A Century of
Masonry in
Norfolk County

1804-1904

31.12.30

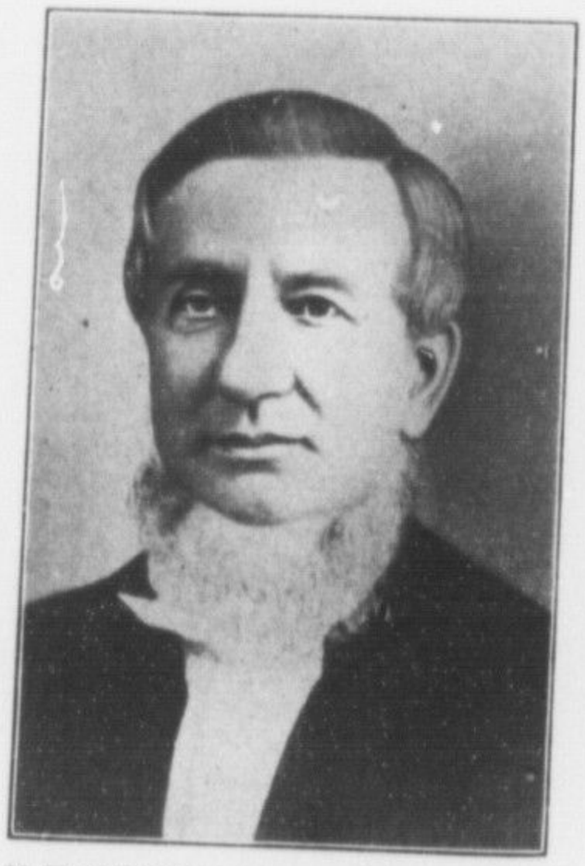
To J. S. Carslaw B.A.
with the compliments of the Writer

A Century of Masonry in Norfolk County

By J. F. Thompson, B. A.
Classical Master, Pimeo High School.

Published by P. Geo. Pearce
Immediate Past Master Wilson Lodge, No. 113.

STAR PRINT, WATERFORD
1904



M. W. BRO. WILLIAM MERCER WILSON
First Grand Master, Grand Lodge of Canada
First Grand First Principal Z, Grand Chapter of Canada
Charter Member of Wilson Lodge



M. W. BRO. J. E. HARDING, K. C.,

Grand Master.



RT. W. BRO. BENJAMIN ALLEN,

Deputy Grand Master.



M. W. BRO. HUGH MURRAY,

Grand Secretary.

The History of Norfolk Masonry.

A Primitive Metropolis

THE dawn of Freemasonry in this County first broke upon a district, throughout which, time and human energy have since made countless changes. The virgin forest is now, in great part, replaced by farms and smiling fields. The towns and villages which to-day dot the surface of Canada's fairest County, were then represented only by that prime necessity of the early pioneer, the grist-mill. Even the seats of the Mighty, the local habitation, in those days, of Law and Authority have been long since forsaken. For the metropolis of this vast district, which included within its boundaries the sites of the present flourishing cities of Brantford, Woodstock and London, was, not one of the busy centres of industry, where to-day are focused the trade and commerce of the district, but a small lakeside town, the very name of which is well-nigh forgotten, while its site is now little better than a desert. On the high ground which overlooks the most southernly of Canada's inland seas, 150 feet above the level of the lake and with the waters of Long Point Bay gleaming in the near distance, the first Governor of Upper Canada marked in 1795 the site of a metropolis for the Western Country. The name given the prospective Capital was Charlotteville, in honor of George the Third's Queen. In 1800 when the London district was first constituted Charlotteville was chosen as the district town. There the Courts were held and the legal business of the entire district transacted; here also dwelt the chief dignitaries and the representatives of the Law's Majesty. In time a Court-house of hewn timber was erected; humbler material, however, entered into the composition of the jail, which stood near, and was built merely of rough logs. Some years later the number of official structures was increased to three by the erection of a rude fort, which provided accomodation for a company of soldiers, and the foundations of which may still be faintly traced. A number of private buildings, chiefly erected for the purposes of trade, soon gave Charlotteville a certain commercial as well as legal and political importance.

On the third day of January, 1803, there was held, in the only hostelry which Charlotteville boasted, a meeting, to which a certain section of the present-day inhabitants of the County are inclined to attach considerable importance; much more, possibly, than did the actual participants in that meeting. Amongst the population, official and commercial, which the decrees of Fortune had gathered in this primitive settlement, were some few who were already members of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free Masons. These, feeling the want of that fraternal intercourse, so dear to the heart of the genuine Craftsman, had arranged to meet on the date above mentioned in the hotel or tavern of one of their number, Brother Job Lodor; and the meeting consequently held was undoubtedly the first Masonic gathering in this County and marks the birth of organized Freemasonry in Norfolk.

Job Lodor's Tavern.

AND yet let no invidious critic carp at the humble origin of Norfolk Masonry. Lowly as some may deem this tavern-birth of the fraternity, still in a certain relative sense, a more important and dignified place of ingress could hardly have been found; for Job Lodor's was none of your ordinary common-place taverns, nor yet was it on a par with the modern hotel, around which gathers merely the taint of sordid commercialism, or possibly some other taints still lower, though certainly none higher. To the hostelry of Job Lodor on the contrary there attaches a unique political and legal interest. Its erection antedated that of both the Court-house and the jail, and in the very early days of the community the legal and other official business of the district was transacted here; and here also were held his Majesty's various Courts of Justice, so that Job Lodor's inn was the first capitol of the London district, and the seat of its earliest government. Truly dignified then were the surroundings and the circumstances attending the birth of the local fraternity.

The First Meeting.

THE original minutes of this, earliest, and of some subsequent meetings still exist, and constitute, possibly, the most cherished possession of Norfolk Lodge. From these minutes we learn that there were present on the date above mentioned seven brethren, all Master-Masons, whose names are recorded as follows: William Hutchison, Wynant Williams, Joseph Ryerson, Thomas Welch, Job. Lodor, David Secord, and Alex. Hutchison. The first business to come before the meeting was, apparently, the election of temporary officers, and accordingly the following brethren were chosen:—Brother Joseph Ryerson, Master; Brother Williams, Senior Warden; Brother Hutchison, sen., Junior Warden; and Brother Welch, Secretary. The meeting was for purposes of organization only, the two following being the only resolutions which appear upon the minutes:—"Resolved—that we will apply for a regular warrant to the Grand Lodge of Upper Canada", and, "Resolved—that Brother William Hutchison, agreeing to furnish jewels, etc., for the Lodge, be reimbursed by the Lodge.

Joseph Ryerson.

LET us pause for a moment to consider the personal element which figured in this early Norfolk meeting. Of the seven brethren present, all or nearly all hailed originally from the United States. In the case of most of them their too pronounced loyalist sentiments, had, at the close of the American war, necessitated their removal to another land. The most interesting personality of the seven is undoubtedly that of Brother Joseph Ryerson, who was born near Patterson, New Jersey, on the 28th of February, 1761, and was the son of Lucius Ryerson, a County Judge and Colonel of Militia. On the breaking out of the Revolutionary War, he, with his brother, Samuel, his senior by nine years, espoused the British cause, and, though only fifteen, entered as a cadet the 4th New Jersey Loyalists, a volunteer organization which had been raised by his brother. He took part in six battles, in one of which he was wounded. At the close of the war he was forced to leave the United States and settled in New Brunswick, where he remained fifteen years, removing in 1799 to Upper Canada. His subsequent Military career was somewhat distinguished; he was made, in 1812, Lieutenant-Colonel of the 1st Norfolk Regiment of Militia. He was afterwards made full Colonel and placed in command of the London district. In 1800 he was appointed the first sheriff of London district. Colonel Ryerson first saw Masonic light in a Military Lodge attached to the 17th Light Dragoons. He was also a Royal Arch Mason, having attained that grade before leaving the United States. His Royal Arch certificate is so interesting in its quaint phraseology that it is here reproduced in full.

"We, the High Priest of Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Super-excellent Masons, held under the sanction of Warrant No. 535, on the Register of Ireland, Do hereby certify, declare and attest that our faithful, true and well-beloved brother, Joseph Ryerson, Past Master of the said Lodge, was initiated by us into that sublime degree of a Royal Arch Super-excellent Mason, he having, with due honor and justice to the Royal Community, supported the amazing trials of skill and valour attending his admission, as such we recommend him to all true and faithful Brethren of the Royal Community.

Given under our hands and seal of our GREAT CHARTER on Long Island, this First day of August, in the year of our Lord 1783, and of our Royal Arch Super-excellent Masonry, 3883,

(Signed) M. Smyth, H. P. Wm. Collins, Scribe Roger Cooper, R. A. C.
Jared Beth Wm. Smith Oliver Teek "G. Masters"

The date (1783) of the above certificate will be especially noticed. It was not until 1797, on the formation of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, that Royal Arch Masons first formed themselves into a separate and distinct organization, and conferred the Royal Arch degree in Chapters apart from the lodges. Before that year this degree had always been conferred by a competent number of Companions acting under a Master's warrant. Brother Ryerson, it will be observed, had already served as Master, before the Royal Arch members of his lodge conferred that degree upon him.

Thomas Welch.

THOMAS WELCH, the Secretary, whose pen traced the minutes of the above meeting, was originally a surveyor and conveyancer in the State of Maryland. On the breaking out of the Revolutionary war he joined the British forces and subsequently participated in several engagements. When the Treaty of Versailles assured independence to the United States, he also, as Colonel Ryerson had done, removed to New Brunswick. After a time he returned to Maryland in a vain effort to obtain possession of some portion of the property which had been his before the war. Finally, however, he settled in Upper Canada, and in 1800 was appointed Clerk of the Peace and Registrar of the Surrogate Court for the London District. Thomas Welch was the founder of the well-known Welch family of Norfolk. Of his Masonic career previous to 1803 little is known. He most likely first saw Masonic light in Maryland.

Job Lodor.

THIS portion of our narrative would, however, be incomplete without some mention made of the host of that eventful evening, the proprietor of Norfolk's first hostelry, Brother Job Lodor. Unlike the cases of the two brethren just mentioned, it was financial embarrasment, rather than political proclivity, that necessitated Brother Lodor's removal from his native country, New Jersey, where, in all probability, he first saw Masonic as well as solar light. The laws of the times regarding debtor and creditor were barbarously severe. The sacred rights of property were then regarded as far more worthy of the law's protection, than were the lives and limbs of human beings. Job Lodor becoming, through no fault of his own, we are bound to believe, embarrased in his business relations, determined, quite sensibly, to avoid the disastrous consequences of such embarrasment by the simple process of shifting his location. As a consequence we find him, at the time our history opens, a citizen of Upper Canada and a loyal British subject. To his eternal honor, however, it is related that when through the favor of Fortune or his own business ability he had, in his adopted country, amassed a respectable competency, he returned for a season to his native land and discharged all his indebtedness to his New Jersey creditors. In the early days of Norfolk County his name was a synonym of upright dealing and business integrity. He was something of a rolling stone; for we find him engaged in business now in one part of the district, and now in another

and even beyond its boundaries; but in his case the stone most certainly gathered moss; for after his migration succeeds as constantly and as surely attended his business ventures as had failure in the previous time. He was chiefly engaged in building and contracting, in which connection he erected the old Charlotteville Court-house. We also find him managing a hotel in Charlotteville, owning a mill in Waterford and engaged in the steamboat business in Hamilton. Certain it is however that in his business and other relations Job Lodor, with whose name early Norfolk Masonry is so intimately associated, always had the reputation of acting as a just and upright man and a Mason.

With the others who attended this fraternal gathering the envious hand of Time has dealt less kindly. Of them little has been transmitted to posterity but the names, but even of that little the limits of our space forbid us to treat. Enough has been said, however, to show that Norfolk Masonry is a consequence of the American revolution, a transplanted offshoot from the middle Atlantic Seaboard.

The Second Meeting.

THE fair promise of that January meeting was not immediately fulfilled; what causes delayed the granting of a warrant, whether the apathy of the local members or the neglect of the Grand Lodge officers, we are not told. Certain it is that the year 1803 waxed and almost waned before any attempt was made to follow up the effort which had marked its early days. It was not until the twenty-seventh of December, the anniversary so highly regarded by Masons of the York rite, the festival of St. John, the Evangelist, that the second Masonic meeting of Norfolk County was held; again in the town of Charlotteville and in Brother Job Lodor's tavern. At this meeting the following brethren were present: William Hutchison, Benjamin Caryl, Thomas Smith, Jacob Glover, John Heath, Job Loder, Thomas Welch. It will be noticed that two of the brethren, who were present at the January gathering were, on this occasion, apparently absent, their places being supplied by two others, who do not appear to have been present at the previous meeting.

The first resolution which appears upon the minutes was similar to the one which was passed in January, and simply stated that application would be made for a warrant to hold a lodge at this town. The brethren then, probably considering that lapse of time had rendered their previous action in this regard invalid, proceeded to the election of officers for the said lodge, with the result that Brother William Hutchison was elected Master, Brother Benjamin Caryl, Senior Warden; Brother Job Lodor, Junior Warden; Brother Thomas Welch, Secretary; and Brother John Heath, Treasurer. The change of officers will be noticed; both the Master and the Senior Warden of the previous election being absent, the Junior Warden is now elected Master, the Secretary remains the same, while a new office is created, that of Treasurer, which position, it appears, is not to be a sinecure, as the following passage from the minutes will show:—"We, whose names are hereunder written, do promise to pay in advance, to be reimbursed whenever a sufficiency of money shall come into the treasury of the Lodge, the sums opposite our names respectively—into the hands of the treasurer on or before the first day of June next ensuing, which Brother Job Lodor is hereby elected to receive from the treasurer, and therewith purchase the jewels and a warrant for the said lodge."

Wm. Hutchison, ten dollars; Thos. Welch, ten dollars; Benj. Caryl, five dollars; Job Loder, five dollars; John Heath, ten dollars; Jacob Glover, two dollars.

It will be remembered that it was not until 1858 that decimal currency was legally introduced into Canada. The fact that the above named brethren promised to pay in dollars instead of pounds, shillings and pence shows that, in commercial matters, American influence in this part of the country predominated, and the question of American-made money crowding out our own purer, if rarer, coins was as grave a one in those days as it is to-day.

The motion to adjourn also named the first day of the ensuing March sessions as the date of the next meeting. An act passed two years previously by the Provincial Legislature of Upper Canada had enacted that the Quarter Sessions of the Peace for the London district should be held in the town of Charlotteville on the second Tuesday of March, June, September and December. The date selected for the next meeting was evidently intended to enable brethren from a distance to attend, whose convenience, naturally, would be greatly subserved, if they could transact their legal, official and commercial business on the same occasion as would require their presence at a Masonic function. The length of time intervening between the meetings also indicates the great difficulties which attended communication from place to place in those unsettled days, especially when we consider the great distances which separated centres of business and social activity.

In the minutes of the December meeting no mention is made of the body or authority to which the application for a warrant was to be made. In the minutes of the first meeting it is stated that the application was to be directed to the Grand Lodge of Upper Canada. In strictness no such body at that time existed. Upper Canada was under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of England. Under the English system the entire jurisdiction is divided into Provinces corresponding to the Grand Districts of the present Canadian system. In each of these Provinces representatives from the local lodges constitute a body known as a Provincial Grand Lodge, having the oversight and direction of local masonic matters within its province, but in strict subordination to the National Grand Lodge of England. Over each Provincial Grand Lodge a Provincial Grand Master, appointed by the Grand Master, presides, and corresponds to a District Deputy Grand Master under the Canadian system. To the Provincial Grand Lodges we have nothing analogous. Upper Canada at this time formed a separate province under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of England. The first Provincial Grand Lodge of Upper Canada had been formed at Niagara in 1792, with H. R. H., the Duke of Kent, as Provisional Grand Master of both Upper and Lower Canada, and R. W. Bro. Jarvis as Substitute Provincial Grand Master for Upper Canada. In 1802 Bro. Jarvis

moved the seat of the Provincial Grand Lodge from Niagara to York, afterwards Toronto. Many brethren objected to this step, and formed a schismatic Provincial Grand Lodge, meeting at Niagara, and claiming to be the sole custodian of Masonic authority in this province, under the Grand Lodge of England. In point of activity the Niagara Grand Lodge easily outdistanced the one at York, and for twenty years the two bodies worked in opposition to each other, until their amalgamation in 1822. So there were two Grand bodies, at that time, in Upper Canada, to either of which, as far as the wording of the original minutes is concerned, the application for a warrant might have been made. But from other documents of this Lodge which still exist we learn that at a later date it was working under a warrant derived from the Niagara Grand Lodge, and it is altogether probable that it was to this body that the original application was made.

Warrant Issued.

OF the next meeting, which was to be held on the second Tuesday in the ensuing March, and of the meetings immediately subsequent to the granting of a warrant we possess no records. Just when and under what circumstances the warrant was granted we cannot say; but we do possess the minutes of a regular meeting of the Lodge, held on the 27th September, 1804. From the general tone of these minutes, and from the date of the application for a warrant, we are clearly justified in assuming that the warrant was issued in the early part of 1804, quite probably in January, and that from March of 1804 regular meetings of the Lodge were held. January, then, of 1804 may be regarded as the month, in which the first regular lodge was instituted in Norfolk County.

We have now seen Norfolk Masonry safely through the hazards attendant on the period of its nativity and duly launched on its subsequent career. Of this career it is a satisfaction to know that for many years it was a fairly prosperous one; that no untoward event interrupted the course of regular meetings; that the membership steadily increased, until it became spread over the greater portion of the district, and that peace and harmony prevailed amongst the brethren.

The Outbreak of War.

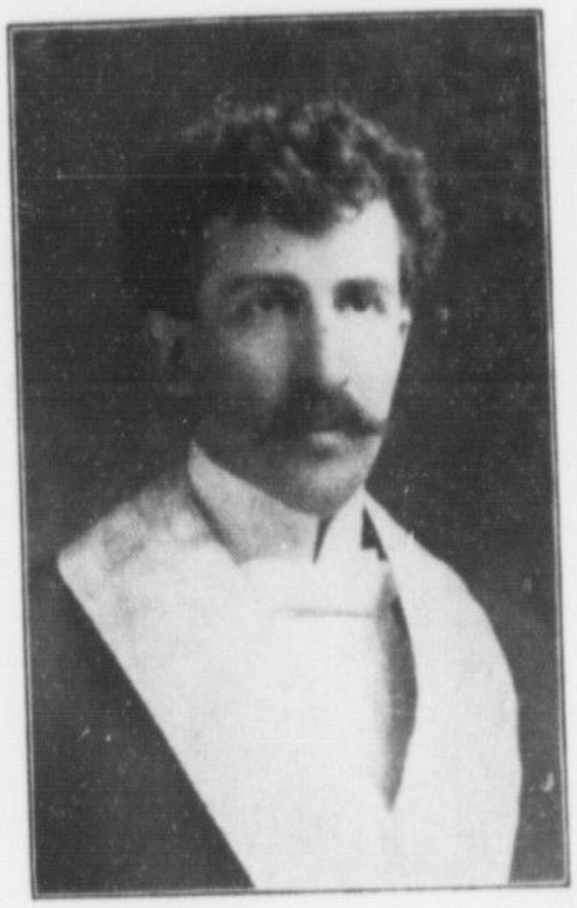
THIS orderly condition of things however, received a rude shock on the occasion of the outbreak of war between Great Britain and the United States. This was inevitable when we consider the condition of the country and the character of the meetings, owing to the great extent of territory over which the Masonic jurisdiction of the Lodge extended. The great majority of the brethren had to cover very considerable distances in order to be present at the communications of the Lodge. Their military duties would necessitate, the absence of many of the brethren for months at a time. Add to this the fact that Norfolk County suffered severely during the war at the hands of the American enemy, and we may understand that the disturbed condition of the country, due to the continuance of hostilities, was reflected in the altered character of Masonic meetings.

To realize the devastation and havoc wrought and the suffering caused, in Norfolk County, during the progress of this war, a few instances may be here cited:—On the 15th of May, 1814, the American Colonel Campbell, of the 11th United States Infantry, crossed the lake from Erie, Pa., at the head of 500 men, and landed in the vicinity of Port Dover. This town was surrounded and immediately there ensued a general looting by an unrestrained soldiery; the place was pillaged and the inhabitants robbed of all their portable possessions. The scenes of cruelty and outrage which would necessarily follow on one body of men being given, for the time being, uncontrolled power over the lives and property of others, may be imagined; humanity recoils from describing them. The town was then fired, a sawmill and tannery, six stores, thirteen barns, three grist-mills, and nineteen dwelling houses being burned.

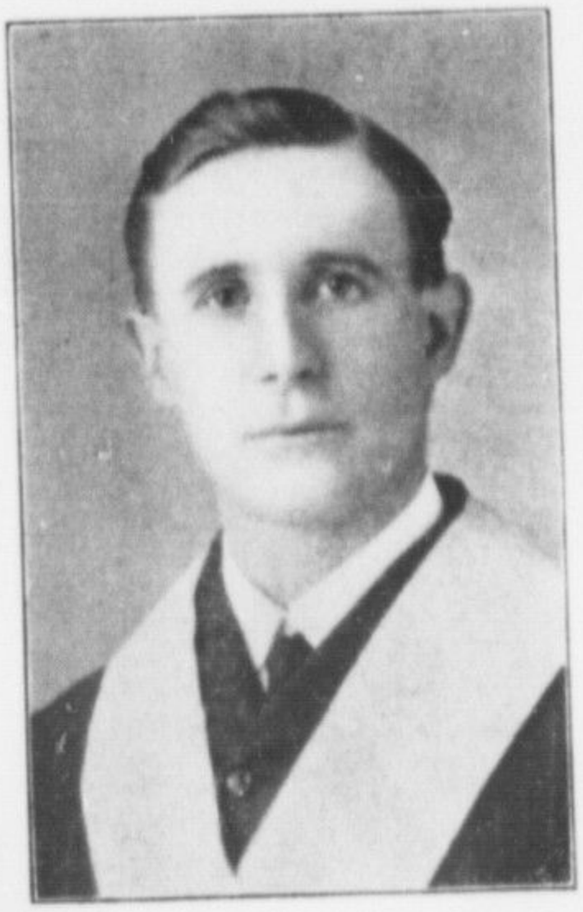
It is a mistake to imagine that civilized warfare, so-called, is divested of those hideous and horrible features, which the most unsophisticated reasoning would assure us must characterize the armed conflict of maddened men, bent on mutual death and destruction. In this year of grace, 1904, this mistake, into which many had fallen, the too faithful reports of recent wars by a liberal section of the Press have perhaps dispelled. There is a residuum of barbarism in every man; and this residuum the conditions of warfare cannot fail to call to the surface and to make predominate. History, if truthfully written, would cause mankind, in its sober moods, to shudder at the mere possi ility of an armed conflict betwixt nations; and to abhor not merely the authors of war, but also the participators in it. In the matter of war, however, History as ordinarily written, is far from truthful. To the despotisms and oligarchies of the world, war is much too useful an institution for them to allow its features to be depicted to the world in genuine form. Hence the glowing accounts of battle as told in the ordinary school History and its fascinating detail as unfolded in the ordinary war-novel. So humanity is cunningly prevented from beholding,—except in the stress of conflict, when the blood is heated and the judgment dethroned—the face of war as it actually is:—

.....Crudelis ubique
Luctus, obique pavor, et plurima mortis imago.

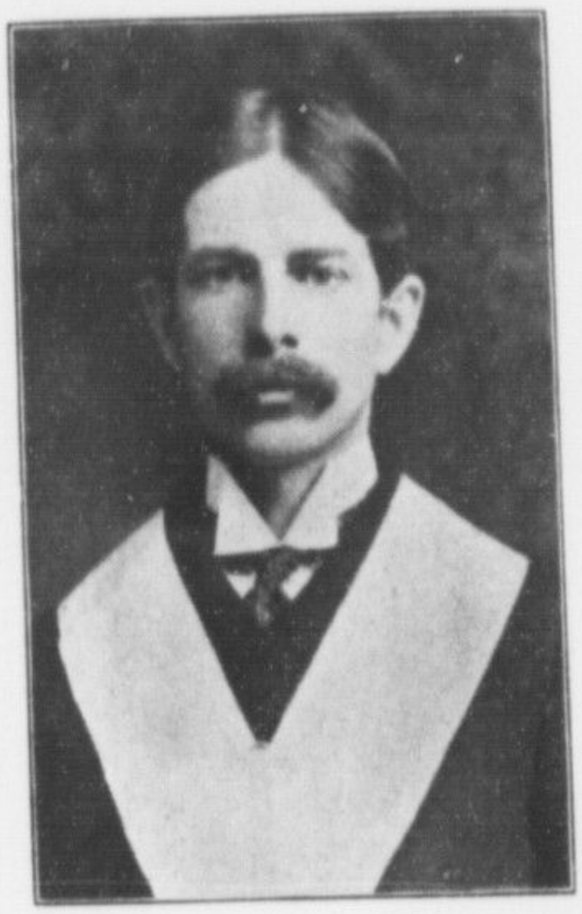
Port Ryerse, also, on one occasion suffered from the invader's wrath. The Ryerse family, and others settled in the vicinity, had after years of labor amassed a competency to replace that which they had lost in consequence of the Revolutionary war. Port Ryerse was relatively a much more important place in those days than it is now. A considerable settlement had grown up around the mouth of Young's Creek. The grist-mill, which had been erected there, was one of the largest in the county and signs of prosperity abounded on every hand. What was the dismay of the settlers, however, to find one morning that the place was being surrounded by a hostile soldiery! As to the enemy's intentions they were not left long in doubt. An officer ordered the trembling inhabitants to retire to the woods, pending the destruction of their property by fire. Rendered frantic at the prospect of losing in one short



BRO. J. F. THOMPSON, B. A., 18°
Junior Warden Norfolk Lodge
Third Principal J. of Ezra Chapter
Secretary-Treasurer of the Scottish Rite Association of Norfolk County.



