, Esq., J.P.

PROVINCE OF NORTH AND EAST YORKSHIRE.

- 1817—LORD DUNDAS, afterwards EARL of ZETLAND.
1835—Hon. THOMAS DUNDAS, afterwards EARL of ZETLAND.
1874—Right Hon. the EARL of ZETLAND.

THE YORKSHIRE LODGES.



1729. Three Tuns, Scarborough, No. 59.

It is worthy of note that the Three Tuns, the first Yorkshire lodge respecting which we have reliable evidence, was constituted by the Moderns, August 27, 1729, at Scarborough, as No. 59. Unfortunately it had not a long life, and its actual transactions, it is to be feared, are irrecoverably lost to us. In 1740 its number was changed to 52, and under that number the lodge was erased by Grand Lodge on November 29, 1754.

The minutes during this period (1729-1754) would have been most valuable at the present day. Nevertheless, I believe this to have been the first "speculative" lodge ever formed in Yorkshire, although at the time of its foundation there would be a lodge in York of an operative character (though

not wholly so) from which ultimately emerged the Grand Lodge of All England in that city.

1738. Black Bull, Halifax, No. 176; now Probity, Halifax, No. 61.

This, the second Yorkshire lodge, was warranted to meet at the Black Bull, Halifax, August 1, 1738 (Carnarvan, G.M.; J. Ward, D.G.M.), as No. 176 under the Moderns. It was afterwards held successively at Rose and Crown, Old Cock, Union Cross, Bath Tavern, again at Union Cross, and again at Old Cock; and ultimately its meetings were and are now held at the Freemasons' Hall, St. John's Place, Halifax. Its several changes of number have been as follows, viz. :—

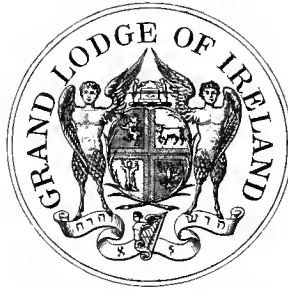
1740 to No. 162.	1770 to No. 81.	1792 to No. 61.	1832 to No. 73.
1756 to No. 97.	1781 to No. 65.	1814 to No. 84.	1863 to No. 61.

As will be seen, the precedence given by ballot at the union to the Ancients deprived this lodge of its proper place amongst lodges in the county as the oldest then existing. The Probity is now

GRAND LODGE AND CHAPTER SEALS



1 GRAND LODGE, "Ancients"
before 1813.



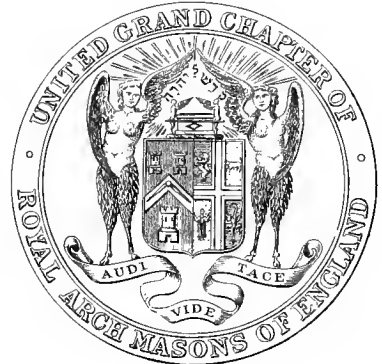
GRAND LODGE OF IRELAND
1809
3



2 UNITED GRAND LODGE
After 1813



4 GRAND LODGE, "Moderns"
before 1813.



5 UNITED GRAND CHAPTER
after 1817.



2ND DEGREE SEAL
GRAND LODGE, "ANCIENTS"
1764
6



7 GRAND CHAPTER, "Ancients"
before 1817.



8 GRAND CHAPTER, "Moderns"
before 1817.

the oldest of Yorkshire lodges, and inspires a Yorkshire historian with an amount of reverence due to no other in the county, and indeed to very few under the Grand Lodge of England.

All the vicissitudes of Masonry during a most trying period (the four Grand Lodges were all at work in its time) failed to shake its loyalty.

Firm as a rock, it upheld its most appropriate name of Probity, and whilst other lodges at various times were distracted with discussions on the merits of seceders and so-called "Ancient Masonry" and "Old Institutions," this set an example, by which its history will be perpetuated throughout all time, of unswerving fidelity to its warrant of constitution and the Grand Lodge of England. Calm and unmoved, it continued its useful career, conscious of its internal strength; the tumultuous seas of schism surging around it, too often representing the ambitious aims of an active few, only served as a warning and added still more to its solidity, ensuring that later prosperity and sphere of after usefulness, the fruits of a confidence which such principles of loyalty

C

always inspire. The centenary of the lodge was celebrated July 30, 1838. Whether we regard the Probity Lodge as a model of Masonic loyalty to the "powers that be," or study it from the standpoint of antiquity, we must place it in the very highest position of honour amongst the lodges of Yorkshire. It is by a long way the oldest existing lodge, and stands to-day the finest monument of our county's Masonry. To belong to such a lodge is an honour to any Mason; nor can any member, if he knows its history, look back upon it without pride, nor, one would think, without a sincere wish to keep up, for the honour of the grandest human institution ever designed, the brightness of its illustrious prestige. The warrant of this lodge is in a truly marvellous state of preservation, and it is moreover a work of art, having been the gift of Bro. Samuel Spencer, Grand Secy., and the special work of Bro. Michael Devon, Dep. Grand Secy. From the inscription it bears, the giver was "born at Halifax in Yorkshire."

The continuous minutes of the Probity Lodge

are singularly valuable, and may almost be said to embrace Yorkshire Freemasonry in themselves. Lately these have received the attention they are so much entitled to from the worthy Secretary, Bro. Herbert Crossley, and I have faith in his being able to give a good account of them and the archæological curios still preserved. The lodge was designated in the minutes up to 1793 as St. John the Baptist. After removal to Bath Tavern, June 10, 1795, the name of Probity was adopted there on the 29th of that month. It is not to be supposed that the Probity was always exempt from trials and vicissitudes, though no doubt these were materially lessened owing to its loyalty and proportionate stability. As a matter of fact, these qualities enabled it to surmount them on one or two very trying occasions during its earlier existence, when it became almost a question of very great improvement or dissolution. Happily the latter did not take place, for in such a lodge improvement comes when least expected.

1754. Parrot, Leeds, No. 243.

Warranted at the Parrot, Cow Lane, Leeds, March 28, 1754, as No. 243. Like the two preceding lodges, this was under the Moderns. It was the first Leeds lodge, and exerted a powerful influence in favour of our Order during its existence, as, like the Golden Lion of seven years later, the Parrot showed considerable vitality. In 1756 the number was changed to 181, and in 1770 to 142. This lodge appears in Cole's engraved list of 1776, but expired before 1781.

**1756. Ancient Knight Templars, Liverpool, No. 53 ; now
Humber Lodge, Hull, No. 57.**

Constituted at Liverpool by the Atholl Grand Lodge, May 19, 1756, and confirmed by warrant, May 25, 1775, at the Buck and Dog, Strand Street, Liverpool. The warrant was withdrawn in 1807, but re-issued to the brethren who founded the Humber Lodge, as per indorsement thereon; and

from a knowledge of its most eventful existence, I can understand the veneration with which this warrant is held by the lodge. I would also strongly recommend secretaries who delight in model minute-books to visit this prosperous lodge and obtain permission to view some there which, for caligraphy and neatness, are worthy of their unusually expensive bindings. The lodge was opened at the Fleece Inn, Hull, on March 16, 1809, under its old name of Ancient Knight Templars' Lodge, No. 53, from which date it became a Yorkshire lodge. The change of name to "Humber" Lodge took place on July 2, 1810, and at the Union the number became No. 73. Since, it acquired No. 65 at the closing-up in 1832, and No. 57 in 1863. The meetings are now held at the Freemasons' Hall, Osborne Street, Hull, a very fine building for Masonic purposes. Besides the varied wealth of its Masonic library and curios, the records of the three extinct lodges—Apollo, York; Phoenix, Hull; and Rodney, Hull—have long been in its possession.

This being the first "Atholl" lodge mentioned in this volume, it will be appropriate to state here that the Ancients did not close-up like the Moderns, so that such lodges, existing before the Union, continued the same number as constituted up to 1814, with very rare exceptions. By this rule the Humber Lodge was 53 when resuscitated at Hull just as it was when founded at Liverpool in 1756, and did not change until the Union, when it acquired 73.

1758. A Lodge at Sheffield, No. 72; now Royal Clarence, Bristol, No. 68.

This was a military lodge under the Ancients, constituted at Sheffield in the 11th Regiment, September 23, 1772, under warrant dated November 15, 1758. It was removed from Sheffield to Bristol, September 14, 1807. It acquired No. 95 at the Union, No. 81 in 1832, and No. 68 in 1863, and is now working at the Freemasons' Hall, Bristol, as Royal Clarence Lodge, No. 68. This lodge is now in the Masonic province of Bristol.

1759. Black Bull, Hull, No. 252.

Warranted August 20, 1759, at the Black Bull, Myton Gate, Hull, as No. 252 (Moderns). Like the Blue Bell, No. 267, of 1761, it expired before the closing-up of 1770. It was the first Masonic lodge constituted in Hull, but was almost immediately followed by an "Atholl" lodge (No. 78), which greatly interfered with its progress.

1759. A Lodge at Hull, No. 78.

Constituted under the Ancients as Kingston-upon-Hull, No. 78, September 3, 1759. This lodge, like many others under the seceders, collapsed at the Union in 1813; but during its career, owing to the greater popularity of "Atholl" Masonry amongst sea-captains and others regularly visiting the port, it prospered whilst the Black Bull had to struggle for existence.

The Masonic history of Hull abounds in incidents and situations. These two lodges were not

conspicuous for much brotherly love; indeed, the hatchet was never buried until the Black Bull and Blue Bell Lodges succumbed to adverse circumstances. No. 78, No. 252, and No. 267 (all three extinct), did not impress the worthy burgesses very favourably towards Masonry, and the Union of 1813 proved a real blessing.

1761. Golden Lion, Leeds, No. 258.

Warranted January 8, 1761, as No. 258 Moderns at the Talbot Inn, from which hostelry it removed to the Golden Lion. I adopt the latter designation in this case because its Masonic life is more intimately associated with it. Both the Golden Lion and Parrot had some good members, and through their exertions became well-known lodges. The Golden Lion changed its number in 1770 to 205, and to No. $\frac{164}{165}$ * in 1781, but was erased as 165 in 1786.

* At the closing-up known as 1781, certain lodges, distinguished in this manner, were assigned a lower number than really entitled to, through the omission of a lodge (Prince George, Plymouth) in error. The mistake being set right the following year, I have adopted the *corrected* numbers in List No. II. at the end of this volume, not wishing to destroy the individuality of a recognised closing-up by

1761. Punch Bowl, York, No. 259.

Warranted January 12, 1761, and held at the Punch Bowl, Stonegate, York, as No. 259 Moderns. It expired in 1764, and, of course, never had another number, although retained in the lists some time after it had virtually expired. In the minutes of the Grand Lodge of All England, December 14, 1767, it is stated that this lodge (Punch Bowl) "had been for some years discontinued." Its "transactions" (1761-1764), are now in the possession of the York Lodge, No. 236, at York. The Punch Bowl Inn was a famous resort of Masons, being what was then and afterwards called a Masonic "house."

1761. A Lodge at Sheffield, No. 85.

This lodge was constituted January 21, 1761, under an Atholl military warrant, No. 75, dated March 18, 1759, given up to the Sheffield Ancients by the 72d Regiment. It was extinct before the Union.

division. A correction of this nature can scarcely be called a closing-up, although, to be strictly accurate, another column would be necessary (as 1782) to allow for both numbers given to those particular lodges affected.

1761. Blue Bell, Hull, No. 267.

Warranted October 27, 1761, as No. 267 Moderns, and held at the Blue Bell, Hull. This, and the Black Bull, No. 252, had but a precarious existence, and both expired before the change of numbers in 1770.

1762. Ship, Harewood Bridge, No. 103.

This lodge, constituted under the Ancients in 1762, was in Ahiman Rezon for 1813, but got no new number at the Union, having, in fact, ceased to work some time before then.

1762. Half Moon, Otley, No. 287.

Warranted August 16, 1762, at the Half Moon, Otley, as No. 287 Moderns. It had a brief existence, and expired in 1769. This lodge was evidently formed for the convenience of a few Masonic veterans resident in the neighbourhood, as was the case with the preceding lodge at the Ship, Harewood Bridge.

1762. Ship, Sheffield, No. 105.

Constituted in December 1762 at the Ship Inn, Water Lane, Sheffield, under the Ancients, as No. 105. Like No. 103, it was extinct before the Union, but appeared in Ahiman Rezon for 1813.

1763. Lodge at Richmond, No. 297; now Lenox, No. 123.

Warranted May 4, 1763, by the Moderns at the Masons' Arms, and afterwards held at the Blue Bell, Richmond, as No. 297. Changed its number in 1770 to 242, and at the Old Black Bull in 1871 to $\frac{192}{193}$. The name of Lenox was adopted, and in 1792 the number was changed to 165, in 1814 to 202, in 1832 to 144, and in 1863 to 123, at the King's Head, Richmond. This old lodge now meets at the Masonic Hall, Richmond. There are two seals of the lodge to which attention should be called. That of "Lenox Lodge, No. 123," is the

seal now in use, and is very beautiful. The other, I think, dates from 1763, and is very valuable. It is remarkable for the crest (that of the Operative Masons), largely adopted also by the Irish lodges at the time, and the ancient form of the compasses. The Lenox Lodge has always been a sturdy loyalist, not unlike the Halifax Probity in the unshaken trust it reposed in the Grand Lodge of the Moderns. There should be some very interesting records in the archives of Lenox Lodge.

