An honest pride of ancestry is commendable in public bodies as well as in individuals. The feeling seems innate and has been manifested at all periods and by all nations. Whenever it is exhibited within proper limits it is recognized as a virtue and respected accordingly. Hence the sympathy bestowed on the descendants of the Puritans, in their annual commemoration of the day on which their Pilgrim Fathers landed on the Plymouth Rock — hence the kindred sentiment that greets the celebration of the settlement of Jamestown ~~by the Cavaliers~~ in the "Old Dominion" by the sons of the Cavaliers of "merrie England" over the interest manifested on the meetings of the descendants of the Huguenots in South Carolina and the Knickerbockers Society in New York — over the Societies of St. George St. Andrew St. David or St. Patrick. in various parts of the Union.

In North Carolina we have had few celebrations or festivals ~~such~~ principally because in the settlement of the State ~~almost~~ no one nation of the Old World can claim the honor of having supplied the

Settlers On the contrary every nation seems to have furnished their quota of good & brave men. The Sons of the Scots & Irish glory in tracing their lineage to the lance of William Tell. Those upon the lower Cape Fear claim that their Fathers sailed from the sunny clime of France & from beneath the cloudless sky of Italy, as well as from the land of Hampden Milton & Shakespeare and the Emerald Isle. While the men of the upper Cape Fear, deep River & Pee Dee. The glory in claiming to owe their origin to the lance of the mountain & the mist. John Knox. Walter Scott. David Hume & Robert Burns- William Wallace & Robert Bruce. While between the Catawba and the Dan and on the Blue Ridge a flush of pride mantles every manly cheek as he claims to be descended from the Scotch Irish Covenanters. or from the land of Calvin Luther and Melancthon. For these reasons North Carolina has few days to commemorate, connected with her settlement, but in her history

On the Roanoke and Albemarle. They claim England for their Motherland- and pride themselves that here the first Colony landed on the continent

at

the

and that here too was born the first white child on "Virginia Deare". It will be thus seen that the ~~xxxxxx~~ of ~~xxx~~ ~~xxxx~~ in the settlement of ~~the State~~ N. C. there is nothing conducive to the celebration of "set days" Yet from the same cause, ~~xx~~ ~~xxxx~~ ~~xxxx~~ it may be that ~~xx~~ ~~xxxx~~ ~~xxxx~~ ~~xxxxxx~~ ~~xxxxxx~~ to North Carolina belongs the proud honor of having first declared Independence, and of having snatched the first victory from England in the Revolutionary War. So that while the early permanent settlement of the State has not been commemorated yet from the words and deeds of the early Fathers we gather that they brought with them stout hearts and strong arms and resolute wills prepared to triumph or die in whatever they esteemed a good cause We further learn that when a "motley crew" "from various lands they came" they brought with them a love of Law, Learning and Religion, the arts & sciences, and a deep rooted devotion to ~~that~~ the ~~Book of Books~~ the Bible from which alone can be gathered a knowledge of life & Light

In landing upon the shores of North Carolina the early Settlers, no matter from what land they hailed, brought with them a language of signs and symbols a language understood throughout the habitable globe by all who have been initiated into the mysteries of masonry.

If it is admirable for the sons of New England & Manhattan, the old Dominion and the Palmetto States to glory in the deeds of the respective nations from which their Fathers came. With how much greater propriety should North Carolina which claims a lineage from ~~them~~, all lands set apart some day on which to recall the glories and the memories of the past in order to point to them as the heritage of the Sons and Daughters of the old North State.

If the positions opened ~~be correct~~ on the praters mentioned be commendable, is it not true that the masonic fraternity of North Carolina was tracing its lineage through the Kings Princes and Potentates of England & Scotland — to the wise men of the East, and the founder of that temple of temples the wonder and admiration of the world. To write of Masonry in the early settlement of North Carolina would be term misplent that it existed and exerted a beneficial influence on the fortunes of many in their commerce with the red men of the forest & ~~more can doubt~~ that its ~~significations~~ signs and symbols were practised and understood by both ~~by the white & the red men~~ none can doubt. On this subject an interesting chapter might be written, but as it neither accords with the Authors duties or desires he forbears and will proceed at once to write "The History of Masonry in North Carolina"

practised

In the Free Masons Monitor published in 1797 we are informed that regularly constituted Lodges in America are of recent date; that on the 30th April 1733 the Right Honorable and Most Worshipful Anthony, Lord Viscount Montague Grand Master of Masons in England granted a warrant to the People residing in Boston Massachusetts to open St Johns Lodge, and at the same time appointed "the Right Worshipful Henry Price Grand Master in North America" with power "to constitute Lodges of Free & Accepted Masons as often as occasion should require"

In the same work we are informed that on "October 2nd 1767. a dispensation was granted by the Grand Lodge in Boston, to the Right Worshipful Thomas Cooper, Master of Pitt County Lodge in North Carolina constituting him Deputy Grand Master of that Province. He was commissioned with power to congregate all the Brethren then residing, or that should afterwards reside in said Province, into one or more Lodges as he should think fit." The first Lodge according to the Author of the "Monitor" was established at Crown Point Pitt County. In a subsequent Edition of the Monitor published in 1818. the Author has omitted this ~~paragraph~~ Statement relative to the institution of Lodges in this State.

" Regal government of this Country, were
" mostly those, which after the Revolutionary
" war, assembled in Convention at the
" Town of Tarborough in A.D. 5787,
" and established the authority of which
" we are now possessed. My request
" for the entire possession of this original
" instrument of our Craft has not yet
" been answered by the Right Worshipful
" Lodge in Halifax, I have, however,
" requested our Brother Grand Secretary
" to make a copy of it at full length,
" in our records, that it may be
" handed to posterity among the Grand
" Archives of the Institution"

It thus appears that Lodges were constituted in North Carolina by virtue of Charters from Scotland & Massachusetts and also by Charters from ~~Grand Lodge~~ Joseph Montfort of Halifax, North Carolina Provincial Grand Master of America, ~~no Charter from Grand Lodge of Pitt County~~ the various sources from which the several Lodges derived their powers and the differences in their numbers, doubtless created the difficulties that arose, between ~~the~~ several of the Lodges on the organization of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina in 1787. to which it may be necessary again to refer. The Charter from the Duke of Beaufort so minutely described by M. W. Grand Master Williams & upon which he placed so high an estimate Still adorns the walls

of the Grand Lodge in Raleigh and is an object of veneration to all the members of that body, at its annual communications ~~in Raleigh~~. Joseph Montfort upon whom the Charteree honors were conferred was a native of England ~~and~~. He died at Gosleford in 1776 & his daughter married Willie Jones one of the framers of the Constitution & Bill of Rights under which ~~which~~ ~~we have so long~~ the State has so long opposed potection to ~~property and life~~ the lives and property of all her Citizens ~~in exercise~~ of the Charter to Thomas Cooper is known to exist. This notice may bring it to light.

no trace on record of Pitt County in 1767,

The breaking out of the Revolutionary war operated adversely to the spread of masonry & prevented the Brethren from meeting at stated periods, but with the return of peace, a love of masonry returned, ~~[illegible]~~ as the following extracts from the proceedings of the Grand Lodge abundantly show. These extracts are made from two motives one is that the names and memories of the early Fathers may be perpetuated ~~through all time~~, and the other ~~is to assist of the [illegible] & [illegible] and information which they contain~~. because they embody ~~the best history of [illegible]~~ an excellent history of masonry in themselves a history of which every Brother may well be proud.

Tarborough December the 9th A.L. 5787.

At a convention of Delegates of the Royal Lodges in the State of North Carolina for the purpose of electing a Grand Master and other Grand Officers for the same. the Brethen then assembled unanimously appointed.

Brother John Ware in the Chair.

Brother Benj Manchester Secty to the present Convention.

The following Lodges by their Delegates produced their Credentials Viz.

"Unanimity"	Brothers	John Ware. Stephen Cabarrus.
"St Johns No 2."	Brothers	Manchester Abner Neal.
Royal Edwin No 4	Brothers	John Johnston. Andrew Revers Silas White Arnett
"Royal White Hart No 403."	Brothers	Wm Muir. McDugald. John Eddy.
"Royal William No 8"	Brothers	Hardy Murfree. Patrick Garvey. William Little
"Union" at Fayetteville	Brothers	James Porterfield. ~~Blandford Bute.~~
Blandford Bute	Brothers	Edward Jones William Johnston.
"Ole Cow"	Brother	John Armstrong

Our Motion. agreed. That the proceedings of this night be binding. and that the following rules be observed during the sitting of this Convention. to Wit;

1st That no question be put but on Motion Made and Seconded.

2nd. When a Brother rises he shall address the Chair and not proceed until called by name by the President

3d When two or more Brothers rise the President shall determine who rose first.

4th When the President rises. the Brothers up shall sit down. and the President shall not be interrupted.

" 5th. No whispering or Small Committees during
" business shall be allowed.
" 6th. No Person not being a Member of the Conven=
" tion shall be admitted except by a Ma=
" =jority of the same.
" 7th. No Brother shall leave the room without
" the permission of the President
" 8th That the Votes for the Election of a Grand
Master &c &c be by Lodges.
" 9th. That any Motion made that requires a
Vote. when the Votes are equal the
President to have the Casting Vote.
" The Convention then adjourned till tomorrow Morning
" 7 o'clock. "

On the 11th the Convention again met and in addition to the Lodges represented yesterday Kingston Lodge No 3 was represented by Brothers Richard Caswell, James Glasgow and William Randall.

A memorial was received from Dornock Lodge, Warrington, which was read and Brothers "Henry Hill and John Deacon of that Lodge were unanimously allowed seats, but were not permitted to vote in the election of Grand Officers the Lodge not being properly constituted.

At the same time The committee Reported on a Constitution and Bye Laws which report was unanimously referred to Richard Caswell from which to "form a draught" for the action of the Convention, On the 12th the Convention met when Brother Richard Caswell submitted the following draught of a Constitution which was concurred in

In The Glory of the Great Architect

Whereas the Harmony and happiness of the Ancient Honorable Society of Free and Accepted Masons. have been disturbed by the late Revolution. and the free intercourse and correspondence between the fraternity in America and Great Britain thereby in a great measure broken off. whereby it has become necessary that the Brothers in the State of North Carolina. establish a certain Mode. or frame of Constitution for the well ordering and Uniform Government of the Society.

And whereas a Majority of the Several regular Constituted Lodges of this State. having elected Delegates for the express purpose of forming such Constitution. and electing the Grand Officers of the State. the following Delegates. to Wit.

"Unanimity" Brothers John Haywood & Stephen Cabarrus.
"St Johns No 2" Brothers B Manchester and Abner Neale.
"Royal Edwin Arch" Brothers Jno Johnston Oliver & Arnett
"Royal White Hart No 403" Brothers Muir McDougall and Geddy.
"Royal William No 8" Brothers Murfree Graney & Little
"Union" " Brothers Porterfield Blandford. Bate. Edward Jones & Wm Johnston.
"No One" Brother John Armstrong.
"Hinton" " Brothers Richd Caswell Jos Glasgow & Wm Randal.

met at Tarborough produced their respective delegations and opened Convention on the Ninth day of December A.L.A. Masonry 5787.

Brother John Haywood in the Chair.
Brother Benj Manchester Secretary.

The Convention duly considering the very important business committed to them unanimously agree as follows to Wit:

" That the government of all the Lodges that now
" are, or hereafter may be established in this State
" shall be vested in a Grand Master and other Grand
" Officers to be elected according to the Ancient Constitution
" of Free and Accepted Masons. who with such Members
" as shall be appointed by the several Lodges to attend in
" Convention. shall be styled and denominated the
" Grand Lodge of the State of North Carolina.
" which Grand Lodge shall exercise all the powers
" incident or usual to Grand Lodges held under the
" authority expressed in the Book of Constitutions (until a
" Constitution for the Government of the Craft shall be proposed
" and adopted by a Continental Grand Lodge if such shall
" be appointed,) and that all private Lodges Conform and
" Subject themselves to such government accordingly.

" And for the purpose of carrying this
" Constitution into effect, the Brethren proceed in their
" present Laudable manner to elect the Officers of
" the said Grand Lodge for the ensuing year. from
" the present St Johns day the ballots being taken the
" following Brethren to Wit.

Samuel Johnston	Grand Master.
Richard Caswell	Deputy Grand Master.
Richard Ellis	Senior Grand Warden.
Michael Payne	Junior Grand Warden
Oliver Neal	Grand Treasurer and
James Glasgow	Grand Secretary.

" were duly elected and summoned accordingly.

" Done in Convention this 12th day
" of December A.D. 1787. A.L. 5787.

The Grand officers having been duly
installed

" The W. M. Brother Mann was pleased to give
" the following charge to several Officers of the Grand Lodge.
" to Wit.

" Most Worshipfull Samuel Johnstone Esquire
" Grand Master and Richard Caswell Esquire Deputy Grand
" Master of Masons in the State of North Carolina.

" As you have the honour to be placed at the head
" of us in the Masonic Zone. We flatter ourselves that under
" your wisdom & patronage the Art of Masonry will flourish
" amongst us. Let me observe to you on this occasion that
" our ancient Constitution is to be our guide & support.
" being persuaded that exhortation to a more punctual discharge
" of your duties would appear at present unnecessary. Still
" permit me without giving offence to any one in this large
" and respectable meeting. to make a few observations.
" perhaps they may be of benefit to the newly admitted
" Brethren if any here at present.

" Would every Brother consider the the Advantages he
" derives by being initiated in our Body. he would surely confess
" its glorious precepts taught in all regular Lodges are cal=
" =culated in a particular manner to form their Minds
" in goodness, they strongly recommend us to Cultivate our
" Several duties to God, our Neighbour, ourselves and Charity
" to all mankind, the rules of this fraternity have a direct
" tendency to promote Moral & Social Virtue. Let us then
" be careful to justify ourselves in paying a punctual
" attention to the rules of this grand Profession and above
" all let us conform ourselves to that great light the Law
" of God. that will teach us to be submissive to our
" Superiors. to our equals Courteous. and to our inferiors
" Kind & Condescending.

" Masonry is an offspring of Heaven. the patron=
" =ess of the liberal Arts & Sciences. which polish human
" Nature. and Happy are they in some degree that are
" Conversant with her. And we find that many of
" her Votaries are rendered immortal by their works

" You will allow me to recommend to you
" whenever any Candidate asks admittance, that there
" always be made a strict and impartial enquiry into
" their characters of whatever rank or condition, this neglect
" has brought an abuse too common in most Lodges, and
" this Lodge in particular will give a permanency to the Craft
" which will restore honour & dignity to its Members.

Brother Officers now present, permit me
" to address myself to you, from the important place
" you now fill. I have the greatest reason to expect
" that you will not be too much elated with that honour
" but losing sight of it, will only shew in their the service
" your Office demands. This Conduct which it endears
" you to others, will not fail to raise your own reputa-
" tion. I likewise trust that you will be more punctual
" to the regulations of this Grand Society. Such is its Nature
" that as some must rule and teach, others must of
" Course learn to obey.

" You being merged in Political honours, will
" not make you forget in what line you now stand.
" I hope the engagement on your initiation will appear
" too important to be trifled with. Stand firm on the
" foundation on which you are placed. Keep an out-
" stretched arm, holding a plumb line in your hand.
" an emblem of your rectitude and you shall not be
" passed by.

Let these Considerations animate us my
" Worthy Brethren, in the pursuit of so noble a Science.
" That we may be qualified to fill in turn the
" most distinguished Places, and at the same time
" let our actions convince the world, that Truth Brotherly
" love and a desire to afford relief to the distressed, are
" the grand principals wherein we proceed. So that when
" we have passed this Life in the discharge of our duties to God
" and Free Masons, we may obtain the reward, which is admittance
" in those happy regions where reigns Silence & Peace for ever more.

I have Resided

Brethren of the Low Convention.

As we have gone through the important business for which we met together. allow me in the gladness of my heart. to express the gratitude I owe you. in Honing the Honour to Sit in this exalted Chair. And as I am about to leave it. to express the Happiness I feel at this time. in seeing the great work for which we convened finished I hope the result of it will give a Stability to the Society. which will reflect Honour and dignity on the Craft.

We may flatter ourselves as we have laid a foundation and placed such exalted Characters at our Head. that Free Masonry will flourish throughout this State. I hope it will not be taken amiss. if I charge you on this occasion. that you will observe a strict attention to the rules and Constitution of Masonry in your respective Lodges. that will cement us all in one band of Brotherly Love.

I am now taking my leave of you. permit me to implore the Worlds Great Architect. who is our Supreme Grand Master. to Ship you with all those gifts of understanding. and all those Calm dispositions of Heart. which will make you ornaments to your Friends and Happy in yourselves.