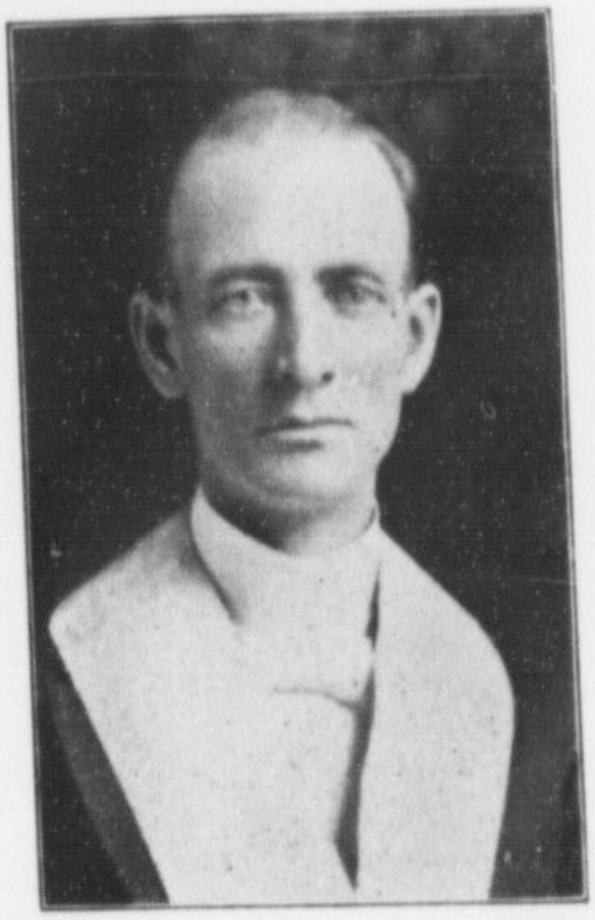
BRO. W. C. EVERETT
Senior Warden of Norfolk Lodge
Senior Sojourner of Ezra Chapter



W. BRO. HUGH P. INNES
Worshipful Master of Norfolk Lodge
Member of Ezra Chapter.



W. BRO. W. A. McINTOSH, M. D.,
Immediate Past Master of Norfolk Lodge
First Principal Z. of Ezra Chapter.



BRO. JOHNATHAN PORTER
Secretary of Norfolk Lodge
Scribe E. of Ezra Chapter



V. EX. COMP. FRANK REID,
Past Grand Steward, Grand Chapter of Canada
Past Master of Norfolk Lodge
Treasurer of Norfolk Lodge and Ezra Chapter



RT. EX. COMP. J. D. CHRISTIE, B. A.
Past Grand Superintendent of Wilson Royal Arch District
Past Grand Scribe N., Grand Chapter of Canada
Past Master of St. George's Lodge, St. Catharines
Member of Kent Preceptory, Knights Templar, Chatham



RT. EX. COMP. R. S. McGILL,
Immediate Past Grand Superintendent Wilson Royal Arch District
Past Master of Norfolk Lodge

hour, the fruits of half-a-life-time of toil and struggling, many of the settlers, the women especially, begged earnestly for a remission of the cruel sentence. Their petitions, however, might as well have been addressed to the winds, as to the brutal soldiers, who were moved, by the affecting signs of grief and dismay, merely to jeers and insults. All the evidences of human industry throughout the settlement were wantonly destroyed, and the afflicted inhabitants were compelled to begin anew the life-work which they had started some forty years before.

But the Lake-shore was not the only part that suffered. Similar scenes of devastation and havoc were enacted in different parts of the country. Throughout the length and breadth of Norfolk the invading enemy swept, leaving ruin and desolation behind him. As one contemplates these scenes of misery, he cannot but wonder at the collective folly of mankind in allowing millions to suffer that a few may profit. That President Madison and his colleagues might score a few points over Lord Liverpool, the British Premier, the people of Canada and of the United States were driven to the destruction of each other's lives, property, and happiness. To the rulers, or to the profiting class, war is no more than a game of chess, the stakes being for them material profit in some form, or the more immaterial glory. The people, however, are the pawns with which they play. The people have everything to suffer and in scarcely any case have anything to gain.

.....Reges delirant, plectuntur Achiri

To war in all its forms Freemasonry is unalterably opposed, as well as to despotism and other forms of special privilege of which war is born. Freemasonry's message to humanity is expressed in the two words "Peace" and "Freedom," the one the complement of the other, and either impossible, in lasting form, without its fellow. No Freemason who is truly such, who has become inspired by the true spirit of the institution, and understands its history and underlying principles, will for a moment raise his voice in favor of war or of the principles and institutions which give it birth.

Incidents at Vittoria and Waterford.

IT will be necessary, before dismissing this portion of our subject to treat briefly of two incidents, which have been so often and so variously related that there are few in these parts who have not heard them mentioned; while a detailed history of Norfolk Masonry might seem incomplete without them. It is related that, when the Americans under General McArthur were harassing the land, they approached on one occasion the town of Vittoria with the intention of setting fire to the grist-mill there. Arthur Bowlby, one of the pioneer Masons of the district, along with some others entreated General McArthur, (who it appears was also a Freemason) in view of the fact that a largely Masonic community dwelt around Vittoria, and would inevitably suffer if the contemplated act of destruction was carried out, to spare the mill. The appeal was, in this case, and for Masonic reasons, granted. The other story told is to the effect that the Americans, under the same commanding officer, on a certain occasion set fire to the grist-mill at Waterford, owned by Bro. Morris Sovereign. Three times was the fire extinguished by the frantic efforts of the owner of the mill, despite the repeated threats that interference would cost him his life. Finally he was seized and taken to the top of the hill nearly opposite the site of the present Baptist church, a rope, fastened around his neck, was passed over the branch of a tree, and he was about to be hanged, when the commanding officer discovered his Masonic identity and spared his life.

It is with some reluctance that we here relate the above stories. If true, they reveal the melancholy fact that the chief of that band of robbers was a member of our ancient fraternity. No true Mason, however, could he have been to have so far forgotten the Masonic injunction to cultivate harmony, practise charity and live in peace with all men. It is true that it is held by some that a soldier in executing his orders is in no respect accountable for the moral consequences of his acts. From that view the present writer most emphatically dissents. That which in the very nature and essence of things is outrageously wrong and unjust, no human convention can make righteous and honorable. And the soldier who urges such a plea to escape the consequences of his acts incurs the imputation of cowardice as well as of moral turpitude. That General McArthur was a Freemason is possible. Too many lodges are so busily engaged in adding to their numbers that they overlook the more important question of quality in their material; and consequently we find many, nominally members of the Masonic fraternity, who know nothing of the order beyond the simplest routine of the degrees. Many Masons, indeed, are less informed as to the genuine tenets and principles of Freemasonry than are the more intelligent amongst the profane. We may remedy this state of affairs, however, by looking more carefully to the quality of our membership; and by seeing that those already within the mystic portals become thoroughly informed with regard to the genuine principles of the craft, rather than by expending our energies in constantly seeking fresh accessions to our ranks.

Re-Established Peace

THE clash of armed conflict, however, finally ceased, and re-established Peace allowed the fraternity once more to flourish. The solid, if quiet, character of the work done during this time by the old Charlotteville Lodge is evidenced by its greatly increased membership, which had, in fact, extended over a large portion of the London district. So extensive, indeed, had been Masonic increase throughout this portion of the land, that it had far outgrown the capacity of our lodge, to which, however, in 1812 a daughter-lodge was born, which assumed in the more Northern portion of the district the Masonic burden which had proven too heavy for the old Mother-Lodge of Norfolk County. Of this second body we shall speak hereafter. As the lodge in Charlotteville now ceases to be the sole lodge of the district we may henceforth speak of it more definitely by name and number. From documents of the period which still exist we learn that it was known as Union Lodge No. 22 and that it worked under a warrant derived from the Schismatic Grand Lodge at Niagara.

The Passing of Charlotteville

WITH regard to the history of the Lodge during the years immediately following the war little definite information is obtainable. "Blessed is the nation that has no history" is a saying which may fairly be extended to include individuals and all organizations of individuals as well. This dearth of information, then, together with the known fact that Masonic meetings continued to be regularly held and the membership to steadily increase, may be taken as indicating for Union Lodge a period of prosperity and peace. Not so, however, with the town in which it had its birth. Prosperity and Charlotteville, as time went on, became more and more estranged. Like Megalopolis of old, that well-known instance of a site arbitrarily selected by man as the centre of a nation's life, without reference to Nature's intentions in the matter, Charlotteville, after a few years of existence, rapidly declined in wealth and importance. The centre of population for the County was shifting further North. Farmers and others no longer found it convenient to transact their business in what was now becoming a little out-of-the-way village on the shores of the lake. Officialdom could no longer maintain an artificial centre against the natural trend of trade and commerce in another direction. This fact becoming realized Charlotteville was finally, in 1820, abandoned as the seat of district government. Thenceforth decay marked the village for its own. The remaining population gradually forsook it for more favored localities, and to-day all that remains of the town of Charlotteville is the site. The name is preserved in the township of which it formed a part.

The New Capital

THE new capital chosen for the London district had been for some years past a town of considerable importance. It was situated several miles north and a little to the east of Charlotteville, but still only about two miles from the lake, which here assumes a decidedly northern curve up from Long Point Island. Beautiful for situation is Vittoria, nestling amongst the hills which here diversify as pretty a piece of quiet scenery as, possibly, Eastern Canada affords. Its beauty indeed remains, but its relative importance has long since departed. A present-day metropolis, especially in this western world, is generally situated in a locality, where there is little, if anything, to please the eye. Why place our commercial centres amid attractive surroundings, which the smoke and soot would only disfigure? Modern civilation, in all things disregarding the aesthetic, seeks only utility and generally obtains it at the expense of beauty. But why digress? As well seek to stem Niagara as check the tendency of an age. Present ideas will have their day, and when they have passed, a succeeding and more fortunate generation will benefit by our mistakes. Be this as it may Vittoria now became the district town and remained for some years the centre of official activity.

To the new capital also moved the lodge. Owing to the scattered nature of the settlement it was necessarily a district, rather than a town, lodge; and its place of meeting had to be where the members could most conveniently gather. So we see the old metropolis, by the trend of events, despoiled, first, of its commercial, then of its official, and lastly of its Masonic interest.

Union Lodge at Vittoria

UNION Lodge moved to Vittoria in 1820. If it be true, as a Masonic publication has recently stated, that the Canadian Mason whose Masonic life has extended over the greatest number of years, was initiated in 1830, then the period of which we speak antedated by fully ten years the time, when the oldest of living Masons in this country first saw Masonic light. Not one of those, who at that time passed the mystic portals, is alive to-day. We might here consider for a moment how the conditions, under which our old-time brethren labored, compare with those which face the Mason of to-day. In the first place the lodges, in a new country, were separated by long distances, and the membership was extremely scattered; add to this the fact that the roads and other means of communication were of the poorest, and we can understand the convenience, to a great majority of the members, of the lodge meeting at or near the full of the moon; a convenience which is still recognized as such by lodges having a large country membership. Then again the great number of secret and other benefit societies which now exist were then unknown. It is true that Oddfellowship and Orangeism were obtaining a

foothold in some parts of the country, but these orders were then in their infancy; while the origin of Masonry, then, as now, was lost in the mists of by-gone ages. In those days, consequently, Masonry occupied an unique position: it was the one fraternity. To-day scores of societies compete for what spare time men find it possible to divert to such channels. Though, perhaps, this disadvantage is more apparent than real. To the Mason, who works at his trade, there is to-day, as of old, but one society. Freemasonry, with her many ramifications, her numerous degrees, and her vast ritual, allows the one, who is really devoted to her, but little time and possibly less inclination for similar diversion in other directions.

A certain section of the more evangelistic or puritan element of the United States, apparently (perhaps genuinely) shocked by the pretended disclosures of 1826-27, was for a time actively engaged in heaping opprobrium upon our order. Even to-day American Masonry suffers from the feelings thus engendered. In Canada also, but to a much more limited extent, this prejudice is sometimes met. In the days of which we write—which antedated the Morgan excitement by some six years—such prejudice was altogether unknown. But even then Masonry was not without its enemies and detractors, whose objections, however, were based more on practical and economic, than on moral grounds.

Thus we learn with regard to an active member of Union Lodge, who was at that time a resident of Lynn Valley—the great-uncle of Simcoe's present Mayor—that his father strongly disapproved of his attendance on the meetings of the lodge, which he regarded as an utterly useless waste of time and energy. Subsequently, however, to his parent's still deeper disgust, Mr. Austin extended the circle of his Masonic journeyings to include Murphy's tavern, at which place also Masonic meetings were, by that time, being regularly held.

On its removal to Vittoria the lodge took up its quarters in the new Court-house which had been there erected. This building, the only public structure in the country, was made to subserve many purposes. Any gathering of the inhabitants, whether of a public or a sectional character, generally took place here. Union Lodge had its quarters here, and a day school was even established in the building. To this latter, circumstance, indeed, was owing the catastrophe which deprived Vittoria of its district importance and the lodge of its existence. The school master, whose name has passed into oblivion, evidently belonged to that unfortunate class, as we deem them to-day, who are too strongly addicted to indulgence in the cup which cheers and, as someone has put it, also inebriates if taken in proper quantity. In the centre of the room in which school was held was a large box-stove for burning wood. Of this stove, on the occasion of which we speak, the door and its hinges had some time since parted company, and it was necessary to use a prop to keep the door in position. One day in November of 1825, school was dismissed at the usual hour, while a roaring fire still remained in the stove. The schoolmaster who had been over-indulging and was still under the liquid influence, left the building, leaving the stove-door very insecurely fastened. The result was a disastrous conflagration, in which the Court-house and some other buildings of Vittoria were burned to the ground. The contents of the court-house were nearly all destroyed, including the furniture and jewels of the lodge, and, most valuable of all, the charter and by far the greater portion of the minutes. Of these latter, however, some were preserved and enable us to obtain a fairly accurate idea of Masonic progress during the first quarter of the last century.

The blow was one from which the lodge never recovered. The membership being a scattered one, it was much easier for the brethren to transfer their allegiance to the one lodge remaining in Norfolk, rather than attempt to reconstruct their mother-lodge *de integro*. The result was a general transference of membership to Lodge No. 26, already mentioned, and which had by this time attained in the Northern part of the County, a considerable measure of strength and prosperity. And so the old lodge died; not however before its work was done. The foundations of Masonry in Norfolk County were well and truly laid before the premier Masonic organization of the London district passed away.

With the lodge also passed the political and legal importance of Vittoria. On the destruction of the Court-house, the seat of district government was transferred to London; and for many years, until the organization of municipal government made Simcoe the county seat, Norfolk County remained far removed from the centre of administrative and judicial interest. Old residents even yet tell of the inconvenience thus entailed upon this locality. For no other purpose than to serve upon a jury, men have journeyed on foot and through the forest from the neighborhood of Simcoe unto London, and from London to the neighborhood of Simcoe again, carrying the necessaries of their journey in knapsacks on their backs. On first thoughts one is tempted to reflect complacently upon the advantages which modern science affords over former methods of transportation. When we consider, however, the wretched service which the lofty indifference of railway officialism inflicts upon this self-same district, such complacency appears somewhat unjustified; doubtless many an exasperated traveller, waiting in vain for the belated train to leave the uninteresting side-station, where it has apparently taken root, has envied the conditions under which these old pioneers made their uninterrupted, if lasting, journeys.

The Birth of a New Lodge.

IT is now time to turn our attention to the daughter-lodge in the North, the sole remaining centre of Masonic activity in this county and district. By 1812 the membership of old Union Lodge had become fairly well distributed over the Eastern portion of the London district. Certain brethren residing in the Northern portion of Norfolk County, finding Charlotteville too distant a point for convenient access, petitioned for a new warrant; and Rt. W. Brother Kerr, Provincial Grand Master of the Schismatic Grand Lodge at Niagara issued such a warrant for a new lodge, to be known simply as Lodge No. 26, in the Township of Townsend. The officers named in this warrant, which was dated June 24th, 1812, were:—Amos Dodge, Worshipful Master; Eliakim Crosby, Senior

Warden; and John Collver, Junior Warden. This lodge is now known as Norfolk Lodge and the original warrant is still in its possession. This warrant, being almost if not quite the very oldest existing warrant in Canada, is here given in full and forms a very interesting specimen of earlier Masonic documents. It might be added that the warrant is not on a printed form but is manuscript throughout.

"Robert Kerr, Provincial Grand Master."
C. Danby, Deputy Grand Master
B. Middaugh, Senior Grand Warden.
(Locus Sigilli) T. Crysler, Junior Grand Warden.

Whereas the Grand Lodge of the most Ancient and Honorable fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of England and Masonical Jurisdiction thereunto belonging, according to the old institutions, in ample form assembled in London, on the seventh day of March, in the year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-two, and in the year of Masonry, five thousand, seven hundred and ninety-two, the most noble Prince, John, Duke and Marquis of Athol, Marquis and Earl of Tullibardine, Earl of Strathlay and Strathardle, Viscount of Balguider, Glevalmond and Glenlyon, Lord Murray, Belvany, and Gask, Heritable Constable of the Castle of Kinclaven, Lord of Man and of the Isles, and Earl Strange, and Baron Murray of Stanley, in the County of Gloucester, Grand Master of Masons in that part of Great Britain called England and Masonical Jurisdiction thereunto belonging; the Right Worshipful James Agar, Esquire, Deputy Grand Master; the Right Worshipful Sir Watkin Lewis, Knight, Senior Grand Warden; the Right Worshipful John Bunn, Esquire, Junior Grand Warden; together with the representatives of the several warranted lodges, held under the sanction and authority of the said Grand Lodge, did appoint our Right Worshipful Brother, Robert Kerr Esquire, of Upper Canada, &c, &c, &c, to be Provincial Grand Master in the said Province, and for the better regulation and further extension of the Most Honorable and Ancient Craft, did empower him to grant warrants or dispensations to such worthy brethren as should apply for the same:

To all whom it may concern, Greeting:

Know ye that we at the petition of our trusty and well beloved brethren, Amos Dodge, Eliakim Crosby and John Collver, x x x three of our Master Masons and several other brethren, to be separated and formed in a lodge, do hereby constitute the said brethren into a regular Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, and do hereby authorize and empower our trusty and well beloved Brother, Amos Dodge, to be Master; Eliakim Crosby to be Senior Warden, and John Collver to be Junior Warden; and to form and hold a lodge in the Township of Townsend, which is hereby designated Number Twenty Six, and at all times and on all occasions, in the said lodge, when duly constituted, to make Freemasons, according to the most ancient and honorable custom of the Royal York Craft, in all nations and ages throughout the known world; and we do further authorize and empower our said trusty and well beloved brethren, Amos Dodge, Eliakim Crosby, John Collver, with the consent of the members of the lodge, to nominate, choose and install their successors, to whom they shall deliver this warrant, and invest them with their powers and dignities as Freemasons, &c., &c., and such successors shall, in like manner, nominate, choose and install their successors, &c., &c., &c., such installations to be upon or near every Saint John's Day, during the continuance of this lodge forever, who shall, from time to time, cause to be entered in a book for that purpose, an account of their proceedings in the lodge, together with all such rules and regulations as shall be for the good government of the same, for the inspection of the Grand Officers, provided that the above named brethren and their successors duly conform to the known and established rules and regulations of the Royal York Craft, paying due respect to us, by whom these presents are granted, and to the Grand Lodge of England, and conform to the rules and regulations thereof, and preserving a regular and yearly communication with the said Provincial Grand Lodge, otherwise this warrant to be of no force or value.

Given under our hands and the seal of this said Grand Lodge at Niagara, this twenty-fourth day of June, in the year of our Lord, one thousand, eight hundred and twelve, in the year of Masonry, five thousand, eight hundred and sixteen.

Wm. Emery, Deputy Grand Secretary.

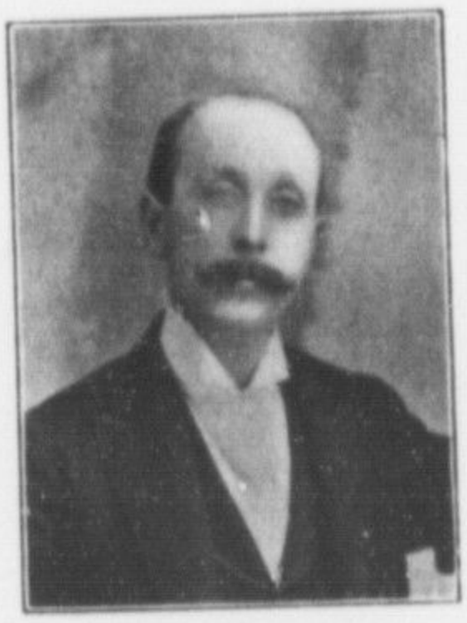
It will be remembered that there were at this time in England two Grand Lodges, that of "The Moderns" and that of the "Ancient York Masons" These two bodies since 1739 had worked in bitter opposition to one another, and their amalgamation under the Grand Mastership of the Duke of Sussex did not take place until 1813, the year after the above warrant was issued. As may be easily seen, the Provincial Grand Lodge of Upper Canada worked under the anthority of the "Ancient" Grand Lodge of England. This is especially commended to the attention of those who are so fond of tracing all Modern Masonry to Mr. Anthony Sayer's meeting of 1717 in the Apple-Tree Tavern; Canadian Masonry most certainly was not derived from that source.

Murphy's Tavern.

BETWEEN two and three miles North of Waterford, then an inconsiderable hamlet, stood a country tavern, owned and operated by Brother Arthur Murphy, and from him known as Murphy's tavern. In spite of what we would consider its out-of-the-way location and the fact that there were no dwellings or places of business near it, still owing either to the energy of its proprietor or to other causes of which we are not informed, Murphy's Tavern became and for some years remained one of the chief gathering-places of Norfolk County. To the masculine portion of Northern Norfolk, at all events, a journey to Murphy's tavern was regarded as the present-day



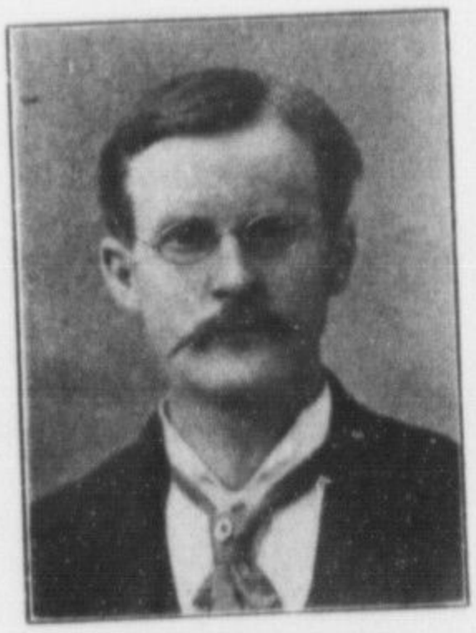
W. BRO. JAMES WADDLE
Worshipful Master of Erie Lodge
Member of Ezra Chapter



BRO. J. MATCHETT
Senior Warden Wilson Lodge



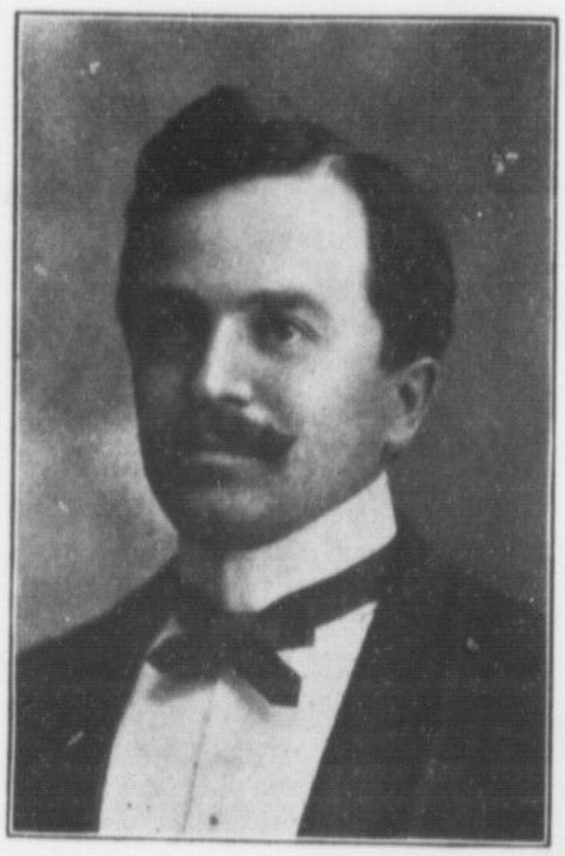
W. BRO. P. GEO. PEARCE
Immediate Past Master of Wilson Lodge
Member of Ezra Chapter



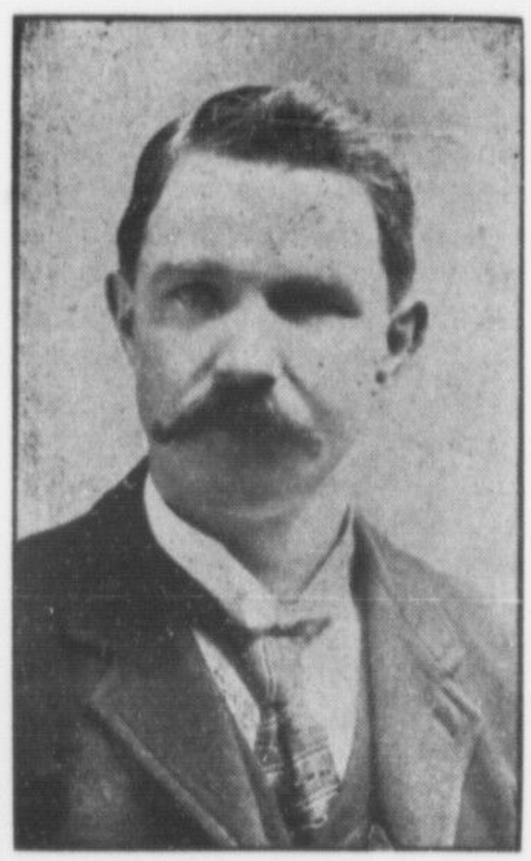
BRO. R. D. GIBSON
Member of Wilson Lodge
Auditor



BRO. R. J. THOMAS
Member of Wilson Lodge



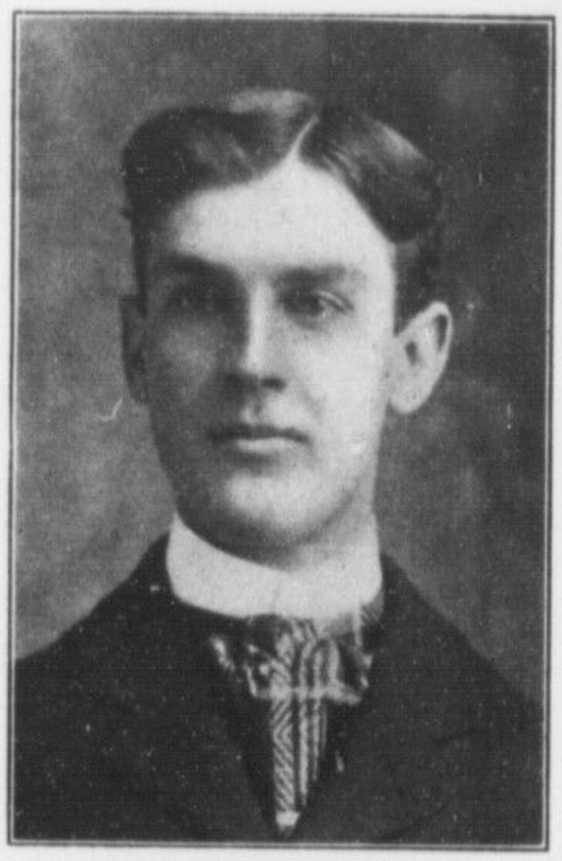
V. W. BRO. D. S. BALE
Member of Ezra Chapter
Member of Godfrey de St, Amand Preceptory,
Knights Templar Brantford
Past Master of Wilson Lodge



W. BRO. W. M. McGUIRE
Worshipful Master of Wilson Lodge
Second Principal H of Ezra Chapter



V. W. BRO. ARTHUR BOWLBY 32°
Became a member of the Scottish Rite Bodies in
Valley of Hamilton Jan. 1888
Past Master of Wilson Lodge



BRO. C. S. WALTERS
Secretary Wilson Lodge



BRO. C. E. ROCK
Inner Guard Wilson Lodge

inhabitants of the same district might regard a trip to Toronto or Hamilton. It was a journey *in medias res*; and afforded a tinge of metropolitan excitement to lives not otherwise varied by over much incident. The proprietor being a member of the craft, offered the use of his hostelry for lodge purposes The offer was accepted and for several years the Masonic interest of the community found its centre here. In the annals of Norfolk Masonry Murphy's Tavern holds a place second only to that occupied by Job Loder's historic hostelry in Charlotteville.