1764. Golden Lion, Whitby, No. 127.

Constituted at Whitby as Golden Lion, No. 127, Ancients, June 25, 1764, but extinct before the Union. It was the first Masonic lodge constituted in Whitby. The members seem to have been few and unsettled. Some of them formed a lodge under the Moderns in 1772, the usual result being that neither prospered. At the Union both had disappeared.

1765. Tontine, Sheffield, No. 340 ; now Britannia, No. 139.

Warranted by the Moderns, April 19, 1765, as Tontine, No. 340, at the Rose and Crown, Sheffield. Its name was changed to Britannia, April 8, 1795, the number having become 277 in 1770, in 1781 No. $\frac{220}{221}$, and in 1792 No. 189.

At the Union it acquired No. 232, and in 1832 No. 162. In December 1841 it was removed to the Music Hall, Sheffield. In 1863 the number was again changed to 139. The centenary was celebrated in 1865, and the lodge is now held at Freemasons' Hall, Surrey Street, Sheffield. This is another lodge with a very interesting history, and for a long period it would, as regards numbers, be the most powerful in the county. It looked down with supreme contempt on its Atholl contemporaries in the same town, and is now the strongest lodge in West Yorkshire.

**1765. Swan with Two Necks, Saddleworth, No. 139;
now St. John's, Stockport, No. 104.**

There is just a doubt whether, during a brief period, this lodge, originally constituted under the "Old Institutions," October 16, 1765, as Star Lodge, Longdendale, Cheshire, would be then considered a Lancashire or a Yorkshire lodge. As No. 139 it was removed to Dobcross, Saddleworth, and there reconstituted as Swan with Two Necks, January 13, 1775. It was removed to Grapes, Stockport, March 31, 1806, and acquired No. 168 at the Union, No. 121 in 1832, and its present number, 104, in 1863. It is always satisfactory to note the prosperity of lodges, but when these come back to invigorate the old parental province after "seeing the world," none can deny them a good wish for the future. This lodge is now working in the province of Cheshire.

1766. Unanimity, Wakefield, No. 361; now No. 154.

Warranted by the Moderns, February 15, 1766 (Blaney, G.M.), as No. 361, at the George and Crown, Wakefield. Its several changes of number have been as follows, viz. :—

1770 to No. 296.	1792 to No. 202.	1832 to No. 179.
1781 to No. $\frac{237}{238}$.	1814 to No. 252.	1863 to No. 154.

Under the last-named number its meetings are now held in a very compact and beautiful Masonic Hall in Zetland Street, Wakefield. It has had a comparatively settled and orderly existence, and, no doubt, its valuable records are carefully preserved. The very uncommon seal of the Chapter attached to this lodge will be found engraved amongst others in this work. It possesses a quiet elegance of its own, characteristic of respectability, order, and prosperous circumstances, which, I trust, may long continue.

**1766. Three Grand Principles, Islington, No. 373; now
Dewsbury, No. 208.**

As a Yorkshire lodge the Three Grand Principles only dates from 1803, when it was removed from London to Dewsbury, where it still continues to hold its meetings. The original warrant (Moderns) was dated September 10, 1766, at the King's Head, Islington (see Cole's engraved list of 1770), as No. 373, changed to No. 308 in 1770, to No. $\frac{249}{250}$ in 1781, and No. 283 in 1792. This lodge received a warrant of confirmation (Sir Peter Parker, D.G.M.) dated February 10, 1804. At the Union the number of the lodge became 358, in 1832 No. 251, and in 1863 No. 208. Its meetings are now held at the Masonic Hall, Long Causeway, Dewsbury. Sir Peter Parker, Bart., whose signature is on several Yorkshire lodge warrants, was captain of H.M.S. *Menelaus*, and was killed in action while storming the American camp at Bellair, near Baltimore, August 31, 1814. He frequently presided as G.M. in place of H.R.H. Henry Frederick, Duke of Cumberland, in 1788-1790.

1767. Amity, London, No. 406.

The Amity, as a Yorkshire lodge, dates from 1806, when it was removed from Preston to Steeton. It was originally warranted (October 18, 1767) by the Moderns as Amity Lodge, No. 406, at the Sussex Coffee-House, West Smithfield; removed to White Horse Inn, Preston, and in 1770 became No. 341, in 1781 No. $\frac{265}{266}$, and No. 224 in 1792. At the Union its number became 280; through all its vicissitudes the name (Amity) remaining the same. This lodge was finally erased by Grand Lodge, March 5, 1828, after repeated warnings of its arrears by the Grand Secretary. It was an active lodge in 1815, when it joined the Lodge of Promulgation formed by thirteen lodges under Bro. John Sutcliffe, W.M. of Probity, Halifax, then No. 84.*

* These were: Probity, Halifax, 84; Royal Yorkshire, Keighley, 503; Amity, Steeton, 280; Duke of York, Bingley, 502; Philanthropic, Skipton, 540; Three Graces, Haworth, 541; Amphibious, Heckmondwike, 489; Tranquillity, Newchurch, Lancashire, 515; White Hart, Huddersfield, 547; Harmony, Haslingden, Lancashire, 545; Prince Frederick, Heptonstall, 573; Harmony, Halifax, 517, and Prince George, Bottoms, Stansfeld, 574.

1769. Bacchus, Halifax, No. 448.

Warranted by the Moderns, August 18, 1769, at the Bacchus (or Boy and Barrel) Inn, Halifax, as No. 448. It acquired No. 383 in 1770, No. $\frac{296}{297}$ in 1781, and was erased under the latter number in 1783. At the time there could not possibly exist the slightest necessity for this lodge in Halifax.

1772. Britannic, Whitby, No. 423.

Warranted February 3, 1772, by the Moderns as Britannic Lodge, No. 423, at the Plough Inn, Whitby. Number changed to $\frac{331}{332}$ in 1781, and was erased February 10, 1790. This lodge was often and indifferently styled Britannia, and is an example of the folly of splitting up a lodge and attempting to carry on two weak ones in a place scarcely populous enough to maintain one strong lodge.

1772. 1st Regiment York Militia, Sheffield, No. 176.

This was a military lodge, warranted by the Atholl Masons, October 14, 1772, in the 1st Regiment of York Militia, at Sheffield, afterwards removed to the Star and Garter, Nessgate, York, but was extinct before the Union. Many of the Atholl lodges in the list of 1813 had expired long before then—some before the earlier list of 1807. This lodge appears in the Irish Grand Lodge List of 1804 (Ancients) as No. 174. At the Worcester Exhibition several York newspapers were exhibited, in one of which (Etherington's *York Chronicle*, December 22, 1775) are three advertisements of much interest, showing that this lodge (called "Moriah"), Apollo Lodge, and the Grand Lodge of All England, intended meeting about the same date. Apollo being under the Moderns, three Grand Lodges are here represented.

1773. Apollo, York, No. 450.

This famous lodge, rendered conspicuous as being the cradle of the Provincial Grand Lodge of the county of York when resuscitated by Sir Thomas Tancred in 1774*—whose officers were members of it, transacting the Provincial business, and even affixing the Apollo seal to official documents—was warranted by the Moderns, July 31, 1773, as Apollo Lodge, York, No. 450. The minutes, which, by the kind courtesy of the W.M., Bro. John Walton, I have had the privilege of inspecting, are in the possession of the Humber Lodge, Hull, No. 57, and it is much to be regretted that the history of a lodge of such importance has not been hitherto written. In the hope that it will be, I need not enlarge on the subject in these pages. The number of the lodge was changed in 1781 to $\frac{357}{358}$, in 1792 to 290, and in 1814 to 368. It expired soon after

* At this time it was the *only* lodge that could properly assume such duties. The great difference in the composition of the Apollo and that of the only other lodge in York (the All England Grand Lodge), was very marked.

the Union, and the dormant warrant, with all the records, jewels, &c., were purchased by the founders of the Phoenix Lodge, Hull, in 1817. The Phoenix, No. 368, worked under this dormant warrant of Apollo, which was handed over to the Joint Grand Secretaries White and Harper in 1835.

1774. Black Bull, Settle, No. 188.

Constituted under the Atholl Masons at the Black Bull, Settle, June 7, 1774, as No. 188. This lodge was named in Ahiman Rezon of 1813, but it had then expired, and of course got no new number at the Union. It seems to have been singularly like one of the lime-kilns of the neighbourhood—allowed to burn itself out. Brethren had to assemble from all points of the compass within twenty miles round before they could muster the requisite number to open. This little lodge was for fifteen years the Masonic centre for the Craven district.

One can well imagine three or four Masons awaiting the arrival of as many more from Skipton and the surrounding neighbourhood, and

snugly seated in the kitchen of the Black Bull in winter, when it would sometimes be impossible to meet. They have been there since dark, which say to-day was four P.M., and as the lodge meets at six, the landlord—himself a Mason and a farmer—usually lays aside other duties on the farm about that time, so as to be present. Under the influence of the cheerful glass, long pipes, and intelligent conversation, the time has flown swiftly,—so swiftly, indeed, that the third groaning and striking of the old clock in the corner has passed without being noticed. Hardly have the seven o'clock vibrations ceased to be perceptible to the ear, than the metallic click of the iron “sneck” of the front door is heard,—a gust of wind, and then a burly form is thrust against the door inside, which bangs to with a force there is no mistaking. One or two old-fashioned prints hung up on rollers on the wall have been displaced off their nails, and clatter on the stone floor, but most of the mural decorations are heavy enough to withstand the draught. The rubicund-looking gentleman smiling out of the canvas in the corner (a sacred family relic, representing mine host’s grandfather) seems to say, “Look at me—you don’t see me trembling and quivering at every breath of wind.” But our brethren rise astonished, as they view Bro. Boniface covered with snow, too much exhausted to speak, though he laughs immoderately. This reassures the rest, and the eldest, glancing at the clock, inquires (consulting his own fob turnip meanwhile)—

“What’s kept you so late, Dick?”

“Oh! it’s all right! I was coming across the low field at the back of the house about six o’clock when I saw the W.M.’s ‘light’ coming down the hill, so I thought I’d get in before him. The snow was then a foot deep in the meadow, but I knew my way, and hurried a short cut to get into the high road; I could distinctly hear the conveyance coming along, and knew it was the W.M. (because nobody but a Mason would go nine miles in such weather), but just as it turned

the knoll, I thought the light gave a sudden jump up and down to the left, and all at once the sound of the wheels stopped—— Here they are!” he shouts, as the front door flies open again. “Mary, I forgot to tell you the gentlemen want you to hunt up all my clothes, old and new; and as they ar’nt fit to be seen, tell Sarah to make herself scarce!”

At this moment four objects, supposed to be men, have reached the kitchen, one ruefully contemplating a “beaver” smashed beyond hope of cure, and the others evidently enjoying the interest they have excited. Boniface left the kitchen on their entrance and comes in presently, without coat, with a big jug of hot water, four glasses of whiskey, and silver crushers. Placing these on one of the tables he pushes the sugar basin towards them; then reaching over the partition, topped with a crimson curtain, dividing the “bar” from the kitchen, he brings forth a lemon.

“Now, gentlemen, I hope you’ll all be no worse; help yourselves, and then just go into No. 2 there and get your togs off while I finish my story.”

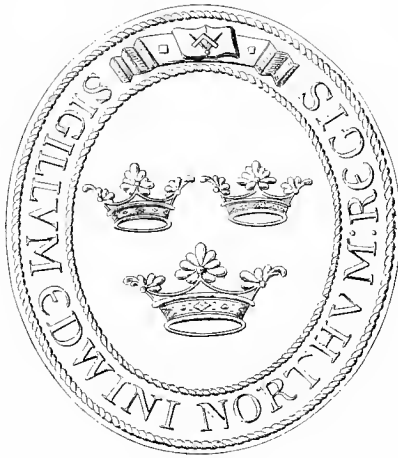
The four travellers having retired, many a hearty laugh comes from the precincts of No. 2 to interrupt the genial landlord, who, taking a seat, resumes as follows:

“You see, Brethren, it isn’t the first time I’ve helped a lame dog over a stile, and thinking something was wrong I ran as hard as I could up the road. Before I reached the place I knew what was up, because I was only thinking this very morning what nasty hillocks them road chaps had left, and sure enough the Master had driven over one of ’em! The horse was standing in the middle of the road, but I could see neither trap nor driver. As I ran up I shouted, and was answered by two voices, ‘All right, look after Thomas and James, Jim’s under the trap.’ Presently the W.M. (Thomas) called out, ‘Is any-

body hurt?’ and I found him fast by the apron. I cut the corner off, and then the three of us turned the trap round and released him, not a bit hurt, thank God. As for Jim, he’s a little ‘un, and we were all in great trouble about him; we shouted, all to no purpose, till at last he turned up in the dyke under the hedge. Poor Jim had been trying to make up his mind whether he were killed or not. Ha! ha! ha! He could hear us, but his hat being jammed over his face he was nearly smothered when we found him. It appears the Wardens had been to the Master’s house for a bit of practice before the lodge, and they called on the road for the I.G. (Jim). We’ve managed to get t’ trap into t’ shed and stabled Billy, and it isn’t such a bad affair as it might-a-been, for which I’m very thankful. We’ll be able to pick up the cushions at daylight. So this is what’s made me so late.”

