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CENTENARY ADDRESS

BY

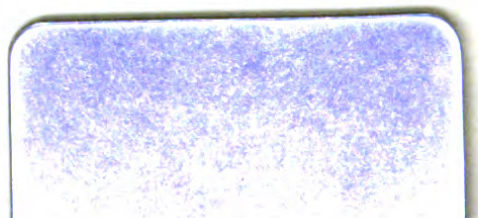
BRO. JOHN DIXON M. D., P. M.

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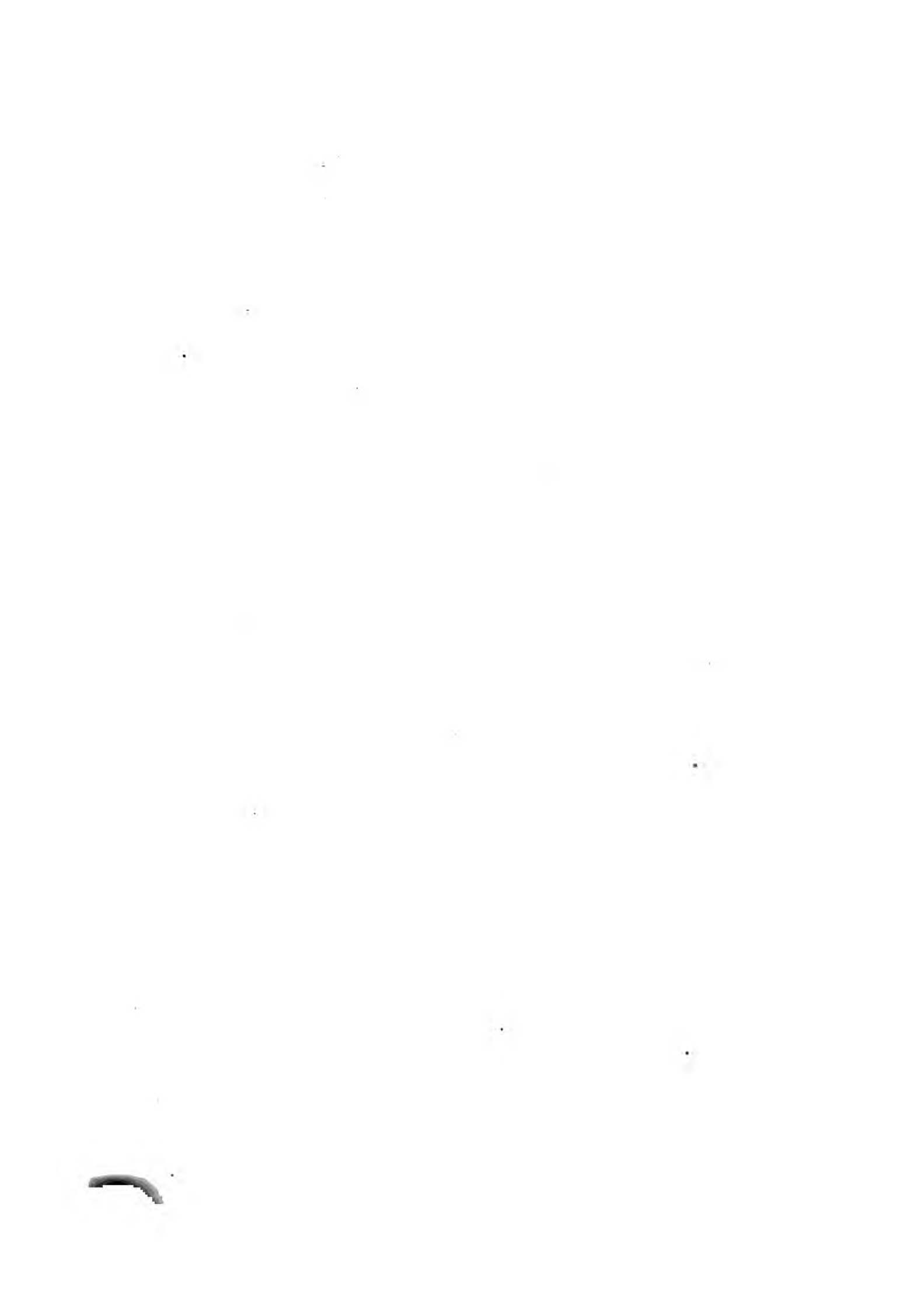
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THE ADDRESS
GIVEN
IN COMMEMORATION OF
THE CENTENARY
OF THE



BY BRO. JOHN DIXON, M.D.,
SENIOR PAST MASTER AND TREASURER,
On January the 15th, 1878.

[PRINTED AT THE REQUEST OF THE LODGE.]