Of the early history of Lodge No. 26 from 1812 to 1822 the only written records which remain to guide the historian are the warrant already mentioned and a receipt from the Grand Secretary for dues owed to Grand Lodge. this receipt is worded as follows:

"Received Niagara 4th Dec., 1812, by the hand of Bro. Sherman Hyde the sum of ten dollars from Lodge No. 26.

Jas. Roggers, Grand Secty., P. T.

The sum mentioned may have been a per capita tax. The rate of this tax in those early days we do not know. If it were the same as at present the above document would indicate for the lodge in the fifth year of its existence, a membership of about twenty. In all probability, however, the per capita tax was much smaller than at present.

But if documentary evidence with regard to this early period is wanting, the voice of oral tradition is by no means silent. The testimony of our more ancient brethren is unanimous in ascribing to the lodge, during its sojourn at Murphy's tavern, an uninterrupted period of prosperity. Enthusiasm was by no means wanting; the meetings, held regularly, were well attended; the growth of the lodge, while steady, was at no time unhealthy growth, which, during a boom period, is not unfrequently experienced by many lodges. Just here it may be remarked that they are greatly in error who imagine that the prosperity of a lodge is marked by increase in membership. In the case of insurance societies this may very well be, but with our fraternity it is different. Masonry is intended primarily for those within, not for those without. The paramount duty of officers and members is to subserve the Masonic interests of the existing membership. This may be done by endeavoring to increase in Masons themselves a knowledge of the genuine objects and principles of the craft, by rendering the meetings interesting and attractive, and by fastening more securely the fraternal tie which binds Freemasons together. If suitable material is attracted to the Lodge, well and good. But officers should never, except in the indirect way just mentioned, regard it as any part of their duty to attract material. By the services rendered to the already existing membership should a Master's term of office be judged. If such CAN be arithmetically expressed, the indicator should be, not the increase in membership, but the average attendance.

The Warrant of 1822

IN 1822 we enter upon the second period of the lodge's existence. In that year the two rival Provincial Grand Lodges, the one at York, and the one at Niagara amalgamated; and the seat of Masonic government for this district was transferred from the latter to the former place, Rt. W. Brother Simon Gillivray becoming Provincial Grand Master of the united bodies. This amalgamation necessitated a re-numbering and re-chartering of many of the Lodges; for when a Masonic lodge transfers its allegiance from one grand body to another, it surrenders its previous warrant and receives a new one from the body under whose authority it passes. Under the new arrangement the number of our lodge was changed from twenty-six to fourteen on the Provincial Register. On the English Register it was numbered 767. It may be here mentioned that in 1832 it was re-numbered 500 on the English Register, by which number it continued to be designated until the formation of the Grand Lodge of Canada. A new warreat was issued emanating from the Grand Lodge of England. This warrant has been since surrendered by the lodge. But the original dispensation, granted by the Provincial Grand Master, still exists, and forms another of the numerous mementoes of the past possessed by Norfolk Lodge, on the walls of whose lodge-room it now hangs.

The preamble of this dispensation reads as follows:

"To All and Every, our Right Worshipful, Worshipful and Loving Brethren.

"I, Simon McGillivray, Provincial Grand Master of the Province of Upper Canada, acting under His Royal Highness, Prince Augusta Frederick, Duke of Sussex, Earl of Inverness, Baron of Arklow, Knight of the Most Noble Order of the Garter, &c, &c, &c, Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Ancient Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of England. Send greeting: &c—"The wording of the body of the document does not differ essentially, except in a few necessary points, from that of the original warrant of 1812. No mention is therein made, however, of Ancient York Masonry as is the case in the older document. As in Canada so in England Masonic peace had been by this time established. The "Ancient" Grand Lodge under the Grand Mastership of the Duke of Kent, grandfather of our present King, and the "Modern" Grand Lodge under the Grand Mastership of the Duke of Sussex had united in 1813, the Duke of Sussex becoming Grand Master of the amalgamated bodies.

The officers named in the dispensation were: Oliver Smith, Worshipful Master; Sherman Hyde, Senior Warden; and John H. Dodge, Junior Warden. The other members mentioned were: Ezekiel Foster, Jacob Langs, Gabrael Culver and Morris Sovereign. Of the above, Sherman Hyde is the same brother whose name is mentioned in the old receipt of 1816. Jacob Langs was a Royal Arch Mason, having received that degree in St. John's Royal

Arch Chapter at York in 1817. His certificate is still preserved, and hangs ovér the register in the ante-room of Norfolk Lodge: the wording of the certificate is as follows:

"St. John's Royal Arch Chapter, No. 16, holden, in the Town of York, Upper Canada.
"To all Entightened Masons on the surface of the Globe, Greeting:
"Know ye, that Jacob Langs, junr., is a Royal Arch Mason, and as such, is entitled to our recommendations.
"In testimony whereof we have hereunto affixed the seal of Lodge, No. 16, under sanction of which warrant we work. The 17th day of April, A. L. 5817.

John Widgeon, H. P.
Morris Lawrence, K.
George Bo..... S.

Jas. Bigelow, Sec'y

"We have caused him to sign his name in the margin."

The Royal Arch

THOUGH, in the United States, Grand Chapters by this time existed and Royal Arch bodies worked independently of the lodges, in Canada, wherever chapters existed, they were merely adjuncts, as yet, to certain blue lodges. It will be noticed that the three presiding officers of a chapter were at that time known as High Priest, King and Scribe, as is still the case in Ireland and the United States. It might here be mentioned that the so-called Irish work is the oldest and most genuinely Masonic ritualism now in existence. The English ritual, (which prevails in Canada also), both for lodge and chapter, is essentially modern, and has been subjected to numerous emendations. The wording of the above certificate might be compared with that of Brother Joseph Ryerson's, re-produced on a previous page. It will be remembered that when Brother Ryerson received the Royal Arch degree, to have served as Master of a lodge was a necessary pre-requisite to such reception. In 1817 this was no longer the case.

The Lodge's Itinerancy

THE birth-place, Murphy's tavern, was by no means the permanent abiding-place of the Townsend Lodge. Since brethren from many sections of the country attended the meetings, it was thought only fair that each section should be accommodated by having the lodge meetings in its vicinity for a season. So we find the lodge located for a time now in this part of the district and now in that. The first place to which it moved was the "Red Tavern," a building located on the Brantford road, two miles north of the present site of Oakland Corners. Other places at which its meetings were held were Waterford, Simcoe and Brantford. It even moved to the distant South, into the special territory of the Old Union Lodge, and sojourned for a time at Port Ryerse, Port Dover and Port Rowan. But whatever the number of its migrations, Murphy's Tavern seems always to have been regarded as its pivot. To this place, after each temporary absence, it generally returned; and if anything untoward occurred during the time of its sojourn elsewhere, like a bird to its nest, the lodge would turn to the place of its nativity.

The Morgan Excitement

DURING 1826-27, the meetings were held at Waterford. The lodge-room was in a two-storey house on the site since occupied by the Alice Block. This period is a noted one in Masonic annals, as during its continuance a series of events occurred which threatened the very life of the fraternity In 1826, William Morgan, a resident of Batavia, New York, published a book purporting to contain the secrets of the three primitive degrees of Masonry. This, coupled with the fact of the subsequent mysterious disappearance of the author, raised a great outcry against the fraternity. In the United States a political anti-Masonic party was formed which for a time carried all before it. In the Northern States, Masonic meetings were almost everywhere suspended, and it seemed as if the order must become extinct. In Canada, along some portions of the border, more especially in the Niagara district and parts adjoining, a reflex of this hostile feeling manifested itself. Many of the lodges judged it wiser to suspend their meetings until the excitement should have quieted down. In 1827, Lodge No. 14 accordingly "called off," three brethren—James Bears, David Secord and William Thompson—taking charge of the lodge-chest, containing the minutes, the jewels and the warrant. In the early days of 1829, after the excitement had, in a great measure subsided, the lodge re-opened at its first meeting-place, Murphy's Tavern.

To the student of human nature the events recorded in the above paragraph furnish material for somewhat unpleasant reflection. Passing strange does it seem that a community will allow gigantic evils, monstrous wrongs, the oppression of class by class and of individual by individual, to exist for ages in their midst without a murmur of protest, while venting oceans of indignation upon some apparent infraction of merely conventional morality, which harming no one, may benefit many. The charges, at that time brought against Freemasonry, may be resolved into two First that by unduly favoring and protecting its own members it obstructs judicial processes, and lessons the efficiency of organized government. Secondly, that the fraternity, as such, was responsible for the slaying of William Morgan. With regard to the former, we may say that organized government is a human institution, as also is Freemasonry. That the former has, as far back as the memory of man extends, mainly directed its energies not to

bringing about the reign of Peace and Justice upon Earth; but to enabling Injustice and Violence to hold universal sway. It has created and perpetuated unjust privileges whereby favored classes have in all ages lived and flourished at the expense of the unprivileged and the oppressed. Freemasonry is a standing protest against the unjust conditions of organized society. It creates an *imperium in imperio* where the principles of moral truth and justice govern the actions of one member towards another. As a society its outside influence is directed towards hastening the time when the reign of Peace and Justice shall have been established in the hearts, and shall influence the actions of all men. The first charge in fact amounts to nothing more than that Freemasons do not mete out towards one another the hard measure which prevails in the outside world. As to the second charge: the fact of Morgan's murder is by no means established. The matter admits of further doubt when we consider that an unscrupulous political party existed, which was directly interested in furnishing manufactured evidence. Even if the facts were as charged, the fraternity cannot justly be held responsible for the act of a few hot-headed individuals.

Some Distinctive Features of Old-Time Masonry

RETURNING now from the above degression it will be in place to discuss some features of Masonic life and activity, which manifested themselves in this county during the earlier part of the last century. The annual rotation of officers, which in Canadian Masonry, has become a fairly established custom, was then unknown. During the period intervening between 1822 and 1839, one person, Brother Oliver Smith would seem to have had almost continual possession of the Master's chair. Portions of the minutes of 1822, 1832 and 1837 we still possess; and in each of those years Brother Smith appears as the Master of the Lodge. So the chances are that for a period of nearly seventeen years he enjoyed the uninterrupted occupancy of the oriental chair of King Solomon. The other officers, however, the wardens included, seem to have frequently changed. It would appear, again, that payments of lodge dues were made by the members on each night of meeting, as we find that, in the minutes, opposite the names of nearly all the members present, stands the word "Paid," the one or two exceptions being the names of brethren who were possibly delinquent in this regard. And yet in money matters the lodge was by no means over particular as is evidenced by the following motion, which appears in the minutes of a meeting held on the 12th October, 1837. "It is moved and resolved that Bro. F. (the rest of the name is illegible) shall receive $12.00 out of the funds of the lodge for notifying a number of our brethren who were deficient in paying their entering, passing and raising fees". From which it would appear that a separate fee was charged for each of the three degrees, as in the United States, is even yet the case.

The lodge seems to have made a frequent practice of advancing money from the lodge funds to brethren who were in temporary need of such accommodation. The brother's note of hand, endorsed by some other brother was taken in each case for the amount received. In evidence of this the following extracts from the lodge records are here adduced "Bro. Hiram Gales, Dr. to his note of hand, signed by Wm. Thompson and David Secord, three pounds, five shillings, currency," also "Bro. Isaac Robberson, Dr. to one note of hand signed by F. L. Keas, amount two pounds, ten shillings." Many other entries of a similar kind occur

Affiliation

A FEW other items of financial interest are fouud throughout the different records. From these we learn that the fee for affiliation was five shillings, currency ; that the Tyler received a like sum for each night of service, and that after 1837 the lodge paid ten shillings a night for the use of room and candles, the latter item reminding us of the very primitive means for lighting which obtained in those early days.

With regard to affiliation, we have evidence to show that those who were already Masons might, up to 1837 at all events, be received into membership simply on a majority vote and not by ballot. The lodge apparently held the sensible view that affiliation does not endow a man with any privileges which he does not already possess. The circle of our obligations toward him is not enlarged, and the mere matter of a local Masonic abiding-place does not affect the nature of the relations existing between him and us. With the initiate it is vastly different. In his case we owe a duty to the order, to see that no unworty applicant pass the mystic portals. The example set, in this respect, by our brethren of a former day, is by no means a poor one for us to follow.

Divine Service

NOR did the brethren neglect the means of divine grace. On the occasion, for example, of the festival of St. John the Baptist, June 25th, 1832, we are told that the brethren marched in full regalia from Brother Murphy's tavern to the schoolhouse, where the Rev. John Brinang preached an appropriate discourse, much to the satisfaction of the brethren. It is interesting to note that the reverend gentleman received one pound as a reward for his services on this occasion.

Prominent Brethren

BEFORE dismissing this portion of our subject, we might make brief mention of some of the brethren who distinguished themselves masonically during the period of the lodge's itineracy. Brother Oliver Smith, the master for many years, has been already mentioned. Brother Crosby, Brother Jacob Langs and Brother William Thompson are mentioned as having filled one or both of the wardens' chairs. For many years Brother Eughiene Foster acted as Secretary, and Brother J. Robberson as Treasurer. The Tyler was, during a considerable portion of the time, Brother Chas. H. Smith, who was preceded in this office by Brother Henry Gales. Other brethren prominently mentioned were: Abram Massecar, who lived some distance east of Waterford, Adam Bowlby, Hiram Gales, Jacob Glover, Jabez Collver, Gabrael Collver, John Duddridge, sr., Aaron Slaght, Boswell Spencer, David Secord, Robert Stevens, Wm. Dutton, Isaac Robinson, James Beal, Jacob Clarke and James Parker. The above list, of coarse, does not include those mentioned in the very early history of the Lodge.

The Political Troubles of 1837-38

THE peace of Masonry in this district was somewhat affected by the political troubles of 1837-38. Most of the prominent agitators were Freemasons. As an instance of this fact we may recall the circumstances connected with the laying of the foundation stone of Brock's monument on June 1st, 1824. The stone was laid with Masonic honors. William Lyon Mackenzie, at that time residing at Queenston, was one of the prominent Masons of the district, and in that capacity took a foremost part in the ceremonies of the day. Taking advantage of the position in which he happened to be placed, Mackenzie deposited in the hollow of the foundation stone, a copy of his newspaper, "The Colonial Advocate." The Governor, Sir Peregrine Maitland, hearing of this, immediately ordered the removal of the paper. There seems very little doubt that, in this district at least, and during the period of political unrest considerable Masonic sympathy went out towards the movement, the leaders of which were so prominent in the ranks of the fraternity.

Removal to Simcoe

WHEN the civil war was drawing to a close, two enterprising members of the lodge, Brother Hooker Lee and Brother Kimball, embarked together on a business venture in what had been for some years the county-seat of Norfolk, and also the most populous centre for many miles around, the town of Simcoe. This business venture was no other than the building of a first-class hotel, which was completed in 1839 and denominated the Norfolk House. Before this time the lodge had been considering the advisability of removing to a larger and more central place. Brothers Lee and Kimball offered, in case of a removal to Simcoe, to provide the lodge with permanent and spacious quarters in the new hostelry. The offer was accepted, and in 1839 the lodge moved to Simcoe, where it has ever since remained.

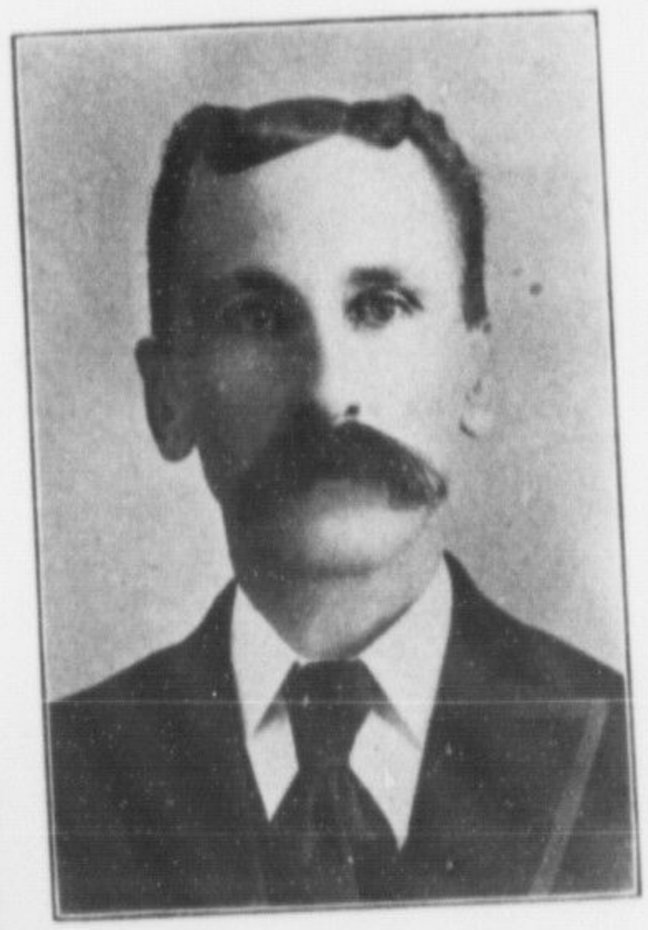
The lodge-room, arranged expressly for this purpose, was conveniently situated in the South-Eastern portion of the Norfolk House. Of this room, which was never put to other than Masonic uses, Lodge No. 14 was the sole tenant. The new quarters apparently gave complete satisfaction, for the lodge remained here comfortably housed for the ensuing quarter of a centure.

The First Grand Master of Canada

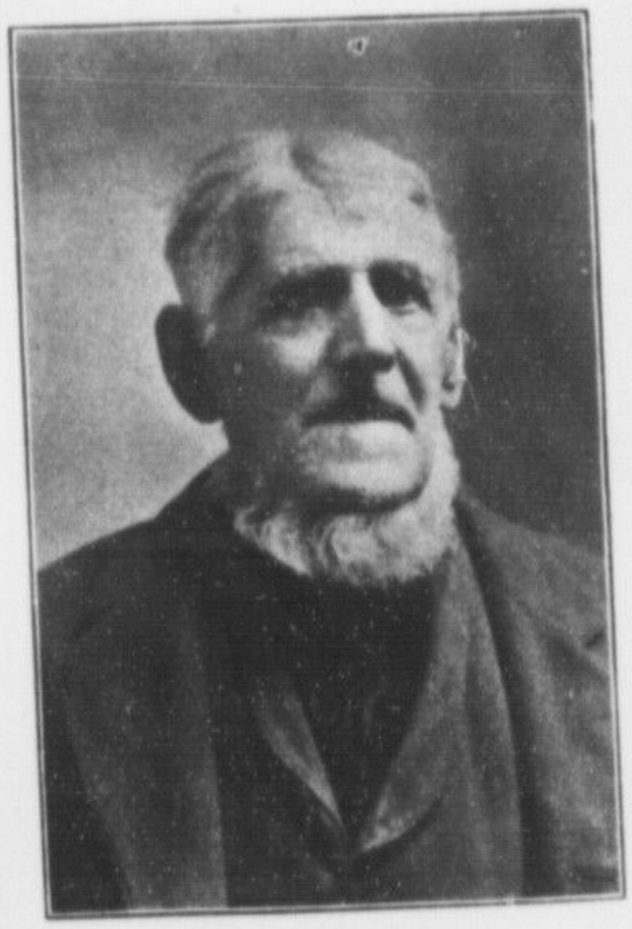
THE second year after its removal to Simcoe, the lodge received an application for membership from a gentleman, who was destined in time to attain to the highest rank in the gift of Masonry, and to play a part in the history of the Canadian Craft, second to that of none other. The applicant's name was William Mercer Wilson, who in 1840 received the three ancient degrees in the old lodge-room of the Norfolk House. Mr. Wilson was born in Scotland in 1813, and removed to this country in 1832, where he received a legal education, though not called to the bar until 1853. His was an extremely interesting personality. Exceedingly genial and good-natured he took the keenest delight in society functions and in every kind of social intercourse. Though an active political worker on the Conservative side, he never alienated the good-will of his opponents. Prominent Reformers said of him that if an office must go to a Conservative, it was certainly a balm to the wound, if Mr. Wilson obtained it, and that there was no one even of their own party whom, politics aside, they would care to see advanced before him. From this kindly feeling he would appear to have greatly profited. For nearly every considerable office in both town and connty was gradually monopolized by him. He became Town Clerk, Clerk of the Surrogate Court, County Crown Attorney, and was finally appointed County Judge. He was one who never allowed the prospects of the Future to cloud the fair promise of the Present. His life fully realized the Epicurean maxim, *"Carpe diem, quam minime credulus postero."* Though in possession of aa ample income, he was always impecunious. Money in his estimation, was made to spend, and what he obtained he certainly put to his intended



W. BRO. L. L. SOVEREIGN
Past Master of Wilson Lodge.



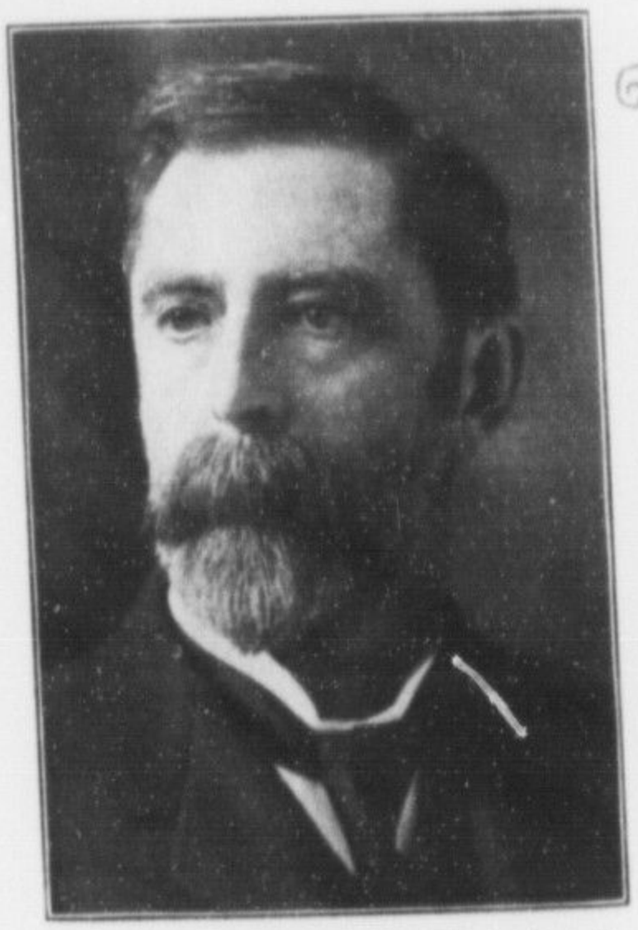
BRO. P. J. PEARCE
Member of Wilson Lodge.