I Ware Ware
President

On motion it was "ordered that copies of the Charters of the several Lodges in this State be sent to the Grand Secretary of the same for the purpose of arranging them according to their respective dates."

Votes of thanks were tendered the Grand officers and on the 13th Inst Business being over the Convention was closed.

A call was made upon the Lodges to meet at Hayestown in 1787 (17)
which was not responded to so that
Tarboro belongs the honor of having
been the Town in which the convention
met that organized the Grand Lodge
It will be seen from the proceedings of
the convention, that the Members
did not presume to derive their powers
to organize the Grand Lodge, either
from England Scotland Massachusetts
Thomas Cooper or Joseph Montfort of North Carolina a Provincial Grand
Masters of ~~North Carolina~~ America,
but to recognize all the Lodges
that had been regularly constituted
by Charters from those several
Powers & feeling that North Carolina
was a free Sovereign and Independent
State. The Convention of Masons from
the several Lodges named felt
that they had a right to organize
a Grand Lodge for North Carolina
subject only to the "Book of Constitutions"
and the "land marks" of the order
The wisdom of the Convention in
locating has never been called in question
and now that its deliberations are
made public it never can be.
~~For no man can read a man~~
for they will command the approval & secret
the admiration of ~~all conservative &~~
the Sons of Light wherever read.
The First Communication
of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina
was held in Hillsboro on the 25th of
July 1788. Many of the Members
of the Lodge were members of the
Convention then sitting in Hillsboro
assembled deliberating on the
acceptance or ~~of~~ the ratification of the
Constitution of the U.S.

The Convention did not then adopt the N.S. Constitution but the G Lodge passed the following as the Bye Laws for the government of the Grand Lodge. Viz.

1st That a Grand Lodge be held on the 3rd Monday in November annually at such time and place as the Most Worshipful Grand Master shall appoint

2ndly That every member shall annually pay the sum of forty shillings to the General fund which payment shall commence on the annual Lodge day and any Brother hereafter becoming a Member shall be subject to the payment of the sum of Three Pounds on his admission.

3rdly That every private Lodge shall pay into the Treasury of this Lodge the sum of Ten Pounds annually to be applied to charitable and other uses as this Lodge from time to time may direct, and also shall annually transmit by the Masters & Wardens or such as may attend the names of the present members and of those who may hereafter be admitted into their respective Lodges with the times and places of their usual meetings together, also a copy of their Bye Laws Regulations and such extracts from their journals and proceedings as may be thought necessary.

4thly That there shall be paid into the Treasury for every Charter or warrant for holding a new Lodge the sum of Ten Pounds, for every Charter renewed forty Shillings for each member entered in any Lodge the sum of Ten Shillings for joining five Shillings and for raising each member five Shillings which shall be annually accounted for and sent up by the respective Lodges

5thly That the Treasurer shall keep fair and regular accounts of all monies by him received and paid away and he shall at the annual meeting lay the same with his vouchers before the Lodge for their inspection and adjustment, and on the Treasurer being superseded in office he shall immediately pay into the hands of his successor the ballance which may appear to be due from him to the Lodge

6thly That the several Private Lodges transmit to the Secretary of this Lodge a copy of their Charter that they may be arranged according to their respective No. and Date

7thly That the Secretary shall upon summons for the members of this Lodge to attend at such time and place as the Grand Master shall appoint,

8th That if any Member shall leave the Lodge without permission of the Master he shall pay the sum of Five shillings

19th That these Laws be entered in a Book and signed by every Member on his admission who shall hereafter be entitled to vote.

Accordingly the Laws are signed by the following, viz

John Conroy
Edd Jones
Robt Williams Jr
Jno Williamson
A. Ferguson
Mc. Stokes
John Mc. Binford
Lumford Long
Jas Pottenfield
Chas Johnson
J. Stokes
Jno Armstrong
William R Davis
Rd M Brear
Wm Leigh
Kemp Plummer
A Seton
R. Smith
E. Lopa P. Copso
Thaddeus Barnes
Ye. Potter
Nr Mc. Polk
John Louis Taylor

Saml Johnston G. M.
Rd Caswell D. G. M.
Meriki Payne S. G. W.
J. Mears J. G. W.
Abner Neale G. T.
J. Glasgow G. S.
John Johnston
Joseph Leach
Ye. Yeates
Thos Hunter
S. M. Arnett
Wm Johnston
James Read
S. Cabarrus
Geo L Davidson
Rd Caldwell
Thos J Williams
Saml Hanly
M Avery
Nath Alexander
Wm Duffy
Wm Boylan
Jno Neal.

The Author has thus presented a history of the Organization of the Grand Lodge its first Constitution and By-Laws and the names of the early Fathers who signed them. In doing so he has chiefly used their own memorials of their own acts & deeds as being best calculated to secure a broad and solid basis on which future Historian's can build ~~until~~ a superstructure shall be raised worthy of the Men of the last century whose names illumine our Masonic temple and reflect the lustre of their fame on the character of the Old North State

To estimate ~~appreciate~~ blessings we must be deprived of them. Apply this rule and Strike from the roll of North Carolinians the names of Johnston, Caswell, Cabarrus, Stokes, Davie, Davidson Polk, Caldwell and Alexander — names that have been stamped upon the finest counties in the State, and North Carolina would stand before the world reft of one tenth of her territory, and shorn of one one tenth of the lustre that now ennobles her venerated name.

Strike from the roll of North Carolinians the names of Jones Potten Taylor Avery Duffy & Hall, and you would blot out from the memory of the people the knowledge of the principles upon which property, life, liberty, and reputation is preserved by the joint

by the joint action of the eloquent advocate and the incorruptible Judge.

Strike from the list of North Carolinians the names found upon the roll of your earliest masonic temple, and you would blot out the remembrance of one seventh of those who up to this time have been called to the office of Governor of the State. and upon that same list to be found the names of good & true men who in other ~~deportments~~ stations of life rendered to their country efficient service in hour of need.

The roll presented is one of which the craft may well be proud & although with the exception of the venerable William Boylan, and the patriarchal X Judge Potter they have all passed away, yet their memories who signed the original Constitution & by laws shall be cherished and embalmed and remain green as a sprig of Cassia among the sons of Light.

X Judge Potter has since died in his 93d year

The Second Communication of the Grand Lodge was held in Fayetteville in November 1788. ~~From the proceedings it is apparent that none~~ It was numerously attended and many of the Brethren were allowed to pop the chain a Lodge having been opened for that purpose the R. W. D. G. Master Caswell requested the Most Worshipful to honor the Lodge with his continuance in office the ensuing year, which he declined, but nominated the R. W. D. G. Master Caswell to the chair, setting an example of courtesy & high toned sentiments becoming the Exalted positions they filled both in the Lodge & in the State. The Right Worshipful Richard Caswell was elected Grand Master

The R. W. Merchant Payne D. G. M.
" R. W. James Glasgow G. S. W.
" R. W. S. W. Arnett G. J. W.
" R. W. Stephen Cabarrus G. T.
R. W. Wm. Johnston Dawson G Secretary.

On application Alexander Mebane subsequently Governor of the State, and John Sibley ~~were~~ Fellow Crafts were raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason.

The Legislature was in Session in Fayetteville at the same time. A Masonic Dinner was prepared at Pangis Tavern on Bow Street at which many distinguished Brethren from adjoining States were present. The probabilities are that those Brethren from a distance, were

attending the deliberations of these two ~~XXXX~~ bodies for the purpose of leading public sentiment towards the adoption of the U. S. Constitution and thereby bringing North Carolina into the Union. The Records of the G. L. declare, that "the evening "was spent with the greatest harmony "festivity and decorum" after which the Brethren returned to the Lodge Room and retired

At this ~~time~~ communication the Secretary was directed to write to all the Brethren who were Royal Arch Masons to assemble in Tarborough on the 29th June 1788, and for every Lodge to send one or more of its members. The object being to organize a Royal Arch Lodge, and confer degrees upon such as might be found worthy

It was further "Resolved that each member of the Grand "Lodge shall be entitled to a certificate "thereof which shall entitle him to admission "into any Lodge within the State and "to all the Rights and privileges which "the members of such Lodges respectively "possess" and that this Resolve become a Bye Law.

Several dispensations & Charters were granted to form new Lodges which will be noticed in a subsequent page.

On the 29th of December 1788. a
Grand Lodge was held at Newbern
Several Brethren were admitted to
Membership, and on the same day
the Lodge was closed.

On the 12th of
March 1789 the Lodge met in
Newbern Several Members were admitted
a Committee was appointed to revise
the Bye Laws, and report such alterations
and such additional laws as might be
deemed necessary. On the same
day the Lodge was closed.

On the 15th of June it met
at Tarborough, at which
"the Most Worshipful, Major General
Richard Caswell Gd. Master" was
present, having been absent from the
two former Communications
"the Lodge having taken into consideration
"the claims of the Wilmington and
"Fearless Lodges to precedence", but
not being "sufficiently informed on
"the subject during giving a decision
"until the next meeting in
"Fayetteville" at which time proof of
the dates of the Charters of all
the Lodges was required, so as
to enable the Gd. Lodge to assign to
each its proper number.

The Committee on revision of
Bye Laws reported, ~~and~~ adopting, pretty much those already
transcribed. and adding the following
important one to the number,

"That a Committee of Correspondence shall be annually appointed"

It is short and to the point, but ~~as this Committee~~ has had a beneficial and elevating influence upon the Lodge, & has caused them to be respected wherever the various Reports of this Committee have been read.

It was recommended to the Subordinate Lodges at this Session, That whenever a member misbehaved in such manner as to render expulsion necessary. circular letters should be sent to the Grand Lodge, and the several Lodges in the State, informing them of such expulsion together with the nature of the Offence.

A recomendation that has been acted upon, and approved as wise and Wholesome in its effects by all the Lodges in the State. The Resolution was moved by Brother Arnett and seconded by By Brother Neale, Brothers Manchester Jones & Garvey, were the Committee on Bye Laws

On Motion It was "Resolved
"That on every question which may
"hereafter come before this Lodge,
"the vote shall be taken by Lodges
a portion that has prevailed from the
passing of the Resolution to the
present time. Whenever it has been demanded

"On Motion It was Resolved That the
" Most Worshipful Grand Master, the
" R. W. Brother Glasgow, and the
" R. W. Brother Winston Caswell
" be appointed a committee of Correspondence
" to impower and support an intercourse
" with our Brethren of the Craft
" throughout the United States "

In the appointment of this committee the Lodge set an example worthy of imitation, and the appointment of the most finished workmen, is important as showing the estimate the Lodge had of the delicate and important duties the committee always had to ~~act on~~ to perform

After a laborious Session the Lodge was closed, ~~and it was~~ The M. W. Master Caswell returned never more to enter the Grand Lodge. Ere its next communication he was called, as we hope from labor upon earth to eternal rest in heaven.

On the 17th November 1789 a communication of the Grand Lodge was held in Fayetteville. At the same time the Legislature of the State was in Session. A Convention ~~was in Session~~ deliberating whether to adopt or reject the Constitution of the United States ~~at that~~

The Town was full to overflowing

Strangers from all parts of the Union were in attendance more particularly on the deliberations of the Convention. manifesting an eager anxiety that North Carolina should wheel into line and identify her interests with those of her Sister States, by whom she had gallantly stood & bravely fought the battles of the Revolution. Already Eleven of the Ole Thirteen States had adopted the constitution and cast their suffrages for General Washington as President of the U. S. Rhode Island & North Carolina jealous of the pinciples of sovereignty and Independence upon which they had drawn their swords stood aloof and determined to scan closely every section of the constitution before adopting it. Congress had met. Washington had delivered his Inaugural Address his Cabinet Officers were discharging their varied and responsible duties, but none of those things moved the Sovereign State of North Carolina from her posture of action, but calm and self possessed she deliberated, then ~~consecrated her sons in Convention to~~ cast in her lot for war or for woe with the other States of the Union.

When the Grand Lodge met. a feeling
of gloom pervaded Fayetteville. doubts
existed whether the Convention would
adopt ~~not~~ the constitution or not ~~as had been formed~~
~~the year before at Hillsborough~~
Caswell had been stricken down
on the theatre of his glory. ~~While~~
presiding in the Senate He was
attacked with paralysis on ~~the~~ the 5th.
and was carried from the State House
to the private boarding house of Mrs
Emmett on Green Street, where on
the 10th of November 1789 he expired — On the
next day a funeral procession was formed & escorted by ~~the~~ remains
a part of the way towards Kinston On the 18th a Committee
consisting of Brothers Gideon Stokes
and Cabarrus was appointed by the
G. L. "to regulate the mode of mourning
" for our late much lamented Grand Master
" Richard Caswell Esqr." who reported

" That the Grand Lodge of the State of North Carolina
" deeply affected by the late sustained by
" the death of the Honorable Richard
" Caswell Esquire our late worthy and
" most Worshipful Grand Master and
" anxious to perpetuate his memory as
" well as to render every private and
" public tribute to his departed merit,
" do order and agree that we will
" wear a plain white scarf on the left
" arm until the 10th day of December
" next, We also recommend to the different
" regular Lodges in the State

" to meet in their respective Lodge Rooms
" on the third Monday in January and
" move from there in procession to some
" convenient place to perform severe
" Service, after which they will return
" to their Lodges and open the day in
" a solemn manner. It is further
" recommended that they wear plain
" white Scarfs on their left arms for
" one month after each meeting, And
" it is lastly recommended that it be
" noted in the Books of all the said
" Lodges that on Tuesday the tenth
" day of November Sala Honorable
" Richard Caswell Esquire Grand
" Master departed this life much
" regretted by the Craft."

" On motion of Brother Stokes
" Resolved that the Secretary be directed
" to enter so much of the Minutes
" of the Grand Lodge as relates to the
" death of our late Grand Master
" in black lines"

Scarcely were these mourning ceremonies completed when the hearts of all were gladdened by the shouts of a joyful multitude ~~that which~~ announcing that North Carolina had adopted the Constitution and had become a State in the glorious ~~glorious~~ Union. and rolled again their fraternity with the States of Washington & Hamilton, from ~~whom~~ which for

a short time ~~It was~~ had been ~~deprived~~ ~~deceased~~.
At the time of his death Caswell was a distinguished Member in all three of the bodies that were assembled in Fayetteville, and to him alone of all the Governors who have presided over the destinies of the State, and of all the Grand Masters who have presided over the Grand Lodge - belongs the distinction of being called home, whilst North Carolina was in the enjoyment of ~~full~~ complete and actual Sovereignty, a nation of and by ~~herself~~ itself. owing neither duties or obligations to any power upon earth - No Monument yet marks his last resting place save Kinston in Lenoir County From inadvertence doubtless the "blank leaves" of mourning do not enclose the Resolutions relative to his death. ~~but it is not too late~~ in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge, but it is not too late to do either. ~~The~~ both debts are justly due to the memory of him who was once first Governor under the constitution, who served his State with fidelity and zeal ~~zeal~~ in Council, and on the tented field, and whose labors in the Grand Lodge redound to the honor of the craft.

At this communication the following Officers were elected,

The Ill. Br. Samuel Johnston	G. M.
James Glasgow	D. G. M.
S. Br. Hazlett	S. G. W.
L. Long	J. G. W.
Stephen Cabarrus	G. T.
Wm L. Dawson	G. S.

Brother Guion produced the Charter of New Bern Lodge bearing date the 11th of January 5782, dispensation & Charters were granted to several Lodges and the Lodge was closed ~~[illegible]~~

On the third Monday in November A. L. 5790, a communication of the G. L. was held in Fayetteville.

Same Johnston was reelected	M. W. G. M.
James Glasgow	D. G. M.
Stephen Cabarrus	G. S. W.
Isaac Guion	G. J. W.
Frederick Hargett	G. T.
Matthias Handy	G. S.

On Sunday the Brethren assembled in the Lodge Room formed a procession, attended divine service. On Monday a committee was appointed to procure a great deal for the use of the G. L. ~~once the Lodge was closed in due form until the 2d of December [illegible] next.~~

A committee of Charity was appointed. and it was Resolved that no Brother should be admitted a member of the G. L. who was not a Member of some Lodge in the State

~~On the 9th of December 1790 A Communication~~

and that no Brother should thereafter be marked or passed the Chair in the G. L.; as the practice was detrimental to Subordinate Lodges - and could only be justified on the plea of necessity, in order to qualify Brethren to administer the degrees.