CENTENARY ADDRESS.

WORSHIPFUL MASTER, OFFICERS,
AND BRETHREN OF THE MOUNT
LEBANON LODGE, No. 73 :

We are assembled to-day for the purpose of commemorating an event of deep interest in the history of a Masonic lodge, *its existence for a period of more than a hundred years.*

This lodge was originally a lodge of Antient Masons, and was constituted on the 27th day of February, 1760, by a warrant from the Grand Lodge of the Most Antient and Honourable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons according to the old Constitutions. It was known as No. 81. In consequence of the union of the two Grand Lodges, and the formation of the United Grand Lodge, on the 27th day of December, 1813, it became No. 104. On January 26, 1818, it first assumed the name of Mount Lebanon Lodge. At the alteration of the numbers in 1832 it became No. 87, since which, owing to the general alteration of numbers in 1863, it has become and now stands on the registry as No. 73.

Having completed the centenary of its existence the members of the lodge have petitioned the M.W.G.M. for permission to wear a centenary jewel. On June 11th, 1877, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., was pleased to grant a warrant,

permitting each of the actual subscribing members of the lodge to wear in all Masonic meetings a jewel of the approved pattern for so long as he shall pay his regular stipulated subscription to the funds of this lodge, and be duly returned as such to the Grand Lodge of England.

As some years have elapsed since this lodge completed the centenary of its existence, it might be supposed that the brethren have been indifferent to the fact, and careless about the honour of wearing a centenary jewel. I shall endeavour to show you that this has not been the case, by giving a short account of the proceedings which have been taken at various times in relation to this subject: The early history of this lodge, like that of Freemasonry itself, and of many other excellent institutions, is involved in obscurity. The original warrant is no longer in existence, and the names of the founders of the lodge are unknown to us. The first minute book of the lodge appears to have been lost before the year 1819. It is stated on the table of P.M.'s that this lodge was founded in 1749, under the sanction of Lord Byron, M.W.G.M. That table was constructed by Bro. Turner in 1824. I have no doubt the names of the Masters were taken from books which were then in the possession of the lodge. I do not know whether there was in 1824 any documentary evidence for the statement that the lodge was founded in 1749, but if such was really the case, this lodge must have been one of those lodges which seceded from the Grand Lodge of England, and joined the Grand Lodge of

Ancient Masons, for the reasons which I shall hereafter explain. The idea that 1749 was the date of our constitution was supported—if it had not, as I think probably originated—from the number of this lodge in the register of the United Grand Lodge. On referring to the list of lodges in the *Freemasons' Calendar* you will observe that this lodge is placed after a lodge which was constituted in 1747, and before another which was constituted in 1751. For a long time we were under the impression that the order of the lodges depended on the order of the dates of their constitution, but it appears to have been taken from the numbers in the registers of the two Grand Lodges at the time of the Union being taken alternately from each list.

In 1849 a Committee of this lodge was appointed to make arrangements for celebrating its centenary, but the proceedings were subsequently abandoned on account of the necessary documentary evidence not being forthcoming. On June 4th, 1850, that Committee reported “that the oldest minute book in the possession of the lodge was one commencing September 25, 1764, and ending December 27, 1773, and that between the last-named period and the end of the year 1799 there were no minutes whatever.” The book here mentioned has since been lost. It does not appear to have been known to Bro. Hughes when he compiled his abridgment of the minutes in 1852, and I can only suppose that it had not been returned by one of the P.M.'s who had taken it home for examination in refer-

ence to the centenary, or it may have been in one of the boxes which have been lost. In 1856 a Centenary Committee was proposed by myself, seconded by Bro. Davies, and appointed by the lodge. After several meetings and the adoption of a design for a jewel, we learned that the calendar issued by the Grand Lodge and our table of P.M.'s were not to be accepted as sufficient evidence of our antiquity. In 1865, on the motion of Bro. Donkin, it was resolved to apply for a dispensation to wear a centenary jewel, but the minutes do not record any further proceedings. In 1876, our present Secretary, Bro. Free, was requested to report on the subject of a centenary jewel. With the kind assistance of Bro. Buss, at the Grand Secretary's office, we have been able to trace our origin to the date of the original warrant, February 27, 1760, as one of the lodges of Ancient Masons under the old Constitutions. A petition to the M.W.G.M. was signed by all the officers and P.M.'s and fifty-one members of the lodge, and forwarded to the Grand Secretary in 1877. In due course the warrant I have spoken of was received. The lodge appointed a Centenary Committee, consisting of the W.M. Bro. Knott;—the P.M.'s, Bros. Dixon, Walters, Sabine, Rose, Ebsworth, Free (Secretary), Grace (D.C.), and Wilkins;—Bros. Keeble (J.W.), Isaacs (J.D.), and Stedman.

