
HISTORY OF
AIREDALE LODGE
No. 387 SHIPLEY

1827—1927

THROUGH the generosity
of W. BRO. A. H. BAGNALL
and W. BRO. THOS. E. POWER,
assisted by the PAST MASTERS
of the LODGE, and the
OFFICERS during the CENTEN-
ARY year, the entire cost of
this publication has been de-
frayed without making any
demand upon the Lodge Funds;
and you are asked kindly to
accept this copy with their com-
pliments, as a memento of
the CENTENARY of
the Lodge.

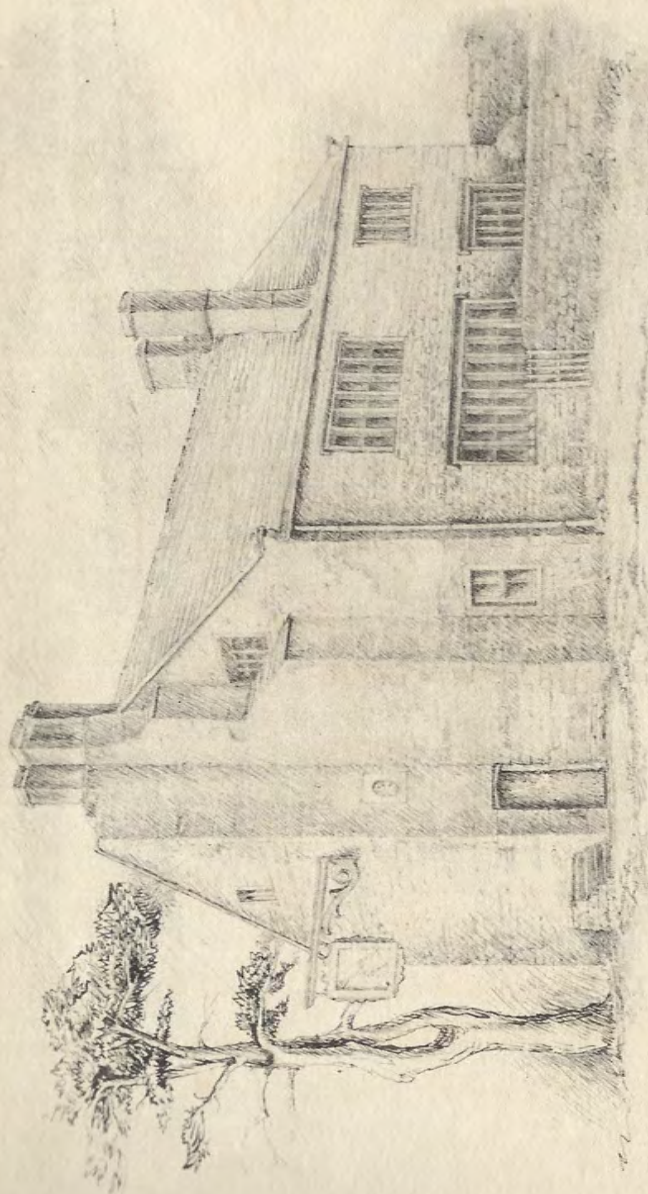
HISTORY OF THE AIREDALE
LODGE No. 387 SHIPLEY
1827-1927

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1827 — 1927

*Compiled by W. BRO. THOS. E. POWER,
P.M. 387, Secretary, from the Minute
Books and other records of the Lodge,
on the occasion of the CENTENARY
CELEBRATIONS on WEDNESDAY,
MARCH 23rd, 1927*

1928
BRADFORD
PERCY LUND, HUMPHRIES & CO. LTD.
The Country Press



*The Malt Shovel Inn, Baildon
(where the first meeting of Airedale Lodge was held on April 11th, 1827)
Pen and ink sketch by Edwin Cavuthra from a photograph*

PREFACE

ONE of the greatest difficulties with which I have been faced in the compilation of this work has been to decide, not so much "What to include" as "What to omit." I have, therefore, endeavoured to reproduce everything which has appeared to me as bearing upon the life and history of the Lodge, without encumbering it with details which would here be out of place.

The thoroughness with which our W. Bro. J. Ramsden Riley prepared his *History of Airedale Lodge* (April, 1877), and his further publication bearing the same title (August, 1880), has been the deciding factor in causing me to have reproduced, by the latest photographic process, the major portion of the actual pages themselves.

This work is therefore divided into two portions, *viz.*:—

1. Photographic reproduction of Bro. J. Ramsden Riley's *History of the Lodge*, covering the period 1827 to 1880.
2. My own compilation of the *History of the Lodge* during the period 1880 to 1927.

It will be appreciated, I think, that many items which referred to the old days and possessed a quaint and peculiar interest, are conspicuous by their absence in the later life of the Lodge. This compilation may, therefore, appear somewhat drab and colourless by comparison, but I have endeavoured to discharge my duties as Historian with fidelity to my trust, and to present only such information as I have been able to obtain from the minutes and other reliable sources.

Two points have specially impressed themselves upon me. The Warrant of the Lodge shows our name as being spelt "AIRDALE." It would be interesting to know the reason for this (if any). The other is the fact that, with the exception of Bro. Wainman Holmes, every one of the Founders is recorded in the registers of Provincial Grand Lodge as "OFF" within the first two or three years of the Lodge's existence. Whether this somewhat curt note is to be interpreted as exclusion or resignation there is no indication, but the fact does remain that their association with the Lodge ceased in its very early days.

I desire to express my gratitude to W. Bro. A. H. Bagnall, a very ardent and enthusiastic Past Master of the Lodge, for all the assistance and information he has given me, and also to the Provincial Grand Secretary, W. Bro. Chas. E. Frobisher (P.M.61), to whom I have never appealed in vain for either help or advice, and who gave me such valuable assistance in connection with the presentation of the petition for a Centenary Warrant.

My part in the preparation of this book has been a genuine labour of love, and if the result should prove acceptable to the Brethren, I shall be gratified beyond measure.

THOS. E. POWER, P.M. 387.

*Secretary of
Airedale Lodge, No. 387.*

"Underwood,"
Victoria Park,
Shipley.

January, 1928.

DEDICATION

IN grateful acknowledgment of the devotion to their Lodge of the seven brethren, viz.:—

JOHN SUTCLIFFE
JOHN WINTERBURN
JOHN BLAND
JOHN BECK
NICHOLAS WALKER
JAMES BROWN
WILLIAM ELLISON, *Secretary*

who kept the Lodge in existence during the years 1827 to 1839, when it was in danger of death by inanition (which calamity would have precluded all possibility of the celebration of 100 years' existence), this record of the Centenary of the Lodge is affectionately dedicated to their memory.

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OFFICERS DURING THE CENTENARY YEAR 1927

W.M.	Bro. C. E. Place
I.P.M.	W. Bro. W. Fox
S.W.	Bro. W. Sewell
J.W.	Bro. G. T. Whittaker
Chaplain	W. Bro. Alfred Bagnall, P.P.A.G.D.C.
Treasurer	W. Bro. R. A. Millington, P.P.G.D.
Secretary	W. Bro. Thos. E. Power
D. of C.	W. Bro. A. H. Bagnall
S.D.	Bro. W. Eastell
J.D.	Bro. J. W. Brayshaw
Asst. D. of C.	W. Bro. A. W. Wadsworth
Almoner	W. Bro. A. E. Brown
Organist	Bro. A. Woodhead
Asst. Secretary	Bro. H. R. Power
Inner Guard	Bro. H. Powell
S.W.S.	Bro. G. E. Ramsey
A.W.S.	Bro. H. F. Peel
A.W.S.	Bro. W. Normington
S.T.S.	Bro. J. W. Rawnsley
A.T.S.	Bro. C. W. Ives
A.T.S.	Bro. C. B. Lennon
A.T.S.	Bro. W. N. Finlayson
A.T.S.	Bro. T. Keighley
A.T.S.	Bro. J. Normington
O.G.	Bro. C. Pullan

Charity Member W. Bro. Fred Power

PAST MASTERS, 1827-1927

1827	Wainman Holmes	1856	Thos. Wharton
1828	Wainman Holmes	1857	Henry Smith
1829	Jonathan Walker	1858	Geo. Motley Waud
1830	John Walker, Senr.	1859	Wm. W. Holmes
1831	Joseph Walker	1860	Jesse Denby
1832	John Walker, Senr.	1861	Chas. F. Taylor
1833	John Walker, Junr.	1862	James C. Read
1834	Wm. Brearey	1863	Joseph Denby
1835	Wm. Whitwham	1864	Nathaniel Smith
1836	John Walker, Junr.	1865	H. Butterworth
1837	John Beck	1866	Wm. W. Holmes
1838	Lycias Barker	1867	Seth S. Blakey
1839	Nicholas Walker	1868	Thos. Murgatroyd
1840	John Walker, Senr.	1869	Thos. Renton
1841	Nicholas Walker	1870	Thos. Denby
1842	Thos. Robinson	1871	J. Ramsden Riley
1843	Thos. Robinson	1872	F. W. W. Booth
1844	Joshua Bell	1873	Samuel Jackson
1845	Joshua Bell	1874	Charles Roebuck
1846	John Walker, Junr.	1875	Charles Howroyd
1847	Wainman Holmes	1876	William Parker
1848	Wainman Holmes	1877	John Hey
1849	Nicholas Walker, Senr.	1878	John Morrell
1850	Nicholas Walker, Senr.	1879	Saml. Albert Auty
1851	Nicholas Walker, Junr.	1880	John Magson
1852	Nicholas Walker, Junr.	1881	James Lister
1853	John Walker, Junr.	1882	Henry Mitchell
1854	Thomas Holmes	1883	Elias Heaton
1855	Thos. Wharton	1884	Edwin Bottomley

1885 Joseph Wm. Taylor
 1886 Starkey Minakin
 1887 Fred Ives
 1888 William Oddy
 1889 John Symonds
 1890 John Tillotson
 1891 Chas. Wm. Curran
 1892 Richard Knight
 1893 Henry Telford
 1894 Wheatley Jackson
 1895 Israel Cromack
 1896 Amos Booth
 1897 Francis Lister
 1898 Ed. Louis Bauman
 1899 Charles Cromack
 1900 Henry Telford
 1901 Thomas Rhodes
 1902 Alfred Wilkinson
 1903 Joseph Truelove
 1904 Edwin Stephenson
 1905 Alfred Bagnall

1906 Stephen Beaver
 1907 Jno. W. Greenwood
 1908 F. M. Jowett
 1909 Frederick Pitts
 1910 C. W. Eames
 1911 J. R. Wilson
 1912 Albert Shaw
 1913 Fred B. Rand
 1914 Jno. Charlesworth
 1915 R. A. Millington
 1916 Arthur A. Abbott
 1917 Fred Power
 1918 S. Shepherd
 1919 T. I. Bonner
 1920 A. H. Bagnall
 1921 F. W. D. Newell
 1922 Thomas E. Power
 1923 A. E. Brown
 1924 J. Briggs
 1925 A. W. Wadsworth
 1926 W. Fox

SUBSCRIBING MEMBERS, 1927

1 F. Lister, Initiated 1882 P.M.	39 H. B. Lister, Initiated 1918
2 J. Truelove, " 1893 P.M.	40 J. Rodgers, " 1918
3 A. Bagnall, " 1894 P.M.	41 H. Tetley, " 1918
4 F. Pitts, " 1900 P.M.	42 J. Stillings, " 1918
5 C. W. Eames, " 1900 P.M.	43 H. Powell, " 1918
6 J. R. Wilson, Joined 1901 P.M.	44 C. Pullan, " 1919
7 J. J. B. Wilson, Initiated 1901	45 W. D. Wear, " 1919
8 S. D. Schofield, " 1904	46 H. Smith, " 1919
9 R. A. Millington, " 1906 P.M.	47 J. D. Busfield, " 1919
10 N. A. Foster, " 1907	48 H. B. Vero, " 1919
11 F. Power, " 1908 P.M.	49 W. Pitts, " 1919
12 A. A. Abbott, " 1908 P.M.	50 A. Howells, " 1919
13 T. I. Bonner, " 1908 P.M.	51 H. Walbank, " 1919
14 F. Holdsworth, " 1909	52 P. Parkin, " 1919
15 A. Davy, " 1909	53 S. Rhodes, " 1920
16 A. H. Bagnall, " 1909 P.M.	54 W. E. Lee, " 1920
17 T. E. Power, " 1910 P.M.	55 J. W. Ackroyd, " 1921
18 A. E. Brown, " 1910 P.M.	56 I. Sugden, " 1921
19 A. Woodhead, " 1910	57 J. E. Clough, " 1921
20 J. Briggs, " 1912 P.M.	58 H. F. Peel, " 1921
21 J. W. Todd, " 1912	59 T. Booth, " 1921
22 A. W. Wadsworth, " 1912 P.M.	60 Johns Thomson, " 1921
23 W. Fox, " 1912 P.M.	61 A. Wilkinson, " 1921
24 J. W. Brayshaw, " 1913	62 C. G. Williams, Joined 1921
25 C. E. Place, " 1913 W.M.	63 J. Rhodes, Initiated 1922
26 J. Garnett, " 1914	64 H. R. Power, " 1922
27 J. W. Ellis, Initiated 1915 P.M. 4148	65 G. E. Ramsey, " 1922
28 L. E. Learoyd, Initiated 1915	66 H. M. Broughton, " 1922
29 W. Sewell, " 1915	67 J. W. Rawnsley, " 1923
30 R. Wild, " 1915	68 W. Harper, " 1923
31 J. W. Obank, " 1915	69 C. W. Ives, " 1924
32 E. P. Inglis, " 1916	70 C. B. Lennon, " 1924
33 E. D. Illingworth, Joined 1916	71 W. N. Finlayson, " 1924
34 G. T. Whittaker, Initiated 1917	72 T. Keighley, " 1925
35 B. B. Thornton, " 1917	73 W. Normington, " 1925
36 W. Eastell, " 1917	74 J. Normington, " 1925
37 R. H. Johnston, " 1917	75 C. H. Hindle, " 1926
38 H. Poole, " 1918	

HISTORY OF
THE AIREDALE LODGE, No. 387,
OF
FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS
OF ENGLAND;

GIVING ALSO, INCIDENTALLY (BY NOTES OF THE FOUNDATION OF EACH
LODGE IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER)

A RECORD OF THE PROGRESS OF FREEMASONRY
IN YORKSHIRE.

BY

J. RAMSDEN RILEY, P. M. & P. Z.

387.

1880.

HISTORY OF THE AIREDALE LODGE,

No. 387.

THE Airedale Lodge was established at Baildon, Yorkshire, and its first regular meeting held at the Malt Shovel Inn, at that place, on 11th April, 1827, under Warrant from the Grand Lodge of England, dated 12th March, 1827.

It was indebted, indirectly, to an older Lodge for its origin, and although the first W. Master was a member of the Lodge of Hope at Bradford (then No. 565) and our Lodge is commonly said to be a branch of that Lodge, there is little doubt that the "Airedale" never would have sprung into existence but for the necessary elements, not only of furniture and other Lodge paraphernalia, but actual working members of the Craft which a defunct Lodge at Bingley and a then vigorous Lodge at Keighley supplied, to carry out the project satisfactorily, and with reasonable prospects of success.