It was thereupon Resolved That a Grand Lodge should be held in Newbern on ~~Sunday~~ the 2d June 1791. in order to pass upon the dates and numbers of the Charters to be granted to the several Lodges in the State, at which time

" Pursuant to a Resolution of the Grand Lodge
" at Fayetteville on the 9th day of December last
" the Lodge proceeded to number the different
" Lodges agreeable to the Laws of precedency
" from the different Lodges as follows
" to wit."

Saint Johns	No 1	Wilmington
Royal White Hart	No 2	Halifax
Select Johns	No 3	Newbern
Saint Johns	No 4	Kenston
Royal Edwin	No 5	Wendsor
Royal William	No 6	Hinton
Wearuniuty	" 7	Edenton
Phoenix	" 8	Fayetteville
Old Lodge	" 9	Salisbury
Johnston Caswell	" 10	Warrenton
Caswell Brotherhood	11	Caswell
Independence	" 12	Chatham

Saint Johns	do	13	Hopkins
Ruthenford Fellowship		14	Ruthenford
Washington		15	Beaufort County
Saint Tammany		16	Martin County
American George		17	Hertford County
King Solomon		18.	Jones County.

It was further Resolved that Charters be granted & numbered according to the order of the Grand Lodge,

It thus appears that from ~~1787~~ 1787. to 1791. the number of Lodges in the State more than doubled ~~in number~~ and judging from the names on the rolls of the Grand Lodge it is apparent that the membership of each Lodge was greatly increased. In assigning numbers to the various Lodges much difficulty existed and the contest for priority of number between Wilmington, Edenton & Newbern lasted for some time, but at last was harmoniously settled and the decision of the Grand Lodge ~~respectfully submitted~~ was deemed final and conclusive.

~~It thus appears that~~

The difficulties ~~to be~~ encountered in the original numbering of the Lodges resulted in ~~part~~ part from the reason that the several Lodges had been organized by virtue of Charters from different sources, ~~and each Lodge~~ ~~battled~~ and while one Lodge battled for precedence because it deserved its power from the Grand Lodge of England,

another claimed a right to the same precedence because it was chartered by the Grand Lodge of Scotland.
Happily for the prosperity of the craft wise and prudent men presided and directed the ~~then~~ judgment of the Grand Lodge which after two years deliberation ~~grant~~ numbered the charters of the various Lodges according to priority of date, a principle ~~upon~~ on which the Grand Lodge has recently acted on the Petition of Phoenix Lodge No 8. and a ~~principle~~ decision ~~that~~ has been noticed and approved and sanctioned by ~~by~~ several Grand Lodges in the United States. its

Those Eighteen Lodges chartered and numbered as above represented in 1791 ~~formed~~ the corner Stone of the present great Masonic Temple. Whose fair proportions ~~cast~~ shed a benign influence over the entire State. Six of the Eighteen Lodges yet survive, and hold their rank on the masonic calendar. and after the lapse of nearly ~~half a~~ three quarters of a century, each one of ~~these~~ them can ~~with exultation~~ point to the Officers they have given the Grand Lodge, and say ~~these~~ are ~~my~~ our Jewels. these are the workmen whom I have given the Grand Lodge, ~~and~~ ~~thereby have~~ ~~replenished honor and~~

their ~~whose~~ ~~names~~ alone names reflect an honor upon the craft" that time ~~could~~ cannot ~~them~~ efface.

Twelve of the Eighteen, have fallen by the wayside, but not until they have signalized their valor in the great Masonic battle that has been fought within the limits of the State - Not until by their "aid and ~~counsel~~ comfort" ~~The North~~ "the Grand Lodge of North Carolina" had planted ~~their~~ her altars of Masonic Light ~~in the Grand~~ ~~Lodge~~ in Tennessee. ~~And~~ before the Mother of ~~Eighteen~~ Eighteen in which each of the Old Eighteen Lodges may ~~have~~ feel ~~an~~ a patriotic and fraternal pride.

It is a mistake to say that Twelve of the Eighteen, have "fallen" in battle. Circumstances for a time overcame them, but under brighter auspices they buckled on their armor, and under new numbers and some of them in new names are to be found in the List of Lodges for 1856. numbered 179. 131. 104. 102 101. 99. 96. 91. 90. 81. 78 and last but not least, Old Nonsemity of Edenton number 193. A Lodge that in 1791. Stood upon the calendar as No 7. and in 1787-8. gave to the Grand Lodge its first and most dignified Grand Masters ~~the Lodge has ever had.~~

A Lodge over which Samuel Johnston was accustomed to preside, at a time when he was Governor of the State

~~pursuance to the formation of a constitution~~
A Lodge that can boast of the names of Mann & Cabaniss & point with pride to their labors in the organization of the G. L.

This instance of the decay and rise of old Lodges should teach the Grand Lodge never ~~to~~ under any circumstances to grant ~~the~~ old members to new Lodges. Suppose Kinston ~~&~~ ~~new~~ & ~~petition~~ Eden ton. Hendersn ~~Kinston~~ Winton Salisbury and the other Lodges enumerated were to petition the Grand Lodge for a renewal of their old names and members, and were to point to their past history, and to the masonic services of Johnston, Caswell Stone Chemy Montfort ~~Granville~~ Stokes Armstrong & Caldwell, What heart could resist the appeal, or rather what heart ~~but would~~ is there in the Brotherhood that would not experience a ~~holy~~ thrill of pleasure in ~~granting~~ granting their request ~~in the same manner as~~

As a Member of Phoenix Lodge the Author took an active part ~~in~~ on this subject ~~at~~ in the ~~Dispensation~~ Grand Lodge in 1855, and has a grateful remembrance of the pleasure experienced in voting for the resuscitation of Royal White Heart Lodge, ~~with~~ by its time honored name & number & would be pleased to witness the same

rule applies to ~~same~~ ~~those of the older members~~ all of the "Olde ones glorious Eighteen".

In 1790 & 91. Jame Johnston was successively elected M. Lds. during the latter years he was seldom present. but the duties of his station were ably discharged by Bro James Glasgow who with John Mearon of Johnston Caswell Lodge seem to have been regular attendants on ~~&~~ every session of the Grand Lodge during both these years Bro Matthias Handy of Smithfield Johnstown County was G. Serg. ~~and~~ The records of proceedings as made up by this distinguished Lawyer is a model worthy of imitation & the penmanship ~~equals~~ is as near perfection as can be attained ~~by any other Record we have seen~~. He was a native of Maryland & ~~was~~ represented Johnston County in the Legislature for several years once died in 1809.

In 1791. The G. L. Resolved That its members should consist of the Grand officers for the time being Past Grand officers once all the Members already admitted Masters Past Masters Wardens & delegates of particular Lodges

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form in Newbern on the 4th December 1792. William R. Davie was elected M. W. G. M. Charters were granted to four new Lodges, viz Hills

Eagle No 19 Hillsborough
Raleigh " 20 Tarborough
Democratic 21 City of Raleigh
Laurel Hill 22. Richmond County,

The next communication was held at Fayetteville on the 4th December 1793. William R Davie was selected M. W. G. M. Charters were granted to Masonic Lodge No 23. Stokes County & to Hiram No 24. Granville County Pansophic No 25 Moore County,

James Glasgow & John Mason Stile officiate as Grand officers, and in this year the name of John Louis Taylor first appears. The committee on Correspondence are directed to correspond with the Grand Lodges of Pensylvania & Virginia they having made overtures to that effect. The Lodge expresses regret that Newbern Lodge does not gracefully submit to its decision relative to the number of its Charter & instructs the Grand Secy to correspond with that Lodge. the correspondence had the desired effect & no Lodge in the jurisdiction has been more true or loyal than St Johns No 3. of Newbern.

At this Session Masonic Lodge No 4 is kindly admonished to work on make a remembrance of her Charter. Like a dutiful Child she professed to do what was most desired & for a time Heaven & Brothers heart by her evidences of Skill & industry.

Hitherto the Towns of Tarborough. Hillsboro. Newbern and Fayetteville had been honored with the communications of the Grand Lodge. but This year a rival sprung into existence. Hunters Plantation had been selected as the Capital of the State. It was in vain that Fayetteville built a new State House to tempt the economical Patrons in the Legislature to continue the sessions of the General Assembly there. On the subject of Site of the Capital party spirit ran high. Between Fayetteville & Raleigh there was a tie vote. Timothy Bloodworth gave the casting vote in favor of Hunters plantation. Raleigh he is the same who was honored by being elected No 8. Senator from North Carolina and The seat of Empire was thus irrevocably moved from the Cape Fear. and Raleigh became a "City of magnificent distances" ~~distances to attract every public~~ Assembly, to transact

CLYDE MILLS

and the habitation and the home of the Grand Lodge as well as the Capital of the State. In establishing her annual communications in the City of Raleigh the Grand Lodge was actuated from no feelings of dissatisfaction at the hospitalities of the Towns on the Neuse & Trent Esqs. Far and Cape Fear but acted from a belief that her own prosperity would be most advanced and her own influence most certainly felt in every County in the State, by the establishment of a permanent home at the seat of government, whither the Representatives of the Counties at stated periods ~~as centers~~ assemble as did the "Tribes" at the Capital of Judea ~~Jerusalem~~ Jerusalem, The wisdom of the determination has been manifested by the success which has marked her career. career The principles of the Order have been disseminated, and embraced from the mountains to the sea board and on every hill top and in every vale throughout the length and breadth of the State Light is radiated ~~on the path of~~ & "Faith Hope and Charity" reigns supreme.

~~Their Members then as now hope to this~~
~~purpose that be, but the members of~~
~~the Body were members of the~~
~~other, and who can tell~~ as is now
the case with many Members of the
Legislature.

In December 1794, the Grand
Lodge of North Carolina was held in
Raleigh - Here it has ever since met
and there the Author trusts it ever
will meet despite the occasional efforts
to make it a sort of travelling
Menagerie.

William R Davie was elected G. M.
James Glasgow John Louis Taylor &
William Duffy were among the Grand
Officers elected this year. "Efforts were
made to settle difficulties that had arisen
in Raleigh Lodge at Tarborough, & dissensions
ruled were laid down by Bro Glasgow for observing the
peace and harmony of all the Lodges
a Charter was granted to Davie Glasgow
Lodge No 26, in the County of Glasgow
now Greene & Lenoir. A new Charter
was granted to St Johns Lodge Wilmington
of the date & number of its former one.

In 1796. The following Grand
William R. Davie was elected G. M.,
James Glasgow D. G. M.,
John Louis Taylor S. G. W.,
Montfort Stokes J. G. W.,
Robt Williams G. S.,

~~constituting~~

No Grand Lodge ever had superior Officers
or men who more faithfully discharged
the duties of their exalted Stations,
Columbia Lodge No 28 Wayne County
was at this Sepion Chartered
(27) ~~Haight Clark~~ Haight Stark Haughton Avery Williams
Duffy & other distinguished Brethren
were in attendance.

At this Communication
the Grand Lodge of North Carolina
granted a ~~Dispensation~~ its first Charter
beyond the limits of the State.
The Charter was granted to Brethren
residing in the Town of Nashville Tenn
by the name of "Saint Tammany
No 1 of Tennessee"

At this Sepion
William R. Davie James Glasgow
William Duffy & Robert Williams
were appointed a Committee "to draft
out and form certain rules and
regulations as a Constitution of the
Grand Lodge of this State and it
enacted "that the subordinate Lodges
"under its jurisdiction shall be bound
"to observe the same"

Dispensations were granted to Brethren
in the Forks of the Yadkin, and
in Cabarrus to open Lodges U.D. names
or numbers given

In 1797, Mount Moria
No 29 in Iredell County was organized
& St Tammany No 30 in Wilmington

In 1797, ~~If~~ Lodge in the parts of the Yadkin
was ~~Charleston~~ Charlotte Freelance No 33,
Phalanx Lodge No 31 Charlotte was
Chartered, & became subordinate to the
Grand Lodge of N.C. having previously been
working under a Charter from the
Grand Lodge of South Carolina,
A Lodge was Chartered in Huntsville
Surry County ~~No 34~~
Shallow ford No 34,

At this communication the
Committee on the Constitution submitted
~~the following~~ a Report, and a Constitution
for which see appendix A. It is a Constitution
by which the subordinate Lodges act as
if they meant to be "bound" ~~to~~
~~for all time~~. ~~It is a Constitution~~
Every member of the Brotherhood
venerates it. It emanates from ~~a~~
men gifted in intellect, distinguished
for pure virtues and true
Masonic parts. Under it the
Lodge has ~~attained eminence~~
risen to rank & eminence.
Sixty years has tested fully its weak
and its strong parts, and with the
exception ~~of changing from a two~~
of so amending it as to admit of a
majority electing the M. W. & M instead of
two thirds the Author would be ~~unwilling~~
willing that it should ~~remain~~ the Constitution
of the Grand Lodge ~~of South Carolina~~
for all time.

In this year a Charter or act of incorporation was granted by the Legislature to the Grand Lodge and ordered to be enrolled for which see Appendix D.

On the 14th of April 1798. "By order of the most Worshipful " Grand Master, a special Grand Lodge " was called at the University of North " Carolina for the especial purpose of laying " the foundation and corner Stone of " the principal College of that Seminary " and to join the Trustees of the " University in one ejaculation to " Heaven and the Great Architect of " the Universe for the auspices of his " eternal goodness and ~~[illegible]~~ for " the prosperity of learning wisdom " and virtue of that College"

The ceremonies were performed in presence of a large number of interested spectators by the R.W. M. W. G. M. Davie and as it is in connection with an institution of learning in which every citizen feels an interest and a pride the proceedings are copied and may be found in Appendix E.

On the 22nd November 1798 the Grand Lodge met in the City of Raleigh. William R Davie Governor of the State was reelected ~~M.W.~~ M. W. G. M.

Appendix

"April 14th A.L. 5798. A.D. 1798"

"By order of the Most Worshipful Grand Master. a special ~~order~~ Grand Lodge was called at the University of North Carolina for the express purpose of laying the foundation & Corner Stone of the principal College of that Seminary. and to join the Trustees of the University in an Ejaculation to Heaven and the Great Architect of the Universe for the Auspices of his eternal goodness Wisdom. for the prosperity of learning. Wisdom and Virtue of that College when were present."

"The Most Worshipful the Honorable William R Davie Grand Master. The right Worshipful Officers & Members of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina. The Worthy Officers & Masters of several the right Worshipful Lodges in this State. under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge. called here by order & Summons of the Most Worshipful Grand Master for the purpose aforesaid"

"The Lodge was ~~then~~ opened in due form."

"On Motion & Seconded.

"Resolved." "That the Grand Lodge Proceed in the Ancient and Usual form of Masonry under the direction of the Most Worshipful Grand Master. to the place appointed to form a general Procession with the Trustees. Faculty. and Students of the University his Excellency the Governor of the State of North Carolina and the Honorable Council of State. the Honorable the Judges of the Supreme Courts of Law & Equity. the Gentlemen of the Bar from the Superior Court of Hillsborough. the Rev Mr Bingham A.M. and President of the Academy in Orange and Students of that Seminary. and many Gentlemen of respectability from different parts of North Carolina attending here for this express purpose."

The procession was then formed by

at the Building aforesaid. Clothed in Masonic Order and in solemn form proceeded to the destined place, when a general procession was again formed in Company with the Craft by all the above mentioned Gentlemen under the direction & superintendance of the Most Worshipful William R Davie Grand Master and Major General of the Militia in this State in the following order".

"Architect
" Mechanics and Peasants.
" Grand Music
" Teachers & Students of Chatham Academy.
" Students of the University
" The Faculty of the University
" Gentlemen of the Bar.
" The Honorable the Judges.
" The Honorable the Council of State
" His Excellency the Governor.
" The Trustees of the University
" The Masonic Craft with the
" Grand Master.

"In which form the grand procession was conducted in a Masonic manner by the direction of the Craft. and the procession consisted of several Hundred persons. It began at the College and was made to the great road leading up the Country to Mears Farm and thence to the place appointed for the erection of the new Main College. when the order was reversed. accompanied with Music suitable to the occasion—

Those Gentlemen who made the procession and were not of the Craft—formed themselves and stood around the place. on which the building is to stand. when the Fraternity led by the Most Worshipful Grand Master. continued their procession around the building three times in a solemn manner. when they came to the South East corner of the College the Grand Master alone. attended by the Chief Officers

and Craft proceeded in the ancient form of Masonry
to lay in a Masonic order the Corner Stone, which was
accordingly done. After this Prayer by the Rev
Mr Caldwell one of the Faculty of the University and
a numerous audience of Ladies & Gentlemen, Ladies were offered
up to Heaven the Throne of Grace and Omniscience, and
implering the benediction & superintendance of the God of
Knowledge virtue & that foundation of future Literature"
"The procession was again formed by order of the Grand
Master to the Chapel, where a handsome ode composed
eulogy was delivered by the Rev Mr Caldwell. and many
pieces of Vocal & instrumental music were performed as
Solemnity by persons appointed for that purpose."
The procession of the Craft was then conducted
by the Grand Master to the Lodge room and after
the business of the Lodge was finished it was
adjourned in due form.