It has fallen to my lot as the senior Past Master to examine all available documents, and to endeavour to condense the result of our labours into my present address.

Although the old minute book from 1764

has been lost, another of greater interest has been found, commencing December 30, 1780, and ending December 23, 1799. This is the oldest record in our possession, and forms the first of seven minute books, containing upwards of 2,000 pages of manuscript, which contain the history of this lodge to the present time. With the exception of three leaves cut from the minute book in 1789, and four leaves cut out in 1793-4, these books appear to contain brief records of all our lodge meetings during the last 97 years. All these I have read. They contain an immense number of facts which are of no interest to us at the present time beyond the circumstance of their forming a continuous history. However, a few grains of wheat may be collected from the chaff, which will serve to give us some idea of the method of conducting business in a Masonic lodge during the thirty years which preceded the union in 1813.

For the information of our younger members, who may not have enjoyed any opportunities of making themselves acquainted with the history of our institution, and in order to make my subsequent remarks more intelligible, I trust it will not be considered out of place if I occupy your attention for a short time by referring to the *history of Freemasonry in this country* more especially of that period which preceded and followed the formation of the two Grand Lodges, and the circumstance of their union, forming our present United Grand Lodge. This subject may be said to form a part of our own history, as I have ascertained

at the British Museum that the articles of union between the two Grand Lodges were signed by two brethren, James Agar and James Perry, who were initiated and served the office of W.M. in this lodge.

The early history of Freemasonry is traditional and fragmentary. The accounts of its origin are various, and inconsistent with each other. St. Alban is said to have formed the first lodge in Britain, A.D. 287; Prince Edwin, a brother of Athelstan, is said to have held the first Grand Lodge at York, A.D. 926. For some centuries after this period, Masonic lodges were principally those of operative Craftsmen, patronised and encouraged by great and noble lovers of art, especially the founders of cathedrals and colleges, &c. The names of these patrons of the Order have been handed down to us as Grand Masters, but, not on much authority. From the time of Inigo Jones (G.M. 1607 and 1636) to that of Sir Christopher Wren (G.M. 1685 and 1698), Masonic lodges became seminaries of instruction in the liberal arts and sciences, and many eminent men were accepted as members of the Order. In consequence of the age and infirmities of Sir Christopher Wren, the annual festivals were neglected, and the number of Masons diminished.

In February, 1717, the four lodges then existing in London—No. 1, at the Goose and Gridiron in St. Paul's Churchyard; No. 2, at the Crown, in Parker's-lane, near Drury-lane; No. 3, at the Apple Tree Tavern, in Charles-street, Covent-garden; No. 4, at the Rummer and Grapes Tavern, in

Channel-row, Westminster—met at the Apple Tree Tavern, Charles-street, Covent-garden, and having voted the oldest Master Mason then present, being the Master of a Lodge, into the chair, constituted themselves into a Grand Lodge *pro tempore*. On June 24 following, a general assembly was held at the Goose and Gridiron, in St. Paul's Churchyard. A. Sayer, Esq., was elected G.M.; invested by the oldest M.M. present; installed by the Master of the oldest lodge (that of St. Paul, (now the Lodge of Antiquity); and received due homage from the fraternity.

The authority of this Grand Lodge of England was not universally recognized. An ancient lodge at York constituted itself into "Grand Lodge of all England, held at York," in the year 1725. After a certain time it became inactive, but was revived in 1761, and finally collapsed in 1792. The regulations issued by the Grand Lodge of England were looked upon as innovations by several lodges, who renounced their allegiance, and affiliated themselves with the Grand Lodge at York. In 1738 the seceders were numerous, and being genuine Masons it was impossible to distinguish them. The party of the Grand Lodge committed the error of deviating from the first of the ancient landmarks, the modes of recognition, in changing the word of the First Degree. The seceders then assumed the title of "Ancient Masons," and called their opponents "Modern Masons." In 1753 "The Grand Lodge of Ancient Masons according to the old constitutions" (said to have been

granted by Prince Edwin at York, 926) was constituted. It was recognised by the Grand Lodges of Scotland and Ireland. Some of its Grand Masters were at the same time Grand Masters of Scotland.

GRAND MASTERS OF THE ANCIENT MASONS.

1753	Robert Turner...	...	...	1	year.
1754— 5	Edward Vaughan	...	...	2	„
1756— 9	The Earl of Blessington			4	„
1760— 5	The Earl of Kellie...	...	...	6	„
1766—70	The Hon. Thos. Matthew			5	„
1771— 4	John, 3rd Duke of Atholl			4	„
1775—81	John, 4th Duke of Atholl			7	„
1782—90	William, Earl of Antrim			9	„
1791—1813,	John, 4th Duke of Atholl			23	„
1813 (Nov. and Dec.),	H.R.H. Edward, Duke of Kent.				