W. BRO. JACOB SOVEREEN
Past Master of Frederick Lodge
The oldest Mason in Norfolk County



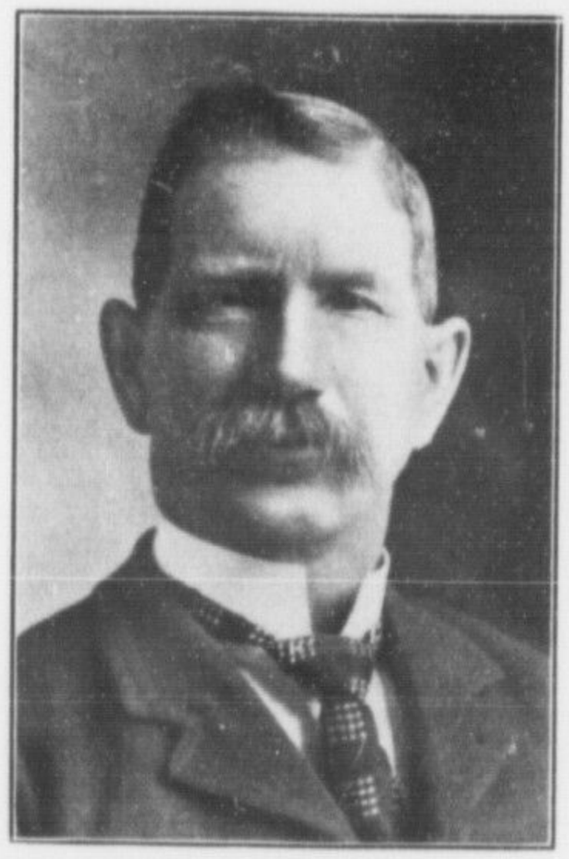
BRO. GEORGE VAN MERE
Senior Steward of Norfolk Lodge
Member of Ezra Chapter



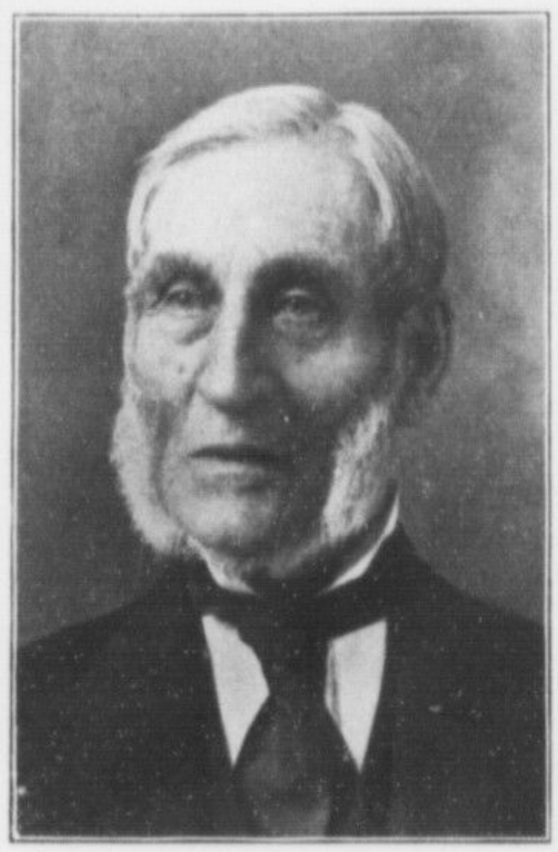
RT. W. BRO. WM. KENNEDY M. D. 33°
Senior Past D. D. G. M. of Wilson District
Past Grand Superintendent of Wilson Royal Arch District
President of the Scottish Rite Association of Norfolk County



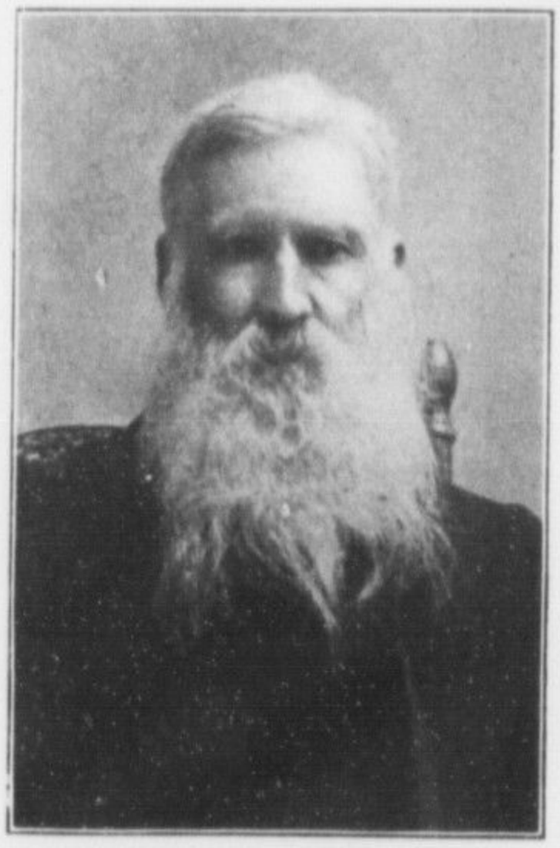
BRO. JOHN MONTGOMERY
Steward of Norfolk Lodge
Member of Ezra Chapter



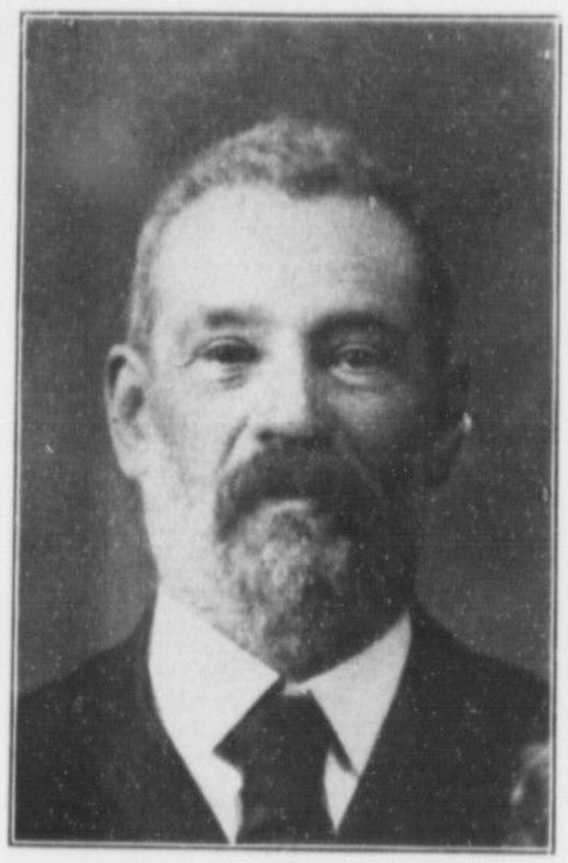
BRO. N. S. PALMERTON
Charter Member of Vittoria Lodge
Member of Ezra Chapter



W. BRO. T. B. BARRETT
Past Master of Erie Lodge



BRO. EDWARD CONLIN
Charter Member of Frederick Lodge



W. BRO. HENRY C. HILLIKER
Past Master of Frederick Lodge

use. Prodigality, however, is too nearly allied to Generosity to receive our severest censure; and we are glad to know that avarice and selfishness were by no means attributes of him, who afterwards became the first Grand Master of Canada.

From the time of his initiation Mr. Wilson took the keenest possible interest in Masonry. Of the local lodge, as afterwards of the Grand Lodge of Canada, he became the leading spirit; and for the next thirty years the progress of the lodge was largely directed by him. In Capitular Masonry also he took a keen interest, becoming in time the first Grand Z of the Grand Chapter of Canada. In Knight Templar circles he was also prominent.

Naming the Lodge

OF the subsequent history of the Lodge up to 1855 the following points only demand special notice. In 1851 a movement was started to obtain a name for the Lodge, which up to this time had been known by its number only. In consequence of this movement, a warrant confirmatory of its last warrant (issued in 1822) was now granted by the Grand Lodge of England. In this warrant the lodge was denominated St. John's Lodge, its number remaining the same. By this name it was known for the next three years; but in 1854 the brethren determined to change the name to Norfolk Lodge, after the County with the early history of which it had been so intimately associated; some time later a warrant, issued by the Grand Lodge of England, confirmed this change.

The Grand Lodge of Canada

IN 1855 a movement was started to secure an independent Grand Lodge for Canada. In this movement Judge Wilson, at that time Master of Norfolk Lodge, took a foremost part. A convention of Masters and Past Masters, interested in this proceeding, was held in Hamilton with Judge Wilson in the chair. This convention organized itself into the Grand Lodge of Canada, electing the Master of Norfolk Lodge as the first Grand Master. At first, however, this body was in no way recognized, and it remained to be seen what action the lodges throughout the country would take. Would they remain true to the Provincial Grand Lodge, and through it to the Grand Lodge of England, or would they cast in their allegiance with the new but as yet merely self-styled Grand Lodge? The first to enter the breach was Norfolk Lodge. It openly cast off its fealty towards England and transferred its allegiance to the Grand Lodge of Canada. This action constituted Norfolk Lodge the premier lodge of this jurisdiction. Other lodges gradually followed. The struggle was sharp and bitter. But finally all claim to Masonic jurisdiction in Canada was abandoned by the English Grand Lodge, and the Grand Lodge of Canada was recognized as an independent and sovereign body.

With the formation of the Grand Lodge of Canada this portion of our narrative, which may be designated the ancient history of Norfolk Masonry, is concluded. We now enter upon the modern period, which is embraced within the experiences of many brethren yet living. We will deal with this period by sketching the principal events in the history of each Masonic organization in the county, beginning with the oldest.

NORFOLK LODGE, NO. 10

SIMCOE

THE year of Canada's Masonic independence also produced for Norfolk Lodge a serious rival in its own local habitation. In 1855 when Norfolk Lodge initiated the rebellion against the Grand Lodge of England, many brethren in Simcoe and vicinity, refusing to countenance so extreme a step, formed themselves into a separate organization, and applied to the Provincial Grand Lodge for a warrant, which in consequence of the Masonic defection in Simcoe, was gladly granted. This warrant constituted the seceding brethren a lodge, under the style of Simcoe Lodge, and numbered 54 on the Provincial Register of Upper Canada. While the Provincial Grand Lodge of Upper Canada endured, Simcoe Lodge remained loyal; but when Masonic independence was conceded to Canada by the Grand Lodge of England, Simcoe Lodge surrendered its warrant, receiving a new one from the Grand Lodge of Canada, in which its number was changed to 63, but its name remained as before. For eight years this lodge maintained a separate existence, until in 1863 it was received again into the bosom of Norfolk Lodge, from which it emanated. The circumstances attending the amalgamation will be detailed later.

When, by 1857, all the Canadian lodges had acknowledge allegiance to the newly constituted and now fully recognized Grand Lodge of Canada, it became necessary for the latter body to issue new warrants and re-number the subordinate bodies under its jurisdiction. This was not so easy a matter as might at first appear. More than one Grand Lodge had held jurisdiction in Canada; and we find lodges acting under Irish as well as under English warrants. Even with regard to the lodges on the English register, there had been two Provincial Grand Lodges (that of Upper and that of Lower Canada) in the territory now under the Masonic jurisdiction of the one grand body. On one pretext or another new warrants had been issued and old ones cancelled at various times in the past, and a number which a lodge might happen at that time to bear was not likely to be the number which it had received at the time of its first establishment. And in Masonry, as we all know, the matter of lodge-numbering is an important one, as it involves the very delicate question of lodge-precedence. Consequently, as may be imagined, the task before the newly-formed Grand Lodge of adjusting, in this particular, the jarring claims of different lodges, was by no means an easy one. With regard to the five senior lodges the arrangement at first adopted was as follows: The lodge which was regarded as the premier lodge of Canada and consequently was numbered one, was the Lodge of Antiquity in Montreal; Lodge No. 2 was Niagara Lodge, at Niagara-on-the-Lake; Lodge No. 3 was the Ancient St. John's Lodge of Kingston; Lodge No. 4 was Union Lodge, Grimsby; while to Norfolk Lodge, Simcoe, was awarded the fifth place on the Grand Register of Canada, the warrant so numbering it being issued on November 27th, 1857, under which warrant the lodge still works.

After some time, however, the number of Norfolk Lodge was changed from five to ten. On the face of the warrant lines have been drawn through the figure 5, and the figure 10 is written beside it. The reason for this change is by no mean clear. The writer has it on the authority of some of the oldest members of the lodge that the change was in the nature of a concession made by Grand Master Wilson to the vigorously supported claims for precedence advanced by certain of the other lodges. Judge Wilson's position as Master of Norfolk Lodge and at the same time Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, rendered it expedient to waive claims for precedency on the part of his mother lodge; claims which might easily have been defended, but, considering the very uncertain nature of the Grand Lodge's position at that time, might have led to disastrous results.

In this connection it might be mentioned that scarcely any lodge in Canada, can advance well-grounded claims to that antiquity which for Norfolk Lodge cannot be questioned. Since its first establishment in 1812 there has been an unbroken continuity in its meetings. The Morgan excitement, which forced nearly all the lodges in this district to close down, caused Norfolk Lodge to "call off" its meetings for a few months only. After that brief interval—so brief that the calling off could not be termed even a case of suspended animation,—the lodge resumed its meetings with the same members and even the same officers as before. This was really little more than is done by many Canadian lodges during the summer months. But in the case of nearly all the other ancient lodges, yawning gaps of great extent break the continuity of their existence. For example, Union Lodge, Grimsby, which is numbered seven on the Grand Register and takes precedence of Norfolk Lodge on that account, claims an existence dating from 1799. It is true that a lodge, called Union Lodge, was established at that year in Grimsby. In 1827 that lodge ceased to meet, and for twenty-seven years (until 1854) no Masonic meetings were held in that town. In 1854 a lodge was again instituted at Grimsby. This lodge claimed the resurrected warrant of the former lodge and adopted its name and number. Surely a lapse of twenty-seven years constituted, not dormancy, but death! The lodge established in 1854 was, in everything but name, a new lodge and cannot justly claim an earlier foundation. It may be said, that on the occasion of the re-numbering of the lodges in 1857, the claims to antiquity of origin advanced by many of the lodges were similarly without foundation.

For some years subsequent to 1855, two Masonic lodges were domiciled in Simcoe. Notwithstanding the circumstances attending the inception of Simcoe Lodge, the utmost good feeling subsequently existed between the two bodies, and fraternal visits were not infrequent. Norfolk Lodge met, as already stated, in the Norfolk House; while Simcoe Lodge met in the third story of the Empire Block in a room rented from Mr. Alex Durward, who was not a member of the fraternity. Simcoe Lodge, however, was never a flourishing one; its membership scarcely exceeded twenty, and no enthusiasm and very little interest marked its meetings; Norfolk Lodge, on the other hand, was large and prosperous, with a zealous and enthusiastic membership of at least three times the numerical strength possessed by its rival. This was largely due to the quality of the membership. Norfolk Lodge was especially for-

tunate in possessing as leaders men of tact and discernment, kindliness and urbanity; those qualities which, in a pre-eminent degree, go to attract men. Of the brethren who, during this period, took a prominent part in the work of the lodge, few have deserved better at its hands than that most enthusiastic Mason of his time, Brother John Williamson. Like many others who, in the early period of Norfolk Masonry, have borne the burden and heat of the day, Brother Williamson followed the avocation of an inn-keeper: but the geniality of his disposition and his open-hearted charity marked him out for well-deserved popularity amongst his fellows. For many years he was one of the leading lights of the lodge, and at the fourth degree especially he was the life and soul of the assembly. He occupied the Master's chair in 1863-64; and should ever be numbered amongst those, whose labors have contributed to lay wide and deep the foundations of Masonry in this county and district.

Of Simcoe Lodge the most prominent member was Dr. Kahn, a dentist of the town, for whom, however, the term "prominent member" is much too mild, as from the very inception of the lodge he would seem to have acted almost as its autocrat. Upon him the same eulogy can hardly be pronounced as upon the leaders of the rival lodge. He was a masterful man; and though evidently earnest and even enthusiastic in the service of Masonry, he yet lacked utterly the geniality which attracts. In the work of the lodge he is said to have been censorious and fault-finding to a degree, and to have intimidated rather than encouraged his officers and members. With him, however, we may well believe that the fault was of the head and not of the heart, though the result was perhaps the same as if the opposite had been the case. Enthusiasm was repressed; nor did Prosperity at any time cross the threshold of Simcoe Lodge.

In 1863 Norfolk Masonry suffered another almost irreparable blow at the hands of the fire-demon, and under circumstances somewhat similar to those which attended the Charlotteville calamity of 1825. About nine o'clock in the morning of the 17th of March, fire broke out in one of the offices of the Court-house, most probably due to a carelessly attended office-stove. In spite of the efforts made to save it, the Court-house proper fell a victim to the flames, though the jail adjoining was little damaged. A great portion of the furniture, carpets, rugs and papers were taken from the burning building and carried for safe-keeping to the music-hall, where they were stored. The music-hall was on Norfolk street immediately south of and closely adjoining the Norfolk House. Late in the afternoon some one having occasion to enter the music-hall found the interior a mass of flames. Though the alarm was quickly given it was then too late. The music-hall was burned to the ground; and the flames spreading to the Norfolk House, the greater part of the hotel, including the Masonic lodge-room, was destroyed by the consuming element. Every effort was made to save the effects of the lodge. But in the confusion more attention was given to saving the furniture and jewels, than to preserving the far more precious written records and documents of the lodge. Of these latter by far the greater number were burned. Some few however were preserved, and as they deal with widely separated periods of time, they have been of the greatest value in the compilation of this sketch. Amongst the records destroyed, however, was the list of past-masters. Consequently, except in the few instances where memory has been able to make good the loss. all record is wanting of those who, prior to 1863, occupied the oriental chair of Norfolk Lodge.

Most of the furniture, however, and the jewels of the lodge were saved. These were immediately taken to the rooms in the Empire block, occupied by Simcoe Lodge. Shortly after, this latter body offered the use of its quarters to Norfolk Lodge, until such time as further accomodation could be provided. The offer was accepted and from this time on the two lodges sojourned under the same roof.

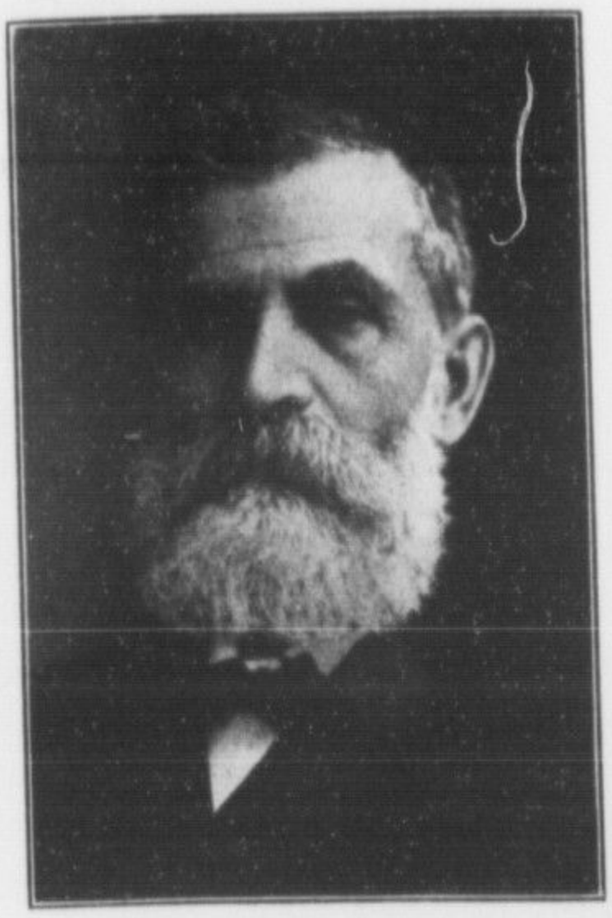
Shortly after the fire a movement was started to bring about the amalgamation of the two lodges. The originator of the movement was Brother A. J. Donly, the present Registrar of Norfolk County, who had been made a Mason in the Eastern part of the province, had moved to Simcoe in 1856, and had in the same year affiliated with Simcoe Lodge. Brother Donly's proposal found ready acceptance. Both lodges passed resolutions favoring it, and before the end of the year Simcoe Lodge had been received again into the body from which it had sprung. It was a case of annexation rather than amalgamation, Norfolk Lodge retained its name and number, Simcoe Lodge surrendering to Grand Lodge its warrant and its minutes. What funds its treasury at that time possessed were voted as a donation to the Tyler, Brother Benedict, who was then removing to Brantford.

After the amalgamation of the two bodies Norfolk Lodge continued to occupy the lodge-rooms in the Empire block, previously occupied by Simcoe Lodge, until 1865, in which year the rebuilding of the Norfolk House—commenced immediately after the fire—was completed. In the renewed hostelry a lodge-room had been provided, and here the lodge now took up its abode, where it remained until the removal, in 1872, to its present quarters.

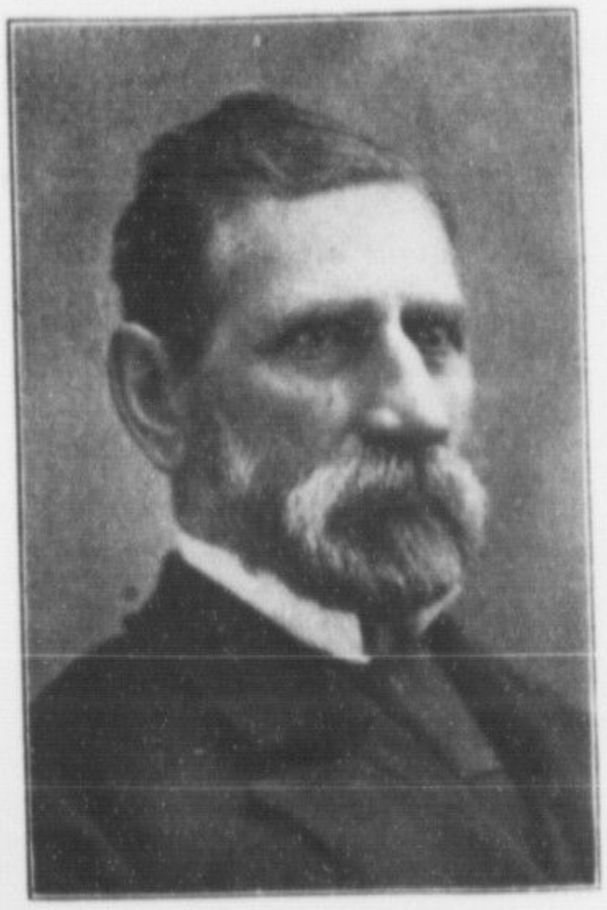
In1866-67, William Mercer Wilson was again elected Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, which exalted position he had resigned in 1860; and Simcoe again became for a time the Canadian Grand East. About this time the lodge furnished another Grand Lodge officer in the person of Rt. W. Brother Henry Groff, who had been Master of Norfolk Lodge in 1858, and was subsequently elected Grand Treasurer, which office he held for some years.

In 1871 the brick block on the south side of Peel street was erected by Dr. John Wilson, who had been Master of the lodge in 1865-66, and who subsequently filled the oriental chair again in 1883. Large and commodious quarters in the new block had been provided for Masonic purposes, and in the early part of 1872, the lodge bade good-bye to the Old Inn, where it had sojourned for nearly a third of a century, and moved into its new hall where it has since remained.

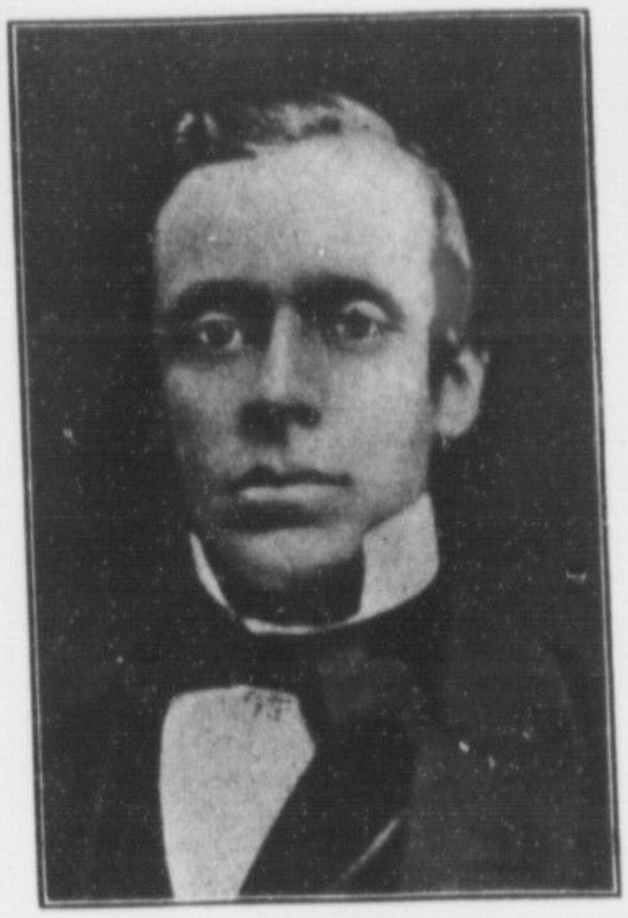
The hall was dedicated on the 12th of March 1872, which day should be noted in our annals as being the first occasion of a Grand Lodge function being held in Norfolk County. W. Brother A. J. Donly—who had been Master in 1869 also—was Master of the lodge and to his efforts was largely due the success which attended the day's celebration. Nearly all the furniture of the lodge had been renewed for the occasion. A new and beautiful carpet, with emblems worked in scarlet and blue, covered the floor of the hall and was first used on this occasion. The magnificient canopy of blue, which still covers the East, was then in requisition for the first time, and was a gift to



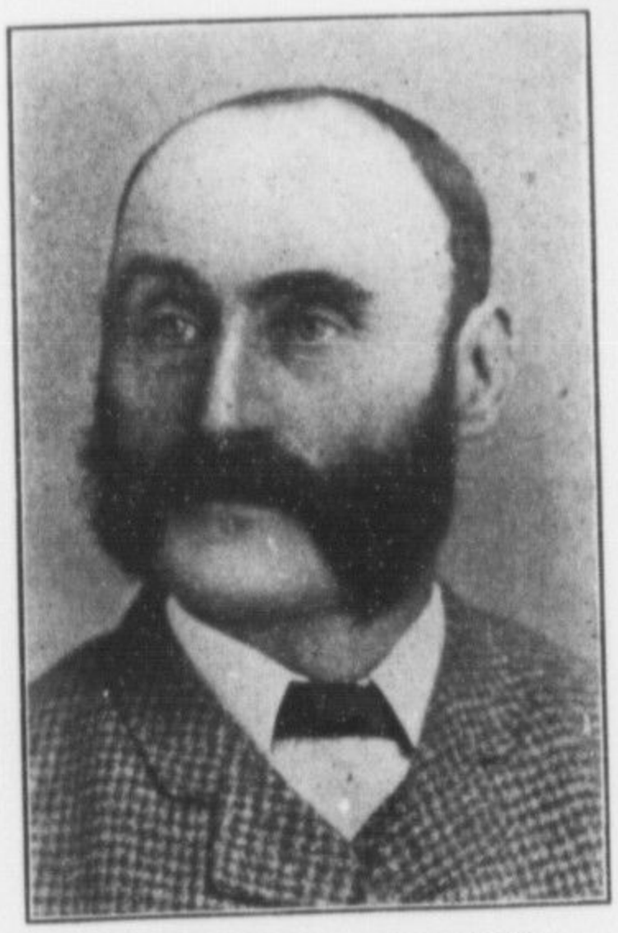
W. BRO. The HON. DAVID TISDALE
Past Master of Wilson Lodge.