The reader can imagine the comic re-appearance of the brethren from No. 2 in their borrowed garments, the hilarity of the scene, and the thankful hearts with which these worthy brethren held their lodge. I hope he will pardon me for making so long an illustration of country Masonry, out of events that really occurred within the same romantic district, and which the memory of a genial old Masonic friend recalls in considering the Black Bull Lodge at Settle before the introduction of railways. It may perhaps serve also to relieve the monotony of the

GRAND LODGE AND CHAPTER SEALS



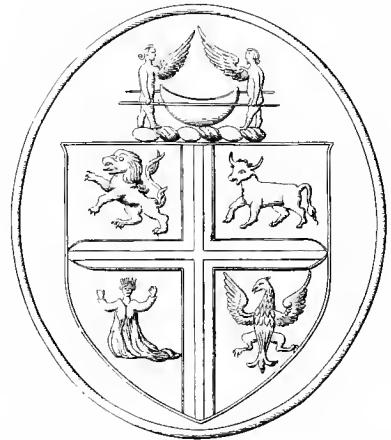
1 GRAND LODGE SEAL, (Silver)
1761.



2 GRAND CHAPTER SEAL, (Brass)
1780.



3 GRAND LODGE SEAL, (Brass)
1776.



4 GRAND LODGE COUNTER SEAL, (Copper)
1776.

particulars given of other lodges. The Half Moon, Otley; Amity, Steeton; and the Ship at Harewood Bridge would be similarly situated, some of the members trudging long distances on foot.

The members of such lodges freely visited and intermixed as Masons of one great family. Candidates were rare, and joining brethren simply produced their certificates and fell in with the established customs of the lodge. The returns having been sent formerly to the Ancients, although the majority might have been registered under the Moderns, the same practice was continued. No question ever arose as between Ancients and Moderns—if Masons, all were alike to them, and they believed other Masonic lodges were, or at any rate ought to be, similarly actuated towards brethren under all Grand Lodges.

1774. Benevolent, Middleham, No. 473.

Warranted under the Moderns, November 1, 1774, as Benevolent Lodge, No. 473, at the Wild Man Inn, Middleham, in the West Riding of Yorkshire.

Its number was changed in 1781 to $\frac{379}{380}$. I cannot trace this lodge (which is scarcely known, for I have never seen it referred to) after 1777. Like many others at the time, its returns were very irregular, especially to the Grand Lodge, and its existence was certainly a somewhat chequered one. It dissolved, leaving no trace, about 1781, although it got a new number at the alteration in that year.

1776. Royal Oak, Ripon, No. 495.

This lodge, the members of which appear to have made a mistake in applying for their warrant to the Grand Lodge of All England at York in the first instance in 1769, was otherwise not an important one. The permission of that Grand Lodge was actually obtained, July 1, 1769, but the Royal Oak Lodge was ultimately warranted under the Moderns at the Royal Oak Inn, Ripon, January 22, 1776, as No. 495. This number was changed to $\frac{400}{401}$ in 1781, in 1792 to No. 324, and at the union to No. 412.

Erased by Grand Lodge, March 5, 1828. That the Royal Oak Lodge professed to work under the All England Constitution for several years after 1769 is tolerably certain, although I am not aware that positive evidence exists one way or the other. The slovenly organisation of the Grand Lodge at York naturally reflected at such a period on its private lodges, from which, indeed, it differed but slightly. They had no system in anything but the social part of their proceedings, and hence all minutes are very disappointing, because when carelessly made their authentic character is often destroyed by other apparently contradictory entries.

1777. Cock, Barnsley, No. 199; now Peace, Meltham, No. 149.

Warranted under the Atholl Masons, April 1, 1777, as the Cock, Barnsley, No. 199, and held at the hostelry of that name there. If the minutes of this lodge have been carefully preserved they will be found most valuable. It was removed,

March 28, 1804, under the same number (as the Ancients never closed up, as customary with the Moderns), to the Traveller's Arms, Dewsbury. At the union it had been removed to Meltham under No. 247, then acquired, and a memorial having been forwarded to the Grand Lodge of England, dated May 30, 1821, stating that the warrant was destroyed or lost, it obtained a warrant of confirmation (Dundas, D.G.M.), dated June 1, 1821. At the closing-up in 1832 the number of the lodge became 174, and it met at the Golden Fleece, Meltham. In 1863 the number was again changed to 149, and its meetings are now held at the Masonic Hall, Wessenden Road, Meltham. There should be some curious records in this lodge, both as to Ancients and Moderns, well worthy of careful examination. What we want to know in cases like this is, whether the lodge possesses them or not. It by no means follows that because the original warrant was reported lost or destroyed at one time, it is not still in existence. I have lately traced a warrant

missing for fifty years. Many Yorkshire early warrants were seized by landlords in revenge for a lodge removal, but very rarely for rent or debt. These, though not valued, are never wilfully destroyed.

1777. Union Lodge, York, No. 504; now York Lodge, No. 236.

Warranted by the Moderns at Lockwood's Coffee-House, Micklegate, York, April 26, 1777, as Union, No. 504. At the next closing-up in 1781 it became $\frac{409}{410}$. Afterwards at Golden Lion, York; and acquired 331 in 1792, 423 at the union, 287 in 1832, and its present number, 236, in 1863. The lodge petitioned for the name "Union" to be changed to "York," which the Grand Lodge granted in 1870. This lodge, now meeting at the Masonic Hall, Duncombe Place, York, holds some very valuable records (nearly the only ones generally known to exist) of the Grand Lodge of All England (York), and I am only sorry that it does not possess more. It is something to feel confidence that what are

here intrusted will be properly cared for. The York Lodge is to be congratulated on undertaking such a duty; and the whole craft is indebted to it for making so affectionate a foster-mother. Formerly the Union Lodge had many changes of place until settled at its new hall in 1863.

1780. St. George's, Doncaster, No. 432; now No. 242.

The interesting history of this lodge was compiled by Bro. W. Delanoy for the centenary celebration during his mastership. It was warranted by the Moderns in 1780 as No. 432; changed in 1782 to No. 433. In 1792 it acquired No. 348, at the union No. 447, in 1832 No. 298, and No. 242 in 1863. The founders of this lodge made application (in mistake) to York instead of London for their warrant. It practised for some time a singular custom of installing the Worshipful Master on St. George's Day. A similar departure may exist in other lodges, but I have never met with it before.

1781. Alfred, Wetherby, No. 434.

Warranted in 1781 as the Alfred Lodge, Wetherby, No. 434, by the Moderns. It got a new number (349) in 1792, not being then erased; but had collapsed just before. This lodge existed as the Wetherby Lodge (though really the Scarborough All England Lodge, which had got so low as to be unable to work there) prior to its constitution as above, under the Grand Lodge of All England, and there is little doubt that the No. 4 York MS. (1693) was not only in its custody, but was taken to York by Bro. George Walker in 1777, in anticipation of the formation of the Alfred Lodge. The great wonder is that the document did not go into the fire; as a Mason's dread of anything being seen by the profane was carried to a ridiculous extreme at this period, especially amongst the Ancients or Atholl Masons, who regarded the Moderns, if Masons, as an inferior body, little better than the profane. The rivalry then existing proved seriously

destructive to Masonic documentary evidence in Yorkshire; many of the Atholl records known to exist before the union being burnt with a merciless ignorance and jealousy little in consonance with the profession of Masonry. Brother Geo. Walker was an enthusiastic Mason, willing to fill two or three offices in the lodge if necessary, and he had decidedly strong prejudices in favour of the York Grand Lodge. It is much to be regretted that a few more such earnest Masons as he undoubtedly was had not been in office, so as to rouse the All England Grand Lodge (even in its decline) to a sense of its dignity and duties towards the close of last century. Under the Moderns, the Alfred had to contend against many difficulties. Situated in an agricultural district sparsely populated, the removal of its members to the adjacent large manufacturing centres gradually undermined its strength, and it expired from sheer want of sustenance. It was never erased, but simply died out.

1781. Rodney, Hull, No. 436.

Warranted under the Moderns in 1781 as Rodney Lodge, No. 436, Hull, and received a new number (351) in 1792. At the Union it acquired No. 451, and its last minutes are dated December 8, 1820. The Humber Lodge, Hull, No. 57, is the custodian of its transactions, &c., which are referred to by Bro. P. M. Smith in his admirable account of the Humber Warrant in 1855. On the 15th July 1819 the W.M. of the Phœnix Lodge at Hull (Bro. Levett) wrote to Bro. Harper, Grand Secretary, that the Rodney was then considered extinct, but it met December 8, 1820, as above stated, to settle its affairs. After the dissolution, the Rodney brethren joined the Humber Lodge.

1782. St. George's, East York Militia, York, No. 442.

Warranted by the Moderns in 1782 in the East York Regiment of Militia as St. George's Lodge, No. 442, at York. In 1792 the number became 356,
G

and at the union No. 460. Erased by Grand Lodge, June 3, 1829. This was one of the most active of the military lodges of Yorkshire, of which a most interesting relic was exhibited at the Worcester Masonic Exhibition last year. (See Worcester Catalogue, No. 731.) No doubt a Northern Masonic Exhibition on a big scale would bring out many such treasures. I feel certain that the history of the All England Grand Lodge can never be written until after we have founded either a National or a Yorkshire Museum for Masonic Antiquities.

1783. Minerva Lodge, No. 451; now No. 250.

Warranted by the Moderns in 1783 as Minerva Lodge, Hull, No. 451. In 1792 the number became 363, and at the Union No. 467. At the closing-up in 1832 it acquired No. 311, and in 1863 its present number, 250. As a purely Yorkshire lodge it can boast of having passed its centenary, and this without change of name or town, which sufficiently

indicates its stability during that long and trying period. The history of the Minerva would be quite an eventful record of Freemasonry in Hull.

**1786. Amphibious, Stonehouse, Devon, No. 498 ; now
Amphibious, Heckmondwike, No. 258.**

As a Yorkshire lodge the Amphibious dates from May 2, 1803, when it was removed from Stonehouse to the Shears Inn, High Town. It was originally warranted, August 22, 1786 (Moderns), at the Marine Barracks, Stonehouse, near Plymouth, as No. 498. It acquired No. 407 in 1792, and at the Union No. 489. Its meetings were held also at the Bull's Head, Little Gomersal, and the Globe Inn, Mill Bridge (all within the same neighbourhood), and whilst at the latter place in 1832 its number became 322, and ultimately No. 258 in 1863. Removed to its present place of meeting at the Freemasons' Hall, Heckmondwike, on March 27, 1850.

1787. Newtonian, Knaresborough, No. 499.

This lodge, warranted in 1787 by the Moderns at the Elephant and Castle as No. 499, acquired No. 408 in 1792, No. 490 in 1814, and No. 323 in 1832. It was erased December 3, 1851, but had long before ceased to work. The "All England" records mention a lodge under its jurisdiction, warranted October 30, 1769, and held at the Crown Inn, Knaresborough, but respecting its lodge life very little at present is known to exist. It would, however, be of the same character as others at the time, and I think the members went over to the Moderns as a more stable and perceptible government, as well as a more powerful body, in 1787. When such changes occurred, the rival organisation forthwith made an end of the former records (if any had been preserved) as useless lumber!

**1788. Honor and Perseverance, Cockermouth, No. 527;
now Nelson of the Nile, No. 264.**

As a county lodge, the Nelson of the Nile (No. 436) dates from 1801, when it was removed to the Black Bull Inn, Batley. It was originally warranted by the Moderns, July 5, 1788, as Honor and Perseverance, No. 527, at the Ship Inn, Cockermouth, becoming No. 436 in 1792. The Nelson of the Nile Lodge was opened, June 1801, under dispensation from Sir Peter Parker, D.G.M., who confirmed it under date February 21, 1804. This lodge moved frequently after the Union, when it became No. 500; in May 1816, to Black Bull Inn, Mirfield; in October 1819, to Freemasons' Arms, Hopton; and was at the Three Nuns, Mirfield, in 1822. In 1832 its number was changed to 330, and in 1863 to 264. After meeting at Bull and Butcher Inn, Batley, from 1832; afterwards at the Bridge Inn, Carlinghow; and Wilton Arms, Batley; the lodge finally settled down at the Freemasons' Hall, Park Road, Batley, where its meetings are now regularly held.