GRAND MASTERS OF SCOTLAND.

1763— 4	Earl of Kellie.
1773	John, 3rd Duke of Atholl.
1778— 9	John, 4th Duke of Atholl.

From the long period—thirty years—during which the Duke of Atholl was G.M. of the Ancient Masons, their Lodges were spoken of as Atholl Lodges. The title “Ancient” was not acknowledged by the “Moderns.”

UNION OF THE GRAND LODGES.

Nov. 25, 1813	Articles of Union Signed.
Dec. 1, „	Ratified, confirmed, and sealed by G.L.
Dec. 27, „	First United Grand Lodge.

GRAND MASTERS OF THE UNITED GRAND
LODGE.

1813—42	H.R.H. Frederick Augustus, Duke of Sussex ...	30 years.
1843—69	The Earl of Zetland ...	27 „
1870—73	The Marquis of Ripon .	4 „
1874	H.R.H. Albert Edward, Prince of Wales (whom God Preserve.)	

As the Past Grand Officers who were not re-appointed were to retain their former rank, this lodge has had the singular honour of two of its Past Masters sitting at the same time as Past Deputy Grand Masters in the present Grand Lodge.

The Duke of Kent accepted office with the sole view of co-operating with his illustrious brother in promoting and cementing the so much-desired Union.

Reverting to the *history of our own lodge*, I have to regret that I am unable to give you any account of its proceedings during the first twenty years of its existence. In the latter part of the year 1780 the lodge met at the house of Bro. Kelly, at the King's Head, James-street, Covent-garden. The warrant of the lodge was then in the possession of James Oxburg, as W.M.; Anthony Conyers, S.W.; and Edmund Kelly, J.W. The minutes commence with a Lodge of Emergency, at which three gentlemen were "reported" for Initiation at the next meeting. Judging from the names of the initiates and visitors, we may assume that the Irish element largely preponderated. This was a period of considerable activity, 15 members being admitted in 1781.

Lectures were given in the Three Degrees of Craft Masonry, and also in the R.A. and Templar Degrees. The Master was elected for a period of 6 months. The Wardens were elected by the members of the lodge, and they appear to have been obligated and installed. The obligation of the Wardens probably referred to their holding office until their successors were elected, as I find it stated at a subsequent period, when no election of officers had taken place on account of the absence of members, that the Master and S.W. agreed to hold their positions until the next day of election "on their oaths of office." The elections took place in a M.M. Lodge, as in one place I find it stated the F.C. were requested to retire before the election. The Secretary and Treasurer were elected by the lodge. The Master appointed the Senior Deacon, and the Junior Warden the J.D. The officers were fined for non-attendance or being late, and also for non-acceptance of office. From the rules and orders of the Grand Lodge, printed in 1813, it appears that the fines for refusal to serve in any office—past officers excepted—were, Master not less than five shillings, Wardens and Secretary two shillings and sixpence each; Deacon one shilling, the Treasurer at the discretion of the majority. On July 14th, 1782, "the W.M. was fined 4d. for being an hour behind time." Nov. 8th, 1785.—Each brother was directed by the Lodge "to provide a new apron on the next regular Lodge night, and the Treasurer to provide six new aprons for the use of visiting brethren, and no others." The entire minutes

of May 23rd, 1786, are:—"Lodge of Emergency, Worshipful Master in the chair. Met in good harmony; parted in the same." June 13th, 1786.—"A pair of colours ordered for St. John's day." Dec. 8th, 1789.—First account of Grand Lodge dues, £1 11s. 6d.; registering a brother, 10s. 6d.; Quarterage, 1s. each; Grand Secretary's dues for registering, one shilling. 1790—"The W.M. elect requested to be excused from serving the office of Master for the half year ensuing, being desirous of becoming more expert in Masonry." His request was complied with. Only three meetings were held in 1790. Occasionally two degrees were conferred on one night—a brother being initiated and Crafted, or Crafted and raised. In one instance all the three degrees were conferred in one evening (March, 1797). The Festivals of St. John the Baptist (June 24), and of St. John the Apostle and Evangelist (Dec. 27), were the days of installation. Masonic lodges were formerly dedicated to these two saints, they being considered the two grand parallels, which are now represented in our lodges by Moses and King Solomon. It was customary for the lodges to unite with the Grand Lodge to celebrate the grand Festival on St. John Baptist's Day. Each lodge contributed half-a-guinea, according to regulation, towards the expenses. The lodges marched in procession, each having its own standard. It sometimes happened that the standard was left behind as security for the payment of the house bill. Of these festivals I will give an instance from our minutes. "The lodge met at 9 o'clock in the morning, there

being 29 members present. They proceeded to the "Black Prince," Newington, and attended Grand Lodge agreeable to orders. Assisted in celebrating the festival. Attended Divine Service at Camberwell Church where a Masonic sermon was preached by Dr. Colin Milne, the Grand Chaplain. Dined with the general body at the Grove House, where we were visited by several distinguished brothers, and spent the day in the utmost conviviality and harmony. The Grand Lodge was closed at 9 o'clock in the evening." (June 14, 1788.) At this period the Earl of Antrim was our G.M.

