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ANTIGRAPHA

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W. J. PARRITT LTD., MARGATE AND SITTINGBOURNE
MCMLVIII
EARLY RECORDS
OF THE
GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND
ACCORDING TO THE
OLD INSTITUTIONS

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ILLUSTRATIONS

Photograph of the first page of the Rules and Orders, Morgan’s Register ... ... Frontispiece

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INTRODUCTION

PRIOR to 1887 the existence of two Grand Lodges in London during the second half of the eighteenth century was always referred to as “The Great Schism”; but in that year Henry Sadler published his Masonic Facts and Fictions, which, I believe, convinced all his readers but one (R. F. Gould) that no Schism or Secession had taken place, since the majority of those who founded the “Antients’” Grand Lodge had never owed allegiance to the premier Grand Lodge of 1717. Rather was it an invasion of the territory of the original Grand Lodge by Masons, most of whom derived their origin from the Grand Lodge of Ireland—an invasion at a time before any theory of exclusive territorial jurisdiction had been formulated.

It has often been taken for granted that the Lodges which banded themselves together to form the “Antients”’ organisation in 1751 were some of the independent “St. John’s” Lodges, which had been in existence some say from 1739, some from 1730 and some from 1717 or earlier; so far as I know, there is not the slenderest evidence that any of the five Lodges who formed the first nucleus had, in fact, been in existence for more than a matter of months, or possibly even weeks. And the fact that, when they arranged to have Warrants, they back-dated them only to July, 1751, precludes, in my opinion, any possibility that they could have been entitled to any materially greater seniority.

Unlike the older Grand Lodge, which expected a Lodge to be Constituted before it could begin to work, the Rules and Orders of the “Antients” (v. Rule 8) require that

“No . . . Warrant shall be granted to any Brothers to hold a Lodge until such time they have first form’d a Lodge of Ancient Masons and sitt Regularly in a Credible House and then to Apply by Petition . . .”

indicating that they expected a Lodge to be working for several weeks before it was regularised, and suggesting that that is probably what had taken place in the case of the originating five Lodges.

Be that as it may, the beginnings of any organisation of the “Antients” can certainly be dated from Wednesday, 17th July, 1751, on which day a General Assembly “met (at the Turks Head Tavern in Greek Street Soho) to revive the Ancient Craft”. At which meeting they appointed a Committee who formulated a code of 16 “Rules and Orders”, which are recorded at the beginning of Morgan’s Register.

Rule 1 allows for the Grand Lodge to meet monthly, and it is therefore reasonable to assume that at least six unrecorded meetings were held between that of July, 1751, and the first fully-recorded meeting of February 5th, 1752; but apparently Morgan did not see fit to keep any written Minutes of them—or, if he did, he did not hand over the Minute-Book to Dermott, who records, under date 14th September, 1752, that he does not “think that Brother John Morgan did keep any hook of Transactions in this form, though there is no certainty that he did not”. John Hamilton said on May 6th, 1752, that the Grand Committee had been “long held under the Title of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Massons of the Old Institution” at the Turk’s Head Tavern, which is no doubt the language of exaggeration, but may be at least taken as confirming that the meetings during the second half of 1751 had been reasonably continuous; it also raises the question whether the body which from February, 1752, to December, 1753, is uniformly described in the Minutes as a Grand Committee, was, in fact, a Grand Lodge. Lane (v. A.Q.C., v., p. 166) points out that throughout the “Rules and Orders” of 1751 the body is always styled a Grand Lodge, and it may well be that they only called it a Committee because it was not governed by a Grand Master. The evidence of the Minutes as to whether the meetings were opened and closed as a Lodge are equivocal; many things are done which we should imagine could only be done in open Lodge, but on the other hand, when a specific rehearsal of ritual was to be done, it was resolved that “this Grand Committee shall be formed immediately into a working Lodge of Master Masons”.

This does not preclude the normal meetings from having been opened as a Grand Lodge; but evidence is lacking to make a decision possible.

Laurence Dermott. The salient facts about Laurence Dermott have been set out on many occasions, but it may be convenient to have them re-stated briefly here. He appears to have been connected with the family of the MacDermotts of Roscommon, whose Arms he uses on his Book-plate. He was born in 1720, and initiated in Dublin, while still under 21, on January 14, 1740-1, in Lodge No. 26. He served (v. Minutes, 2nd March, 1757) the offices of Junior and Senior Deacon, Secretary, and Junior and Senior Warden (the Lodge elected its
Officers half-yearly), and finally attained the Chair on 24th June, 1746; he also received the Royal Arch in the same year. The exact time of his coming to England is not known, but it is thought to have been in 1748. It has been frequently stated that in England he first joined a Lodge under the premier Grand Lodge of England; but this is deduced from his own reference to the time when he "was first introduced into that society" (i.e., the "Moderns"), and Bro. Heron Lepper pointed out that this may have merely meant when he first visited a Lodge under that Grand Lodge, and there is no evidence that he ever, in fact, belonged to a Lodge under the original Grand Lodge. Curiously enough, there is also no evidence that he belonged to any Lodge at all between 1748 and 1752, for he was not one of the 79 members of the five Lodges which united to form the Grand Committee, and he only comes on the Register as No. 114, when he became a founder of Lodge No. 10 on 1st February, 1752—only four days before the famous day on which he was elected Grand Secretary. However, no doubt the founders of No. 10 had been "sitting regularly in a credible House" for some weeks earlier than that date. Bro. Lepper also suggests (v. Hist G.L. Ireland, Vol. I, p. 233) that possibly Lodge No. 26 may have been transported complete to London; certainly we find in the Minutes of March 2nd, 1757, that Thomas Allen, of Lodge No. 2, was formerly the keeper of the house (? Innkeeper) where No. 26 was held, and Charles Byrne (Senr.), also of No. 2, was the person who installed Dermott in the Chair of No. 26 in 1746. One would like to guess that Lodge No. 26 became Lodge No. 2, but, if so, why did not Dermott become a member of No. 2 in 1751? The very transitory nature of Lodge membership at this period is illustrated by the fact that Dermott only remained a member of No. 10 for three weeks before he transferred to No. 9, from which in turn he resigned four months later, on 20th June; after which he appears not to have been a member of any Lodge for some time, except the Grand Committee. In 1756 he produced the first edition of Ahiman Rezon, and three further editions were issued in his lifetime—in 1764, 1778 and 1787. He continued in his Office as Grand Secretary for nearly 20 years, until he became Deputy Grand Master in 1771, which Office he held until 1777, and again from 1783 to 1787. He last attended Grand Lodge on June 3rd, 1789, and died in June, 1791, at the age of 71.

Calendar. The Julian Calendar, dating from 46 B.C., was based on a year which exceeded the Sidereal year by some 11 minutes, and in the course of the centuries the cumulative error had become very great, until in 1582 Pope Gregory XIII had corrected it by dropping out 10 days. England, however, had declined to adopt the Gregorian year, and by 1751 the year (which, incidentally, began on March 25th) had an accrued error of 11 days. An Act of Parliament was therefore passed in 1751, to come into force as from the end of December, by which the year was to start on January 1st, and eleven days should be omitted from the Calendar between September 2nd and 14th, 1792.

"... and that the Natural Day next immediately following the said Second Day of September, shall be called, reckoned, and accounted, to be the Fourteenth Day of September, omitting for that time only the Eleven intermediate Nominal Days of the Common Calendar." (24 Geo. II, c 23).

1 Since this was written, the following advertisement has been discovered in the Public Advertiser:—

November 16th, 1754

Now in the Press, and speedily will be published

AHIMAN REZON, or A complete Pocket Companion for Free Masons; containing every Thing necessary for the true Regulation of Lodges and Behaviour of Free Masons. To which is added the grandest Collection of Mason's Songs, Prologues, and Epilogues, that were ever published.

By Brother LAWRENCE DERMOT, Secretary.
The above is chiefly collected from the Works of Dr. Anderson, Desaguliers, Deasigny and Spraitt, with several Things never before published.

Subscriptions are taken in at Mr. Bedford's, the Crown in Paul's Alley, St. Paul's Church-yard; Mr. Jackson's, the Admiral Vernon in Bishopgate-street; Mr. Galbraith's, Watch-Finisher in Great Arthur-street; at Mr. Hamilton's, the King's Head, in Mary-le-Bone-street; and at Mr. Richmond's, the Cheshire Cheese, Savoy-Hill, Strand.

The Proposals are to be seen at all the above Places.

The title-page of the 1764 edition of Ahiman Rezon states that it is the second edition; therefore there can have been no edition earlier than that of 1756; so although the book was in the press late in 1754, it was not published until nearly two years later. The dedication to the Earl of Blessington, although it does not call him Grand Master, which he did not become until December, 1756, seems to indicate that the book was not published until towards the end of the year. I imagine that Dermott had deliberately kept up publication until his book could be dedicated to a Nobleman.
Thus September, 1752, had only 19 days. As the Minutes of the “Antients” begin only on 5th February, after the new Act was in force, they contain no allusion to the alteration in the beginning of the year, but it can hardly be a coincidence that they arranged to meet on two consecutive days, Wednesday, September 2nd, Old Style, and Thursday, September 14th, New Style; the former was their regular meeting day, but the latter is labelled “on Emergency”. It would appear that the change of Calendar left our Brethren in some confusion, for the meetings in October and November, which should have been held on the first Wednesdays, were held on the first Fridays. The Minutes of September 2nd show the meeting “Adjourn’d to the first Wednesday in Oct’. next”, while the Minutes of the following day show “Adjourned to the 6th of October next”, which was the Friday, and the day on which the meeting was, in fact, held; and that meeting, in its turn, was adjourned to the first Wednesday in November, but held on Friday, November 3rd. It was not until December 6th that they got back to the right day of the week. It would have been interesting if we could have compared the reactions of the premier Grand Lodge to the change of Calendar, but their Minute Book affords no clue, for they held no meeting between June 18th and November 30th. Whether an intermediate Quarterly Communication should have fallen on one of the missing days of September and was for that reason omitted we cannot know, since their meetings were so irregularly held in any case.

Both these September meetings are of particular interest, for at the regular meeting on the 2nd the Grand Committee was formed

“into a Working Lodge of Master Masons in Order to hear a Lecture from the Grand Secretary Laurence Dermott. The Lodge was Opened in Ancient form of Grand Lodge and every part of Real freemasonry was traced and explained: except the Royal Arch.”

A curious, and perhaps significant, omission may be noticed in this Minute: although the Grand Secretary was addressing an assembly consisting of one-third Masters and two-thirds Wardens, the Minute does not except the Installation ceremony.

The meeting of 14th is of great importance to us, for not only was it this meeting which decided that the Grand Committee should grand Warrants, but it also affords confirmation of the greatly expanded Minutes of the same day written up in “Morgan’s Register”, and shows that the Warrants of the original five Lodges were to be back-dated only to 17th July, 1751.

It is also noteworthy that the account given in Morgan’s Register of the doings of 14th September show that, like the original Grand Lodge of 1717, the “Antients” claimed only to govern “the several Ancient Lodges held in and about the Cities of London and Westminster”. It was not until October, 1753, that Lodges were warranted outside that area, with the establishment of Lodges 24 and 25 at Bristol.

Morgan’s Register. This was brought to light by Bro. Sadler in 1885, and described at length by Bro. G. B. Abbott in 1886 in The Freemason. It begins with an alphabetical index to the Register of Masons, which forms the largest part of the book. This is followed by the code of “Rules and Orders” arranged by the Committee set up on 17th July, consisting of 16 original rules, believed to be in Morgan’s handwriting, plus two which were added later, as noted with dates in the margin, and are written up by Dermott. Following the Rules come two resolutions passed at the meeting on 14th September (New Style); it would appear that these must have been written in subsequently on two pages previously left blank, for following these pages came originally 14 pages containing 27 By-laws for private Lodges, arranged by John Morgan and Philip McLoughlin; these were rejected by the Grand Committee on April 1st in favour of a set of Dublin By-laws produced by Dermott, and the 14 pages “were cut out and burnt by General Consent”; presumably these 14 pages had been written up by Morgan prior to February, 1752; but the book has been re-bound at some late date, and the pages have clearly been re-arranged out of their original order.

Next comes a brief “Black List”, begun by Dermott, but incomplete, as can be seen from the Minutes. Then comes the main item of the volume, the Register of Members going up to No. 1014, dated August 14th, 1755, followed by blank numbers up to 1035.

At the other end of the book are three Lists of Lodges; the first from 17th July, 1751, to 11th December, 1752, containing 15 Lodges numbered from 2 to 16. The second List, which shows Lodges 7 and 10 erased and the remaining Lodges closed up, contains 36 Lodges (2-37) down to August 19th, 1754. The first 15 Lodges of this second List correspond exactly with the Engraved List of Lodges of 1753 (v. A.Q.C., xix, pp. 93-99). The Third List of Lodges purports to show 64 Lodges, but as some 20 numbers are blank, many others imperfect and all lacking dates of Constitution, it is of little value and is omitted from this transcript.

Minute Book. This starts on 5th February, 1752, but a footnote by Dermott to the Minutes of September 14th confirms the account contained in Morgan’s Register of “a General Assembly of Ancient Masons at the Turk’s head Tavern in Greek’s Street Soho” on
17th July, 1751. By February, 1752, the Grand Committee had moved to the Griffin Tavern, Holborn, and it was at this meeting that Morgan's impending departure on board ship was announced, and Dermott was elected Grand Secretary in his stead—perhaps the most momentous event in the whole history of the "Antients". It was their good fortune, and the tragedy of the "Moderns", that the former placed their affairs in such able, and the latter in such feeble, hands. As Calverst expresses it (v. Grand Lodge Secretaries, p. 9), "the older Grand Lodge . . . had been content to leave its secretarial work to a succession of mediocrities".

Royal Arch. The earliest known Minute referring to the Royal Arch is that of this Grand Committee, which at its second meeting on March 4th, 1752, dealt with two impostors, who "pretended to have made Royal-Archmen", but were found to have "not the least idea of that secret". The only other references to the Royal Arch which fall within the period of this transcript are that already quoted, when on September 2nd Dermott explained, "every part of Real freemasonry . . . except the Royal Arch", and on March 2nd, when "the Masters of the Royal Arch" were "summon'd to meet in Order to regulate things relative to that most valuable branch of the Craft".

Grand Master. As early as Rule 1 of the Rules and Orders, the Brethren had looked forward to the time when they should have a Grand Master and Grand Wardens to rule over them, and before April, 1752, an endeavour had been made to secure Lord George Sackville; but he replied that he was unable to accept, as he was leaving for Ireland in the train of his father, the Lord Lieutenant.

A suitable meeting-place was another difficulty; after a few meetings at the Griffin, they moved to the Temple Eating House, Temple Bar, but it was decided that they could not ask any Noble Brother to accept the Grand Mastership until they had a more reputable meeting place, and at the beginning of 1753 they moved to the Five Bells Tavern in the Strand, in spite of the strenuous opposition of the proprietor of the Griffin and his friends, and there they remained for the next 15 years.

In 1751 it had been arranged to place the Grand Mastership, so to speak, in commission, by authorising the Masters of the first five Lodges to sign Warrants, but later the situation is not so clear; in October, 1753, when the two petitions from Bristol came in, it was "Order'd that the Grand Secretary shall proceed according to the Antient Custom of the Craft during the inter magistrum", which, I presume, meant that the Grand Secretary alone was to sign; but this cannot be confirmed unless one of these old Warrants should come to light. Dermott was evidently the "Lord High Everything Else", for he was already the only authority on the ritual, and on October 18th he was ordered to act as Director of Ceremonies and regulate all processions.

The search for a Grand Master went on without success throughout the year, until finally, despairing of a Noble Grand Master, they decided on December 5th to elect one of themselves for the ensuing six months; and accordingly Robert Turner, Master of Lodge No. 15, was elected the first Grand Master of the "Antients", and was forthwith installed, with William Rankin as his Deputy, and Samuel Quay, of No. 2, and Lachlan McIntosh, of No. 3, as Wardens. Both Quay and McIntosh were original members of the organisation, and the first Masters of the two senior Lodges, Quay being No. 1 on the Register of Members, and McIntosh No. 16; but Turner and Rankin were both newcomers and were registered as Nos. 300 and 301 respectively on January 16th, 1753; Turner is described as "Gent", and Rankin as a Cardmaker. Turner had already presided over the Grand Committee on 6th and 19th June as Master of Lodge No. 15, and Rankin had signed the Minutes of April 4th as one of the representatives of Lodge 15. The following meeting, on St. John's day, is headed with great éclat "Grand Lodge in Ample form", and henceforth the meetings are normally termed "Grand Lodge".

In February, 1754, a Jewel was voted to Dermott, with instructions to design it himself, the award to be a personal one to himself, which he nevertheless notes at a later date to have been transferred to his successor. In October, Jewels for all the other Grand Officers were ordered to be obtained.

At the end of their six months of office the first three Grand Officers were all re-elected; but, in December, Turner and Rankin signified their wish not to be elected again; no elections are recorded, but presumably they duly took place, for on St. John's day in Winter all four new officers were installed, the Hon. Edward Vaughan being Grand Master and William Holford his Deputy; this time the election was for 12 months, probably because, in the meantime, Grand Lodge meetings had been reduced to six—four quarterly communications and the two SS. John's days. And a year later Vaughan was re-elected and Holford re-appointed for a further 12 months.

Attendance at meetings is not usually recorded in the Minutes, but it appears to have been good, for in June, 1754, 70 members are recorded to have been present; on the other hand, funds were short, and it was necessary to close the General Fund and pay for funerals by sub-
scription. During this period the Grand Lodge seems to have functioned mainly as a Benefit Club, and it was decided that too much time was taken up with Charitable appeals; the Committee of Charity was, therefore, given wider powers, and in November, 1754, was renamed 'The “Stewards’ Lodge”, but it seems doubtful whether it functioned as a Lodge; it certainly did not come on the Register as such.

The collection of arrears was a pressing problem, and in September, five Lodges were erased for non-payment; in this connection the very large number of Brethren, who are shown in the Register as excluded for non-payment, may be noted. It was probably the need to increase the funds that induced the “Antients” to sell vacant Warrants. In October, Lodge No. 37 was allowed to promote itself in this way to No. 6 for the very reasonable fee of one guinea. But later the price rose: in December, 1758, No. 63 became 13 at a cost of two guineas: while in June, 1759, No. 55 bid four-and-a-half guineas to become No. 3.

Dermott had no hesitation in making use of the “Moderns”, even while he derided them; in January, 1755, he read over “The New and Old Regulations of Freemasons”, which were no doubt identical with those later published in Ahiman Rezon; they do not, as one might expect, bear any relation to Morgan’s “Rules and Orders”, but are lifted, word for word, from Anderson’s Constitutions of 1738, and even their method of presentation in parallel columns is copied in Ahiman Rezon.

Installation. It would appear that in the early days of the “Antients” the Installation ceremony was little better known than it was among the “Moderns”. In June, 1755, Dermott was ordered to examine the Officers of Private Lodges, and a year later he reported that “Many of them were incapable of performance”. Needless to say, Pooh Bah was ordered to do the Installations for them.

Thomas Grinsell. This Brother, who had for some years been a pensioner of his step-brother, James Quin the Comedian, applied to Grand Lodge for relief in June, 1755, and was present at the Initiation of the Prince of Wales at Kew Palace on 5th November, 1737.

Noble Grand Master. At last, in December, 1756, the Grand Lodge attained their ambition by electing the Earl of Blesington as Grand Master; but what good he can have been to them it is difficult to see, for he was installed by proxy, and though he retained the Office until the end of 1760, he never once put in an appearance in Grand Lodge. As far as one can see, he confined his labours to the signature of Warrants; one of the Warrants which he signed was for

The Grand Master’s Lodge, No. 1. This Warrant is dated 13th August, 1759, but it has been pointed out that in the Minutes of Grand Lodge four Brethren are shown on March 13th, 1757, as coming from Lodge No. 1, while as early as 2nd September, 1756, Dermott gives his own Lodge as No. 1. It is, therefore, argued that the Grand Master’s Lodge was in existence at least from this last-mentioned date; arrangements had been made in 1752 that any Warrants granted previous to the installation of a Grand Master should be subsequently confirmed by the Grand Master’s signature after his appointment, and though Robert Turner was Grand Master from 1754 and was followed by Edward Vaughan, it is suggested that Dermott held over the Warrant of his favoured No. 1 until it could be signed by a Noble Grand Master. The United Grand Lodge has now acknowledged the seniority of the Grand Master’s Lodge as dating from 2nd September, 1756, and without wishing to challenge this ruling, I would point out that there is an alternative possibility, namely, that the Grand Body itself was originally considered as being Lodge No.1. This is to some extent suggested by the fact that, as mentioned earlier, the Engraved List of 1753 shows the Grand Committee in the space which would naturally fall to be occupied by Lodge No. 1. No engraved number is included, but the number 1 has been added in ink. When, or by whom, it is impossible to say; but it could have been by Dermott himself, and the fact that

1 The following advertisement from the Public Advertiser for July 25th, 1754, is typical of the activities of the “Antients” at this period:—

To the Most Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Free and Accepted MASONS.

Brethren,

YOU are hereby required to attend the Corps of Brother Richard Kitchen, from the George in Piccadilly, late Post Master, and member of No. 29, on Sunday the 28th instant, as near the Hour of Four as possible, in order to proceed in due Form to the Place of Interment near Carnaby Market. The Brethren will be so good as to attend in proper Cloathing according to the Office they bear, and wait on the Secretary for instructions concerning the Procession.
when Dermott resigned from Lodge No. 9 he made no motion for some time to join any other Lodge, might suggest that he considered membership of Grand Lodge sufficient, without membership of a private Lodge being a necessary prerequisite. The Minutes record that the Grand Master's Lodge was “proclaim'd and took the first seat accordingly as No. 1” only on September 5th, three days after the date of its Warrant.

**Ritual.** On March 13th, 1757, an emergency meeting was called, and attended by 46 Brethren from 25 Lodges, at which Dermott “Traced and Explained the 1st, 2d and 3d part of the Antient Craft and settled many things (then disputed)”. This was also the occasion for which the Masters of the Royal Arch were summoned to attend, but no record is given of their deliberations.

**Treaty with Ireland.** A treaty of amity with the Grand Lodge of Ireland was concluded on March 1st, 1758.

**Carroll and Samuel Spencer.** The Minutes of December 5th, 1759, record the appeal of William Carroll for charity, which was accorded to him by a private subscription amounting to five guineas. Dermott's comment on Spencer's famous gaffe, when the same Brother had previously applied to him, appears as a memorandum following the Minutes of the Emergency Meeting on December 16th.

Our final Minute records the proclamation of the second Noble Grand Master, the Earl of Kelly, and, although it lies outside our period, it may be pertinent to add that he remained in Office until 1766 and was just as regular in his non-attendance as his predecessor.

**Illustrations.** Our frontispiece shows the Title-page to Morgan’s “Rules and Orders”, and is self-explanatory; but the other illustration at page 26, which is the Tail-piece to the Index to Dermott’s first Minute-book, requires some elucidation.

Bro. Carr informs me that the Hebrew characters in the lower compartment are a correct transliteration of Dermott’s signature, the small characters at the end being the proper word for Scribe or Secretary, and prove that either Dermott was a better scholar than one would expect, or that he was helped by a real Hebrew Scholar.

In the upper compartment, the characters in the right-hand geometrical figures stand for the numbers 3, 4 and 5, though the one for “4” is badly formed. Those in the left figure stand for 6, 8 and 10, which are suitable numbers for the 3, 4, 5 triangle. The word in the Pentalpha is the Tetragrammaton. The word at the top was a puzzle, but Bro. Ivor Grantham suggests that it reads “Domino”, the “D” being formed by the smallest square. The word below is Hallelu-Jah.
MORGAN'S FIRST REGISTER

[Begins with an alphabetical index to the Register which is omitted]

[Items enclosed in square brackets are not part of the original]
RULES & ORDERS

to be Observe'd
By the Most Ancient and Honble. Society of
Free and Accepted Masons.