1788. Duke of York, Doncaster, No. 529.

Warranted by the Moderns August 23, 1788, as Duke of York's Lodge, No. 529, at the Black Boy, Doncaster. One or two noted Masons were members of this lodge, an offshoot of St. George's Lodge, and in 1792 it acquired No. 438. On December 3, 1792, it removed to White Bear Inn, Doncaster, and again removed, after ineffectual efforts to heal differences among the members, April 21, 1807, to Elm Tree Inn, Bingley. In 1814 it acquired No. 502, and was erased on March 5, 1828, after it had been actually resuscitated at Baildon as Airedale Lodge. The Duke of York's Lodge was practically removed to Baildon in 1826, and its furniture, &c., was then the property of a few surviving members interested in its resuscitation at that place; and the Airedale ought to have revived the warrant instead of forming an entirely new lodge with Duke of York Masons. For more particulars of this lodge see History of No. 387, 1880 edition.

1788. Royal Yorkshire Lodge, Keighley, No. 530 ; now No. 265.

Warranted in 1788 as Royal Yorkshire, Keighley, No. 530, under the Moderns. Number changed in 1792 to 439, in 1814 to 503, in 1832 to 332, and in 1863 to 265. This lodge has always been vigorous, and some of the best workers of our ritual and ceremonies have from time to time belonged to it. The effect of this has been that in the present day the members cultivate and take great pride in their working. The most accomplished worker of his time throughout West Yorkshire (P.M. Thomas Brown) was a member of this lodge, and he also joined Airedale Lodge, No. 543, in 1857. He was initiated in the Royal Yorkshire Lodge, December 27, 1814.

1788. Globe, Scarborough, No. 531.

Warranted under the Moderns in 1788 as Globe Lodge, Scarborough, No. 531. Changed its number in 1792 to 440, and in 1814 to 504 ; but many of

its members went over to the Ancients to form the Old Globe Lodge, No. 267, in 1791. This lodge has been somewhat mixed up with the "Old Globe," being in fact the older lodge. It was practically extinguished by the formation of the Old Globe Lodge in 1791. Another lodge existed at Scarborough prior to this, and subsequent to the Three Tuns, under the Grand Lodge of All England, warranted in 1762. Bro. George Walker was the moving spirit and most active member of it, and when he left Scarborough to reside at Wetherby it was on the verge of dissolution.

1789. Albion, Skipton, No. 551.

Warranted in 1789 by the Moderns as Albion Lodge, Skipton, No. 551. At the alteration in 1792 it became No. 460. This lodge existed in 1798, but it never had much stability, and expired soon after that date. This is the lodge whose petition

A T A

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION

OF THE MOST ANTIENT AND HONORABLE

Society of Free and Accepted Mafons,

OF THE

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE

For the COUNTY of YORK,

UNDER THE CONSTITUTION OF THE

GRAND LODGE of ENGLAND,

Held at the Merchants'-Hall, in the City of York, on Wednesday, August 26, 1789,

RICHARD SLATER MILNES, Esq; M.P.

PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER.

P R E S E N T.

Mr. Thomas Thackray, D. P. G. M.
 Mr. Edward Benfon, S. G. W.
 Mr. William Staveley, J. G. W.
 Rev. J. Thompson, A. M. A. G. C.
 Mr. John Watfon, G. T.
 Mr. Christopher Wilfon, G. S.
 Mr. Richard Garland, P. G. P. G. M.
 Mr. James Lamb, P. G. T.

Mr. Thomas Hardisty, G. A.
 Mr. Robert Parkinon, P. G. T.
 Capt. O'Conner
 Mr. J. Marhall, Stewards Lodge
 Mr. Denis Peacock
 Mr. James Rule, P. G. S.
 Mr. J. Grave, G. S.

G R A N D S T E W A R D S.

Mr. Thomas Webfter
 Mr. L. Lund
 Mr. R. Rowland

Mr. Edward Bowling
 Mr. William Grave
 Mr. J. Raine

The Mafters and Wardens of fundry Lodges.

When the following Contributions were received, viz.

			Charity Fund.	Hall Fund.	P. L. Fund.
Apollo Lodge, Merchants'-Hall, York	—	—	2 2 0	1 10 0	0 10 0
Union Crofs Lodge, Halifax	—	—	0 10 6	0 15 0	0 0 0
Tontine Lodge, Sheffield	—	—	2 2 0	0 5 0	0 0 0
Lodge of Unanimity, Wakefield	—	—	0 0 0	1 0 0	0 10 0
Union Lodge, York	—	—	0 10 6	0 0 0	0 10 0
Alfred Lodge, Wetherby	—	—	0 0 0	1 0 0	0 10 0
Rodney Lodge, Hull	—	—	2 2 0	6 5 0	1 0 0
Minerva Lodge, Hull	—	—	1 1 0	1 2 6	0 10 0
St. George's Lodge, Beverley	—	—	1 1 0	0 5 0	0 10 0
Newtonian Lodge, Knarefbro'	—	—	0 0 0	2 17 6	0 10 0
Duke of York's Lodge, Doncafter	—	—	0 0 0	3 5 0	0 0 0
Royal Yorkshire Lodge, Keighley	—	—	0 0 0	3 17 6	0 10 0

The MINUTES of the laft LODGE were read and confirmed.

A PETITION was received from feveral Brethren refiding at or near Skipton in this County, praying for a Warrant of Conftitution to be granted them to open and hold a Lodge in the faid Town, and being recommended by many known Brethren—a Warrant was granted accordingly.

Some Lodges in this Province not having communicated with this Provincial Grand Lodge, conformable to the different Bye Laws for that purpose made,

BROTHER STAVELEY moved, That fuch Lodges be reprimanded, which was feconded by BROTHER LAMB, and paffed *nem. con.*

was received, and a warrant granted, as recorded in the minutes of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Yorkshire, held at York, August 26, 1789.

1789. Harmony, Halifax, No. 552 ; now Harmony, Huddersfield, No. 275.

Also warranted in 1789 by the Moderns at Halifax, as Harmony, No. 552, changed in 1792 to No. 461. Its number became 517 at the Union, and 342 in 1832. Removed to Huddersfield, March 20, 1837, and to the Masonic Hall, South Parade, Huddersfield, at the end of the same year. The warrant was renewed (Augustus F., G.M.) under date January 18, 1839, and in 1863 it acquired its present number, 275. The first meeting of this lodge was held November 12, 1789, as Harmony, No. 552, at Halifax, but the minutes of this meeting do not give the house at which the members met. From what I know of its early history, I think the original warrant of this lodge will yet be recovered.

1790. Friendly, London, No. 557; afterwards Friendly, Barnsley, No. 521.

As a Yorkshire lodge, the Friendly, Barnsley, dates from 1816, when it was removed from London. It was originally warranted in 1790 as Friendly Lodge, No. 557, under the Moderns, at the Nag's Head, Leather Lane, Holborn; removed to Newgate Street, where it was working in 1804 as No. 466; and, twelve years after, it had acquired No. 521 at the Union, and was then (1816) at Globe Tavern, Fleet Street, London. At the end of June in that year the lodge was removed to Barnsley. The W.M., Treasurer, and seven others in 1823 exhibited strong Atholl proclivities, quite overlooking the fact that the Atholl Grand Lodge had by the Act of Union in 1813 ceased to exist. Their real feeling, however, was one of dissatisfaction with the United Grand Lodge, and in reverting to their original warrant and number (557) under an impression that the lodge was formerly under the "old

institutions," it is clear they were misinformed both on that point and the more serious undertaking they were led into. The Treasurer was actually installed Grand Master over these lodges, "according to the old institutions," at Liverpool, December 22, 1823, several other lodges having had the hardihood to join them in forming a Grand Lodge of their own. This foolish escapade caused much trouble in the Friendly Lodge, and of course both sides represent their own case as right and the other unequivocally wrong. However, the loyal brethren petitioned the Provincial Grand Master (Lord Polington), who confirmed their Masonic privileges by letter dated January 19, 1824. A warrant of confirmation was also obtained, dated March 11, 1824, but the unpleasant proceedings had unsettled the lodge, which collapsed at the end of 1827. The events above referred to arose out of the erasure of Lodge No. 31, Liverpool; but it was just as much a real secession as that of the Lodge of Antiquity in 1752, and as regards numbers far

more serious. Seven lodges at least were implicated, but the complaint that the Grand Lodge would not listen to remonstrance from its own dissatisfied country "subjects" was not a rational excuse, and the dignity of a strong Grand Lodge was the very best correction. All these lodges soon tired of *governing their own Grand Lodge*, and dispensed with it altogether after the second year. There is no doubt either that Bro. Woodcock, the first G.M., had performed good work in his lodge, or that he acted from conscientious motives. The minutes of the Friendly Lodge prove both beyond question. Apart from this misguided affair, he was an active, intelligent, and earnest Mason.

1791. Loyal and Prudent, Leeds, No. 584.

Warranted by the Moderns as Loyal and Prudent Lodge, Star and Garter, Leeds, No. 584, changed in the closing-up of the following year to No. 493, and in 1814 acquired No. 532. This lodge and

Fidelity, founded in 1792, were formed by members of Parrot and Golden Lion, Leeds, and Alfred, Wetherby. The last-named lodge was then working under difficulties, and it utterly collapsed at the formation of the Loyal and Prudent at Leeds. Of the five lodges named, the Fidelity, Leeds, No. 289, is the only one now existing. The Loyal and Prudent expired in 1829.

1791. Old Globe, Scarborough, No. 267; now No. 200.

Constituted under the Ancients by warrant dated March 5, 1791, as Old Globe Lodge, Scarborough, No. 267. At the Union its number was changed to 337, in 1832 to 236, and to 200 in 1863. For several reasons the history of the Old Globe should be compiled. One can conjecture why it was founded, but *bona fide* evidence of "Ancient" lodges is now very meagre, and all we can get is interesting and valuable.

1792. North Nottinghamshire, Retford, No. 587; afterwards Phœnix, Rotherham, No. 496.

This lodge dates as a Yorkshire lodge from 1810, when it was removed from East Retford as North Nottinghamshire Lodge, No. 587, held under the Moderns at the Town Hall there, and warranted March 21, 1792. At the closing-up of the same year it became No. 496. After removal to Rotherham it acquired No. 533 at the Union, and although at the next alteration of numbers in 1832 a new number was allotted to it (No. 354), the lodge was really extinct before then.

1792. Samaritan, Keighley, No. 504; now Samaritan, Bacup, No. 286.

Warranted in 1792 as Samaritan, Keighley, No. 504 (Moderns), at the Devonshire Arms, Keighley. At the Union it acquired No. 539, and was removed to Accrington 1829-30. In 1832, when its number was changed to 358, it had been again removed to

Bacup, Lancashire, and in 1863 it acquired its present number, 286. Now in the province of East Lancashire.

1792. Philanthropic, Skipton, No. 505.

Warranted under the Moderns in 1792 as Philanthropic Lodge, Skipton, No. 505, changed at the Union to No. 540, and to No. 359 in 1832. This lodge was erased December 3, 1851. Originally formed by a "split" of the Albion brethren, which ruined both, as usual.

**1792. Faith, Hope, and Charity, Barnoldswick, No. 506;
afterwards Three Graces, Haworth.**

Warranted under the Moderns as Faith, Hope, and Charity, Barnoldswick, in 1792, as No. 506. Removed to Black Bull Inn, Haworth, July 7, 1806, and from thence to King's Arms, Haworth, February 12, 1821, having meanwhile at the Union become No. 541. The application for a new warrant was

decided upon June 27, 1831, by which a new lodge was constituted. This was obtained (Augustus F., G. M., Dundas, D. G. M.) as Three Graces, Haworth, No. 862, and dated August 24, 1831. See No. 862, List I. The history of this lodge up to 1831 is not valuable, being always unsettled. This accounts for the formation of a new lodge. After 1831 the minutes are more interesting; and fearing that the old members are passing away, I am much interested in seeing the history of "Three Graces" compiled before it is too late. It is one of those peculiar lodges whose Masonic life and history cannot be written satisfactorily from the minutes alone.

1792. Fidelity, Leeds, No. 512; now No. 289.

Warranted as Fidelity Lodge, Leeds, No. 512, in 1792 (Moderns). At the Union acquired No. 546, in 1832 No. 364, and in 1863 No. 289. Its Masonic life has been most vigorous and useful. Few lodges, indeed, can boast of a more earnest and unceasing

interest in Yorkshire Masonry than the "Fidelity."
Now meets at the Masonic Hall, Carlton Hill, Leeds,
and is the oldest existing Leeds lodge.

1793. White Hart, Huddersfield, No. 513; now Huddersfield Lodge, Huddersfield, No. 290.

Warranted by the Moderns January 1, 1793, as White Hart, No. 513, at the White Hart Inn, Huddersfield. Number changed in 1814 to 547, in 1832 to 365, and in 1863 to 290. This lodge obtained a new warrant (Dundas, D.G.M.), dated April 22, 1822, as Huddersfield Lodge, and its meetings are now held at the Masonic Hall, South Parade, Huddersfield. It has been an active and useful lodge in a decidedly Masonic town.