Ten years before this (April 7, 1777), the Grand Lodge of England had determined that ancient Masons were not to be countenanced or acknowledged by any regular lodge of Masons; however, they were recognised by the Grand Lodges of Scotland and Ireland. On September 9, 1788, it was reported to our Lodge that "Lord Elcho, G.M., of Scotland, having visited our Grand Master's Lodge, had written a letter in which he expressed his complete satisfaction at the conduct of the Grand Master's Lodge, and declared his abhorrence of that modern system lately established in England."

Modern Masons desirous of being admitted as members of our lodge were initiated again, but at the reduced fee of one guinea. At this period of the lodge's history (1786-94) I must mention the names of two distinguished brethren, James Perry, editor and proprietor of the *Morning Chronicle*, and James Agar, barrister-at-law of the Inner Temple. James Perry was initiated in this

lodge in 1785, was W.M. in 1786, appointed J.G.W. in 1787, and was D.G.M. 1788-90. James Agar was initiated in this lodge in 1786, was W.M. in 1787, J.G.W. 1788-9, S.G.W. 1790, D.G.M. 1791-4 or later. They filled these offices in Grand Lodge while they were members of this lodge.

Notwithstanding the social position of many of its members the lodge got into debt. "The R.W.D.G.M., Bro. Perry, reported that he had paid the debt and costs of an action at law against the lodge, amounting to £27 2s. 6d." Members in arrear were warned that they "would be reported to Grand Lodge, and be no longer considered members of this lodge." In 1789 Bro. James Gray, of the Grand Master's Lodge (who had joined the year before), became Master, and in the following year was thanked for "the exemplary discipline which he had maintained in the lodge, and the general attention which he had paid to every part of his duty in office, and through whom the lodge was happily restored to that harmony and respect which ought ever to reign among Masons." "The Good Lodge, No. 6 (now the Enoch Lodge, No. 11), visited, and received a Masonic welcome." This lodge returned the visit in form (September 22, 1789). The happy state just mentioned was not of long duration, for in 1792 we find the D.G.M., Bro. Agar, P.M. of this lodge, calling the brethren together "for the purpose of restoring the lodge to its former regularity and splendour."

The lodge removed to a more eligible

house, the Sun, in Gate Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields. Four initiates were appointed to office, and a joining member from No. 2, Bro. A. Eele, was chosen Master. The W.M. appears to have been unable to attend on account of illness. Six months after, the lodge removed to the Bull, Devonshire Street, Bishopsgate. Old members in arrear were excluded, but the lodge did not prosper. On December 7, 1792, the lodge allowed the Tyler five shillings to perform the duties of Secretary, and to pay for an Outer Guard out of that sum. On June 4th, 1794, the lodge met at the Angel, City-road. The minutes of this meeting do not contain any name. There appears to have been no secretary, or a very bad one. At this period we find the lodge received a duplicate warrant, dated December 27, 1794, which is our present warrant. This warrant is printed from a plate. It is signed Atholl, G.M., James Agar, D.G.M., John Bunn, S.G.W., Robert Gill, J.G.W., Robert Leslie, G.S. It is marked in the margin No. 81 Duplicate. It is registered in Vol. vi., Letter F. It has two seals. One is probably that of the Duke of Atholl. The other of the U.G. Lodge of England. The old date is not mentioned. The officers named therein are William Lovell, W.M. ; Stephen Eele, S.W. ; and William Lesturgen, J.W. ; all of whom were initiated in this lodge in 1792. The minute book does not give us any information about this warrant. Three leaves are missing just before this date. Bro. W. Lovell appears to have inaugurated a second revival, as fifteen lodge meetings were held in the year 1795, eight new members

were initiated, and two brethren joined, Bro. Lovell was a member for several years. The lodge next removed to the Chesire Cheese, Spitalfields Market. It met there for three years. On December 15th the lodge proposed, "to sup on next lodge night with their sisters, after the installation," and no doubt this proposal was carried out, as the house bill on January 19th, 1796, was £10 2s. 4d., being much in excess of the usual amount. In 1796, Nathaniel Bradley, a watchmaker in St. Luke's, was initiated. He was Master in 1797, Secretary in 1798, and filled that office, with a short period of interruption, for thirty-three years, when he was made an honorary member: He died in 1840, having been a member for forty-four years. It was he who in 1799 first proposed that this lodge should pay an annual subscription of one guinea to the Boys' School. On January 26th, 1818, he proposed the name of "Mount Lebanon Lodge" should be added to the 104. He is the connecting link between the last century and our day, for he was the senior member of the lodge when Bro. Hughes was initiated in 1825, and Bro. Hughes filled that position when many of our oldest members were admitted into Masonry in this lodge (1855).