The former was the Duke of York's Lodge, No. 502, originally constituted at Doncaster, as No. 438, in 1788, the dispensation for which reads as follows :—

RICHARD SLATER MILNES, Esq., Provincial Grand Master
for the County of York.

To the Worshipful Charles Plummer, Richard Stavely
and Thomas Girdler, Members of the most Ancient and Honourable
Society of Free and Accepted Masons and respectively Master
Masons.

BRETHREN,

In consequence of an application from you and several
other respectable brethren, residing in or near the Town of Doncaster
in the County of York, to me as Provincial Grand Master for the said
County (under the authority of the Grand Master of England)
requesting a Constitution for the holding of a regular Lodge of the
Order under his authority at the Black Boy Inn, in Doncaster
aforesaid, by the style or title of the DUKE OF YORK'S LODGE, I do,
by virtue of the power and authority committed to me by the most
Noble and Worshipful Prince Henry Frederick Duke of Cumberland,
Supreme Grand Master of the Order, hereby authorize and empower
you, the said Charles Plummer, as Master, and you the said Richard
Stavely and Thomas Girdler, as Wardens, with the assistance of a
proper number of other brethren, to open a Lodge of Free and
Accepted Masons, under the title of the Duke of York's Lodge, at
the Black Boy Inn, in Doncaster aforesaid, whenever you may think
proper, and therein to make, pass, and raise Masons, and do and
transact all Masonic business according to the regular forms of the
Order. And this authority shall continue in force until you shall
have received the Patent of Constitution by you applied for as afore-
said.

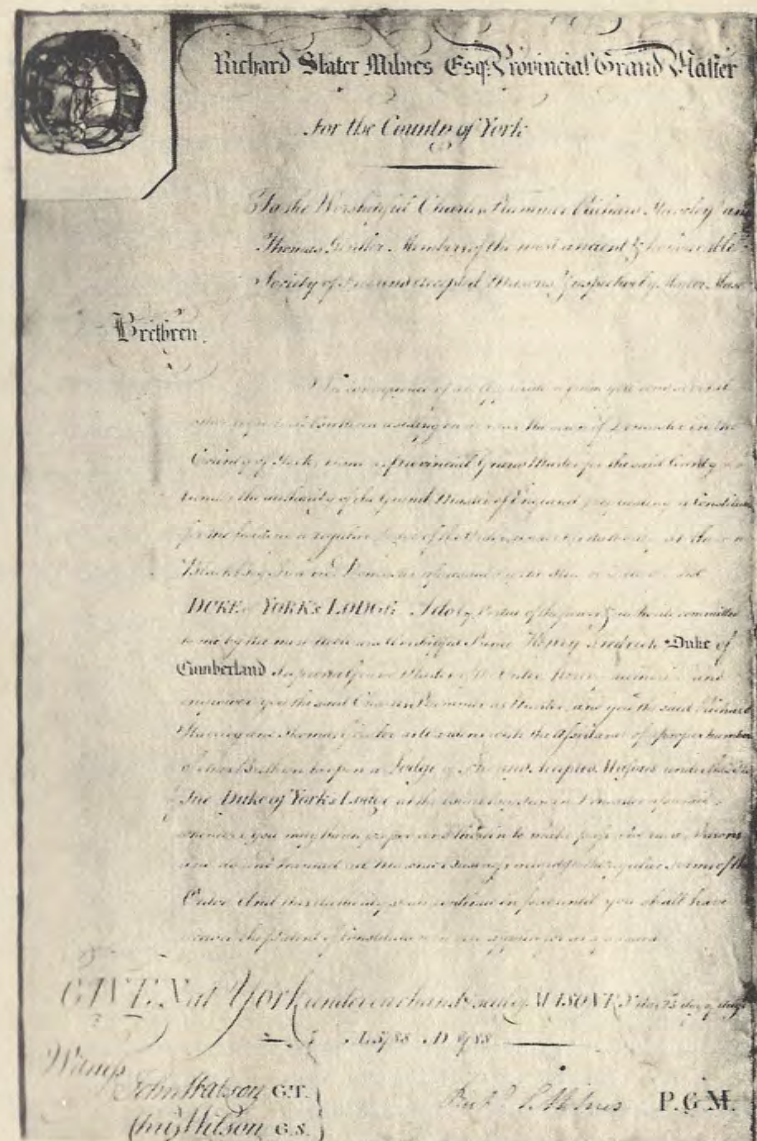
Given at York under our Hand and Seal of Masonry this
23rd day of August, A.L. 5788, A.D. 1788.

RICHD. S. MILNES, P.G.M.

Witness—John Watson, G.T.

Chris. Wilson, G.S.

The W.M. and S.W. in this warrant were, when the Duke of
York's Lodge was formed, members of the St. George's Lodge,
Doncaster, No. 400.



A peculiarity of this document is that it bears the seal of the Apollo Lodge, York, the officers of which formed the first Provincial Grand Lodge of Yorkshire. At that time the whole county was under one Masonic head (Bro. Richard Slater Milnes, Prov. G.M.) acting by authority of the Grand Lodge of England, and seventeen Lodges existed in the Province, three antient Lodges—the Three Tuns, Scarborough; Punch Bowl, York; and Blue Bell, Hull; having already become extinct.

The first meeting of the Duke of York's Lodge was held at the Black Boy Inn, in Doncaster, on the 1st September, 1788, the minutes of which meeting are here given.

There is a curious custom practised on the originals, which I think is very wisely not permitted in the present day, viz., the erasure of a name with a penknife by a brother on resignation years after.

On Monday September 1st, 1788, was opened an Enter'd Apprentice Lodge, at the house of Mr. Thomas Watson, the sign of the Black Boy, in Doncaster, at which were present:—C Plummer, R.W.M.; J. Hawley, as S. W.; T. Girdley, as J.W.; T. Batley, as T.; M. Beecher, as S.; E. Tear; W. Kay, and T. Watson; respectively Master Masons, when the Warrant of Constitution, obtained from the Provincial Grand Lodge for the county of York, was read by the Secretary, stiled or titled the Duke of York's Lodge, wherein Bro. Charles Plummer is appointed Master, who accordingly was invested with the Jewel of his office, he then appointed Bro. Joseph Hawley his Senior Warden, Bro. Thomas Girdley his Junior Warden, and Bro. Sleeford his Secretary for the ensuing Twelve months. After which Mr. William Bennett, Mr. William Sleeford, Mr. George

Nicholson, Mr. Thos. Priest, and Mr. John Bennett, were severally initiated into the first degree of Masonry. The Lodge then proceeded to ballot for a Treasurer, when Bro. Wm. Bennett was unanimously elected for the above time. The R.W.M. appointed Bro. John Bennett to be Tyler.

Bro. Wm. Bennett proposed Mr. Josh. Webster, of Doncaster, and John Turner, of Rossington Bridge, to be made Masons the next Lodge night, and he deposited Ten Shillings and Sixpence for each. Bro. Watson proposed Mr. George Ash to be made a Mason, and he made a like deposit, and they were ordered to be ballotted for the next Lodge night. The business of the Lodge being over it was regularly closed to the 1st Monday in October, emergencies excepted.

The Treasurer and Secretary were appointed on the evening of their initiation, and the latter (who it is singular to discover never wrote the minutes once during his year of office, *nor did any other subsequently appointed Secretary up to 1803*) appears to have been officially nominated, if not invested, before he was a member of the Craft!

The junior members of the Lodge at that time did not feel the same diffidence in proposing candidates as now, for it is here recorded that one of the newly initiated at once proposed *two* candidates on the same evening!

The second meeting was held 11th September, 1788, and the minutes read as follows:—

At an extra lodge held on Thursday, the 11th day of September, 1788, was opened a *Fellow Craft's Lodge*, at which were present:—C. Plummer, R.W.M.; J. Hawley, S.W.; T. Watson as J.W., when Bro. Jno. Bennett, Bro. Wm. Bennett, and Bro. Wm. Sleeford were severally initiated into the second degree of Masonry.

The Lodge was then closed and a Master Mason's Lodge was opened, when Bro. Wm. Bennett and Bro. Wm. Sleeford was raised to the Third degree. The Brethren present then proceeded to ballot for Mr. Joseph Webster, Mr. George Ash, and Mr. John Turner who severally met the approbation of the Lodge. The business of this Lodge being over, it was closed, and an Entered Apprentices Lodge was opened, when Mr. Joseph Webster was made in the first degree. The business of this Lodge being over, it was regularly closed to the First Monday in October, emergencies excepted.

This is curious as showing that of the three candidates for passing who are said to have been *initiated* into the second degree, two were also raised to the third degree on the same night: and by reason of these proceedings, only ten days elapsed between initiation and raising. The necessity for officers appears to have sanctioned these irregularities.

As there are some interesting facts worth recording in the minutes after this date, these are referred to by extracts on the several dates named.

Nov. 3rd, 1788.—Minute.

Bro. Scott, the Secretary, and Bro. Haigh, from the St. George's Lodge, No. 400, waited on us with a message from their Lodge, requesting the favour of our company to attend them to Church in procession, on Wednesday, the 5th day of November, it being the *Centenary* of the glorious Revolution, to hear divine service, when a most excellent sermon was preached on the occasion by the Rev. Henry Ray; after service the brethren proceeded in the like manner to the Town Hall, and afterwards met at Bro. Carnelly's the Reindeer, where a most excellent dinner was provided, and the day was spent with the greatest harmony and conviviality.

In Raymond's History of England, published in 1798, page 611, the following reference is made to this evidently national commemoration of the historical event alluded to:

The 5th of Nov. being the centenary of the Revolution of 1688, was observed by many Societies in the Metropolis, and other parts of the Kingdom, not only with festivity but devotion and thanksgiving. At the most respectable of these Societies, a noble Earl, who presided on the occasion, moved "that application be made to Parliament to observe the future Anniversary of the 16th Dec. as a day of solemn thanksgiving, it being on that day the Bill of Rights was passed."

The most respectable society here mentioned was the Free and Accepted Masons, the noble Earl also referred to being the Earl of Moira, D.G.M. In this year the Royal Yorkshire Lodge, Keighley, No. 439, and the Globe Lodge, Scarborough, No. 440, were constituted, and in 1789 the Albion Lodge, Skipton, No. 460, and the Harmony Lodge, Halifax, No. 461.

Very little time seems to have been lost in preparing and adopting Lodge Bye Laws, and on Oct. 5th, 1789, occurs the following:—

Oct. 5th, 1789.

The Bye Law of the Lodge inflicting the Penalty upon Officers not present, or not attending in time, was directed to be in full force, and Bro. Girdley, S.W., and Bro. G. Nicholson, T., not attending was by the Brothers present ordered to pay the fine.

Shortly after this it appears to have been discovered that the warrant or dispensation was not, strictly speaking, in the custody of the Lodge; and there being apparently other Lodge property

missing, we find the brethren taking action thereupon at their meeting, on the 5th January, 1790, by these resolutions in open lodge:—

Jan. 5th, 1790.

The brethren then came to the following resolutions, viz: that in future the brothers sup in a room by themselves, and that no person not being a brother shall be introduced on any account whatever, unless it be with the consent of the majority of members then present.

Also, that a committee of as many members present as chose, shall wait upon Bro. Plummer requesting he would return the Warrant of Constitution that it might be deposited in the lodge chest.

Resolved also, that for the future no books or any part of the lodge furniture shall be lent out of the said lodge without special reasons for the same.

There is no doubt that Colonel Lenox, who joined the lodge this evening, did so as a mark of respect to H.R.H. the Duke of York. He afterwards became, as Duke of Richmond, Prov. G. Master of Sussex in 1814; and the first resolution above given had special reference to the advent of so distinguished a member of the Duke of York's lodge. For an account of the duel which took place between H.R.H. the Duke of York and Lieutenant Colonel Lenox in the year preceding, see Appendix A at the end of the volume.

On November 3rd, 1789, the W.M. Bro. Hawley, acquainted the brethren present that Bro. T. Priest desired to decline being any longer a member which "was agreed to." This was not quite

so serious a matter then as in our day, for on the 2nd February, 1790, this passage occurs in the minutes:

Feb. 2nd, 1790.

Bro. Thomas Priest being desirous of being a member of this Lodge, it is accordingly agreed that he paying one quarter into the hands of the Treasurer he shall be again reinstated without a ballot.

In May, 1790, the lodge candlesticks having sustained some trifling damage, a joiner was employed to repair them, who claimed "allowance," a still very common practice. Evidently the allowance was good in those days, for appended to the minutes, on 1st June, 1790, we find this statement.

Allow'd to the above bill for liquor for the joynor for repairing lodge candlesticks 1s. od.

The Britannia Lodge, Whitby, No. 332, was erased by Grand Lodge, February 10th, 1790. The four following extracts from minutes between 1790 and 1793 are given without comment; they need no explanation.

July 7th, 1790.—Wednesday.

A club feast held at Bro. Watson's on the usual lodge day, was the reason of its being held as this night.

It was agreed by the members then present that pieces of Jean for Masonic aprons, &c., which Bro. Chester some time ago was desired to order for the use of members of this lodge should be paid for out of the lodge fund, and that each member should have one for his own private use—that the remainder should be deposited in the lodge chest for the use of them that may become Masons next.

Dec. 3rd, 1792.

The Lodge then agreed that it should be removed to Bro.

Coulter's, the sign of the White Bear, in Doncaster, and that the nights of meeting should in future be on the first Tuesday in every month.

Sunday, Oct. 20th, and on Sunday, Nov. 3rd, 1793, was held two extra meetings to examine the Treasurer's accounts and other business.

The Loyal and Prudent Lodge, Leeds, No. 493, was formed in 1791, and in 1792, the Samaritan, Keighley, No. 504; Philanthropic, Skipton, No. 505; Three Graces, Barnoldswick, No. 506; and Fidelity, Leeds, No. 512. In the following year (1793) the White Hart, Huddersfield, No. 513, and the Royal Brunswick, Sheffield, No. 527, were constituted; also the Constitutional, Beverley, No. 525. In 1794, the Lodge of Hope, Bradford, No. 539, and the Philanthropic, Leeds, No. 542. In 1795, the Alfred Lodge, Leeds, No. 546. In 1796, Loyal Halifax Lodge, Halifax, No. 549; Prince George, Haworth, No. 550; and Ebenezer, Pateley Bridge, No. 556. In 1797, the Lion Lodge, Whitby, No. 561. From the date of the last mentioned minute (Nov. 3rd, 1793) the meetings of the Duke of York's Lodge appear to have been wholly discontinued for over three years, the next being on the 2nd January, 1797, followed by an "Emergency" on the 13th February, 1797.

When Bro. Michael Peruzzi was initiated in the first degree of Masonry, paid the usual fees with the extra 10s. 6d., for the emergency.