1793. Constitutional, Beverley, No. 525.

Warranted by the Moderns in 1793 as Constitutional Lodge, Beverley, No. 525. Became No. 554 at the Union, No. 371 in 1832, and obtained its present number, 294, in 1863. I was much pleased to obtain an impression of the fine old seal of the

Constitutional Chapter attached to this lodge, as it furnishes additional corroborative evidence that in Yorkshire some of the Chapters adopted the craft motto of the ancients, "Holiness to the Lord." I have once or twice found eminent brethren disposed to doubt this, but a certificate I exhibited at Worcester (No. 419)—and now in the Moravia Chapter, 387, Shipley—proves it, the certificate being sent chiefly on that account. There is a mine of historic wealth to be explored in the Royal Arch Chapters of Yorkshire and Lancashire such as does not exist elsewhere. They would be found worthy of a special work if taken together.

1793. Royal Brunswick, Sheffield, No. 527 ; now No. 296.

Warranted as Royal Brunswick, No. 527 (Moderns), July 8, 1793, at the Royal Oak, Sheffield, and at the Union became No. 556. Removed to Music Hall, Sheffield, and in 1832 acquired No. 373; in 1863 No. 296. Now meets at the Freemasons' Hall, Surrey Street, Sheffield.

1794. Hope, Bradford, No. 539; now No. 302.

Warranted by the Moderns, March 23, 1794, as Lodge of Hope, No. 539, at the Talbot Inn, Bradford. Number changed in 1814 to 565, in 1832 to 379, and in 1863 to 302. The dispensation under which this lodge works is to all intents and purposes a warrant, and such as other lodges received at the time, ostensibly until the Grand Lodge warrant was prepared. It was granted by authority of Richard Slater Milnes, Prov. G.M. for Yorkshire, and bears the seal of the Apollo Lodge, though the latter is now almost indistinct owing to the action of heat and the pressure of the glass with which the document is protected. Of course the Lodge of Hope could have obtained a Grand Lodge warrant at the time, and possibly did; but if not it was not looked after, or very likely the members considered the dispensation of the Prov. G. Master quite sufficient. The first W.M. was Mr. Jeremiah Ambler; and after the Talbot the lodge met also at the Bowling Green; Nag's Head;

rooms in Darley Street and Duke Street; at Masonic Rooms, Market Place; until it finally settled down at the Masonic Hall, top of Darley Street, Bradford. Many of the most prominent citizens have from time to time been initiated in the Hope, which is the oldest Masonic lodge in Bradford. What is known as the Hope MS. is carefully preserved amongst its archives. The seal of this lodge bears a remarkable resemblance to the Philanthropic (No. 542), Leeds, of the same year; and I think both lodges had similar seals of anterior number to those given, but they appear to have been lost.

The proper compilation of a lodge history during one hundred years is not a very light matter, and as Hope and Philanthropic both reach their centenary in 1894, they would find it an advantage to set about the work at once. By this means both personal and written evidence can be secured, which in nine years will probably be unavailable.

1794. Philanthropic, Leeds, No. 542; now No. 304.

Warranted August 21, 1794, as Philanthropic Lodge, No. 542, Leeds, under the Moderns. The number was changed at the Union to 568, at the closing-up in 1832 to 382, and in 1863 to No. 304. Now meets at the Masonic Hall, Great George Street, Leeds. Many eminent members of the craft have been initiated in the Philanthropic, which has always been a sterling Yorkshire Masonic lodge. As such its present prosperity is to be attributed. The very bold character of the seal of this lodge (for which I am indebted to Bro. C. L. Mason, P.M.) is very similar to that of Hope Lodge, No. 539. The same seal, bearing No. 304, is now used.

1795. Alfred, Leeds, No. 546; now No. 306.

Warranted by the Moderns April 27, 1795, as Alfred Lodge, No. 546, Leeds (Richard Slater Milnes, Prov. G.M.) This lodge acquired No. 571

at the Union, No. 384 at the closing-up in 1832, and No. 306 in 1863. Another distinguished, well-conducted, and prosperous Leeds lodge.

1796. Loyal Halifax, Halifax, No. 549; now Prince Frederick, Hebden Bridge, No. 307.

Warranted January 28, 1796 (Moderns), as Loyal Halifax, Halifax, No. 549; afterwards the name was changed to Prince Frederick, and the lodge removed to the Stag Inn, Heptonstall. Acquired No. 573 at the Union, and in 1832 No. 385, when it was held at the White Horse Inn, Hebden Bridge. The number became 307 in 1863, and its meetings are still held at the same place. The Prince Frederick was one of the lodges forming the Lodge of Promulgation in 1815, and its history is a curious one.

1796. Prince George, Haworth, No. 550; now Prince George, Eastwood, No. 308.

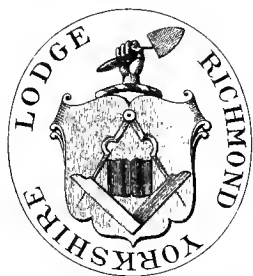
Warranted under the Moderns February 18, 1796, as Prince George Lodge, No. 550, at the White Lion, Haworth. At the Union it became No. 574, and its meetings were then held at Bottoms, Eastwood. Received a new warrant (Dundas, D.G.M.) dated December 2, 1818. In 1832 acquired No. 386, in 1863 No. 308, and the lodge is now held at Station Hotel, Bottoms, Eastwood. Owing to an erroneous statement to the effect that this lodge held "York" warrants for the Royal Arch, Knight Templar, and other degrees, a sensation was caused some sixteen years ago amongst Masonic archæologists, and for a time considerable interest centred in the Prince George. It unfortunately turned out, however, that no such separate warrants existed, and probably the statement had originated unintentionally through the ignorance of one member, who no doubt would be as much surprised as any-

body at the effect produced. Formerly this lodge had some very active members, and it was one of a few round about that were very proud of their working, which I should quite expect to find has been zealously kept up. It was also one of the thirteen forming the Lodge of Promulgation after the Union.

1796. Ebenezer, Pateley Bridge, No. 556.

Warranted in 1796 as Ebenezer Lodge, No. 556 (Moderns), at the Crown Inn, Pateley Bridge. At the Union it became No. 580, but was then extinct. I can only trace this lodge up to 1810, when it was working under difficulties. Few of these "village" lodges exist long; generally only the time of the founders. As these die the lodge sinks. They have trifling expenses, no candidates, and no aspirations.

SEALS OF YORKSHIRE LODGES



LENOX LODGE *When N° 297*
1



APOLLO LODGE
YORK
3



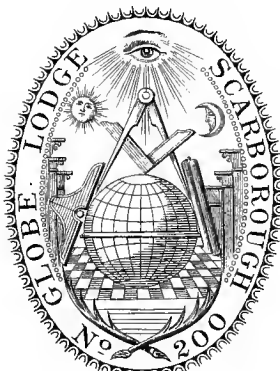
LENOX LODGE N° 123
2



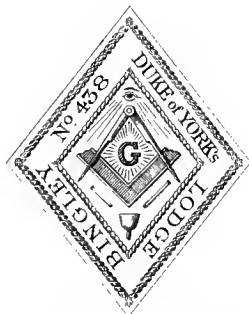
AMITY LODGE
LONDON
afterwards STEETON
4



PARROT LEEDS
5



GLOBE LODGE
SCARBOROUGH
6



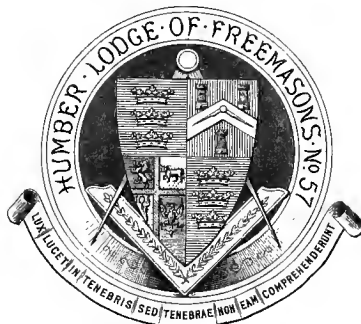
DUKE OF YORK LODGE
BINGLEY
7



HARMONY LODGE
HALIFAX
8



PROBITY LODGE
HALIFAX
9



HUMBER LODGE
HULL
10



UNION LODGE
YORK
11

1797. Lion, Whitby, No. 561; now No. 312.

Warranted in 1797 as Lion Lodge, Whitby, No. 561 (Moderns). At the Union it became No. 583, No. 391 in 1832, and No. 312 in 1863. Its meetings are now held at the Masonic Hall, John Street, West Cliff, Whitby.

1799. Allman's, Almondbury, No. 575.

This is another of the many Yorkshire lodges which seem to have originated no one knows how during a troublous period, and after a brief and not always useful existence, departed silently without leaving a trace. The Allman's Lodge was warranted by the Moderns under that appellation as No. 575 in 1799. At the Union it became No. 594. As the "Modern" lodges were free from the jealousy and mistaken zeal which prompted the Ancients to destroy their records when the Union became an accomplished fact, in all probability the records of

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this lodge are mouldering in the attic of some public-house near Mirfield at the present time.

The returns were very much neglected. Strange to say, these were made to Grand Lodge up to 1827, and to Provincial Grand Lodge in 1834, when it must have been removed from the roll! In 1806 a Chapter was attached, the warrant for which was exhibited at the Worcester Masonic Exhibition (No. 709) by Bro. Dore, of Huddersfield. The lodge simply expired, and had no new number assigned to it in 1832.

1799. Mariner's, Selby, No. 576.

The Mariner's Lodge, No. 576 (Moderns), was constituted at Selby in 1799. It received a new number (595) at the Union, though really extinct in 1806-7. At the division of Yorkshire in 1821, this lodge was placed under the jurisdiction of the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire, causing

some trouble when the later Selby Lodge (St. Germain's) was constituted in 1849 under N. and E. Yorkshire.

1811. Union, 2d York Militia, York, No. 626.

Military lodges, even in the militia, at the date of constitution of this lodge had so many difficulties, and Masonry in Yorkshire was so unsettled, that like many others the Union 2d York Militia Lodge left few, if any, traces of its existence. It was warranted by the Moderns in 1811 as No. 626, and became No. 634 at the Union. Working in 1816, it expired soon after, and was erased by Grand Lodge December 5, 1827.

1812. Candour, Delph, No. 635; now No. 337.

This lodge was warranted February 12, 1812, at Delph, Saddleworth, having been reconstituted on the ashes of Unanimity Lodge, No. 328, Queen's

Head, Penrith, the warrant of the latter lodge having been forfeited February 6, 1811. The original number of Unanimity was 500 when warranted by the Moderns in 1776, becoming No. $\frac{405}{406}$ in 1781 and No. 328 in 1792.

The new warrant of Candour Lodge, No. 635, is signed by Augustus Frederick, G.M. Its number was changed to 642 at the Union, to No. 422 in 1832, and to No. 337 in 1863.

1817. Phoenix, Hull, No. 368.

This lodge was formed mainly by Bro. Henry Levett of Hull, who went personally to York for the purpose, and bought the warrant, Royal Arch and Knight Templar constitutions, furniture, jewels, &c., of the dormant Apollo Lodge, No. 368 (see Apollo Lodge). The Phoenix was opened at 14 High Street, Hull, under the Apollo warrant, by a preliminary meeting on Monday, June 30, 1817, its first regular meeting being held on Monday,

July 21, in the same year. The amount paid for the Apollo paraphernalia seems to have proved much too big for the members, as in 1834 the Phœnix Lodge was the full amount and £16 more in debt. The records and property of both the Phœnix and its famous predecessor are in the possession of the Humber Lodge, No. 57, Hull. By the kind permission of the W.M., Bro. John Walton, I visited Hull on the 17th April this year (1885), for the purpose of examining the records in possession of the Humber Lodge, and the whole of these are now being collated and numbered.

I cannot sufficiently thank the W.M. of Humber Lodge (Bro. John Walton) for the courtesy with which this permission was granted for purely archæological purposes. I shall never forget the cheerful and energetic assistance rendered to me by Bro. W. Tesseyman, W.M. of the Humber Installed Masters' Lodge of Instruction, and Bro. George L. Shackles, P.M., a member of the same: and am pleased to have this opportunity of publicly acknowledging their truly Masonic courtesy, as well as personal assistance, without which my researches must necessarily have been far more difficult and prolonged. Last-century Masonic records are all more or less valuable. If that be admitted, is it not an unwise as well as a selfish policy to treat them as old ledgers? As a rule, the archæologist, of all others, appreciates the care bestowed upon

them, and will readily pardon unusual strictness as to their custody; at the same time it should be borne in mind that, his labours being for the craft, no lodge can suffer, but generally gain, by his investigations. Having had a very extensive experience of lodge records, which invariably disclose matters that should on no account be published, I may be pardoned for suggesting that the greatest caution should always be observed in the selection of a P.M. of the lodge for this work. I maintain that as personally none of us would hold securities in our safes as men of business without knowing all about them, neither should we neglect the same duty as Masons. No brother below the rank of W.M. ought to be selected, however otherwise qualified; but I do strongly approve of lodge records and lodge history being collated and compiled *within the lodge* if possible, especially as assistance may be had in these days as was formerly unavailable. In case publication is decided upon in the interest of craft history, such assistance should always be obtained.