[illegible] presence
[illegible] perseng in the constetution
to which we have already reference.
he was selected D. G. Mr. and was
esteemed and revered by all who
knew as a pattern of masonic
excellence. In 1791 when Dobbs County
was devided into two, one of them
was named Glasgow in honor of
James Glasgow Secy of State.

In addition to the officers & delegates from the respective Lodges among the visitors we find the name of ~~Gleaning Potter~~ the Honble Samuel Johnston first Grand Master of the Grand Lodge doubtless his heart was gladdened on finding the Lodge prosperous and happy, commanding the confidence of the people and presided over by ~~the~~ the then Governor of the State.

A Charter was granted to Jerusalem Lodge No 35. Cantines County, On the 26th November 1799.

A Grand Lodge was held in Raleigh, and for the first time William Polk was elected M. W. G. M. from the organization of the Lodge James Glasgow is absent. He has served her faithfully and served her well, ably discharging for many years the duties of D. G. M. as also the duties of every other Grand office under that of M. W. G. Master. In 1797, in conjunction with the Chivalrous David and the accomplished Williams he had made the Lodge a perennial and invaluable offering in the Constitution to which we have already referred. He was selected D. G. M. and was esteemed and revered by all who knew as a pattern of masonic excellence. In 1791 when Dobbs County was divided into two, one of them was named Glasgow in honor of James Glasgow Secy of State.

In 1798. his horizon became dark and gloomy. the past was all bright as the present was darkened by intervening clouds.

Ecctensive frauds in the entry of Lands had been perpetrated in the office of the Secretary of State, and it was alleged that the Secretary had been either engaged or else he was a party to the transaction. To negative the latter supposition he pointed to a long and not inglorious life which he had devoted to the service of his country and in which he had won the confidence and esteem of all Parties, and could name the purest and most eminent Patriots of the Revolution as his Companions and friends.

The Legislature appointed Commissioners to investigate and report on the causing in of which a Court of Oyer and Terminer was ordered to be holden in the City of Raleigh judicially to investigate & try all the Causes that might that might arise.

In 1798. his horizon became dark and gloomy. the past was all bright as the present was darkened by intervening clouds.

Extensive frauds in the entry of Lands had been perpetrated in the office of the Secretary of State, and it was alleged that the Secretary had been either implicated or else he was a party to the transaction. To negative the latter supposition he pointed to a long and not inglorious life which he had devoted to the service of his country and in which he had won the confidence and esteem of all Hopes, and could name the purest and most eminent Patriots of the Revolution as his companions and friends.

The Legislature appointed Commissioners to investigate and report on the evening in of which a Court of Oyer and Terminer was ordered to be holden in the City of Raleigh judicially to investigate & try all the causes that might arise.

In the meantime the Grand Lodge anxious to preserve its own purity unwillingly more in sorrow than in anger suspended James Glasgow "as a Member of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, until" his innocence should appear upon a legal investigation

The Grand Lodge further suspended from all the rights of Masonry Redmond Dillon Barry and John Conroy and as to them rejected the Lodges in Tennessee, this suspension to remain in force until after their trial —

Whether the Grand Lodge in the language of Glasgow "exercised the virtues and forbearance of charity" admits of a doubt. Charges existed against all those Brethren, but they had not been adjudged guilty. They were entitled to the humane maxims of the common Law and the principles of the Bill of Rights ~~under which they lived and had been protected in established~~

which deems ~~that~~ every man ~~is~~ innocent until he is found guilty.

Glasgow ~~The G. Master~~ was only suspended from membership in the G.L. the others were suspended from all the rights of masonry, this latter ~~decision~~ judgment of the G.L. can only be protected on the ground that those Brethren were Members of the Grand Lodge alone.

proper & sufficient

which in the early history of the Lodge was frequently the case. ~~Under the operation of the Constitution of 1798 those members~~

We may charitably infer from the action of the G. L. that the members were of opinion that Brother Gilbert Lowe as Secretary of State suspended himself to be imposed on, and that some ~~of~~ others were the guilty and the parties to be benefited by the ~~con~~ extension & grant. Be that as it may ~~he has case~~ stands on the record. In his early career as a bright Exemplar and in the ~~latter act~~ last years of his official service his name is recorded as ~~an~~ a warning to all who may follow after ~~him~~ him, teaching ~~to~~ one and all the necessity of daily repeating that portion of the Lords Prayer - "Lead us not into temptation" At this late day it would be the height of temerity to censure the Grand Lodge in consequence of these suspensions. There were able wise and discreet Brethren in attendance, ~~among~~ among whom may be named Solomon Jones Wm Duffy Col Polk Judge Potter Gen Wm Avery, S. D. Purviance & Francis X. Martin. The Author deliberated long before referring to these suspensions, but at last felt that he could not write an important history of Masonry in the State without so doing. It may be proper to state none of these parties were convicted before the Court of Oyer & Terminer

and ~~none~~ according to the Masonic that prevails in all Lodges
50 at the present day, neither would or could have been suspended ~~without~~
~~a trial and~~ in their absence without a trial upon rumor
~~or hearsay~~, ~~Partyism~~, and ex parte statement.

This year Charters were granted to the following Lodges viz

~~Fisher's Lodge~~ ~~Fort Barnwell~~ No 36, Fort Barnwell
Wm R Davie No 37 Lexington
Rising Sun No 38 Montgomery
Davie No 39 Bertie
Hiram No 40 Raleigh,

and the following were dissolved ~~Crown~~

The Author has thus brought the history of Masonry in North Carolina down to the last month of the 18th century, To many his statements may seem too minute & ostentatious details, to such he would say in all Kindness that he feels the necessity of laying a broad and a solid foundation for others to build on, He may never complete the task, but he is anxious that what he does shall not need to be done again, In addition to the above reason he would assign another, He feels that he is writing in part the history of men of the last century, Men who peril'd life, property, & honor for Liberty & Independence - ~~Men~~ who ~~[illegible]~~ freely shed their blood at Moores Creek Germanton Camden & Eutaw, & who often ~~[illegible]~~ laurels on the blood stained fields of the Revolution returned to the bosom of the old North State & established a Government,

Royal William No 6 Hinton
Benanimity No 7 Edenton
Caswell Brotherhood No 11 Caswell County
Independence No 12 Chatham County
Ruthenford Fellowship No 14 Ruthenford County
Eagle No 19 Hillsborough
Raleigh No 20 Tarborough
Laurel Hill No 22 Perkinson County
Malta No 23 Germanton

leaving 31 good & true Lodge in No. C.
& ode in Tennessee. from which to
dependicate the light of masonry, on the
men of a new & unknown century.

became members of "
~~and~~ then ~~encouraged~~ a heaven born"
Society When the practice of every
cardenal vertue of the heart - can
be kept up in lively exercise
He has felt throughout that in writing
of Marke & Cabanness Arnett
& Neale Meanchester & Handy,
Johnston & Cassell, Davis & Polk
Alexander & Duffy Potter & Mason
Glasgow & Stokes ~~that he was~~
~~writing~~ Porter Peele & Winslows
Davidson & Faulon that he was
writing of no ordenary men, but
on the contrary that he was writing of
~~the~~ men ~~of~~ whose
names should live forever in masonic story
~~of the Nation and accomplishments~~
~~of those of the past, & hopes that~~
~~it may not be too late to conduct~~
~~them to the temple of respect~~, and in patriotic
song. In the History of
Subsequent years the
Author will not be so diffuse ~~in~~
~~his statements~~ & will endeavor to
refrain from speaking of the characters
of the various officers in his
narrative inasmuch as it his design
in the appendix to state the names of
all the Grand officers. & in part
second he intends giving short
Biographical Sketches some of which are
already prepared - The Author cannot
take leave of the past century without
first congratulating the fraternity on its
acts & deeds ~~relative to~~ in connection with the organization
of a Grand Lodge, & its subsequent career
under their management,

In 1787. Eight Lodges existed within the State. In 1799, Thirty one active & zealous Lodges exist ready & willing to do & labor in the holy & sublime cause of Justice Charity & Truth.

In 1787. The Lodge was unknown beyond the limits of the State. In 1799. her Committee of Correspondence exchanged fraternal salutations with the Grand Lodges of all the States in the Union, & likewise with the G L. of Nova Scotia So that it may emphatically be said of her, that in twelve years she had risen from obscurity and had so demeaned herself that she was beloved & honored at home and ~~superior~~ eminently respected ~~esteemed~~ abroad.

1 #2

On the 20th November 1800. the Grand Lodge convened in Raleigh. and inaugurated a new ~~another~~ century on its calender of time by the election of Col. William Polk Grand Master. and by granting a Charter to the Brethren of Knoxville Tennessee, by the name of Tennessee Lodge No 41. His Excellency John Sevier Govr. of Tennessee was appointed M.W. James Grant S.W. and G.W. Campbell J.W. At the same Session It was "Resolved that the name of Nº. Tammany "Lodge No 1 of Tennessee and No 2 of "it altered and hereafter known by the "name of Harmony Lodge No 1 of "the State of Tennessee, and No 2 on "the records of this Grand Lodge"

At this Session Bro George Ellis who represented three different Lodges insisted that he had a right to vote as the representative of each. Bro Edwd. Dossi contended he could only cast the vote of one Lodge. After a lengthy discussion "It was Resolved that Bro Ellis could only for one Lodge." "To which Bro Ellis entered his Protest" Subsequently the Lodge receded from its position, but not until it had established a precedent for giving a Brother a right to protest, a privilege that was denied Phoenix Lodge No 8. in 1854. but for which ample amends was made in 1855.

by rescinding its previous action of giving
the numbers to new Lodges,

On the subject of Protests it
may be as well to anticipate & state
that in 1807. the M. W. G. M. Lodge Hall
presiding Robert Williams Esq. being the
accomplished Grand Secretary was allowed
to spread upon the minutes his solemn
Protest ~~to~~ ~~XXL~~ in behalf of ~~St. Johns~~
reinstated ~~No 3 Nashville~~ and the following
Lodges, St. Johns No 3 Nashville,
Tennessee Knoxville Tennessee
Greenville Greenville "
Newport Newport "
Overton Hawkins City " ~~Town~~
The Author would not advise a Protest
to be opened when a Petition would
answer the purpose, but then he is
aware that cases can & do arise,
where the only mode of properly espousing
a dissenting opinion is by a formal
and respectful Protest, and in this
opinion he is sustained by the practice
of nearly every Grand Lodge in
the ~~United~~ Union, as well as by the Grand
Lodges of England & Scotland, as will
be seen by reference to the report of a
committee to open G. L. in A. L. 5855,
[1800]
¶ At this communication of the G. L.
John Louis Taylor one of the Judges of
the Supreme Court was appointed
D. G. M. Edwd Jones Solicitor Genl G. S. D.
& Williams Duppy Atto at Law G. J. D.

a vote of thanks was tendered Bro. Francis Lothrop for visiting & instructing several Ladyes

On the 3d December A.D. 1801. the Grand Lodge convened in Raleigh. Charters were granted to the following Ladyes viz.

Federal No 42. Pitt County.
Greenville No 43 of Greenville Tennessee
The G L. passed a resolution favoring the constitution of a "supreme Continental G L." and resolved that all the subordinate Ladyes under its jurisdiction should send in copies of their bye laws so as to secure uniformity in the price of admission to the several degrees and likewise resolved that no one shall be initiated as a mason in any of the subordinate Ladyes until after a residence of twelve months in the State excepting in the case of transient persons upon satisfactory testimonials from the place where he last resided.

William Polk Superviser of this State was unanimously selected Grand Master, Montford Stokes and William Boylan, Printer, were elected Grand Officers. At this communication a committee of which Hon John Louis Taylor was Chairman, Submitted to the Grand Ladye a Report & forms of a Letter to the Grand Ladye of Kentucky. extending to her the hand of fraternal fellowship

and acknowledging her right to rank as such despite the claims of the Parent Lodge Virginia. The letter is a beautiful specimen of judicial eloquence. ~~and while on the~~ ~~the same it discovers~~ and reflects credit on the head and heart of its gifted Author. In conclusion he says.

"We conceive that a Grand Lodge is duly "formed in any State or nation by "a Convention composed of delegates from "a sufficient number of the Subordinate "lodges existing within that circle" In thus "acknowledging you the Grand Lodge of "Kentucky formed according to the "land marks of Antient York Masons "this Grand Lodge believe they act "in conformity with their duty, and "they accept with sentiments of respect "your offer of reciprocal communication"

Upon the principle enunciated in this letter the G. L. of North Carolina acted on its own organization and extended the same "rights to the" republican rule to her eldest daughter the Grand Lodge of Tennessee. When she desired to depenominate "Light" from her own Grand Altar among the people of that State. ~~The Representatives in attendance were numerous, and nearly all the Lodges had delegates~~

57 #2

In December 1802. The Grand Lodge assembled in the Lodge Room in the City of Raleigh. & The Honbl John Louis Taylor was elected M. W. G. M.

At this Session a long and elaborate report of the action of the Grand Lodge in appointing members to the names of the various Lodges was submitted by Nath Alexander Chm. The Report was elicited upon a Petition from Royal White Hart No 2 alleging that that Lodge was entitled to precedence over St Johns No 1 Wilmington. The committee recounted the action of the G. L. on this subject stated the notice that was served on each Lodge to produce its Charter & evidence of priority & concluded by alleging that if the claim set up was good it has been suffered to lapse from inattention & recommended that Royal White Hart Lodge accept No 2. Which that Lodge accordingly did & set at rest a question of much difficulty & delicacy.

An article in Rising Sun Lodge No 38 Montgomery which excluded from the walls of that Lodge any who did not "profess himself attached to the principles and tenets of the Christian Religion" was ordered to be stricken out for the reason "that masonry is not alone "confined to the tenets of the Christian religion "but embraces the morals and virtues of all religions "around the globe"

The Grand Lodge requested the several Lodges in the United States to instruct the subordinate Lodges therein, not to confer degrees upon North Carolinians without strict enquiry into their characters, and further directed its subordinate Lodges not to confer ~~the~~ the Second or Third degrees until the candidate can work with expertness in the one or ones preceding, and empowered the M. W. G. M. to appoint delegates to attend the next General Continental Lodge & form a constitution, to be binding in the event that two thirds of the Grand Lodges adopt it.

On the 10th of December 1803 "The Grand Lodge of South Carolina and Tennessee" convened in Raleigh

The Hon John Louis Taylor was elected M. W. G. M. and a copy of his address was requested for publication
Rising Sun Lodge No 58, Monganton
surrendered its Charter which was accepted
and the following Lodges were declared dissolved
viz Royal Edwin No 5 Windsor
St Johns No 13 Cooper County
St Tammany No 16 Martin County.

The Lodges in Tennessee were admonished to be punctual in the collection of a Charity fund.

Bro John L Osborne of St Johns Lodge No 3 Newbern was requested to compile an edition of Herman Reijer [Ahiman Rezon] & furnish the Grand Lodge with fifty copies.

7 #2

On the 16th of December 1804 The Grand Lodge of North Carolina and Tennessee convened in their Lodge Room in the City of Raleigh.

Hon John Louis Taylor was reelected M. W. Grand Master,

Charters were granted to the following Lodges viz

Williams	No 44	Johnstonville	Randolph County
Liberty	No 45	Wilkesborough	Wilkes County
Social	No 46	Pittsboro	Chatham County
Orange	No 47	Lexington	Lincoln County

On the 16th December 1805 a Communication of the G L. of North Carolina & Tennessee convened in the City of Raleigh.

The Hon John Heale one of the Judges of the Supreme Court was elected M. W. Grand Who was pleased to appoint Stephen Cabarrus (One of the early members of the Lodge) Spoken of the House of Commons Grand Sword bearer and Alexander Martin L L, D. Spoken of the Senate Grand Pursuivant,

The Grand Secretary was directed to write the G L. of Kentucky to call in all the Charters Issued in the State of Tennessee, that State being within her jurisdiction by prior Chartering. at a time when Kentucky was under the jurisdiction of Virginia

over

In 1806 December 8th The Grand Lodge of North Carolina & Tennessee met in Raleigh,

At this Sepian Grand Master Montpelier States
Representative from Wm R Davie Lodge No 37.
Lexington surrendered the Charter of that
Lodge as he said with deep regret,
but that owing to deaths & removals
the Lodge could not be kept up.
The Charter was received by the G. L.