This Bro. Peruzzi was an Italian, and valet to Sir R. Winn, of Nostell Priory. His connection with the Lodge was very brief, for on April 3rd, 1797, occurs this extract:

Opened a Fellow Craft's Lodge, after which was opened a Master Mason's Lodge, and Bro. Peruzzi 'initiated' in the third or S. degree of a Master Mason, at the same time paid his quarterages, and declined continuing any longer a member, on account of his living so great a distance from the town. The Secretary received of the Treasurer 7s. 6d. for admission of Bros. Sinkinson and Peruzzi to be transmitted to York.

As the numbers were changed in 1792, and no more Lodges were established for several years, I give as under a list of the Lodges existing in 1798, with the new numbers.

A53, Humber, Hull;	460, Albion, Skipton;
61, Union Cross, Halifax;	461, Harmony, Halifax;
165, Old Black Bull, Richmond;	463, Loyal and Prudent, Leeds;
189, Tontine, Sheffield;	504, Samaritan, Keighley;
A199, Peace, Dewsbury;	505, Philanthropic, Skipton;
202, Unanimity, Wakefield;	506, Three Graces, Barnoldswick;
267, Old Globe, Scarborough;	512, Fidelity, Leeds.
290, Apollo, York;	513, White Hart, Huddersfield;
324, Royal Oak, Ripon;	525, Constitutional, Beverley;
331, Union, York;	527, Royal Brunswick, Sheffield;
348, St. George's, Doncaster;	539, Hope, Bradford;
351, Rodney, Hull;	542, Philanthropic, Leeds;
356, St. George's, E. Y. Militia;	546, Alfred, Leeds;
363, Minerva, Hull;	549, Loyal Halifax, Halifax;
408, Newtonian, Knaresbro';	550, Prince George, Haworth;
438, Duke of York, Doncaster;	556, Ebenezer, Pateley Bridge;
439, Royal Yorkshire, Keighley;	561, Lion, Whitby;
440, Globe, Scarborough;	

Since 1788, an Antient Lodge 434, at Wetherby had expired, and the Britannia Lodge, Whitby, No. 332, had been erased.

Appended to the minutes on 2nd September, 1799, is the following remarkable written statement by Bro. Hawley, W.M.

Bro. J. Hawley being extremely sorry to observe the misconduct of the brothers and particularly in that of not attending the Lodge when regularly called for that purpose, declines being any longer a member of the Lodge and has accordingly erased his name from the list of members.

This worthy brother was S.W. in the warrant—W.M. from 1789 to 1803—and Secretary *so far as the actual entry of minutes and the general duties* are concerned, from the first meeting of the lodge, Sept. 1st, 1788, to Sept. 5th, 1803, when his name appears for the last time. Bro. Hawley seems to have been a superior and cultivated man, intellectually far in advance of the brethren of his Lodge, and by trade a painter. He was undoubtedly as perfect an example of the "Brother of Master Mind," referred to by Dr. Oliver in his "Masonic Jurisprudence" (New Edition, 1874, paragraph 9, page 21,) as could possibly be found, and the Lodge would most certainly have been extinct long before, had not this excellent Brother remained to steer the Masonic bark through the sea of apathy (and consequently Masonic ignorance) with which it was surrounded and more than once nearly overwhelmed. Having made a study of the decadence of this Doncaster Lodge, I firmly believe that had the members paid more attention to the principles of our Order, instead of being satisfied with (at the best) an

imperfect knowledge of the ritual, it would still exist in the town in which it was established. During the whole of its career at Doncaster, the Lodge was kept together only by the Masonic zeal of a few, guided by the example of Bro. Hawley. The evil of "shewing off" by the exhibition of feats of memory is as mischievous to-day as then, and sooner or later the Lodge encouraging it amongst its members must succumb. In its effects, like the baneful power of a poisoned arrow, the vanity of such ornamental Masons gradually overcomes its victim, to the exclusion of the more elevating tendencies of Craft study; and unfortunately the evil is never sufficiently acknowledged until too late to check its influence on others. Then sympathisers and disappointed orators form cliques, we will not say to destroy the Lodge, but which end in the formation of a new Lodge, based however on such inflammable materials that it never really prospers. Although so far as can be judged the actual extinction of this Lodge may not be attributable altogether to any special anxiety on the part of its members to excel in ritualistic perfection, yet the same personal vanity was at the root of its decline. It is a species of Masonic "measles" attacking the junior members of all Lodges, and is easily cured at the outset; the authority of one respected P.M. then having more weight than the whole Lodge afterwards. If the members had been able to acquire as extensive knowledge of the ritual as is afforded by Instruction Lodges, etc., in the present day, probably individual pretensions would not have been so great. However, the noble

heart of Bro. Hawley, refused to be comforted away from the Lodge he loved so well, and on Monday, March 1st, 1802, (after another five years' interval, from April 3rd, 1797,) he had again managed to rally his brethren, acting as W. Master on that occasion, and up to the 5th September, 1803, when his name finally ceases to appear in the Minutes.

The By-Laws in the handwriting of Bro. Hawley are a credit to the lodge, and worthy of the man. Probably few lodges in 1788, could boast of such. Even in 1868, there were many lodges in Yorkshire (Airedale amongst them) working without By-Laws. The old parchment-bound book in which these were written received very bad treatment both at Bingley and Baildon, nearly all the spare leaves being scribbled upon, and many clipped, and torn out. I found this in the attic of an out-house adjoining the Angel Inn at Baildon, and have had the By-Laws and Index (which are quite perfect) and 15 signatures, put into a leather cover to preserve them. As a means of permanently securing their individuality the By-Laws are given in Appendix B.

In the year 1800 the Masonic Benefit Society was established, "under the authority of Parliament, for the relief and support of the sick, aged, and imprisoned brethren of the Antient and Honourable Society of Free and Accepted Masons, their widows, children, and and orphans: under the patronage of His Royal Highness George Prince of Wales, G.M."

This society was what its title imports, allowing to its members

afflicted with sickness, lameness, or blindness, 14s. per week; and to members imprisoned for debt (provided the same was not brought upon himself by notorious extravagance,) 4s. per week, with a further sum not exceeding 10s. per week if during such confinement he was afflicted as above; for old age, 6s. per week; widows, 4s. per week; and 2s. per week additional for every child under twelve until he or she attains that age. In 1802 the society paid to sick, aged, and imprisoned brethren, £625 1s.; and to widows and children, £492 10s. 7d. The principal expense, including salary to the actuary for clerk, messenger, etc., only amounted to £150; whilst in the metropolis there were several medical brethren who volunteered their professional services to its sick members.

I possess a copy of the rules and regulations with lists of brethren acting as trustees, agents and members of committees in all the Counties in which it flourished.

In Yorkshire the society was represented by local committees as under, viz:—

LEEDS.

Bro. John Simpson	Bro. John Wood
„ John Hustler Leach	„ Richard Dalton
„ Robert Sutcliffe	„ Matthew Mennel
„ William Sadler	„ Joseph Wood
„ John Hepworth	„ Thomas Sherwood
„ George Ireland	„ Isaac Nichols
„ Francis Maguire	„ James Taylor
„ John Walker	„ Thomas Foster
„ Henry Thornton	„ John Smallpage, Provincial Agent.
„ Joseph Dalby	

HULL.

Bro. Quarten Levitt	Bro. George Hepworth
„ John Scholefield	„ Michael Coltman
„ Stephen Dickenson	„ William Ward
„ John Lawson	„ George Lambert
„ Robert Hayes	„ Matthew Smith

KEIGHLEY.

Bro. Henry Clapham	Bro. William Robinson
„ Adam Pearson	„ William Grave
„ Stephen Paslow	„ John Buck
„ Jonas Sutcliffe	„ John Green
„ Charles Tatham	

SHEFFIELD.

Bro. Samuel Robinson	Bro. James Johnson
„ William Rowley	„ Luke Pass
„ John Lamb	„ Aaron Allott
„ William Willey	„ Richard Jessop
„ Joshua Norton	„ John Garnett
„ Thomas Frost	„ Joseph Hinchliffe
„ John Dyson	„ Samuel Tompkin
„ James Woollin	

BEVERLEY.

Bro. William Wardell	Bro. John Peacock
„ Joseph Bateson	„ Thomas Spenceley
„ Robert Stevenson	„ Robert Peacock
„ Samuel Montgomery	„ William Cash
„ William Acklam	„ William Harrison
„ Francis Tadman	„ Joseph Turley

RICHMOND.

Bro. George Ewbank	Bro. John Cowling
„ James Galloway	„ Christopher Metcalf
„ Thomas Wright	„ Mark Plues
„ John Dalton	

WHITBY.

Bro. Robert Mooresum	Bro. Ralph Milner
„ Thomas Brodrick	„ John Storme
„ George Truman	„ John Summerson
„ Thomas Fishburn, jun.	„ Andrew Allen
„ John Gardiner	

HALIFAX.

Bro. David Mitchell	Bro. John Holdsworth
„ Peter Mitchell	„ John Hartley
„ Jonathan Farrar	„ William Hartley
„ Bartholomew Frye	„ Richard Ashworth
„ James Shaw	„ John Foster

YORK.

Bro. John Watson	Bro. Henry Barnard
„ Denis Peacock	„ William Cobb
„ John Munkman	„ Mark Bowman
„ John Marley	„ Edward Peck
„ William Scruton	

In 1801 the Lodge “Honour and Perseverance,” Cockermouth, No 436, was removed to Batley.

From an old Grand Lodge circular in my possession, of January, 1803, I copy the following, the substance of which had probably much to do with the general lifelessness of Freemasonry in Yorkshire at this time, as schisms of any kind invariably affect well-disposed, besides the disaffected; and no doubt all the North of England Lodges then were, to a more or less extent, influenced detrimentally by the disaffected Athol Masons:

In consequence of the late resolutions passed at the Grand Lodge, the following extracts are taken from the Book of Constitutions for the information and guidance of the brethren;

That no Lodge can assemble without a Warrant from the Grand Master; and that the persons who have assembled, and still continue to assemble as Masons, *by virtue of a power from a Pretended Grand Lodge* established in London a few years since, and which is now said to exist under the patronage of the Duke of Athol, are not to be countenanced or acknowledged by any regular Mason under the Constitution of England, on pain of forfeiting the privileges of the society; *the said Convention bring a gross insult to the Grand Master and to every Lodge under his auspices*; and the more effectually to

discourage these *illegal conventions*, that no *regular Mason* shall be present at them or give any sanction to their proceedings.

That it is the opinion of the *Ancient Grand Lodge of all England* that the persons calling themselves Ancient Masons, and now assembling in England or elsewhere, under the sanction of the Duke of Athol, are not to be considered as Masons, nor are their meetings to be countenanced or acknowledged by any regular Lodge or Mason acting under our authority, nor shall any of them be admitted into our regular Lodges without being re-made.

In Yorkshire, at any rate, much uncertainty must have existed in the Lodges, and no doubt widely different opinions were held amongst the members as to the relative merits of "Ancient" and "Modern" Freemasonry, causing shyness between the brethren, and ultimately a growing neglect of the Lodge itself. In the Duke of York's Lodge most of the brethren happily had little, if any, interest in the matter beyond their allegiance to the Grand Lodge (London) as constituting their authority to meet; but I am inclined to think a few of the less influential members, perhaps dissatisfied also with their position in the Lodge, entertained views at variance with such allegiance. However, the effect of the non-attendance of the brethren, and the great difficulty of one individual keeping them in unity and working together, must have been deep and lasting upon our excellent Bro. Hawley, and is no less marked on the Lodge, the minutes of which at this period foreshadow too surely its inevitable decay. These are written in various bad styles of caligraphy, are full of grammatical and orthographical errors, most indistinct in some cases, and careless in the extreme—a sad contrast

to the former minutes, which may be accepted as being of the highest class of their time. Only another extract need be given from minutes during Bro. Hawley's membership, and it was the last St. John's he attended, acting, as before, as W.M. Independently of this circumstance, this extract is inserted on account of an amusing clause respecting the tenure of office of the Wardens and Secretary:

Feb. 7th, 1803. (St. John's.)

The Master then appointed Bro. Wm. Sleeford his senior warden and Bro. John Bennett his junior warden, and Bro. Thomas Ainley his secretary, for the ensuing twelve months, or during their good behaviour, which shall be determined by a majority of members then present.

In 1803 the lodge of Three Grand Principles, No. 283, King's Head, Islington, was removed to Dewsbury, as was also the Lodge Amphibious, No. 407, from Stonehouse, Devon, to High Town, in this province. The Allman's Lodge, 575, Almondbury, and Mariner's Lodge, 576, Selby, were also established.

After the St. John's meeting above referred to, and without any record of installation at any time, another brother (initiated in the lodge by Bro. Hawley, September 3rd, 1792,) occupied the W.M.'s chair, and on the St. John's meeting, March 4th, 1805, occurs the following minute, which to my mind conclusively establishes the sad state into which the lodge had fallen, as well as the heavy loss it had sustained by Bro. Hawley's resignation. It is the last extract I intend to give from the records of the Duke of York's Lodge whilst at Doncaster:

When the Master deputed Bro. Sleeford as Past Master, and he then invested Bro. Geo. Pollard the late Master, with the jewel of his office, as Master for the ensuing twelve months; the Master then invested Bro. Wm. Sleeford his senior warden.

It is scarcely necessary to point out that as Bro. Pollard considered it imperative that he should be "invested" by *one* Past Master, he had a most convenient way of surmounting an otherwise great difficulty, by creating or "deputing" one for the occasion. The concluding ceremony wherein this questionable Past Master descends to the position of Senior Warden is a too-evident specimen of the loose lodge-working at this time. The lodge continued a comparatively lifeless existence up to April 7th, 1806, the concluding portion of the minutes on that date being to this effect:

The business of the lodge being over, it was regularly closed till the first Monday in October, emergencies exempt.

Evidently the Lodge was not *then* regarded as defunct. However, on April 21st, 1807, it was removed to the Elm Tree Inn, Bingley, by William Simpson and John Whitley, as is recorded in the minute book. How these two brethren gained possession of the lodge I have been unable to ascertain, as they certainly were not members of the lodge whilst it existed at Doncaster. At this time probably both were itinerant brethren and subscribing members of no lodge. In 1806 the Amity Lodge, No. 221, Preston, was removed to Steeton, in this province.

The first meeting of the Duke of York's Lodge, No. 438, at Bingley, was on May 20th, 1807, and after continuing to work and

initiate candidates, etc., up to February 10th, 1808, a regular meeting was held (on the last-mentioned date) "*for the purpose of opening the Duke of York's Lodge, No. 438, in forme,*" which was done in the presence of the following brethren from the Royal Yorkshire Lodge, No. 439, Keighley, and Prince George Lodge, No. 550, Haworth:—Royal Yorkshire, No. 439: Bro. Phineas Smith as W.M., Bro. Wm. Robinson, P.M.; Bro. Thos. Bradley as S.W., Bro. Thos. Fox as J.W.; Bro. Geo. Wilson, Bro. Samuel Whitehead, Bro. Jo. Bowman. Prince George, No. 550: Bro. David Bastow and Bro. John Craven; "when William Simpson was invested W.M., and John Allen, Junior Warden." It is a noteworthy and singular coincidence that the present Bingley Lodge (Scientific) is the same number on the Grand Lodge Register now as the Royal Yorkshire was on its visit to the Bingley Lodge at that time. The minutes of the Duke of York's Lodge grew more and more unsatisfactory, and many of them are so badly written and spelt that it has been with the greatest difficulty that I could decipher them even assisted by an intimate acquaintance with Yorkshire dialects. Apparently, however, the lodge could not be said to flourish on its new soil, therefore little of importance took place during its existence at Bingley, as in nearly every instance (excepting those minutes from which I select a few extracts as illustrative of Freemasonry at the Bingley period) the presiding officers' names are given, after which the rarely varying "no other biseness being done the lodge was cloased in armoney," comprised the general minutes. I am glad to supply the two following

extracts, as they show a laudable desire to lay down *some* rules by which to govern the Lodge, which indeed was necessary. The list of visitors to the Lodge of Hope given in the first is also interesting. In 1810 the Phoenix Lodge, 496, was removed to Rotherham, in this province.