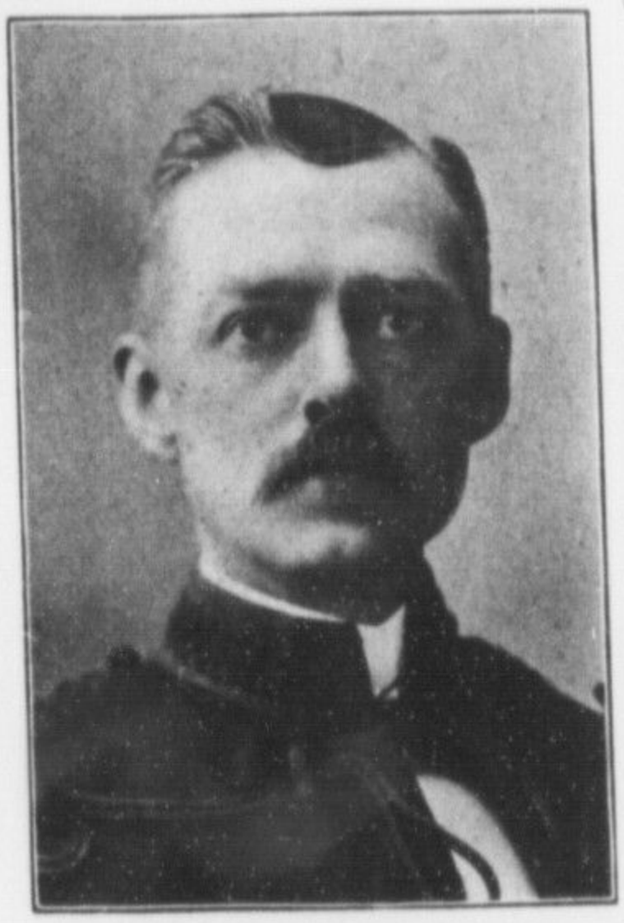
W. BRO. AARON McMICHAEL
Past Master Wilson Lodge



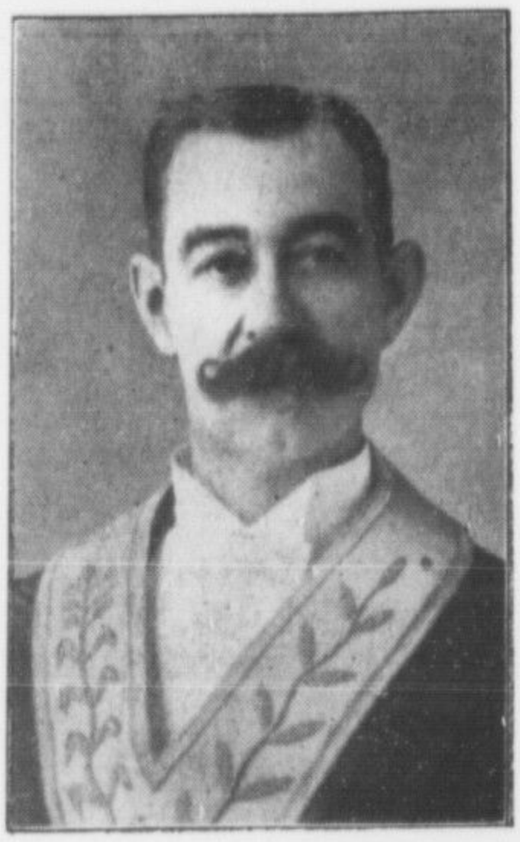
W. BRO. JOHN BOYD
First Past Master of Wilson Lodge



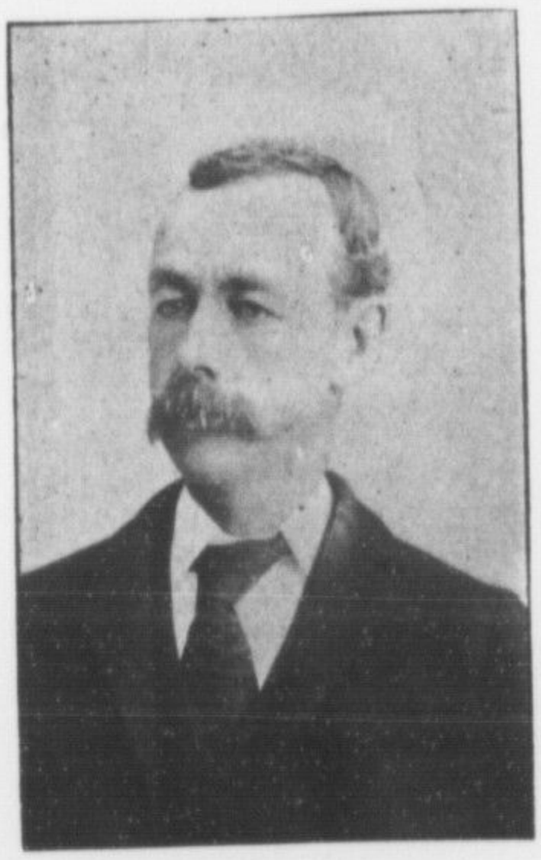
W. BRO. WALKER MESSECAR
Past Master Wilson Lodge



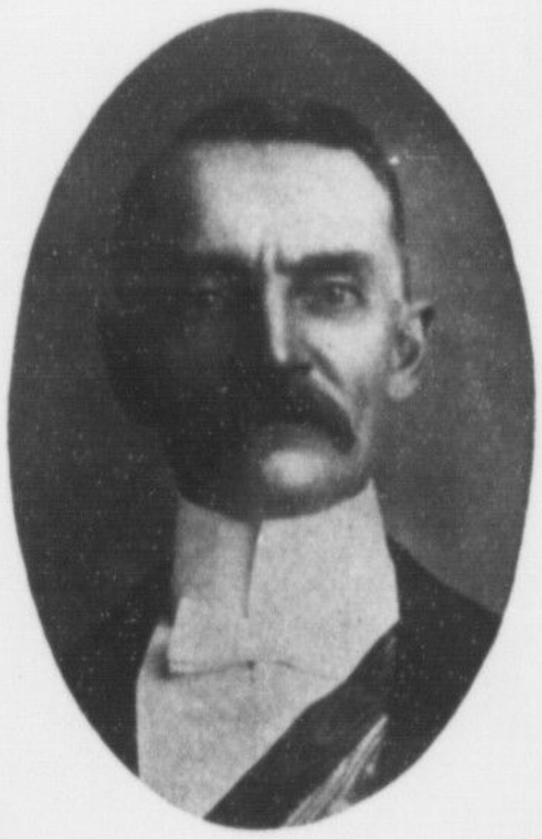
W. BRO. LT.-COL I. E. YORK
Past Master Wilson Lodge
Member Ezra Chapter



RT. W. BRO. T. R. ATKINSON 18°
Past D. D. G. M. of Wilson District
Past First Principal Z of Ezra Chapter
Member of Godfrey de St. Amand Preceptory, Knights Templar Brantford
Vice-President of the Scottish Rite Association of Norfolk County



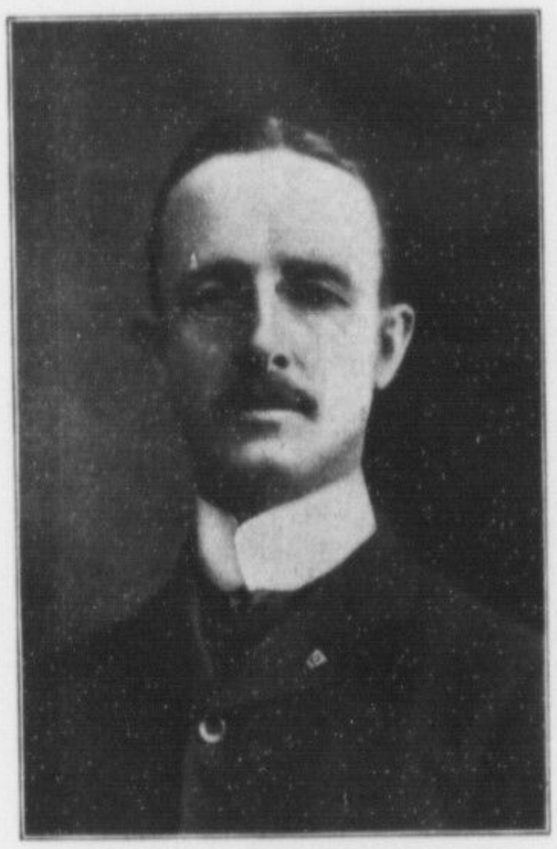
RT. W. BRO. J. C. BOYD
Past Grand Registrar Grand Lodge of Canada
Past First Principal Z of Ezra Chapter



V. EX. COMP. J. G. BOTTOMLEY
Immediate Past Grand Superintendent Niagara Royal Arch District
Past Master of Norfolk Lodge.



BRO. L. T. ATKINSON
Inner Guard of Norfolk Lodge
Member of Ezra Chapter



V. EX. COMP. W. B. TOMLINSON
Grand Steward Grand Chapter of Canada
Senior Deacon of Norfolk Lodge

the lodge from Brother F. W. Forbes, M. W. Brother Wilson presented the lodge with a handsome "Book of Constitution" while W. Bro. Donly presented it with a handsomely bound volume of the Sacred Law. At 5 p. m. the brethren met in the old hall where a special Grand Lodge was opened in due form, M. W. Brother W. M. Wilson acting as Grand Master, in place of M. W. Brother Seymour, the then occupant of the Grand East, who was absent on account of illness. A procession was then formed and the brethren proceeded to the new hall which was then, with appropriate ceremonies, dedicated to Freemasonry, Virtue and Benevolence. After the dedication was completed Judge Wilson delivered a masterly address upon the genius and general tendency of Freemasonry. After this the procession was reformed and marched to the Music Hall, where a sumptuous banquet had been provided by Bro. Battersby, to which the brethren did full justice. W. Bro. Donly acted as chairman, while the vice-chairs were filled by Brother Rochester as Senior Warden, and Brother Dr. Hayes as Junior Warden.

At the regular communication of Grand Lodge next ensuing after the dedication of the new hall, Judge Wilson was once more elected to the Grand East, which position he filled by successive elections until, on the 16th of January 1875, the hand of death removed him, full of years and honors, to the Grand Lodge above. Up to his last illness the Grand Master continued active in discharging the duties of his office. Only a few weeks before his death he had conducted the funeral services over the remains of one of his co-laborers in the formation of the Grand Lodge of Canada, R. W. Bro. William Bird Harris, who had been Grand Secretary since 1855. The Grand Master's last official act had been the dedication of Kent Lodge, No. 274, at Blenheim only a few days before he was taken with his last illness. His funeral was under the direction of the Grand Lodge, and was probably the most imposing masonic function ever witnessed in Canada.

Coming now to a less distinguished, but not less zealous member of the craft, we may note that in almost the last meeting held in the old hall of the Norfolk House, in February of 1872, there was initiated into masonry one who in the later days of the lodge was to prove its chief pillar and support. For twenty-six years Brother E. Gilbert Wells devoted his time and his energies to the service of masonry to a degree which few, if any, have equalled, and which none could well surpass. He attained to the Masters chair in 1884, was re-elected in 1885, and subsequently became District Deputy Grand Master of Wilson District. His death in 1898 was to the Brethren of Norfolk Lodge as the removal of an old landmark.

In 1895, during the first year of R. W. Bro. Atkinson's occupancy of the Oriental chair, another Masonic function of great magnificence was celebrated in Simcoe. This was on the occasion of the official visit of the Grand Master, M. W. Brother White, to Norfolk Lodge The celebration took the form of a banquet in the Opera House at which over two hundred guests were present. The arrangements were most complete and it is sufficient here to say that success attended the affair from start to finish.

And now we are approaching the present day and consequently the end of this portion of our narrative. But before closing it will be in place to say a few words with regard to the present condition and future prospects of Simcoe masonry. Norfolk Lodge has been peculiarly fortunate in its Past Masters. V. Wor. Bro. Frank Reid and Rt. W. Bro. T. R. Atkinson are very models of what should constitute a Past Master. Faithful in their attendance on the communications of the Lodge, and unflagging in their efforts for its welfare they are not unworthy successors of the sturdy masons who have preceded them. W. Bros. McGill and Gunton, Masters of a more recent date, show every indication that in zealous activity and in faithful attendance they will emulate the tried and tested brethren already mentioned. W. Bro. Dr. McIntosh, the Immediate Past Master, is still in the circle of present officers. If, however, the zeal and efficiency with which he conducted the work of the lodge during 1903, may be regarded as a promise of the future, as a faithful Past Master and an informed and enthusiastic Mason, he will certainly prove himself second to none of those who have gone before him.

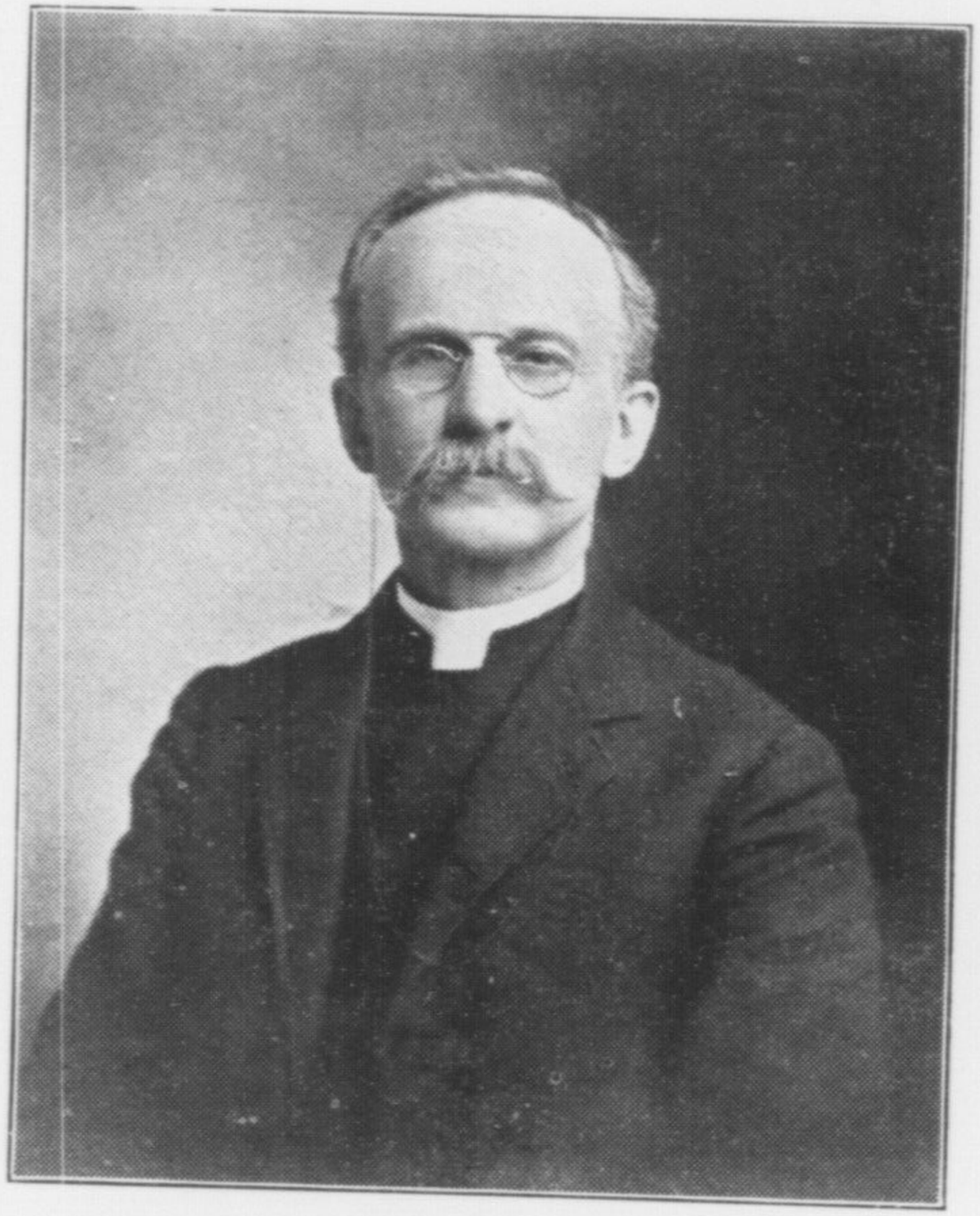
Two, however, of Norfolk's Past Masters of a more recent creation, have removed to other parts; W. Brother J. G. Bottomley (Master in 1899) is now living in Niagara, while W. Bro. Geo. J. Green (Master in 1900) removed, before the expiration of his official term, to Ridgetown. The former, indeed, very often pays his mother-lodge a visit; and on such occasions contributes not a little to the enjoyment of the evening. During W. Bro. Bottomley's term of office, the annual rotation of officers first became an established custom. Previous to that time the same officers had almost invariably been elected twice in succession From the attention which he invariably gave to the proper working of the fourth degree, Bro. Bottomley has been denominated the Permanent Junior Warden of Norfolk Lodge. R. W. Bro. J. Craigie Boyd (Master in 1889-90; Past Grand Registrar), one of Norfolk's most enthusiastic Past-Masters, is now Superintendent of the Canadian "Soo" canal. That he has not forgotten his mother-lodge is sufficiently evidenced by his recent gift (under circumstances which will be detailed later) of a most beautiful set of gavels for the Master and the two Wardens. W. Bro's A. J. Donly and G. F. Counter are now the senior Past-Masters of the lodge; the latter especially, still on occasion, affords the lodge the benefit of his time and council.

V. W. Bro. Kelley (Master in 1870), who since 1885 had been Secretary of the lodge, at the beginning of the present year declined re-election, and the members showed their appreciation of his past services by conferring upon him honorary membership with full privileges. His place was taken by Bro. J. Porter than who no one is better qualified to fill the important and often arduous duties of Secretary.

With regard to the future, we have every reason to hope that the growth and prosperity of Norfolk Lodge will be uninterrupted. Numerically and financially it is one of the strongest lodges in the jurisdiction. It would be hard to convince its membership that their meetings, in point of interest and enthusiasm, are surpassed by those of any other lodge. Its officers, while keen ritualists, still pride themselves more especially on the manner in which, at every meeting, they conduct that peculiarly Masonic function, which contributes so essentially to cordiality and brotherly feeling, the fourth degree.



W. BRO. R. E. GUNTON
Past Master of Norfolk Lodge
Principal Sojourner of Ezra Chapter



COMP. REV. RICHARD HICKS, B. D.
Chaplain of Ezra Chapter



W. BRO. GEORGE LUSCOMBE
Past Master of Norfolk Lodge
Member of Ezra Chapter

WILSON LODGE, NO. 113

WATERFORD

IN 1855, as we have already seen, from Norfolk Lodge a daughter-lodge had sprung, born however in rebellion and schism. It now becomes our more pleasing duty to chronicle the birth of the first in the not unconsiderable number of her daughter-lodges, generated in the spirit of friendship and brotherly love. Waterford, though long a Masonic centre, had since 1829 been without a local lodge, though at no time since 1812 had the Ancient Craft been unrepresented amongst its inhabitants. In 1859 the Masonic element in Waterford and vicinity had attained considerable proportions. It all, however, so far as can be learned, was of the membership of Norfolk Lodge. In this year the Waterford brethren initiated a movement to secure a new lodge for their own town, a movement which was cordially supported by all the members of Norfolk and Simcoe Lodges, many of whose names found a place upon the Waterford charter-roll.

It might be mentioned, in passing, that the motives which influenced the members of the two last named lodges were by no means the same. It is stated that most of the members of Simcoe Lodge, who thus aided the new movement, did so as a protest against the arbitrary conditions which prevailed in their own organization, from which on this occasion they withdrew entirely. The Simcoe members of Norfolk Lodge, on the other hand, who swelled the Waterford charter-list, remained loyal members of their mother-lodge as well.

The warrant was issued July 28th, 1859, and by it the lodge was denominated Wilson Lodge, (after the first Grand Master of Canada, who was one of its charter members), and numbered 113 on the Grand Register. Very unfortunately, by the fire which in 1890 destroyed the lodge-room, the charter, the register and the minute books were consumed, so a complete list of the charter members is unobtainable; the following however were of the number: John Boyd, Joseph VanNorman, David Tisdale, James M. Salmon, A. J. Donly, Thomas W. Clark, James C. Bartlett, William Mercer Wilson, James Beal and John McLaren; of these John Boyd was named the first Master, Joseph VanNorman the Senior Warden, and David Tisdale—the present member for the South Riding and ex-Minister of Militia—Junior Warden.

The first Master of Wilson Lodge, W. Bro. John Boyd, was a person of some consequence in Norfolk County dur[illegible]g the fifties. Like many other of our prominent business men he was a Scotchman, having been born in Gl[illegible]sgow in 1825. At the age of fifteen he determined to test the opportunities afforded by a younger country and accordingly came to Canada. Four years later, in 1844, he settled in Norfolk, though it was not until 1850 that he made Simcoe his place of residence. Here for the ensuing eleven years he was engaged in the foundry business. In 1861 fate a second time directed his foot steps to a strange land, and we find him settled in the Southern States, where the foundry business still claimed his attention. On the 15th of November, 1863, while on a voyage down the Mississippi, the steam boat, on which he was a passenger took fire, and Bro. Boyd was numbered among the victims of the calamity.

Among the few of the earlier records that have been preserved, is the following list of those who were initiated during the years 1859-60; these were: John Wesley Green, Edward Huntington, George W. Park, Thomas Marshall, Joseph J. Wooden, Edward Grace, George Wallace, Levi Lewis, Leamon Becker, John Birdsell, Harvey Olmstead, David Rusling and Lewis Beam.

Humble indeed were the surroundings amid which Wilson Lodge began; for its first meetings were held in no more pretentious a structure than a barn, which was owned at that time by the late William McMichael, and which still stands across the street on the south side of the Town Hall. In the loft of this barn a room was fitted up, and here the lodge remained until 1865, when it removed into rooms in the Becker Block, which stood near the Michigan Central track and has since been torn down.

In these rooms the lodge remained for the ensuing fourteen years, until in 1879 it managed to secure very commodious quarters in the Beemer Block, where it occupied the entire top flat. For the new rooms splendid furnishings were purchased, the finest in the entire district. This the lodge was enabled to do largely through the generous financial assistance afforded by Bro. L. Becker.

Amid such luxurious surroundings the lodge remained for the next eleven years, but on the morning of April 7th, 1890, the entire block was consumed by fire, and the lodge-room, with its entire contents, was destroyed. The furniture of the lodge was valued at $1400, the insurance on which was but $800.

After this disaster the lodge met, for a short time, in the Opera House, until it found permanent quarters in the Heward Block which was then nearing completion. The first meeting in the Opera House was held on April

30th, 1890, and the following motion appears upon the minutes, which are now the oldest that Wilson Lodge possesses:—"Moved by Bro. Baker, seconded by Bro. Fairchild, that as all records and minutes of the last regular meeting were destroyed by fire the minutes of said meeting as written from memory by Rev. Joseph Saunders be adopted."

On the last day of the year 1900, the new lodge-room in the Heward Block was formally dedicated to the purposes of Masonry by Rt. W. Bro. D. H. Hunter, D. D. G. M., of Wilson District, and the lodge moved into its new quarters. The insurance money received in consequence of the late fire was applied by the lodge towards the purchase of new furniture. And soon Wilson Lodge was comfortably established in its new home where it has ever since remained.