1800—1825. For many years this lodge met in the parish of St. Luke at various places. The number of members at this time was from twenty to thirty. They were principally tradesmen. From the names I imagine that many of them were Italians. I am sorry to say that several of the P.M.'s were under

the necessity of making application to the Grand Lodge Benevolent Fund. At one period (August 24th, 1807) the lodge was so poor that "the brethren agreed to act as Tyler in rotation, until the lodge was free from debt." In 1812 they were evidently in a better position, as the minutes of December 9th state that they ordered "a goose, two fowls, and a salted leg of pork." Poverty did not induce them to admit unworthy persons. A "Mr. Richard Lawless (!) was rejected as not being a fit person to be made a Freemason." Let us hope this was not on account of his name.

In 1819 G. W. Turner was Master. He presented the lodge with three small boards of the Three Degrees, with several Masonic prints, a new minute book, and part of the expense of the P.M. tablet. He visited the lodge within my recollection. In 1825 Bro. R. Carpenter was Master. During nineteen years he was an excellent member, and frequently delivered the lectures in the various degrees. In 1829 Bro. W. D. Hughes was Master. He was an advocate of the cause of charity. For several years he was our Secretary. He presented the lodge with a register book of all the members admitted since 1812, and an abridgment of the minutes from 1780 to 1847.

PLACES OF MEETING.—Since the Union this lodge has met at six places for periods of one, two, or three years, and at the following six houses for periods of more than four years.

1808—1816 Spread Eagle, Whitecross-street.
8 years.



- 1818—1825 St. Luke's Head, Old - street,
7 years.
- 1826—1830 Shakespeare's Head, Percival-
street, 4 years.
- 1830—1837 Roebuck, Great Dover - street,
7 years.
- 1843—1862 Green Man Tavern, Tooley-
street, 19 years.
- 1862—1863 Bridge House Hotel, $1\frac{1}{4}$ years.
- 1863—1867 Green Man Tavern, 4 years.
- 1867—1877 Bridge House Hotel, 11 years.

In 1841 the lodge indulged in what is known as a Summer Banquet, for they decided "that the members who chose and their ladies, dine at the Duchess of York Tavern, Battersea Fields, on July 19, and that the members of the Strong Man Lodge be invited to join them."

MASTERS.—In 1848 E. Harris was Master. He was our Secretary for fourteen years, and Treasurer for thirteen years. He died in 1877, respected by every member of this, his mother lodge, of which he had for some years been the oldest member. In 1849 and 1850, C. R. Dean was Master. He was a worthy brother, and represented this lodge three times as a Steward at the festivals of the Masonic Schools. He presented the lodge with a new ballot box. In 1853 W. E. Jackson was Master. He presented the lodge with a chair for the W.M., and two pedestals for the Wardens. In 1854 D. Davies was Master. He filled the office of Treasurer for seven-and-a-half years, and was pre-eminently distinguished for the warm interest he took in the Masonic Charities. In 1856 H. Gregory was

Master. He was a most energetic Mason, but unfortunately his life was a short one. During his year of office the lodge enjoyed a prosperity which it had never previously attained. The Grand Lodge dues were £44 7s., the highest amount up to that time. I was his first initiate. Twenty-two others followed me in the same year, and I regret to state that at the end of seven years I was the only one who remained a member. In 1859 J. Donkin was Master. He was our Secretary for seven years.