As agreed and settled by a Committee appointed by a General Assembly
Held at the Turks Head in Greek Street Soho on Wednesday the
17th of July 1751 And in the Year of MASONRY 5751

By

Phll. Mc'Loughlin | James Shee

Saml. Quay | Josth. Kelly


Viz.

for the Grand

1st

THAT the Masters and Wardens do meet on the
first Wednesday of every Month at the Turks Head in Greek Street
Soho, or such other place as shall be agreed on, there to hold a Monthly
Committee for the better Regulation & Government of the Lodges, And to
hear and determine all Matters and Disputes that may or shall arise
in any of the Regular Lodges. And that the Chair shall be taken the
First Night by the Master of the Senr. Lodge and every other Night by
the other Masters each in his turn according to Seniority until such time
as there shall be a Grand Master & Grand Wardens appointed, and then
every Grand Lodge Night the Grand Master to take the Chair, and in
his Absence by the Deputy Grand, and in the Absence of both by the
Senr. Grand Warden, and in their Absence by the Junr. Grand Warden
and if all the Grand Officers shou'd be Absent then the Master of the
Eldest Lodge, & so on by all the Masters in their turn according to
seniority.

2d

THAT such meeting do Consist only of the Masters and
Wardens of all Regular Lodges, and in the Absence of a Mast'. or Warden a
Past Mast'. may attend and bear the Office in their absence for the time being
and to have a Voice in the Grand equal to the present Members.

3d

AND if any Members do not appear before the Roll is
Call'd the st. Members shall be Fine'd in the Sum of Two pence and in case of
Absence the whole Night six pence, Except Sick, Lying in Confinement, or three
Miles from the place of meeting, that none be admitted but Mast's, Ward's, & Past
Mast's, of Regular Lodges & such as have been Regularly Install'd and at the time
of their Comeing to be members of a Regular Lodge of ANCIENT MASONS.
4th

THAT No Brother be made either a Master or Warden of any Lodge except he hath been made a Mason One half Year and Member of a Regular Lodge for that time.

5th

NO Person shall be made a Mason in any Lodge until first his Name, Occupation and Place of abode shall be reported to the Secretary with the time he is intende'd to be made in Order that the Secretary may apprize all Lodges of the same.

6th

THAT no Old Mason be admitted a Member of any Lodge except he hath been made in a Regular Lodge and hath a proper Certificate of his good behavior and his not owing any thing in such Lodge and in Case a Member of any Regular Lodge shall be desierous to become a Member of any other with an intent to belong to two or more Lodges then such Lodge he sues to come into must be assure'd that he is not Indebted to the Lodge he then belongs to —— RegistY. 6d.

[In the margin] All good men Acceptd. upon proper Recommendation.

No ReRegistery p². to ye G. Sec. Except the Br. Absolutely quit his former Lodge.

7th

THAT all Complaints and Appeals must come before this Lodge by Petition.

8th

NO Admission or Warrant shall be granted to any Brothers to hold a Lodge until such time they have first form'd a Lodge of Ancient Masons and sitt Regularly in a Credible House and then to Apply by Petition and such Petition to be Attested by the Masters of three Regular Lodges who shall make a Proper Report of them.

9th

THAT on St. Johns day the 24th of June and St. Johns day the 27th of Decem², the Master of every Lodge shall deliver into the Secretary of the Grand Lodge the Names of the Masters & Wardens that are appointed to serve for the Ensueing Half Year.

10th

THAT on the first Grand Lodge Night after each St. Johns day the Master of every Lodge shall deliver into the Grand SecretY. the Names of the Members of his Lodge together with their Half Years Dues. THAT is the Members of each Regular Lodge, for the use of Indigent Brethren or otherways as the Grand Lodge shall think Proper, One Shilling each Member p¹. Quarter.

[In the margin] July the 1st, 1752 Jn⁰. Doughty in the Chair. Agree'd that no Half Year's Dues be paid unto the Grand Comittee until there be a Grand Master.

11th

THAT if a Lodge should grow to Numerous that Lodge to appoint Masters & Wardens to form a New Body they applying to the Grand Lodge for Warrants & Constitution in One Month after the first Sitting Night & that no Lodge shall sitt on the first Wednesday of each Month it being Grand Lodge Night when the Mast⁰. & Wardens are require'd to attend.
12th

THAT Every Person who shall be made a Mason in any Regular Lodge shall pay for his Register in the Grand Lodge Book the Sum of One Shilling.

13th

THAT No Person or Member of the Grand Lodge at the time of Sitting shall Intempt the Grand Master or Grand Officers or any Brother then speaking to the Grand Master till such Brother hath done; and not then to speak without first asking Liberty in a Proper manner. Nor to hold any Private Committees during the Sitting of the Lodge, nor depart the Lodge without leave from the Grand Master under Penalty of being Fine'd at the Discretion of the Grand.

14th

THAT if any Member of a Private Lodge shall be desierous of leaveing the Lodge he belongs to to Join another, he must have a proper Certificate from the Mast' of that Lodge and Notice to be given to the Secret' of the Grand Lodge of his leaveing the same, and the Mast' Lodge of the s'd. Brother shall join shall report him to the Grand Lodge in Order to have him Register'd in the Grand Lodge Book to ye Number of the Lodge he is then removed to and to pay for the same the sum of Sixpence.

15th

THAT the following be the Charges & Paid for the Constitution of a New Lodge.

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<tr>
<th>Item</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FOR the Warrant</td>
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<td>Register for each Member</td>
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<td>Pursveant j of ye Grand Lodge</td>
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<td>Tyler</td>
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</table>

AND that all Warrants Constitutions Registers & Petitions for Constitutions be the Fees of ye Grand Secretary, and that no Petitions be received but such as are wrote by the s'd. Secret'. and he paid for the same.

[in the margin] This Rule was farther Confirm'd July 13, 1753.

Vide Transactions.

16th

THAT the Grand Master have Power to Call a Committee at Pleasure or Deputy G.M. or G.W. or whoever shall be in the Chair in their Absence; and such Committee to consist of Masters of Lodges only, & their Resolutions to be laid before the Grand Lodge, the Next insueing Night after such Committee held and that the s'd. Committee have Power to Adjourn from time to time not exceeding three Grand Lodge Nights.
17th
THAT each officerviz. Masters & Wardens of all Regular Lodges under the Constitution of this Grand Lodge, who thro: Negligence or Omission will be absent on a Grand Lodge meeting (he or they having a proper Summons sent him or them) shall be fin'd as the Grand Rules Specify and that all such fines shall be paid by the Body such Absentee belongs to . . . and that if any of the Members refuse paying his or thire Dividend of said fines, such Member upon such his Refusal shall be Excluded.


18th
THAT upon the death of any of our Worthy Brethren whose names are or may be hereafter Recorded in the Grand Registry &c. the Master of as he then belonged to Secretary such Lodge Shall immediately inform the Grand of his Death and the intended time for his funeral, and upon this notice the Grand Secretary shall summon all the Lodges to attend the funeral in proper Order, and Each Member shall pay One Shilling towards Defraying the expenses of Said funeral or Otherwise to his Widow or nearest friend, provided the Deceased or his friends Realy want and Require the same . . . otherwise the money so raised to be put to some other Charitable use, or as the Committee shall think proper &c.

It is farther Agree'd (To support the Dignity of this W.G. Lodge) that no Memr.' of this Lodge (on any Grand Lodge meeting) be admited to sit herein without his proper Cloathing and Jewell &c. Except, upon some great Emmergency, in which Case the Transgressor shall give sufficient Reason for so doing.

WHEREAS it is highly expedient for the Universal Benefit of the Ancient Craft that a Grand Master and Grand Lodge should govern and direct the proceedings of the several Ancient Lodges held in and about the Cities of London and Westminster. And as the present low condition of the Ancient Society of Free and Accepted Masons renders the hope of obtaining the honour a Noble Personage to preside over us at this time very precarious.

In Order to preserve the present remains of the true Ancient Craft &c. We the under Named being the present Masters and Wardens of the several Masonical meetings called Lodges of true Ancient Masonry aforesaid, do agree (pursuant to the powers vested in us by our Respective Brethren of the several lodges) to form a Grand Committee (we mean such a Committee) as may supply the deficiency of a Grand Master until an Opportunity offers for the Choice of a Noble Personage to govern our Ancient Fraternity: And that We will therein (by the Authority aforesaid) make Statutes or laws for the better government and well Ordering the said Fraternity Receive petitions, hear Appeals, and Transact Business (that is to say such Business as ought to be peculiar to a Grand Lodge) with Equity and Impartiality.

Dated in our Grand Committee Room on Thursday the fourteenth day of September New Stile 1752. And in the year of Masonry 5752. In the presence of

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Master</th>
<th>Sen. Warden</th>
<th>Warden</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>John Doughty</td>
<td>Rich. Coffy</td>
<td>Petr. Briton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Rich. Stringer</td>
<td>Owen Tudor</td>
<td>Barth. Scully</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Edw. Ryan</td>
<td>John Dally</td>
<td>John Wilson</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Tho. Blower</td>
<td>Alex. Fife</td>
<td>John Smith</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Andw. Francis</td>
<td>Wm. Turner</td>
<td>William Weir</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>John Cartwright</td>
<td>James Ryan</td>
<td>Barnaby Fox</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

James Hagarthy and Henry Lewis past Masters of No. 4 and Thomas Kelly, past Master of No. 6

Lau. Dermott G.S.

And whereas several of the lodges have congregated and made Masons without any Warrant: (not with a desire of Acting wrong but thro: the Necessity above mention'd) In order to Rectify such irregular proceedings (as far as in our power) It is hereby Order'd That the Grand Secretary shall write Warrants (on Parchment) for the Unwarranted Lodges, viz., The lodges known by the Title of No. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and that all the said Warrants shall bare date...
July the seventeenth One thousand seven hundred fifty and One being the day on which the said lodges met (at the Turk’s Head Tavern in Greek Street Soho) to revive the Ancient Craft.

That the Secretary shall leave proper Spaces for the Grand Mast'. Deputy G.M. and Grand Wardens to sign all the said Warrants according to Ancient Custom.

That as soon as we shall arrive at the Great happiness of installing proper Grand Officers the possessors of the Unsigned Warrants shall present them to the Grand Master for his Worship’s Signature or Renewal, Until which time the said Warrants as well as those which have or may be (thro: necessity) granted in the like manner shall be deem’d good and lawfull.

Lastly this our Regulation shall be Recorded in our Registry to show posterity how much we desire to revive the Ancient Craft upon true Masonical principles.

Sign’d by Order Lau. Dermott G.S.

Here were seven leaves (or 14 pages) which contained twenty seven Rules of By laws for private Lodges mention’d in the first page of the Transa. book March 4 1752. which were cut out and burnt by General Consent.

Lau: Dermott G.S.

[The above date is incorrect: the question of the Bye laws came up on April 1st. v. Minutes, p. 4.]
# THE BLACK LIST

The under Named are Persons Deem'd unworthy of the Society

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Offense</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tho. Pheslon</td>
<td>a Trading Imposter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jnp. Mackey alias Doct. Mackey</td>
<td>for breach of the 17th Rule } Private }</td>
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<tr>
<td>Moses Willoughby No. 9</td>
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<td>.... Sands</td>
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<td>Pedigree</td>
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<tr>
<td>Geo. Codd</td>
<td>Guilty of misdemeanors against Mr. No. 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hugh Fitzpatrick</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jnp. Talbot</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Jnp. Hamilton No. 19</td>
<td>Defrauding the Brethren</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tho. Floyd No. 8</td>
<td>for writing a false and scandalous letter to Bristol &amp;c.</td>
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<td>John Silivin No. 5</td>
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<td>Jnp. Laurence No. 14</td>
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<td>Miles Hall No. 55</td>
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<td>Malachi Channon Do</td>
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<td>George Bevens Do</td>
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<td>Joseph Manica No. 18</td>
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<td>James King No. 77</td>
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No. 17 (to the G. M.
Lau. Rourke deem'd unworthy of the society Vide his Letter
Richd. String No. 18 Do for misdemeanors agst the Grand
Richary Murphy for making Masons Clandestinely

[New page]

For making Masans Clandestinely
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Time of Entry</th>
<th>From Whence</th>
<th>By whom Reported</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>When made</th>
<th>To what Lodge belongs</th>
<th>Register S D</th>
<th>Time of Discharge</th>
<th>Reason why</th>
<th>Place of Abode &amp; Occupation</th>
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<td>1</td>
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<td>Saml. Quay</td>
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<td>No. 2 Turks Head now the Rise Sun in Suffolk St. Haymarket</td>
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<td>Habitmaker at the P: W: D° Tavistock Street</td>
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<td>Jam. Hagan</td>
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<td>Peruke Maker, goat &amp; ass Pall-Mall</td>
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<td>Wm. Taylor</td>
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<td>Bookseller Little Suffolk Street, Haymarket</td>
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<td>Jno. Doughty</td>
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<td>Shoemaker at P° of Wales Arms Pall: mall</td>
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<td>Jno. Smith</td>
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<td>Aug. 2nd 51</td>
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<td>Taylor Steuarts Rents Drury Lane</td>
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<td>Jno. Morgan</td>
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<td>Jno. Mitchell</td>
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<td>May 26 1754</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ex for imposing and demanding Asst from ye Grand when he was able to work deem'd unworthy</td>
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<td>Richd. Coffey</td>
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<td>No.</td>
<td>Time of Entry</td>
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<td>By whom Report'd</td>
<td>Name</td>
<td>When made</td>
<td>To what Lodge belongs</td>
<td>Register</td>
<td>Reason why</td>
<td>Place of Abode &amp; Occupation</td>
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<td>Nale M'Corm</td>
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<td>Taylor at the Ship Fleet Ditch</td>
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<td>July 8 52</td>
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<td>Frat. Mathews</td>
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<td>Shoemaker Opp'y W: Bear Print Str. Red Lyon Sq. Hol.</td>
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<td>Jas. Murphy</td>
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<td>p'd. Mor's.</td>
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<td>Ex for non pay't of dues</td>
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<td>Wm. Cowen</td>
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<td>Do.</td>
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<td>July 3d 1754 paid his dues and got a Certificate from No. 2</td>
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<td>Richd. Price</td>
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<td>No. 3 Cripple</td>
<td></td>
<td>Carpenter Sheer Lane Temple Bar</td>
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<td>Thos. Evans</td>
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Victualler Cripple Little Britain
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<th>No.</th>
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<th>From Whence</th>
<th>By whom Received</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>When made</th>
<th>To what Lodge belong</th>
<th>Register S</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>Time of Discharged</th>
<th>Reason why</th>
<th>Place of Abode &amp; Occupation</th>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>1751</td>
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<td>Wm. Rog. Flemin</td>
<td></td>
<td>No. 4, Cannon</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Jan 1st 52</td>
<td>Gone to St. Kitts &amp; but pay'd his Dues Exclud'd</td>
<td>Paint, Leather Lane</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Jam. Hagerty</td>
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<td>No. 4, Cannon</td>
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<td>a Mr. Foster's Jeweller Wood Street Cheapside</td>
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<td>Jno. McCormick</td>
<td></td>
<td>No. 4, Cannon</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Sep 1st 51</td>
<td>Sept. Ireland without pay'd his Dues Exclud'd</td>
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<td>Hen. Lewis</td>
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<td>No. 4, Cannon</td>
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<td>this was inserted Erroriously. Vide his Certificate from No. 4.</td>
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<td>Arth. Lord</td>
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<td>No. 4, Cannon</td>
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<td>Jan 1st 52</td>
<td>Gon to Liverpool left ye Lodge w'n honour</td>
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<td>Geo. Hebdon</td>
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<td>No. 4, Cannon</td>
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<td>Jam. Owen</td>
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<td>No. 4, Cannon</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Jan 1st 52</td>
<td>Exclud'd for Misbehaviour &amp; not pay'd his Dues</td>
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<td>Joseph Bowlas</td>
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<td>Christ Pidgeon</td>
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<td>Exclud'd for Non paym't of Dues</td>
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<td>Tho. Wonal</td>
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<td>Wm. Boulough</td>
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<td>No.</td>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Time of Entry</td>
<td>Division</td>
<td>Reason why Excluded</td>
<td>Time of Dischargd.</td>
<td>Place of Abode &amp; Occupation</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Thos. Bibby</td>
<td>Apr. 20 22</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>For Non-payment of Dues</td>
<td>June 24</td>
<td>Middlesex Court Duty Painter</td>
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<td>Geo. Fay</td>
<td>Jan. 1st 52</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Gone to Ireland</td>
<td>Jan. 1st 52</td>
<td>Attorney Fetter Lane Painter</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Geo. Fay</td>
<td>Jan. 1st 52</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Excluded for Non-payment of Dues</td>
<td>Jan. 1st 52</td>
<td>Attorney Fetter Lane Painter</td>
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<td>Jam. Shee</td>
<td>Jan. 1st 52</td>
<td>40</td>
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<td>Jan. 1st 52</td>
<td>Attorney Fetter Lane Painter</td>
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<th>By whom Reportd</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>When made</th>
<th>To what Lodge belongs</th>
<th>Register S</th>
<th>Time of Discharge</th>
<th>Reason why</th>
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Oct. 5th 1752 Richd. Stringer in the Chair) Br. Fay's Charge being reexamined and found to be worthy and the) Accusation false and malicious

[No meeting of Grand Lodge is recorded on Oct. 5th and no trace of Richard Stringer ever presiding]
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<th>Time of Entry</th>
<th>From Whence</th>
<th>By whom Report'd</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>To what Lodge belongs</th>
<th>Register ( R^\cdot )</th>
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<th>Register R2</th>
<th>Time of Discharged</th>
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<th>By whom Report'd</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>When made</th>
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[The Register continues down to No. 1014, dated Augt. 14 1755, & further vacant numbers to 1035 on page 81, followed by 159 blank pages.]
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<td>52</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Vernon B : Gate Str. without</td>
<td>1 &amp; 3 Friday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Horse Shoe on Ludgate Hill</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Thistle &amp; Crown Church Court Strand</td>
<td>2&lt;sup&gt;d&lt;/sup&gt; &amp; 4&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Wednesday&lt;sup&gt;a&lt;/sup&gt;,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 4</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Carlisle Arms Q&lt;sup&gt;c&lt;/sup&gt;, St. Soho</td>
<td>Friday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 13</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Mitre Broadwall Southwark</td>
<td>2&lt;sup&gt;d&lt;/sup&gt; &amp; 4&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Monday&lt;sup&gt;a&lt;/sup&gt;,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 7</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Marshalsea Tap House Inn</td>
<td>Every Monday&lt;sup&gt;a&lt;/sup&gt;,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 11</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Plaisterers Arms Little Gr. Lane</td>
<td>2&lt;sup&gt;d&lt;/sup&gt; &amp; 4&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Monday&lt;sup&gt;a&lt;/sup&gt;,</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<sup>a</sup> This indicates the day of the week when the lodge meets.
Dec. 27th 1752 Anno Lap. 5752

GRAND LODGE in due form assembled at the Five Bells Tavern in Wich Street, Strand London

Members of
Br. Thos. Blower Mast. of (then) No. 8 in the Chair. Order'd the No. 7 and 10 should be discontinued in this Book for their disobedience of the 21st Rule of the Grand, And the following be the true List and Numbers of all the Antient Regular Lodges in and about London

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time Consid.</th>
<th>Num^</th>
<th>Where held</th>
<th>Lodge Nights</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 17^ 1751</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Thistle &amp; Crown Church Court Strand</td>
<td>2 &amp; 4 Wednesday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Crown in St. Paul's Church yard</td>
<td>1 &amp; 3 Tuesday</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Temple &amp; Sun Shire Lane T: B.</td>
<td>2 &amp; 4 Tuesday</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Horse Shoe Ludgate Hill</td>
<td>2 &amp; 4 Thursday</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Globe in Bridges Str. C. Gard^n.</td>
<td>1 &amp; 3 Mon^</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 29 1752</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Temple &amp; Sun Shire Lane T: B.</td>
<td>2 &amp; 4 Thursday</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Vernon B: gate Str.</td>
<td>2 &amp; 4 Tuesday</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 12</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Thistle &amp; Crown Ch. Court Strd.</td>
<td>2 &amp; 4 Friday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 15</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Vernon B gate Str.</td>
<td>1 &amp; 3 Tuesday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 13</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Mitre Broadwall S Wark</td>
<td>2 &amp; 4 Monday</td>
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</table>

Kings Head Hewitts Court Strand
Red Hart in Shoe Lane, now at the Bedford Arms Bedford Court C Garden
Now at the Red Lyon Dirty Lane Long Acre
Brown Bear in the Strand\} Now at the Rose and Crown Clare Court Drury Lane
Angel Inn Wich Street D\^p. [former No. 8]
[former No. 9]
[former No. 11]
[former No. 12]

\[^*\] There are no Minutes of any meeting on St. John's day: in the Minutes of December 6th the Grand Committee is said to have been "Adjourned... to the... 3\^d day of January Next," under which date the next Minutes are recorded. Note that this St. John's day meeting is said to have been a "Grand Lodge in due form," not a Grand Committee.

The first Lodges on this list (Nos. 2-16) correspond exactly with those shown in the Engraved List of 1753 (v. A.Q.C. XIX, pp. 93-99), and in that list the position of No. 1 (though without a number) is occupied by the Grand Committee at the Five Bells.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Day(s)</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 4</td>
<td>Carlisle Arms Qn. Str. Soho</td>
<td>2 &amp; 4 Wednesday</td>
<td>Now at the White Hart Shug-lane/now at the White Swan New Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 7</td>
<td>Marshalsea Tap House</td>
<td>every Thursday</td>
<td>(Covent Garden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2 &amp; 4 Monday</td>
<td>Now at the Tigers Head in the Borough) at the Black Bull Do.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2 &amp; 4 Tuesday</td>
<td>Thistle an Crown Church Court Strand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Plaisterers little Gr. Inn Lane</td>
<td>2 &amp; 4 Wednesday</td>
<td>Now at the Turks head East Strt.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 9</td>
<td>Kings Head Mary le Bone Strt.</td>
<td>2 &amp; 4 Monday</td>
<td>14 Now at the Crown in Crown Court fleet street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 10</td>
<td>K. &amp; Queen Caple Street</td>
<td>2 &amp; 4 Tuesday</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>March 13</td>
<td>Scots Arms Hay Market</td>
<td>2 &amp; 4 Monday</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 4</td>
<td>Vernon Bp: Gate street</td>
<td>2 &amp; 4 M &amp; day</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1 &amp; 3 Monday</td>
<td>The 3 Suggar Loaves in S. John's street Spittal fields/ Bull &amp; Butcher R. Fair Bay</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1 &amp; 3 Monday</td>
<td>George St. Giles's</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 9</td>
<td>Hampshire Hog Gosswell Strt.</td>
<td>2 &amp; 4 Weds</td>
<td>2d &amp; 4th Monday Now at the Cheshire Cheese Savoy Alley</td>
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<td></td>
<td>The one Tun in Strand</td>
<td>1 &amp; 3 Tuesday</td>
<td>on the 2 &amp; 4 Monday) Bull's head St. Martin's Lane</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1 &amp; 3 Monas</td>
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<td>2 &amp; 4 Weds</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1 &amp; 3 every other Tues.</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2 &amp; 4 every other Fri.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 10</td>
<td>White Lyon Hemings Rowe</td>
<td>1 &amp; 3 Wednesday</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Now at the three Indian Kings small Street Bristol</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 8</td>
<td>Rosemary Branch Rse Merry lane</td>
<td>2 &amp; 4 Thurs.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1 &amp; 3 Tuesday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 9</td>
<td>P Wale's head Capel street Do.</td>
<td>2 &amp; 4 Wednesday</td>
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<td>2d &amp; 4th friday</td>
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<td>2d &amp; 4th Monday</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2 &amp; 4 Weds.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 7</td>
<td>Goal PuV'd Alley Str. Ja. market</td>
<td>2 &amp; 4 Wednesday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 9</td>
<td>Prince of W. head Butcher Rowe Tower Hill</td>
<td>2 &amp; 4 Weds.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

[Words in italic type were crossed out in manuscript.]
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Constituted</th>
<th>List of Lodges Continued</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 10 1754</td>
<td>32 Black Horse Boswell Court Strand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 13</td>
<td>33 Star and Garter Strand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>35 Kings Bench Prison</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 14</td>
<td>36 Blue Ball Horse Alley moor fields</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>37 Red Cow Holywell Street Strand</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[Page 246 is blank. A third list of Lodges, dated 24th June 1755, on pages 247-250, purports to show 64 Lodges, but as some 20 numbers are blank and many others imperfect, and no dates of Constitution are given, it is of little value and is omitted from this transcript.]
THE FIRST MINUTE BOOK

February 5th 1752—December 27th 1760
Transactions
of the
Grand Committee
Of the Most Ancient and Honourable Fraternity
Of Free and Accepted MASONs

At the Griffin Tavern in Holborn London Feb the 5th 1752
Mr. James Hagarty in the Chair.