The Hon John Veale was reelected M.W.G.M.
Charters were granted to the following
Lodges viz.

Taylor	No 48.	Carteret County
Young Eagle	No 49,	Hamilton Martin County
Newport	No 50	Newport Tennessee

and the following Lodges were declared
desolved

Davie Glasgow	No 26.	Green County
Nevanimity	No 34	Rockford Surry County
Colleen Bia	No 28	Wayne County
St. John	No 4	Kinston Lenoir,

A vote of condolence was entered on
the records expressive of the bereavent
felt on the death of Bro Francis Lothrop
Master of St. Johns Lodge No 3 Newbern
but who for many years was a
zealous & efficient member of the
G. Lodge,

On the 21st November 1807
the Grand Lodge of North Carolina and
Tennessee met in the City of Raleigh
The Hon John Veale was reelected M.W.G.M.
At this communication Hon James
Turner Turner Ne. S. Senator from North Carolina
and Honble Benjamin Smith Adjutant
Gent of North Carolina Masonic &
the Hon John Rhea a Member of
Congress from Tennessee were
appointed delegates to the National
Grand Lodge to act in the formation
of a Constitution & bye laws given
to the National Grand Lodge & describing
power over the State Grand Lodges

9 #2

December the 9th A.D. 1808. The
Grand Lodge of North Carolina and
Tennessee held its annual communication
in the Lodge Room in the City of
Raleigh.

The Hon Benjamin Smith was
elected M.W.G.M. Charters were
issued to the following Lodges viz
King Solomon No 52 Gallatin Tennessee
Hall. No 53 Indian Town Cumberland Co.
and that the Charters be arrested as
to the following Lodges viz, and they
be declared deposed. viz
Harmony No 1 Tennessee No 29 on the Anthanis
of this G.L.
Friendship Lodge No 36 Fort Barnwell
The able and accomplished Grand Sec
Bro Robert Williams who from 1795
to 1808 had faithfully discharged
the arduous duties of his Office tendered
his resignation which was accepted
and a unanimous vote of thanks
was extended to him, and the Grand
Master was pleased to appoint him to
the Office of Deputy Grand Master,
Bro Willam Boylan Robert Williams Montfort
Stokes Hon Henry Potter & Calvin Jones
were appointed a Committee of Correspondence
Bro. John Louis Taylor Robert Williams Williams
Duffy Francis X Martin & William Cherry
were appointed a Committee to procure a
plate for having Diplomas engraved & printed
in the English French & Latin languages,

CLYDE MILLS

1811.

On the 21st November 1811. The Grand Lodge met in the City of Raleigh. In the Address of the M.W. G.M. His Excellency Benjamin Smith, He states that the G. Lodge of Virginia unanimously sustained this Grand Lodge in its complaint against the Grand Lodge of Kentucky for constituting by Charters Lodges in Tennessee deemed within the jurisdiction of the G.L. of North Carolina, & that said G.L. expressed the hope that the Kentucky Lodge would withdraw all Charters improperly granted which that Grand Lodge accordingly did,

Charters were issued to the following Lodges viz

St. Andrews	No 57	Louisburg
Concord	No 58	Tarborough
Perseverance	No 59	Plymouth

and the following surrendered their Charters & were declared deposed viz

Stokes Lodge	No 52	Cabarrus
Young Eagle Lodge	No 44	Martin County

A Committee was appointed to meet a Committee of Hiram Lodge to take steps for the erection of the joint use of these two bodies in the City of Raleigh,

The R.W. Robert Williams was elected M.W.G.M,

At this Communication, a Memorial was received from the Lodges in Tennessee

accompanied by the proceedings of a convention of Masons & Lodges in Tennessee in which the assent of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina is asked to the establishment of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, for the better regulation and extension of the Craft, The proceedings of the convention and the Memorial are highly respectful to the Parent Lodge and request the counsel ~~aid~~ and presence of the M. W. G Master at the organization of their Grand Lodge. From the Memorial ~~it appears~~ and proceedings it appears that ~~six Lodges~~ delegates from six Lodges convened in Knoxville Tenn Dec. 4th 1811. Tennessee Lodge No 2 of Tennessee and No 4 of ~~Grand~~ ~~Lodge~~ ~~No 7 of Tenn~~ ~~No 5 of~~ No 6 is represented as the oldest Lodge then operate Lodges were

Greenville No 3. Tennessee
Newport No 4 "
Overton No 5 "
King Solomon 6 "
Hiram No 7.
King Solomon - 52
Cumberland 60
Western District 61

On the 21st November 1811. the last communication of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina & Tennessee convened in the City of Raleigh.

The M. W. G. Master Robert Williams in his Address called to the attention of the G L. the Petition of the Lodges in Tennessee & urged the propriety of promptly attending to the prayer of the Memorialists

The subject matter was referred to a select Committee composed of Brothers Lucas Cameron Caldwell and Rogers who reported favorably to granting the prayer of the petitioners. The M.W.G. Master Williams accordingly "caused to be prepared and signed a "Great Charter constituting the a Grand "Lodge of the State Tennessee" He likewise called a Convention of Masons by delegates to be chosen from Regular Lodges to meet in Knoxville Tennessee, and in December 1813 & appointed deputies to instal into office the Grand officers selected and to deliver to them the Great Charter & A book of constitutions, containing the land marks of the order,

~~The organization of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee~~

In this way without strife or controversy, ~~all any attempt whatever~~ the Parent Lodge granted forever with her ~~eldest only~~ eldest child - the child of her own early years for whose welfare and prosperity she had ever manifested parental affection and esteem.

The separation has proved mutually beneficial - the daughter has illustrated and exemplified the virtues of her Mother in her new and distant home. ~~has ever treated her with~~ and has reflected the lustre of her own virtues on the Parents venerable & tem

~~by the enumeration~~ Maryland Ham No 61

honored name. Each in its own sphere has endeavored to discharge its relative duties, and if the daughter has at times been admonished by the ~~Mother~~ cautious Mother, It is truly regretted that her wayward energies have often been received ~~with~~ as witnessing the unrelaxed concern of her zealous and energetic child.

The organization of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee by the M.W. & Most Worshipful Robert Williams must have been the pleasing act of his masonic life. ~~They~~ Charters were granted to the several Lodges while he discharged the duties of Grand Secretary ~~The Representative~~ and during the entire term of their pupilage he was their only Representative in the Grand Lodge, & zealously battled for all the rights & privileges he conceived was their due. From this time our Grand Lodge is designated as the "Grand Lodge of North Carolina"

Five Hundred dollars was appropriated towards aiding in the building of a masonic edifice in Raleigh. ~~Peace~~ Harmony was reestablished between the Grand Lodges of North Carolina and Kentucky - the latter having withdrawn all claim to ~~give~~ Charters in Tennessee

~~In addition to the Lodges named in Tennessee~~
~~may be enumerated~~ King Solomon No 5 ~~Cumberland Lodge No 6~~
Western Star No 6

1813

In November 1813 The Grand Lodge selected ~~the~~ Robert Williams M.W.G.M.
and granted Charters to
Camden Lodge No 63 Jonesborough
Kilwinning No 64 Madisborough.

On the 26th November 1814.
The Grand Lodge convened in Raleigh
on the Hon John Louis Taylor
was unanimously ~~elected to the~~ M.W.G.M.
and delivered able and interesting
lectures on the various degrees in
masonry.

At the communication
in 1815. Hon John Louis Taylor
was unanimously selected M.W.G.M.
At this sesion it was "Resolved that any
" perusing change by a Master on Chaplain
" for discourses or lectures delivered is
" highly unmasonic and ought not to
" be allowed".

"Brother Boylan laid before
" the G.L. the petition of the officers and
" members of Friendship Lodge by
" dispensation (Mississippi Territory) praying
" for a Charter" which it was deemed
unexpedient to issue at that time, but the G.L.
granted a new dispensation and thus
took under her fostering care
the Sons of Light on the then southern
boundary of the Union, ~~the duties~~
~~attendant her efforts will be~~

1815.

It will thus be seen that ~~and so~~ So soon as the Grand Lodge of North Carolina parted with her eldest daughter & settled her in the far West. The Sons of the sunny South became conscious to call her Mother, and desire their masonic & rights and privileges from her. The Petition was duly considered & in due term Charters granted to Lodges who subsequently called into existence The Grand Lodges of Mississippi. During the last several years the attendance on the communications of the Grand Lodges was not as large as formerly, and the business transacted was principally of a formal character.

To those versed in the history of their country no apology needs to be made. The War of 1812 or as it has been fitly styled the second war of Independence raged throughout the length and breadth of the land, as well as upon the bosom of our lakes, and out upon the dark blue sea,

Millions for defence, but not a cent as tribute free trade and Sailors rights ~~and~~ on the briny deep was the battle cry. And the young and the middle aged, and the veterans of '76 buckled on their armor

CLYDE MILLS

and prepared to die in it or make good their cause. The struggle was one of no ordenary character, with a stubborn and a powerful foe. While it lasted the energies and the talent of the Country was devoted to her defence. Every Lodge in North Carolina was represented in the Army or Navy — on the battlefield — or on the ~~"Flag of our"~~ ~~Country's~~ ~~good brave ship~~ tempest tossed waves, striking valiantly for the liberties of their Country and the honor of their national flag.

When the battle had been fought and won and the Star Spangled banner floated in the breeze ~~that~~ full high advanced not a star dimmed on Stripe erased, ~~and Peace again smiled upon the land~~, then the Masons of North Carolina found time again to throng their temples ~~to devise ways and means to advance~~ and speculate on things calculated to increase the honor of the Craft.

1818

On the 1st December 1818. The Grand Lodge met in Raleigh.

M.W. Calvin Jones was reelected G.M.

The time of meeting was changed to the last Tuesday in November of each year

It appears from the report of a committee that although ~~there were~~ the youngest Lodge is numbered 68. yet that there are but 38 paying Lodges. and pronounced that notice ~~given~~ to all Lodges in arrears to pay or surrender their Charters.

A Charter was granted to Dayton Lodge No 69. Cantenal County

All subordinate Lodges were instructed not publish either expulsions or suspensions in Newspapers but to report to the G.L. & subordinate Lodges.

The Grand Master appointed Eleven Grand Lecturers and one District Lecturer to each Lodge in the State with power to examine into and report on their proceedings. as well as on the condition of the Lodge.

For many purposes the Author thinks an interchange of Brethren would have a beneficial effect for instance a Brother of St. Johns Lodge No 1. could visit Phoenix No 8. some Brother of Phoenix might visit St. Johns as was the case in 1818. ~~It would not be advisable to Initiate any one Brother with pain~~

1819

On the 5th November 1819 the Grand Lodge convened in Raleigh, & M.W. Bro. Calvin Jones was elected G.M. and delivered a beautiful and most eloquent Address.

At this Communication a Committee consisting of "Brothers Iredell "Taylor and Henderson was appointed to "revise the constitution of this Grand Lodge"

December 9th 1820

The Grand Lodge convened in Raleigh M.W. John A. Cameron was elected G.M. "and was pleased to make a pertinent and "eloquent address portraying with energy "and feeling the duties devolving on him "on the Grand Lodge and upon the Craft generally."

At this Communication the R.W. A. Lucas who for 6 years had been Grand Secretary to the G.L. and had faithfully and ably discharged all the duties of his office with acceptability to the Lodge, tendered his resignation in consequence of infirm health. Whereupon the G.L. Resolved to pay him at the rate of Seventy five dollars per annum for 6 years for all his labors in its behalf. This Resolve so kindly expressed doubtless added one pulsation more to the heart of the dying Brother but alas it could not stay the hand of death for on the 22nd December 1820

1820

~~In this Year~~

by order of the M.W. G.M. John A Cameron the Grand Lodge met for the purpose of attending the funeral of Brother Alexander Lucas deceased late G.S. Every Grand officer was in attendance the representatives of the subordinate Lodges were generally present and many visiting Brethren.

The G.L. was opened in solemn and ancient form by the M.W.G.Mr a procession was formed which marched to the late dwelling of our deceased Brother then followed his body to the ~~grave~~ burying ground where the funeral service was performed by the M.W. Grand Master and the body interred in solemn form. The procession returned to the Masonic Hall, & the G.L. was closed until the next annual communication.

The page on which this record has been kept is marked with lines of mourning.

The Honor of a burial by the G.L. and a preservation of the fact on its record is one that was worthily bestowed. ~~Faithfully has~~ ~~he Kept the Records of the G.L.~~

It is an honor that up to this time has been conferred on no other Mason in the state.

It was on motion Resolved that the G.L. has no "power to ~~confer~~ grant charters to "Mark and other Masons of a higher degree"

1820.

At the Same communication on motion of Bro John A Cameron It was
" Resolved That the Grand Lodge of North
" Carolina feel deep regret at the death
" of P. Grand Master Wm R Davie and
" Deputy Grand Master John Winslow,
" and as a testimony of respect to their
" memories the Brethren of this Lodge
" will wear crape on the left arm for
" the Space of thirty days"

Well might the G L, express "deep regret" on the death of Such Masons as Davie, and Winslow

The former was distinguished & the Forum & on the battle field, the latter for the prompt and faithful discharge of all the duties of a Citizen Soldier and a Master of Phoenix Lodge. over which he presided for a period of more than 20 years. and had initiated into the mysteries of masonry the same Brother who introduced the Resolve. & who then filled the 'Orient throne'!

Difficulties existed at this time among the members of Hall Lodge No 53 which required the serious attention of the G L, in such manner as restored peace and harmony within her walls.

~~The G L~~ Charters were granted to the following Lodges viz

Blakely No 70	Franklin
Eagle No 71	Hillsboro
Masten Lodge 72	Wake
John L Taylor 73	Carpenters
Golden Fleece 74	Moulton
Widows Son 75	Camden

#1

1820

On the 1st December 1821. The G.L. met in Raleigh.

John A Cameron was elected M.W.G.M. Brother James Cochran was recommended to the subordinate Lodges as an able & eloquent Lecturer on the three degrees in masonry & the M.W.G.M. was pleased to appoint him Grand Lecturer.

Charters were granted to
Greensboro Lodge No 74
Albemarle " No 77.

On the 2nd December 1822
The G.L. met in Raleigh.
The M.W. James S Smith was elected G.M. Royal Edwin Lodge No 5 Windsor after having held her name on the Calender, and an honorable position in the G.L. for 34 years was on motion dissolved King Solomon Lodge No 18 Jones County, was allowed to retain her name & number

It was Resolved that the proper way of corresponding with other Grand Lodges was for the M.W.G.M. D.G. Master & G Wardens & Grand Secretary to sign all instruments in their own handwriting

Thomas Loring of Eagle Lodge Hertford was restored to the rights of masonry from which he had been suspended by said Lodge in 1820 for intemperance

Those who know their Brother at the present day know him to be destemperance & sobriety & the practice of every masonic virtue

~~& hope and charity, light in masonry~~

#2 1822

In his case the G. L. enunciated the principle that the conduct of every mason was subject to investigation by that Lodge within whose jurisdiction he lived, although not a member, ~~but~~

The subsequent career of Brother Loring as a distinguished member of the Editorial fraternity in North Carolina has justified the action of the G. L. in removing whatever masonic disabilities he labored under.

At this communication It was Resolved that it was inexpedient to establish a national Grand Lodge for the reason that the ~~system of~~ same result was attained by means of the system of intercommunication by and between all the Grand Lodges,

#1 1825

On the 5th December 1825. The Grand Lodge convened in Raleigh.

The M. W. Matthias G. Burton was elected G.M. Chartens and Francis L Hawks was appointed D. G. M.

The G.L. had ~~inadvertantly~~ granted Chartens to Sharon Lodge Greenville and Charity Lodge Windsor and inadvertantly numbered each 78. Neither seemed willing to relinquish the honor of precedency, the matter was referred to a committee of which Br. R. D. Speight was Chairman, on the coming in of whose report. It was Resolved that both Lodges be numbered on the Calendar as 78. Since then Charity Lodge Windsor has been numbered 79. and the two Lodges still exist in a prosperous & flourishing condition.

Chartens were granted to the following Lodges viz.

Enfield	No 88	Enfield
Eastern	" 89	Elizabeth City
Shenandoah	90	Williamston
Western Star	91	Smithfield town
Zion	No 81	Benton
Mount ~~Moriah~~ Moriah	82	Hillsville
Lafayette	83	Onslow C. H.
Fellowship	84	Smithfield
Morning Star	85	Nashville
Lane	87	Tuplin Old C. H.

#2

1825

In a case where a Brother had received the first degree in one Lodge & withdrew a demit the second and third in another Lodge. It was Resolved that the G.L. could not interpose, as it was proper for the first Lodge to deal with the ~~[illegible]~~ Brother so arising.