July 22, 1810. (See Appendix D.)

Having received a letter from the Lodge of Hope, Bradford, No. 539, an invitation to go to their procession in honour of his Royal Highness George Prince of Wales, our Grand Master's Birthday;

Resolved—That the following brothers shall attend;

Wm. Simpson, John Alland, Joseph Wild, Wm. Morris, Samuel Clapham, Chas. Bland, John Hudson, Wm. Booth, Jonathan Walker, John Smith, James Scott.

Further resolved—1st, For the better regulation of our lodge and good government of the same—That this lodge shall in future from this date be opened at our regular lodge nights at 7 in the evening, not to exceed a quarter past, and closed at 10, not to exceed a quarter past, and that under no less a penalty for the Master than to pay a fine of 6d. to the lodge for such neglect.

2nd—That every member shall attend (if possible) at the above-mentioned time, if not shall pay 8d. if he cannot show just cause for such neglect, and if nothing but his usual employment, shall forfeit 4d.; and if any brother shall not attend the lodge at 7 or a quarter past at a regular lodge night, shall forfeit 2d. for such neglect.

3rd—That every member of this lodge shall pay every month into the hands of the treasurer One Shilling, 6d. of which shall be spent, and the other 6d. shall go to the lodge accounts to defray the different expenses (this is to be paid monthly extra to the fines.

4th—That all officers of this lodge neglecting to attend, such as Master, senior, junior wardens, treasurer, secretary, and tyler, shall forfeit 6d. for such neglect, and all forfeits arising from a breach of those articles, or any of them, shall be paid into the hands of the then acting treasurer for the benefit of the lodge in general; and any disputes arising concerning those articles shall be finally settled by a majority of the lodge that night.

At a lodge of emergency held October 9th, 1811, these resolutions were amended or modified, as is shown by the minutes as under:

October 9th, 1811.—Emergency.

When it was unanimously resolved that for the better government of the lodge in future, that this lodge shall be opened at our regular lodge nights at 7 o'clock, not to exceed half-past, and if so neglected the master to forfeit 6d., and if the senior and junior wardens are not there at the time above mentioned shall forfeit 6d., and the secretary and treasurer 6d., likewise the tyler. Close at 10 o'clock.

Art. 2.—That every member of this lodge shall attend at the above-mentioned time if possible, if not shall forfeit to the lodge 3d. for such neglect, and if any brother or brothers shall not attend the second lodge night shall forfeit 6d., and One Shilling for the third. And if such brethren shall neglect for four lodge nights shall be excluded and crossed out of the lodge books.

Art. 3.—That every member of this lodge shall pay at our regular meetings one shilling, exclusive of the forfeits, towards defraying the expenses of the lodge, sixpence of which shall be spent and the other to be entered in a book kept for the lodge accounts.

Art. 4.—That any disputes arising concerning those articles shall be finally determined by a majority of the members that night.

On August 19th, 1812, the Lodge was visited by the Lodge of Hope, No. 539, Bradford, with which it was on terms of very close intimacy. The following extract will no doubt be interesting to the present members of that Lodge, on account of the names recorded:—"John Ramsden, Josh. Denton, Thos Wyrill, Abm. Naylor, Isaac Smith, John Burnley, Nathaniel Jowett, John Greenwood, Saml. Glover and John Lee. Phineas Smith and Charles Mosley, from Royal Yorkshire Lodge, No. 439, Keighley."

In this year the Candour Lodge, No. 635, Upper Mill was founded, and at the Union in 1813 the Lodges in Yorkshire were as under, the former and changed numbers being given :

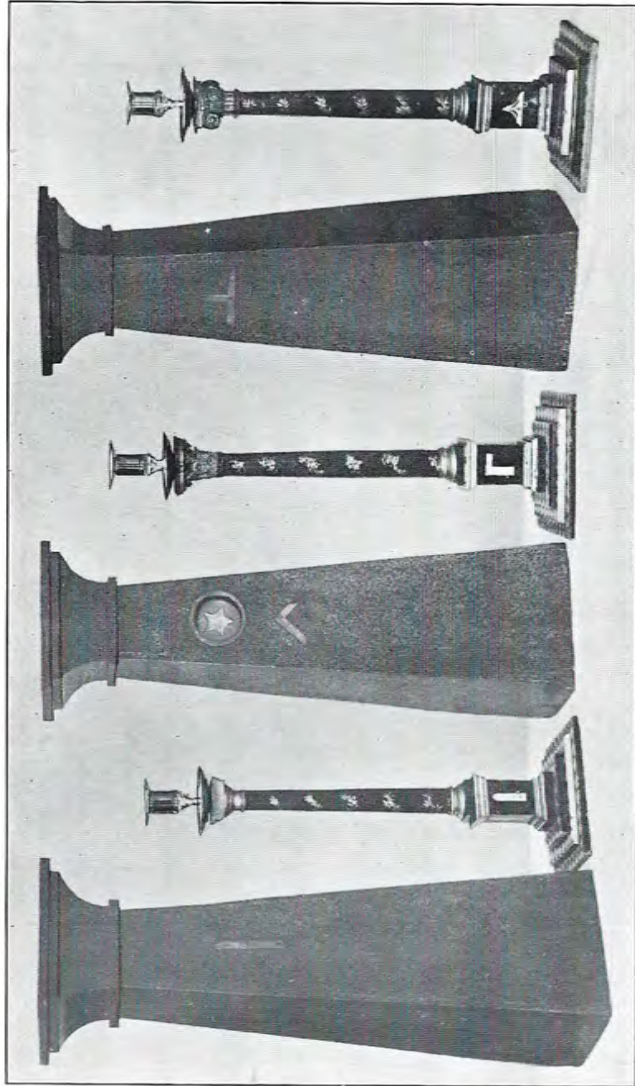
A53	Humber	Hull	73
61	Probity	Halifax	84
165	Lennox	Richmond	202
189	Britannia	Sheffield	232
A199	Peace	Dewsbury	247
202	Unanimity	Wakefield	252
224	Amity	Steeton	280
A267	Old Globe	Scarborough	337
283	Three Grand Principles ...	Dewsbury	358
324	Royal Oak	Ripon	412
331	Union	York	423
348	St. George's	Doncaster	447
351	Rodney	Hull	451
356	St. George's, E.Y. Militia	York	460

363	Minerva	Hull	467
407	Amphibious	Little Gomersal ..	489
408	Newtonian	Knaresborough ..	490
436	Nelson of the Nile	Batley	500
438	Duke of York's	Bingley	502
439	Royal Yorkshire... ..	Keighley	503
440	Globe	Scarborough	504
461	Harmony... ..	Halifax	517
493	Loyal and Prudent	Leeds	532
496	Phoenix	Rotherham	533
504	Samaritan	Keighley	539
505	Philanthropic	Skipton	540
506	Three Graces	Barnoldswick	541
512	Fidelity	Leeds	546
513	Huddersfield	Huddersfield	547
525	Constitutional	Beverley	554
527	Royal Brunswick	Sheffield	556
539	Hope	Bradford	565
542	Philanthropic	Leeds	568
546	Alfred	Leeds	571
549	Prince Frederick... ..	Hebden Bridge... ..	573
550	Prince George	Haworth	574
556	Ebenezer... ..	Pateley Bridge... ..	580
561	Lion	Whitby	583
575	Allman's	Almondbury	594
576	Mariner's	Selby	595
635	Candour	Upper Mill	642

The Apollo Lodge, No. 290, and the Albion, Skipton, No. 460, had expired, and the Britannia, Whitby, No. 332, had been erased by Grand Lodge. The Mariner's Lodge, Selby, No. 576, was practically extinct, but at the Union received a new number (595.)

The last record of the Duke of York's Lodge at Bingley is dated January 25th, 1815, which date may be said to have closed its career, although it was not erased by Grand Lodge until March 5th, 1828 (as 502.) The last name registered by Grand Lodge was George Askew, August 3rd, 1808, and the last payment to the Fund of Benevolence in November of the same year. In 1822, for neglecting the returns, the W.M. and Wardens were summoned to attend Grand Lodge on the 4th December, and to produce the warrant and books.

The old seal of the Duke of York's Lodge, Bingley, is still in existence. The old pedestals (presented in 1876 to Bro. Marchbank) withstood the "wear and tear" of moving, etc., throughout the varied vicissitudes of the Duke of York's Lodge from 1788 to 1815, and being removed from Bingley to Baildon, were in use in the new lodge constituted there as the Airedale Lodge, No. 814, up to its removal to Shipley in 1868. They were then stowed away in the kitchen of the new rooms in Westgate, and regarded as useless lumber until Bro. Marchbank expressed a wish to have them for his "practice" room at Bradford, at the same time volunteering to give a more useful piece of furniture for the kitchen, which at that time was much needed. They were accordingly unanimously



*The old Pedestals and Candlesticks from the Duke of York's Lodge
(which were in use in 1787 and are still used regularly)*

voted to him as his property, 15th May, 1876. Bro. Marchbank at once had these pedestals most beautifully renovated for his practice room, where they continued in regular weekly use, not only for the benefit of the Bradford "Airedale" brethren, but many members of other Lodges availed themselves of the instruction meetings there held, myself and Bro. E. W. Booth, P.M., being Instructing Masters. However, when the New Hall in Kirkgate, Shipley, was built in 1878, the brethren considered these pedestals so much better adapted for their original purpose in the Lodge, and superior in every way to the new ones by which they were replaced in 1868, and this having somehow come to Bro. Marchbank's knowledge, he at once, in the most generous and disinterested manner, presented them back to the lodge. After ninety years' use, they are apparently as imperishable as the institution they have served so well. The old large ornamental candlesticks have been in continuous use at all lodge meetings since 1788. The lodge banner was purchased in 1827, but it had originally no number on it, the figure 387 having been put on in 1870, when the "Airedale" and many other Lodges in West Yorkshire walked in procession with the Provincial Grand Master (Earl de Grey and Ripon) and his officers to lay the foundation-stone of the new church of St. James, at Thornton, near Bradford, on the 26th of October in that year.

SECTION II.—1821 TO 1832.

In the year 1821 the Masonic province of York was divided, and the first Provincial Grand Lodge of the North and East Ridings of Yorkshire, was held in the Grand Lodge-room, York, on the 14th August, the Right Hon, Lord Dundas, D.G.M., as Provincial Grand Master. It was not until April 23rd, 1823, that, under the presidency of Viscount Pollington, first Provincial Grand Master, the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire was constituted at Wakefield. The Craft did not flourish in Yorkshire for many years before and some time after this period, and it was not until 1825 that a new lodge was constituted, the Integrity Lodge, Brighouse, No. 799, the Airedale Lodge, Baildon, No. 814, being the next in 1827. Bros. John Smith, William Fox, and Jonathan Walker (the two former being petitioners for the warrant) were members of the Duke of York's Lodge, Bingley, and they, with Bro. Wainman Holmes, of the Lodge of Hope, No. 565, Bradford (initiated October 16th, 1826,) were the originators and founders of our lodge, assisted very heartily by several members of the Royal Yorkshire Lodge, Keighley. The first petition emanated entirely from members of the Keighley Lodge. Bro. Wainman Holmes was not named in the original petition for a warrant as first Master, but his name had to be substituted for that of Bro. William Simpson, who should

have known his disqualification, for, as W.M. of the Duke of York's Lodge, at Bingley, he could not be unaware of its long-continued irregularities (see Appendix E.) At a quarterly communication of Grand Lodge, 5th March, 1828, fifty-nine lodges were erased, amongst them being the Duke of York's Lodge, Bingley, No. 502; Lodge of Amity, Steeton-in-Craven, No. 280; and Royal Oak Lodge, Ripon, No. 412. In the same Grand Lodge circular the first return of Airedale Lodge, No. 814, was notified. Had our founders been willing to pay up the arrears to the Fund of Benevolence owing by the Duke of York's Lodge, and carried it on under that name (as they certainly wished to do,) there is no doubt they would have been allowed to work under the old warrant.

The Warrant of Constitution of the Airedale Lodge is as follows:—

AUGUSTUS FREDERICK, G.M.

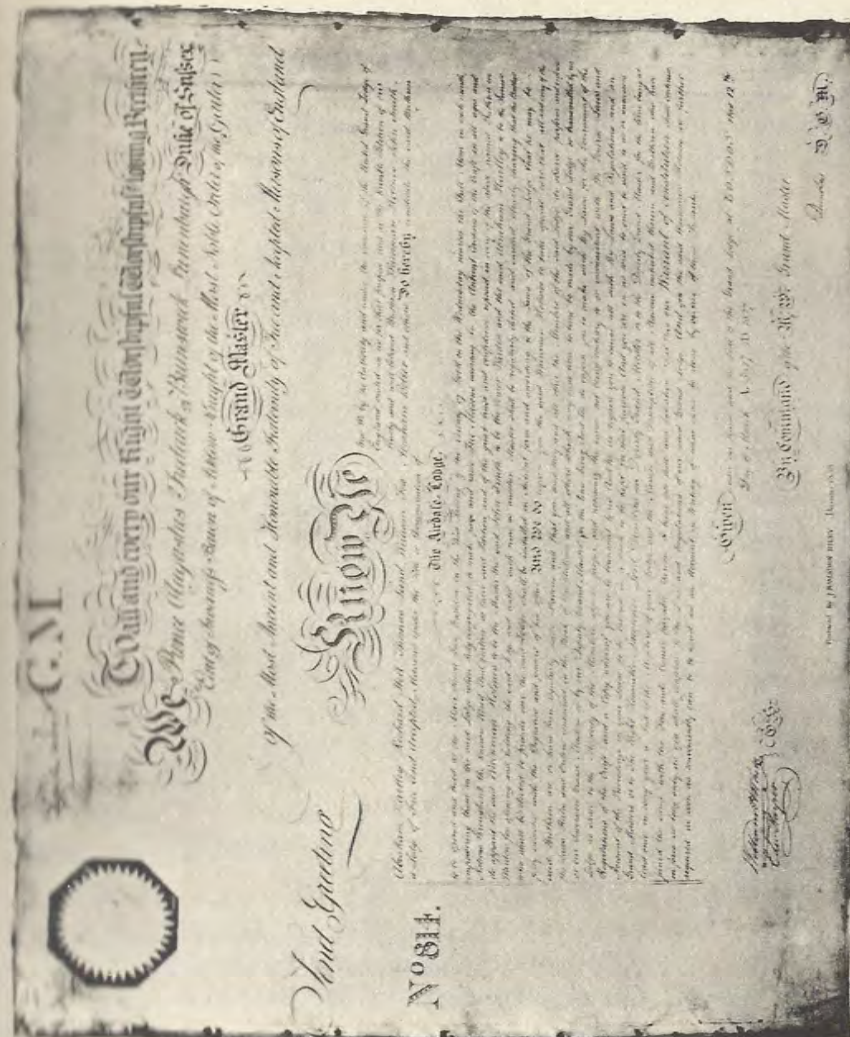
To all and every our Right Worshipful and loving Brethren.