Also Present the Officers of No. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, & 10 being the Representatives of all the Ancient Masons in and adjacent to London.

Brother John Margan Grand Secretary, Informed the Committee that he being lately appointed to an Office on board of one of His Majesty's Ships, he rec'd, Orders to prepare for his departure and therefore Advised the Grand Committee to chuse anew Secretary immediately.

Upon which Brother John Morris past Master of No. 5. And Brother Laurence Dermott of No. 9 and 10, and Past Master No. 26 in Dublin were proposed and admitted as Candidates for the Office of Grand Secretary. And Grand Secretary Morgan was Ordered to Examine the Candidates seperately & report his opinion of their Qualifications to After a long & minute Examination Relative to Initiation passing, Instalations, and General Regulations &c., &c., &c.,

Brother Morgan declared that Brother Laurence Dermott was duly qualified for the Office of Grand Secretary. Whereon the Worshipful Master in the Chair put up the Names of John Morris, and Laurence Dermott, seperately when

29
when the latter was Unanimously Chosen Grand Secretary: and was accordingly he A installed (in the Ancient Manner) by the Worshipfull M'. James Hagarty Master of No. 4 then presiding Officer, Assisted by M'. John Morgan late Grand Secretary and the Masters present. After which Brother Morgan (at the request of the president) proclaim'd the new Grand Secretary thrice, according to ancient Custom. Upon which the new Secretary received the usual salutes. And then the president and late Grand Secretary John Morgan delivered the books &c &c into the hands of the new Secretary; upon certain Conditions which was agreed by all parties, and which Conditions the said Worshipful Bro'. James Hagarty can Explain.* The Grand Committee Unanimously Joined in Wishing B'. Morgan Health and a Successful voyage and then Closed with the greatest Harmony. Having Adjourned to Wednesday the fourth of March next.

*Be it Remembered that M'. John Morgan late Grand Secretary, had a certain Claim on the Manuscripts here said to be delivered to Laurence Dermott, Which Claim was acknowledged by the G'. Committee as good and lawful. And for that and other good Reason which can not be committed to writing The Worshipful Grand Committee did agree with Brother John Morgan late Grand Secretary, That the new Secretary Lau Dermott should be solemnly bound never to deliver the said Manu- scripts (viz a Large folio bound in white Vellum) to any person, But him the said John Morgan or his Order in Writing. Note the above M'. James Hagarty is a painter and lives now (1752) in Leather Lane London.
Grand Committee at the Griffin Tavern Holborn
March 4, 1752.

Brother John Gaunt Master of No. 5. In the Chair

The following Brethren viz Thomas Figg of No. 5. Laurence Folliot of the same Lodge, Samuel Quay of No. 2. Richard price of No. 3 & Henry Lewis of No. 4. made formal Complaints against Thomas Phealon and John Macky, better known by the name of the leg of Mutton Masons——

In course of the examination it appear'd that Phealon and Mackey had initiated a leg

to the disgrace of the Ancient Craft, that it was difficult to discover who assisted them if any, as they seldom met twice in the same Alehouse. That Macky was an Empiric in phisic; and both impostors in Masonry. That upon examining some brothers whom they pretended to have made Royal Archmen. The parties had not the least Idea of that secret. That Doctor Macky (for so he was called) pretended to teach a Masonical Art by any man which a could (in a moment) render himself Invisible. That the Grand Secret' had examined Macky, at the house of Mr. James Duffy Tobacconist in East Smithfield who was not a Mason and that Macky appear'd incapable of making an Apprentice with any degree of propriety. Nor had Mackey the least Idea or knowledge of Royal Arch masonry. But instead thereof a had told the people whom he deceived, a long story about 12 white Marble stones &c &c and that the Rain Bow was the Royal Arch, with many other absurdities equally foreign and Rediculous——

The Grand Committee Unanimously Agreed and Order'd that neither Thomas Phealon nor John Mackey be admitted into any Ancient Lodge during their natural lives.

This was the first time that Laurence Dermott acted as principal Secretary. Nor did he take any fees before the 27th April 1752.
GRAND COMMITTEE AT THE GRIFFIN HOLBORN Ap. 1st 1752

Brother Christopher Byrne Master of No. 6 in the Chair

The Copy of the Byelaws for private Lodges as Written by the late G Secretary J Morgan, was read and compared with Brother Lau: Dermott's Copy of the Byelaws of his former lodge No. 26 in the City of Dublin, and the latter being deem'd the most correct. it was—

Unanimously Resolved that the most Correct Copy should be received & acknowledged as the only Byelaws for private lodges in future. And public thanks given to Bro' Philip McLoughlin and J Morgan for their good intentions, and trouble in drawing up the former bye laws.

The Pursuviant Bro'. William Lilly gave notice that Bro'. John Garnt Master of No. 5. desired admittance, and upon his admission the Worshipful President Resign'd the Chair to him*

The new president call'd on John Morgan James Hagan and Laurence Dermott, to know what success they had in petitioning Lord George Sackville to accept the Chair —— Their† report was That they had waited on Lord George Sackville at Somerset House in the Strand, that having read the petition His Lordship told them politely That he had the highest veneration for the Ancient Craft, and wish to promote it; But he was engaged to attend His Father the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and was inform'd that the Grand Lodge of Ireland had lately chosen him Grand Master: and that upon his return to England he would accept the Chair, or recommend them to another Noble Man.

Unanimously Resolved, and Ordered that the thanks of the Ancient Craft be given to the Right Honorable Lord George Sackville for His Lordship's polite and very kind answer, and that Laurence Dermott Grand Secretary, Ensign McIntosh and Owen Tudor be a Committee to deliver the said Thanks.‡

Clos'd harmoniously: and adjourned to the first Wednesday in May next

* Not as his Right, But for his acknowleged skill & Judgment.

† The report was made a Hagan & Dermott, Mr. Morgan then out of Town.

‡ Lord Sackvile was out of Town and went to Ireland without their seeing him.
Grand Committee at the Griffin Tavern Holborn
May 6, 1752
Brother John Smith Master of No. 7 in the Chair

A Motion was made by John Hamilton past Master of No. 7. That this Grand Committee be removed back to the Turk's head Tavern in Greek Street Soho where it had been long held under the Title of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Old Institution. This motion was not seconded & therefore dropped.

A motion was made by Brother Christopher Byrne Master of No. 6 that Grand Committee be removed from the Griffin in Holborn to some other House as the Majority shall think more proper. This motion was seconded, thirded and finally carried in the affirmative.

Brother James Bradshaw of No. 8 moved that the G Committee be removed to the House of Brother Robert Glave in Shire lane near Temple Bar.

This motion was strongly supported and carried by a great Majority. And the Secretary was ordered to summon the meeting at the Temple Eating House the sign of the Temple in Shire lane near Temple Bar. London.

Closed and Adjourn'd to the first Wednesday in June next.

Grand Committee at the Temple Shire lane June 3d 1752
Brother James Bradshaw Master of No. 8 in the Chair

Heard a formal Complaint by B'. John Robinson of No. 9 against B'. Moses Willoughby of the said lodge No. 9 for wronging the said Robinson the sum of Nine Shillings in a fraudulent Bargain in the exchanging a loom. And that the Accuser and Accused shall be summoned to appear at the same time and place.

The Grand Secretary proposed several things for the benefit of the Ancient Craft. But it being late they were postponed to a more favourable Opportunity.

Close'd and Adjourn'd to St. John's day at
Noon
Brother John Moms Master of No. 9 in the Chair.

Having no Grand Master nor Grand Warden to Install, the Grand Secretary was Reinstall'd according to the Ancient Custom and manner of installing Grand Secretaries. And having gone through that ceremony he was proclaim'd and saluted accordingly. After which he repeated the whole Ceremony of Installing Grand &c in the manner which he had learn'd from Brother Edward Spratt Esq', the Celebrated Grand Secretary of Ireland. The long Recital of this Solemn Ceremony gave great satisfaction to the Audience, many of which who never had an Opportunity of hearing the like before.

Clos'd and Adjourn'd to the first Wednesday in July next.

Grand Committee at the Temple Shire lane July 1. 1752

Mr. John Doughty Master of No. 2 in the Chair.

The following Brethren viz Thomas Kane Thomas Ohara, and John Morris of No. 9 appeared before the G Committee and gave testimony concerning the Complaint by John Robinson against Moses Willoughby, as mention'd in the Transactions of June last.

And the said T. Kane T. Ohara and J. Morris all and every of them did then & there declare that Moses had wronged John Robinson of Nine Shillings.

The said M. Willoughby & J Robinson were Order'd in before the Committee, and all any every part of the matter in dispute were again minutely examin'd and proved. When the Committee Unanimously determined That Moses Willoughby aforesaid shall Return the sum of Nine Shillings good and lawful money of Great Britain to John Robinson aforesaid to receive and keep as his just right. And in case of non-compliance to this decision, The transgressor to be expelled from this Society, according to the 17th Regulation.

The Grand Secretary having read the foregoing determination and sentence, Mr. Willoughby declared they might Expell him. He for a would not conform to the Rules of any Society upon Earth by which he should lose nine shillings. Therefore he was Unanimously Expell'd: and deem'd unworthy of this or any Other good Society.

Clos'd and Adjourn'd to the first Wednesday in Augt. next.

[In spite of the above Minute, the Register (N°. 174) shows that Moses Willoughby was still a member of No. 9 on August 3rd, on which day he sponsored the admission, "from the Moderns", into that Lodge of one Peter Lacour. For a transcript of the "Rules and Orders for Private Lodges", see A.Q.C. xxxii, p. 115-118. By 1771 considerable alterations had been made in these Rules, and Rule 17 had become Rule 18.]
Ensign Lachlan McIntosh Master of No. 3 * in the Chair

Heard several remarks and amendments proposed by the G. Sec'y, which were all admitted and acknowledged necessary, but could not be mention'd in Writing.

The Secretary again Urged the necessity of Chusing a Grand M'. Upon which the Worshipful Master in the Chair made an Excellent Speech wherein he labour'd to fire the brethren with a spirit to persue the Grand design: and concluded with saying "Future Ages will bless your memories, for preserving and reviving the "Ancient Craft in England."

Resolved Nem Con. that the Grateful thanks of this Grand Committee be given to Ensign Lachlan McIntosh the steadfast friend of the Ancient Craft.

Resolved Nem. Con. That the thanks of the ancient Craft in general be given to the G.S. Lau Dermott for the great service rendered to the Craft by his labour and Instructions, particularly for his Generously refusing to take One Shilling for each person reported to become a Mason in any Ancient lodge, exclusive of Registry & of which fee one shilling for Report was always demanded and Rec'd. By M'. John Morgan late Grand Secretary.

Clos'd & Adjourn'd to the first Wednesday Sep't. next.

* The lodge No. 3 ceased to meet regularly in the latter end of the year 1751. Nor could Brother McIntosh the Master persuade them to re assemble at this time. Yet for his great integrity & fidelity he was permitted to sit as Master of No. 3. And this privilege was Unanimously allow'd him as a Courtesy: not as a Right.
Grand Committee at Temple Eating house &c
Sep. 2d 1752

Mr. George Hebden Master of No. 4 in the Chair.

Propos'd and Agreed that every sick member shall receive one penny per week from every Registered mason in London & Westminster. The money to be immediately advanced by the Landlords where the lodges are held. And the Landlords to be reimburs'd at the next meeting of the lodge stated or Emmergency.

That is to say by a Collection from every individual of the lodge.

Resolved that this Grand Committee shall be formed immediately into a Working Lodge of Master Masons in Order to hear a Lecture from the Grand Secretary Laurence Dermott

The Lodge was Opened in Ancient form of Grand Lodge and every part of Real freemasonry was traced and explained: except the Royal Arch.

The Lecture ended, and the Lodge was Closed with the most agreeable and harmonious humour

Adjourn'd to the first Wednesday in Oct. next.

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Grand Committee on Emergency
Thursday 14 of Sep. 1752 New Stile Temple Eating House

Mr. George Hebden Master of No. 4 in the Chair

Brother John Doughty of No. 2 moved that the Grand Committee should grant Warrants and dispensations for forming and holding Lodges Otherwise the Ancient Craft must dwindle into nothing. Resolved Nem con that Dispensations and Warrants for preserving and augmenting the Ancient Craft shall be issued under the Grand Seal and sign'd by the Grand Secretary. Which Warrants nevertheless must be confirm'd by the next Grand Master according to a Regulation inserted in the front of the Gd. Registry

The whole being a Case of Necessity.

Clos'd and Adjourn'd to the 6th of October next.

* An order of this sort was made in a General Assembly of Ancient Masons at the Turk's head Tavern in Greek's Street Soho. Upon the 17th day of July 1751. Wherein the Masters of No. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, & seven were authorized to Grant Dispensations & Warrants & to act as Grand Master. And Richard price Master of No. 3, Henry Lewis Master of No. 4, John Gant Master of No. 5, And Christopher Byrne Master of No. 6 did actually exercise such Authority in Signing the Warrant No. 8 To James Bradshaw, Thomas Blower, and Richard Darling Guest, for holding a Lodge at the sign of the Temple & Sun in Shire lane Temple Bar, London, from which Warrant this note is written for Dermott never Received any Copy or Manuscript of the former Transactions from Mr. Morgan late Gd. Secretary. Nor does Laurence Dermott the present Grand Secretary think that Brother John Morgan did keep any book of Transactions in this form, though there is no certainty he did not.
Grand Committee at the Temple in Shire lane

Mr. John Gaunt past Master of No. 5 in the Chair.

A motion was made from the Chair That application be immediately made
A to some honorable Ancient Brother to accept the Honor of the Grand Mastership or Recommend us to another.

Resolved it is the unanimous Opinion of the Grand Committee that the Craft has flourish’d most and best when Governed by a Noble Grand Master. For 'though General or Grand Committees have power to form new laws for the Fraternity, Yet to render them binding or Render Stability, a Grand Master is Absolutely necessary to Confirm them.

Therefore Resolved and Ordered that every Brother of this Society shall make all necessary enquiries concerning proper persons for the Office of Grand Master ——— And lay the product of such enquiry before this Grand Committee on the first Wednesday in November next. to which this Committee Is Clos’d and Adjourn’d

Grand Committee at the Temple Eating House

Mr. Edward Ryan Master of No. 6 in the Chair.

The names of several Noble and Honorable Gentlemen said to be Ancient Masons were laid before this Committee In order to petition some one of them to undertake the Grand Mastership & Government of the Craft. The principal personages spoke of were the R't. Honble. Lords Chesterfield, Ponsoby Inchiquin and Blesinton —

Ordered that the Grand Secretary shall draw up a proper petition To the R't. Honble. Philip Earl of Chesterfield an Ancient Mason, beging His Lordship’s Sanction as Grand Master.

Order’d that the Gd. Secretary with the Masters of five lodges shall wait on the R't. Honble. Lord Chesterfield with the said petition.

The Secretary return’d thanks for the honor done him, in appointing him of the Committee to wait on Lord Chestirfield. And beged the Grand Committee would postpone the business untill they had made choice of some proper place to receive and Install his Lordship, the Temple Eating House being very unfit for that business.

Brother James Bradshaw and other friends of B’Robl. Glave the Landlord objected to the Grand Secretary’s request, Upon which there were many altercations on both sides, not fit to be written, the consequence and conclusion was that the matter was wholly postponed, and the Committee Closed and Adjourn’d to the first Wednesday in Dec’t. Next.
Mr. John Smith Master of No. 7 in the Chair

Resolved Unanimously That the lodges who by neglect or disobedience have forfeited their Rank or Numbers shall be discontinued on the Registry. And the Junior lodges who have proved themselves faithful friends of the Ancient Craft, shall hence forth bear the Title or Number so forfeited. The distribution to be according to seniority.

A motion was made by Brother John Gaunt Master of No. 5, for an immediate Application to the R'. Honble. Earl of Inchiquin to become our Grand Master.

Upon the Grand Secretary moved for the Opinion of the Majority Whether they thought the Temple Eating House, a proper place for the Instalation of a Noble Grand Master. Which question being being put to the vote it pass'd in the Negative.

The Grand Secretary propos'd moving the Grand Committee to the House of M'. Richard Huntidge the five Bells Tavern in the Strand, a place both suitable & Reputable.

The motion was seconded and thirled and after many Arguments the matter was determined by vote as follows

<table>
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<th>For moving to the 5 Bells</th>
<th>16</th>
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<tr>
<td>Against</td>
<td>11</td>
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The president declared the Majority and ordered the Grand Secretary to Summon the next meeting, at the five Bells Tavern in the Strand.

Brother John Gaunt Master of No. 5 renewed his motion of making Choice of the R'. Honorable Earl of Inchiquin Grand Master But some of the Brethren having inform'd the Committee that Lord George Sackville would soon return from Ireland, It was thought most prudent to wait his Lordship's return, as he had formerly given a very
friendly and Obliging answer to the Brethren who waited on him for the same purpose.

The Grand Secretary desired to know whether there was any other books or Manuscripts more than had been delivered to him by the Worshipful M'. James Hagarty the presiding Officer upon the 2d of Feb. 1752 and M'. John Morgan late Grand Secretary.

To which several of the Brethren answer'd that they did not know of any. Others viz Brothers Samuel Quay, James Hagan, — John Doughty, John Smith Richard Price John Bandy — Lachlan McIntosh, Abraham Ardezoif and others said that they knew M'. Morgan had a Roll of parchment of prodigious length which contain'd some Historical matters Relative to the Ancient Craft, which parchment they did suppose he had taken abroad with him. It was further said that many Manuscripts were lost amongst the lodges lately Modernized where a vestige of the Ancient Craft has not been left was not suffered to be revived or practiced; And that it was for this Reason so many of them withdrew from lodges (under the Modern sanction) to support the true Ancient System. That they found the freemasons from Ireland and Scotland had been initiated in the very same manner as themselves which confirm'd their system & practice as right and Just. Without which none could be deem'd legal, though possessed of all the books and papers on Earth.

The Grand Secretary (Dermott) produced a very Old Manuscript written or copied by one Bramhall of Canterbury in the Reign of King Henry the Seventh which Manuscript was presented to Bro' Dermott (in 1748) by one of the Descendants of the writer. On perusal it proved to contain the whole matter in the 'fore mention'd parchment, as well as other matters not in that parchment.

The Grand Secretary expatiated much on the subject of this old M.S. to the great satisfaction of the hearers. And on his conclusion Brother Samuel Quay made a Motion for the Thanks of the General Committee to be given to the G.S. Dermott "for the many pleasing Instructions which he had so often "Administer'd to the Brethren". Upon which Brother

James
Transactions of Dec. 6: 1752 Continued

James Bradshaw, Thomas Gibbons, Robert Glave & Evan McKenzie protested against any thanks or even Approbation of the Secretary's conduct, who instead of being useful had actually Sung & lectured the Brethren out of their senses. And had then proposed to move the Grand Committee out of the House of a worthy Brother Mr. Robert Glave to the House of a Man who was not a Mason. That the only way to promote the Society was to chuse a new Secretary. Continue in the house where they then were and not run blindly into needless expences at a Tavern which in the end would bring ruin on them And then what would they think of him who had Lectured and sung them out of their senses.

As soon as the paper containing the above protest was publickly read and Copied, The Secretary beg'd to be heard in answer to the Landlord and his freinds. This request being Granted The Secretary said that he did not desire to continue in Office longer than he should be found really useful. That if a Candidate (better Qualified) offered himself, he the Secretary would for the benefit of the Craft resign in favour of such Candidate without the trouble of a General Election. And if he was so unfortunate as to sing any Brother out of his Senses, he hoped the Worshipful Master in the Chair and the Grand Committee would allow him an hour's time and he would endeavour to sing them into the senses again.

The Request was granted with great good humour, the Secretary made proper use of his time. And the Worshipful Mr. John Smith Closed and Adjourn'd the Grand Committee to the Five Bells Tavern in the Strand. Upon the 3d day of January Next

Transactions of the Grand Committee at the five Bells Tavern in the Strand Jan: 3. 1753

Mr. Thomas Loyd Master of No. 8 in the Chair

Resolved Unanimously, That every Member of a Regular Ancient Lodge in and about this Metropolis Shall Contribute the sum of four pence per month Towards raising a Charitable Fund for the Relief of Idigent Free Masons.

Resolved Unanimously that a Chest shall be immediately made by Brother George Hebden of No. 4, for the use of this Society. And that Messrs. Thomas Loyd of No. 8. John Doughty of No. 2 & Laurence Dermott GS. shall give directions for making the said Chest. That there shall be four locks and four keys to the sd. Chest, Which Keys shall be disposed of in the following manner. until Grand Officers can be install'd. viz One Key to the presiding Master pro tempore. One Key to the last Master who presided in the Chair. One Key to the ensuing Master And one Key to the Grand Secretary.

Resolved and Order'd that a certain part of the said Chest shall be divided and adapted for the use of the Grand Sec's. Books & And that no person be admitted to have and Communication with the Secretary's part, books or papers.

Closed and Adjourn'd to the first Wednesday in February next.
Transactions at the five Bells Tavern
February 7th, 1753.

M'. William Turner Master of No. 9 in the Chair.

Proposed and Unanimously Agreed that all Charit-able Contributions shall be paid monthly into the Grand Committee for the future, And not collected as formerly.

Resolved and Agreed that the private Lodge to whom a distressed Brother doth belong shall support him (if demanded) until the monthly meeting next ensuing where the his Master or Wardens shall attend shall be with a bill of the Expence which bill ∧ immediately paid out of the Grand Fund, provided such bill doth not exceed the sum of Ten shillings p week to a sick Member and seven shillings p week to a Member Confin’d for debt: This method to hold in full force and virtue until the fund is at least fifteen pounds strong.

Resolved and Ordered That all Brethren of Good Character shall be and are intitled to this Charity without regard to the length of time since they were admitted or made.

Resolved and ordered that Brother David Jennings Master of No. 6 shall pay a fine of five shillings for the Indignity offered to this Grand Committee; and that upon his non Compliance to this decision He shall be totally expelled.

Closed and adjourned to the first Wednesday in March next
Transactions at the 5 Bells Tavern March 7 1753

M'. John Woodward Master of No. 11 in the Chair.

Rec'd, and Read several sick Bills, from No. 5, 10, & 14 all, which were paid: as appears by the Cash book.

Agreed — That Brother John Mitchell of No. 2 shall continue to Receive five shillings p week during his residence in the country, for the benefit of his health.

Agreed That no sum of money be paid to any Brother (on acc't of sickness or lameness) until his Master or Warden shall first vouch the petitioner Worthy of such Relief.

Agreed Thomas Reily of No. 14 shall Receive five shillings p week until he can be conveyed to an Hospital.

Brother David Jennings of No. 6 having (this night) made full and proper concession & submission for his fault on the 7th of February last — He is now unanimously Accepted and reinstated

Ordered that Brother William Turner Master of No. 9 shall summon Geo Fay to answer some irregularities laid to his Charge.