" Brother James Iredell George E Sprull
" and William H. Haywood were
" appointed a committee to enquire into
" the expediency of so amending the
" Constitution of the Grand Lodge that
" in the decision of every question before it
" each Lodge shall be entitled to its proper
" weight "

A Resolution was passed by which the G.L. agreed to pay one half of the amount Hiram Lodge might pay for the lower part ~~room~~ of the Masonic hall title to be made to Hiram & the G.L.

1826

On the 29th. December 1826.
The G.L. met in Raleigh, and selected
Hutchins G. Burton M.E.Dr G.M.

At this communication it was adjudged that a Lodge that expelled a Brother could reinstate him, that the Grand Lodge could not act in a case of this kind on Petition, that the question should come up on Appeal this adjudication has saved the G.L. from much trouble and annoyance, and is ~~while~~ at the same time the true constitutional doctrine, preserving alike

1826

original jurisdiction to subordinate Lodges. and Appellate powers to itself, except in the case of its own members, over whom the G. L. exercises exclusive jurisdiction but has wisely delegated to the Masters of adjoining Lodges, on a proper case, power to suspend a Master from presiding in his Lodge until the next ensuing communication of the G. L.

On the 26th January the G. L. was convened for the purpose of attending the funeral of Bro Lemuel Martin a Member of the General Assembly from Hertford County the procession marched to the Methodist Episcopal Church where divine service was performed by Rev Mr Charlton. At the burying ground the remains of Bro Martin were interred with the usual solemnities. The procession returned again to the masonic Hall,

1827 On the 30th November 1827 The Grand Lodge convened in Raleigh & charters were granted to the following Lodges viz,

Joseph Warren	No	92	Stantonsburg
Mount Moria	"	93	Edgecombe
Franklin	"	94	Hayde
Jerusalem	"	95	Snow Hill
St Johns	"	96	Kenston
Wake Forest	"	97	Wake
		98	Clenton
Hiram		99	Salisbury,
Fulton			

#2 1827

The committee appointed to report all Lodges Six years in arrears reported the following viz,

Johnston Caswell	Lodge	No 10	Warrenton
Hiram	"	No 24	Williamsborough
Phalansc	"	" 31	Mecklenburg
Freelance	"	" 33	Rowan
Camden	"	" 61	Louisborough
St Andrews	"	" 57	Louisburg
Wm R. Davie	"	" 65	Lexington
Williams	"	" 66	Cumberland
John L. Taylor	"	" 70	Cumberland
Blakely	"	73	Franklin

Whereupon on motion of Bro L.D. Wilson "It was Resolved that the above Lodges be "Struken from the list of Lodges in this State "& that Committees be appointed to present "their pivils" &c. except in the case of Phalansc Lodge. At a subsequent Repair of that Communication Williams Lodge was erected and made arrangements to pay its pas dues, but on repensing to the Calendar for 1856. The Author is pained to see that the name of "Williams" so long Grand Secretary & then M.W. G Master, is not thereon It has perished by the wayside, and none of the newly constituted Lodges, have supplied its place by opening his name. "Johnston Caswell" and "William R Davie", named in honor of the three early Grand Masters of the G. Lodge still

#3 1827

Stell hold their time honored rank and
numbers on the masonic Calendar
of the ~~State~~ G. L. serving as an example
for other Lodges to imitate, ~~by~~ up calling
them often Masons who have rendered
prominent services to the craft. as in
the case of "John Louis Taylor"
who as Grand Lecturer D. G. M.
~~and~~ M. W. G. M. and Past Most
W. G. M ~~rendered and as a member~~
~~of Phoenix Lodge No 8.~~
rendered more prominent service to Masonry
than any man who has ever lived
in the State yet his name is not
upon the list. but at this ~~depart~~
communication with the name of
the gallant "Blakely" was stricken
from the roll of that temple which
his genius learning and talent did
so much to build. Let some new
Lodges honor themselves ~~the craft~~ by adopting such
names as "John Louis Taylor"
Robert Strange John A Cameron
Hutchins G. Burton Francis Hawks ~~A Davidson~~ & and
+ James " Bedell "
~~Isabella Mason~~ and stamp upon
them masonic immortality by
perpetuating them through all time.

At this depart a committee
composed of Bros. L. H. Alexander
Marshall Dickinson Alex. Little Robert
Strange Jos R Lloyd & E. B. Freeman
to report whether a subordinate
Lodge could try the Masters thereof

#4

1827

The question arose upon the action of Skewarken Lodge which had expelled the Master. It was referred to a committee who at first suggested ~~as~~ their ~~as~~ doubts as to right of a Lodge to try a Master he being ex officio a member of the Grand Lodge -

At the communication in 1828.

The committee reported that a Lodge had no right to try the Master, thereof. which led to discussion and a difference of opinion among the members of the committee. The question was then referred to a committee consisting of Ebek Arnold one of the brightest Masons then living and to Robert Strange & Louis D Nilson who in 1829 reported that it would be "too "monstrous to be thought of for a minute," not . give the power to every Lodge to try its Master,

In the report of this committee they state that no precedent had been found in any masonic work for or against their position or in the last leaning on the report. The Report was laid on the table taken up and discussed when the G. L. refused to concur in the report — Whereupon Bro Spaight submitted the following amendment to the Constitution of the Grand Lodge.

1827

Whereupon Bro Speight moved to amend the Constitution, by providing that when charges were preferred against the Master of a Lodge, the M.W. G. Master, should appoint a committee of Masons to examine into the truth of the charges, & if true, the G. Master should forward the report of the committee to a neighboring Lodge to pass sentence upon him, which was proposed to be amended by giving the Lodge itself power to investigate upon complaint made to the M.W.G.M. ~~and~~ he appointing some discreet Brother to preside, & providing that if the Members found him guilty that he be suspended until the next Communication of the G.L. On motion the Resolution and amendment was laid on the table until the next annual Communication of the G.L.

This question continued to be disrespected occasionally in the Grand Lodge until 1851. When a committee on bye Laws reported those that had ~~previously~~ been presented to the Grand Lodge ~~by R.W. Brother~~ in 1846. ~~which~~ by the R.W. P.W. Fanning of M.W.G.M. which with some alterations and amendments were adopted - Among the bye laws Section 27 enacts that a Lodge cannot try its Master, and points out the manner in which charges are to be preferred -

#5

1827

Resolved by the Grand Lodge of North Carolina
That the ~~following~~ amendment to the Constitution
of the Grand Lodge be proposed

1828

On the 5th December 1828. The Grand Lodge
commenced in Raleigh. and Louis D Wilson
was elected M. W. G. M.

At this communication
It was "Resolved that when an applicant for
" initiation is rejected in any subordinate Lodge
" shall be the duty of said Lodge to notify
" all other Lodges of the same"

On the 5th December 1829
The Grand Lodge met in Raleigh. When
the R. W. Louis D Wilson was reelected
M. W. G. M. A Charter was granted to Rising Sun 100
Morganton. The committee on a new Masonic
Hall for the G. L. reported that it was
inexpedient to sell their interest in the
old Hall. as the funds on hand would
not justify them in attempting to build
a new Lodge.

On the 4th December 1830
A communication of the G. L. was held
in Raleigh. When Richard Dobbs Spaight
was elected M. W. G. M. A Charter
was granted to Warren Lodge No 101
Kenansville.

On the 3d December 1831.
The Grand Lodge met in Raleigh and
Richard D Spaight was reelected M. W. G. M.
The number of Lodges represented was
greater than for several years. but the
business transacted was merely formal
No new Masonic question was
discussed or disposed of.

1832.

On the 1st December 1831 the Grand Lodge met in Raleigh, and elected
M.R.W. Simmons G. Baker M.W. G.M.

At this communication It was Resolved to release all the Lodges from all arrears upon evidence of inability to pay during the year a committee had permission the basement story of the Masonic Hall for about $250= which was ordered to be appointed, Johnston Caswell Lodge No 10. Whose lamp for several years past seemed almost extinguished began to shed a more steady light, and to take rank among the more active Lodges ~~in the Brotherhood~~, within the State,

December 7th 1833

The Grand Lodge met in Raleigh
R.W. Samuel A Patterson was elected M.W. G.M.
Mount Moriah No 93 Edgecombe surrendered her Charter & Jewels.
~~Stokes~~ A new Charter was issued to
Stokes Lodge 32 bearing date A.L. 5833.

On the 4th of July 1833.

A special meeting of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina was held at the Masonic Hall in Raleigh preparatory to the laying the corner stone of the Capitol of the State
M.W. Simmons G. Baker G.M.
E. Arnold D.G.M. P.L.
R.W. Robert Strange G.S.W.P.L.
E.B. Freeman G.J.W.P.L.
J.C. Stedman G.T. P.L.
Thomas J. Lemay G. Sec

#2

1833

Rufus Haywood G. S. D. P. Z
Wm Wright G. 2. D P Z
R. M. Ashton G. Teler
J. J. & Watt G. S.
Thos L. Heybent G. P.
Winslow G. M. P. T
James Seawell G S. B. P. T.

There were many Brethren present including the officers & Members of Hiram Lodge No 40. Raleigh.

A procession was formed and marched to Nation Square where in the presence of a large concourse of citizens the ceremonies of laying the corner stone of the Capital of the State was duly performed. The Procession returned to the Hall. and the G.L. was closed in ample form.

Since then the designs upon the triple board have been finished Stately columns have been raised and majestic walls erected & surmounted by a lofty dome, that rears its head towards the sky far above the branches of the noble oaks by which the Capitol is surrounded. The State Temple has been pronounced complete. It has risen but also most of the brave Officers who laid the corner stone have fallen to rise no more on earth.

Arnold Strange
Heybent Wiath Baker

one often another have passed from time in eternity

leaving to the Brotherhood a fond hope that "by the aid of the theological ladder which Jacob in his vision saw" they have ascended above the clouded canopy and starry decked heavens — above all Sublunary things & where long after the capitol shall have crumbled into dust they will form loving stones polished and beautified by the hands of the divine Architect ~~himself~~ in that glorious temple not made with hands eternal in the heavens.

1834

On the 1st December 1834 the G. L. met in Raleigh. & elected
~~The R. W.~~ Samuel A Patterson M. W. G. M.

Six Lodges only were represented and to their eternal honor their names shall be inscribed on the pages of our masonic history
St Johns No 1 Wilmington Bro L. H. ~~Alexander~~ Manly Letton
Hiram No 40 Raleigh Bro W. H. Harrison G. W. Hutchings
Widows Son No 75 Camden. Thomas Lillett
Lane No 87 Jupiter old & H. Thomas Wright
New Forest No 97 ~~Hollo~~ R. S. Jeffries
Warren No 101 Kenansville Bros Hughes, Hall & Kenan.

It was with a sad and a heavy heart the M. W. G. M. opened the Lodge in solemn form. Solemnity was stamped on every countenance present & a deep feeling of sadness pervaded every heart! lest "Antimasonry" should sap the foundation on which the G. L. ~~but a few years before~~ rested.

Tuesday papers, but no additional returns were sent in but on Wednesday.

Lafayette Lodge No 86,
Concord " " 58
Skewarkee " 90.

~~Sent~~ Through their Representatives entered the Lodge Room, & ~~like a thunderbolt~~ dispelled the doubts & fears of the anxious Brethren, & stimulated them to labor and to wait the results of the antimasonic tornado that raged throughout the land.

Nobly did the Brethren work. No dissentions marred the harmony of their deliberations Each Brother felt that then if ever Masonic & Energy were needed within the great masonic temple.
Rules the most stringent were adopted and a stern determination espoused to cut off from Charter Privileges every Lodge in the state, that failed to be represented at the next communication of the G. L.

The Lamps which attended the opening is the highest proof of its wisdom In 1835, Eighteen Lodges were represented ~~and a conviction prevailed that however the Grand Lodges of Michigan & Vermont~~

Hope burned again brightly, on the time honored Altar, & each Brother felt assured that if every other Grand Lodge in the Union should like Michigan and Vermont, be uprooted by the raging storm. that the Grand Lodge of North Carolina was impregnable and proof against every assault.

In a subsequent Chapter the Author will endeavor to do justice the names & memory of those Masons, who stood by the G. L. in her gloomiest and darkest hours & battled for her existence against against Morganism, and political phrensy, without as well as against the tenets & time servers within, who on the approach of danger abandoned their posts -

1835

On the 7th December 1835. The G. L. convened in Raleigh and elected

L. H. Marshall M. W. G. M.

At this communication the craft were called to mourn the extinction of three of its bright & shining lights in the death of

Ezekiel Arnold late D. G. M.
Joseph Caldwell Grand Chaplain
Joseph A. Yeates G. Lecturer

Resolutions of condolence and affection were passed & the usual badge of mourning worn by the Brotherhood throughout the state,

Strenuous exertions were made to rouse the Lodges from the lethargy into which they had fallen, & well as to replenish ~~the~~ the exhausted treasury of the G. L. ~~Among other things~~

It was at this communication the following Resolutions were adopted,

Dec Edict 1835.

Robert Potter, corresponding secretary &c,

1854

On the 1st December 1854. The G. L.
met in Raleigh. and elected
Samuel F. Patterson M. W. G. M.

1856

On the 5th December 1856. The G. L. convened in Raleigh and elected R. H. Manstellen M. W. G. M. The subject of delinquent Lodges again occupied the serious attention of the G. L.

The action of that body in 1854 & 1855 made the non attendance of a Lodge by a Representative and the non payment of dues - on or before the meeting of the present communication a cause of forfeiture and loss of all its charter rights and privileges. Thirty Lodges were delinquent, & without an extension of time would cease to exest. ~~Among the Lodges thus delinquent were~~ Those Lodges had been duly notified by ~~one~~ and a copy of the Resolution extending them accompanied the notice.

The matter was referred to a Committee of which Bro H. Blount was Chairman. Who recommended that the G. L. should practice as well as preach forbearance and charity and allow ~~them~~ the Subordinate Lodges another year. within which ~~to this they could~~ report.

The Resolution passed and the following Lodges were saved. viz

St Johns	No 1	Concord	No 39
St Johns	No 3	Bertie	Liberty No 45
Phoenix	No 8	~~Milton~~	
Washington	" 15	Millsboro	Hall 53
Phalanx	31	King Solomon	56
Stokes	32	Perseverance	59

#2 1836

Vernon	No 62.	Kilwinning	No 64
Williams	" 66	Scotland Ark	" 68
Taylor	" 69	Golden Fleece	" 74
Widows Son	75	Albemarle	77
Sharon	78	Charity	79
Mt Moriah	82	Lafayette	83
Fellowship	84	Enfield	88
Eastern	89	Western Star	91
Jerusalem	95	Fulton	99
Rising Sun	100.		

From this roll it appears that Twelve of the thirty Lodges have become extinct. and that the other ~~Two~~ Eighteen are still green and flourishing. and by their good fruits bearing testimony to the wisdom of the G. L. that under the petition of the committee consented to spare their lives another year.

1837

On the 25th December 1837. The G.L. convened, and elected
Derick W. Stone M.W. G.M.
~~A~~ Charters were granted to
Kenston Lodge No 96 Kenston
Pittsborough Lodge No 102. Pittsborough

These Lodges now stand upon the masonic calendar as St Johns. & Columbus.
They ushered in the new era of masonry in the State. and were the harbengers of that prosperity & glorious career which under the administration of the M.W. G.M. Derick W Stone, the G Lodge was entering. N. ~~One~~ Charter was granted in 1829. to "Catawba Valley" ~~another in 1830 to "Warren" in Duplin county.~~
by the M.W. G.M.
Louis D. Wilson. In 1830;
the M.W. G.M. Reliance & Straight granted another to "Warren" No 101 in Dupplin County. That was the only Charter he were permitted to issue during the two years he presided over the Grand Lodge.
The M.W. G.M.
S.L. Botkin issued none The M.W. G.M. S.P. Pattenson issued none.
and no Lodge Knocked for admittance to enlighten the two years term of the M.W. G.M L. H. Manstellar.

~~These facts~~
~~tell the history of Masonry during the long and dreary years~~

1837

The History of the Grand Lodge from 1829. to 1837. is brief, and is written in the fact that in eight years Speight, Baker, Patterson, and Marshall, G. Masters only issued two Charters. and that in seven years not a single new Lodge was constituted.

The History of the G.L. may be easily written during those dreary years. not so the history of the men who exemplified the true masonic spirit & in faith and with manly fortitude, ~~[illegible]~~ waited and labored for the dawning of a new and brighter day.

At this communication Grand Lectures were appointed and officially charged to visit & excite the dormant energies and affections of the subordinate Lodges.