1821. St. Alban's, Leeds, No. 749.

This lodge is remarkable as being composed of "operative" members, and was warranted in 1821 as No. 749, at the White Swan, Leeds. It was working in 1827, seven of its members, including the then W.M. and Treasurer, having been present at the opening of Airedale Lodge, Baildon, in the early part of that year. It expired in

1829, and never changed its number. Several Yorkshire lodges before and at this time were under the impression that by contributing to Provincial Grand Lodge they were exempt from any payments to Grand Lodge. This caused much annoyance, many members of lodges not being registered who had regularly paid their subscriptions, and were otherwise entitled to registration. In its operative character we have in this lodge an attempt that could scarcely be expected to succeed. The principle clashes somewhat with Masonic ideas of "reputable circumstances," and has the grave objection of creating distinctions in the craft wholly antagonistic to its teachings of equality and fraternity. But I think these brethren were quite up to the average of initiates at this period, and that they would not have been known as "operatives" had they not so designated themselves. Their principles and working in no way differed from other lodges.

1825. Integrity, Brighouse, No. 799; now Integrity, Morley, No. 380.

Warranted February 26, 1825 (Dundas, D.G.M.), as Integrity Lodge, Brighouse, No. 799, and in 1832 became No. 529. This lodge was removed to the Fountain Inn, Morley, March 16, 1835, and acquired No. 380 at the last closing-up in 1863.

1827. Airedale, Baildon, No. 814; now Airedale, Shipley, No. 387.

This lodge was neither more nor less than a revival of the Duke of York's Lodge, No. 502. Its history is now well known. It became No. 543 in 1832 and No. 387 in 1863.

Constituted at Baildon, the Airedale was removed to Shipley in December 1868, chiefly owing to the preponderance of Shipley and Bradford residents forming the members. On October 2, 1878, the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, M.W. Pro. G.M., opened the New Masonic Hall in the pre-

sence of a distinguished company of brethren from all parts. Since then many "good men and true" have passed away, but at that time the Airedale was a model lodge, and as such was, and is, widely known and respected. A Mark lodge was attached to the Airedale, whose members were very well-up in the degree, which they conferred (generally attending for that purpose at the Lodge of Hope, Bradford), thirty years ago. The records of Airedale Lodge are full of brotherly love and charity, the unpublished instances far exceeding those recorded in its history. By a singular coincidence it happens to be the last of the century. My original intention was to say nothing about it, not having thought about its date of constitution; but my mother lodge *will not*, and indeed cannot, be excluded from the roll of honour.

PART II.

I.

A COMPLETE LIST OF YORKSHIRE LODGES,
ARRANGED ACCORDING TO SENIORITY (BY DATE) AS COUNTY LODGES;
WITH REMARKS AND EXPLANATIONS THEREON.

II.

A LIST,
SHOWING THE CHANGES OF NUMBER EFFECTED BY THE EIGHT
CLOSINGS-UP OF GRAND LODGE.

LIST No. I.

No.	Date of Constitution.	Name.	Place.	No.	Present Name.	Place.	No.
1	1729	Three Tuns	Scarborough	59	... ..	... ..	...
2	1738	Black Bull	Halifax	176	Probity	Halifax	61
3	1754	Parrot	Leeds	243	... ..	... ..	...
4	1759	Black Bull	Hull	252	... ..	... ..	...
5	1759	Kingston-upon-Hull		A 78	... ..	... ..	...
6	1761	Golden Lion	Leeds	258	... ..	... ..	...
7	1761	Punch Bowl	York	259	... ..	... ..	...
8	1761	A Military Lodge	Sheffield	A 85	... ..	... ..	...
9	1761	Blue Bell	Hull	267	... ..	... ..	...
10	1762	Ship	Harewood Bridge	A 103	... ..	... ..	...
11	1762	Half Moon	Otley	287	... ..	... ..	...
12	1762	Ship	Sheffield	A 105	... ..	... ..	...
13	1763	Lodge at Richmond		297	Lenox	Richmond	123
14	1764	Golden Lion	Whitby	A 127	... ..	... ..	...
15	1765	Tontine	Sheffield	340	Britannia	Sheffield	139
16	1766	Unanimity	Wakefield	361	Unanimity	Wakefield	154

THE YORKSHIRE LODGES.

No.	Date of Constitution.	Name.	Place.	No.	Present Name.	Place.	No.
17	1769	Bacchus	Halifax	448	... ..	... ..	...
18	1772	Britannic	Whitby	423	... ..	... ..	...
19	1772	A Military Lodge	Sheffield	A 72	Removed to	Bristol	68
20	1772	1st Regiment York Militia	Sheffield	A 176	... ..	... ..	...
21	1773	Apollo	York	450	... ..	... ..	...
22	1774	Black Bull	Settle	A 188	... ..	... ..	...
23	1774	Benevolent	Middleham	473	... ..	... ..	...
24	1775	Swan with Two Necks	Saddleworth	A 139	Removed to	Stockport	104
25	1776	Royal Oak	Ripon	495	... ..	... ..	...
26	1777	Cock	Barnsley	A 199	Peace	Meltham	149
27	1777	Union	York	504	York	York	236
28	1780	St. George's	Doncaster	433	St. George's	Doncaster	242
29	1781	Alfred	Wetherby	434	... ..	... ..	...
30	1781	Rodney	Hull	436	... ..	... ..	...
31	1782	St. George's, East York Militia	York	442	... ..	... ..	...
32	1783	Minerva	Hull	451	Minerva	Hull	250
33	1787	Newtonian	Knaresbro'	499	... ..	... ..	...
34	1788	Duke of York	Doncaster	529	... ..	... ..	...
35	1788	Royal Yorkshire	Keighley	530	Royal Yorkshire	Keighley	265
36	1788	Globe	Scarborough	531

THE YORKSHIRE LODGES.

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No.	Date of Constitution.	Name.	Place.	No.	Present Name.	Place.	No.
37	1789	Albion	Skipton	551
38	1789	Harmony	Halifax	552	Harmony	Huddersfield	275
39	1791	Loyal and Prudent	Leeds	584	... ..	... ..	...
40	1791	Old Globe	Scarborough	A 267	Old Globe	Scarborough	200
41	1792	Samaritan	Keighley	504	Removed to Bacup		286
42	1792	Philanthropic	Skipton	505	... ..	... ..	...
43	1792	Faith, Hope, and Charity	Barnoldswick	506	... ..	... ..	...
44	1792	Fidelity	Leeds	512	Fidelity	Leeds	289
45	1793	White Hart	Huddersfield	513	Huddersfield	Huddersfield	290
46	1793	Constitutional	Beverley	525	Constitutional	Beverley	294
47	1793	Royal Brunswick	Sheffield	527	Royal Brunswick	Sheffield	296
48	1794	Hope	Bradford	539	Hope	Bradford	302
49	1794	Philanthropic	Leeds	542	Philanthropic	Leeds	304
50	1795	Alfred	Leeds	546	Alfred	Leeds	306
51	1796	Loyal Halifax	Halifax	549	Prince Frederick	Hebden Bridge	307
52	1796	Prince George	Haworth	550	Prince George	Eastwood	308
53	1796	Ebenezer	Patley Bridge	556	... ..	... ..	...
54	1797	Lion	Whitby	561	Lion	Whitby	312
55	1799	Allman's	Almondbury	575	... ..	... ..	...
56	1799	Mariner's	Selby	576	... ..	... ..	...
57	1801	Nelson of the Nile	Batley	436	Nelson of the Nile	Batley	264

THE YORKSHIRE LODGES.

No.	Date of Constitution.	Name.	Place.	No.	Present Name.	Place.	No.
58	1803	Amphibious	High Town	407	Amphibious	Heckmondwike	258
59	1803	Three Grand Principles	Dewsbury	283	Three Grand Principles	Dewsbury	208
60	1806	Amity	Steeton	224	... ..	... ..	...
61	1809	Humber	Hull	A 53	Humber	Hull	57
62	1810	Phoenix	Rotherham	496	... ..	... ..	...
63	1811	Union 2d York Militia	York	626	... ..	... ..	...
64	1812	Candour	Saddleworth	635	Candour	Saddleworth	337
65	1816	Friendly	Barnsley	521	... ..	... ..	...
66	1817	Phoenix	Hull	368	... ..	... ..	...
67	1821	St. Alban's	Leeds	749	... ..	... ..	...
68	1825	Integrity	Brighouse	799	Integrity	Morley	380
69	1827	Airedale	Baildon	814	Airedale	Shipley	387
<p>The above represent a century—1729 to 1828. Those not extended after the original number are extinct. The first two only of the following lodges received another number in 1832, viz., Royal Forest, 575, and Three Graces, 591.</p>							
70	1829	Royal Forest	Slaidburn	846	Royal Forest	Slaidburn	401
71	1831	Three Graces	Haworth	862	Three Graces	Haworth	408
72	1836	Scientific	Bingley	642	Scientific	Bingley	439
73	1838	Loyal Ancient St. James's	Thornton	656	St. James's	Halifax	448
74	1839	Aire and Calder	Goole	672	Aire and Calder	Goole	458
75	1839	Savile	Leeds	677	... ..	... ..	...

THE YORKSHIRE LODGES.

No.	Date of Constitution.	Name.	Place.	No.	Present Name.	Place.	No.
76	1840	Verity	Ripon	681	... ..	... ..	...
77	1840	Tudor	Saddleworth	688	Removed to	Oldham	467
78	1842	Friendly	Barnsley	716	... ..	... ..	...
79	1844	Wakefield	Wakefield	727	Wakefield	Wakefield	495
80	1845	Truth	Huddersfield	763	Truth	Huddersfield	521
81	1847	Cleveland	Stokesley	795	Cleveland	Stokesley	543
82	1849	Zetland	Guisborough	820	Zetland	Guisboro'	561
83	1849	St. Germain's	Selby	827	St. Germain's	Selby	566
84	1852	Harmony	Bradford	874	Harmony	Bradford	600
85	1852	North York	Middlesbro'	876	North York	Middlesbro'	602
86	1852	Zetland	Cleckheaton	877	Zetland	Cleckheaton	603
87	1854	St. Cuthbert's	Howden	913	St. Cuthbert's	Howden	630
88	1855	Royal	Filey	926	Royal	Filey	643
89	1855	Holme Valley	Holmfirth	937	Holme Valley	Holmfirth	652
90	1855	Camalodunum	Malton	958	Camalodunum	Malton	660
91	1858	Londesborough	Bridlington	1036	Londesborough	Bridlington	734
92	1858	Friendship	Cleckheaton	1052	Friendship	Cleckheaton	750
93	1860	Craven	Skipton	1112	Craven	Skipton	810
94	1860	St. John's	Dewsbury	1129	St. John's	Dewsbury	827
95	1860	De Grey and Ripon	Ripon	1139	De Grey and Ripon	Ripon	837
96	1861	Phoenix	Rotherham	1206	Phoenix	Rotherham	904
97	1861	St. Oswald	Pontefract	1212	St. Oswald	Pontefract	910

The following lodges, constituted and numbered *after* the last closing-up by Grand Lodge, remain the same number as warranted, and are all working:—

No.	Date of Constitution.	Name.	Place.	No.
98	1863	Trafalgar	Batley	971
99	1863	Pentalpha	Bradford	974
100	1864	Harrogate and Claro	Harrogate	1001
101	1864	Kingston	Hull	1010
102	1864	Shakspeare	Bradford	1018
103	1864	Sincerity	Wakefield	1019
104	1864	Eccleshill	Eccleshill	1034
105	1864	Sykes	Driffield	1040
106	1864	Excelsior	Leeds	1042
107	1866	Mirfield	Mirfield	1102
108	1866	Wharfedale	Otley	1108
109	1868	Goderich	Leeds	1211
110	1868	Scarborough	Batley	1214
111	1868	Defence	Leeds	1221
112	1868	Savile	Elland	1231
113	1868	Wentworth	Sheffield	1239
114	1868	Marwood	Redcar	1244
115	1868	Denison	Scarborough	1248

THE YORKSHIRE LODGES.

91

No.	Date of Constitution.	Name.	Place.	No.
116	1869	Ryburn	Sowerby Bridge	1283
117	1870	Brighouse	Brighouse	1301
118	1870	De Warren	Halifax	1302
119	1870	Zetland	Leeds	1311
120	1870	Anchor	Northallerton	1337
121	1872	Falcon	Thirsk	1416
122	1873	Wharnccliffe	Penistone	1462
123	1874	Alexandra	Hornsea	1511
124	1874	Friendly	Barnsley	1513
125	1874	Thornhill	Lindley	1514
126	1874	Olicana	Ikley	1522
127	1875	Legiolum	Castleford	1542
128	1875	Baildon	Baildon	1545
129	1876	De la Pole	Hull	1605
130	1876	Eboracum	York	1611
131	1876	Handyside	Saltburn	1618
132	1876	Colne Valley	Slaithwaite	1645
133	1876	Prince of Wales	Bradford	1648
134	1878	St John's	Halifax	1736
135	1878	Leopold	Scarborough	1760
136	1878	Ivanhoe	Sheffield	1779
137	1878	Albert Edward	Huddersfield	1783

No.	Date of Constitution.	Name.	Place.	No.
138	1879	Ferrum	Middlesbrough	1848
139	1883	Agricola	York	1991
140	1884	Beaumont	Kirkburton	2035
141	1884	Prudence	Leeds	2069

It will be found by the preceding list of Yorkshire lodges that, out of a total of 141, only 12 owe their constitution to the "Ancients," the remaining 129 having been warranted by the "Moderns." Of these 141 lodges, 100 have been, before or after the division, in West Yorkshire, and 41 in the sister province of North and East Yorkshire; there being 68 lodges working at present in the former, and 28 in the latter province. Forty-one lodges have been erased or have otherwise become extinct, twenty-eight of these being West Yorkshire lodges, and thirteen of the province of North and East Yorkshire; whilst four West Riding lodges have been continued in other provinces, two being now in Lancashire, one in Cheshire, and one at Bristol.