Ordered That for the better despatch of business & preserving Harmony. In the absence of the Master appointed to preside. The ensuing Master shall fill the Chair, and the two succeeding Masters shall act as Wardens pro tempore

Carried over

Transactions of March 7th 1753 Continued

Brother William Turner of No. 9 proposed that all Officers Absent on a Grand Committee, Grand Lodge, Stated, or Emergency, (when duly summoned) shall be fined and then and shall pay such fines whether, sick, well, confined, or at Liberty. in Town or Country.

The Grand Secretary arose and said he thought it his duty to apprize the Brethren that such a law would be unconstitutional & tyrannous.

Nevertheless the question was put and carried by a Majority

Viz —— for the Question 26
Against D° 16

Majority 10

Mem

president John Woodward Master of No. 11 D° to Stock 3. 15. 2

Closed and Adjourn'd to the 4th day of April Next
Transactions at the Bells Tavern April 4th 1753.

Mr. John Abercromby Master of No. 13, in the Chair.

A motion was made for making a New Regulation concerning the moiety to be spent by each Member on every meeting.

Agreed and Order'd that the old Custom of paying One shilling each be still continued.

Heard a petition from Richard Gough Grand Tyler &c Order'd that the petition shall be refer'd to another meeting.

Agreed That Brother James Bradshaw Master of No. 12 shall Receive ten Shillings for the week ensuing and also five shillings towards defraying his expenses to get into an Hospital.

Order'd That Bro'. George Hebden shall deliver the chest (bespoke of him) on or before the 12th day of April Instant. and in case of non compliance a Chest shall be bought from some other person.

Propos'd that each Member shall pay sixpence per month in order to raise the Grand Fund. this motion is postpon'd to the first Wednesday in May next. In the meantime the Groats shall be paid as usual.

Agreed that Brother John Keely Member of No. 6 shall receive seven shillings per week during his sickness

Carried over.

Transactions of April 4th 1753 Continued

The Grand Secretary proposed a method for increasing the Grand fund. viz. that every Lodge shall pay Two shillings and sixpence for every new-made Mason. Which Motion was carried in the Affirmative and thanks return'd to the proposer.

Agreed That each Member who shall remove from one lodge to another shall pay One Shilling (to the Grand fund) for every such removal.

Agreed That (according to Ancient Custom) the Grand Secretary (for the time being) shall be free from all contributions to the General fund or Reckonings and that said Grand Secretary by virtue of his Office shall be intitled to every benefit of the Grand Lodge except a vote in chusing Grand Officers.

Order'd (at the request of the present Grand Secretary) that the Names of the Brethren who were present at the confirming these Transactions shall be annex'd to the said Orders. &c—
Transactions of March the 7th. Continued *

James Lowney No. 14 Hugh Horan No.
Richard Nowlan 14 Martin Norton SW 16
Michl. Lutterell

William Rankin James Reily No.
John Allen Richd. Clarkson SW 17
Andw. Leakey 15 Unanimous 41 Members †

Close'd and Adjourn'd to the 2d. of May next

May the 2d. 1753 Jeremiah Coleman Master of No. 14 in the Chair

Heard a petition from James Ryan and Others praying to be constituted into a Regular Lodge

D". a petition from John Hamilton & Others praying to be Constituted into a Regular Lodge

Order'd that the Grand Secretary with proper Assistants shall Constitute the former on Friday next and the latter on Monday the 7th Instant

Rec'd. the Bills and vouchers of No. 2 and No. 3 and paid them accordingly as appears by the Cash Book.

D". the Bills &c of No. 7 and 10 and paid as above

Order'd that Bro'. Gear shall Receive Ten shillings and not Sixpence on account of Locks made for (but x used in) the Grand Lodge.

Clos'd and Adjourn'd to June 6th. next

* This is obviously an error for “April 4th.”
† These 41 names are written by the Secretary, not signatures.
June the 6th. 1753 —— 5 Bells Tavern

Mr. Rob't. Turner Master of No. 15 in the Chair

Heard — a petition from John Doughty and others praying to be Constituted into a regular lodge the petition was rejected.

Rec'd. — Several bills &c which were paid as appears by the Cash book.

Heard — Several complaints against Bro'. Mitchell (now supported by the Charity of this Lodge) alledged and proving that he is unworthy of being supported by his Brethren &c

Order'd that Mr. Mitchell of No. 2 shall be struck of our list of pensioners ———

Proposed that One Guinea shall be given to Bro'. Geo: Hebden towards defraying the the expences he may be at on account of a Chest formerly mentioned in these Transactions. this motion was postpon'd to the next meeting.

Closed and Adjourn'd to the Kingshead in Mary le bone Street June 19 Instant
Grand Committee of Masters (by Order of Mr. Robert Turner Master of No. 15) at the Kingshead Head Mary le bon Street June 19 1753

Emergency

Mr. Robert Turner (aforesaid) in the Chair

Order'd—That Brother Richard Duffy of No. 14 shall not receive any more money from this Society on Acc. of his present Illness.

Order'd that Brother John Keely shall be continued as usual.

Report—Brother Alexander McKenzie declared that

of No. 12
Bro. Collin McKenzie was lying sick unable to support himself.

Order That Bro. Collin McKenzie aforesaid be supported according to Regulations.

Agreed that such as are Hospitals shall not receive any money from this Society during their stay in such Hospital.

Order'd That the over-plus of the money Order'd for Bro. Cogan's Funeral shall be put into the grand fund.

Agreed That the Grand Fund shall be closed for six months except to those who are now on the Grand Charity.

Heard many debates concerning clandestine makings not Necessary to be recorded here.

Heard the complaint of Bro. John Doughty against the Members of his lodge No. 2 Alleging that they had made a false Election and offer'd him many Indignities &c &c

Agreed That the Election of Officers lately in the lodge No. 2 being Untimely and without the Master's Knowledge is thereby render'd null and void.
and that it is lawfull for Brother Doughty to cause
the Officers to be re Elected for the ensuing half Year.
Nevertheless it is the Opinion of this Committee
That the Brethren of No. 2 Aforesaid are hearty
friends to the Craft and that their Zeal was the
cause of their running into such Errors.

Order'd a Dispensation for Mr. John Doughty for
the purpose of congregating and making of
Freemasons at the One Tun in the strand
from this day unto the first wednesday in
July next.

Order'd That the said Bro. Doughty shall not
admit Thomas Gibons Jun', late of No. 7
the said Gibons being deem'd unworthy of
this most Antient and honourable Society.

Present the Masters of No. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9,
10, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18.

Clos'd and Adjourn'd to the
King and Queen in Cable Street
Rosemary lane July 4: 1753

Post Tran's.
The Grand Secretary having inform'd the Brethren that it was not
lawfull to summon a Stated meeting at the King and Queen Aforesaid
he rec'd. Orders to Summon them as usual.

Grand Committee at the five Bells Tavern
July 4 1753

Mr. Hugh Horan Master of No. 16 in the Chair

Read the proceedings of June the 19 last.

Heard the Case of Brother Thomas Gibons Junior after many debates
thereon it was Rejected.

Heard a petition from John M'Cormick praying to be Constituted &c

Order'd that John M'Cormick and Others shall be constituted &c

Order'd That Alexander Clarke shall have a Dispensation to
form a lodge and make Masons for the space of one
month.

A motion was made, that all Absentees shall be fin'd
Six pence.

Order'd That every Member who shall be absent at the hour
of Eight o'Clock shall be fin'd Sixpence.

Brother Thomas Gibons above mention'd having made due sub-
mission before the Brethren was forgiven and recom-
—mended to No. 7 in Order to obtain a Certificate &c

Heard Two petitions from Brothers Doughty and
Molan — both Accepted.

Closed and Adjourn'd to the King
and Queen in Cable Street
July 13 Ins't.
Grand Committee on Emergency by Order of
Mr. Hugh Horan Master of No. 16. July 13 1753
King & Queen Cable Street Rose mary lane

Mr. Hugh Horan in the Chair
Also present the Masters of No. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11
12, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, 22.

Proposed and Unanimously agreed that the Grand Fund
shall be Closed until S'. John's Day viz the 27 of
December next.

Propos'd that a new Regulation be made for Collecting and the
expenses of Funerals i.e. that instead of Collecting One
shilling p man (as the form now is) the money for the
future shall be paid into the Grand fund and from thence
dispos'd of According to proper Orders.
after many debates it was put to a poll and on
casting up the votes they appear'd thus

For the Question       -       -       16
Against               -       -       -       3
Majority              -       -       -       13

Nevertheless the presiding Officer and the rest of the Brethren
thought it most prudent to postpone this matter to the
Stated meeting which was accordingly done.

Propos'd and agreed that a Mahogany Box or Chest be made
for the use of the Grand Committee not exceeding
five pounds in value.

Propos'd and agreed that the Business of this Grand Committee
shall be conducted in the following manner viz.

1st — The Roll shall be call'd and dues paid.
2 — The Reckoning shall be Collected.
3 — Demands on the Grand shall be paid.
4 — Petitions for Lodges shall be heard.
Transactions of July 13 1753 Continued

5th — Debates on the Craft or formal Complaints shall be heard &c

Order’d — that each member of all our Antient Lodges shall contribute the sum of Sixpence towards defraying the funeral Charges of Bro'. Cogan and the Over plus if any to be put into the Grand fund.

Propos’d and agreed that no petition shall be read in the Grand Committee but such as are written by the Grand Secretary & he paid for the same

The Grand Secretary return’d thanks to the Brethren for their friendship to him and remarked That taking money from a poor Brother for writing a petition wou’d be inconsistent with that noble spirit of brotherly love hath ever which distinguished the Antient Craft.

Proposed and Agreed that the thanks of this Society shall be given to Bro'. Lau Dermott G.S. for this fresh proof of his Generosity and great love of this Fraternity.

A motion was made for an Amendment of the above propos-al concerning petitions. viz. That no petition for a new Constitution or Dispensation shall be Read in the Grand Committee except they are written by the Grand Secretary and he paid for the same.

Agreed That all petitions for Constitutions shall be written by the G.S. and he the said G.S. paid at the rate of Two shillings and sixpence each.

The G.S. having return’d thanks for the many favours confer’d on him by his Brethren, he humbly beged that the Lodge wou’d please to appoint some certain person to deliver the summons’s for the future that he the said Secretary was under the necessity
of delivering or paying for the delivery of them for several months past in fact ever since he was install'd, which service was exceeding troublesome to him as he was obliged to work twelve hours in the day for the Master Painter who employ'd him.

The Worshipful Master in the Chair demanded why Bro'. William Lilly and Bro'. Richard Gough who seem'd to be Grand pursuivant & Tyler did not deliver the summons and why the Grand Secretary kept the matter a secret so long, to which the Secretary answer'd that Lilly and Gough would not deliver the summons's until they were first paid for service done during the time Mr. John Morgan was Grand Secretary. and that the Fund being closed it was in vain to mention it.

yet it was resolved that no part of the business shou'd be neglected whilst he was able to forward or promote it.

Order'd that the Grand Secretary shall pay the pursuivant or Grand Tyler two shillings for each time of summoning, and that it shall be lawfull for the Secretary to charge three pence for each summons in order to reimburse the money paid to the Tyler & the remainder to himself for the Trouble he had in Summoning &c.

The Grand Secretary Return'd thanks for this Order but would not accept any such Contribution —

A motion was made for the Regulating of Funerals in the course of the debate it appear'd that some persons of late had walked before the Corps in immitation of a Modern Lodge who had so done. It also appear'd that the Antient Masons had formerly walked in the following manner viz
Funeral Procession

Tylers
Corps
Mourners
Youngest Members of the Junior Lodge
Eldest D°
Past Officers of D°
Secretary of D°
Deacons
Wardens
Master

The next youngest Lodge in the same manner &c
The
Grand Officers (if attending) in the Rear
and
The whole procession revers'd in coming back

The Worshipfull Master in the Chair thank'd the
G.S. for the last new song which he composed and
hoped that the applause of his Brethren wou'd
induce Bro'. Dermott G.S. to compose another
against the next St. John's day which the G.S.
promised to attempt.

Closed and Adjourn'd to (the Five-
-Bells Tavern Strand on the first
day of August Next.

Grand Committee at the Five Bells Tavern
August 1st. 1753

Mr. Laurence Rooke Master of N°. 17 in the Chair.

The Grand Secretary humbly moved that he might have
liberty to call the Roll or list of Lodges before any
other business was done which was accordingly Or-
der'd to be done.

Therefore the Roll was call'd &c
Proposed and Agreed that the Lodge N°. 7 shall be dis-
continued in the Grand Lodge Books for nonpaym't.
of dues.

Rec'd. the following sums (from the lodges prefix'd) on Account
of the late Brother Cogan's Funeral viz —

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Clos'd and Adjourn'd to the Scotch Arms in
the Haymarket Aug. 8th. Instant

51
Grand Committee of Masters at the Scotch Arms in the Haymarket August the 8th 1753

M'. Laurence Rooke Master of No. 17 in the Chair.

Proposed and Agreed that every Antient Lodge on the Regis-try shall pay all their dues on the second (stated) meeting of the Grand after they become due otherwise the sick or distress'd of such deficient lodges shall not be intitled to relief from the Grand fund.

Agreed that Brother Alexander M'Kenzie shall be allowed all the fines now dues on his lodge No. 12 in consideration of the expence he the said Alex'. M'Kenzie has been at in supporting his Bro'. Collin M'Kenzie during his distress.

Heard Bro'. James Lowney's affair concerning No. 14 Agreed that Bro'. Jeremiah Coleman shall be excused the fine of five Shillings for refusing to stand Master of the said Lodge.

Order'd that no Committee of Masters shall be call'd for the future except upon some Extraordinary Occasion which does not seem to be the present Case.

The Cash Remaining Undisburs'd, being four pounds seven shillings and Two pence, the presiding Master paid it into the hands of Brother James Ryan (the ensuing Master for the Chair) who immediately gave his Note for the same.

Clos'd and Adjourn'd to the Bells on the 5th of Sep'. next.
M'r James Ryan Master of No. 18 in the Chair.

Call'd the List and Received Dues as appears by the Cash Book.

Heard the Complaint of Brother John Smith Master of No. 7 against Thomas Gibbons (Junr.) William-Bowen, Richard Storer and Others wherein it Apear'd that the sd. Gibbons, Bowen, and Storer &c were guilty of misdeamors and irregularities in the sd. Lodge No. 7. particularly divesting the said Master without any Just Cause &c

Agreed and Order'd that our worthy Brother John Smith aforesaid shall be reinstated in his Chair and Dignity on Thursday the 13 Inst. ————

Agreed and Order that Bro'r Geo: Hebden shall Receive the sum of three Guineas for the Chest made for this Society (being valued at so much) and upon his refusal the Chest to be return'd to him. And it is further Order'd that no future mention, dispute or debate shall ever never be heard in this Committee, on or about the said Chest.

Clos'd and Adjourn'd to 3d Oct'. next.
Grand Committee October 3rd. 1753. Bells Tavern

Mr. John McCormick Master of No. 20 in the Chair.

Call'd the Roll as usual and Rec'd. Cash as appears by the Cash Book.

Heard a petition from John Browne John M'Coy Thomas Hancock and others praying to be Constituted &c Accepted and Order'd to be constituted on Wednesday the 12th Ins. 3.

Heard a petition from some Brethren residing in the City of Bristol praying to be Warrented &c

Order'd that the Grand Secretary shall proceed according to the Antient Custom of the Craft during the inter Magistrum.

Paid Mr. Alex' M'Kenzie's Bill as appears by the Cash Book.

Order'd a Dispensation for Bro. Alex' Dixon of No. 16 in order to Congregate and form a Lodge at the Rosemary Branch in Rosemary lane.

Clos'd & Adjourn'd to October the 18 Ins.

Emmergency

Grand Committee at the Bells Oct. 18 1753

Mr. John McCormick Master of No. 20 in the Chair.

Proposed and Agreed That the Grand Secretary shall* attend and Regulate all processions, and at Funerals, take particular care that all persons walk in proper Rotation.

Proposed that Bro'. Burgoyne shall have a petition to go round the Antient Lodges.

They G.S. made a long speech against such petitions & A was being put to vote it A carried in the Negative.

Clos'd and Adjourn'd to Nov: the 7th next.

* From this point to the end of the paragraph one word and two lines have been rubbed out, and the text as shown written over the erasure, which is not legible.
Grand Committee Nov.: the 7th 1753

Mr. Richard Coffee Master of No. 2 in the Chair.

Call'd the Roll &c as usual.

The Cash (which amounted to seven pounds One shilling & ten pence) having pass'd thro' the hands of James Ryan and James Broadhurst is paid into the Hands of Sam'l Quay past master of No. 2.

Closed and Adjourn'd to the 5th Decr. next.

Grand Committee Decr. 5th 1753 Bells Tavern

Mr. Lachlan Mc'Intosh Master of No. 3 in the Chair.

The Roll call'd, and dues Receiv'd as appears by the cash Book.

The G.S. made a Motion i.e. That as the Fraternity had not made choice of any of the Noble personages formerly mention'd in those Transactions and it being doubtful whether the Antient Craft cou'd be honour'd with a Noble G M at this time, he humbly beg'd that the Brethren wou'd make choice of some worthy and skillful Master to fill the Chair for the space of Six months Successively.

Accordingly Bro'. Rob'. Turner Master of No. 15 was nominated and Unanimously chosen to fill the G Master's Chair for six months, and being Instal'd and Saluted &c &c His Worship chose Bro'. William Rankin for his Deputy who was also immediately Install'd saluted &c &c &c

Then the Lodge proceeded in the choice of Gd. Wardens when Bro'. Samuel Quay past Master of No. 2 was chosen
chosen Sen'r. G'd Warden and Brother Lachlan McIntosh of N°. 3. was chosen Junior G Warden who were also instal'd and saluted according to Antient Usage. and concluded with the most agree-able harmony.

Closed and Adjourn'd to S'. John's day next.

Grand Lodge in Ample form Dec'. 27th 1753

The R't Worshipfull Robert Turner G:M: in the Chair.

The whole Ceremony of Grand Instalation was repeated for the Instruction and Entertainment of the Fraternity. after which the R:W:G:M: made an excellent speech relative to the Day and gave Orders to his Deputy who Clos'd and Adjourn'd, to the 2d of Jan'r next.

Grand Lodge &c Jan 2d 1754

RW: G: M. in the Chair.
Call'd the Roll & Rec'd the dues as Appears by the Cash Book.

Heard a petition from Jeremiah Coleman and others praying to be warranted &c.

Order'd That the petitioners shall be constituted on the seventh Ins': at the House of Lau: Boyne S': James's markit.

Heard a petition from Henry Lewis and Others praying to be Constituted &c

Order'd That the petitioners shall be constituted on the 9th Jan'r. Instant. at the house of peter Duffy in Butcher Row East Smithfield. Clos'd & Adjourn'd to Feb. 6th. next.
Grand Lodge &c Feb. 6th 1754

RWG Master in the Chair.

Call'd the Roll and Rec'd dues as appears by the Cash Book.

Heard the petition of John Hewitt and Others praying to be Warranted and Constituted &c

Order'd That the petitioners shall be Constituted (at the Black Horse in Old Boswell Court) on Monday the 18th Inst.

Proposed and Agreed Nem: Con: that the Grand fund shall be further Clos'd to the 24th of June next ——

Unanimously Agreed That Brother Laurence Dermott our Grand Secretary shall be presented with a proper Jewell (such as he shall please to devise) for the many services by him perform'd for the good of the Antient Craft. that Bro'. Henry Lewis shall make the said intended present, which shall be paid out of the Grand Fund providing the value shall not exceed the sum of five Guineas, including the Collar, Engraving &c Brother Dermott's name on the said Jewell it being intended for the G.S. and not as the property of the Gd Lodge for the future.* Witnness — Rob' Turner G: M

The G. Secretary having return'd thanks &c the G Lodge was Closed and Adjourn'd to the 6th of March next.

* Dermott delivered the Jewell to his Successor Mr. William Dickey and was worn by succeeding Grand Secretaries.
Grand Lodge &c March 6th, 1754

The R: W: G: M: Turner in the Chair.
Call'd the Roll and Rec'd dues, and paid Bills as appears by the Cash book.

Order'd that John Hewitt and Others (who have formerly petition'd for a Warrant) shall be Constituted on Monday the 18th Inst.
Note the above Order was also made last month (but a Complaint being exhibited against John Hewitt of which the said John is this night acquited) the order is repeated and it is agreed that the Warrant shall bear date the 18 of Feb 1754.

Heard a Complaint against Wm Holford Junr. Warden of No. 29 for Irregularity in the Lodge &c
Order'd that Brother Holford shall ask pardon in the Gd. Lodge and on refusal he shall be excluded.

Heard some proposals by Bro't. Norton Master of No. 16 the first proposal was totally rejected. the 2d, 3d and 4th were in some measure agreed to but forbid to be recorded till further notice.

Heard petitions (for Warrants) from Bro't. Matthews and Bro't. McCall.
Order'd A warrant for the Former and a Dispensation for the latter.

The fund being Closed The following Lodges paid the sums annexed towards defraying the Funeral Charges of the late Bro't. Molloy viz.

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heard two petitions from Matthew Finley & Nich. Byrne both were reliv'd by private Contributions.
Adjourn'd to the Thistle & Crown Church Court in the Strand on March the 14th next.
Grand Committee of Masters (only) at the Thistle
and Crown in Church Court in the Strand Mar. 14th 1754

G M in the Chair.
Also present, the Sen' & Jun' Grand Wardens with the
Masters of No. 5, 7, 9, 20, 21, 29, and 33.

The Grand Secretary remarked that the proper business of the Grand Lodge
was contiuously interrupted and retarded by numerous petitions
for Charity &c therefore most humbly proposed that a Charitable
Committee of Masters might be instituted to inspect the merits
of such petitions either to relive the peti'tn, if found Worthy or
to recommend them to the Grand or reject them if thought unworthy

Agreed that a Committee of Masters shall be immediately form'd and
Continued under the Name of The Committee of Inspection
or any other Title which shall hereafter be thought more
applicable.
That such Committee shall Consist of Eight Masters of
Lodges (or Past Masters to represent them) with or without
Grand Officers (the Secretary & books always present) out of
which (when the Grand Officers are all Absent) one of them
shall be Chosen to fill the Chair.

That all debates shall be decided by the Majority of votes. And

Unanimously Agreed that John Woodard late Master of No. 11
be expelled for defrauding the Charitable fund of the sum of
three pounds fifteen shillings and two pence.

Clos'd & Adjourn'd to the 17th Inst.
Grand Committee at the Crown in S' Paul's Church Yard
on the 17th day of March 1754

The R W Sen' G Warden in the Chair.

pres' also the Jun' G: W, and the Masters of No. 3, 7, 11, 12,
13, 14, 16, 18, 20, 26, 30, 32, 33. ————

Agreed that the Transactions of March the 14th, last (so far as it re-
lates to a Committee of Charity) shall be pass'd into a Law, amongst
the Antient Fraternity. And that the first Committee shall be
form'd by the following Masters viz. the Masters of No. 14, 15,
13, 16, 17, 12, 18, and 11. And so on (for the future) Backward
and forward in their turns.

That the hour of meeting shall be at Eight of the Clock in the
Evening. And that if any Member be Absent after the
hour of meeting he shall pay One Shilling.

Clos'd and Adjourn'd to the Bells Tavern
April 3d 1754

Grand Committee again, Open'd to hear a proposal for a
play to be perform'd in the little Theatre in the Hay Market
for the Benefit of Indigent Free Masons.

Agreed that The abovemention'd play shall be perform'd
under the direction and Inspection of Bro'. James Lauder[*]
and that all and every of the Tickets shall be sign'd and
Number'd by the Grand Secretary. and the Number and the
delivery of them shall be faithfully laid before the Grand
Lodge when call'd for.

ReAdjourn'd as bove to April 3d 1754.