We Prince Augustus Frederick of Brunswick Lunenburgh, Duke of Sussex, Earl of Inverness, Baron of Arklow, Knight of the Most Noble Order of the Garter,

GRAND MASTER
of the Most Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of England, SEND GREETING:

Know Ye that We by the Authority and under the Sanction of the United Grand Lodge of England vested in us for that purpose and at the humble Petition of our trusty and well beloved brethren, Wainman Holmes, Jno. Smith, Abrm. Hartley, Richard Stell, Thomas Lund, William Fox, Abraham Bolton, and others, Do

hereby constitute the said brethren a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, under the Title or Denomination of No. 814. THE AIREDALE LODGE. to be opened and held at the Malt Shovel Inn, in the West Riding of the County of York, on Wednesday nearest the Full Moon in each month, empowering them in the said Lodge when congregated, to make, pass, and raise Free masons according to the Ancient Custom of the Craft in all ages and Nations throughout the known World. And further, at their said Petition, and of the great trust and confidence reposed in every of the above named Brethren, we do appoint the said Wainman Holmes to be the Master, the said John Smith to be the Senior Warden, and the said Abraham Hartley to be the Junior Warden for opening and holding the said Lodge, and until such time as another Master shall be regularly elected and enrolled, strictly charging that the Brother who shall be elected to preside over the said Lodge shall be installed in Ancient form and according to the laws of the Grand Lodge, that he may be fully invested with the dignities and powers of his office. And we do require you, the said Wainman Holmes, to take special care that all and every of the said Brethren are, or have been, regularly made Masons, and that you and they and all other the members of the said Lodge do observe, perform, and enforce the Laws, Rules, and Orders contained in the Book of Constitutions, and all others which may from time to time be made by our Grand Lodge, or transmitted by us or our Successors, Grand Masters, or by our Deputy Grand Master for the time being. And we do enjoin you to make such By-Laws for the Government of the Lodge as shall to the Majority of the members appear proper and necessary, the same not being contrary to or inconsistent with the General Laws and Regulations of the Craft, and a Copy whereof you are to transmit to us. And we do require you to cause all such By-Laws and Regulations and an Account of the Proceedings in your Lodge to be entered in a Book to be kept for that purpose. And you are in no wise to omit to send to us or our successors, Grand Masters, or to the Right Honourable Lawrence Lord Dundas, our Deputy Grand Master, or to the Deputy Grand Master for the time being, at least once in every year, a list of the Members of your Lodge, and the Names and Descriptions of



Warrant of Airedale Lodge (constituted at Baildon in the year 1827)

NOTE.—The name Abraham Bolton, as stated on the Warrant, is evidently a typographical error, and should have been "Abraham Bolton". Furthermore, the name of the Lodge on the Warrant is spelled as two words, "Air Dale", whereas now it is always given as one word, "Airedale". But 100 years ago they were not "very particular," and used "Air Dale" or "Aire Dale" indiscriminately. The first Minute Book is labelled "Airedale Lodge." The first minute is inscribed "Air Dale" Lodge, and twelve months later, April, 1828, the words "Aire-Dale" are used in the minutes.

all Masons initiated therein and Brethren who have joined the same, with the Fees and Monies payable thereon. It being our Will and Intention that this our WARRANT OF CONSTITUTION shall continue in force so long as you shall conform to the Laws and Regulations of our said Grand Lodge. And you the said Wainman Holmes are further required, as soon as conveniently can be, to send us an Account in Writing of what shall be done by virtue of these Presents.

Given under our hand and the seal of the Grand Lodge,
at London, this 12th Day of March, A.L. 5827, A.D. 1827.

By Command of the M.W. Grand Master,

DUNDAS, D.G.M.

WILLIAM H. WHITE, } G.S.
EDW. HARPER, }

The two minutes given in the two previous editions of the so-called "History of the Airedale Lodge" are from the end of the Duke of York Lodge minute book. That dated 11th April should have been printed 4th April, which circumstance accounts for its being styled Duke of York's Lodge, Baildon, No. 814. Meetings were, no doubt, held both on the 4th and 18th April, and the first is probably that referred to by Bro. Wainman Holmes in his "Reminiscences" as held in March 1827; but neither of these meetings appear to have been considered regular, and were not entered in the Airedale Lodge minute book. Having obtained access to this minute book it is undesirable, I think, to accept the two minutes differently to what the Brethren did, and they are therefore now excluded as irregular.

Our founders wished to retain the old name, Duke of York's Lodge, and applied to the G. Secretary with that intention. How-

ever, the proper course of paying up the arrears seems to have been objected to or overlooked, and they were informed that, *the Duke of York having recently died*, they could not be allowed to use it; and although this might be somewhat disappointing at the time, my own feeling is that the forfeited warrants of lodges in arrears ought not, under any circumstances, to be allowed to pass into other hands. Although a few meetings at Bingley and making proper returns would undoubtedly have preserved both the name and warrant, I think the subterfuge (for the Lodge deserved erasure if for nothing more than its lifelessness) was wisely never entertained. Probably, also, the indifference of the few members remaining rendered such a course most difficult, for if they did not care to support their own lodge for themselves it is scarcely likely they would readily attend even a few meetings to preserve it for others.

The first meeting of our lodge is thus recorded:—

April 11th, 1827.

At the opening of the Airedale Lodge, No. 814, Malt Shovel Inn, Baildon, near Bradford, Yorkshire:—Wainman Holmes, W.M.; John Smith, S.W.; Abraham Hartley, J.W.; Thomas Lund, P.M.; Richard Stell, S.D.; Abraham Bolton, J.D.; William Fox, I.G. Visitors: Phineas Smith, Tyler for Lodge 503; Hugh Heaton, Lodge 503; Wm. Simpson, Lodge 503.

When there was proposed:—Benj. A. Waterhouse, by Thos. Lund; John Walker, by John Smith; Joseph Walker, by Abm. Bolton; John Hudson, by R. Stell; Robt. Smith, by Waimn. Holmes.

The different requisite ceremonies being done, the Lodge was closed in due form.

The second regular meeting was held on May 9th, 1827, and



BRO. WAINMAN HOLMES

The First Worshipful Master of Airedale Lodge, No. 387

B. A. Waterhouse, John Walker, Joseph Walker, John Hudson, and Robert Smith were all initiated. Jonathan Walker was also proposed by Wainman Holmes.

The following circular, which had been sent at the time to the W.M. of another lodge in the province, I found in one of a number of old books purchased in Leeds Central Market in 1871, and the circumstance decided me, in consequence of the absence of many records at the time, and the unsatisfactory way in which I considered others were preserved (?), to endeavour to become the historian of the lodge. Happily my labours have not been fruitless, for since then I have discovered all the books and many missing documents, besides adding several curious and valuable relics to the Lodge property. I regret that amongst the latter a small volume of ancient Masonic songs, which I had caused to be beautifully bound for the Lodge, had already disappeared. It has been missing several years, and cannot now be found.

Airedale Lodge, Baildon, near Bradford, 18th May, 1827.

Gentlemen and Brethren,—Having made such arrangements as we consider necessary for the purpose of having a public procession on Wednesday, the 6th of June next, in commemoration of the opening of our new lodge, we take the liberty of writing to you, asking the favour for as many of your members to attend as possible, and please to favour us with a return stating how many you suppose will attend. Waiting your kind reply, we remain, Gentlemen and Brethren, yours most fraternally,

JNO. WALKER, Secretary.

WAINMAN HOLMES, W.M.

Attendance is requested at Eleven o'clock in the forenoon.
Dinner 2s. 6d. each.

The third regular meeting, for the purpose of what was then regarded as consecration, took place on Wednesday, June 6th, 1827, there being present:—Wainman Holmes, W.M.; John Smith, S.W.; Abraham Hartley, J.W.; William Simpson, P.M.; John Walker, Sec.; Charles Bland, S.D.; John Hudson, J.D.; B. A. Waterhouse, I.G.; Jonathan Walker, Tyler; Joseph Walker, Robert Smith. Visitors: from the Royal Yorkshire, No. 503, 23*; Hope, No. 565, 12*; St. Columba, No. 640, 1; Three Graces, No. 405, 8*; St. Alban's, No. 749, 7*; Friendship, No. 865, 1; St. John's, No. 897, 1. Those marked with an asterisk include the W.M. and ther officers; altogether numbering 53 visitors.

On this occasion "B. A. Waterhouse, John Walker, and Joseph Walker took the second degree, and Jonathan Walker was initiated into Masonry."

Why the last-named brother did not *join* the lodge is not explained. He was initiated before on the 27th December, 1809. John Hudson, initiated on the previous meeting, was also initiated November 2nd, 1808. Both belonged to the Duke of York's Lodge, but probably were never returned as such.

"Also Charles Bland was proposed by John Walker, William Booth by Joseph Walker, and John Myers by Jonathan Walker. The regular business being done, the lodge was closed in due form, after which a procession took place to the old church chapel, and an impressive sermon was preached by the Rev. E. Hodgkinson. The procession returned in good order, and sat down to a sumptuous

dinner, after which the brethren partook of good cheer, giving toasts and sentiments with the honours of Masonry suitable to the occasion." What a day to look back upon must this be to the Worshipful Master and his Secretary after the lapse of fifty-two years! Need it be wondered at that events should pour upon the memory of Bro. Wainman Holmes when writing his "Fifty years' Reminiscences," like a hailstone shower? May the sunset of their lives be clouded by no misfortunes or anxieties, but pass in peace and happiness so well deserved as worthy Masons!

The first returns included Wainman Holmes, John Smith, Abraham Hartley, Richard Stell, Thomas Lund, William Fox, Abraham Bolton, and the six brethren initiated May 9th, and June 6th, 1827, and were made to Grand Lodge, February 6th, 1828, and to Prov. Grand Lodge, April 21st, 1828, with remittance in both cases. It is very remarkable that the Grand Lodge circular publishing the receipt of Airedale first returns (5th March, 1828,) also announces erasure of the Duke of York's Lodge, Bingley. Bro. John Smith and the other five following brethren (petitioners for the warrant) were never afterwards returned. The John Myers of June 6th minutes was proposed September 24th, 1828, by Wainman Holmes, but rejected.

The musical talent of our brethren of the Airedale appears to have been acknowledged at a very early period of the lodge's history, the following letter having been sent to the W.M. from the Royal Yorkshire Lodge, No. 503, Keighley, in 1829:—

Keighley, Aug. 19th, 1829.

W. Sir and Brother,—We have obtained an answer from Wakefield favourable to our request, as I stated to you on the 9th inst. It is therefore our intention to have the procession on the 7th September, and go to Church about 11 o'clock, a.m. We are very anxious to see as many brothers of your Lodge on the occasion as can make it convenient to attend, with whose company we hope to be honoured on that day. *The whole of your musicians are desired to attend, as we shall look after no other, and shall treat with them accordingly.* You can bring your own clothing and jewels according to what you have received; we are not restricted in the dispensation. From yours fraternally,

R. C. SHARPE, Secretary.

Tickets for Dinner, Liquor, etc., 3s. 6d.

P.S.—If anything should happen different to what I have stated, I'll let you know immediately.

The Royal Forest Lodge, Slaidburn, was constituted as No. 846 on August 18th, 1829.

Also in this year the Fund of Benevolence for the Province of West Yorkshire was first originated, and a copy of the circular and the rules and regulations sent out by the Prov. G. Lodge to all the lodges in the province are here given :

Worshipful Sir and Brother,—By command of our right Worshipful Grand Master, Lord Viscount Pollington, I herewith transmit to you a copy of the Rules and Regulations of the Lodge of Benevolence for this Province, unanimously agreed upon at the Provincial Grand Lodge held at Wakefield, on Monday, April 27th, and which I trust will meet with the cordial approbation of you and the brethren of your Lodge. By the first of these you will see that the first Lodge of Benevolence will be held at Wakefield, on Monday, July 6th next, when your presence, as actual Master of your Lodge, will be to you, I would hope, an act of pleasure as well as of duty. I remain your faithful friend and brother.

RICHARD HIRD, P.G., Secretary.

Wakefield, June 5th, 1829.

Rules and Regulations of the Lodge of Benevolence for the Province of the West Riding of Yorkshire.

I. That a Lodge of Benevolence shall be holden on the first Monday of January, July, and October, and on the day of the Provincial Festival, in every year, or oftener, at the special summons of the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, or his deputy.

II. That this lodge shall consist of all present and past Grand Officers, and of all actual Masters of contributing lodges within the province.

III. That three Provincial Grand Officers shall be summoned for each meeting at the discretion of the Provincial Grand Master, or his deputy, to act as Masters and Wardens on the occasion.

IV. That in the event of the absence of any one of these, the senior officer present shall take his place.

V. That no member shall be subject to previous solicitation, in order that all may have their minds unbiassed and free. In any case where this rule has been transgressed the consideration of that case shall be put off for three months.

VI. That no one shall vote in a case on which he has been canvassed, or which concerns any relations of his own.

VII. That application for relief shall be made by petition, stating the name, place of abode, and present circumstances of the petitioner, with the name and number of the lodge in which he was initiated, and also the time when that ceremony took place.

VIII. That the applicant, if capable, shall sign the petition.

IX. That every petitioner shall be accompanied with a certificate, signed, in open lodge, by the Master, Wardens, and a majority of the brethren present, of the lodge to which the petitioner belongs, or of some other contributing lodge.

X. That the petitioner shall have been, for not less than two years, a contributing member of some regular lodge; and that,

after the year 1830, his name shall have been registered in the books of the Provincial Grand Lodge.

XI. That no brother once relieved, shall petition a second time within the space of one year.

XII. That relief may be awarded to a petitioning brother not exceeding the sum of five pounds.

XIII. That relief may be afforded to the widow or indigent children of a deceased brother, not exceeding the sum of five pounds; provided the application be made through the medium of some contributing lodge within twelve months after the brother's decease.

XIV. If any case of extraordinary distress shall occur in which five pounds does not appear sufficient to afford adequate relief, the Lodge shall refer the case to the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, who may grant any sum which the Lodge shall recommend, not exceeding ten pounds.

XV. That, in order to supply funds for this benevolence, the contributions now made by each lodge in the province shall be devoted to this purpose, subject, however, to be charged with the necessary expenses of the Provincial Grand Lodge.