On December 20th of this year, the last of our first century, it was my good fortune to be unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year. I was installed on the 17th January, 1860, and as the century was not completed until the 27th February following, that being the date of our original warrant (February 27th, 1760), I had the pleasure of presiding over the lodge as the last Master during the first century of its existence, and the first Master during its second century. During this year (1860) the lodge gave thirty guineas to the Masonic Charities. The Past Masters of the lodge, who are members at the present time, are John Dixon, M.D., 1860; F. Walters, 1863; H. Moore, 1865; T. J. Sabine, 1868; D. Rose, 1869; E. H. Ebsworth, 1870; G. Free, 1872; G. J. Grace, 1873; A. L. Dussek, 1874; I. J. H. Wilkins, 1875; C. Rayden, 1876; T. Knott, 1877. The Past Masters who have been founders and first W.M. of other lodges are—H. Gregory, 765; J. Dixon, 871; J. Donkin, 1178; F. Walters, 1307; D. Rose, 1622; T. J. Sabine, 1540. Mount Lebanon, Chapter No. 73, founder and first Z.,

John Dixon. Bro. Henry Moore was one of the founders of the Excelsior Lodge, No. 1155; Bro. Knott of the Acacia, 1309; other members have assisted in founding several other Lodges and Chapters, but I am not acquainted with the particulars. The senior member of the lodge is Bro. W. C. Henley, who joined April 16th, 1850. The eldest son of the lodge is Bro. S. S. Sard, who was initiated May 15th, 1855. The next oldest member is Bro. F. Walters, who was initiated the day that Bro. Sard was passed, and I was proposed for initiation on the day Bro. Sard was raised (Dec. 20, 1855). The youngest child of the lodge is Bro. Harrison, who was initiated Dec. 18, 1877. The number of members is 124. Total members of the lodge from 1780 to 1877, 855, of whom 688 were initiated in the lodge, and 167 joined. The lodge first met at "Bridge House Hotel," on March 18, 1862, and remained here till June 16, 1863. It met here again on Sept. 17, 1868, and has continued to meet here to the present time.

CHARITIES.—During the last 24 years (1854-1877) this lodge has sent 20 Stewards to the festivals of the Boys' School. The personal donations of those Stewards amounted to £194 5s. The lodge donations during the same period were £197 10s. The amount of Stewards' lists from 1870 to 1877 was £973 7s. The nett amount of these lists with the donations of the lodge and Stewards prior to 1870, is £1,046 12s. Bro. M. Eltham, a member, bequeathed £300, died 1864. During the last 29 years (1849-77) the lodge has sent 23 Stewards to the festivals of the Girls' School. Stewards'

donations, £246 15s. Lodge donations, £168, 1860-1877. Stewards' lists, £693 18s. Nett amount of lists since 1860, and donations before 1860, £798 18s. During the last 27 years (1851-77) the lodge has sent 19 Stewards to the festivals of the Masonic Benevolent Institution. The amount of Stewards' lists from 1866 to 1867, £393 6s. 6d.; the latter, plus lodge donations (before 1866), £462 7s. 6d. The miscellaneous charities from the lodge funds were £44 1s. The most noteworthy of these were :—1854, to the Patriotic Fund for wives, widows, and orphans, of soldiers and sailors fighting in the East, £5 5s. 1857, for relief of sufferers in India, £10. 1867, Turks Island Relief Fund, £2. 1868, Masonic Life-boat Fund, £5. 1854-76, various donations from the Charity Fund amounted to £163 1s. od. Grand Lodge dues 1814 to 1876, paid to Grand Lodge, £1,166 7s. 6d.; 1877, £34 9s., making a grand total of upwards of £3,700, which this lodge has been the means of raising for charitable purposes in some form or other. This amount is exclusive of private subscriptions which were placed on the Stewards' lists in previous years (when those lists were not preserved) and also of the donations of members of this lodge which were given on the occasion of their serving as Stewards for other lodges.

In conclusion, allow me to observe that on an occasion of this kind our joy must necessarily be mingled with serious and solemn reflections. More than 700 of our members have passed away, but the good deeds of some of them are not forgotten to-day. Man, as an individual, is but an atom in the infinity of space. His

life, when protracted to its utmost span, is but as the lightning's flash in the infinity of time. The material works of his hands, however grand and noble they may be, inevitably decay. The noblest and most age-enduring of them all are found in works of operative Masonry. Time—often called all-destroying time—which slowly but surely crumbles into dust the most solid structures of human art, and spares not the massive rock itself, adds link upon link to the chain of intellectual and moral progress. Freemasonry is a grand link in the chain of human progress;—each Masonic lodge is a link in the chain of Masonry;—each member of a lodge is a link in the chain of a lodge's existence, or, in other words, a fibre in a strand of a rope of many strands;—the excellence, and strength, and durability of which depend on the excellence and perfection of its component parts.

The lodge to which we have the honour to belong, though humble in its origin, and humble in the social position of many of its members, has, upon the whole, played no unworthy part in the history and progress of English Freemasonry. If it has done no more, it has helped to add lustre to the brightest jewel in the crown of English Masonry—I mean charity. We have drunk of the cup of prosperity. We have also tasted the bread of adversity. We have not escaped the leprosy of a few unworthy members, but we rejoice that their number has been far exceeded by excellent and worthy Masons. I hope I may say that we have many members who are anxious to emulate the good deeds of

those who have gone before us. One thing more is necessary, and that is, we should introduce as our successors only such as are likely to do honour to the Lodge and the Craft.