The G. Lodge again enforced upon the ~~sub~~ Delinquent Lodges the necessity of prompt and immediate returns. with what success future years will develop.

1839

The G. L. met in Raleigh on the 2d Dec.
1839. David W Stone was selected
M. W. G. M. Only Nine Lodges
were represented at this communication
but since 1837, the following
Lodges had been Chartered viz
Star in the East. No 103 Elizabeth City
Orr 104 Washington
Shoso 105 Franklin

At this communication the G. L.
Resolved

Dec Edicts 1839,

fees for degrees.

add this

Episode

For the leading ideas in this chapter the Author acknowledges his indebtedness to Kennedys Life Of Nott. It forms an Episode in his Life. and it is truly an Episode in the History of Masonry in South Carolina but it is an Episode that shows how much poor human nature is governed and controlled by approbation or dispent.

In addition to this it is an Episode that teaches that however cowardly the timid and the time serving may act, that the brave and the patriotic are ever ready and willing to die at their Posts, In the last category on the roll of Masonry in No. may be enrolled the names of

Louis D Nelson	Saml F Patterson
John H. Wheeler	Henry McLean
D Lendeman	J C Stedman
J. J. C Watt	R W Ashton
J G Marshall	Richd D Speight
Joseph A Hale	Rufus Haywood
J. J Lemay	C W. D Heathens
Daniel Coleman	E. B, Freeman
L H. Marsteller	W B Dunn
Thomas Wright	L B Gregory
W. J. Bain	Simmons J Baker
Kader Biggs	W W Cheney
John A Cameron	J L, Hayward
Ro Strange	J. J, Crenshaw
J. E Borden	F H, Reeder
P. W. Fleming	Thomas Lorenz
[illegible]	

The author has thus given his impressions of the cause of the decline of masonry throughout the Nation. It will be seen he is of opinion that but that the subject was taken up as a partizan politicál hobby it would have been a nine days wonder that would have expired as suddenly as

Episode

These are the names of the good and true men who in times of peril and adversity were constant in their attendance on the communications of the Grand Lodge and by precept and example stimulated others to ~~attend~~ the discharge of every Masonic duty. Their names are now enrolled in masonic history, and in coming years they will be pointed at as the most faithful among the faithful who in times of adversity & trouble prevented the Grand Lodge of North Carolina from depolation and death.

Here and here only during the violent crusade against masonry did the G. L. of North Carolina deign to speak ~~but~~ and then she spoke words of truth, and soberness wisdom and universal Love. words that deserve to be written in letters of gold & engraven in brass & suspended on the outer and inner side of the "west gate" of every lodge ~~within our jurisdiction~~ throughout the world

In speaking she made no concession of her time honored principles She could not stoop to conquer, but in 1835, calmly & unobtrusively poped the following Resolutions viz.

See Edicts 1835 Sustained by proceedings of 1819 page 18. add this

Louis D Wilson
Saml F Patterson
John H Wheeler
Henry McLean
D Lindsay
John L Stedman
J. T. L Watt
R W Ashton
John G Marshall
Richard D Wright
Joseph A Haden
Rufus Haywood
T. J Lemay
C W & H Mathews
Daniel Coleman
E B Freeman
L H Manstellen
Wm Wright
Wm B. Dunn
Thomas Wright
L B Gregory
Wm T Bain
J. J. Baker
Haden Biggs
William Whitehead
John A Cameron
T L Haywood
Robert Strange
D J Cresham
J E Perdew
H Reeder
P W. Pannell

Thomas Lorey
Jas A McRae

Epsade Morgan

1839-40

The Author has thus imperfectly Sketched the rise & fall of masonry in North Carolina. He has endeavored to show that the cause was espoused by the Patriots & Heroes of the Revolution, as one in which they could keep ~~bright~~ in lively exercise the Cardinal virtues of the heart as well as the noblest faculties of the mind. a cause in which they could portray ~~the~~ Faith Hope & Charity Brotherly Love Relief & Truth. and thereby ameliorate the condition of all who became the objects of their bounty & ~~as well as~~ generally exalt the Standard of virtue and morality within the State.

That they succeeded is ~~evidenced by the truth of~~ established beyond doubt or cavil, and one long the opinion prevailed that masonry was the handmaid of piety & Religion and that a good mason was necessarily a good man. and ~~those who were honored by the fraternity~~ fit to be trusted and honored in the most exalted Stations of life. Governors & Judges Statesmen & Generals Orators & Poets & distinguished men of every rank thronged the masonic temple, and acknowledged the beauty harmony & virtue ~~of~~ ~~every~~

Morgan

taught at every dance Altar around which the Sons of Light were wont to gather. All ranks and conditions of men venerated the ancient institution an institution coming down from the far distant past bearing on its frontlet, the marks of antiquity and inculcating in its precepts a portion of the virtues of the moral law, in a language more ancient than the art of printing, the language of signs & symbols coeval with the Sublime Scenes they represent, and which without change or variation have been handed down to them, through the hands of Kings Princes Artizans & Peasants of every land during the thousands & thousands of years that have spread their shadows over the generations who had witnessed the events so Sublimely represented and so mysteriously preserved.

The Order found warm hearts and willing hands in every portion of our widely extended country From Maine to Texas thousands of votaries worshiped at her shrine and throughout the length and breadth of the entire land her praise was on every lip, and aspirations for her prosperity dwelt in every heart,

1828.

until on
in the Western part of New York

Morgan.

a whisper interrogatory Where is Morgan? was caught by the passing breeze and on its wings was borne to every State in the Nation. The rumor soon spread that he had been ~~all~~ abducted and killed by Masons because he had dared to publish a Book in which he opened the public was revealed all the secrets and mysteries of masonry. Indictments were found against some Masons in New York & individuals were tried upon circumstantial testimony and acquitted of the charge. The Press teemed with the details of the trials, Ministers forgot their calling and hurled the thunders of the Church against masonry ~~but for a time the "~~ ~~institution bore a proud defiant front and danced its~~ ~~the storm then it stood calm~~ ~~majestic and serene~~

In the Northern states the same kind of phrensy seized the public mind which ~~was~~ has so lately been exhibited on the subject of the Fugitive Slave laws and then as ~~now~~ various reason & justice and constitutional rights were trampled under foot and the multitude ~~then as now~~ clamored demanded a victim.

Calm majestic & serene ~~& self poised~~ stood our time honored institution

Morgan.

a whisper interrogatory Where is Morgan? was caught by the passing breeze and on its wings was borne to every State in the Nation. The rumor soon spread that he had been ~~[illegible]~~ abducted and killed by Masons because he had dared to publish a Book in which he opened the public was revealed all the secrets and mysteries of masonry. Indictments were found against some Masons in New York & individuals were tried upon circumstantial testimony and acquitted of the charge. The Press teemed with the details of the trials, Ministers forgot their calling and hurled the thunders of the Church against masonry ~~but for a time the "~~ ~~institution bore a proud defiant front and danced its measure to the Spirits~~ ~~then it stood calm majestic and serene~~

In the Northern states the same kind of phrensy seized the public mind which ~~has~~ has lately been exhibited on the subject of the Negro slave law and then as ~~now~~ reason & justice and constitutional rights were trampled under foot and the multitude ~~[illegible]~~ clamored ~~[illegible]~~ demanded a victim.

Calm majestic & serene ~~& self poised~~ stood our time honored institution

bearing a proud defiant front. and daring her enemies to the appeal. She pointed to her long and glorious career, her laurels gained mid pain and suffering in feeding the hungry clothing the naked and saving human lives by her adversary of ~~the~~ Pearl. Again she pointed to her long list of statesmen Philosophers & Heroes and asked if Washington Franklin Jefferson Clinton Crawford ~~Madison~~ Clay Jackson Johnston Calhoun & such names could have belonged to an institution, whose laws was degree paramount to the laws of the country in which they lived. The appeal was vain The Presidential campaign of 1852 was coming on, Politicians already began to agitate the public mind & look for strength outside of strictly party ipsues

Upon strictly national ipsues and political subjects Gen Jackson and Henry Clay were the representatives of the two great political parties then existing unfortunately for those who desired to defeat Jackson Clay too was a Royal Arch Mason. and it was not supposed that he could get the anti-masonic vote then ~~counted~~ value at ~~$50000~~ half a million throughout the Nation

Ejus aide

The Antimasonic party was principally composed of those who were opposed to the reelection of Genl Jackson. They determined to hold their convention in september 1831, two months earlier than the Convention of the National Republican party in the hope that having preoccupied the ground ~~assumed~~ by having their candidate in the field that the ~~candidate of the~~ National Republican party would adopt him & thus unite their strength in the contest against Jackson.

In Kennedys Life of William Wirt. It will be seen that Clay could have obtained the nomination of the Antimasons "if he had responded to a "call which had been made upon him "on the subject of Masonry and had come "out on that subject as Mr Rush had come out" Anxious as Wirt was that Clay should be the nominee he rejoiced that he did not give an opportunity for truthfully bringing against him the charge of "bargain and corruption" from which he had unjustly suffered so much before

The Antimasonic convention met in Baltimore in Septr 1831. and nominated William Wirt

Epsade

In Wirts letter of acceptance he states that he had never taken the Masters degree but ~~that~~ he had not abstained from so doing because he believed it would ~~have~~ create obligations higher than those of citizenship or that would have interfered with his politics or religion that Washington could not have so understood Masonry. That if Morgan had been abducted it must have been by desperadoes moved by their own impulses without the knowledge or sanction of their Lodges. That it was only from the details of trials in the case of Morgan that any other opinion had been gathered but there he was that at the south no obligation was deemed higher than that to country & God

In September the National Republican convention met and nominated Henry Clay. this made Wirt a defeat certain. & he seemed anxious to resign & give the influence of his party to Clay. but as Clay refused to renounce masonry, the anti-masons would not support him. and it was certain that unless they did Clay would be defeated too.

In this dilemma Clays friends started the project as is stated in one of Wirts letters "of dispelling the Masonic Lodges in the Spring and thus putting

Episode

an end to Masonry by destroying its antagonist" or leaving antimasonry nothing to fight against. Forgetting that if all the Lodges were depolved Jackson & they men would ~~desire~~ fall back & support their respective political chiefs. Acting upon this ~~policy~~ suggestion ~~to~~ many Lodges in the Northern & Western States were depolved, ~~every~~ together with the Grand Lodges of Michigan and Vermont.

The depolution of a single Lodge upon a political consideration or to advance the posets of any man was treason of the blackest dyes. especially when the world was looking on and saw nothing in the act and a general renunciation of Masonry except a tacit admission that the fraternity ~~taught~~ was guilty of the abduction of Morgan.

Whether this motive actuated any Mason in North Carolina the author knows not, but there is too much reason to fear that many timid and time serving Brethren withdrew from their several Lodges on motives akin to this ~~rather than from a belief that the Lodge~~ and not as is generally supposed because they thought the Lodge was steeped in guilt.

Epsodes

In November 1832. the electoral votes stood as follows viz

Parkson		219
Clay		49
Floyd		11
Wm Wirt	Vermont.	7.

The result shows how signally the Antimasons failed in carrying out their ~~plans~~ schemes of rising into importance on the ruins of ~~their~~ Masonry.

True Wirt was again nominated by a leading Paper in Providence Rhode Island as the Antimasonic candidate for 1836. but he promptly & effectually denied the use of his name, and soon after in February 1834 he breathed his last

[illegible]

leaving behind a rich legacy to his countrymen in the fame he had acquired ~~to~~ in the faithful and conscientious discharge of all the high trusts that devolved upon him.

The party made a few ~~parades~~ demonstrations of political effort in subsequent years they were followed by utter depolation

When the country heard no more of Morgan abductions no more of masonic persecutions and Masons ~~were persecuted~~ again became ~~were~~ inoffensive men

Appendix

"The Grand Lodge ~~did not~~ had Convention now ent. on the adoption of the Constitution &c. &c. &c."

"The Committee consisting of the most Worshipful William R Davis Grand Master. the right Worshipful James Glasgow Deputy Grand Master. and Robt Williams Grand Secretary. to whom was referred the formation of a Constitution by the Grand Lodge. holden the last year. made their report. On which the present Grand Lodge consisting of all its members. Delegates Brothers. Master Masons &c. proceeded to investigate with all possible Solemnity necessary to such an important subject. & being thereupon read for information. it was again read for that purpose. and then proceeded on Section by Section and after a very strict examination. the said Constitution was amended. passed and accepted with the unanimous Consent of all the Brothers present as aforesaid.

The said Constitution was then in a most solemn manner ratified by this Grand Lodge & Convention and ordered to be enrolled among the Archives of Masonry. for the government of its future Members. and all the Subordinate Lodges under the Jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge."

"It is further decreed and ordered. that Br. Robert Williams Jr be appointed and he is hereby required to have the said Constitution printed. and one duplicate thereof to be by him as Secretary to this Grand Lodge. transmitted to every Grand Lodge in the United States of America and Nova Scotia. and another duplicate thereof to be by him transmitted to every Lodge under the Jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge."

It follows the form of that Constitution solemnly adopted and entered into as aforesaid, to Wit:

"We the members of the several Lodges in
"the State of North Carolina to establish order
"and uniformity, to promote Love & Charity
"amond Masons & defend the principles of
"benevolence and the advantages of Masonry do
"ordain and establish this Constitution for the
"Grand Lodge of this State,

Brethren

Another "land mark" presents itself in our masonic journey, another birth day of the companion, and beloved disciple of the "Son of Man" has dawned upon the earth. Another festival of our order has called us together.

How appropriate is it thus publicly to meet, thus rationally to celebrate the day, and thus ~~to~~ exhibit the beauties of Masonry to the world.

Throughout the habitable globe wherever Christianity has found its way, and Masonry exists. Millions have thus met, and their hearts through the mystenic of a sacred brotherhood beat in unison with ours. Let ours throb responsive unto theirs and let all unite in thanksgiving unto <u>Him</u> who for so many centuries has permitted Masonry to exist — alike a blessing, and a mystery to mankind.

In the recent addresses delivered before St. Albans Lodge, so ably have the Brothers traced the cause the origin and design of Masonry, and so eloquently presented its claims to your affection, and the admiration of the world. Your present speaker stands like one amazed, not knowing where to thrust his sickle ~~in~~ gather or from what unexpected field to glean his sheaf to add to the treasury of the Lodge.

Emboldened however by the recollection. "That the world needs not so much teaching as it does reminding" we have spurred the office of a "kind remembrancer" and are well pleased that our task has been performed.

if we succeed in reminding you of the beauties and the truths of Masonry which they so ably and so eloquently taught.

In the discharge of my duty - on the very threshold of my mission. Suffer me to remind you of the wisdom of our ancient fathers, as manifested in their enjoining upon ~~their sons~~ us - the observance of this day as a festival in Masonry.

Their injunction has given to the day a prominence, which notes it as a land mark in our career - a point in our calendar, a resting point in time, on which to pause on the giddy present & look upon the distant past for lessons of wisdom to instruct us in the duties we owe futurity.

In this retrospect, what Masonic heart but throbs with pride and pleasure; as the great antiquity - the glory and the grandeur of the Order pass in review before him. And if in the retrospect he is heard to exclaim What the cause! where the origin and what the design of Masonry? I fancy not that he doubts the truths of Masonic teachings, or despairs of answering his own interrogatories.

On on Memory's wings. Swift as an arrow from the bow he traverses the almost trackless desert of the past, until he stops in sorrow and gazes upon a "world lying in wickedness" minds steeped in ignorance and superstition "hearts fatally bent on mischief", licentiousness and cruelty in high places - passions roused to madness - war and slaughter, but a pastime - Innocence despoiled - Brutality supreme - and Man proud nature

prostrate in the dust, under the pressure of despair. "Faith" seems crushed beneath a load of wickedness. "Hope" buries in the tomb of anguish, whilst "Charity" in the agonies of overtasked endurance tries to hide the deeds of blood and cruelty perpetrated upon earth.

As he gazes upon this sad scene his soul sickens and he exclaims

"Means inhumanity to man
"Makes countless thousands mourn"
"Means worst enemy is man"

At this instant the genius of Reasoning appears - to the down trodden and the weak whispers "Hope" - to the mighty and the strong "Charity" - unto All "Faith" in that God "with whom is no variableness or shadow of turning" & "whose mercy endureth forever."

Soon the scene is changed, and man hails man as Brother ~~- Sister~~ they vie with each other in acts of Benevolence, Relief, and Brotherly Love, whilst he who has thus looked upon the past rises from the retrospect & exclaims Weakness and wickedness is the cause of Reasoning the distant past dates its origin and mans happiness is its chief design.