XVI. That at the annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge voluntary contributions shall be received from the brethren present in aid of this Benevolent Fund.

XVII. That a full and clear statement of the receipts and disbursements of this lodge shall be laid before the Provincial Grand Lodge, at its annual meeting.

So late as 1830 it was customary for the Prov. G. Sec. of North and East Yorkshire to send fraternal invitations regularly to Worshipful Masters of West Yorkshire lodges.

On Sunday, February 13th, 1831, the day appointed for the funeral of Bro. Robert Smith, many brethren from Bradford,

Keighley, etc., attended. There is a quaintness and peculiarity about the proceedings which can be best described by an extract:

At half gone ten o'clock in the forenoon the body went to church, returned to the lodge and in a few minutes afterwards proceeded to the house of the deceased, two and two. The brethren were (with the exception of about six) clothed in black, white gloves, and the members of this lodge crape on the left arm, *à la militaire*. Bro. Gordon, of Keighley, repeated the burial service from Preston's.* Everything was conducted in the most respectful manner. Fifty-three members dined after the funeral, and after dinner the different brethren dispersed, and by 5 o'clock the whole body had separated. The members met in this manner at the particular request of the deceased.

Most of the minutes up to and inclusive of 1831 are very creditably entered, but a few in 1830-31 are specimens of writing under difficulties, whether of the pen, the hand, or the head, it would be equally difficult to determine.

The Lodge Three Graces, Haworth, was reconstituted as No. 862 in this year. It had been erased as No. 541.

The old furniture appears to have been considered the property of, but to have remained as a debt upon the lodge until February 13th, 1832, when it was finally liquidated by the following remarkable document, those brethren of the Duke of York's Lodge who previously had an interest in it having been paid off before.

Baildon, Feb. 13th, 1832.

The Airedale Lodge,

BOUGHT OF JONATHAN WALKER,

The undermentioned debts upon the furniture of the old Duke of York's Lodge of Freemasons, viz:—

* Illustrations of Masonry.—J. R. R.

	£	s.	d.
Jonathan Walker ...	5	0	0
William Fox ...	0	10	6
Josh. Wild... ..	2	0	0
Charles Bland ...	0	4	0
W. Booth	0	4	0
W. Wilkinson ...	1	0	0

£8 19 6—at 7s. 6d. in the £, £3 7 6.

The debt being £32 2s. 6d., and sold at £12, being 7s. 6d. in the pound.

1832, Feb. 13.—Settled for the above-mentioned members of the Duke of York's Lodge, Bingley, £8 19s. 6d., at 7s. 6d. in the pound.

Witness the above agreement and settlement.

(Signed) JONATHAN WALKER,

(Signed) WM. FOULDS.

In the year 1832 the number of Airedale Lodge, in consequence of the erasures by Grand Lodge, was changed from 814 to 543, *vide*, G. L. circular, 5th September, 1832.

The Nelson of the Nile Lodge. No. 500, was removed from Mirfield to Batley on 15th August, 1832.

On Tuesday evening, June 5th, 1832, a meeting was called for the better convenience of members attending (the regular meeting night being on Whitsuntide.) President:—Deputies: John Walker, jun., as W.M.; W. Whitwham, as S.W.; W. Brearey, as J.W.; T. Ince, as P.M.; J. Sutcliffe, as S.D.; John Bland, as J.D.; W. Holmes, as Secy.; J. Beck, as Treas.; Josh. Lister, as I.G.; John Hudson, as Tyler. Resolved, That from this night a great reformation in this Lodge must take place, or otherwise to all appearance the Lodge cannot flourish.

The minutes in 1832, up to June 5th inclusive, are nicely entered

by Wainman Holmes, who, however, from that date attended to the duties of Secretary no more until May, 1834, during which period he seems to have been absent from all lodge meetings. In his place, therefore, Bro. William Brearey acted as Secretary for six meetings, to December 5th, 1832, and whilst feeling that this brother probably did his best, and in that case should be praised, we must consider these the worst minutes of the Airedale Lodge. The then W.M., Bro. John Walker, sen., made out the returns, otherwise it is much to be feared the Grand Secretaries would have found it necessary to call in the assistance of an expert to decipher them. On St. John's, December 27th, 1832, Bro. John Walker, jun., being installed W.M., appointed Bro. John Walker, sen., his Secretary, and the minutes once more improved in consequence.

The Yorkshire Lodges now stood as follows, after the change of numbers by Grand Lodge:—

65, Humber, Hull;	256, Phoenix, Hull;
73, Probity, Halifax;	287, Union, York;
144, Lennox, Richmond;	298, St. George's, Doncaster;
162, Britannia, Sheffield;	311, Minerva, Hull;
174, Peace, Meltham;	322, Amphibious, Mill Bridge;
179, Unanimity, Wakefield;	323, Newtonian, Knaresborough;
236, Old Globe, Scarborough;	330, Nelson of the Nile, Batley;
251, Three Grand Principles, Dewsbury;	

332, Royal Yorkshire,
Keighley;
342, Harmony, Halifax;
359, Philanthropic, Skipton;
364, Fidelity, Leeds;
365, Huddersfield, Hudders-
field;
371, Constitutional, Bever-
ley;
373, Royal Brunswick, Shef-
field;
379, Hope, Bradford;
382, Philanthropic, Leeds;
384, Alfred, Leeds;

385, Prince Frederick, Heb-
den Bridge;
386, Prince George, Bot-
toms, Stansfield;
391, Lion, Whitby;
422, Candour, Upper Mill;
529, Integrity, Brighouse;
543, Airedale, Baildon;
575, Royal Forest, Slaid-
burn;
591, Three Graces, Haw-
orth;
594, Allman's, Almondbury.

The Samaritan Lodge, Keighley, No. 539, had been removed to Bacup, in Lancashire; and the following twelve lodges had either expired or been erased from the roll of Grand Lodge:—

280, Amity, Steeton;
412, Royal Oak, Ripon;
451, Rodney, Hull;
460, St. George's, York;
502, Duke of York, Bingley;
504, Globe, Scarborough;

532, Loyal and Prudent,
Leeds;
533, Phoenix, Rotherham;
541, Three Graces,
Barnoldswick;
580, Ebenezer, Pateley
Bridge;
595, Mariners, Selby;
749, St. Alban's, Leeds.

The Phoenix Lodge, Hull, acquired the position of the defunct Apollo Lodge, No. 290, taking No. 368 in 1817.

SECTION III.—1833 to 1863.

The Lodge Three Graces, Haworth, No. 591, seems to have had a very precarious existence, and was again resuscitated on Sept. 2nd, 1833.

March 26th, 1834, William Brearey and Jonathan Walker "declared off," and on April 23rd, 1834, May 1834, and September 17th, 1834 (the second-named being interesting and important is given below,) the S.W. ruled the lodge in the absence of the W.M., Bro. Wm. Brearey, who appears to have made even a worse Master than Secretary, only filling the chair twice during his year of office.

This night, at a meeting held, following members were present:—Presiding, Bro. John Sutcliffe, W.M.; John Walker, S.W.; Wm. Whitwham, J.W.; J. Winterburn, P.M.; Jos. Bell, Treas.; W. Holmes, as Secy.; J. Hudson, S.D.; N. Walker, J.D.; Jas. Brown, I.G.; Josh. Walker, Tyler.

Having received a letter from the Grand Lodge concerning the members of this lodge being registered with the Clerk of the Peace, according to an Act of Parliament passed in the 39th year of

the reign of George III., etc., it was resolved that the whole list of members should not be registered that were returned to Grand Lodge, but only subscribing members. This meeting being in part appointed for the consideration and consultation of what was to be done with regard to brethren in arrears with their payments, it is now resolved that all the following members, not being in circumstances to pay, shall be set straight, that is to say, their respective accounts balanced up to this day, and that none but the brethren who are really present shall be considered as "Members" of the Airedale Lodge (this does not include those members who are not in arrears, viz:—

* * * * *

The business as above being gone through, Bro. John Beck wished to be no longer a member of this right worthy and respectable Lodge, and therefore declared off.

The year 1834 seems to have been an unsatisfactory one for the lodge generally, although there is no doubt whatever that the dormant energies of several of the old members were most vigorously aroused in consequence of its flagging condition; and not only did the Lodge receive ultimate benefit thereby, but it had the effect also of establishing the Royal Arch Chapter in the year following. The Chapter Moravia has always experienced one great difficulty, viz., that of obtaining high-class members; so that a death is severely felt. Often the working of the Chapter has been entirely suspended owing to such an unfortunate event.

The warrant is dated 4th February, 1835, and is as follows:—

Z.

Durham, D.G.M., H. Augustus F., G.M. J. Ramsbottom, J.

IN THE NAME OF THE GRAND ARCHITECT OF THE UNIVERSE.

To all the Enlightened OUR Brethren of the several DEGREES of the Royal Craft, but more especially those Citizens of the World and Servants of the OMNIPOTENT, who have been or hereafter may be honoured by Exaltation to our Sublime Degree.

HEALTH. PEACE. GOODWILL.

Be it known that our excellent companions, Joseph Walker, Z., John Walker Senior, H., John Walker Junior, J., Wainman Holmes, William Whitwham, William Fox, Joseph Murgatroyd, Hugh Heaton, Thomas Lund, and others, having made known to OUR SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER their desire of holding a CHAPTER OF OUR ORDER for the cultivation of this Grand and Universal Science in Hopes thereby the more to extend their Aid to and promote the Happiness of all our Brethren and link Mankind together by indissoluble Bonds of Friendship, Peace, and Harmony. And that our Grand Chapter, having taken their Petition into consideration, and, finding it concordant with our Grand System of Universal Benevolence WE DO HEREBY with consent of our said Grand Chapter grant unto the said Companions this our CHARTER OF CONSTITUTION, to be held with and attached to the Warrant of the Lodge No. 543, called—

THE AIRDALE LODGE,

with full power for them, their Companions and Successors to open and hold a Chapter of Our Order at the Malt Shovel Inn, Baildon, Yorkshire, or at such other Place, and at such Time as Our said Companions and their Successors shall, with the consent of US and OUR Successors, Grand Officers for the time being, think meet. The first Chapter to be opened on Monday, the twenty-eighth day of December, now next ensuing, by the title of

THE CHAPTER OF MORAVIA,

with such Privileges, Powers, and Immunities as do of Right belong to regular established Chapters and Companions of OUR said Most Excellent Order, subject, nevertheless, to the General Laws and Ordinances already, or to be hereafter enacted by Our Most Excellent, Grand and Royal Chapter.

Given at London, under our Hands and the Seal of our Grand and Royal Chapter this 4th day of February, A.L. 5835. A.D. 1835.

WILLIAM H. WHITE, E.

EDWDS. HARPER, N.

Seal.

The three Principals named in the warrant, with Comp. Wainman Holmes, as S.E., were re-elected April 2nd, 1836, but the Chapter, strange to say, was dormant until May 3rd, 1847.

On January 14th, 1835, "Bro. John Beck, Bro. Wm. Brearey, and Bro. John Walker, senr., were again proposed to become members of this Lodge and admitted."

On May 15th, 1835, "Bro. W. Holmes then proposed that the Treasurer lent Bro.—£2 (two pounds) out of the Lodge funds, which being agreed upon, was accordingly so done."

On June 1st, 1835, "The Lodge was opened in the different degrees of Craft Masonry, and instruction given to the members by the W.M. and his assistants," no doubt to the perfect satisfaction of all present. "On account of this meeting being held on the Sunday night," it was "conducted accordingly and closed in due form." The Integrity Lodge, Morley, No. 529, removed from Brighouse, March 16th, 1835, and some of our members walked in

procession on the occasion of a formal opening there on the 29th July, 1835.

There is an amusing reference to a friendly gathering of Craft Masons, on Sunday, 30th August, 1835, consisting of 16 from Huddersfield (365,) 5 from Mill Bridge (322,) 5 from Batley (330,) and 2 from Haworth (591,) as follows:—

This day a few friends from the Huddersfield, Mill Bridge, Batley, and Haworth Lodges paid us a visit. About 27 or so sat down to dinner, exclusive of the members of this lodge *who dined at home* (!). The afternoon was spent in a very satisfactory manner, and the visiting brothers all left by about 6 o'clock. The meeting left the lodge room by 8 o'clock.

At a meeting held November 4th, 1835, 10 being present, "it was agreed that all brethren considered as members of this Lodge should be noticed; and those not attending, that have not been in the Lodge for the space of six months, should be noticed no more, and their names erased from the books."

On Friday, 26th February, 1836, six of our members (John Walker, jun., W.M., Nicholas Walker, J.W., William Whitwham, P.M., Joshua Bell, Lycias Barker, and John Walker, sen., P.M.) attended the funeral of Bro. Teal, an aged member of the Royal Yorkshire Lodge, Keighley. Had Bro. Teal lived a few days longer he would have completed his 50th year as a member of the Keighley Lodge. He died as he had lived, beloved and respected by all who knew him.

The Scientific Lodge, Bingley, was constituted this year as No.

642, its warrant being dated September 23rd, 1836. On November 23rd, 1836, Wm. Simpson, one of the two brethren who removed the Duke of York's Lodge from Doncaster to Bingley (described as initiated in Kendal Lodge, 175, and W. Master of the Duke of York's Lodge at Bingley in 1808, 1809 and 1810,) was accepted as a joining member. I do not however find that he was present once after that date, and, as in many other cases of joining brethren, no further record was taken, and no returns were made either to the Grand or Provincial Grand Lodge. In this year a young man of wonderful talents and real genius entered a neighbouring Lodge (3 Graces Haworth.) Under different circumstances, no doubt this brother would have made the name of Brontë still more famous. Patrick Branwell Brontë was proposed and accepted Feb. 1st, 1836, initiated February 29th, passed March 28th, and raised April 25th, 1836. John Brown, W.M., John Bland, S.W., Joseph Roper, J.W., Jos. Redman, Sec. He was present at 11 meetings in 1836, the minutes of one of these (September 18th) being fully entered by him. On December 26th, he acted as J.W., also on the following meeting January 16th, 1837. On June 12th, 1837, July 24th, August 14th, September 11th, October 9th, and December 11th, 1837, he was Secretary, and entered the minutes. On December 25th (Christmas Day,) 1838, he acted as Organist.

I have often talked to those who knew him most intimately, and have reasons for believing that he never deserved the obloquy which has been associated with his memory in the public mind. To screen

faults and weaknesses, even though it be done in the sacred name of Charity, may not always be the virtue it seems: but to hypocritically hide the known good qualities of a man under the cloak of presumed general wickedness of character, is, I think, a grave injustice! *De mortuis nil nisi bonum.* It matters little now what may be said for or against him. October 11th, 1837, being the election of Lycias Barker, as W.M., the following entry is made:—

The 2nd day of this month Lycias Barker was delegate to attend at a meeting at the White Hart Inn, Leeds, which was for instructions in the working part of Masonry; about 27 brothers were present, and another meeting was settled for, to be at Huddersfield on the first Monday in January, and to be regularly carried through all the lodges * * At this time our long-standing errors with the Provincial Lodge, Wakefield, were all settled, and Bro. Ellis Gaunt's name for the first time appeared right in their books.