Until 1903, though interest seldom lagged, the history of Wilson Lodge was unmarked by special festive days. On February 11th of that year, however, a Lodge of Instruction was held by Rt. W. Bro. Ross, D. D. G. M., under the auspices of Wilson Lodge. The Grand Master, M. W. Bro. Harding, of Lindsay, honored the occasion with his presence. Over 200 members and visitors were present; and the work was divided as follows:—The first degree was exemplified by the officers of King Hiram Lodge, Tillsonburg; Burford Lodge, Burford exemplified the second degree: while W. Bro. P. Geo. Pearce assisted by V. W. Bro. D. S Bale and the officers of Wilson Lodge exemplified the work of the third degree. When the work was concluded the Grand Master on behalf of the members of Wilson Lodge presented nine Past-Masters with the jewels of their rank. They were as follows: Wor. Bros. I. E. York, Walker Messecar, D. J. Horning, James Ross, L. L. Sovereign, Russell Bowlby, D. S. Bale, A. J. Goold, and Arthur Bowlby, all of whom were zealous workers for the welfare of the lodge and most worthy of the presentations made them. The labors of the evening were followed by a magnificent banquet held in the new Town Hall at which all present thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

On the 27th January, 1904, Rt. W. Bro. Clutton, of Vienna, D. D. G. M. of Wilson District, paid his official visit to Wilson Lodge. The occasion was marked by the presentation on behalf of the lodges of the district, of a District-Deputy Grand Master's regalia to the retiring District-Deputy, Rt. W. Bro. Ross, who is, by the way, one of the prominent members of this Lodge. On behalf of the members of Wilson Lodge Rt. W. Bro. Clutton also presented the retiring Master, P. Geo. Pearce, with a Past-Master's jewel. W. Bro. Pearce, on this occasion, presented the lodge with a framed group of all the past-masters of Wilson Lodge since 1859, twenty-two in all. They are as follows: John Boyd, David Tisdale, T. W. Clark, Lewis Beam, George Wallace, Wm. Allen, Aaron McMichael, B L. Chipman, L. Becker, F. H. Long, I. E. York, A. M. Barber, Walker Messecar, D. J. Horning, James Ross, L. L. Sovereign, Russell Bowlby, D. S. Bale, C. R. Clapp, A. J. Goold, Arthur Bowlby and P. Geo. Pearce. Of the first eight Past Masters David Tisdale is the only one living.

Since its formation in 1859, 283 new members have been received into Wilson Lodge. Its growth has been steady and its prosperity phenomenal, at no time however has this been so emphatically the case as during the year just closed, when the lodge easily led the district. During the year eighteen new members were received and fifty degrees were worked. Thirteen regular meetings were held, at which the average attendance was forty-five; there were also held six special meetings at which the average attendance was twenty-five. This splendid record in average attendance speaks volumes for the general character of the meetings and is much more important as an indicator of true prosperity than the number of new members added to the lodge. In this particular Wilson Lodge has established a record well worthy of the emulation of the other lodges in the County.

The six oldest members of the lodge are as follows: Thomas Hague, 1866; Calvin Flanders, 1867; Robert Green, 1871; Hewitt Baker, 1872; Ira Tichworth, 1874; P. J. Pearce, 1876. In mentioning the names of the older members we must not forget Wor. Bro. Walker Messecar, who, although not one of the earliest members has been one of the most ardent workers in the lodge, having occupied the seat in the East for seven consecutive years.

The present membership of Wilson Lodge is 104—and every member's dues are paid in full, each member has also contributed his quota to the Grand Master's annuity plan, another respect in which Wilson Lodge holds the record—Her financial condition is splendid. "With no debts she has a cash surplus to the amount of $506.86." (It might be mentioned here that the annuity fund was raised principally through the efforts of V. Wor. Bro. Arthur Bowlby). Wilson Lodge has certainly every reason for looking forward to a prosperous future.

ERIE LODGE, NO. 149

PORT DOVER

ERIE LODGE, No. 149, was instituted in May of 1861 with the following officers as charter members: Worshipful Master, Israel Wood Powell, M. D.; Senior Warden, Michael Haycock; Junior Warden, T. B. Barrett; Treasurer, P. Lawson; Secretary, Wm. Inman; Senior Deacon, J. Clark; Junior Deacon, N. O. Walker; Tyler, Louis Schofield. All these were members of Norfolk Lodge except the Master, Dr. Powell, who was a member of one of the lodges in the City of Montreal.

It is due to Dr. Powell that the question of organizing a local lodge for Port Dover was first agitated. To the active interest also which he constantly displayed in connection therewith the final success of the movement may be ascribed His father was the Israel Powell who carried the Reform standard to victory in the hotly contested election of 1841. The first Master of Erie Lodge is still living and is a prominent citizen in our Pacific Province. In Western Masonic circles he has attained the highest rank, having been elected Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of British Columbia.

W. Bro. Barrett and W. Bro. Lawson are also still living. The former, who became the second Master of Erie Lodge, is now its senior member, and though in his eighty-eighth year, is still hale and hearty He was initiated in Norfolk Lodge in 1850, when the meetings were still held in the old Norfolk House. Colonel Wilson was at that time in the chair, and from him he received his degrees.

W. Bro. Lawson, though past the three score and ten life-mark, is still vigorous and active. He was formerly very prominent in political as well as in Masonic circles, having been a very active worker in the Liberal ranks. In the elections of 1867, which immediately followed Confederation, he was chosen as his party's standard-bearer, and returned as the first member for Norfolk of the newly-constituted Canadian House of Commons. During this contest, the sobriquet, "Fair-Play Grit", became applied to him from his constantly repeated statement that he would award Sir John MacDonald's government fair play if it should bring forward any measure or measures conducive to the country's best interests. Bro. Lawson was the third Master of Erie Lodge, following Bro. Barrett in the occupancy of the oriental chair.

The first meeting of the new lodge was held on the 20th of May, 1861, when the lodge-room was dedicated and the officers installed. Many visitors were present. Of these Norfolk Lodge furnished seventeen, including William M. Wilson, P. G. M., Daniel Mathews, W. M.—Henry Groff, John Wilson and John Williamson. Five visitors were present from Simcoe Lodge, including R. C. Lyons, the Junior Warden, and Peter Carnochan, the Secretary. Six came from Wilson Lodge, Waterford, of which number were David Tisdale, the then Worshipful Master, and John Boyd, Past Master; Geo. Forbes, Worshipful Master, and John Clark, Past Master of King Solomon's Lodge, Woodstock, were also present. In the dedication ceremonies which followed, M. W. Bro. Wilson acted as Grand Master; W. Bro. John Boyd, as Grand Senior Warden, and W. Bro. David Tisdale as Grand Inner Guard.

At this meeting the first petition for membership was received, which was from Mr. Berkeley Powell, a merchant of the town, who at the next meeting, held on the 17th of June, was, after being balloted for and duly elected, regularly initiated into the mysteries of Masonry. Bro. Berkeley Powell was consequently Erie Lodge's first candidate.

At this June meeting a communication was received from Wilson Lodge, Waterford, urging Erie Lodge in common with the other lodges to enter into an agreement whereby each lodge in the county should furnish the Secretaries of the other lodges with the names of all candidates proposed for initiation, together with the names of the investigating committees. This was, very obviously, a move in the right direction, and deserved the success, which evidently did not attend it

The charter members, though few in number, were all of good social standing and most enthusiastic Masons, and their initial efforts afforded the lodge such an impetus as made its subsequent progress an easy one. The meetings, though unvaried by much incident, have always been interesting, and at no time has Masonic enthusiasm appreciably waned amongst its numbers. Erie Lodge has been unobtrusive, in a way. Many other Lodges include in their membership Right Worshipful and Very Worshipful brethren in some numbers; but Grand Lodge honors have in nearly every instance passed by this particular lodge. During the forty-three years of its existence, only one of its members has held a Grand Lodge office, Bro. H. Ansley—ex-warden of the county—having been some years since appointed Grand Steward.

The earliest meetings of the lodge were held in the Powell block, where they continued until the destruction of that building by fire some five years ago; the lodge then moved into the Caley Block where it is still domiciled. Financially the lodge is in a sound condition. With no debts it has $500 as a charity fund in the Post Office savings bank and a fair amount besides to meet current expenses. From the evil of outstanding dues Erie Lodge still suffers considerably. W. Bro. Waddle's local reputation as a financier led to his re-election last December to the chair which he had passed some years before. The hope that with him as a Master the outstanding dues would steadily decrease in amount is being fulfilled. In other respects also Erie Lodge is prospering and in the future history of Masonry in this county will occupy no unimportant place.

Walsingham Lodge, No. 174, Port Rowan

WALSINGHAM LODGE was organized on the 6th July, 1865, by Rt. W. Bro. C. W. Mathewson, D. D. G. M., of Wilson district, assisted by the following members of Norfolk Lodge, viz:—John Williamson, George Jackson, John Wilson, John Weatherly, Samuel Gardiner, and John Clark. The charter is dated 13th July, 1865, and names the following charter members: Lewis Smith, Philo Bennett, W. H. Stevenson, J. A. Stearns, Cornelius Van Slyck, Walter McEwan, S. N. Holt, James Gustin, R. Richardson, and C. Bingham; of these James Gustin was the first Worshipful Master, R Richardson the first Senior Warden, and S. N. Holt the first Junior Warden.

It might be here mentioned that Bro. C. Bingham's name should not appear upon the charter, as he was not made a member of the Order until September 7th, 1865, while the name of the present Secretary, W. Bro. James Ryan, who was one of the charter members, has been omitted from the roll.

The lodge first met in what was known as Davis' Hall, where Pearsall's hotel now stands. Here it continued to meet for nearly a year, when Bro. Richardson completed the building of a new hall—which is now Pearsall's implement shop—into which the lodge moved. Here it remained for some years until an opportunity occurred of purchasing the building in which it is at present domiciled. This structure had been originally used as a store; afterwards for a time it housed the Port Rowan High School, and on the latter institution being accommodated in a new building, the hall was offered for sale and purchased by the lodge. The upper story contains the lodge-room. The lower story has been fitted up as a hall and is let for public gatherings. So Walsingham Lodge, like Vittoria Lodge; owns its own hall.

From 1885 to 1889, mainly through negligence on the part of the Secretary, the lodge became involved in serious difficulties. No returns were made to Grand Lodge, and interest sank to the lowest point. In 1889, W. Bro. F. H. Pearsall was elected Master of the lodge, and W. Bro. James Ryan its Secretary. At the beginning of the same year a communication was received from the Grand Secretary stating that if the proper returns were not made and arrears of dues to Grand Lodge ($200) not paid by June, the warrant of the lodge would be cancelled. The new officers bestirred themselves energetically; an arrangement was made with Grand Lodge whereby one year's dues from each of the members was accepted in lieu of the debt. This was paid within two months, and the lodge under new auspices started upon an active and prosperous career with a membership of forty.

About five years ago a fire broke out in the residence of the Secretary, W. Bro. Ryan. The minute books and other lodge-records were being kept in the house at that time, and many of them were consumed. This makes it impossible to be exact with regard to certain dates in the lodge's history; though, fortunately, the main incidents connected therewith are still preserved in the memory of the older members.

At the present time Walsingham Lodge is in a flourishing condition. It has an active membership of fifty-two. As above stated, it owns its own hall, on which, however, a small mortgage yet remains, though rapidly disappearing. A revenue sufficient to meet the ordinary expenses of the lodge is derived from the rental of the public hall beneath the lodge room. So that both financially and otherwise the lodge can look forward to a prosperous future.

Frederick Lodge, No. 217, Delhi

THE first meeting of Frederick Lodge while under dispensation was held on the 2nd July, 1869. The warrant is dated 16th July, 1869, and was issued during the Grand Mastership of Alexander Allan Stevenson, of Montreal. The charter members were: Luke Cook, Henry H. Beamer, Edward Conlin, Peter Wyatt, William Burkart, Geo. W. Wood, James A. Hays and Warren Durkee. Of these Bro. Luke Cook was the first Worshipful Master, Bro. Henry Beamer the first Senior Warden, and Bro. Edward Conlin the first Junior Warden. Of the charter members Bro. Conlin is the only one now living. The lodge was named Frederick Lodge after the village in which it was located, which was at that time known as "Fredericksburg."

The first candidate initiated was H. C. Hilliker, now a Past Master of the lodge, who received his first degree in August of 1869. The first visitor to the lodge was Bro. A. H. Kemp, at that time a member of Norfolk Lodge, who was present at this August meeting. Bro. Kemp affiliated shortly after and is still an active member.

The earliest meetings were held in Dr. G. W. Wood's house. Subsequently the lodge met for a short time in the Orange Hall, but owing to a clash of interests the Masons moved into a room which was fitted up over a wagon-shop owned by W. Bro. Hilliker. Here the lodge remained for several years until W. Bro. Jacob Sovereen was induced to erect a building on King Street, in the upper story of which the lodge had its quarters, the lower story being used as a store. In these rooms the lodge remained until 1894, when it moved into the room which it at present occupies in the Morgan Block.

Frederick Lodge boasts the honor of possessing in W. Bro. Jacob Sovereen the oldest Mason in Norfolk County. Bro. Sovereen was born in Charlotteville in 1816. He moved to Delhi in 1834, where he has since resided. He is a Past Master of the lodge and was its Secretary for a number of years. In the present Secretary, R W. Bro. A. W. Crysler, Frederick Lodge possesses a most enthusiastic and thoroughly informed Mason. Bro. Crysler was initiated into Masonry when only twenty-one years of age. He became Master of the lodge in 1892; was D. D. G. M. of Wilson District in 1899-90, and has been the Secretary of the lodge since 1895.

Little of interest has occurred to vary the even character of Frederick Lodge's existence. Its present membership is fifty-six. Like its sister lodges in Norfolk, it is strong and flourishing and looks forward with confidence to a prosperous future.



BRO. (REV.) F. C. ELLIOTT
Member of Wilson Lodge
Chaplain



V. W. BRO. I. BECKER
Past Master Wilson Lodge



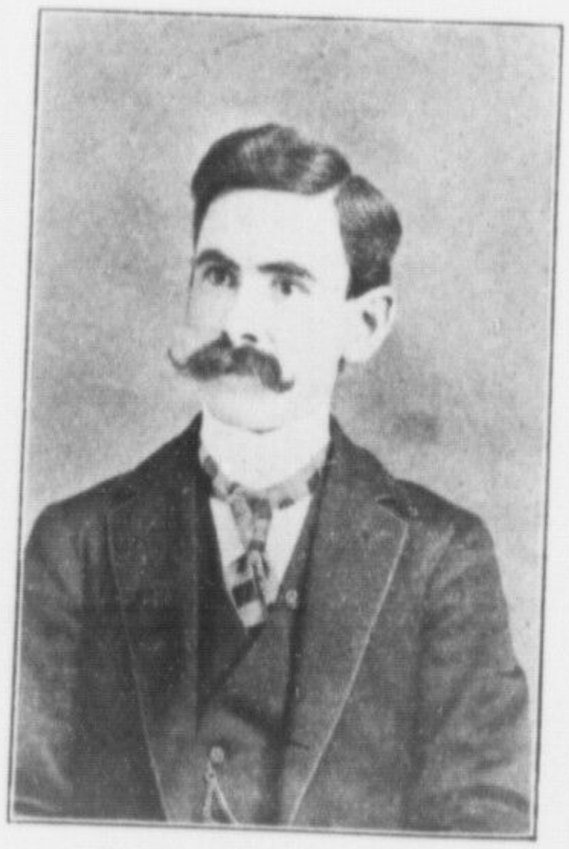
RT. W. BRO. JAS. ROSS
Past Master Wilson Lodge
Past District Deputy Grand Master Wilson District



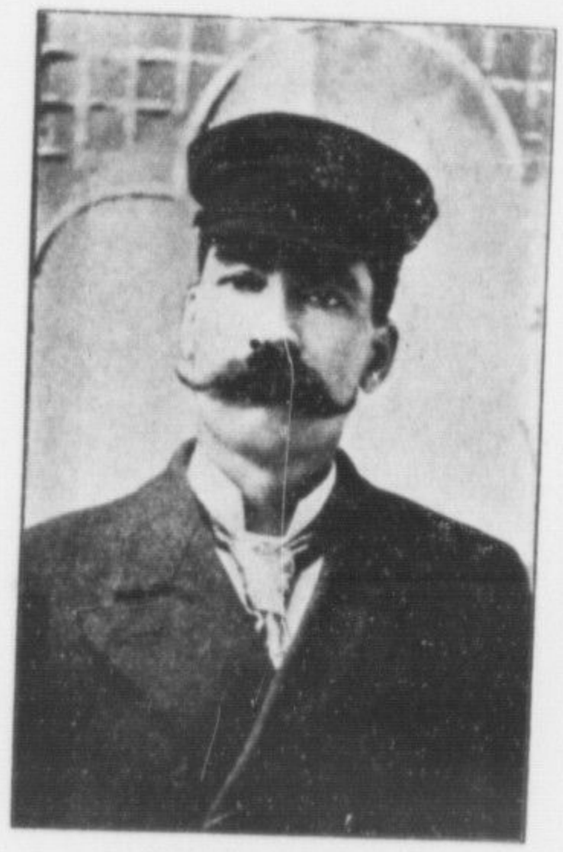
W. BRO. D. J. HORNING
Past Master Wil-on Lodge



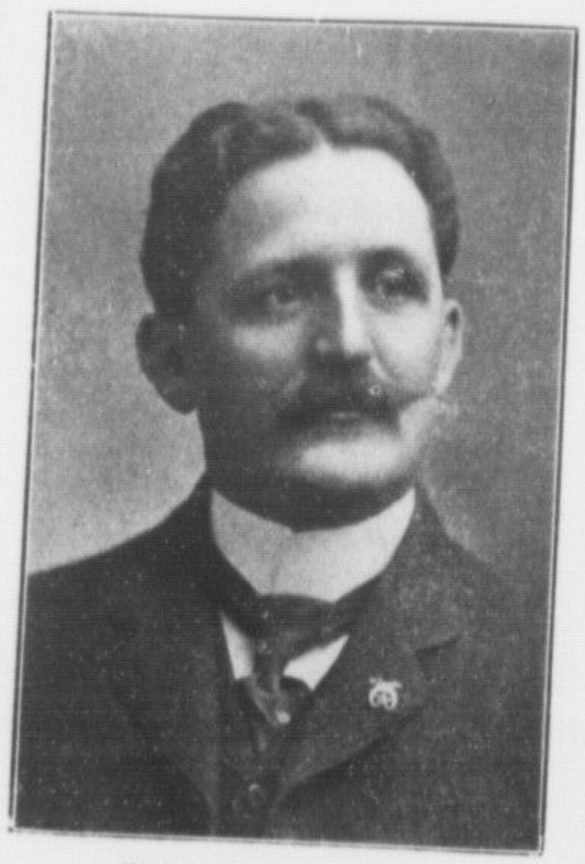
W. BRO. H. F. TEETER
Past Master of Scotland Lodge
Member of Wilson Lodge



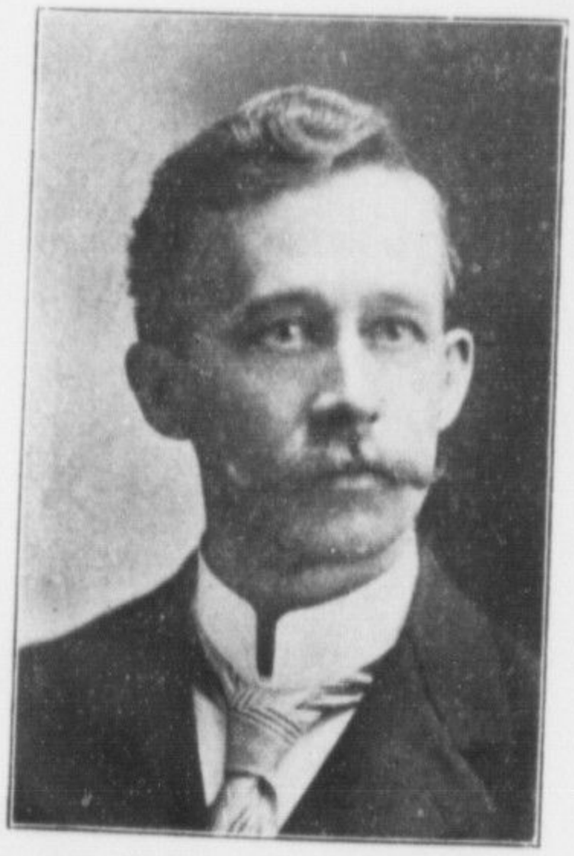
W. BRO. FRANK M. BOND
I. Past Master Erie Lodge



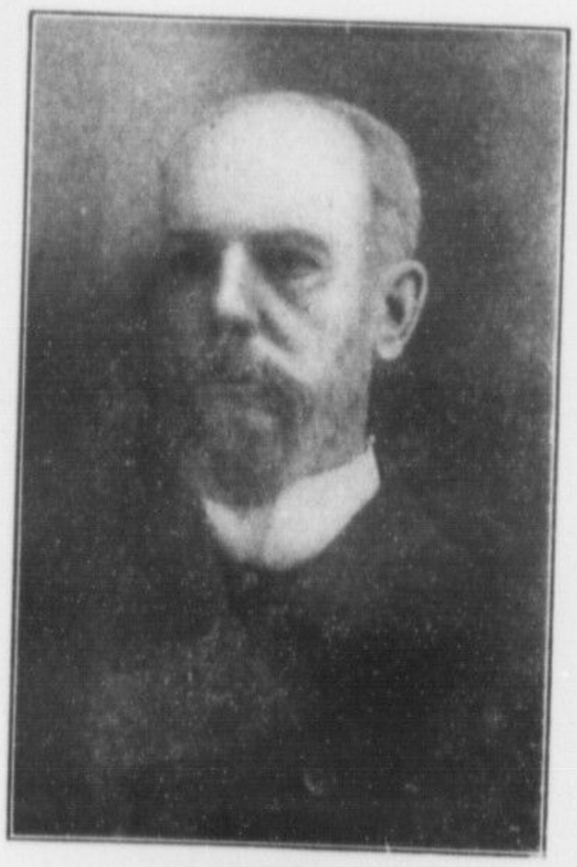
BRO. J. R. DAVIS
Senior Warden Erie Lodge



W. BRO. CHAS. R. CLAPP
Past Master Wilson Lodge
Member of Ezra Chapter
Member of Godfrey de Bouillon Preceptory, Brantford
London Lodge of Perfection A. & A. S. R.
London Sovereign Chapter Rose Croix
Moore Consistory S. P. R. S.
Rameses Temple A. A. O. N. M. S.



W. BRO. CHAS. G. WOOD
Past Master Frederick Lodge



BRO. W. TISDALE
Junior Warden Frederick Lodge
Member Norfolk Lodge
Member of Ezra Chapter

VITTORIA LODGE, NO. 359

VITTORIA

"THE last shall be first, and the first last." Vittoria, which for some years sheltered the earliest Masonic organization in Norfolk, is now the domicile of the county's youngest lodge. The institution of Vittoria Lodge was largely due to the efforts of Rt. W. Bro. Wm. Kennedy, M. D., who has been its guiding spirit ever since. At the time of organization Bro. Kennedy was an exceedingly young Mason having received the first two degrees only, when he first mooted the question of establishing a lodge in Vittoria. The meeting to consider the matter was held in Bro. Kennedy's bachelor apartments in Tuttle's hotel. All present were members of Norfolk Lodge and they resolved to apply to Grand Lodge for a warrant which was shortly after granted —and by it the lodge was named Vittoria Lodge, and numbered 359 on the Grand Register of Canada.

The warrant is dated May 25th, 1877, and names the following charter members: D. L. Beemer, Albert Wood, Wm. Kennedy, J. W. Ryerson, R. B. Tucker, Alex. McCall, Arch. Reid, Wm. Dawson, Thos. McCall, Samuel Hendershot, Geo. Gutcher, Thos. Hicks, Harry Leaney, Alex. Pegg, Jos. Shearer, Egbert M. Kitchen, Henry Jones and John V. Watts. The first officers were: D. L. Beemer, W. M.; J. W. Ryerson, S. W.; Albert Wood, J. W.; Arch. Reid, Treas.; Wm. Kennedy, Sec'y.; R. B. Tucker, S. D.; Geo. Gutcher, J. D.; Wm. Dawson, I. G.; and Samuel Hendershot, Tyler.

The first meeting of the lodge was held in Catherwood Hall on 25th May, 1877. There it remained for five years, moving in 1882 to Anderson's Hall, now owned by Philip Young. Its first meeting in this hall was on May 26th, 1882. In 1890 the lodge removed to Catherwood Hall—since named, however, Johnston's Hall—where it has since remained. Its first meeting after its removal to its present quarters was held on February 28th, 1890.

Since its removal the lodge has purchased the hall in which it meets. The shed which was underneath the hall has been closed up, and fitted as a lodge room, and is now let to two of the friendly societies of the town. So the hall is not only rent free to the lodge, but actually yields an income.

In Rt. W. Bro. Kennedy the lodge possesses the Senior Past District Deputy Grand Master of this county, he having been elected District Deputy in 1882. Bro. Kennedy is one of the most distinguished Masons of the county. In addition to his rank in Grand Lodge, he is Past Grand Superintendent of Wilson Royal Arch district. In the Ancient and Accepted Rite he is a most enthusiastic worker. He has attained the thirty-second degree, being a member of Moore Sovereign Consistory in Hamilton. His recent removal to Port Dover is a great loss to Vittoria Lodge.

Financially, as we have seen, the lodge is in a very prosperous condition; its present membership is thirty-eight, and though the youngest it is by no means the least flourishing of Norfolk's lodges.

THE DEFUNCT LANGTON LODGE

IN JUNE of 1876, a warrant was granted to form a lodge in Langton to be known as Langton Lodge, and numbered 335 on the Grand Register. The charter members were Richard W. Counter, J. W. Husband, P. Milne, J. Campbell, Charles Baker, James Sulman, T. N. Matthews, J. K. McLennan, O. D. Dewitt and J. M. Tweedale. Of these R. C. Counter, was the first Master, J. M. Tweedale, the first Senior Warden and J. K. McLennan the first Junior Warden. In 1877 J. M. Tweedale was elected Worshipful Master; J. K. McLennan the Senior Warden, and O. D. Dewitt, Junior Warden. In 1878, O. D. Dewitt, was elected Worshipful Master, and again in 1879. From 1880 until 1884 John Campbell was the Worshipful Master. In the latter year O. D. Dewitt was again elected Worshipful Master which office he held until the lodge surrendered its warrant during the Grand Mastership of M. W. Bro. John Ross Robertson

PAST AND PRESENT LODGES

SINCE the first establishment of Masonry is this district, one hundred years ago, nine lodges have been chartered in Norfolk County. Three of these are now defunct. These are: Union Lodge, No 22, the oldest, which existed from 1804 to 1822; Simcoe Lodge, No. 63, which existed from 1855 to 1863; and Langton Lodge, No. 335, which existed from 1876 to 1884. The six lodges which remain are all strong and prosperous. Norfolk Lodge is the mother lodge of the other five and consequently of Norfolk Masonry May Norfolk's second century of Masonry present a record as prosperous and as unmarked by dissension as that which the century just closed affords.