To those who have not gone much below the surface

of Masonic history, the four Grand Lodges are even yet an enigma, and it is still a common experience to find Masons, who are really well-informed on general Masonic subjects, mixing them up in a strange fashion. This arises (apart from a want of serious study) from the title of "Ancients" assumed by the seceders being, as regards antiquity, more correctly applicable to the Grand Lodge of England (1717). The title of "Moderns," by which name the latter was designated, originated with their rivals first as a contemptuous term; afterwards it came to be applied generally amongst Masons as a *distinctive title* merely, as it is still used. But the most awkward thing is this title of "Ancient," which has been used more or less by all the Grand Lodges; and there are few private lodges that do not style themselves of the *Ancient* and honourable fraternity, &c., which is quite right, but in some minds adds to the confusion. Whilst we may distinguish the four Grand Lodges most effectively by dropping their names, and calling them 1717, 1725, 1753, and 1779 instead, such a method is not open to

the historian, to whose mind the titles, perplexing as they are to many, convey a much wider significance than the dates of foundation. I have so often tried to convince brethren how simple this matter is—they have so often admitted, with startling earnestness some, and with demonstrative glee others, that “it *was* quite clear,” when in less than ten minutes I knew it *wasn't*—that it is useless to attempt it in print; believing, as I now do, that the requisite knowledge is attainable in only one way, there being no royal road to it. Nevertheless, when the term “Ancients” is used, the Masonic student always understands it to mean either the Grand Lodge formed in 1753 by brethren who seceded from the *parent* Grand Lodge in 1738, or the brethren forming lodges under its constitution. If we add that similarly he always recognises the parent Grand Lodge (1717), and the present United Grand Lodge of England, or their members, as “Moderns,” we trust, so far as this work is concerned, no difficulty will be experienced even by the youngest craftsman.

We have really only to deal with the “Moderns”

(1717), or the "Ancients" (1753)—all in the list having been warranted by one or the other. The Grand Lodge south of the Trent (1779), as its name implies, did not touch Yorkshire; whilst the Grand Lodge of All England at York (1725) may for all practical purposes, and the reasons already given, be ignored altogether, so little did it ever influence Yorkshire Masonry.

To make the list for reference equally clear to the craftsman and the Masonic student, all lodges distinguished by A before the number were constituted under the "Ancients," all the remainder being "Moderns" either before or after the Union in 1813. The same distinction is made in List II. which follows.

Up to 1790 there were, in addition to those given in the first list, a few lodges that, during a brief period, existed under the Grand Lodge of All England (York); which, strangely enough, was never popular as a Grand Lodge, even in York. These are fortunately not important. The absence of any system of numbering, such as adopted by the other three Grand Lodges, and the paucity of reliable evidence, has made the task of trac-

ing the few that did exist exceptionally difficult. As, however, appeared desirable, one or two lodges are casually referred to in connection with others. There is reason to believe that many records of the lodges were wilfully destroyed under scrupulous misapprehensions of brethren; whilst others, not destroyed before 1790, were suppressed, and it is supposed ultimately met the same fate. What documentary evidence is available concerning the York Grand Lodge is in charge of the York Lodge, No. 236, at York, and a worthy custodian of those archives it has proved to be. They are, so far at least as the historian is concerned, of an incomplete character; and I see no hope in the future of being able to cure a complaint now of so long standing, except by the establishment of a Northern Provinces Masonic Museum. One special advantage of this would be the greater facilities afforded of collecting existing evidence and curiosities; and it is a pity that the project was not started vigorously long ago. I believe there are few lodges that would not be glad to hand over their antiques and curios if such a place of safety could be

LODGE AND CHAPTER SEALS



SEPARATIST LODGE
BARNSTLEY
1823
1



AIREDALE LODGE
SHIPLEY
2



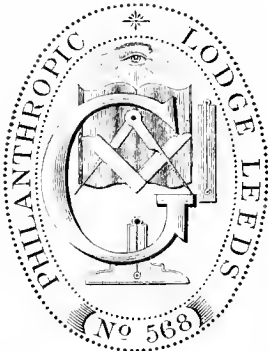
PERSEVERANCE CHAPTER
HALIFAX
3



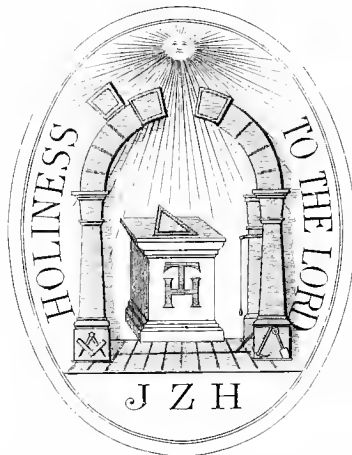
HUMBER LODGE
HULL
4



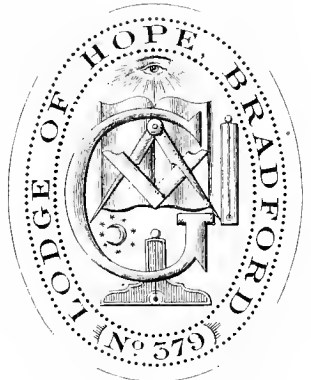
LEICESTER LODGE No 91
ANCIENTS
5



PHILANTHROPIC LODGE
LEEDS
6



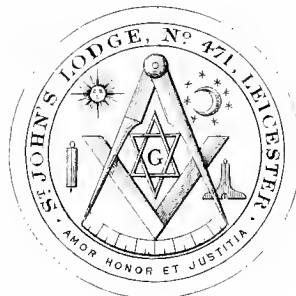
CONSTITUTIONAL CHAPTER
BEVERLEY
7



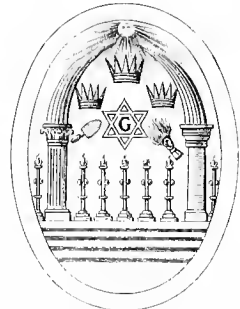
HOPE LODGE
BRADFORD
8



ROYAL YORKSHIRE
KIGHLEY
9



OLD SEAL of
No 471
10



UNANIMITY CHAPTER
11

offered them. On the other hand, there would be an end to the evil now existing of not knowing what to do with Masonic documents, when these fall into the hands of non-Masons as executors and trustees. Parson and White, in "Annals of Leeds, York, &c.," page 113, state—"At the demolition of Pontefract Castle, in 1649, was found a very ancient MS. on the subject of Freemasonry, which in the year 1738 was presented to one of the lodges in the city of York by Mr. Drake, the celebrated antiquary, who was the Master in 1761." This was included in the 1779 York inventory,—Hargrove says it was in existence in 1818,—and other most important York evidence, also missing, would have been saved (and nobody knows how much more) had there been a Masonic Museum in York. Much reliance cannot be placed on Hargrove concerning Masonry. He appears to have believed the craft to be a mysterious and powerful organisation amongst which he had to live, and therefore, having to depend on Bro. Blanchard for information, he was naturally anxious to please. Yet I think he need not have called the Rockingham Club

a Masonic lodge, even if there were many well-known Masons members of it.

The more we persevere with the study of the York Grand Lodge, the more uninteresting and aggravating almost it becomes; not so much because of wrongdoing, as that we are compelled to believe that it was too indolent and indifferent to do anything. As a Grand Lodge it proved itself incapable of realising its position, or understanding its functions and duties. Had it ever possessed half the vitality of the "regular" Grand Lodge, or had a Secretary with a trifle of the energy and administrative capacity of Laurence Dermott, we should have been able to give a different account of it to-day, notwithstanding the extraordinary disappearance of a few old parchments.

Many of the "Ancient" lodges abroad, even up to a few years before the Union, believed themselves under the York Grand Lodge.* Some of the American lodges

* Dermott's audacity enabled him to style his followers "Ancients" in England and "York Masons" anywhere out of it, for his own purposes; although the All England Grand Lodge at York was at the time in existence. His principle was to connect the seceders with York when convenient, as a means to his own ends, and only then.

then, instead of the usual designation "according to the old constitutions," had engraved on the top of their "Atholl" certificates, "agreeable to the Ancient York constitutions," clearly showing that whilst registered and working under the "Ancients," they had no idea of it. As a matter of fact, the seceders prospered with their assumed name on the antiquity of the Grand Lodge of All England, whose listlessness Dermott naturally took advantage of. The absence of the 1705 minute-book is truly a grievous loss; and I have reluctantly come to the conclusion that until further records come to light, the history of the Grand Lodge of All England at York must remain in the condition it has been so many years. That valuable documents still exist in Yorkshire I firmly believe; and it becomes a question whether an effort shall be made to recover them.

LIST No. II.

Original No.	Name.	1740.	1756.	1770.	1781.	1792.	1814.	1832.	1863.
59	Three Tuns	52	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
176	Probity	162	97	81	65	61	84	73	61
243	Parrot	...	181	142	...	...	...	...	...
A 53	Humber	...	...	...	...	...	73	65	57
A 72	Royal Clarence	...	...	...	...	...	95	81	68
252	Black Bull	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
A 78	A Lodge at Hull	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
258	Golden Lion	...	...	205	165	...	...	...	...
259	Punch Bowl	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
A 85	A Lodge at Sheffield	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
267	Blue Bell	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
A 103	Ship	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
287	Half Moon	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
A 105	Ship	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
297	Lenox	...	...	242	193	165	202	144	123
A 127	Golden Lion	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
340	Britannia	277	221	189	232	162	139
361	Unanimity	296	238	202	252	179	154

THE YORKSHIRE LODGES.

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Original No.	Name.	1740.	1756.	1770.	1781.	1792.	1814.	1832.	1863.
A 139	St. John's	168	121	104
373	Three Grand Principles	...	...	308	250	283	358	251	208
406	Amity	...	...	341	266	224	280	...	...
448	Bacchus	...	...	383	297	...	...	...	...
423	Britannic	...	...	...	332	...	...	...	...
A 176	1st Regiment York Militia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
450	Apollo	...	...	...	358	290	368	...	...
A 188	Black Bull	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
473	Benevolent	...	...	...	380	...	...	...	...
495	Royal Oak	...	...	...	401	324	412	...	...
A 199	Peace	...	...	...	...	...	247	174	149
504	York	...	...	...	410	331	423	287	236
432	St. George's*	...	...	...	433	348	447	298	242
434	Alfred	...	...	...	...	349	...	...	...
436	Rodney	...	...	...	...	351	451	...	...
442	St. George's, E. York Militia	...	...	...	...	356	460	...	...
451	Minerva	...	...	...	...	363	467	311	250
498	Amphibious	...	...	...	...	407	489	322	258
499	Newtonian	...	...	...	...	408	490	323	...
527	Nelson of the Nile	...	...	...	...	436	500	330	264
529	Duke of York's	...	...	...	...	438	502	...	...
530	Royal Yorkshire	...	...	...	...	439	503	332	265

* The St. George's happened to have the wrong number (432) given in its warrant, it being issued before the omission previously referred to in connection with the 1781 closing-up had been discovered.

THE YORKSHIRE LODGES.

Original No.	Name.	1740.	1756.	1770.	1781.	1792.	1814.	1832.	1863.
531	Globe	...	...	...	...	440	504	...	...
551	Albion	...	...	...	...	460	...	...	...
552	Harmony	...	...	...	...	461	517	342	275
557	Friendly	...	...	...	...	466	521	...	...
584	Loyal and Prudent	...	...	...	...	493	532	...	...
A 267	Old Globe	...	...	...	...	...	337	236	200
587	Phoenix	...	...	...	...	496	533	354	...
504	Samaritan	...	...	...	...	...	539	358	286
505	Philanthropic	...	...	...	...	...	540	359	...
506	Three Graces	...	...	...	...	...	541	...	...
512	Fidelity	...	...	...	...	...	546	364	289
513	Huddersfield	...	...	...	...	...	547	365	290
525	Constitutional	...	...	...	...	...	554	371	294
527	Royal Brunswick	...	...	...	...	...	556	373	296
539	Hope	...	...	...	...	...	565	379	302
542	Philanthropic	...	...	...	...	...	568	382	304
546	Alfred	...	...	...	...	...	571	384	306
549	Prince Frederick	...	...	...	...	...	573	385	307
550	Prince George	...	...	...	...	...	574	386	308
556	Ebenezer	...	...	...	...	...	580	...	...
561	Lion	...	...	...	...	...	583	391	312
575	Allman's	...	...	...	...	...	594	...	...

THE YORKSHIRE LODGES.