[* Two years later we find Lauder advertising his Benefit in the Public Advertiser of
April 2nd 1756 as follows:—

To the Free and Accepted MASONs
The Brothers who intend to favour Mr.
Lauder with their Company at his Benefit on Thursday
the 8th inst. at the New Theatre in the Haymarket, are desired to
meet at Brother Rankins, in Bear-street, Leicester Fields, at Four
o'Clock that Afternoon. A Free Mason's Song to be sung by Mr;
Lauder.]
Grand Lodge &c April 3d. 1754 Bells' Tavern.

G: M. in the Chair. Confirm'd the minutes of the Grand Committees

The Roll call'd, and dues Rec'd as appears by the Cash Book. \[two lines obliterated\]

Rec'd M'. Lauder's Bill and paid accordingly viz for the expences of a play for the Benefit of Indigent Masons Brother Lauder Charg'd four pounds Eight shillings and sixpence more than was Rec'd, at the Theatre or otherwise on Acc't. of the play which Charge was immediately paid

Also Two pounds twelve shillings for the G Secretary's Jewell and after paying the pursivant & Tyler five shillings, the Clear Stock was Twenty five pounds three shillings and eight pence.

Heard a petition (for Constitutions) from Michael Thorp & Henry Payton & Others,

Thorp

Order'd that Bro'. \(\wedge\) shall be Install'd on the 18th and Brother Payton on the 19th inst.

Order'd That all Masons indebted for Tickets of admission to the late Benefit play shall pay the said Debts into the Grand Lodge on the next meeting.

Adjourn'd to the first of May next.
Grand Lodge May: 1st 1754

R W G M in the Chair.

Call'd the Roll and Rec'd. Cash as appears by the Cash Book

Heard the petition of John Chace specifying some hardships which the pet. underwent on Acct. of a Member of the Lodge No. 2 after some debate the pet. was refer'd to the Committee of Charity.

Order'd that all Lodges shall immediately pay all their Arrears Otherwise they shall not be intitled to vote for Grand Officers on the next Grand Lodge meeting.

Order'd that John Hamilton the Master of No. 19 shall be Summon'd to Answer several Complaints laid against him One in particular by Bro'. Sam'. Galbraith Sen'. Warden of No. 20.

Clos'd and Adjourn'd to the 5th June 1754

Grand Lodge &c June 5th 1754

R: W. G: M Turner in the Chair

The Roll call'd and dues paid as Appears by the Cash Book

Heard the Complaint of Brother Samuel Galbraith & Others against John Hamilton Master of No. 19, wherein it appear'd beyond Hamilton's Contradiction that the said Hamilton had willfully villified every part of a Master Mason so as to render the Charge inca-pable of being committed to writing &c &c &c

Agreed Unanimously (in the presence of the said J: Hamilton) that it is our Opinion That John Hamilton late Master of No. 19 is Unworthy the Name of a Freemason and consequently unworthy of this or any other good Society.

Order'd That this Transaction shall be recorded in the Grand Lodge
Lodge Books to inform our worthy Successors that the foregoing Character of the said Hamilton is the well proved and undoubted Opinion of us the Grand Officers and Officers of No. 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 11, 13, 14, 18, 20, 27, 30, 31, 35. the whole composing a Grand Lodge of

4 Gd. Officers
1 G S
14 Masters
28 Wardens
23 past Members

Amounting in the whole to —— 70 Members

Witnness, by Order ——— Lau: Dermott G S

Upon which John Hamilton was turn’d down stairs and a General Order given that he shou’d not be admitted into any Antient Lodge directly nor indirectly.

Order’d that Bro’. Robert Whitehall & have a dispensation to congregate and make freemasons for the space of one Month. at his House in Horse Shoe Alley Moorfields.

Then proceeded to the Election of Grand Officers when the following Gentlemen were Chosen and continued

viz The R W Robert Turner G M for 6 months
The R W: William Rankin D G M
The R W Saml Quay ——— S G W
and the R W John Abercromby J: G: W

u to

Clos’d & Adjo’red & the 24 June Ins't.
Grand Lodge &c June 24th. 1754

Grand Lodge Open’d in form at Noon after which were Solemnly Install’d the following persons viz
The Right Worshipfull Robert Turner G M
The R W William Rankin D G M
The R W Sam’l. Quay S G W
The R W John Abercromby J G W
and the Wn Laurence Dermott Gd. Secretary
The whole was perform’d with all the Antient usages, customs and Salutations necessary on the Occasion
Clos’d with Great Harmony and Adjourn’d To the 3d. of July next.

Grand Lodge &c July the 3d 1754

The Right Worshipfull D G M: Rankin in the Chair. as
Call’d the list and Rec’d dues ∼ appears by the Cash Book.
The Grand Secretary inform’d the Brethren that the limited time of the Fund’s being Closed was expired on the last S. John’s day and therefore humbly moved that it might be closed for six months more. which proposition was put to the poll and carried in the Affirmative by a Majority of Twenty seven votes.

Order’d that every lodge in Arrears shall be summon’d to pay all their dues to this Gd. Lodge on or before the wise or Warrants seventh day of August next other ∼ their Numbers ∼ to be declared vacant.
Clos’d and Adjourn’d to the 7th of Aug. next.
Grand Lodge &c Aug: 7th 1754

The R W. G M. Turner in the Chair.
Call'd the Roll and Rec'd dues &c as appears by the Cash Book.

Heard petitions (for Warrants) from John McCormick and William Cowen and Others &c
Order'd That John McCormick shall be Install'd on the 14th Inst. and William Cowen on the 19th Inst.

Debated on the funeral Charges of Brother Mitchell late of No. 2.
Unanimously and Cheerfully Agreed that the said funeral Charges shall be paid for by a voluntary Contribution of Two shillings each Lodge.

Clos'd and Adjourn'd to the 4th of Sep. next.

Grand Lodge Sep. 4th 1754

The Right: W. G M. Turner in the Chair.
Call'd the Roll and Rec'd dues as Appears by the Cash Book.

Propos'd and Agreed, that the several lodges who have been regularly summon'd to pay their Arrears and have Omitted to do the same shall be (this Night) declared Vacant. &c
Which was Accordingly done viz No. 9, 12, 16, No. 19 and 26 Declar'd vacant null and void ——

Order'd that all our monthly meetings shall be publish'd in the daily Advertiser with the Grand Secretary Lau Dermott's name Annex'd that the said Secretary shall draw up such Advertisements as prudence shall direct him and the Expences
attending said publications shall be reimbursed to him the said Secretary on every Grand Lodge meeting.  [*]

Clos’d and Adjourn’d to Oct the 2d. next.

Grand Lodge Oct the 2d 1754.

G: M: Turner in the Chair.

Call’d the Roll and Rec’d the dues as appears by the Cash Book.

The Master of No. 2 is Excused his fine for non attendance at the meeting in St. Paul’s Church Yard.

Agreed by a Majority of 12 votes, That the Committee of Charity shall have full power and Authority to inspect into the Case, Circumstances, Indigency, &c of all and every petitioner for Charity, and that such necessary enquiry shall not be subject to Censure nor deem’d unbrotherly nor uncivil such enquiry being thought necessary to reward the deserving as well as reject impostors.

The Grand Secretary Remarked how much he was Obliged to the Fraternity for their present of a Jewell and said that he wou’d be more so, if they wou’d order a sett of Jewells for the Gd. Lodge, the presiding Officers of G: L. being always reduced to the necessity of wearing the Jewells of their private Lodges.

Orderd, Unanimously that a new sett of Jewells be made by Brother John McCormick (under the direction of Bro’. Dermott G S) Silver Gilt &c.

Brother William Cowen Master of the Lodge No. 37. proposed paying one Guinea into the Grand Fund for No. 6 (now vacant) this proposal was accepted and the Brethren of No. 37 are to rank as No. 6 for ye future.

Clos’d and Adjourn’d to No. 6 next.

[*These Advertisements are not in the Public Advertiser, of which a complete file is in the British Museum. The file of the Daily Advertiser is mainly missing.]
Grand Lodge Nov. 6th 1754 at the Bells

G: Mr Turner in the Chair.

The Roll call'd and dues paid as appears by the Cash Book.

A motion was made viz That Brethren who are not Officers of Lodges shall be admitted as members in the Grand, to fill the places of Absentees. After many debates it was determin'd thus "Resolved it is the Opinion of the Majority of this Grand Lodge (that is to say fifty Eight votes to three) That no Mason has a Right to Sit in this Grand Lodge untill he is a regular Member hereof. That the past and present Grand Officers, the Grand Secretary & Treasurer, with the Masters and Wardens of all Warranted Lodges under the Constitution, with their past Officers as prescribed by the Regulations are the only proper Members of this Grand Lodge.

Read and confirm'd the Transactions of the Committee is of Charity which X to be call'd the Stewards Lodge for the future. and in Consequence of this institu- tion it was,

Order'd that the Grand Lodge cease meeting on the first Wednesday in every Kallendar month and instead thereof They shall (only) meet on the first Wednesdays in March June Sep' and Dec' and on both St. John's days yearly Except in cases of emergency this Regulation to Commence on the Twenty seventh day of December next.

Order'd that all Lodges in Arrears (who shall pay their respective dues on or before the said 27th December) shall be reinstated. Except the Lodges which declared off in Contempt

Contempt viz No. 16 & 19, who are not to be readmitted upon any Consideration.

It being a General Custom with the Masons of Old never to make choice of the Landlord of a Tavern or Ale house for a Master of a Lodge Especially if held in his own house Therefore It, was propos'd that no person who keeps an Alehouse shall be made (or put in Election for) a Grand-Officer.

To After many debates this matter was X the prudence and Circumstances of the Grand Lodge.

Order'd that the G: S. shall expressly mention the payment of Arrears and Election of Grand Officers in the Sum' for Dec' the 4th next.

Clos'd and Adjourn'd to the 4th of Dec' aforesaid
Grand Lodge Dec. 4th 1754 Bells Tavern

D: G: Master Rankin in the Chair.

Call'd the List and Rec'd. dues as appears by the
Cash Book. & referred the Choice of G.W: to the Gd Com'tee Dec 18th

No. 33. paid their Arrears and took their places as formerly

Read and confirm'd Thomas Loyd's Expulsion. vide S: Lodge

Read a Letter from the Grand Master: as follows

"To the Worshipfull Laurence Dermott Gd. Secretary
"Worthy Brother,

By this, please to acquaint our Wor'd
"Deputy or the Sen't Grand Officer present and
"the rest of the Brethren, That duty compels me to
"be absent. I have endeavour'd to persuade our
"Brother Rankin to stand in Nomination for the
"Chair. but he seemed not inclin'd. I rest Assured
"the Judgment of our Officers and Brethren will
"Elect right worthy Brethren for each Office I wish
"the Brethren peace Unannanimity and the desired
"Success And remain their Sincere
"and Affectionate Bro'.
"Sign'd, Robert Turner."

"P.S. let there be Orders given for the Attendance of each
"Lodge (on S'. John's day in the morning) at the Instalm'.
of the Grand Officers according to the custom of Antient
"Masonry," which orders were given. and then

Clos'd and Adjourn'd to S'. John Day Next
Ten o'Clock in the morning
The R W: Robert Turner in the Chair.

The Grand Lodge was Open'd in the Antient Form &c

after which his Worship made a long and Excellent Speech
on the Antiquity and Utility of the Antient Forms
and then proceeded to the Instalment of Grand Officers
for the Year 1755. viz.

The honorable Edward Vaughan Esq'.  G M
William Holford Esq'.  D G M
Mr. John Jackson  S G W
Mr. Samuel Galbraith  J G W

These Gentlemen being severally Installed the were proclaim'd
and Saluted according to Antient Custom. &c &c &c.

Thanks was also given to the Former Officers for their
service done for the Craft. And the present Grand
Officers made speeches, relative to the Occasion
and then Adjourn'd to the first day of Jan 9, 1755.

Grand Lodge in Ample Form Jan: 1: 1755 Bells Tavn.

R W Ed" Vaughan Esq'.  G. M. in the Chair.

Call'd the Roll and Rec'd dues as appears by the Cash
Book.

The New and Old Regulations of Freemasons were
Read by the Grand Secretary upon which he made
many useful remarks at the Conclusion of which
the G M gave the Brethren some Excellent charges
which he expected they wou'd observe for the future

Heard a dispute between the Brethren of No. 17. wherein
it appear'd that that they had devided into two parties
and that each party had claim'd the Warrant &c
Agreed, It is the Opinion of this G L. That the Warrant No 17
is the property of the present possessors and their
adherents. Nevertheless in consideration of some ill Usage offer'd to the other party by the remaining Members of N⁰ 17 Lodge aforesaid. This Grand Unanimously Agreed that the brethren agrieved viz Thomas McGinnes, — Kennedy John Makins &c, shall have and possess the Warrant N⁰ 37 for the future: providing that each and every of them shall pay all dues to the day of taking rank as N⁰ 37.

Read the funeral Bill (of the late Bro'. Mitchell) P.-Thomas Allen both of N⁰ 2.

This bill was refer'd to the Stewards Lodge

Heard a petition from Bro'. John Chace S. Warden of N⁰ 4 setting forth and craving a Restitution of Expences which he had been at in serving a Brother viz John Flinn of N⁰ 2.

Order'd that this Case shall be laid before the Stewards Lodge.

The present Stock was deliver'd to the new G⁴ Officers viz Sixty three pounds, six shillings and three pence which Cash acc⁴ gave general Satisfaction. And the Grand Lodge was Clos'd with the most agreeable Harmony and Adjourn'd to April 2⁴ next.
Grand Lodge &c April 2d 1755 Bells Tavern

The R W: Edw Vaughan G M in the Chair.

Heard and confirm'd the Transactions of the Stewards Lodge
Call'd the Roll and Rec'd dues as appears by the Cash
Book.

Thomas Eastman the Master of No. 18 stood up and "de
"-clared that his business to the Grand Lodge on this night
"was to make a formal declaration that neither he nor
"any of the members of his lodge No. 18 wou'd contribute
"to the Grand Fund nor attend this Grand Lodge for the
"future"

Upon which the R: W: G. Master told M'. Eastman that
"he was welcome to stay away and further that if he
"knew any body of like principles in this Assembly
"he was also at liberty to take him or them "

Heard the petition of Thomas Byrne Past Master of No. 32
in distress (thro: sickness) Order'd that the petitioner
shall Receive one pound fifteen shillings at the
rate of seven shillings P Week by the hands
of George Birney Master of No. 32 aforesaid.
providing that in case the said pet'. Thomas Byrne
shou'd die within five weeks in such case the
said George Birney shall return the Remainder
of the Money to the Grand Lodge.

Heard a petition from James Towbin a Sojourner in
distress. a private Collection was immediately
made for and deliv'd to him.

G W Galbraith beged leave to resign his office on acc't
of the ill Usage which he rec'd from Lau: Rooke
the Master of No. 17. The Grand Warden was recon-
ciled to his Office. And Laurence Rooke Declar'd
off the Grand Charity and demanded two shillings

[53]
which he had formerly Contributed to the Fund for relief of worthy Brethren in distress.

The G M. told him "That taking him in every sense the he did really believe him to be one of 'a poorest creatures in London, but wanted merit to receive a single farthing out of any Charitable fund in the Universe.

Clos'd and Adjourn'd June 18th. 1755.

Grand Lodge &c June 18th. 1755 —— Bells

The R W. G M. Vaughan in the Chair.

Call'd the Roll and Rec'd dues and Steward's fines as appears by the Cash Book.

Heard a petition (for a Warrant) from Brothers Collins Radford and Bridge &c of Manchester

Order'd that a Warrant shall be made and convey'd to the peti'tn. with such Other things as the Grand Sec'y. shall think most prudent and necessary.

Heard a peti'tn. from Thomas Grinsell of No. 3 in distress on Acc't of his Bro' James Quin Comedian having ommitted to send him his yearly stipend which the said James Quin Esq'. hath allowed for several years past.

Order'd that the peti'tn. shall Receive forty shillings directly by the hands of G. W. Galbraith. but this order shall not be made a precedent to Others, they said Thomas Grinsell not being sick only infirm 'thro great Age.

Heard a second peti'tn. from Cain Hacket (Sick) Order'd
that the petitioner shall be Continued at five shillings P week during the pleasure of the Grand Lodge.

Heard the pet. of Ben: Landers of No. 2 (sick) the pet. not being sufficiently known it is agreed that a proper enquiry shall be made into the pet. Character and if approved of he shall receive the sum of five shillings P week (for the space of one month) by the hands of Thomas Allen of No. 2.

A Complaint was made against James Molan No. 22 not aledging that he would answer proper Summons's Order'd that the said Molan now Master of No. 22 shall be summon'd before the Grand Lodge to An -swer the Charge exhibited against him And upon his being found Guilty or refusing to Answer he shall be excluded.

Clos'd and Adjourn'd to St. John Day next.

Grand Lodge &c St. John's Day, June 1755

G M Vaughan in the Chair.

The Grand Secretary was order'd to examine the Officers of particular lodges as to their Abilities in Instaling was their successors Upon which Examination it was thought Necessary to Order the said Secretary to attend the Instalation of several Lodges, which the G S. promis -ed to perform.

The G M having made an Eloquent speech relative to the day the Grand Lodge was Clos'd and Adjourn'd to the 17th day of Sep' next.
Grand Lodge &c September 17 1755

G M. Vaughan in the Chair.

Call'd the Roll and Rec'd dues as appears by the Cash Book.

Heard a petn. (for a Warrant) from No. 25. in favour of some worthy Brethren Residing in Bristol —

Order'd that the Grand Secretary shall prepare the necessaries for Constituting the petn. Aforesaid —

Heard a like petition from some Brethren in Coventry
But the petitioners not being sufficiently known the Grand Secretary was order'd to endeavour to find out the real Character of the petn. and if satisfactory to him, he shou'd be at liberty to proceed as became his Office.

Heard a petition from Thomas Warren Master of No. 20
(Sick) Order'd that the Pet'. shall Receive forty Shillings at the rate of five shillings P week.

D' from Michael Wade of No. 8 (sick) Order'd that the pet'. shall Receive One pound five shillings at five shilling P week both these donations to be paid by the hands of our worthy S G W John Jackson.

D' from Daniel Alexander a pris A ner in the King Bench the pet'. having no Title by Certificate or otherwise except the Title of a Freemason. he, is refer'd to the Stewards Lodge which will meet on the 3d, wednesday in October next.

Closed with the most Agreeable harmony
and Adjourn'd to the first Wednesday in December next.
Grand Lodge Dec 3d. 1755

The R: W. G Master Vaughan in the Chair.

Call'd the Roll and Rec'd dues as appears by the Cash Book.

Heard a Letter from the Deputy Grand Master Holford, contents as follows.

"Right Worshipfull Grand Master and the rest of my Worthy Brethren

"This I make free to trouble you with, first to shew you the cause of my Absence which I cannot possibly avoid, thro: an Ill state of health I have for some time labour'd under. And has frequently been the means of hindering that Attendance the post you honour'd me with often required of me. And secondly I beg you will receive my thanks as it is due to this Antient and honourable Society. for every particular favour that you have thought prudent to confer on me as a member have and Brother I must confess you a Just reason to condemn your Choice in the Want of my Abilities to fill a place of so much Consequence as you then thought proper I shou'd discharge. And thirdly if I may be permitted to give my Opinion in the Choice of your ensuing year's Grand Officers Which if present I have an Undoubted right you can never fix better than to reelect your now present Grand Whose Office has been fill'd by him with prudence Chairity and Fraternal love and Anxity over you and your Affairs. And as to me I humbly beg my Brethren you will still continue with the same Affection towards me as you first began with And excuse me for what I have not had in my power to Act in as bound by duty. I make not the least scruple but out of a Body composed (as I hope out of so many worthy Brethren) but you may find one that will readily fill my place and supply my many defects this is what I must seriously beg to lay before you and beg leave to conclude with wishing more & more of that Spirit which shou'd be most predominant in every Brother's heart. And well Understanding in all your proceedings. I am R W. Grand Master Your most Obedient Humble servant, and all the Brothers.

Sign'd —— Wm. Holford.
Then the Grand Lodge proceeded to the Election of GM when the Honorable and RW Edwd Vaughan Esq' was Rechosen for the year 1756. And his Worship thought proper to appoint the RW M' William Rankin his Deputy, who being Saluted &c the Grand Lodge Unanimously chose the RW. Brother M' John Abercromby Sen'. Grand Warden who was also Saluted according to Antient Custom &c &c &c The Jun' Grand Warden's Chair being declared vacant the following Candidates were nominated to stand the Election, And upon closing the poll the numbers appear'd thus

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<th>Candidate</th>
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<th>Votes</th>
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<td>21</td>
<td>19</td>
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<tr>
<td>William Osborn</td>
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<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Barn'd Jackson</td>
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<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thomas Allen</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Hagarty</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Henry Lewis</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>5</td>
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Upon Which M'. James Nisbett was Declar'd duly Elected and was Accordingly Saluted &c as the above &c Proposed and Agreed that every new Admitted Member shall pay full Quarterage on the next Grand Lodge or Stated meeting which shall happen next after his Admission.

Clos'd and Adjourn'd S'. John's day next between the hours of Eleven & Twelve o'Clock
The Grand Lodge being Open'd &c. The Honble. and R.W
Vaughan
Edward A. Esqr. was Install'd (after the Antient Manner)
G M of Masons in that part of Britain called
England &c.
The RW Mr. William Rankin Deputy G M
The RW Mr. John Abercromby S G W. and the
RW Mr. James Nisbett J: G: W. were all severally
Install'd and Rec'd, all the Usual honours &c on the
Occasion. After which the RW Grand Master
made a suitable speech and gave the Necessary
Orders and Charges to the Masters and Wardens, &c
concerning their future behaviour &c and then closed and
Adjourn'd the G Lodge to the
third Wednesday in March next.

Memorandum

This Year 1755. the Modern Masons began to
make use of Certificates: Though the Ancient Masons
had granted Certificates time immemorial.
G M Vaughan in the Chair.

Call'd the Roll and Rec'd, dues viz 10, 15, 0
and paid the demands on the Grand Lodge
all which appears by the Cash Book.

The Master of No. 4 made a motion that no brother of
No. 4 shall be Obliged to petition the Grand or
Stewards Lodge for Charity for the future
but instead thereof he or they so necessiated
shall peremptorily and verbally demand the
same by virtue of his or their contributing
to the Grand fund.

The R W Grand Master desired the Grand Secy
to deliver his private Opinion on the Affair
then before the Gd Lodge To which the Secretary
answer'd in the following manner.

"Gentlemen and Brethren, I rise in Obedience to
I
" the RW Grand Master 'tho ∧ Imagine it requires
" but little Argument to shew you that the con-
" tributions to our Grand fund are too small to
" support such Absolute demands in the nature
" of Common money Clubs That the small dona-
" tions paid into the fund were design'd for real
" distress and that to such (only) as wou'd
" petition their Brethren in writing. And I
" shall beg to remark That in all well
" Governed Lodges it was the usual Custom to be
" petition'd in writing without regard to form &c
" such petitions being attested by some Members
" of the Lodge &c.

Then the RW Grand Master Order'd that the following Ques-
tion be put to the vote, which being done the poll-
Whether a petitioner for Charity shall apply by verbal or by written petition— Votes

For written petitions - - 36
Against - - - 9

Majority - - - 27

Clos'd and Adjourn'd to Wednesday the 2d June next.

Grand Lodge Open'd in Ample Form June the 2d, 1756 Bells Tavern.

RW Ed°. Vaughan in the Chair.

Call'd the Roll and Rec° the dues as appears by the Cash book.

Heard the petition of B'. Abr°. Menzies — Thompson and others for a Constitution. Order'd that the petitioners shall be regularly Warranted and Constituted on Monday the 14 Inst. seven o'Clock in the Evening at the Union Arms in panton Street Haymarket.

Heard the petition of Thomas McClure of N°. 23 in distress. The petitioner not being qualified (according to the General Regulations) to Receive assistance from the Grand fund &c The Grand Lodge according to their wonted Custom of Brotherly love and Charity made a private collection for the Brother in distress which was immediately delivered to him.