The Norfolk County Association of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry

THE four divisions of Masonry in practical operation in this country are the Blue Lodge, the Royal Arch Chapter, the Knight Templar Preceptory and the Scottish Rite. These have been somewhere described as the common school, the high school, the College and the University of Freemasonry. In view of the highly philosophical character of the last mentioned of the four Masonic divisions, this description is perhaps not unjustified. Still the high degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Rite are so elaborate in their ceremonial, and demand in their exemplification such an extensive paraphernalia and such a large number of workers, that they can be practised in large centres of population only; thus it happens that the different bodies of the Scottish Rite are all located in large cities, where also is found the bulk of the membership. A respectable percentage of those holding the high degrees is however to be found in towns and country districts. These members labor under a certain disadvantage in living at a distance from the fraternal organizations to which they belong, whose meetings consequently they can seldom attend. This consideration has undoubtedly operated to lessen the popularity of the higher degrees except in the large centres.

To obviate as much as possible these disadvantages the members of the Scottish Rite living in Norfolk County have formed a local centre for Scottish Rite Masonry in this county, not for the working of degrees, but merely as a bond of union amongst the members of the Rite in this county. The following resolution was adopted at the time of organization and fully sets forth its character and objects:—

"This Association shall be known as the Norfolk County Association of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry.

Objects: Its objects are, by forming a local centre to afford the advantages of fraternal intercourse to Scottish Rite Masons in this county, who necessarily reside at a considerable distance from the bodies of the Rite to which they belong; also to afford an opportunity to its members of keeping in touch with the progress of the fraternity, of becoming acquainted with the objects and teachings of the different degrees, and of becoming familiar with the work generally: also to supervise the selection of candidates from this county for the higher degrees, and generally to promote the interests of Scottish Rite Masonry in this county.

Obedience:—This Association regards itself as an adjunct to the bodies of the Scottish Rite sitting in the Valley of Hamilton, more especially of the Lodge of Perfection, and in strict obedience to the Supreme Council of the thirty-third degree for the Dominion of Canada.

Membership:—Any fourteenth-degree Mason, resident in the County of Norfolk, may become a member of this Association, by intimating such intention to the Secretary and signing the constitution and by-laws.

Officers:—The officers of this Association shall consist of a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary and a Treasurer, though the offices of Secretary and Treasurer may be combined.

Meetings:—The domicile of this Association shall be the Town of Simcoe; but meetings, regular or otherwise may be held at other points in the county, if the President so determines. The date of the regular meetings shall be determined by by-law. Special meetings may at any time be summoned by the President, or by the Vice-President at the request of a majority of the members. Each member shall receive from the Secretary, at least one week before each meeting a written notice in which the time, place and objects of the meeting shall be fully stated.

For instruction in the working of the Rose Croix and Consistory degrees, a portion of the time of meeting may be reserved for brethren possessing the degree in which instruction is desired. But time so reserved shall be devoted to such purpose only. For business and all work other than instruction the meetings shall be open to all brethren possessing the fourteenth degree.

OFFICERS FOR 1904

President—Ill. Bro. Wm. Kennedy, M. D., 32 °
Vice-President—Sov. Pr. T. R. Atkinson 18 °
Secretary-Treasurer—Sov. Pr. J. F. Thompson, B. A., 18 °

MEMBERS

Ill. Bro. Wm. Kennedy, M. D., 32 °, Pt. Dover
Ill. Bro. Arthur Bowlby 32 °, Waterford
Ill. Bro. Russell Bowlby 32 °, Waterford
Ill. Bro. Edward Meek, M. D., 30 °, Pt. Rowan
Sov. Pr. Lt. Col. T. R. Atkinson 18 °, Simcoe
Sov. Pr. John Scott 18 °, Simcoe
Sov. Pr. John F. Thompson, B. A., 18 °, Simcoe
Bro. J. J. Parsons 14 °, Jarvis P. O.
Bro. R. W. Wallace 14 °, Simcoe

ORGANIZED 1904

EZRA CHAPTER, NO. 23

SIMCOE

BY 1861 there were a few members of Norfolk and Simcoe Lodges, who had received the Royal Arch degree. Of this number was the first Grand Z. of the Grand Chapter of Canada, M. E. Comp. Judge Wilson, who had been elected to that office on the formation of the Grand Chapter in 1857. Most of these companions had received their degrees in Hiram Chapter, Hamilton, and the question was now mooted of instituting a local Chapter for Simcoe. In 1861 a dispensation was obtained from the Grand First Principal authorizing the local Companions to form themselves into a Chapter and naming the following officers: First Principal Z., Dr. Charles Kahn; Second Principal H., Charles Matheson, and Third Principal J., Dr John Clarke. It will be noticed that the First Principal belonged to Simcoe Lodge, of which he was the leading member.

The first meeting of the Chapter while under dispensation was held in the Empire Block in the rooms occupied by Simcoe Lodge. The minutes of this gathering are dated simply, December 1861, without recording the day of the month. The meeting was an informal one, the officers having not as yet been installed. The members communicated in the matter with the Grand Scribe E., Rt. Ex. Comp. Harris, and were subsequently advised by him that the three principal officers should proceed to Hamilton to be installed. This they did, and the first installation ceremony in connection with this Chapter was performed in Hamilton by Rt. Ex. Comp. Harris, assisted by Rt. Ex. Companions Bellhouse and Magill.

The first regular meeting of the Chapter (still under dispensation) was held on the third of January, 1862. Although it is necessary that nine members be present in order to constitute a quorum, still only six Companions are recorded as having been present at this meeting. It is quite possible that visitors from outside points may have been present whose names the Scribe E. neglected to enter. Otherwise the number fell below the legal requirement. However this may be their number was very materially augmented before the assembly dispersed. The meeting began at four o'clock in the afternoon and continued, with an intermission of but half an hour for refreshments, until half past nine, five brethren receiving the Mark Master's degree.

The warrant was issued on March 16th, 1862. By it the Chapter was named Ezra Chapter and numbered 23 on the Grand Register, the charter members being as follows: Wm. M. Wilson, Charles Kahn, Charles W. Matheson, John Clarke, Thos. B. Harris, David Curtis, Ralph A. Woodcock, C. G Benedick, M. S. Park and George W. Whitehead. The officers named in the warrant were the same as those already named in the dispensation.

Thos. B. Harris, whose name is in the above list, was a Hamilton man, and should be noted as having been the first Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge, and the first Grand Scribe E. of the Grand Chapter of Canada. These offices he held until his death in 1875. He became a charter member of Ezra Chapter merely to swell its numbers. It was by no means an uncommon practice in those days for Grand Chapter officers to assist in this way the formation of new Chapters. Some of the Grand officers became Charter members of several Chapters.

Little enthusiasm would appear to have marked the early years of Capitular Masonry in this county. From the first it proved difficult to arouse interest in the work and the meetings were poorly attended. Occasionally, however, we find indications of a better spirit, a promise of what the Future had in store for Ezra Chapter, as the following extract from the minutes of the meeting held on the 5th of February, 1862, will show:—"The Chapter closed in harmony at half-past ten o'clock, after which the Companions adjourned to Brother John Shepherd's hotel, where, in company with a number of brethren from the blue lodges, they sat down to an excellent repast, which had been prepared for them. The evening passed with great conviviality and hilarity."

After an existence of about seventeen years the vitality of Ezra Chapter fell very low indeed. The lack of interest spoken of above culminated after December of 1878 in a total cessation of the meetings, and until January of 1889, the Chapter was practically extinct. For this result neither the officers nor the members need be regarded as wholly responsible. Capitular Masonry at that time labored under many disadvantages from which at the present day it is free. A few of these may be here enumerated: In the first place the regular meetings of the Chapter were held quarterly and not monthly as at present; and the lapse of time intervening between any two communications was too great to allow of continuity of interest. In the next place Grand Chapter had fixed the mimimun fee for advancement at twenty dollars. For a country district, at any rate, this fee was much too high. Then again there was a certain regulation existing with regard to passing the chairs which proved, more than anything else, an obstacle to the progress of the Royal Craft in Canada. This regulation provided that only Past Masters of a blue lodge were eligible for the office of First Principal in a Royal Arch Chapter. This was an effectual barrier to emulation, and many a bright and talented member was debarred from serving the Chapter in an official capacity, who might otherwise have been of great service. It not unfrequently happened that only one or two men might be eligible for office, and since these might not care to act, if elected, their tenure of office would, as a rule, be marked by carelessness and indifference. Certain it is that on the removal of this barrier, not so many years ago, the character of Chapter work throughout the country showed a decided change for the better.

From December of 1878 to January of 1889 no meetings of Ezra Chapter were held. Those were dark days for Royal Arch Masonry throughout the entire country. Many of the Chapters were dormant and those, whose meetinge were still continued, showed few signs of life and activity. So the decline of Royal Arch Masonry was by no means confined to Simcoe, but was extended very generally over the entire jurisdiction. During this period the local Chapter was kept alive, so far as the books of the Grand Chapter were concerned, mainly through

the efforts of V. Ex. Companions G. F. Counter and W. P. Kelley and Ex. Comp. Dr. Hayes. During the period of the Chapter's dormancy these three companions made the necessary annual returns to the Grand Scribe E, paying out of their own pockets the per capita tax on a sufficient number of companions to insure the nominal existence of the Chapter. To Companion Counter belongs the credit of having originated the idea He regularly collected the necessary amounts and remitted them promptly to the Grand Scribe E. To him specially and to the two other companions, Ezra Chapter is indebted for the preservation of her number on the Grand Register and consequently for her present rank amongst the Chapters of the jurisdiction.

In January of 1889 the Chapter was resuscitated mainly through the efforts of Rt. Ex. Comp. J. D. Christie, B. A., Principal of the Simcoe High School, who, but a short time before had been appointed to that position. Comp. Christie is one to whom Royal Arch Masonry in Ontario owes a great debt. He received the Capitular degrees and passed the chairs in Mount Moriah Chapter, No. 19, St. Catharines. From this city he removed to Chatham, where he entered with enthusiasm into the work of the local Chapter. On his removal to Simcoe he found that some slight interest in Capitular Masonry had already been awakened through the strenuous efforts of Rt. Ex. Comp. Michael Walsh of Ingersoll, at that time district Superintendent, and subsequently Grand First Principal of the Grand Chapter. Rt. Ex. Comp. Christie took up the work in earnest and soon induced the Companions to meet again in the capacity of Royal Arch Masons. The first meeting of the resuscitated Chapter was held on the 30th of January, 1889, when the following officers were elected: First Principal Z., Comp. G. F. Counter; Second Principal H , Comp. James Hayes; Third Principal J., Comp. Wm. Todd; Scribe E., Comp. A. J. Donly; Scribe N., Comp. T. Puzey; Principal Sojourner, Ex. Comp., W. P. Kelley; Treasurer, Comp. J. T. Chadwick; Janitor, Comp. James Fisher.

The resuscitation of the Chapter once effected, interest grew with the number of its meetings, and its subsequent history has been as marked by enthusiasm and zealous activity as had been its previous record by the opposite of these qualities. Companion Christie has been the moving spirit in connection with it ever since. Under his auspices it has grown from almost nothing to its present proud position amongst the Chapters of Canada.

The earliest meetings of Ezra Chapter were held in the rooms of Simcoe Lodge in the Empire Block, and so the Norfolk House fire of 1863, which destroyed so many of the records of Norfolk Lodge, did not affect the Chapter, the minutes of which have been preserved from the time of its earliest meetings. Since the amalgamation of Norfolk and Simcoe Lodges Ezra Chapter has always sojourned in whatever hall has sheltered Norfolk Lodge, moving with the latter body to the Norfolk House in 1865, and to the present Masonic Hall in 1872.

Since its resuscitation, Ezra Chapter has enjoyed uninterrupted prosperity. Every lodge in the county is represented amongst its members, who now number one hundred and thirty, so that the Chapter ranks as the fourth in the jurisdiction, and from the enthusiasm and deep interest displayed at its meetings a long period of prosperity for it may be confidently predicted.

The Celebration of the Centenary of Masonry in Norfolk County, in Simcoe, Jan. 22nd, 1904

ON the 22nd of January, 1904, there was celebrated in Simcoe, under the auspices of Norfolk Lodge, the centenary of the first assembly, in a warranted lodge, of Norfolk Masons. For a month previous a band of willing workers, enthusiastic members of the lodge, had toiled most unceasingly that no detail might be wanting to the elaborate completeness of the event. The Grand Master and many others of the prominent Masons of Canada had signified their intention of being present; and when the appointed day arrived the preparations were almost ideally perfect. The 22nd of January, however, instead of breaking in unclouded splendor, as all such days should, proved the most miserable excuse for a day that possibly the hundred years have witnessed. Jupiter Pluvius evidently imagined that some efforts of his were necessary to the complete success of the affair. Certainly the unwelcome god was present in all his strength, while Apollo was as certainly absent from the day and Diana from the ensuing night. Snow, rain, sleet and wind had combined to render the day everything that should not be wished. The storm, for a time, had cut off nearly every means of communication with the outside world. Up to three o'clock in the afternoon no trains had reached the town, the telephone lines were down, and communication by telegraph was fitful and uncertain. The disappointment of the local members was extreme; and while the elements came in for their share of blame, muttered imprecations might be heard against the Grand Trunk Railway itself. It was felt that, while due allowance should be made for the inclemency of the day, still a railway system composed of worn-out engines, insecure roadbeds, frightful gradients, overworked employees, and with greed crossed by stupidity, enthroned in the directorial chairs, was hardly a system the best adapted to meet extremes of weather.

Under such discouraging circumstances were taken the first steps in connection with the day's observances. At 2.30 p. m. forty-eight of the local brethren had assembled in the lodge room. Of the distinguished visitors who should have graced the occasion with their presence, nothing had been heard. After waiting for over an hour for Rt. W. Bro. Clutton, the District Deputy Grand Master, who was to have conducted the installation ceremonies, the lodge was opened without him, and the following officers were installed by Rt. W. Bro. T. R. Atkinson: Worshipful Master, H. P. Innes; Immediate Past Master, Dr. W. A. McIntosh; Senior Warden, W. C. Everett; Junior Warden, J. F. Thompson; Treasurer, F. Reid; Secretary, J. Porter; Senior Deacon, W. B. Tomlinson; Junior Deacon J. W. Church; Inner Guard, L. T. Atkinson; Stewards, John Montgomery, H. Hoffmaun, Geo. E. VanMere and A. T. Sihler; Tyler, James Fisher. When the ceremonies were almost concluded, the District Deputy Grand Master was announced. He had left Vienna, his home, at six in the morning, and had covered the distance of about thirty miles in a little over eleven hours.

While the afternoon lodge was still in session, word was brought that the Grand Master and other officers of Grand Lodge had arrived and were registered at the Norfolk House. Their trip from Hamilton to Simcoe had been almost as stirring and full of incident as a journey of equal length through the jungles of Central Africa might conceivably be. Even under ordinary circumstances a trip from Hamilton to Jarvis so redounds in disagreeable features and exasperating incidents as to cause the unlucky traveller to sigh for the good old days of log roads and ox-carts. The Grand Officers, of course, experienced on this occasion these annoyances in an extremely accentuated degree. What was their dismay, moreover, on reaching Jarvis, to learn that a train to Simcoe was a contingency of the remote future, too vague a possibility to figure in the calculations for the day. Under the circumstances they remained in their car until Port Dover was reached, where they engaged a rig to convey them to Simcoe. The roads were almost impassible, the snow and slush being in many places, two and even three feet deep. When about halfway the harness broke, and assistance had to be sought from the nearest farm-house. Finally, however, they arrived at their destination too wet and tired to take part in the afternoon's proceedings, reserving themselves for those of the evening.

After the installation ceremonies were coucluded the lodge was "called off" until half-past seven, at which time it resumed labor with a largely increased attendance. In the old rooms of Norfolk Lodge about a hundred and forty brethren were assembled, some sixty or seventy of these, in spite of the roads and the weather, having come in from the country, while a few had arrived from more distant points. The Grand Master, and Rt. W. Bro. Aubrey White, Chairman of the Board of General Purposes, were announced and received in due and ancient form,

The Grand Master then assumed the gavel, but deferred making any extended remarks until all should be assembled around the festive board. The Junior Warden, Bro. J. F. Thompson, was next called upon to read an article which he had prepared for the occasion, entitled "The History of Masonry in Norfolk County." The article traced the progress of the craft from the first meeting in Job Loder's tavern unto the present time and was much appreciated by the brethren.

Following the reading of the historical article was the presentation of a Past Master's jewel to the retiring Master, Bro. W. A. McIntosh, who, during his year of office, had proved himself one of the most popular and efficient Masters that ever presided in the Oriental chair of Norfolk Lodge. The presentation was made by the Grand Master, who referred, in happily chosen language, to the esteem in which W. Bro. McIntosh was evidently held by the brethren.

Shortly after nine o'clock the lodge room was closed and the assemblage proceeded to the Norfolk House. It was most fitting that the concluding ceremonies should be held there. For it was in this old hostelry that during many of the early years of its existence Norfolk Lodge held its meetings. And so, on this occasion, the proudest in its existence, the old lodge met in the old inn, with which it had been so long and so intimately associated.

At the opera house (which, for the information of those unacquainted with the town, we may here say, is but a portion of the Norfolk House) the arrangements for the banquet were most complete. The seats had been removed and the stage and floor were covered with tables which almost groaned beneath their loads. The central table on the stage had been reserved for Grand Lodge officers and other distinguished brethren; and there presided the newly installed Master, Brother Hugh P. Innes, who, by the way, made a capital chairman. The decorations, which were in blue and white, were most elaborate, and the whole interior presented a most striking, and at the same time, a most pleasing effect. The menu must be described by abler pens than ours; it, however, we may say, and the service generally approached perfection. Bro. Cameron, who had charge of the festive arrangements, should certainly be complimented on the success which attended his management of that department. In place of the ordinary menu cards, there was placed at each plate a booklet which, done in blue, red and gold, was a genuine work of art, and contained within its covers the following: The menu, the toast list, the names of the newly installed officers, Bro. Thompson's sketch of Norfolk Masonry, and the names of the Past Master's of Norfolk Lodge. Owing to the inclemency of the weather, but a hundred and sixty of the brethren were present, though covers had been laid for nearly double that number.

After due justice had been done the materia' cheer which had been so amply provided, the intellectual portion of the feast began. The first two toasts, "The King and the Craft" and "The Grand Master and the Grand Lodge of Canada," were proposed by the Worshipful Master, Bro. Hugh P. Innes. Coupled with the latter toast were the names of the Grand Master, M. W. Bro. Judge Harding; of the Deputy Grand Master, Rt. W. Bro. Benj. Allen, and of the Grand Secretary, M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray.

The Grand Master on rising to respond was most enthusiastically received. He first referred in felicitous terms, to the occasion which they had met to celebrate. He spoke of the pleasure it afforded him to be present in old Norfolk Lodge where the Grand Lodge of Canada was cradled, and which had furnished the first Grand Master to the Grand Lodge, and the first Grand Z to the Grand Chapter He had himself served under M. W. Bro. W. Mercer Wilson, who in point of kindness, of urbanity, and of efficiency, had been surpassed by none of his successors in the Grand East. The Grand Master then ontlined his annuity plan, spoke of the responses to his proposal, which he had already received, and of its future prospects of success. Referring to the rapid growth of Massonry in recent years, he said that he believed he would yet live to see the day when there would be 100,000 Masons enrolled beneath the banners of the Grand Lodge of Canada in Ontario. He spoke of the *entente cordiale* at present existing between Great Britain and the United States, which he ascribed in a large measure to the influence of Freemasonry upon the two peoples, an influence which was ever exerted in opposition to war and in favor of peace. In conclusion he referred in humorous terms to his recent experiences in journeying from Hamilton to Simcoe, and also expressed the deep pleasure which was his in meeting on the present occasion so many of his old friends and acquaintances.

Rt. W. Bro. Allen was then called upon. In responding Bro. Allen dwelt at considerable length upon the many attractions and natural advantages of our own Canada; a subject upon which the last year had fairly qualified him to speak; for during the last twelve months he had trraveled in all parts of the Dominion, from Halifax to Vancouver, and had been deeply impressed by what he had seen. He stated that he had visited nearly every portion of the Dominion, and had to confess that he had seen work done in some of the village lodges, which was fully on a par with the work done in some of the large cities. Bro. Allen also dealt with some details of the Grand Master's annuity plan, about which he fancied, some uncertainty might exist in the minds of the brethren. The Grand Master had authorized him to explain that the division of the proceeds of the fund into twenty annuities of two hundred dollars each was by no means a *sine qua non*. While such a plan was recommended, still the actual apportionment of the proceeds would be left to the wisdom of Grand Lodge. Finally he complimented the Simcoe brethren upon the success which had attended their celebration, the magnificence of which he had seldom seen equalled.

M. W. Bro. Murray, the Grand Secretary, was the next speaker. He referred to his past thirty-four years of service in the Grand Lodge, dnring which time he had filled nearly every office, including that of Grand Master. He thanked the brethern generally for his resent election to the position of Grand Secretary. He commented at some length on the improved character of Masonic meetings of today as compared with those of forty years ago; more especially in connection with the working of the fourth degree. He stated that in this jurisdiction which included over 33,000 Masons, there had been during the past year, but nine cases of grievances and appeals; of these seven had been either withdrawn or amicably settled. In this respect he challenged comparison with any other body of men, fraternal or religious, throughout the world. Not even the churches could show such a record.

The proposing of the next toast, that of Capitular Masonry, devolved upon Rt. Ex. Comp. J. D. Christie, he

being the moving spirit in connection with Capitular Masonry in this county. Coupled with this toast were the names of Rt. Ex. Comp. Aubrey White, the silver tonged orator of St. Paul's Chapter, Toronto, of Rt. Ex. Comp. R. S. McGill of Simcoe, Grand Superintendent of Wilson District, Simcoe, and of Ex. Comp. J. C. Boyd, of Sault Ste. Marie, a Past Z of Ezra Chapter, Simcee, and the present Provincial Prior of Toronto District, Knights Templar.

In responding to this toast Rt. Ex. Comp. White spoke of the relationship existing between Blue Masonry and the Royal Arch. In this conuection he digressed for a moment to speak of the chrritable work of Grand Lodge. During the first decade of its existance its receipts were $37,550, of this the sum of $1,687 was expended on charity. In the second decade the receipts were $109,361, the expenditure of charitable purposes being $35,000. In the third decade the receipts were $155,670, of which $86,000 was expended in charity. In the fourth decade the reseipts were $184,427, of which sum $94,000 was devoted to charity, while in the past eight years of the present decade, out of receipts amounting to $185,000, $94,347 had been already expended for charitable purposes. The speaker then reviewed the work of Grand Chapter. Duiting no year had the prosperity of Royal Arch Masonry been so marked as during the one just closed. He concluded by refering to the ties which bound Masons together and of the nature of the various obligations. Companions McGill and Boyd made excellent addresses in reply to this toast.

The following toasts were then duly honored:—"The District Deputy Grand Master's," proposed by Rt. W. Bro. T. R. Atkinson; "Sister Lodges," proposed by W. Bro. W. A. McIntosh; "Visiting Brethren," proposed by W. Bro. J. G. Bottomley; and "Our Departed Brethren," proposed by W. Bro. Frank Reid; after which the toast of "Norfolk Lodge" was proposed by the M. W. the Grand Master and ably responded to by W. Bro. Innes, the newly installed Master, and by W. Bro. McIntosh, the Immediate Past Master.

A pleasing feature of the evening's proceedings was the presentation to Norfolk Lodge of a Master's gavel, the story of which is told in the inscriptions on two silver plates on either side of the head, and which read: "This gavel, the head of which is made from timber taken out of the first caual-lock built on the North American continent at Sault Ste. Marie, Canada, 1797, was presented to Norfolk Lodge, No. 10, A. F. & A. M., G. R. C., his Mother Lodge, by R. W. Bro. J. C. Boyd, on the occasion of the centennial celebration of Freemasonry in Norfolk County, January 22nd, 1904. The handle is made from timber taken from the Independence, the first steamboat on Lake Superior."

Some silver trowels and other articles of curious workmanship had been presented by the Mayors of Toronto and Hamilton to the first Graud Master, M. W. Bro. W. M. Wilson, on occasions of the Grond Lodge meetings in those cities. These had been presented to Norfolk Lodge by the Grand Master, and were produced during the evening for the inspection of visitors, the majority of whom appeared deeply interested in these mementoes.

There was also produced by W. Bro. McIntosh, the original application of Wm. Mercer Wilson, afterwards the first Grand Master, for admission to the Masonic fraternity. The application bears the date of 1840, and was addressed to Lodge No. 14, Simcoe, by which number Norfolk Lodge was then known.

At an early hour the next morning a most successful function, successful in spite of the inclemency of the weather, was brought to a close by the Junior Warden's toast, "Happy to meet, sorry to part, happy to meet again."