Whether Reasoning dates its origin in the garden of Eden, at the building of Babel or at the erection of King Solomons temple is a point of no practical importance and I will not detain you with a long historical narrative attempting to prove its precise its date.

It is sufficient for my present

purpose to say, there is internal evidence in every lodge & in the ceremonies of initiation, calculated to convince any unprejudiced mind that masonry had its origin, and receives the basis of its religious character before the birth of Christ.

What peculiar interest it receives from the wisdom of King Solomon & the goodness of St John is more a speculative than a practical subject, and it should satisfy every mason to know that the order possess venerable antiquity & corresponding honors gained in a noble struggle for the melioration of the condition of man.

From the antiquity of the order, two truths may be deduced 1st It is established in wisdom 2d Its aims have been good, otherwise, it would long since have been numbered among the things that were - but instead of this It is patronized & encouraged in every land, & presents even to the eye of the world, the vigor and vitality of early youth, blended with the wisdom and the prudence of a green old age. In this union lies its strength, and feeling thus strong, no wonder it presents an unbroken front for man to gaze upon and exclaim behold Masonry.

" Simple, erect, severe austere sublime
" Shrine of all saints. " " " " " "
" " " Spared and blest by time
" Looking tranquility while falls on nods
" Arch empire earth things bowed thee
" Glorious dome
" Shalt thou not last time scythe and tyrants rod"

It is not however in a Pharisaical spirit that we have alluded to the venerable antiquity of the order, but for the purpose of reminding

you, that you have inherited sublime mysteries, from an ancient and an honorable ancestry — mysteries that have reached you unchanged by the lapse of time and unadulterated by the fashions of ages through which they have passed.

Let me also remind you that there is a corresponding obligation upon you to prize these mysteries highly — sacredly to keep them inviolate, reverentially to conser them on a succeeding generation intact, and perfect, that it through them, in future years may be enabled to commune with us, as we have this day communed with the ancient Fathers of the mighty past.

In this connection suffer me to remind you that these Fathers were working men — & although laborers in a noble cause — wise in conception & skillful in execution as the emblems & designs of our order ~~when properly understood~~ abundantly testify.

Follow me within the Lodge, and Behold the evidence of their wisdom in every object on which the eye can rest. There stands the sacred altar, witness of many a solemn thought and vow, on it rests the holy Bible, the square & compass. Next I remind you of the Lambskin or white Leather apron — emblem of innocence & peculiar badge of a mason — the plighted hands — the blazing star — the mosaic pavement — the square — the plumb-rule & level — the all seeing Eye — the sun, the moon and stars — the naked heart, and sworn of fidelity — the scythe of time — the broken column — the weeping & virgin the hour glass and the coffin — the new made grave — the sprig of cassia, the anchor and the ark — Sky and the cloudless canopy, or starry decked heaven —

"where all good masons hope at last to arrive by
"the aid of the theological ladder, which Jacob
"saw in his vision, the three principal rounds of which
"are Faith, Hope, and Charity."

Can I remind you of these emblems, their moral, and significancy, and not remind you of the zeal, the skill, the wisdom and the love of the ancient fathers. I know I cannot and know full well that every heart unites with me in saying, it is good to study the designs upon the "triple board" & wise to commune with the mighty dead. To do so in a proper spirit will oftentimes lead us to think upon the uncertainty of life, and the immortality of the soul, and these thoughts will lead to a cultivation of the masonic virtues, that were so beautifully exemplified in the life & character of St John the Evangelist.

But it may be said of Masonry, in
"its theory employs the noblest faculties of the soul,
& in its practice exercises the cardinal virtues of the
heart." & selects for its patron saint, the "beloved
disciple", he to whom the "Son of Man" when about
to die, confided his [redacted] beloved Mother? Why
is it that it has been opposed at every step, & met with
enemies in every age?

In reply we would ask,
Why did the preached words of Christ, stir up
rebellion & persecution in the hearts of those
who heard it? & persecution which never slumbered
never slept, until his precious blood stained
the rock on Calvary? & Why were his immediate
family & disciples subjected to the pains and
tortures of martyrdom. The answer naturally
suggests itself — the perpetrators of the cruel deeds

Know not what they die. Let no one imagine because in answer to one question, we have asked another, that we thereby mean any disrespect to religion, ~~far from~~ or that we intend to contrast the claims of Masonry with those of Christianity. far from it. for we value far too highly the doctrines of the Gospel, for a moment to compare them with aught less solemn than the word of God. yet as the pure and divine religion of Christ has had ex[illegible] strange

~~not~~

as

can. or

ands,

the

ep in

Jean

riate

an of

This part of manuscript seems not included in history, but an address written by Banks.

[illegible] and the Lodge itself been blind to the Intemperance that prevailed within & was detracting from the respectability of the Masonry without.

Our Festivals too we fear have been desecrated - & instead of proving a feast of reason, and a flow of soul, they have been but bacchanalian frolics calculated to bring obloquy & contempt upon the name of our time honored fraternity. From the sin of Intemperance at the present day the Order is happily exempt, the use of ardent spirits is strictly prohibited within the Lodge and discouraged without.

That it may be ever so, should be the prayer of every good Mason, for no evil is more corrupting

and no sin more baneful to the peace, prosperity, and happiness of man.

Notwithstanding these efforts upon the otherwise glorious escutcheon of Masonry, its precept and example, has been powerfully beneficial upon the human race, yet it has formed a brilliant mark for envy to level its malicious shafts. But so far, it has withstood alike the assaults of foes and feigned friends. It has flourished alike under tyrannical and free Governments, turning neither to the right or to the left, but moving onward, revolving upon its own axis at its own will, within its own orbit, looking calmly upon the raging storm without, for within, all was peace, unity, and love. When the storm had passed away, Masonry again exhibited itself to the world in all its strength and beauty, as if possessed of a self adjusting & self sustaining power.

Since I assured you that in our own land, within our own day, Masonry has been persecuted by enemies & calumniators. Political & partizan warfare lent itself to the fierce and fiery onset. Anti-masonic clubs were formed throughout the Union, and solemn vows were plighted for its extirpation, Even good men were drawn into a participation in the frantic onslaught. Those who panted for place and power planted themselves in the van, & fanned into a flame the passions of the multitude, in the vain hope, to hide their own insignificance, & on the ruins of Masonry to ride triumphantly into place & power.

As rushed the enemies of the Order rending the air, with shouts of victory. The timid quailed before the assault - False friends deserted their standard & gave "aid and comfort to the enemy"

but the "true Master Mason" in exemplification of that "fortitude" which had enabled him to undergo the "pain, peril, and danger, of a rough and rugged road" stood courageously at his post, & in calmness gazed upon the ~~scene~~ of strife - & might have been heard to say, "our enemies know not what they do." they know not that they are attempting to demolish ~~a "tree"~~

an Institution which is peculiarly conservative, whose first tenets are "law & order", whose constitution, custom, and usage, enjoin submission to lawful authority. & an institution Fraternity whose exertions infringe no law, but which leaves every man, to the free and unrestrained observance of the duties, he owes, himself, his family, his country, & his God. An Organization institution whose organic laws precept & example know "no North no South" no East & no West." "but which unites men of every country sect "and opinion, and constitutes true friendship among "those who might otherwise have remained at a "perpetual distance"

That storm too has passed away. the Ides of November 1832. have come & gone ~~been passed~~. & the horizon of Masonry is again ~~so~~ clear & unclouded as if its late exposure, had never formed an element of political strife. Amongst good & true Masons the "horrors gone of passion" has been forgotten, & we can look upon the "lone star" of 1832 ~~E~~ the lone Antimasonic State of Vermont, & upon our countrymen, throughout the Union, with feelings of fraternal love, and affection. and with an honest pride & a just exultation we can say. If the Constitution & the Union now need friends to maintain & defend them It is not because Masonry has plotted treason - or is

clamorous for change, Other organizations may plot treason, others be severed on account of slavery, or geographical lines, Secessionism may threaten the dissolution of the Union, & the dismemberment of our extended empire. our glorious stars and stripes may give place to the insignia of the "sunny south"- deep in rebellion & civil strife may deluge our fair land with human blood. but we feel warranted in saying that neither of these evils will come upon the nation by either the "aid" or the ~~consent~~ encouragement of Masonry. X

X No, its course is clear - in the future as in the past - in war or in peace, Masonry will be found true to the constitution, & the laws, and faithful to the Government under whose free & benign influence, its principles have been so long & so extensively propagated. but should these dire calamities overtake us - (which may God in his mercy long avert) it will be equally found true, that Masonry "bows" not to a sun already "set" but that its allegiance is due, & will be faithfully given "to the powers that be." & that it will endeavor to flourish & prosper under new governments, as it has done under those, that have long been numbered with the past. for as times of peace prosperity and stability, are the harvest of masonry. Must it seem strange, that its votaries are no advocates for change, but rather desire perpetual stability of government & perpetual peace "the world over".

I need not remind you that the charge of Secrecy has always been urged, as an objection to our Order, notwithstanding the great light of Christianity the Bible says - there are sublime secrets connected with all things valuable "The secret of the Lord is with them that fear him" There is a secret in Love, that sometimes gleams, from a modest maidens eye,

and sometimes "like a worm i the bud feeds upon her damask cheek". & preys upon the heart till it becomes an urn of suffering. There are secrets in all nature - Nature itself is a mysterious secret penetrated only by the eye of Omniscience, which is ever present. but ever a secret unto us.

It is therefore candidly admitted that the charge of secrecy is just - In fact it is the boast of Masonry that from the earliest times unto the present no matter where its votaries have met - whether upon mountain's top. or deepest vale. in crowded city. or secluded Village. no "Ears dropper" has been permitted to possess himself of the mysterious secrets of the Order. but whilst Masonry has guarded well its own secrets it has not been inquisitive or prying into those of others. ~~whilst~~ The secrets of Masonry have never operated to the injury of any one, & it would be madness to suppose they could - so long as every grade & class of society in every land is represented in the Fraternity. as so many checks & ballances, ready to prevent any aggressive movement upon the rights of either. This fact connected with the past history of the order - (a venerable & well spent life.) should satisfy every unprejudiced mind, that the secrets of Masonry were not instituted for pernicious but, for wise, & useful purposes - and are sacredly preserved to subserve the wants of suffering humanity

Whilst upon this subject it may not be amiss to say that Masonry not only possess secrets, but it exerts a secret & mysterious influence on the minds of all those who are even permitted to witness a public Installation of Officers. or a public celebration of its Solemn Festivals -

May our present resolutions, are appropriate with the public celebration of this day.

by "Ola Mother Kilwinning" & "Rose & Thistle" Lodges in my native land. The striking & imposing solemnity of their annual porcpsions are ever present with me, and as we marshed here to day. the resolutions of youth rushed upon me - memory revelled on the past - & this porcpsion seemed composed of those whose beloved ~~& venerated~~ forms & Faces ~~that~~ were familiar to my childish eyes - but the realities that surrounded me have dispelled the charms. Those X forms & those Faces. I (~~shall~~ & Brethren) shall never see on earth.

"They sleep the sleep that knows no waking"
yet their example ~~teaches~~ teach from the grave. ~~for~~ their sons celebrate this day.

X The solemnities of this festival must soon terminate but it will not have been in vain that we have thus met. Young & old have been spectators of your Procpsion. the solemn installation of your Officers & all the other public ceremonies of the day. Impressions have been made upon their minds that time will but deepen into thoughts. & these secretly & mysteriously will operate upon their minds & influence their wills, & the result will be a desire to be admitted into a knowledge of all the mysteries of the order. and if interrogated for the cause of this desire - they will be enabled in candour & sincerity to say "from a favorable opinion of Masonry" formed from an exhibition of its dignity & beauty ~~by yours~~ by St. Albans Lodge ~~demeanour~~ to day.

We have lately been asked if Masonry had not outlived its day of usefulness - our reply was Ask yonder Masons Widows. who unknown to those around her. has often been the recipient of its charity - Who when her cruse of oil was empty - has it replenished when frost & cold made fire necessary found fuel at

X Father & Grand Father. ~~& Great Grand Father~~ -

the door - when perjury & want stared her in the face plenty by an unseen hand - entered her humble abode When her Childrens portion seemed ignorance & poverty Education was fully supplied. Ask her who in whatever emergency she may have been placed - was never turned away empty or told by a Brother of her departed husband "to go and beg bread". Ask her if Masonry has outlived its day of usefulness and she will answer No. - Masonry never can outlive its day. until there are no poor Brothers to be relieved - no widows hearts to be comforted, & no orphans innocence to be guarded - no prayers for help to be answered & no wants to be supplied. And yet Woman - Woman for whom Masonry has done & still is doing so much, is sometimes found amongst the enemies of our order.

Would she learn a lesson - Let her look at the degraded & abject condition of Woman, until Masonry & Chevalry in a race of rivalry in a noble cause, elevated her to her ~~Father~~ true position in social life. & declared her to be mans equal - worthy of his fondest affections - & the dearest object earth could give, on which to centre ~~all~~ the hopes & ~~all the~~ happiness of the human heart.

Of the shield which Masonry has thrown around Woman, she even has, and ever must remain in ignorance but of this she may rest assured - that whether she is found amongst the enemies of the order or not - Masonry never can forget her happiness her purity or her wants. for

"No mortal can more
Dear Woman adore
Than a free and accepted Mason"

But if there be any one present who still doubts that Masonry is a good institution. Let me convince him that the very name of this Worshipful Lodge suggests additional evidence. "St Alban" he after whom this Lodge is named was a British Knight; professing the religion of the Druids, he was afterwards converted to Christianity & suffered martyrdom in her service A.D. 303 in the Diocletian persecution. If Masonry had been evil, or possessed evil tendencies would a pious Martyr like St Alban, have exerted himself so much in its behalf, or encouraged it to the extent he did.

"Yet we are told St Alban loved "Masons well, and cherished them much, and granted "their pay right good. For he gave iij s (2) per "week iij d (3) to their hire, whereas before that "time in all the land, a man had but a penny a "day & his meat. And he gott them a Charter from "the King and his Councell, for to hold a generall "Councell, & gave itt to Assembly. Thereat he was "himself, and did help to make Masons, and "gave them good charges"

You have great reason to Congratulate yourselves upon the name of your Lodge, & should take pride in holding up your patronymnick Saint, as an example to all Masons. Let his example ever govern you, and the career of your Lodge will be as pleasant, as it has been prosperous. "Love masons well", "Give good Charges" regard solemnly the Charter & the determinations of the "Councell", and the old age of your Lodge will be as honorable, as its youth is promising.

No Lodge within my knowledge has ever increased more rapidly, or possessed better material ~~which~~ for ~~to form~~ a strong masonic brotherhood. Let Brotherly "Love prevail, and every moral, and social virtue cement "you"; & Robeson County will ever bless the day St "Albans Lodge" was chartered.

Remember the Widows of Masons, and their Orphans as you are bound to do, Should they need your charity extend it fully & graciously, but let not your right hand know that the left has given it. for in giving - you but give those who have a right to receive - you but pay a debt that is due a departed Brother. whilst debts, thus paid or charities thus bestowed usually have a super influence, & seldom fail at some future time. to fill to overflowing, the treasury of the Lodge - If Masons Orphans are in your midst educate them - develop their talents - train their hearts in the way of all truth, & a rich recompence will be found in the faithful discharge of a sacred duty, as well, as in the return which may be made - by some grateful heart, towards some of your own children.

Let no dissentions or jealousies or bickerings exhibit themselves in the Lodge, or in your private intercourse with each other - Leave no cause of alienated friendship unexplained or unenquired into. Forget not the lessons taught when you professed ~~to~~ nothing that was either offensive, or defensive, Remember the cardinal virtues of your points of fellowship & the solemnities under which you were taught them - Practise all the lessons that are taught upon the "triple board" In a word be what you are - Brothers

meeting upon the level, acting by the plumb, and parting on the square.

Be this - and do this - and all will be well.

As Brothers thus meeting, thus acting and thus parting, give to the cause of Masonry a faithful, honest, zealous, service. When you become lukewarm, vacate your seats, rather than hang like a night mare, upon the energies of the Lodge. Be not over anxious to increase your numbers, for the fewer the members the more perfect the mystery perfected whilst mere numbers might endanger the whole masonic fabric throughout the world.

Finally my Brothers, Let us all endeavor to increase the usefulness, the greatness, & the glory of Masonry, in the fond hope that time will but consolidate & strengthen that proud edifice of sound morality, & when ages shall have rolled away its Banner of Faith. Hope & Charity may stream written like from its lofty dome. venerated & beloved by our Children. as it has been by our Fathers, in the ages through which, it has already passed.

526

Masonic