Heard another petition from John Eare of N°. 5. Sick Order'd that the petit'. shall Receive seven shill°. per week during the pleasure of this Lodge.
Debated whether we shou'd purchase a set of Candlesticks made by Brother Thomas Allen of No. 2.

The Question being put the votes stood thus:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>For purchasing the sd. Candlesticks</th>
<th>27</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Against</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Majority</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Then a Motion was made, whether the Candlesticks shou'd be paid for, out of the Grand fund, or whether by Subscription amongst the Lodges.

This motion produced many debates which grew so warm that some were for repealing the above Order and declaring against purchasing any Candlesticks &c.

At this time the Grand Secretary beged an Audience which being granted He told the RWG Master & Brethren, that he wou'd propose a scheme by which they wou'd be enabled to purchase (even silver) Candlesticks without drawing anything of the Grand fund, nor any contribution from the Lodges. this was Rec'd. with Applause and an Explanation required,

Upon which the G. S. observed that Warrants were — Granted (for the holding of Lodges) at the small expence of the Secretary's fees. And therefore humbly proposed that One Guinea shou'd be levied on Every new Warrant for the future.

Unanimously Agreed That One Guinea (exclusive of the G's Secretary's fees) shall be Charged on every new Warrant for the future.

Ordered that the thanks of this Grand Lodge shall be given to our Grand Secretary for his Excellent proposal and intreat him to continue in the Study of the Interest and honour of the Antient Craft.
Tran's. of June 2\textsuperscript{d} 1756 Continued

Some Brethren said that the Candlesticks already mention'd were not worth the money charged for them viz £8. 8. 0.

Order'd that some Brethren who are supposed to be proper Judges of work shall examine the said Candlesticks and declare the true value of them.

Accordingly Edmond Field of No. 37, John Byrne of No. 4 Brother Venables of No. 4 and Lau Dermott G.S were Order'd to withdraw into the Antichamber and from thence give their Opinions. But the said referees not agreeing they return'd and the affair was postponed to another opportunity.

Therefore the Grand Lodge was Closed and Adjourn'd to St. John's day next between 11 & 12 o'Clock

Grand Lodge in Ample Form June 24\textsuperscript{th} 1756

R W: G\textsuperscript{4}. Master Vaughan in the Chair.

The Grand Secy. was Order'd to Examine several Masters in the Ceremony of Installing their Successors and declared that many of them were incapable of performance.

Order'd that the Grand Secretary shall attend such deficient lodges and having obtain'd the consent of Members of the said Lodges he shall solemnly Install and invest the several Officers according to the Antient Custom of the Craft.

The G Master gave an Excellent Charge Relative to the Day Closed the G Lodge to the 2\textsuperscript{d} of September next.
RW. G M Vaughan in the Chair.

Call'd the Roll and Recd. dues as appears by the Cash Book.

Order'd that no Mason's Funeral shall be advertised in the public papers for the future.

A motion was made for purchasing the Candlesticks (formerly mention'd in these Transactions) & which some of the Brethren Objected that the price was not settled

Upon which a Committee was Immediately Appointed to inspect &c the said Candlesticks. viz Lau Dermott of No. 1 Abraham Menzies of N 54. John Byrne of No. 4 Bro'. Chalmers of No. 54 Brother Venables of No. 4 and Ishael Reeve of No. 46 this Committee having with-drawn for a few minutes they return'd and deliv'd their Join'd Opinion i.e. That the Candlesticks were unworthy of a place in the Gd. Lodge. But in case the Majority shou'd think proper to purchase all the Candlesticks their Unanimous Opinion was that the sum of five pounds Ster: was the full value of them.

Accordly it was put to A Ballot, whether the G L shou'd purchase the said Candlesticks at £5. 0. 0

Upon casting up the votes the poll stood thus

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>For purchasing at £5.0.0</th>
<th>26</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Against</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Majority - - 3
Transactions of Sep' 2d 1756 Continued

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>£</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To the pursuviant Gough</td>
<td>0.4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To the Tyler Jones</td>
<td>0.1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To the G Secretary Expence</td>
<td>0.1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closed and Adjourn'd to the first Wednesday in December next.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grand Lodge &c December the 1st, 1756 Bells Tavern

R.W.G Master Vaughan in the Chair.

Call'd the Roll and Received dues as Appears by the Cash Book.

Read the Transactions of the Stewards Lodge and Received the fines for non attendance.

Heard a petition from Brother Robert McCrory and others in the Garrison of Gibraltar praying to be Constituted

Order'd that a Warranted shall be granted Immediately to the pet'tons.

Heard an Application from Thomas Allen requesting the purchasing of his Candlesticks already mention'd in These Transactions, which Application or petition being Read & the Brethren refused to speak for or Against the Question ——

Heard the petition of John Games of No. 32 who having sprain'd his Wrist was thereby rendered incapable of working and then much distress'd &c

Order'd that the petitioner shall Receive One Guinea Immediately.
The Master of the Lodge No. 54 proposed to pay
One Guinea into the Charitable Fund for the Title
of No. 12 now Vacant.
Agreed that the Lodge No. 54 shall henceforth be called
and known by the name or Title of No. 12 on their
paying One Guinea towards the relief of distressed
Freemasons. The said Master of No. 54 having
paid the Guinea he and his Wardens took Rank
as No. 12.

The Grand Lodge proceeded to the choice of Gd. Master &c
when the R'. Honorable William Stuart Earl of
Blesinton was Unanimously chosen Gd. Master &c
Then M'. James Nisbett and M'. John Abercromby were
put in Election for the Sen'. Warden's Chair when
upon casting up the Poll, the numbers stood thus:

For Nisbett - - 46
For Abercromby - - 12

Majority - - 34 for Nisbett
Therefore James Nisbett was declar'd duly Elected.

And William Osborn and John Abercromby were
put in Election for the Juniour Warden's Chair
Upon Casting up the poll the numbers stood thus

For Abercromby - - 31
For Osborn - - 28

Majority for Abercromby - 3
Therefore John Abercromby was declared duly Elected.

Ordered that the Grand Secretary shall write a letter of thanks
To the R'. Honble Earl Blesinton for his Ldships great
Condescension and humbly beg his Ldship will please
to appoint his Deputy, &c

Cash disburs'd to the following persons viz.
To John Games of No. 32 1. 1. 0
To Gough the Pursuivant 0. 4. 0
To Jones the Tyler 0. 1. 0
To the Secretary Dermott for Postage &c. 0. 1. 8
To D°, for Removing the Chest 0. 1. 6

Clos'd with the most Agreeable Harmony and Adjourn'd to St. John's Day at Noon.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To John Games of No. 32</td>
<td>1. 1. 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To Gough the Pursuivant</td>
<td>0. 4. 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To Jones the Tyler</td>
<td>0. 1. 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To the Secretary Dermott for Postage &amp;c.</td>
<td>0. 1. 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To D°, for Removing the Chest</td>
<td>0. 1. 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1. 9. 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grand Lodge in Ample Form St. John's Day 27 Dec. 1756

The Honble. Edward Vaughan Esq'. Gd. Master in the Chair,

The Grand Secretary Acquainted the G L. that he had wrote to the Grand Master Elect a copy of which he read as follows

To the Right Honorable William Earl of Blesinton in Margret Street

My Lord,

"I have the Honour of conveying the Unanimous thanks, of the Grand Lodge of the most Antient and honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, for the great honour your Lordship has done the Fraternity in condescending to fill SOLOMON'S CHAIR, I am also order'd to Assure your Lordship that the several Members which compose this Grand Lodge are firmly resolved to pursue such measures as will convince your Lordship that this great favour is not ill bestowed. I have the honour to be "My Lord &c &c" Lau Dermott Gd. Secretary
The Grand Secretary having waited on the G Master Elect
with the foregoing letter but cou'd not gain admittance he
return'd and wrote another letter in which he enclosed the former
and sent them by post to his Lordship.

Upon Receipt of these letters his Lordship wrote the following
answer which he sent by William Holford Esq'. whom his
Lordship Appointed Deputy Grand Master.

"To M'. Dermott Secretary to the Grand Lodge of Free and
Accepted Masons at the five Bells Tavern in the Strand.

"Dec 16, 1756

"Sir,
"I am much concerned that I happen'd not to see you when
"you call'd on me the other day. but my being denied was owing
"to a mistake having given my Orders not with regard to you
"but another person who has been very troublesome. As I shall
"be out of Town St John's day, I must beg leave to act by Deputy
"I am very sensible of the Honour done me by the Fraternity
"in chusing me Grand Master, And if you shall hereafter have
"any business to Transact with me, you have but to let me
"know beforehand when you will call, and I shall give
"proper orders to receive you.

I am Sir your Humble Serv't.

(Sign'd) Blesinton

Then the Grand Lodge proceeded to the Instalment of
Grand Master which was done by proxy in the
person of the Honorable Edward Vaughan Esq'.
who Rec'd all the Honours &c &c &c and then the
Grand Secretary Laurence Dermott proclaimed
The Right Worship' and Right Honorable William Stuart
Earl of Blesinton, Viscount Mountjoy, Baron of ——
Ramalton and Baronet, Grand Master of Masons! &c

Then the Right Worshipful William Holford Esq'. was
Instal'd Deputy Grand Master.
The Right Worshipfull James Nisbett Esq'. Senior Grand Warden and
the Right Worshipfull James Abercromby Esq'. Junior Grand Warden
who Rec'd all the Masonical honours due on the Occasion and the
whole ceremony was perform'd with great Solemnity and decorum.
And closed with an Eloquent Speech and Charge from the
Chair.

Adjourn'd to the first Wednesday in March next.

---

Grand Lodge in due form William Holford Esq'. D G M
in the Chair —- Mar 2d. 1757

The Roll call'd and dues Rec'd as appears by the Cash Book.

A motion was made for a new Regulation of the dues to be
paid by Country Lodges.
Order'd that this affair shall be refered to the Stewards lodge
who are hereby Impower'd to draw up what Regulation
they shall think most convenient for the honour and be
- nefit of the Craft in General. Nevertheless such Regula-
-tion or Order shall not take place intill first Confirm'd
by this Grand Lodge

Heard an appeal from John Hamilton (an Excluded Mem')
setting forth the unhappiness of his mind and the many
injuries which he had Rec'd. through his being Excluded
from all lodges. And most humbly desired to be admited
for a few moments when he wou'd make it appear
that sentence against him was not only cruel but
also unjust. &c After many debates the said ——
John Hamilton was Admitted. And being order'd to fulfill what he had asserted in his appeal &c. He said that the former Complaints against him were all groundless and Malicious and carried against him by the cuning and wickedness of an Imposter viz Lau Dermott the Secretary who had imposed on the whole Craft in saying that he was Regularly Made in Ireland &c. Whereas the said Dermott was only a Clandestine Mason made by James Hagan and Others at a House in Long-Acre some years before. That his whole drift was to keep the society in ignorance and with his singing and tricks to lull them on until they had accumulated a considerable sum of Money and then to Robb them: &c. The late G M Edward Vaughan Esq. stood up and said unhappy

"That he found himself very unhappy in hearing such a slanderous vile Character of the Grand Secretary who he had taken for a most deserving brother. And therefore earnestly moved that the said Secretary shou'd be immediately Order'd to make his defence.

This motion was put into execution. When the Secretary arose and beged leave to Read a Certain Regulation which being granted he Read as follows.

"If a Complaint be made against a Brother by another Brother, and he be found Guilty, He shall stand to the determination of the lodge. But if a Complaint be made against a brother wherein the Accuser cannot Support his Complaint to conviction, such Accuser shall forfeit such penalty as the person so accused might have forfeited had he been really convicted on such Complaint.

Then the Grand Secretary Address'd himself to the Chair Worshipful and said Right Sir, and Brethren, this is the Antient and most Equitable law made and observed by our
Ancestors, always approved and confirmed by you, and therefore by this law I stand or fall.

To which the R W. in the Chair replied “As the law of Masons has decreed, so shall all things here be done.” Then his Worship called on the Accuser and told that he must prove his Assertion the accuser then order’d James Hagan before the lodge who being asked whether he did make Lau: Dermott (the G S) a freemason he answer’d and declared that he did not, neither thing did he ever teach him any relative to Masonry, nor could he devise what reason M’ Hamilton had for saying so.

The G M then ask’d M’ Hamilton if he had any other person to call on this Occasion, Upon which Lau: Rooke arose and said that he verily believed that Bro’ John - - Hamilton’s Accusation was true, Being asked his reason for thinking so, He answer’d “because Brother Hamilton told him so, and at the same time swore to it, in such a manner as to leave no doubt behind.”

Then the Secretary was order’d to make his final defence &c.

He address’d the Grand, and said RW G Master and the rest of worthy Brethren here Assembled By my conduct hitherto, I hope you are convinc’d that I have not done you any wrong. As to my intention of Robbing you &c. This must be left to the great tell-Tale Time, it being impossible to convince this lodge as to my present way of thinking much less what I may think in future. And as to the Other Charge of Imposing on you and being made in a Clandestine manner in London I shall beg leave to have the present and Past Masters of No. 2 examin’d on that head, And I humbly and earnestly beg that the said Master and past Mater may be put to the Master Mason’s Test, on this Occasion.

Allen

Then arose Bro’. Thomas a past Master of No. 2 and proved that Brother Dermott had faithfully served all Offices in
a very Reputable Lodge held in his house in the City of Dublin which servitude was prior to the said Dermott's coming to England: And further declared that he had never heard any crime (in or Out of the Lodge) laid to his Charge. Brother Charles Byrne (Sen'r.) Master of No. 2 proved that Bro'. Lau: Dermott having faithfully served the Offices of Sen'r. and Jun'r. Deacon Jun'r. and Sen'r. Wardens and Secretary was by him Regularly Install'd Master of the good Lodge No. 26 in the Kingdom of Ireland upon the 24th day of June 1746. and that all these Transactions were prior to M'r. Dermott's coming to England.

lastly Brother Dermott produced a Certificate (sign'd Edw'd. Spratt G.S) under the Seal of the Grand Lodge of Ireland of his good behaviour and servitude &c &c &c which gave entire satisfaction. Upon which the G. L. came to the following Resolution viz.

Resolved it is the Opinion of this Grand Lodge that John Hamilton late of No. 19 is unworthy of being Admitted into a Mason's Lodge or any other good Society and therefore it is hereby Order'd that the said John Hamilton Shall not be admitted within the door of any Antient Lodge during his life. the said John having been several times ex -eluded for malpractices and again reinstated yet still continue in his vile offences, of which Clandestine making are not the least.

The Grand Secretary made a Motion for a New Regulation concerning the making of new Masons After many debates it was Agreed and Order'd that no person shou'd hereafter be made a Mason in an Antient Lodge under the sum of One pound five shillings and sixpence and Cloath the Lodge if required, And also that every person
Made under a Temporal Dispensation shall pay as much as those
made in Warranted Lodges. On default hereof the Transgressors
shall be dealt with according to the Eight General Regulation
This Regulation to extend to all Masons whether Members or
visitors, if found Makeing or Assisting to make in a Clandes
-tine Manner.

Order'd that a General meeting of Master Masons shall be
held in this Room on the 13th Inst. in Order to compare
and Regulate several things (relative to the Antient
Craft) which cannot be committed to writing

Order'd the Masters of the Royal Arch shall also be
Summon'd to meet in Order to regulate things rela
tive to that most valuable branch of the Craft.

Heard a Complaint against John Clemenson by some of the
Members of his Lodge No. 20 After some debate the
Majority were of Opinion that Bro' John Clemenson was
innocent of the Charge.

£
The Cash Rec'd this night amounted to 16.18. 0
More Return'd from No. 23 - 0. 5. 0

17. 3. 0

Disburs'd
To the purs' Gough - - 0. 4. 0
To the G Tyler Jones - - 0. 1. 0
To the G S Dermott - - 0. 1. 0

0. 6. 0

Adjourn'd to the 13th. Inst 5 o'Clock afternoon.
Grand Lodge (in the form) on Emergency
at the Five Bells Tavern March 13th 1757

The RW James Nisbett Esq'. Sen't Gd. Warden
in the Chair.

the Grand Lodge being Open'd according to the Antient
Custom &c the cause of meeting was declared and
certain
the Gd. Secretary call'd on a Number of the Masters
to attend the Grand Masters orders and work the
Lodge in the Course of this business the Gd Secretary
Lau Dermott Traced and Explained the 1st, 2d and
3d. part of the Antient Craft and settled many
things (then disputed) to the intire satisfaction
of all the brethren present who faithfully pro-
mised to adhere strictly to the Antient System
and to cultivate the same in their several lodges
The Names and Numbers of the freemasons pre-
on this

-sent A Occasion Were,

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RW: James Nisbett Esq</td>
<td>Sen't Gd. Warden</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RW: John Abercromby</td>
<td>J:G Warden</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>W Lau Dermott</td>
<td>G S</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bartholomew Warren</td>
<td>J W</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas MaGuire</td>
<td>P M</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Glover</td>
<td>P M</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Storer Mathews</td>
<td>S W</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Hutchins</td>
<td>P M</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Goodman</td>
<td>P M</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>William Duggan Master</td>
<td></td>
<td>27</td>
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<tr>
<td>—— Bennett Mem'</td>
<td></td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>No.</td>
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<tr>
<td>William Osborn</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leonard Holiday</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Robert Turner</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>John Byrne</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Rich Raw Master</td>
<td>46</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Grayson</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tho Howe Master</td>
<td>47</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Croan Memr.</td>
<td>47</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rob Hughes Master</td>
<td>14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sam Quay D^</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>William Foster P M</td>
<td>21</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>John Barrow J W</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cha Stuart Memr.</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Will Grant S W</td>
<td>57</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>— James J W</td>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>— Bourke J W</td>
<td>23</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>John Penny Memr.</td>
<td>57</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>John Wilson J W</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Patrick Regan Memr.</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cha Byrne P M</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>— Chambers Memr.</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sam Beaver Sec</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— Atkinson Memr.</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>— Yeaman J W</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>John Smith S W</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Geo Edwards P M</td>
<td>57</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>— Jones Mast.</td>
<td>23</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Games D^</td>
<td>32</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Robert Jesson S W</td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tho Devenish J W</td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John White P M</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>— Lee Memr.</td>
<td>47</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

in all 46 freemasons belonging to 25 Lodges

Adjourn'd to the 1st. Wednesday in June Next
RW William Holdford Esq'. D G M: in the Chair.

The Roll call'd and Receiv'd cash as below ———

Several Complaints were heard against unruly Members
Whereupon the Grand Lodge though proper to make
the following Order.

Unanimously Order'd that If any Master Warden or
presiding Officer or any Other person whose business
it may be to admit Members or Visitors, Screen, Admit
Harbour or enterain in his or their Lodge or Lodges during
Lodge hours or the time of Transacting the proper busi

Member or Visitor [†]

-ness of Freemasonry any Mason (more than once) not
an Antient Mason [†]

Strictly conformable to the Grand Lodge’s Rules and
Orders (Certified Sojourners excepted) such Lodge so

Transgressing shall forfeit their Warrant and may
be disposed off by the next Grand or Stewards Lodge

Cash Receiv'd this night — 20. 0. 6

Disburs'd to sundries — 0. 7. 0

Clos'd and Adjourn'd to S' John's Day next
at Noon

* here the minutes of the Stewards Lodge were Read, and the
clause Relative to the pursuivants fees was confirm'd
& became a General Regulation, but omitted by mistake
vide page 277

Lau Dermott

[† These three interpolations are in pencil.]
The Rt. W. William Holford Esq'. D G M in the Chair.

The Grand Lodge Open'd in Antient Form, &c
Some of the Master's of Lodges beg'd that the Grand Lodge might be form'd into a Grand procession & that the Grand Secretary shou'd exhibit the Method of installing Grand Master &c for the instruction of the Several Lodges present.

Upon which the R W Deputy Grand Master gave the Necessary Orders for performing the whole Ceremonies (except one which cannot be written) which Ceremonies were perform'd with General Satisfaction. The Deputy Grand Master made an Excellent Speech Relative to Harmony, Sobriety, and the business of the Day. And the Officers of 36 Lodges With the Grand Officers Return'd thanks to the Grand Secretary for his most Excellent behaviour on this Day.

Which is here Witnessed by Wm. Holford D G M 5757

Disburs'd to Gough - - - 0. 2. 0
Clos'd & Adjourn'd to the 1st of Sep't. next.

The R W. William Holford Esq'. D G M in the Chair.

Call'd the Roll and Rec'd the dues as below ——

Heard the Case of William Turner late of N°. 9 Who beg'd to be reinstated in his lodge N°. 9. aforesaid After many complaints, Arguments, and debates, it appear'd that the said William Turner had been Guilty of many Evil practices against the Brethren and craft in General.

Therefore, it was Unanimously Order'd that the said William Turner, past Master of N°. 9 shou'd not be admitted within the doors of this Grand Lodge directly, nor indirectly. Neither shall he be admitted, a Member of any Lodge.

(vide Regulation of the 1st June 1757)

Heard the petition of N°. 14 in favour of Bartholemew Warren (insane) see the Transactions of the Stewards Lodge) It is the Opinion of this lodge that the parish Officers are the only persons who ought to act in this Affair.

Mr. George Roth Master of N°. 37 (being intoxicated) interuped the proper business of the Grand Lodge therefore was order'd to quit the Gd Lodge Room and Render'd incapable of readmittance untill he make full submission and
his Grace be Granted.

The minutes of the Stewards Lodge being Read wherein it appear'd that William Weir a Member of No. 9 had Rec'd a Charitable Donation &c

Upon which Mr. Charles Stuart Master of No. 9 togeth'er with the Officers of that Lodge declared that William Weir made Application for the above Charity without the Concurrence or even the knowledge of his lodge. and furthermore that the said Weir was unworthy of the Assistance or notice of the Fraternity. he having committed many Irregularies.

Resolved, That in Order to avoid Impositions for the future All petitions for Charity shall be sign'd by the Officers of the Lodge to whom the petitioner did (last) belong and that such Officers shall attend with the petition if within Twenty Miles of London. Certified Sojourners are not meant under this Regulation.
The R W. William Holford Esq'. D: G: M: in the Chair.

Call'd the Roll and Rec'd dues as below ——

Debated on the affairs of Robert Browne of No. 55
viz whether the said Browne was intitled to Receive
for himself or vote to others any part of the
Grand fund: he the said Browne being upwards
of 12 months in Arrears. ——

Order'd that the said Brown shall pay all his
dues and contribute for 6 months to the Gd. fund
before he has any Title to Receive or vote for
the distribution of any part of the said fund, except
the Title of a Sojourner.

Heard the complaint of the lodge No. 57 against their
late Master Rich'd. Turner  Alleging that he
did not deliver up his charge to the present Master
in the manner requisite in such cases particularly
concerning the Reception and distribution of Cash —

Order'd that this affair shall be reffer'd to the Stewards
Lodge and there determin'd on the 21st day of Dec'.
Ins'.

Heard a petitions from His Excellency Charles —
Lawrence Governor of Nova Scotia, Major Erasmus
James Philips Esq'. William Nisbett Esq'. Alexander
Murray Esq'. and 57 Others praying to be warranted
viz One provincial Grand Warrant and to private Warrants
for the province of Nova Scotia.
Order'd that the Grand Secretary shall immediately pre-
pare the said Warrants &c.
Heard a Letter by way of petition from John Spencer formerly
a Member of No. 23. this petition was not vouch'd nor attested
by any person therefore Rejected. —
Order'd that Bro'. Laurence Boyne now under Dispensation shall
be constituted and Install'd &c on the 14th Ins'.
Heard a petition from Peter Dunn of No. 63 (sick). —
Order'd that the Peti'. shall Receive 2 Guineas immediately.
The R W. in the Chair gave orders for chusing Grand Officers.
when the Grand Lodge Unanimously Rechose the pres'.
G. M. viz the R W and R'. Hon'ble William Earl of
Blesinton &c Grand Master of Masons! for the
year of Masonry 5758. And the following Gen-
tlemen were put in Nomination for the Grand Wardens
places. viz Mr. Robert Goodman p'. Master of No. 15
Mr'. William Osborn past Master of No. 6 Mr'.
David Fisher Master of No. 48 and Mr'. Wm'. Foster
past Master of No'. 16. The first Ballot or poll
the was to chuse two Candidates out of a four above
mention'd in Order to be again Balloted for whereby
a final choice might be made of One of them, for
the Sen' Warden's Chair. the Majority Return'd
Mr'. Goodman and Mr'. Osborn as the proper Candidots
Accordingly they were Balloted for when the
Numbers stood thus
For Mr'. Rob' Goodman - - 33
For Mr'. William Osborn - - 13
Majority for Goodman - - 20
Therefore Mr'. Robert Goodman was declared duly Elected.
some of the Brethren desired that Mr. William Foster and
Mr. Fisher might be put in Nomination with Mr. Osborn
for the Junr. Grand Wardens Chair which after some debate
was granted. and upon casting up the poll the numbers
stood thus

For Mr. William Osborn - - 28
For Mr. William Foster - - 9
For Mr. David Fisher - - 8

Majority for Mr. Osborne - 19

Therefore Mr. William Osborn was declare'd duly Elected.