MASONIC DIRECTORY

OF NORFOLK COUNTY

NORFOLK LODGE, NO. 10, SIMCOE

Regular Meetings: Tuesday on or before Full Moon every month

PAST MASTERS

*W. M. Wilson . . 1855-56	A. J. Donly 1869	R. Rochester 1881-82	T. R. Atkinson . . 1895-96
*Henry Crouse 1857	W. P. Kelley 1870	John Wilson M. D. . . 1883	Wm. P. Price. . . . 1897-98
*Henry Groff. 1858	*S. Gardner 1871	*E. G. Wells. . . . 1884-85	J. G. Bottomley 1899
*W. M. Wilson . . 1859-60	A. J. Donly. 1872	G. H. Luscombe. . 1886-87	Geo. J. Green 1900
*Daniel Matthews 1861-62	Robt. Rochester. . 1873-74	Jos. Brook 1888	R. S. McGill 1901
*John Williamson 1863-64	*James Hayes . . 1875-76	J. Craigie Boyd. . 1889-90	R. E. Gunton 1902
John Wilson, ... 1865-66	*Wm. Todd 1877-78	W. S. Wood 1891-92	W. A. McIntosh 1903
*John F. Clarke . . 1867-68	G. F. Counter. . . . 1879-80	F. Reid. 1893-94	* Deceased

OFFICERS FOR 1904

W. Bro. Hugh P. Innes	Worshipful Master	Bro. L. T. Atkinson	Inner Guard
W. Bro. W. A. McIntosh	Immediate Past Master	Bro. James Fisher	Tyler
Bro. W. C. Everett	Sr. Warden	Bro. A T. Sihler	Steward
Bro. J. F. Thompson	Jr. Warden	Bro. John Montgomery	Steward
V. W. Bro. Frank Reid	Treasurer	Bro. H. Hoffman	Steward
Bro. J. Porter	Secretary	Bro. Geo. E. VanMere	Auditor
Bro. W. B. Tomlinson	Sr. Deacon	Bro. A. T. Sihler	Auditor
Bro. J. W. Church	Jr. Deacon	Bro. J. F. Thompson	

MEMBERS--113

Fisher, James 1862	Leask, James. 1885	Sterling, A. W. 1895	Sihler, A. T. 1901
Kelley, Wm. P. 1864	Baker, John 1885	Curtis, Geo. A. 1895	Porter, Nat 1901
McCall, Alex. 1868	Reid, Frank 1886	Gunton, Robt. E. . . . 1895	Price, H. P. 1902
Counter, Geo. F. 1868	Bowlby, D. A. 1886	Atkinson, L. T. . . . 1895	Culver, Jas. A. 1902
McCall, Thos. 1868	Canfield, Geo. S. . . . 1887	DeCoe, W. H. 1895	Anderson, G. A. H . 1902
Scott, John 1868	Price, Wm. P. 1887	Pullen, Thos. C. 1895	Porter, Jonathan . . . 1902
Brook Joseph, ... 1869	Jackson, J. B. 1888	Madden, J. H. 1895	Ironside, Alex. 1902
Hendry, Oscar 1872	Butler, Thos. W. 1889	Misner, C. F. 1896	McCall, R. R. 1902
Downing, James . . 1873	Brown, Frank A. . . . 1889	Schuyler, W. J. 1896	Dennis, D. L. 1902
Porteous, Robert. . . . 1873	Furlong, Thos. H. . . 1889	Shand, Austin. 1896	Shaw, James 1902
Wickens, H. B. 1876	Brook, R. Y. 1889	Dawson, Wm. R. . . . 1896	Austin, Jonathan C. . 1903
Luscombe, Geo. H. . . 1878	Lennox, J. W. 1889	Church, Jos. W. 1896	McInally, Isaac. 1903
Steinhoff, Hiram. . . . 1878	McKiee, Geo. J. 1889	Tweedale, J. M. 1897	Cameron, W. L. 1903
Coates, Joseph. 1879	McGill, R. S. 1889	Smith, A. W. 1897	Van Mere, Geo. E. . . 1903
Boyd, J. C. 1881	West, John C. 1890	Roberts, E. L. 1897	Vail, Geo. H 1903
Grant, Chas. 1881	Green, Geo. J. 1891	Innes, Hugh P. . . . 1897	Courtlandt, H. N. . . 1903
Craig, J. T. 1881	Sutton, Wm. 1891	Price, James T. . . . 1897	Vrooman, Sol. 1903
Atkinson, T. R. . . . 1881	Pursel, H. W. 1891	McIntosh, W. A. 1897	Fairchild, W. H. . . . 1903
Downs, Geo. W. . . . 1881	Brady, Leonard 1891	Boyd, Chas. E. 1897	Austin, P. O. 1903
Sebring, Spencer . . . 1882	Austin, Chas. A. . . . 1891	Tomlinson, W. B. . . . 1897	Aiken, L. F. 1903
Kitchen, Isaac. 1882	McQueen, Wallace . . 1891	Innes, R. L. 1898	McCall, D. T. 1903
Burt, Wm, ... 1882	Hilts, Rich 1891	McIntosh, O. R. 1898	Burrows, H. H. 1903
Tripp, J. W. 1882	Stalker, John W. . . . 1893	Montgomery, John . . 1899	Selley, J. M. 1904
Barber, A. M. 1882	Stalker, W. H 1893	Tisdale, Walter . . . 1899	Jackson, A. S. 1904
Sutton, John 1883	Stennett, A. B. 1893	Proudlove, Johnstone 1899	Sloat, Chas. H. 1904
Carter, H. A. 1883	McCallun, F. S. 1893	Baker, Wm. 1899	Blayney, R. O 1904
Wood, Wyatt S. 1884	Everett, Wm. C. . . . 1894	Thompson, J. F. 1899	
Goodlet, James 1884	Hook, John A. 1894	Hoffmann, H. 1900	
Bottomley, J. G. . . . 1884	Petrie, H. D. 1894	Wallace, R. W. 1900	

WILSON LODGE, NO. 113, WATERFORD

Regular Meetings: Wednesday on or before Full Moon every month

PAST MASTERS

John Boyd ... 1859-60
David Tisdale ... 1861-62
T. W. Clark ... 1863-64-67
L. Beam ... 1865
Geo. Wallace ... 1866
Wm. Allen ... 1868-69
A. McMichael ... 1870-71-72-73-75-76
B. L. Chipman ... 1874
L. Becker ... 1877-78-79-86
E. H. Long 1880-81-82-85
I. E. York ... 1883
A. M. Barber ... 1884
W. Messecar ... 1887-88-89-90-91-92-93
D. J. Horning ... 1894-95
James Ross ... 1896
L. L. Sovereign ... 1897
R. Bowlby ... 1898
D. S. Bale ... 1899
C. R. Clapp ... 1900
A. J. Goold ... 1901
A. Bowlby ... 1902
P. Geo. Pearce ... 1903

OFFICERS FOR 1904

W. M. McGuire	Worshipful Master
P. Geo. Pearce	Immediate Past Master
J. Matchett	Senior Warden
J. H. Mills	Junior Warden
N. H. Cowdry	Treasurer
C. S. Walters	Secretary
L. L. Sovereign	Director Ceremonies
Rev. F. C. Elliott	Chaplain
John Hadden	Senior Deacon
C. W. Kauffman	Junior Deacon
Clyde Rock	Inner Guard
M. L. Harp	Senior Steward
W. H. Misener	Junior Steward
Wm. Smith	Tyler
S. L. Squire	Auditor
R. D. Gibson	Auditor

MEMBERS--106

Thos. Hague ... 1866
Calvin Flanders ... 1867
Robt. Green ... 1867
Huit Baker ... 1872
Ira Titchworth ... 1873
P. J. Pearce ... 1876
E. H. Messecar ... 1877
I. E. York ... 1879
D. J. Horning ... 1879
Walker Messecar ... 1881
Sylvester Lawrence ... 1881
Russell Bowlby ... 1886
Arthur Bowlby ... 1886
J. W. Nicholson ... 1887
R. W. Trotter ... 1887
John Collings ... 1889
W. I. Cunningham ... 1889
M. L. Harp ... 1889
J. Seymour Collver ... 1889
W. H. Misener ... 1890
L. L. Sovereign ... 1890
Geo. Doughty ... 1890
John McTaggart ... 1890
Alex. Rock ... 1890
H. F. Teeter ... 1890
A. M. Tobin ... 1890
D. P. Caley ... 1890
John S. C. Messecar 1890
John Matchett ... 1891
Henry Serles ... 1891
T. D. Duncombe ... 1891
Emerson Barber ... 1891
Jas. Ross ... 1891
Oscar McClellan ... 1892
E. G. Christie ... 1892
F. W. Cline ... 1892
A. J. Goold ... 1892
Thos. McMillan ... 1892
D. S. Bale ... 1893
W. A. Smith ... 1897
W. B. Langs ... 1897
W. N. Davis ... 1897
W. R. Shearer ... 1897
Chas. Stuart ... 1897
W. V. Hessey ... 1897
Wm. Smith ... 1898
S. L. Squire ... 1898
P. Geo. Pearce ... 1898
Henry Allen ... 1898
R. J. Thomas ... 1898
Peter Learmonth ... 1898
N. H. Cowdry ... 1898
J. F. Little ... 1899
W. M. McGuire ... 1899
N. W. Pursel ... 1899
Herb. Cunningham ... 1899
C. E. Daniels ... 1899
Arthur Gowling ... 1899
W. L. Silverthorne ... 1899
John Hadden ... 1900
H. A. Horning ... 1900
J. D. McDonald ... 1900
J. H. Mills ... 1900
Oscar L. Haviland ... 1900
W. R. Saunders ... 1900
E. O. Ingalls ... 1900
R. J. Martin ... 1900
C. W. Kauffman ... 1900
Wm. Woodley ... 1901
Arthur Merritt ... 1901
Clyde Rock ... 1901
E. T. Rowland ... 1902
Clendon W. Smith ... 1902
Thos. L. Pursel ... 1902
Peter Stafford ... 1902
Roy M. Beemer ... 1902
F. C. Elliott ... 1902
C. H. Whittaker ... 1902
Leo B. Reynolds ... 1902
Jacob Goble ... 1902
H. E. Contello ... 1902
Herbert J. Stafford ... 1902
H. L. Rammage ... 1902
C. J. Cunningham ... 1902
C. S. Cook ... 1903
T. C. Savage ... 1903
R. D. Gibson ... 1903
C. S. Walters ... 1903
Oscar Clark ... 1903
John Anderson ... 1903
Jas. R. Irwin ... 1903
Oscar Cunningham ... 1903
Albert A. Culver ... 1903
W. M. Bradshaw ... 1903
William Stetler ... 1903
George A. Limage ... 1903
Wm. L. Renton ... 1903
R. A. Catherwood ... 1903
Arthur Sands ... 1903
A. R. Ewing ... 1903
Arthur Beecraft ... 1903
John Anderson ... 1903
J. W. Cameron ... 1903
Jos. Sanderson ... 1903
B. A. Kelly ... 1904
A. B. Henderson ... 1904

ERIE LODGE, NO. 149, PORT DOVER

PAST MASTERS

I. W. Powell 1861
T. B. Barrett..... 1862
P. Lawson 1864
B. Powell 1866
J. V. Hover 1868
Dr. J. W. Stewart ..1871
S. Hover..... 1873
B. Varey.....1875
A. F. Turnbull 1877
F. W. Ansley 1880
W. F. Tibbitts.....1882
Wm. Duncan 1886
R. M. Taylor 1888
Josiah Varey 1890
J. Innes..... 1892
H. Fawcett.....1893
C. Matthews 1895
J. A. Innes 1897
S. L. Butler 1898
J. R. Waddle 1900
F. M. Bond..... ..1902
J. R. Waddle 1904

OFFICERS FOR 1904

J. R. Waddle	Worshipful Master
J. R. Davis	Senior Warden
S. L. Butler	Junior Warden
A. W. Leaney	Senior Deacon
R. Millar	Junior Deacon
J. Varey	Secretary
R. A. Sinclair	Treasurer
L. Skey	Chaplain
C. Morgan	Inner Guard
R. A. Smith	Tyler

MEMBERS--55

Barrett, T. B..... 1861
Allan, J. S..... 1866
Decew, J. E. 1868
Skey, L... 1872
Allan, John 1873
Norquay, E. ... 1873
Ryerse, I..... 1873
Tibbitts, W. F 1873
Varey, Josiah.....1873
Varey, J. J. 1874
Ansley, H. W 1874
Fairchild, H 1875
Caley, Wm. sr 1876
Dell, A. J.. 1876
Turner, D.. 1878
Austin, I..... 1878
Taylor, R. M 1880
Morgan, L. G.....1883
Fawcett, H..... ..1885
Graham, Wm 1887
Ellis, Jas..... 1887
Sinclair, H.. 1887
McQueen, Henry .. 1887
Sinclair, R. A 1887
Mathews, A. C ... 1887
Smith, A. R 1889
Morgan, C..... ..1889
Butler, S. L .. . 1890
Rawkin, Wm 1891
Waddle, John 1891
Waddle, J. R 1893
Innes, J. A. 1893
Allan, G. F 1893
Alexander, J 1893
Bond, F. M.....1894
Fick, J. B 1894
Newell, Rev. J. R ..1897
O'Donnell, Thos.....1898
Steinhoff, Thos 1898
McLeoid, Wm.....1898
Davis, J. R.....1899
Perkis, A. F 1899
Porter, N 1900
Skey, E 1900
Leaney, Alex 1901
Millar, R..... 1901
Leach, Alex 1901
McQueen, Harry....1901
Holden, Wm 1901
Barrett, A. C..... .1901
Hammond, A 1902
Ryan, Thos.....1902
Aitkin, J 1902
Slocomb, Wm 1904
Hammond, Geo 1904

Walsingham Lodge, No. 174, Port Rowan

Regular Meetings: Thursday on or before Full Moon every month

PAST MASTERS

James Gustin, S. N. Holt, James Ryan, Chauncy Bennett, John Hudson, Edgar Smith, Geo. Stewart, M. D.; James Louch, R. B. Cowan, F. H. Pearsall, Frank Brock, I. E. Biddle, Edward Meek, M. D.; Wm. H. Meek, J. L. Buck and Rev. A. Shore.

OFFICERS FOR 1904

W. O. Franklin	Worshipful Master
Rev. A. Shore	Immediate Past Master
W. B. Smith	Senior Warden
John M. Parker	Junior Warden
George Durkee	Chaplain
C. Biddle	Treasurer
James Ryan	Secretary
John Collett	Tyler

MEMBERS--52

Backhouse, John C.
Baker, John
Biddle, Cornelius
Biddle, Joseph E.
Brock, Frank
Brock, John F.
Buck, J. L.
Carter, Joseph
Collett, John
Cook, Clancey
Cook, John
Cowan, R. B.
Crocket, William
Dease, James A.
Dickenson, William
Durkee, George F.
Ferris, W. P.
Fick, Israel B.
Foster, James A.
Franklin, Walter F.
Franklin, Walter O.
Hathaway, Harry
Hathaway, James
Howey, Waverley
Kell, John
Killmaster, George B.
McCall, T. Stacey
McCall, Walter F.
McIntosh, Alexander
MacDonald, Warren
Mason, Frank
Matice, Wellington
Meek, Edward, M. D
Meek, William H.
Nixon, William
Ostrander, William A.
Parker, John M.
Pearsall, F. H.
Price, George
Ryan, George W.
Ryan, James
Shore, Arthur
Smith, William
Spencer, C. B.
Stearns, W. C.
Thompson, John
Woodward, Allan
Woodward, Charles
Woodward, Harry
Woodward, T. C. Kerr.
Yokom, A. A.
Yokom, Clarke

FREDERICK LODGE, NO. 217, DELHI

Regular Meetings: Monday on or before full moon in every month

PAST MASTERS

Luke Cook .. 1869-70-71-74-85-87
Joseph Boice 1872
J. C. Ross..1873-75-76-82
Robt. Wood 1877
Joseph Church 1878
H. C. Hilliker 1879
Joseph Brown .. 1880-81-83-84
Jacob Sovereen 1886
W. A. Ferguson..1888-89
Wm. Corlett 1890-91
A. W. Crysler ... .1892
Chas. G. Wood ..1893-94
Geo. Jefferies....1895-96
John Dowswell 1897
A. E. Steele 1898
Dr. R. B. Wells..1899-00
G. G. Byers.....1901
H. L. Stratton 1902
W. H. Whitside....1903

OFFICERS FOR 1904

John Jago ....Worshipful Master
Dr. Geo. W. Graham..Sr. Warden
Dr. W. Tisdale .....Jr. Warden
Rev. G. M. Kilty ..... Chaplain
Robt. Quance .....Treasurer
A. W. Crysler ....Secretary
E. G. Cole.. .....Senior Deacon
L. E. Wedd .....Junior Deacon
Dr. R. B. Wells.... ....D. of C.
J. D. Abraham.....Inner Guard
John Jamieson.....Steward
John Laurason..... Steward
A. E. Steele ....Tyler

MEMBERS—60

Conlin, Edward 1869
Hilliker, Henry C ..1869
Power, Robert 1870
Kemp, Andrew 1870
Griffin, J. W 1871
Sovereen, Jacob . ..1871
Dowswell, John 1871
Hicks, Simeon.....1871
McKnight James .. 1872
Ferguson, W. A....1875
Wright, Thomas....1877
Dennis, Stephen, sr..1877
Burns, Rev. George..1877
Cole, John H 1880
Jefferies, George . .1884
Crysler, A. W.....1886
Wilbur, W. H. 1886
Quance, Robert ... 1887
Corlett, William... 1888
Stizaker, A. J.....1889
Wood, Charles G ...1889
Wood, Wm. H ... 1889
White, D. W 1890
Morgan, Edwin 1891
Gray, George R 1892
Price, Thomas.... .1892
Wilbur, George H ..1892
Rogers, Alfred 1893
Christmas, Albert E..1893
Steele, Arthur E....1894
Whitside, W. H 1894
Wells, R. Bruce....1895
Ferguson, John H ..1896
Stratton, Henry L. 1896
Byers, G. Gordon .. 1896
Roberts, Wm. M....1897
Knowles, James ...1897
Silverthorne, John..1898
Morgan, Thos. E....1900
Smith, Geo. A.. ...1900
Jefferies, Bruce 1900
Leask, Abram 1900
Tisdale, Dr. Walter .1900
Morris, Henry J....1900
Jago, John.. 1900
Kauffman, Geo. A ..1900
Kilty, Rev. Geo. M..1901
Currie, Rev. E. C .. 1901
Cole, Edward G 1901
Ferguson, Alex. K..1901
Kelly, Wm. E..... 1901
Hotson, Arthur R ..1902
Jamieson, John . ..1902
Graham, Dr. G. W..1902
Abraham, J. D 1903
Wedd, L. E 1903
Lawrason, John .. .1903
Robins, Geo. W 1903
White, Gilbert 1904
Quance, Geo. E.... 1904

VITTORIA LODGE, NO. 359, VITTORIA

Regular Meetings: Friday on or before Full Moon every month

PAST MASTERS

William Kennedy, M. D.
Albert Wood
J. Edward Butler
W. H. Wells
John Pow
William Walmsley
Robert S. Stalker
Charles W. Culver
R. W. McCall

OFFICERS FOR 1904

W. C. Mitchel. .Worshipful Master
C. A. Dunkin..... Sr. Warden
Frank Butler. . ....Jr. Warden
John Pow ... .Secretary
William Dawson, sr ....Treasurer
E. M. Kitchen .....Chaplain
William Bowden.....Sr. Deacon
Thomas Pope.. .....Jr. Deacon
George Hewitt.....Steward
Bruce McCall ....Steward
R. W. McCall . .....D. of C
J. Harry Lawrence.. .....Tyler
Frank Smith.....Auditor
J. Harry Lawrence.....Auditor

MEMBERS—41

Wood, Albert 1871
Kitchen, E. M.
Dawson, Wm., sr.
Palmerton, N. S.
Watts, J. V.
Kennedy, Wm.....1876
Wells, W. H.....1877
Hewitt, George.....1878
Walmsley, Wm.....1878
Dawson, Wm., jr....1879
Butler, J. E.....1880
Mitchel, W. C. 1881
Pow, John.....1882
Stitt, James.....1884
Hooper, A. E..... 1885
Hathway, Edward ..1889
Boughner, Peter....1889
Smith, Andrew H...1889
McCall, R. W. 1889
Smith, Frank.....1890
Pow, Alfred 1891
Stalker, R. S. 1891
Oaks, Edward.....1891
Dunkin, C. A .... .1893
Culver, Charles W...1894
Overholt, Wm. 1895
Lally, Arthur 1897
Bowden, Lewis 1898
Thorborn, M. 1898
Wilson, Nelson G. ..1899
Butler, Frank 1899
Watts, Fred 1899
Baskett, I. H.·····1900
Bowden, Wm..... 1901
McIntosh, Geo. 1901
McCall, Bruce D. .. 1902
Pope, Thomas 1902
Alexander, Harry J. 1902
Lawrence, Harry J.. 1903
Stickney, H. W. ...1904
Cruickshank, Wm...1904

EZRA CHAPTER, NO. 23, R. A. M., SIMCOE

Regular Meetings: Thursday on or after full moon in every month

PAST Z's

Charles Kahn 1861	Chauncey Bennett ..1873	Thos. H. Furlong..1895-96
C. W. Mathewson ..1863	Robert Rochester .. 1875	R. F. Brook .. . 1896-97
Jno. Clarke.....1864	G. F. Counter....1889-90	Wm. Kennedy. 1897
John Wilson 1868	James Hayes. . 1890-91	Frank Reid 1898-99
W. P. Kelly 1872	Wyatt S. Wood..1891-92	J. G. Bottomley.. 1899-00

R. S. McGill ...1900-01	
T. R. Atkinson . 1901-02	
W. B. Tomlinson .. 1903	

OFFICERS FOR 1904

Ex. Comp. W. A. McIntosh	Z.	Comp. C. F. Misner	J. S.
V. Ex. Comp. W. B. Tomlinson	I. P. Z	Comp. Chas. W. Culver	4th V.
Ex. Comp. W. M. McGuire	H.	Comp. John Montgomery	3rd V.
Ex. Comp. J. F. Thompson	J.	Comp. Austin Shand	2nd V.
Comp. Jonathan Porter	S. E.	Comp. A. T. Sihler	1st V.
Comp. J. W. Church	S. N.	Comp. Henry Hoffman	D. of C.
Rev. Richard Hicks	Chaplain	Wm. Baker	Steward
V. Ex. Comp. Frank Reid	Treas	L. T. Atkinson	Steward
Comp. Robt. Gunton	P. S.	Jas. Fisher	Janitor
Comp. W. C. Everett	S. S.		

MEMBERS--129

Kelley, Wm. P 1866	Reid, Frank 1894	Burt, William.....1898	Montgomery, John..1900
Fisher, James 1867	Stennett, Alex. B ..1894	Langs, Wm. B.....1898	Mason, Frank 1900
Puzey, Thomas ... 1871	Kennedy, William.. 1894	Brown, Frank J....1898	Angle, Harry 1900
Counter, George F.. 1871	Kay, Wm. F 1894	Laley, Arthur..... 1898	Sinclair, Robert A..1901
Kay, Wm. F 1875	Austin, Charles A ..1894	Shand, Austin 1898	McQueen, Harvey...1901
York, I. E 1875	Kay, Wm. E 1895	Hessey, Wm. V 1898	Decew, Elijah J 1901
Upper, Geo. A 1878	Downs, George W ..1895	Innes, John A.....1898	Leitch, Alexander ..1901
Wood, Wyatt S 1889	Petrie, Harry D 1895	Waddle, James R ..1898	Watts, Frederick A..1901
Brook, Robert Y .. 1889	Pursel, Hugh W....1895	Sterling, Arthur W..1898	Hoffman, Henry....1901
Luscombe, Geo. H ..1889	Clapp, Charles R....1895	Tomlinson, Wm. B..1898	Gowling, Arthur....1901
Atkinson, Thos. R...1889	Downing, James....1895	McIntosh, W A....1898	Burrows, Edward H..1901
Boyd, James Craigie..1889	Stalker, Robert S .. 1896	Palmerton, N. S....1899	Morgan, Thomas E..1902
Grant, Charles..... 1889	Whitside, Wilbur H..1896	Culver, Charles W.. 1899	Steele, Arthur E....1902
Denton, Fred W....1889	Cole, John H. 1896	Hodgson, Joseph E..1899	Cole, Edward G 1902
Furlong, Thos. H .. 1889	Wells, Robert B ...1896	Byers, Gordon G.. .1899	Baker, William 1902
Price, Wm. P..... 1890	Stoddard, Norman ..1896	Owen, Egbert A....1899	Wilson, Nelson G .. 1902
Perry, Wm. S.....1890	Corlett, William....1896	McIntosh, Alex .. 1899	Thompson, John F..1902
Bottomley, Jos. G ..1890	Quance, Robert 1896	Pearsall, Frank H.. 1899	McDonald, James A..1903
McGill, Robert S .. 1890	Fairchild, C. C 1896	Biddle, Joseph E ...1899	Porter, Jonathan .. 1903
Christie, James D ..1890	Jolley, John F 1897	Wardell, Walter E..1899	Bowden, William . 1903
McKiee, George J ..1891	Pow, John 1897	Roberts, Enoch L ..1899	McIntosh, George . 1903
Bowlby, David A .. 1891	Pursel, Nelson W .. 1897	Gunton, Robert E ..1899	Graham, George W..1903
Crysler, AquillaW..1892	Caley, Douglas P .. 1897	O'Donnell, T. F.....1899	Sihler, Arthur T....1903
Morgan, Edwin 1892	McCall, Robert W ..1897	Frost, Thomas A. P..1899	Wedd, Lawrence E..1903
Dowswell, John 1893	Butler, John E 1897	Allen, John.....1899	Cameron, Wm. L .. 1903
Hicks, Richard 1893	Dunkin, Charles A..1897	Smith, Arthur W .. 1899	VanMere, Geo. E...1903
Butler, John C 1893	Mitchell, Wm. C....1897	Smith, Wallace E .. 1899	Dennis, David L....1903
McClellan, Oscar .. 1893	Tobin, Abram M....1897	McGuire, W. M. ...1900	Shaw, James H 1904
Lemmon, W. W ... 1893	Atkinson, L. T 1897	Allan, George F 1900	Wallace, Roy 1904
Fairchild, A. P 1893	Stalker, Walter H ..1898	Innes, Hugh P 1900	Smith, George.....1904
Vail, George 1894	Church, Joseph W ..1898	Pearce, P. George .. 1900	
Foster, Frank R....1894	Everett, Wm. C 1898	Tisdale, Walter 1900	
Brady, Leonard ...1894	Misner, Charles F ..1898	Alexander, John....1900	