On March 20th, 1837, Harmony Lodge, Halifax, 342, was removed to Huddersfield.

During this year the attendance of members was so unsatisfactory that, on the installation of Bro. Lycias Barker, as W.M., December 27th, he felt it his duty to take action in the matter, and on the first meeting in 1838 (February 7th,) also on the second meeting (March 14,) reference is made to it as under:

After Bro. Barker's enquiry of the brethren their opinions of three-monthly* meetings, and finding it an opposite idea, it was dropped. However, after different ideas had been expressed, yet to the dissatisfaction of the brethren then present, it was then unanimously agreed for each member to state his opinion, what would be his wish for the future destination of the lodge, on

the next meeting, in writing, and the same to be read by the W.M. in open lodge, and the majority of opinions to decide on its aforesaid future destiny.

On Wednesday, March 14th, 1838, the same subject was again brought before the lodge, consisting of ten members, eight of whom were present at the previous meeting; and they "had a long, but not a decided discussion over the future destiny of the lodge, as stated last meeting. However, it was mutually agreed not to have another meeting until the proper time in May, viz., in two months." At the same time "it was unanimously agreed that for the future the postage of no more letters should be paid."

The next meeting was held on May 9th, 1838, and it was then proposed by the Secretary, Bro. William Ellison, seconded by Bro. Beck, P.M. :

That the Sick Fund should be discontinued provided that half of the stock of money should go to that purpose to the first who may need it. The aforesaid carried unanimously.

It was also decided—

That not more than seven should be returned to Wakefield and London out of the lodge; but that if any person should like to be returned anxiously he may by returning himself, and so reducing the number from the lodge.

In accordance with the preceding resolutions thus passed, on May 21st, 1838, the returns were made to Grand and Prov. Grand Lodges with payments to 31st December, 1837. Only seven members were so returned, viz., John Sutcliffe, John Winterburn,

John Bland, John Beck, Nicholas Walker, James Brown, and William Ellison, Secretary. Besides the severe depression of trade at this time the lodge had a far more serious cause of alarm and anxiety in the personal dissension amongst a few of the members, and for a time these unfortunate troubles were a sore trial. Probably this was the most critical period in the history of our lodge.

There is much to admire in the straightforward, manly way in which the Secretary (Bro. Ellison) explained some of the difficulties at this time, in a letter to Bro. W. H. White, the Grand Secretary, and although to many the idea of further economy being possible by the refusal to pay postage, as resolved upon, may seem somewhat absurd, in these days of cheap postage, yet it should be remembered that letters in 1838 cost 5d., 8d., 10d., and some, according to distance, over 1s. each, consequently postage must really have been a most serious item of lodge expenditure if indulged in to any extent. The letter referred to, as well as a note entered in the minute book respecting the Provincial returns made at the same time, read as follows:—

"Owing to some partial disturbance among our brethren, depression of trade, etc., etc., we have unfortunately had our members reduced to the small number of seven, tho' we hope in our next returns the quantum will be considerably augmented and all affairs finally restored to peace.

"We now find the expenses to be very burdensome, since so many have declared off, with the rent, expenses of journeys, and the large quantity of letters coming from London and country lodges, which we have regularly received, that we are compelled to adopt

some economical mode to abridge our payments or follow the rest of our brethren. This latter part we are not inclined to consent to, therefore we have unanimously agreed to stop paying the postage of all letters coming from any lodge whatever to ours, and now give you notice to send us no more unless you pay the postage. We have no particular inclination to see any future quarterly returns, nor any other annual letters, but will place confidence in your benevolence and wisdom in the distribution and management of affairs, tho' you may always expect us punctual in our yearly returns for the members we have regularly attending, but it will be two years before we make out our returns again, except that we have some initiations. Baildon, May 24, 38."

At the same time the returns were sent to the Provincial Grand Lodge through the hands of a ropemaker, with the sum of 14s., and in all respects expressed the same as those sent to London, to which refer.

Our Lodge seems to have been so generally abandoned to die a natural death at this time, that these seven brethren are fairly entitled to the credit of preserving our warrant and saving the lodge from erasure, whilst the personal sacrifices they must have made prove beyond doubt a genuine love of the institution and an exemplary reverence for the tenets and benevolent objects of our Order. Like many noble acts and intentions which, too often, are never recognized until many years have passed, and frequently not until after the death of many truly great men, the example of these worthy brethren did not immediately bear good fruit. The lodge seems to have been completely deserted, and the clouds of adversity too dense to be dispelled, otherwise than by the most patient fortitude of those few who, fortunately, had its interest in their hearts, and were therefore determined to uphold it

The Loyal Antient St. James's Lodge, No. 656, was consecrated at Thornton, near Bradford, 29th October, 1838.

There were only six meetings in 1838—February, March, May, September, October, and December; and at the three first the condition of the lodge formed the topic of discussion and the chief "business." At the last (St. John's) meeting, on Thursday, December 27th, 1838, eleven being present, the minutes record that the meetings had been "twice neglected owing to a want of a sufficient number, but now being our St. John's Festival we have as under brothers present" (the eleven above referred to.) After this meeting signs of a revival were apparent, five of the old members being returned as rejoined in 1839, viz., John Walker, senior, Thomas Walker, John Walker, junior, Wm. Whitwham, and Lycias Barker. There is, however, no prior record of any of these "declaring off," and as all, excepting Wm. Whitwham, were present and did good work in the lodge during all the meetings in 1838 and 1839, I am at a loss to understand why it was requisite. The Aire and Calder Lodge, 672, Goole; Savile, 677, Leeds; and Verity, 681, Ripon, were founded in 1839.

The returns for 1838-9 were made May 11th, 1840, payment being remitted for twelve members. In 1840 four more rejoined, viz., Joshua Bell, Thomas Ince, Benjamin Wilkinson, and Thomas Robinson. Tudor Lodge, Saddleworth, No. 688, was founded this year, being consecrated 10th February, 1841. The Aire and Calder Lodge, 672, Goole, was consecrated 14th October, 1841, its warrant

bearing date, March 26th, 1839. On October 3rd, 1841, Wainman Holmes and Joseph Walker were proposed again as joining members (the fee of 2s. 6d. must have been very troublesome at this period, as brethren could so readily "declare off," as it was called, and after several years of non-payment rejoin on payment of that sum,) but as the fees seem to have been overlooked, neither were returned either to Provincial or Grand Lodge. However, during this year meetings "for mutual instruction" were held jointly by several of the Lodges in the district, including "Airedale," always on Sundays, on 7th March, at the Beehive Inn, Bradford; 4th April, at the Loyal Antient St. James's Lodge, Thornton; 6th June, at the Scientific Lodge, Bingley; 3rd October, at the Black Bull Inn, Bradford; 5th December, at the New Miller Dam Inn, Bradford; and no doubt others were held at these and other places.

Gradually the Lodge regained its vitality once more, a strong proof of which is exhibited in the minutes of April 27th, 1842, which record that "it is but just to remark that, considering various circumstances, considerable merit is due to most of the worthy Brethren, who went through their work with true Masonic worth." A small part of this minute is in the Mark cypher.

On the 14th December, 1842, there were only six members present. These, being sterling workers, seem to have felt some disappointment at the absence of so many on this occasion, especially as it was the usual night for election of Master. Nevertheless, with true Masonic charity, they made the best of it,

and the humorous way in which the Acting Secretary entered the minutes is a striking proof of *his* lightheartedness in the matter.

Wednesday night, Decr. 14th, 1842.—At a meeting held this night there were present: Thos. Robinson, W.M.; John Walker, senr., S.W.; Nicholas Walker, J.W.; James Brown, I.G.; John Smith, Tyler; Nobody, Deacons; His Rt. Hon. L. Barker, Secretary. The rest of the Brethren not being present, we proceeded to business without 'em, and transacted it nearly as well without them.

Bro. Thos. Robinson was again proposed to stand as Master for the next coming year.

Also, we agreed to canvass the members for attending St. John's, and those who agreed to attend should sign their names, and afterwards be considered responsible for the expense of the Dinner, etc., in case of non-attendance.

The Business of the Lodge being settled, we closed in the usual form with solemn prayer.

Of course we had a glass or so each after our fatiguing labours, and then bundled home.

At the foot of the page there is a note made by the Lodge Secretary (Bro. Wainman Holmes) a fortnight afterwards, and it needs nothing more to shew how utterly impossible dissensions must have been amongst, and how strongly the Masonic principle of Brotherly Love had entwined itself round the hearts of the veteran Masons of Airedale Lodge at this time. The note above referred to reads as follows:—

Dec. 29th, 1842.—After reading the above I cannot but note here how thankful I am for Bro. Barker's kind way of officiating for me, and should this remark come before a Lodge of Freemasons in one hundred years from hence, take my word for it, Bro. B. is a well beloved Bro. Mason. (Signed) W. HOLMES, Sec.

For the edification of my brethren, *more especially as Bro. Barker was present in good health*, I read the note nearly thirty-six years after it was penned, viz., on the opening of the new Masonic Hall at Wellcroft, Shipley, October 2nd, 1878, and I hope that at the expiration of sixty-four years more there will be many brethren of the Airedale Lodge who will feel pride and pleasure in, as well as take an example from, the memory of such Masons.

In 1843 the Huddersfield Lodge (then 365) completed its fiftieth year, and a jubilee in honour of the event was held, 24th April, being the date of its anniversary.

I was surprised to find that only six Past Masters were returned to Grand Lodge, 13th May, 1844, viz.: Joshua Bell, W.M. 1844; Thomas Robinson, 1843; Nicholas Walker, 1841; John Beck, 1837; John Walker, jun., 1836; and William Whitwham, 1835. As a memorial of the time, the following communication is peculiar:—

ROYAL YORKSHIRE LODGE.

332, Keighley, June 5th, 1844.

Sir and Brother,—In consequence of the death of our late worthy brother, William Hopkinson, who departed this life at seven o'clock this morning, I am directed by the W.M. to inform you that his remains will be committed to Mother Earth on Sunday next, at 12 o'clock.

You and all your Brethren are hereby desired to attend a Masonic Procession on the occasion, and to meet in the Lodge Room on the above day not later than ten o'clock a.m. From yours fraternally.

R. C. SHARPE, Secretary.

N.B.—The Brethren to appear in Black Dress, with White Gloves and Craft Orders.

On the 17th April, 1845, the Wakefield Lodge (then 727, and held in Thornhill Street,) was consecrated, its warrant being dated March 1st, 1844. In the following month the Alfred Lodge, Leeds, No. 384, having completed its fiftieth year on the 27th April, commemorated the event by a grand Masonic ball, under the patronage of the R.W. Pro. Grand Master, the Earl of Mexbrough, at the Assembly Rooms, Crown Street. The Lodge held its meetings at this time at Scarborough's Hotel.

Lodge Truth, Huddersfield, No. 763, was constituted December 3rd, 1845.

Lycias Barker and John Mann rejoined in 1845.

On April 8th, 1846, it was found necessary to make a levy upon the subscribing members for twelve months:—

Bro. John Walker, W.M.; Bro. N. Walker, S.W.; Bro. John Beck, J.W.; Bro. Joshua Bell, P.M.; Bro. Joseph Walker, I.G.; Bro. John Smith, Tyler; Bro. Wm. Whitwham, Treas.; Bro. Thos. Robinson, Secy.

It was proposed by Bro. John Beck and seconded by Bro. Nicholas Walker, and unanimously carried, that the whole of the regular members pay a contribution of 6d. per month for 12 months, to defray the Returns and other expenses belonging to this Lodge.

On the 2nd September, 1846, Bro. M. Rogerson, W.M., and eleven members of the Lodge of Hope, attended as visitors, and the Airedale accepted an invitation to their Lodge, at Bradford, for the 5th October, 1846.

An important meeting was held on Sunday night, December

6th, 1846, there being present Bros. John Walker, W.M.; N. Walker, S.W.; John Beck, J.W.; Joshua Bell, P.M.; W. Holmes, Secretary; L. Barker, Treasurer; Thomas Robinson, S.D.; J. Walker, J.D.; John Mann, I.G.; J. Smith, Tyler. Bro. Thomas Robinson proposed the re-admission of Bro. Wainman Holmes. This was seconded by Bro. Joshua Bell and carried unanimously. Bro. Nicholas Walker proposed Mr. Nicholas Walker, jun., Baildon Mill, as a candidate for Freemasonry. Bro. Lycias Barker proposed Bro. Wainman Holmes as W. Master for 1847, seconded by Bro. Beck, and carried unanimously.

However, from this date to the St. John's meeting at the end of 1847, only six meetings of the Lodge were held. On the fifth meeting, held 24th November, 1847, "it was proposed by Bro. John Beck, and seconded by Bro. Nicholas Walker, that Bro. Wainman Holmes stand as W.M. for next year." "No other being proposed, he was necessarily elected," adds the Secretary, Bro. Thomas Robinson. The Cleveland Lodge, Stokesley, No. 795, was founded this year.

Strange to say, there are two versions of the minutes on St. John's Day, December 29th, 1847. One of these is, however, an undoubted, though only partial, copy—if not actually written in the new minute book *from memory*. I accept the original by Bro. Thomas Robinson, P.M., as entered in the old minute book, especially as it includes (in addition to other particulars usual on installation meetings) every entry of the later one. On this occasion, nearly twenty-one years after his first installation, Bro. Wainman

Holmes was again placed in the chair as W. Master, and Bro. Thomas Holmes was initiated. The returns to 31st December, 1847, were made February 28th, 1848, fifteen members being returned, inclusive of two initiates, during 1847.

On the 28th October, 1848, the following brethren attended our Lodge from the Royal Yorkshire, No. 322, Keighley:—Bros. John Gordon, Thomas Brown, Thomas Lund, Joseph Buckley, John Ellison, James Emmett, Thomas Midgley, Abraham Shackleton, James Cawood, Daniel Town, John Hagar, William Simpson Servant, George Pool, George Falshaw.

And on the 10th January, 1849, Bro. Nicholas Walker, senior, was again elected W.M. On this occasion six brethren volunteered to provide the supper for the six following meetings.

Bye-laws had previously been found necessary, and many attempts made to frame them; but in this year (Thomas Holmes, Secretary,) strenuous efforts seem to have been made to have them compiled. On July 4th, 1849, they are thus referred to:—

The Lodge, after a short lecture, was duly closed after the negligence attending the delay of writing out our Bye-Laws was alluded to, and when each member was to be strictly requested to attend at the next meeting, that the business may be accomplished.

Again, on the 5th September, 1849 (the next meeting:) "The completion of our Bye-Laws is a matter of business which stands over until next meeting, when it is hoped we shall be able to finish their compilation;" and on the next meeting following (October 3rd, 1849:) "Bro. Wainman Holmes promised to arrange the Bye-Laws and submit them to the inspection of our next meeting

for the approval of the Brethren." Notwithstanding these efforts and promises, the matter seems to have been allowed to pass out of mind, as it was twenty-one years after this that bye-laws were compiled and printed. The Zetland Lodge, Guisbrough, No. 820, and the St. Germain's Lodge, Selby, No. 827, were founded in 1849.