Cash Rece'd from the Lodges - - - - 18. 3. 0
More from G S. Dermott for the Nova Scotian Warrants
viz for the prov'd Warrant 2.12.6 4.14. 6
For 2 private Warrants 2.2.0

22.17. 6

Disburs'd
To peter Dunn of No. 63 - - - - 2. 2. 0
For a Deal Box Lock & Key - - - - 0. 5. 6
For postage and Advertisements - - - - 0.10. 4
To Em' Keeffe of No. 37 on immediate petn. - - 1. 0. 0
To — Macklin of No. 2 Dn - - - - 0.10. 0
To Gough Pursuivant - - - - 0. 4. 0
To the G Tyler - - - - 0. 2. 0

4.13.10

Clos'd and Adjourn'd to St. John's day next at Noon.
Grand Lodge Open’d in the Antient Manner.

The R W. William Holford Esq’. D G M in the Chair.

The Grand Lodge proceeded to the Instalation of the Gd. Officers when the Grand Secretary proclaimed The Right Wors” and Right Honorable William Stuart Earl of Blesin-ton Viscount Mountjoy, Baron of Ramalton and Baronet Grand Master of Masons! for ye Year 5758 To whom all Masonical honours were paid in the person of Wm. Holford Esq’.

This Ceremony being Over Bro’ Holford aforesaid produced his Ldship’s Letter wherein his Worship was pleased to Appoint him his Deputy.

Therefore the R’. Worshipful William Holford Esq’. was Install’d and Salluted &c &c &c &c Deputy Grand-Master of Masons.

The Right Worshipfull Rob’ Goodman Esq’. was Install’d Sen’. Grand Warden, and the Right Worshipfull William Osborn Esq’. was Install’d Junior Grand Warden with all the Usual Ceremonies of Antient Masons. After which a Speech was made from the Chair Relative to the day and Craft in General. And the Grand Lodge was Adjourn’d to the first Wednesday in March next.

Disburs’d
To the pursuviant £
& Tyler 0. 5. 0

N. B. the whole Acc.” and Cash were adjusted to general satisfaction. and the stock viz £123.2.34 was deliver’d to the Gd. Wardens Goodman & Osborn. who took charge of the same.
The R W William Holford Esq' in the Chair.
Call'd the Roll and Rec'd dues as below

Heard the petition of ——— Jones, Tyler of N°. 7 (sick)
Receive
Order'd that the pet'. shall & one Guinea imme-
diately given him by the hands of B'. James —
Lauder of N°. 7 aforesaid.[*]

Heard a Letter from Mr. John Calder (GS) in
Dublin wherein he assured the Grand Lodge
London
of Antient Masons in X********* that the
Grand Lodge of Ireland did mutually con-
cur in a strict Union with the Antient
Grand Lodge in London and promised to
keep a Constant Correspondence with them
Order'd that the Grand Secretary shall draw up
an Answer in the most Respectful and
ly
Brother & Terms wherein the General
thanks of this Grand Lodge shall be
convey'd, and Assure them that we will
powers
to the Utmost of our E******** promote
the wellfare of the Craft in General.

Heard the Minutes of the Stewards Lodge concern-
ing the removal of Lodges &c
Order'd that the said Minutes shall be
Confirm'd and henceforth become a
Standing Regulation.*

Heard a Letter from the following Brethren

* vide printed Regulations the 8th

[* Presumably the same James Lauder, the Actor]

These Charges were Attested in such manner as left no doubt of the truth of the Charge

Order'd that the said William Welch shall be excluded from all lodges and that the Grand Secretary shall give notice of such Exclusion to the Grand Lodge of Ireland and to all other Lodges under the sanction of this Grand Lodge.

Order'd That Henry Lewis of No. 4 and No. 31 shall be excluded from all Lodges for his Evil practices Also George Lingham of No. 60 likewise Excluded and that the Grand Secretary shall report each of them to all Lodges as men unworthy of any Good Society. ———

Order'd that no dues shall be received in the Grand Lodge after the hour of Nine o'Clock in the Evening ———

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>£</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash Rec'd - - - - 17. 0. 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Disburs'd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To —— Jones of No. 7 - 1. 1. 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To Gough purs'. - - 0. 4. 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To the G Tyler - - 0. 2. 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash Return'd to No. 9 - - 0. 2. 6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. 9. 6

Clos'd and Adjourn'd to the first Wednesday in June next.
Grand Lodge June 7th 1758 Bells Tavern

The Worshipful Mr. William Rankin (former) D G M
in the Chair.

Call'd the Roll and Rec'd. dues as below ———

Read over the Minutes of the Stewards Lodge which
were confirm'd.

The Masters of No. 48, 38, and 5 paid their fines and
No. 15: and 36 were fin'd one shilling each. And
No. 30, 31: and 49 were Excused for sufficient reasons

Heard a Letter from M'rs. Mary Dunn widow of peter
Dunn late of No. 63.

Resolved this Grand Lodge will proceed according to the
printed Regulations with Justice and Equity
to the Craft and to M'rs. Dunn. ————

Heard the petition of John Dignan of No. 17 (in Distress)
Order'd that the said petitioner shall Receive Two
Guineas (by the hands of Wm. Dignan of No. 17)
towards defraying his charges to Dublin.

Heard the petition of Brother Bryan Toole begging
the funeral Expences of his Deceas'd Brother
John Toole (both of No. 2 formerly) this pet'n.
was Rejected for several Reasons. ————

Heard the Pet'n. of Henry Hollenpriest No. 30 (sick)
the petition not being properly vouch'd it was
refer'd to the Steward's Lodge

Debated on the Affair of William Welch formerly mention'd
in the Transactions.

Order'd that the Grand Secretary shall acquaint the said
William Brethren of No. 60 That the said Wm. Welch
Requires the Women to make an Affidavit (before some Magistrate) of the crime they lay to his Charge

\[
\begin{array}{|c|c|}
\hline
\text{Cash Recd} & 18. 6. 0 \\
\text{More for the Warrant No. 69} & 1. 1. 0 \\
\hline
\text{Total} & 19. 7. 0 \\
\hline
\end{array}
\]

Disburs'd

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To Dignan (for Toole)</td>
<td>2. 2. 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gough the pursuivant</td>
<td>0. 4. 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Webb G Tyler</td>
<td>0. 2. 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printing of Summons's</td>
<td>0. 6. 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postage</td>
<td>0. 1. 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>2.15. 8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Closed and Adjourn'd to St. John's day next.

Note, after the Grand Lodge was closed, B'r. Webb who Tyled voluntarily this night, (the office being Vacant) was appointed Grand Tyler, in the Room of Jones deceased

---

Grand Lodge at the Bells Tavern
St. John's day June 24, 1758

R W: Rob't Goodman Esq'r. S. G. W. in the Chair.

After the Usual Ceremonies the R W Grand Ward'n Order'd the proper healths to be drank &c which were accordingly done viz

The R W and R'. Hon.'e William Earl of Blesinton &c &c
Grand Master ! - - - - - - 9
The R'. W. William Holford Esq'r. D.G.M. - - 7
The R W Rob't Goodman ) Esq'r. G Warden's - 5
The R W Will'm Osborn ) Esq'r G Wardens - 5
To all Regular Lodges &c - - - - - - 3
A speedy Recovery of health to the Grand Secretary
with - - - - - - - - 3

Closed with Harmony and Adjourn'd to the Sixth day of September next

N.B. the Grand Secretary was confined to his bed with Illness and the minutes were taken by Grand Warden Goodman
D.G: M Wm Holford Esq', in the Chair.

Call'd the Roll and Rec'd the dues as appears below.

Read the minutes of the Stewards Lodge which were Unanimously confirm'd.

Order'd that William Duggan and John Hutchen both of No. 27 and David Harper of No. 55 shall be Summon'd to attend the Stewards Lodge, in order to hear and determine the dispute between the said Hutchen and Duggan.

Debated on the Exclusion of Willm. Grant of the Lodges No. 23 and No. 57 for dues and non attendance in No. 23 aforesaid.

In the course of the debate it appear'd that the said Brother Grant was an Officer in No. 57 and gave constant attendance at the said Lodge therefore it is the Opinion of this Grand Lodge that the said Grant can not be excluded from the Grand Lodge during his Office in No. 57 aforesaid for any fault now exhibeted against him. tho: he the said Grant may be refused Admission into No. 23 until he has done the duties of the Lodge and Upon non Compliance he may be excluded the whole Fraternity on the next St John's day.

Nor shou'd he be admitted as a Member in any other Lodge during the said time without a Certificate from the Lodge No. 23.

Heard the petition of Samuel Beaver of No. 8 setting forth that he was in great distress and craving some small relief &c.

Order'd that this petition shall be refer'd to the next Stewards Lodge.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash Rec'd</td>
<td>£13.14.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Disburs'd</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To Gough — G P</td>
<td>£0.4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To Webb — G.T</td>
<td>£0.2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printing Sum &amp;c</td>
<td>£0.8.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Postage</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>To the G Sec'y. Expence</td>
<td>£0.2.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

0.16. 7

Clos'd and Adjourn'd to the 6th of Dec't next.
Grand Lodge  Dec. 6 1758  Bells Tavern

R W Rob' Goodman Esq'. S.GW in the Chair.

Call'd the Roll and rec'd dues as below.

The lodge No. 27 having exhibited a Complaint agst
Brother Tinwell of the same lodge and the said com-
plaint being proved to satisfaction it was Order'd
that the said Tinwell shall pay all his dues imme-
diately otherwise he shall be discontinued on the
books of the said Lodge.

Debated on the dues from remote lodges (in the Army)
after many debates it was agreed that all lodges
in the Army shou'd be excused from contributing
in the General manner, according to that mea
tion'd
In the Transactions of the Stewards Lodge.

Rec'd. some fines (as below) for non Attendance at the
Stewards lodge.

The Grand Secretary Read the Copy of a Letter sent
to the Grand Master, as follows
"The the R'. Worshipful & R'. Hon." William
"Earl of Blesinton Grand Master of the
"most Antient and Honorable Fraternity of
"Free and Accepted Masons
"My Lord and R'. Worshipful Sir
"We the Grand Lodge of Free and
"Accepted Masons of the Old institution beg leave to
"return your Lordship our most sincere and hearty
"thanks for the great Honour your Lordship has
"been pleased to have done the Fraternity in
condescending to be our Grand Master for two years last past And we hope your Lordship will excuse our non attendance in a public manner, which we should have (gladly) done, but were given to under stand that it wou'd be more agreeable to your Lordship if sent by our Secretary in this private manner.

by

"The number of Warrants sign'd A your Worship is a convincing proof of the prosperity of the Craft under your Lordship's Sanction. And we have Worship the pleasure to Assure your A That (notwithstanding the troublesome time of war the bane of all good Society) we have not only been able to relieve a Great number of Indigent Brethren but also have bought An Hundred pounds stock in the 3 PC Annuities 1726, and have still money enough in the Grand Lodge Chest to answer all demands that are likely to be made on us. We are sensible that it will be very pleasing to your Lordship to hear of a great number of Worthy Freemasons Ardently and Industriously engaged in Brotherly love and Charitable works, As such we most humbly entreat your Lordship may be pleased to continue to us the great honour of being our Grand Master for the Year 1759 and as Masons we firmly promise that it shall be our constant care to endeavour by every laudable means to deserve to the great Hon'. confer'd on My Lord
Your Lordship's,
Most Obliged,
Most Humble Serv't.
and faithfull Brethren

For the Antient Fraternity
Sign'd, Willm. Holford D G M

His Lordship’s Answer,
very
"I am ^ sensible of the great Honour done me by
the Fraternity, and very glad to hear of their pros-
-erty, And with all my heart accept of their
kind Offer and shall always be willing to
promote the Antient Craft.

Sign'd Blesinton

Order'd that the thanks of this Grand Lodge shall
be convey'd (by the G. S.) to his Lordship &c

Heard an Application from Brother Jn'. Abercromby
who beged to have leave to continue No. 13 on his
constantly paying his own private dues until he
cou'd congregate a sufficient number ^ brethren to
form a Lodge, but on putting the Question the
Majority Not only refused to continue No. 13 but also
Order'd it to be made vacant, therefore No. 13 was
Declared Vacant.

Upon which the Master of No. 63 (amongst many
others) Applied for No. 13 and Offer'd to pay two
Guineas into the Grand fund for the said Number 13
Order'd that the Lodge now known by the Title of No. 63 shall (upon paying Two Guineas to the Grand Charity) henceforth bear the Name Number and Rank of Lodge No. 13.

The Grand Master having left the choice of Deputy G M to the Grand Lodge, the following Brethren were proposed to be balloted for in Order to make Choice of one of them To be recommended to his Worship viz

- Brother Robert Goodman
- Brother William Osborn

When upon casting up the votes the poll stood thus —

- For Goodman - - - 30
- For Osborn - - - 20

Majority for Goodman - 10

therefore M'. Rob'. Goodman, Was Recommended to the G M. and Bro'. William Osborn, Was chosen Sen'. G W for the year 1759.

Then the Grand Lodge proceeded to the Choice of Jun'. Grand Warden when Bro'. Carr of No. 21 Bro'. David — Fisher of No. 48 and Bro'. Cha'. Stuart of No. 9 were nominated to stand the poll for the J G Warden's Chair

Votes for { Carr - 11 } Majority for Fisher to stand
Votes for { David Fisher 23 } the poll against Stuart
Votes for { Cha'. Stuart 13 } 10

Upon which the Candidates were thus poll'd for

- For Fisher - - - 27
- For Stuart - - - 18

Majority for Fisher - - 9 declared

Therefore David Fisher was A duly Elected J: G: Warden for the year 1759.

Many Complaints were heard against the G Pursuivant and
Grand Tyler charging each of them with Neglect of Duty ——
Order’d that if either the Gd Pursuviant or G. Tyler shall hereafter
suffer any Member of the G Lodge to depart with leave from the
presiding Officer such pursuviant or Tyler shall forfeit his
or their night’s Salary or Wages. ——
Orders were given for Two Funerals vide Cash Book.

| Cash Rec’d  |  -  |  -  |  -  |  -  | £ 18. 3. 0 |
| Disburs’d   |  -  |  -  |  -  |  -  | 0.12. 0   |
| To Gough    |  -  |  -  |  -  |  -  | 0. 2. 0   |
| To Webb     |  -  |  -  |  -  |  -  | 0. 3. 6   |
| To Expences for Wine &c for | a Sojourner | 0. 3. 6 |
|            |     |     |     |     | 0.17. 6   |

Clos’d and Adjourn’d to St John’s Day next at 42
Eleven o’Clock precisely ——

Grand Lodge at the Bells Tavern
St. John’s Day 27th Dec. 1758

The R W. Robert Turner (former G M) in the Chair, produc’d
a letter from the R1 Honble. and R W. William Earl of Blesinton
-inton wherein his Lordship Appointed him (the said
R1. Turner Esq’t) proxy. And therefore the Grand Lodge
proclaim’d (according to Antient custom) the R1 Honble.
and R W. William Stuart, Earl of Blesinton &c &c &c
G Masters of Masons! and all the usual honours
were paid to the R1. Worshipfull proxy. ——
Then Robert Goodman Esq’t. Was Install’d D G M
William Osborn Esq’t. Dp S G W
David Fisher Esq’t. proclaim’d J G W
and the Grand Secretary (for the Instruction of the Mem’t)
Installing Antient
went thro: the whole Ceremonies of ∼ all the ∼ Officers [*]
To whom he deliver’d the Cash (with great satisfaction to
the Fraternity) viz £150.0.7½ and the Grand Lodge
was clos’d with the utmost harmony. And

Adjourn’d to the 7th day of March next.

[* I am doubtful if the scratched-out word is “Antient”; it looks to me more as if the word
“Installing” had been inserted first in the wrong place.]
Grand Lodge at the Bells Tavern
March the 7th, 1759

The R'. Worshipfull William Osborn Esq'. S:G:W. in the Chair.

Call'd the Roll and Rec'd the dues as below —

Heard — a petition from Patrick Kenny of No. 9 (Sick)
Order'd the pet'. Two Guineas immediately by the hands
of George Grigg Master of No. 9 ——

Heard — a petition from Rob'. Anderson a Sojourner from
the Antient Lodge of Killwining in Scotland.
Order'd that the pet'. shall be relieved with One Guinea
immediately.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cash Rec'd</th>
<th>£</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>16. 3. 0</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Disburs'd</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To Kenny (No. 9)</td>
<td>2. 2. 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To Anderson a Certified Sojourner</td>
<td>1. 1. 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To Gough purs'</td>
<td>0. 4. 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To Webb — Tyler</td>
<td>0. 2. 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To Postage &amp;c</td>
<td>0. 6. 0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.15. 0

Clos'd and Adjourn'd to the 6th day of June next.
Grand Lodge at the Bells Tavern
June 6th, 1759

The R W. Rob'. Turner in the Chair.
Call'd the Roll & Rec'd the dues as Appears below

Heard —— a Dispute between the Lodge No. 16 and
No. 17 concerning the Entering some persons in
the latter.
Order'd that both Lodges shall be summon'd to
attend the Stewards Lodge to whom the matter
is refer'd for determination.

The Master of No. 55 proposed to pay 4.14.6
for the Vacant No. 3, which proposal was Accepted
and the money paid the Members of No. 55 took
the Rank of No. 3 accordingly ———

Heard —— two petitions from —— Williams and ——
Mullhall (late Members of No. 4) confined in
the Compter for debt, these pet's. were refer'd to
the Stewards Lodge

Order'd that Brother John Byrne shall Receive the
full sum of £43.0.0 —— for the Candlesticks ——

Order'd that the Sen' Warden of the Lodge No. 16 ——
shall immediately withdraw, he being deem'd
unworthy of sitting in this Grand Lodge.
because of his disrespectfull speeches and de-
claring off.

£
Cash Rec'd - - - - - - 17.11. 6
More for the Warrant No. 77 - 1. 1. 0
D' for No. 3 - - - - - - 4.14. 6

23. 7. 0

---

Tran's of June 6 1759 Continued

Disburs'd

To John Byrne for Candlesticks - - - - - - 43. 0. 0
To the G's Secretary's bill for sundries 1.13. 9
To the G Purs' - - - - - - 0. 4. 0
To the G Tyler - - - - - - 0. 2. 0

44.19. 9

Adjourn'd to S'. John's Day (next) at Noon.

[On a slip pasted in]
Rec'd June 6th 1759 from Mr Laurence Dermott G'd. Secretary
forty three pounds in full for five Mahogany Candlesticks
made according to the five Orders of Columns

By me In'. Byrne

£ 43. 0. 0
Grand Lodge at the Bells Tavern
June 24 1759

The R W. James Nisbett G.W. in the Chair.

The usual Healths &c were Ceremoniously drank
and the presiding Officer gave a Charge Relative to the
day, and then Clos'd and Adjourn'd to the fifth of
September next.

N. B. for the Disbursments, Vide next Stewards Lodge

Grand Lodge at the Upper Ship in Dukes Street in the Town of
Reading and County of Berks.

By the R W Grand Master's Authority. Open ½ before 8 o'Clock
in the Evening

R W. John Jackson Sen' G Warden in the Chair
Also present Lau Dermott G.S. peter Loubier, John Loubier
Christopher Belfour and Edmund Chamberlayne Master Wardens &
Members of No. 10. The Grand Officers (pro tempore) being in form
They proceeded to Install the Rever'd & W'. George Goldwyer Master
Mr. Abraham Hobbs Sen' Deacon, Mr. Joseph Clarke J. Deacon —— and
Mr. George Tucker Sec'y. of the Lodge No. 80. The whole business
being executed according to Ancient Ceremonies Usage & Custom
the Grand Lodge in the space of three hours after Opening
(according to order) was solemnly Closed and Adjourn'd to the
London

G'. Lodge Room at the five Bells Tavern ∨ upon the 5 of Sep'. next
Grand Lodge At the Bells Tavern
September 5th 1759

The R W: G M. Rob1 Turner in the Chair.

The following Gd Officers were also present viz Wm. Holford Esqr
Capt'n. James Nisbett, Wm. Rankin, Rob1 Goodman Esq' D G M
Wm. Osborn Esq' S G W — and David Fisher Esq'. J.G.W. Elect
The Gd. Master's Lodge proclaim'd & took the first seat accordingly as

N° I ___________________________________________

Call'd the Roll and Rec'd dues as below. ———

Heard —— a petition (for a provincial Grand Warrant) from the
Brethren at Philadelphia which petition was
Seconded by the Officers of N°. 2.

Order'd that Gd. Secretary Dermott shall draw up a proper
answer and deliver the same to Brother Joseph
Read of N°. 2 who is appointed to convey the
answer
said & to philadelphia.

The Lodge N°. 38 having seperated one party to the
Queen's Head, the Other party to the Feathers
(both houses) in Oxford Road & Humbly beged that the
dispute might be decided by Ballot in the Gd Lodge
which was accordingly done, thus

For the Feathers - - - - - 31
For the Queen's Head - - - - - 17

Majority for the Feathers - - - - - 14

Order'd that the Brethren at the Feathers shall have the
Warrant and be deem'd the Lodge N°. 38 ———

£
Cash Rec'd. 17.19.0  
Disburs'd
To the purs' - 0. 4. 0
To the Tyler - 0. 2. 0
Expence - - 0. 1. 0

0. 7. 0

Adjourn'd to Dec° 5th next
Grand Lodge at the Bells Tavern
Dec. 5th, 1759

The R W Robert Goodman Esq'. D G M in the Chair
also present the following Grand Officers viz John —
—— Abercromby, Wm. Rankin, James Nisbett and William Osborn
and David Fisher Grand Wardens.

Call'd the Roll and Rec'd dues as below ———

The Grand Secretary Read a—be the Copy of a letter which
(by advice of the Grand Officers) he wrote to the G M —
proposing a Play for the benefit of Indigent Brethren.
To which the Grand Master answer'd that the Managers
of the Theatres required an Unreasonable sum (between
fifty and sixty pounds) That his Ldship

to
wou'd agree Even that sum providing he might be
allowed to have a play and Entertainment of
his Ldship's Chusing which was denied refused.

The R'. W D G Master Inform'd the Grand Lodge that
he had lately waited on the G M (according to annual
custom) to intreat his Ldship's Continuance in the
Office of G. M. but his Ldship being then en-
gaged very much cou'd not give a direct answer
and Order'd the D G M to wait again. In the
meantime it was thought most prudent to Elect
some brother to be Recommended as a Deputy and
to make Choice of Two Grand Wardens ———
The R: W Deputy Grand Master Goodman was unanni-
uously requested to keep his Office but he declined
such office and Alledged sufficient reasons for his
behaviour, for which as well as the whole of his proceedings he receiv’d. publick thanks ——

Then the G Lodge proceeded to make choice of a worthy Bro’. to be recommended to the G M for the Deputy’s Chair

The persons Nominated and balloted for were

William Osborn S G W - - 31
David Fisher J G W - - 18

——

Majority for Osborn - - 13

Order’d that in case the G M shall not chuse any private friend of his own as Deputy the Grand Lodge shall Recommend the R W. William Osborn Esq. as a person duly Qualified.