Original No.	Name.	1740.	1756.	1770.	1781.	1792.	1814.	1832.	1863.
876	North York	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	602
877	Zetland	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	603
913	St. Cuthbert's	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	630
926	Royal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	643
937	Holme Valley	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	652
958	Camalodunum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	660
1036	Londesborough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	734
1052	Friendship	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	750
1112	Craven	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	810
1129	St. John's	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	827
1139	De Grey and Ripon	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	837
1206	Phoenix	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	904
1212	St. Oswald	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	910

The remainder of the lodges having been constituted since the last closing-up in 1863, and therefore being still the same number, need not be included in List No. 2. All these may, however, be found in List No. 1 from consecutive numbers 98 to 141.

Lodges now existing will be found under the extreme right hand column in both lists; consequently

the last column to the right indicates the last number as applied to every lodge in Yorkshire; whilst its former number or numbers are shown in the columns to the left. In consulting No. II. List the reader is referred to the footnote on page 24, as in all cases the *correct* and not the *assigned* numbers of 1781 closing-up (St. George's alone excepted) are here given. Only thirteen Yorkshire lodges were affected, and seven of these are since extinct. All these lodges are distinguished by giving both numbers in the text forming the first part of the volume.

Referring to the list of Provincial Grand Masters, the Provincial Grand Lodge of Yorkshire was in a lamentable condition, and was only called together once or twice between 1811 and 1816, Robert Pemberton Milnes being *de facto* Provincial Grand Master. In 1816 communications passed between him, the Grand Secretaries, and many lodges in the West Riding, with a view to division of the county into two or three separate provinces. The Provincial Grand Master

himself "perfectly agreed with the substance of the Memorial," and promised "to use his interest with H.R.H. the Grand Master;" the result being that the Duke of Sussex appointed Robert Pemberton Milnes, Esq., Provincial Grand Master of the West Riding of Yorkshire in 1817, which office he did not resign until 1821, when a meeting was called at the New Inn, Bradford, by circular dated February 20, 1821, "to nominate a person to succeed R. P. Milnes, Esq., who has resigned the office of Provincial Grand Master." Viscount Polington was then nominated, and thus became second Provincial Grand Master of the West Riding of the county of York.

Having made out my list in accordance with these facts, it is right, inasmuch as it differs from any other previously published, to make this explanation. Although R. P. Milnes may not have summoned his Provincial Grand Lodge once between 1817 and 1821, he would still be *de jure* Provincial Grand Master for West Yorkshire during that period, just as he was

Provincial Grand Master for Yorkshire up to the time of his translation by the Grand Master in 1817. Notwithstanding the unsatisfactory state of Provincial business, Lord Pollington remained in office two years before he called the Provincial Grand Lodge together. I have no direct evidence in my possession, but believe that Lord Dundas was appointed Provincial Grand Master for North and East Yorkshire at the same time (1817) as the Duke of Sussex appointed Milnes to the West Riding.* The two first Provincial Grand Masters under the head of "Yorkshire" are in the Grand Lodge Calendars styled "West Riding," owing probably to their places of *residence*: but I conceive they are rightly placed, and see no reason why the other four might not have been so denominated; York itself being placed then in the West Riding, and Selby also. Anyway, there was at the time (1738-1740), only one lodge in the West Riding (Halifax), and one in the North Riding (Scar-

* This has been since confirmed by Bro. W. J. HUGHAN, who states that Lord Dundas was at Grand Lodge in 1819 as Provincial Grand Master.

borough), *i.e.*, two in the whole county; hence no doubt exists in my mind that whatever the later Provincial Grand Masters did for the whole county before the first division in 1817, both Horton and Rooke did for these two lodges, then constituting one Masonic Province.

The "Globe" Lodge, Scarborough (Moderns, see page 61), renounced its original constitution, as stated on pages 55 and 56, and in 1811, as "Old Globe" under the Ancients, consisted of over fifty members—a large number in those days. The foundation-stone of a spacious lodge-room was laid on October 9, 1797, with Masonic ceremonial. Attention is also called to Benevolent Lodge (see page 41). Middleham is in the north, and was never (except Masonically, perhaps) in the West Riding. It would probably be recommended by a West Riding lodge, or a Provincial Grand Master resident therein; hence the designation "in the West Riding of Yorkshire" appearing in the Calendars.

CONCLUSION.



THE preface sufficiently indicates the object as well as the designed scope of this book. I never intended it to advocate theories old or new; and if, from a genuine interest in the York Grand Lodge, I have occasionally expressed opinions based on the *evidence* so far before me, this has been done rather to show the necessity of Yorkshire Masons striving with all their might to rescue existing records from useless decay, than to ventilate conclusions which, after all, and unimportant as those opinions are, may differ from the views of others. If the ideal historian of the early York Masons and their successors ever appears, he will doubtless find himself compelled to draw largely on tradition; and he must not only be an antiquarian and an acute

critic, but possess a thorough knowledge of past lodge life and customs—three qualities rarely to be found in one individual. He will require the single-heartedness of a Hughan, and the patience of Job. At present, and so long as the chain of evidence remains incomplete (as it is likely to be still for an indefinite period), the history of the Grand Lodge of All England, even from 1725, must be a more or less controversial subject; and especially will this be the case if its subordinate lodges form a part of it. This has been my chief reason for not including the few “All England” Yorkshire lodges in their reputed chronological order with the rest.

However, whether apart from, or in connection with, the Grand Lodge of All England, its craft predecessors or later subordinate lodges, no one will deny the Masonic importance of Yorkshire as a county. Its old traditions in many respects incline to probability, and, so far, authenticated history has failed materially to depreciate their value.

An extraordinary instance of the apathy of brethren

concerning Masonic history appears in the fact of our oldest Yorkshire lodge not having claimed a centenary jewel until nearly 150 years old. Apparently because the jewel was not instituted when its centenary was celebrated in 1838, the Probity Lodge, with its most valuable Masonic evidence, has never appreciated the records sufficiently to devote any time to its important history until recently; although the evident care with which its continuous minute-books have been preserved cannot be too highly praised. Surely it is high time Masonic researches should be laid before the craft, instead of confining them piecemeal to occasional contributions to the Masonic journals, which it is admitted have comparatively few regular readers. The study of Masonic history by such means is hopelessly confined to very few individuals, able to take up a link at any point; and it is useless and unreasonable to expect brethren taking a more active interest in such a pursuit, until they know how to formulate their procedure, and are first of all acquainted with the present advanced position the researches of our eminent living historians

have attained for us. It is also absurd to throw down a lodge history commenced ten years ago, because the activity of recent investigators has brought to light many old-standing fallacies. This is a poor excuse, and I am afraid the true reason is to be found in the close application required. Brethren seem to forget that our ablest Masonic writers have had to experience the same upsetting of long-established ideas; but whilst the latter now wonder at their early errors, they are glad to accept the change, and do so with a certain degree of pride; for have they not been the indispensable pioneers of the truth? Masonic research must really be a hobby to be successful. The time was, when we, as a society, were taunted with having no history, and such as it was, many intelligent Masons considered we should be far better without. Then an eminent antiquary* publicly wrote, "I have conducted many antiquarian researches, but I candidly must say that I never have met with such disgusting frauds as

* Pinkerton, "Notes and Queries," November 1869.

have been practised during the last one hundred and fifty years by the Freemasons"—strong language indeed, but it has done the craft more real service than all the controversy on the subject before or since. I advocate lodge histories from minute-books, because past experience has shown that accidents or events may at any time deprive us of the originals, consequently it should be a duty. Further, nothing is so interesting to the members, because such evidence is reliable; and there certainly is one very great consolation in the fact, that as a mighty organisation for present good "extending over the whole surface of the habitable globe," we need neither point to the traditionary lore of remote ages, nor the more complete evidence of the past century for a character. "Good wine needs no bush."

I will now briefly refer to one or two matters which in the body of the present work admit of being made a little clearer. On reading over the concluding portion of Black Bull Lodge, Settle, No. 188, on page 41, it appears desirable to point out that the mixing of "Ancient" and "Modern" Masons in lodges was at
P

this time very common in Yorkshire, and, as in the case of Airedale Lodge (whose petition had to be several times re-written, for the purpose of substituting other names), great difficulties arose when applying for a warrant, so late as 1827, in consequence of "Moderns" having been for some time subscribing members to "Ancient" lodges up to the Union, and after then to the same lodge, but never returned to Grand Lodge. Many of the Atholl lodges "took time to consider" after the Union, some of them so long as to be erased. When the names of such brethren were transmitted on the petition for a warrant, the answer came from Grand Secretary "not registered." There is not the slightest doubt that until long after 1813 the Freemasonry of the county was unsettled, and many lodges utterly devoid of discipline. I have personally known of several brethren who, after being the chief workers in a lodge for many years prior to 1827, were again initiated, passed, and raised, in order to be properly registered and obtain a certificate.

An unpleasant fact that will probably surprise my

brethren in the perusal of the first part of the volume, is the number of lodges whose records and valuables have disappeared. The seal of St. George's Lodge, Doncaster, mentioned by Bro. Hughan in his introduction to the history of that lodge in 1880, and which I was most anxious to reproduce, is not now to be found, and I could name many similar cases. But when a lodge has ceased to exist, how strangely indifferent neighbouring lodges are as to its concerns or its property! There are, of course, instances where it is known that the minute-books, jewels, &c., have been divided amongst a few surviving members of the defunct lodge. This, indeed, was the *excuse* given to me on remonstrating with some intimate brethren for their apathy in a case of this kind; but I am of opinion that such circumstances are entirely favourable for interference, as generally the entire effects will either be presented to a lodge willing to preserve them, or, at any rate, can be bought by such lodge for a mere nominal sum, out of all proportion to their actual value. I quite expect my Yorkshire brethren will find mentioned

in these pages many lodges they never heard of before; for there is nothing so absolutely forgotten as a "dead" lodge.

It is with regret I have to announce that impressions of several lodge seals actually promised me have, on inquiry and search, proved to be missing. Those introduced in their place on the last plate, from my own collection, and for which I was indebted to R.W. Bro. Wm. Kelly, F.S.A., P. Prov. G.M. Leicestershire and Rutland, &c., I trust are sufficiently curious (although they have no direct connection with *Yorkshire* Freemasonry) to reproduce without an apology. The facsimile reprint of the proceedings of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Yorkshire, held on August 26th, 1789, is from the original in my possession.

I ought, perhaps, to add, that thinking they would form a more appropriate frontispiece to my own book, the position of the two "arms," from Ahiman Rezon of 1764, is here reversed. In the latter work the arms of the "Ancients" appear at the top. According to Laurence Dermott the proper blazoning is as follows:—Quarterly

per squares, vert; in the first quarter, azure, a lion, rampant, or; in the second quarter, or, an ox, passant, sable; in the third quarter, or, a man with hands erect, proper, robed crimson and ermine; in the fourth quarter, azure, an eagle displayed, or. Crest, the holy ark of the covenant, proper, supported by cherubims. Motto, KODES LA ADONAI, *i.e.*, HOLINESS TO THE LORD.

The very curious and rare second degree seal of the London Grand Lodge of "Ancients" is from a certificate of 1764 signed by Dermott. The Irish Grand Lodge seal is from a certificate of 1809.

Lastly, as the result of my own experience, let the young Masonic student try to win the interest and confidence of the old Past Masters. He will never regret it. As a rule, he will find that they love Masonry for itself, so that the first step will proceed from a similar harmony of inclinations. Without attempting to explain the fact that I have always been privileged to number many of these veterans amongst my most intimate brethren, I may very properly own the knotty points unravelled, and popular errors corrected, during my

study of Yorkshire Freemasonry, by means of reference to them. Only the other day I had a long chat with one of my old Masonic friends, who has been a Mason over fifty-eight years. I can boast of three more, initiated respectively in 1833, 1834, and 1835, and a fifth who has passed very nearly sixty years since his initiation. The pleasing recollections of one's Masonic life, hand in hand, as it were, with veterans like these, can scarcely be fully understood. I have a profound reverence for the venerable patriarchs to whom all old lodges owe so much, and I have invariably found, where they are properly appreciated, I could always expect to find a well-conducted lodge. Under a modern "fast" *régime* that prevails in some lodges, I have sometimes, but rarely, found them shelved and ignored; but no greater mistake can be made by any lodge than this. Every year, alas! those dear old faces we now so lovingly welcome at our lodges, and whose greatest pleasure is to talk of old times and old-fashioned Masonry with its (to them) superior attractions and indissoluble friendships—these, the workers of the less

known but more interesting past, are diminishing; and in a very few more years nothing but the warm hearts, the friendly counsel, and the bright genial countenance, will be left to us to remember and cherish when our lodge knows them no more! It is true they are not all uniformly reliable as to Masonic history, but even this is not so much their fault as a misfortune chiefly due to a want of due appreciation of its importance by the craft during their time. But respecting lodge life and customs, and as a help in tracing lost warrants or formerly existing documents, their services cannot be over-estimated at the present day. Let us not forget that though we shall always have aged Masons, when the present gradually dwindling band is gone it cannot be replaced; for the workers of a rougher and more crucial period will have departed for ever!