I have pleasure, W.M., in presenting you with the centenary warrant, which has been granted during your year of office, and of decorating you with the centenary jewel. In the name of the lodge I express the hope you will be spared to wear it amongst us for many years to come.

I thank the brethren for the kind attention I have received, and I now conclude this centenary address with the prayer which was doubtless uttered at the consecration of the lodge, "MAY PEACE, PROSPERITY, AND HARMONY ATTEND THIS LODGE."



BANQUET.

About 170 brethren were present, of whom the following is a list:—MEMBERS: Bros. E. E. Cooper, J. Dixon, P.M. and Treas.; H. Moore, P.M.; F. H. Ebsworth, P.M.; T. J. Sabine, P.M.; D. Rose, P.M. and W.S.; G. Free, P.M. and Sec.; G. J. Grace, P.M. and D.C.; A. L. Dussek, P.M.; J. J. Hooper Wilkins, P.M.; H. Keeble, A. J. Ireton, Benj. Isaacs, J. J. Hole, W. Klingenstein, S. S. Sard, S. Huntley, T. Suffield, R. G. Chipperfield, F. E. Cooper, sen., F. E. Cooper, jun., J. Spindler, H. C. Davies, A. P. Stedman, Geo. Loe, R. S. Harvey, G. B. Yatman, W. E. Rogers, R. J. Newby, A. Syer, J. Larking, J. W. Elliott, J. W. Mash, Coughtrey, J. Harrison, T. Sutton, S. Sutton, E. Buckland, S. Harman, J. Crawley, A. Jacoby, W. J. T. Egglesfield, G. Müller, J. Gale, J. H. Spencer, R. G. Bennett, W. Butlin, J. J. Prince, W. Heritage, E. Coronel, F. R. Hayes, E. Kipps, A. Hudson, J. E. Stephens, W. Charlesworth, G. Austin, R. G. Willoughby, C. Rittcher, Erhardt, R. Boyle, W. Groom, W. Gregory, H. Naylor, Seago, Medgett, Walraven, Frankenberg, G. Chandler, H. Stephens.

VISITORS: Bros. Col. Burdett, P.G.W., P.G.M. Middlesex; J. H. Scott, P.G.M. Sussex; Gordon, P.D.G.S.W., Cape of Good Hope; Freeman, P.G. Sec. Sussex; German, P.P.G.S.D. Sussex; G. Smith, P.P.G.P. Sussex; J. Coutts, P.G.P., &c.; Terry, Sec. R.B. Inst.; Binckes, Sec. Boys' School;

Potter, P.M. 11; Shaw, P.M. 79; Doughney, P.M. 79; F. Garbett, W.M. 1178; Stidolph, W.M. 1540; Rev. Hatch, A. Watkins, P.M. 1475; Littell, P.M. 860; Hayes, P.M. 1370; R. H. Williams, 1314; Pillin, W.M. 180; Mason, P.M. 1540; Lover, P.M. 1178; Hollingsworth, P.M. 1185; Seex, P.M. 1426; Nicholls, P.M. 1050; Simmons, W.M. elect 1559; Stevens, P.M. 1426; Macdonald, P.M. 1158; Nicholson, W.M. 1457; Green, P.M. 1538; Heckell, P.M. 169; Ashwell, P.M. 1305; Eberall, P.M. 315; Abbott, P.M. 192; Bolton, P.M. 169; Wells, P.M. 777; Knibbs, P.M. 174; H. Brett, P.M. 134; H. Massey, (*Freemason*); Vickerton, S.W. 1329; Jacobs, S.W. 1614; Lovett, S.W. 1314; Thomas, S.W. 1446; Berry, Sec. 1695; Robins, J.W. 25; Thue, J.W. 1622; W. Harris, 169; Lambert, D.C. 1556; Miles, P.M. 1310; Richards, J.D. 1329; Goldstone, I.G. 1329; Shead, J.W. 1366; Barrow, 1357; C. Graham, 874; J. Harris, 657; Ward, 1622; Judge, 1178; Van Duren, 180; Thompson, 55; L. Abbott, 1348; Axtell, 1178; Plummer, 177; Turnham, 548; Rossitor, 180; Worster, 1540; Meggett, 890; Miller, 65; Ricardo, 1540; Orchard, 177; Smithers, Leslie, Garner, Edell, 108; J. Willetts, 1178; Busby, 701; Lawson, 1426; McRae, 87; Seymour Smith, Pritchett, 1527; Simons, 1181; Thornton, 1706; and J. Distin.