And Mr. William Dickey Sen’. and Mr. Cha’. Stuart (of N° 9) were nominated for the Jun’. G. Warden’s Chair when the poll appear’d thus

For William Dickey - - - 30
For Cha’. Stuart - - - 18

——

Majority for Dickey - - - 12

Upon which Mr. William Dickey (Sen’) was declared duly Elected.

Many disagreeable altercations arose from Bro’. Cha’. Stuart and friends on Account of his not being chosen G Warden and some of the disputants declar’d that N°. 9 shou’d never pay another shilling into the G° Charity

Heard —— a petition from William Carroll a Certified Sojourner in distress —— vide Memorandum below. ———

Order’d that a private subscription shall be immediately made and deliv’ed to the said Carroll, which was accordingly done to the great relief and satisfaction of the petitioner.

The G Secretary made a Long and labour’d speech against any victular being chosen a Grand Officer, which speech gave
great Offence to some persons in the Grand Lodge
The Secretary owned that he had treated the subject freely, yet he —
humbly conceiv'd that considering the dignity of the Craft &
his duty to the Society he had not exceeded the bounds of
Brotherly love and good manners, and therefore humbly
moved that the Sense of the Grand Lodge might be taken
on his present behaviour.

The R W D: G: M. put the Question viz
Whether the Sec'y Lau Dermott for his last speech
—— Merited applause
or Deserved Censure
For Applauding the Secretary — 44
Against — — — 4
Upon which the R W Deputy said, Brethren, there are
44 votes for the Secretary and 4 against him by which
it seems there are only 4 Publicans in the Room ———

Cash Rec'd. — — — 19.17. 6
Disburs'd To Gough, purs't
To Webb, Tyler
To Tho'. Allen for the funeral Rich't Walter 37
To — Biss for Dr. William Smith 22
To X———Irwin 3

Bro't Kelly of No. 49 having petition'd which pet'n
— cou'd not be duly consider'd on this night ———
Order'd that the Master of No. 49 shall advance fourteen
shillings for the immediate support of the petit'.
unto the next Stewards lodge to whom this petition is
refer'd with orders to repay the fourteen shillings afore-
— said

Clos'd and Adjourn'd to the 16th of Dec' Inst and
then to meet (at the usual hour) On Emmergency.
The R W Robert Goodman Esq'. D G M: in the Chair.

The Grand Secretary according to the nature of his office having order'd several of the Masters to produce their lodge books a'fore the G Lodge, &c in consequence of the perusal and regulating such books the following Sums were paid into the Grand fund viz

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Sums</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>0. 5. 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>0. 9. 0</td>
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<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>0.13. 0</td>
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</table>

1. 7. 6

Disburs'd
To Gough the purs' - 0. 2. 0
The Tyler did not attend—

Adjourn'd to S' John's day next at 11 o’Clock Forenoon

Memorandum

The private collection made for Carroll above mention'd amounted to five Guineas:

It appeared that William Carroll a Certified freemason of Dublin petitioned the Modern Masons (not knowing any difference) and that M' Spencer then Secretary to the Modern Society sent out the Answer to Carroll's petition in the following words viz. "Your being an Ancient Mason, you are not intitled to any of our Charity the Antient Masons have a lodge at the five Bells in the Strand, & their Secretary's name is Dermott. Our Society is neither Arch, Royal Arch or Antient so that you have no Right to partake of our Charity."

The petitioner Carroll delivered the original paper Written by M' Spencer to M' Dermott G S. in whose custody it remains
Grand Lodge Dec. 27 1759
at the Bells Tavern

R W Robert Goodman Esq', D G M in the Chair.

The G L. being Open at Noon, the R. W in the Chair gave orders for proclaiming The R W, and R. Houn's, William Earl of Blesinton &c G M of Masons for the year of our Lord 1760, which was Accordingly done with the formalities customary on such Occasions (id est) in the absence of the G M)

Then Deputy Goodman produced his Lordships Letter wherein his Worship was pleased to Constitute and Appoint Bro' William Osborn his Deputy for the year 1760. Who was presented and immediately instal'd proclaimed and saluted &c &c &c ——

Mr. David Fisher Sen'r. G W. Elect was confin'd to his bed thro: an Indisposition his Instalation was post-pon'd to a more favourable Opportunity with strict orders that he the said S: Warden Elect shou'd not assume the G Warden's Chair untill he was first Instal'd according to Antient Usage.* ——

Then the G. L. return'd thanks to the late D G M for the many services (by him) done the Craft during his good Government. To which his Worship made a Suitable answer and concluded with Recommending peace and Harmony among the Brethren

And then the R W D G Master Adjourn'd the G Lodge to the first Wednesday in March 1760.

Dusburs'd

To the Pursuviant and G Tyler £ 0. 5. 0

* Here William Dickey (Sen'r) Esq' was Installed and proclaim'd J. G Warden for the year 1760 ——

Grand Lodge Mar 5: 1760 Bells Tavern

R W William Osborn Esq’, D. G. M in the Chair.

Call'd the Roll and Rec'd. dues, as appears below

Heard several appeals &c which were all refer'd to the Stewards Lodge

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cash Rec'd</th>
<th>£</th>
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<tr>
<td>More for the Warrant No. 81</td>
<td>1. 1. 0</td>
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<td>20. 7. 6</td>
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Disburs'd

To the purs'l | £ |
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To the Tyler</td>
<td>0. 4. 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To Expence P G S</td>
<td>0. 2. 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0. 1. 0</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0. 7. 0</td>
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Closed and Adjourn'd to the 4th of June next
R W William Osborn Esq'. D G M in the Chair.

Call'd the Roll and Rec'd dues as below. —

Debated on a Certain Certificate from No. 9 to Brother Nich's. Wade.

Agreed (Unanimously) that the said Certificate is sufficient to recommend the said Wade to any Antient Lodge within the Bills of Mortality

Heard a petition from Brother Joseph Martin (of No. 32) (sick) Order'd that the petitioner shall immediately Receive One Guinea by the hands of Deputy Osborn

Heard a pet'n. of Bro'. Hanway of No. 63 praying to be appointed Grand Tyler

Upon which Bro'. David Lyon of No. 15 was also nominated and the Grand Lodge proceeded to Election and upon Conclusion the poll stood thus

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>For Lyon</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For Hanway</td>
<td>16</td>
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</table>

Majority for Lyon 2

In consequence of this Majority M'. Lyon was declared duly Elected.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cash Rec'd</th>
<th>£</th>
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<tr>
<td>21.19. 0</td>
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Disburs'd

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To Gough</td>
<td>0. 4. 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To Martin of No. 32</td>
<td>1. 1. 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To M' Windell for Sundries</td>
<td>0.14. 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To M' Lyon Tyler</td>
<td>0. 2. 0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. 1. 6

Clos'd & Adjourn'd to St. John's Day next
Grand Lodge June 24 1760 at the Bells Tavern

Esq'. D G M
The R W: William Osborn A in the Chair.

The Grand Lodge was Open'd in Ancient Form after which the Grand Secretary L. Dermott explain'd the nature and form of Instalations in General and the R W D: G: M gave a Charge relative to the admission of visitors and Concluded with the following Toasts viz:

1. The King & the Craft - - 9
2. The R W G M Earl Blesinton 9
3. Deputy Osborn - - 7
4. G Wardens - - 5
5. Lodges in General - - 9
6. The G Sec. Dermott - 3

Disburs'd £
   To Geo Saunders (Pet') - 1. 1. 0
   To the Purs' & Tyler - 0. 5. 0

1. 6. 0

Clos'd & Adjourn'd to the 3rd of Sept'. next
Grand Lodge Sept. 3rd. 1760. Bells Tavern

Grand Warden Fisher assumed the Chair and Order'd the G Secretary to proceed to business.

which

Upon the Secretary gave Brothern to understand that Brother Fisher not being properly Instal'd he cou'd not act as Senr. G. Warden neither cou'd the G L Instal him without the presence of one of the Grand Masters or an Order in writing from one of them.

Accordingly a Messenger was dispatched to the D G M who sent a proper power to the G S was for Installing the G Warden which Immediately the done, and then proceeded to usual business &c &c

Call'd the Roll and Rec'd dues as below

Heard an Appeal from Abraham Mondett of No. 38. craving part of the Money, Furniture &c of No. 38 as mention'd in the Stewards Lodge Order'd —— That this affair shall be refer'd to the Stewards Lodge and there finally determined.

Heard the Complaint of John McCoy of No. 23 against Peter Duffy of No. 31 for Ill usage Offer'd to him said the John, By the said Peter Duff in the dwelling house of the said Peter. &c &c

The Grand Lodge having thoroughly Examined and heard both parties, it was ————

Order'd, That the said John McCoy & Peter Duffy shall immediately shake hands and be (and continue) friends which decision was Instantly complied with.

Cash Rec'd — 17.18.6 Disburs'd. To the Tylers 0. 6. 0
To the Fun' of P: FitzGerald No. 17 3.10 0
To Windell for Wax Candles 0.14. 2
To Sum't. printing 1. 4. 0

5.14. 2

Clos'd & Adjourn'd to Dec' 3rd. 1760.
The R W: William Osborn Esq'. D: G M. in the Chair.

Call'd the list and Receiv'd dues as below ———

Heard a Calculation (made by the lodge No. 24) of the Effects of Lodge No. 38, at the time of separation as mention'd in the Stewards lodge.

Resolved it is the Opinion of this Grand Lodge That the Brethren of No. 38 have got a sufficient share of the Effects aforesaid, which Opinion is grounded on the Estimates now before us.

Heard a petition from William Lay (vide Former Transactions) begging to be forgiven and Reinstated in his Lodge the said petition being properly Recommended by the presiding Officers of No. 8, it was ———

Order'd that William Lay should be restored to his former Lodge No. 8. ———

Heard a petition from Thomas Cusack No. 37 (sick) to whom was Order'd Two Guineas (by the hands of G. S. Dermott) ———

£

Cash Receiv'd. 20. 0. 6

Disbursements
To Cusack (as above) 2. 2. 0
To Gough 0. 5. 0
Lyon 0. 2. 0
G Secretary's bill for sundries 0. 6. 0

2.15. 0

Clos'd during pleasure
Grand Lodge on Emmergency Decr 24th 1760
5: Bells Tavern


The Deputy G M declar'd to the Grand Lodge that
he had Rec'd a Message from G M Blesinton wherein
his Ldship had signified his desire of Quiting the Chair
And furthermore that he the said D G M with G Warden
William Dickey and Secretary Dermott, had waited on
the Right Honkle Earl of Eglinton (An Antient Mason) and
importuned his Lordship to accept of the Office of G.M.
That his Ldship Rec'd them with great politeness said
"he was very sensible of the honour intened him, but
"the situation of his Family Affairs particularly what
"concerned his Brother's Estates who was then an Officer
"in the Army in America wou'd take up most of his time
not
"in Scotland consequently cou'd give attention to the
"G Lodge in London; but (added his Ldship) I will rec-
"commend you to an-Other Earl who will suply my
"place"

That the Recommendation was directed to the R' Honorable
Earl of Kelly who was pleased to signify his intention
of filling the Chair.

Which answer and Resolution was Rec'd. with great Joy
and an Order Given for returning public thanks to his
Lordship. And after the usual Ceremonies the lodge
was
Clos'd & Adjourn'd to St. John's day next.

\[ \text{£} \]

paid Gough 0. 4. 0
The R' W. William Osborn Esq'r D: G M in the Chair.

The Grand Lodge was Open'd in Antient form, and then proceeded to the Installation of the Grand Master which was Accordingly done thro' all the Ceremonies at Large after which the Grand Secretary Dermott proclaim'd "The "R' W: and R' Honorable Thomas Erskine Earl of Kelly — "Viscount Fenton, Lord Barron of Pittenweem in Scotland " Grand Master of Masons ! &c &c &c

His Lordship having signified his Worship's good pleasure of continuing all the Officers of the G Lodge they were each Install'd (except David Fisher who was Absent) proclaim'd and saluted as customary amongst Antient Masons.

And the Grand Lodge Unanimously Order'd the G S to re-turn the thanks of the Brethren in General to Deputy Osborn and G Warden Dickey for their indefatigable pains to serve the Antient Craft. &c.

The Grand Lodge also unannimously Order'd that Bro'. George Donovan shall stand upon the middle Table in the Grand Lodge, and shall there Audibly read a Certain paper given to him for that purpose which paper contain'd the following words viz " The Grand Lodge of Antient Masons (now under the "sanction of the Right Honorable Thomas, Earl of Kelly) "truly sensible of the Eminent and disinterested services "(done by their Secretary Laurence Dermott (particular-"ly in his Office at the Instalation this day.) "have this day thought proper to Order the General thanks "of the Fraternity to be given to him the said Laurence "Dermott, and that this Resolution shall be recorded in "our Transactions, Not only as a Testimony of our approbation and high Esteem, but also as an Encourag
"-ment to future Secretaries to endeavour to immolate him ".

The Grand Secretary in his place Told the Grand Master and Fraternity, That the Extravagancy of the last Resolu-
tion in favour of his conduct, had surprised him so much
that he was totally incapable of making a suitable Ans'.

Nevertheless the Grand Lodge wou'd do him strict Justice
in believing two things viz. " That he thought himself as-
happy in his Secretaryship, as the Great Pitt was
in being Secretary of State. 2dly ' that he wou'd exert his
utmost powers for the good of the Antient Fraternity so
long as he lived "

All the usual Healths been drank in form &c &c &c
The Deputy G M gave a Charge relative to the
day, and then
Clos'd and Adjourn'd to the 1st Wed'y in March 1761

Disburs'd by Dermott

N:B. paid by Dermott: G.S. } To Gough } £
and Tyler } - - 0.50

[There follow a further 92 pages of Minutes, up to December 7th 1768, followed by an Index, concluding on P. 233 (Illustrated) and Tables of Fees payable to the Grand Secretary, Pursuivant and Tyler occupy pages 253-271.]
APPENDIX

REGISTER OF MEMBERS
OF THE ROYAL ARCH
(„Antients‘)
NOTES ON THE REGISTER

It is frequently stated that “The Royal Arch Minutes of the ‘Antients’ begin in 1783”; but this phrase is, to say the least of it, most misleading. If it is intended to imply that there are Minutes of an “Antient” Grand Chapter from 1783, it is definitely untrue. There are NO Minutes of any “Antient” Grand Chapter, and it is, in fact, very doubtful if any Grand Chapter of the “Antients” ever had anything but a shadow existence, being merely of the nature of a Committee of Grand Lodge; it had no funds, no Officers and no powers other than those borrowed from Grand Lodge; and at the Union, although an Union of two Grand Chapters is said to have taken place in 1817, what actually happened was that, on 30th November, 1813, the Grand Chapter (“Moderns”)

“Resolved That H.R.H. The Duke of Sussex, M.E.Z., be invested with full and unlimited Powers to negotiate and conclude an Union on behalf of this Supreme Grand Chapter with the Grand Lodges [italics mine] under their Royal Highnesses the Dukes of Sussex and Kent . . . .”

and thereafter there are no Minutes until 18th March, 1817, when there is a record that meetings of two Grand Chapters were held, and that subsequently an United Grand Chapter was formed, but we note that the Officers of the United Grand Chapter were all “Moderns”, with the one exception of Edwards Harper, Joint Grand Secretary, who became Grand Scribe N. Can we believe that this would have been the case if the “Antients” had had any recognisable Grand Chapter and Grand Officers?

What is presumably meant by the “Royal Arch Minutes of 1783” is to be found on the first four pages of the Register of Royal Arch Masons (“Antients”), and consists of a statement that on 5th November, 1783, “A General Chapter or Grand Lodge of Royal Arch Masons” was held, which re-affirmed the regulation of Grand Lodge of December 4th, 1771, and a decision of a General Chapter of January 3rd, 1772, and then adopted nine Resolutions for the future conduct of the Royal Arch; in other words, Bylaws to be appended to the Grand Lodge Laws, after having been (v. Resolution 8) “Respectfully laid before the General Grand Lodge [not Chapter] upon the first Wednesday in December, 1783.”

These four pages are transcribed here, together with the first page of the Register, which demonstrates how few “Antient” Royal Arch Masons existed when the Register was begun in 1783. The Register continues with very sporadic and muddled entries down to 1792, after which date much more systematic registration took place, and is continued in this volume through some 167 folios down to October 2nd, 1807.

A noticeable feature of the Register is that the exaltations seem to have been carried out only in certain Lodges. Other Lodges were perhaps unable to raise a quorum.
BE IT,
for ever,

REMEMBERED,

By the

MOST ANTIET, and HONORABLE,

FRATERNITY;

of Free, and Accepted,

Masons:

That upon the fifth day of November, which was in the year of Our Lord One thousand, seven hundred, Eighty and three; being the first year of the Grand Mastership of the Most Potent and Puissant Lord, the Right Honorable William Randal MacDonnell Earl of Antrim, Lord Viscount Dunluce, Knight of the Most Honorable Order of the Bath, Governor of the County of Antrim: And Right Worshipfull Grand Master of Masons! A General Chapter or Grand Lodge of ROYAL ARCH Masons, was held in the Chamber or Room of No. 5 (the fifth Lodge upon Record) Wherein the Right Worshipfull Laurence Dermott Deputy Grand Master of Masons the Right Worshipfull James Read Senior Grand Warden, and the Worshipfull John McCormick past Master of the Lodge No. 6, presided as the three Chiefs, When and Where the Resolutions of a former Grand Lodge held upon the fourth day of December which was in the
Year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred seventy and One.
Being the first year of the Grand Mastership of the Most Noble Prince, His Grace John the 2d Duke of Atholl Grand Master of Masons! Was read aloud as follows
Dec. 4th 1771

RESOLVED that no person for the future shall be made a Royal=Arch= Mason, But the Legal Representative of the Lodge except a brother that is going abroad who hath been twelve months a Registered Mason, And must have the Unanaminous voice of his Lodge to Receive such Qualification. And in Order to render this Regulation more Expedient, it is further Ordered, That all Certificates granted to the Brethren from their respective Lodges shall have inserted the day wherein the brother or Brothers joined or was made in the said Lodge, And that this Regulation shall take place and become a General Regulation upon, from and after the Twenty seventh day of December One thousand seven hundred seventy and One.

IN the said General Chapter was also Read the Resolutions of a former General Chapter held upon the third day of January which was in the year of our Lord One thousand Seven hundred seventy and two: Being the second year of the Grand Mastership of His Grace the Most Noble prince John 2d Duke of Atholl aforesaid ....... as follows

January 3d 1772

WHEREAS some persons through Ostentation, Want of Skill in Masonical Language or sinister views have lately pretended to teach Masonical Mysteries superiour to, or necessary to be added to the Mystery of the Royal Arch &c. This General Chapter having minutely investigated the pretensions aforesaid, And carefully examined the most Antient & Skillfull Brethren amongst us, Whose faithful Traditions were Corroberated by the Testimonies of Holy Writ, Undoubted Histories, Lexicons, Rabbinical, and other books, in the Lingua Sacra.

RESOLVED that it is the Clear opinion of this General Chapter that Royal Arch Masonry is (in Itself) so Stupendiously Excellent that it IS, truely what the Roman Masons of Old said Ut Nihil possit ultra Cogitari, Nothing cou'd be imagined more. Therefore to attempt an Amendment or Addition to the Mystery of the Holy Royal Arch, wou'd be a profanation of
that Which every good man (especially a freemason) wou'd and ought to preserve pure and undefiled.

RESOLVED That those Brethren who have been intro-
duced contrary to Antient Custom into the Mystery of the Royal= 
Arch, shall be remade (gratis) upon a Recommendation (to a 
General Chapter) from their respective Lodges which shall be con-
vened for that purpose. And before such Recommendation shall 
be signed by the Officers, they shall have the Unanimous voice 
of the Lodge or Lodges.

Nov. 5: 1783

1st RESOLVED

THAT this Chapter do perfectly coincide with the foregoing Re-
solutions. And that Masters and pasm;° (Bona fide) only ought to be admitted 
Masters of the Royal Arch: And that such persons whose present Titles to the 
Excellent Mastership seems doubtfull shou'd be recommended to the lenity 
of (this or) a future Chapter. And therefore this General Chapter do recom-
mand Brother John Dogherty, Brother John Dooley, Brother Hatcherly Connys-
ers, and such other Brethren in their situation, To their Respective Lodges 
in Order to obtain a General Recommendation for passing them through 
the Royal Arch According to the former Resolutions of Jan. 3°: 1772.

2° RESOLVED, That for the better preservation of the Supreme 
Degree of Free Masonry (aforesaid) the names of all the Regular Royal 
Book 

-Archmen shall be Recorded (gratis) in a particular A prepared for that 
purpose And to be called SEPER ENHOLAH RABBiIM, i.e. The Regis-
ter of Excellent Masters: So that the names and merit of the several 
Masters may be brought into one point of View; and examined when 
Occasion shall require.

3° RESOLVED, That the Members of the General Chapter 
so Recorded (and none other) shall meet (not less than) twice every year 
(or oftener if any six of them require it) such meetings to be for their 
General improvement and Rectitude.

4th RESOLVED That as it is, Universally Ackowledged, That the 
Regular Masters of the Royal Arch (only) are in possession of the supreme Degree 
of Freemasonry: THE GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER, shall once in 
every year (for the future) when duly Congregated in conjunction with the 
Right Worshipful Grand Officers for the time being, Make choice of a Certain 
Number of the Most Excellent Masters amongst themselves, Which Num-
ber shall not exceed Nine persons, whose names and Address shall be 
Return'd and Recommended to the General Grand Lodge. In order that the 
Brethren so Chosen, may be there invested with full power, & Authority, To
To Examine the Abilities of all and every of the person or persons (of the Ancient Lodges) who shall take upon him or them, To perform any of the secret Ceremonies Relative to the Royal Arch, the Instalation of Grand Officers or Processions &c &c &c. And upon finding any such person or persons Master or Lecturer &c defective or unworthy, To report him or them to the Grand Master or his Deputy, for the time being: So that such defective performer may be suppress'd and forbid to use his Craft until he or they shall be found more Capable: And in case of non Compliance To be forever Excluded.

5th RESOLVED, that a list of the Names of the Masters, chosen and appointed as aforesaid shall be annually printed and publish'd (to the Lodges) at the Customary time of publishing the Names of the Grand Officers.

6th RESOLVED, that the Excellent Masters Chosen, & Appointed as aforesaid shall (in Conjunction with the Grand Officers for the time being) Use their utmost endeavours to Study, Learn, Rehearse, and practice, the several Ancient Ceremonies &c &c &c &c perform'd in the Craft: particularly, the Mysteries of the Holy Royal Arch, the Instalations of Grand Officers, in General, And Processions &c &c. In order that the Ancient Landmarks may be faithfully preserved: and handed down pure and undefiled to Our posterity for ever.

7th RESOLVED, that in Order to render those Resolutions more Expedient and Effectual; No person (though a Regular Master or Pastmaster) shall be made a Royal Arch Mason (within thirty Miles of London) without the Assistance or Concurrence of Six of the Masters whose . . . . Names are upon the Royal=Arch=Record Nor shall the name of any Mason be recorded amongst the Excellent Masters: Without the Order of a General Chapter: or a Certificate sign'd by three (or more) of the Masters chosen (for that year) for Regulating the Craft as aforesaid.

8th RESOLVED that a Copy of those Resolutions shall be Respectfully laid before the General Grand Lodge upon the first Wednesday in December 1783.

FINALLY,

9th RESOLVED, That none but the Grand Officers,* (being Royal Men) and Members of Regular Warranted Lodges (for the time being) shall be admitted as Members of (or Visitors in) the General Grand Chapter: Certified Sojourners Excepted.

* N:B: Nothing herein is intended to repeal the 12th General Regulation.
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<td>Laurence Dermott</td>
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<td>Samuel Warner</td>
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