On February 26th, 1850, Bro. John Walker, senior, again rejoined, but the attendance was anything but satisfactory up to 1853 inclusive.

On Monday, 22nd September, 1851, the M.W. Grand Master, the Earl of Zetland, laid the foundation stone of St. George's Hall, Bradford, on which occasion, for the first time, a special Grand Lodge was held in the old Exchange Buildings (now the General Post Office,) Kirkgate, Bradford, the Provincial Grand Lodge having been previously opened by Bro. Charles Lee, D. Prov. G.M. W. Yorkshire, at eleven a.m. Bro. William H. White, Grand Sec., Bro. Michael Costa, and other distinguished brethren, were present.

In May this year the Huddersfield Lodge, having a candidate for one of the Masonic charities, acknowledged the receipt of 120 votes from the Airedale Lodge.

On Wednesday, January 7th, 1852 (Nicholas Walker, junior, W.M., Thomas Wharton, Secretary,) "it was proposed by Bro. Thomas Holmes, and seconded by Bro. John Ambler, that instruction meetings be held every Saturday night at 7 o'clock, one night at Bro. John Smith's and the other at Bro. Wainman Holmes's;

it was unanimously agreed to. Bro. Joseph Walker, Bro. N. Walker, jun., and Bro. John Walker, jr., are particularly requested to attend." It is not very difficult to make out from this who were the chief workers in the Lodge at this date.

The Harmony Lodge, Bradford (No. 874,) the North York, Middlesbrough (No. 876,) and the Zetland Lodge, Cleckheaton (No. 877,) were established in this year.

On the 8th September, 1852, £1 was voted from the Lodge funds to a sick brother, and the same amount on Nov. 24th, 1852. Bro. Jonathan Walker was again a joining member in this year, and more life was perceptible in the Lodge for many years following.

May 25th, 1853.—"The business being finished, Bro. Barker presented the brethren present with a good supper." As I happen to know what "a good supper" means when thus expressed by a Baildon brother continually under the influence of the exhilarating breezes off the adjacent moors, I am inclined to think these plain and substantial but wholesome suppers often decided a wavering brother to attend his lodge even when perhaps his occupation or some social attraction of a different character to Freemasonry pulled in an opposite direction. How many hearts, rarely assailable, and purses, too, have been opened through the mysterious agency of a good supper!

I find brethren walked over the moors from Keighley and Bingley, and from Idle and Guiseley, regularly to attend the lodge

at Baildon at this time, showing the perfect harmony and activity then existing.

October 19th, 1853.—“Jon. Walker again proposed as joining brother,” at the St. John’s, and installation of Thomas Holmes, December 28th, 1853.

It was suggested by the W.M., and agreed to by all the brethren in the lodge that it be taken into consideration to look out for some competent and suitable person for an Outer Guard. It is proposed by Jon. Walker, and seconded by Bro. Nich. Walker, that any respectable young man coming forward to be made a Mason, by being Tyler, shall tyle 40 regular nights, and be allowed 6d. each time to pay his own contribution fees and cost of certificate and registration.

The name of a candidate was brought forward next meeting, February 15th, 1854, but at the ballot (15th March) two black balls appeared against him, and his reception was *postponed*. However, tho rejection was confirmed April 12th, 1854, and the names of the two objectors were made known by their own admission in open lodge, *and entered in the minutes*.

Henry Smith and Fredk. W. Mowbray proposed, balloted for, and accepted Friday, December 29th, 1854, Thomas Wharton being installed W.M. The Fredk. W. Mowbray referred to seems to have attended the lodge only once, viz., on December 6th, 1854. He was not returned as a joining member of our lodge. Bro. Smith acted in various offices, from O.G. to S.D. during 1854, and was first returned as a member July 3rd, 1856 (for 1855.) He was not *appointed* to any office until the St. John’s Day, December 29th,

1854 (the date of his joining the lodge,) when he obtained the position of J.W., and on the following St. John’s Day, December 14th, 1855, that of S.W. Bro. Smith was installed Master in the Airedale Lodge on December 29th, 1856.

St. Cuthbert’s Lodge, Howden, No. 913, was established in 1854, its warrant being dated March 24th, 1854. Bro. Lycias Barker “declared off” April 4th, 1855. In this year “Holme Valley” Lodge, Holmfirth, No. 937, was founded; also the Royal Filley, No. 926.

On February 20th, 1856, the lodge met for the first time at the Angel Inn (Bro. Wainman Holmes’s,) the landlord of the Malt Shovel (Bro. John Smith) “having had to leave the house.” Notice of the removal was sent to the Grand Secretary, July 3rd, 1856. Camelodunum Lodge, Malton, No. 958, constituted. Bro. Nicholas Walker, jun., having died on the first or second day of this month, a letter of condolence, in most affectionate terms, was sent to his widow dated 13th of August, 1856.

September 17th, 1856. A brother was admitted “on the usual affirmation of an Episcopalian, *i.e.*, without swearing.”

October 5th, 1856. “It was decided that a paid Tyler should be appointed, commencing June 18th (?), and that the appointment be left in the hands of Bro. Joseph Walker.”

On November 12th, 1856, two pounds was voted to “the Chas. Lee Testimonial Fund.” Airedale raised five pounds seventeen shillings altogether.

It is very gratifying to record that on March 11th, 1857 (Thos. Wharton, P.M., as W.M., in the absence of Bro. Henry Smith as W.M.,) "there was working and lecturing to a great extent in each Degree, which was very instructive and interesting." At the next meeting (April 7th, 1857,) the W.M., Bro. Henry Smith, was deputed by the lodge to represent it at the Provincial Grand Lodge meeting at Huddersfield on the 8th, and attend the business in connection with the Royal Benevolent and the Widows' Fund, and towards the former very liberal subscriptions were made. A meeting held September 2nd, 1857, indicates the new life which the lodge had begun to feel. It deserves more than a passing notice, and is therefore given nearly *in extenso*:

Wednesday, September 2nd, 1857.—Bro. Henry Smith, W.M.; Bro. Nich. Walker, S.W.; Bro. John Walker, jun., J.W.; Bro. John Smith, I.G.; Bro. Jos. Bell, O.G.; Bro. W. Holmes, Secretary; Bro. Thos. Wharton, P.M.; Bro. Jesse Denby; Bro. Jon. Walker, P.M.; Lycias Barker, P.M.; Josh. Walker, P.M.; and 13 visitors from "Hope" and "Harmony" Lodges, Bradford.

The Lodge being opened in the 1st Degree, Bro. John Walker, jun., P.M., commenced the lectures, which were gone through by the members in a commendable manner. Bro. John Walker, jun., P.M., then gave the three first clauses in a very creditable form, which was highly spoken of by our visiting brethren. Our visiting Brother T. J. Robinson gave the first Tracing Board in a very solemn and impressive manner. The lodge was then opened up into the 2nd Degree, when lecturing, &c., were gone through, and the second "Tracing Board" was given by Bro. Joseph Walker, P.M., in a masterly style. The working in this Degree was excellent. The lodge was then opened in the 3rd Degree, in which the members were very much instructed and edified by the way in which Bro. John Walker, jun., P.M.; Bro. Nicholas Walker, P.M.; and Bro. Joseph

Walker, P.M., conducted and went through the different lectures, &c., connected with this Degree. Our visitors were much pleased, and passed a high tribute of praise for the manner in which the lodges had been conducted and the working gone through."

Having previously referred to bad and indifferent minutes, it is a real pleasure to discover a meeting like this, and to express an opinion that it is alike most creditable to the W.M. and Past Masters of the lodge, and was, no doubt, one of the most instructive, interesting, and satisfactory meetings ever held in the lodge.

A letter was read on November 4th, 1857, from Bro. Thomas Brown, of Keighley, wishing to become a member of this lodge.

It was proposed by Bro. Geo. M. Waud, S.W., seconded by Bro. John Walker, and carried unanimously, that Bro. Thomas Brown becomes a member of this lodge, and that the Secretary be desired to write him, and to give him an invitation to our St. John's. At this meeting Bro. George Motley Waud was elected W.M., and a brother "returned thanks to the members for the kindness shown towards him in getting up a petition for relief to the Prov. Grand Lodge, although being too late it could not be received, and the sum of four pounds was collected. "Bro. W. Holmes was desired to get up a petition (assisted by his Bro. Secretary, Wm. W. Holmes) to the Grand Lodge for relief of the brother referred to."

The Secretary was also desired to return thanks to the Prov. Grand Lodge in the name of the same brother, for the relief given. At the next meeting, December 2nd, 1857, petitions for his further relief were signed, and a small sum was voted from the lodge funds. At this meeting the three first clauses were given by Bro. Josh. Walker, P.M.; Bro. John Walker, jun., P.M.; and Bro. Nicholas

Walker, P.M., after which the W. Master feelingly referred to the death of Bro. Thos. Wharton, P.M.

On July 6th, 1857, the Loyal Ancient St. James's Lodge, 656, was removed to Halifax.

On January 9th, 1858, Bro. Geo. Motley Waud was installed W. Master by Bro. Thos. Brown, P.M., "in a most solemn and impressive manner, and gave to each of the officers a beautiful charge on their respective duties."

The advent of this brother (P.M. Brown,) who was well known throughout the province as a superior worker in Freemasonry, seems to have further encouraged the worthy Past Masters, already referred to on several occasions, as he was also a regular attender, and during 1858 the working of our lodge was perfect. Members from the Lodges Hope, 379, and Harmony, 874, were present at every meeting, and their admiration of the masterly manner in which all the ceremonies were conducted may well be understood.

Bro. Brown was initiated in the Royal Yorkshire Lodge, Keighley, December 27th, 1814, and at this time was 64 years of age. He was one of the brightest ornaments of our lodge—one of those "perfect ashlar" all should strive to emulate. May his memory never fade from our hearts, but be perpetuated not only in our lodge (which might in the uncertain future become extinct,) but by those other lodges which so freely benefited by his zealous and successful efforts to elevate them.

Six visitors attended from the Hope Lodge, Bradford, to witness the initiation of the Rev. Thos. W. Kelly, of Horton, on June 1st, 1858. Bro. the Rev. Henry de Laval Willis, D.D. (one of the visitors,) gave Bro. Kelly the charge in a most solemn manner, Bro. John Walker, P.M., giving the W.T., and Bro. Thos. Brown, P.M., the first tracing board.

On Wednesday, October 20th, 1858, "an invitation was received from the Lodge of Hope, 379, Bradford, requesting the brethren of this lodge to attend at Bradford, and open a Mark Mason's lodge in their rooms on Monday night next, the 25th inst., for the purpose of initiating Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, M.A., P. Prov. G.S.W., and other brethren." It is also recorded on November 24th, 1858, that the Mark Masons of Airedale Lodge gave four members of other lodges the Mark on the 25th ult. at the Lodge of Hope, 379, Bradford. The Londesborough Lodge, No. 1036, Bridlington, and Friendship Lodge, No. 1052, Cleckheaton, constituted in 1858.

A lodge of emergency was held May 7th, 1859, to approve of a petition to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows, on behalf of a brother (J.B.) initiated in 1830. He was a worthy member, and in a humble way had done his duty to the lodge and the charities. In consequence of an accident in 1839 Bro. Bell suffered from several serious injuries, had lost an eye, and at this period, at the age of 70, was still further incapacitated from pursuing his ordinary occupation through a recent attack of paralysis. The other afflictions of this unfortunate brother were

also very heavy, and called forth the genuine sympathy of our members, who adopted the petition referred to, their efforts resulting in his election as an annuitant on May 18th, 1860.

Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, M.A., P. Prov. G.S.W., etc., visited the lodge again October 12th, 1859. "The lodge being closed in due form with a prayer by Bro. Woodford, who we (the brethren of this lodge) were sorry to part with, at a few minutes past nine o'clock."

A brother, John Smith, "declared off" December 28th, 1859. He was *not* one of the petitioners for our warrant, and now joined the Scientific, Bingley. This Bro. Smith was initiated in the Airedale Lodge, Dec. 29th, 1841.

At the Prov. G. Lodge meeting at Huddersfield, March 28th, 1860, a Provincial Charity Committee was formed, to consist of one member from each lodge in the province. Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, M.A., P. Prov. G.S.W., etc., was elected Chairman, and Bro. R. R. Nelson (Prov. G. Sec.) Secretary. Bro. Henry Smith, P.M., was nominated to represent Airedale Lodge on this Committee, the first meeting of which was fixed to be held at Heckmondwike. At the foot of the minutes on April 4th, 1860, is entered a minute of an interesting episode as follows:—

At the refreshment board, and after a few appropriate remarks made by our much respected visiting Brother, J. T. Robinson, W. Master of the Lodge of Hope, he presented to the Treasurer of this lodge a purse, the contents of which were for Bro. P.M. Joseph Walker, from a few brethren of the Lodge of Hope, to be applied for a purpose afterwards explained. Bro. Robinson also invited the

members of the lodge to pay a visit to the Hope Lodge at their next meeting, on Monday, 7th May, 1860.

On April 10th, 1860, the donation of sixteen members, amounting to ten guineas, was forwarded to the Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows. On the 30th April a further sum of £2 was sent, and on May 10th, £1 5s. more, altogether £13 15s. This liberality was no doubt purely a Masonic thank-offering in consequence of the election of Bro. Joshua Bell as an annuitant. Our unfortunate brother was not destined, however, to reap much benefit from his successful first application, as he died July 29th, 1860, aged 71 years,

A visit was paid to the Harbour of Refuge Lodge, No. 1066, West Hartlepool, on the occasion of the installation of Bro. John Butcliffe as W.M., on Wednesday, 25th July, 1860, and this visit is referred to in Bro. Wainman Holmes' "Reminiscences," given in the Appendix to my Address already published. The names of our brethren who journeyed to West Hartlepool on this occasion were Bro. Jesse Denby, W.M.; Bro. C. F. Taylor, S.W.; Bro. Wainman Holmes, Secretary and P.M.; Bro. W. W. Holmes, P.M.; Bro. John Walker, jun., P.M.; Bro. Joseph Walker, P.M.; Bro. John Mann, Bro. Jesse Cockshott, Bro. Samuel Atkinson; and an interesting letter, dated 6th August, 1870, thanking the W.M. and brethren of 1066 for their hospitality, is copied in the minute book.

In this year Craven Lodge, 1112, Skipton; St. John's, 1129, Dewsbury; and De Grey and Ripon Lodge, 1139, Ripon, were constituted.

At the regular meeting, January 23rd, 1861, £10 was voted to the Annuity Fund for the purpose of making the W.M. a Life-Governor. On September 18th, 1861, eight visitors were present from Hope Lodge, 379, and the minutes, which are very interesting, contain the following:—

It was mentioned by the W.M. that several of the brethren were unavoidably absent, owing to domestic bereavement, which was deeply deplored by all present. The lodge was opened to the 2nd and 3rd Degrees, when some excellent working was gone through by Bro. John Walker, P.M.; Joseph Walker, P.M.; and Thomas Brown, P.M., who really astonished every one present with the very excellent expatiation of the seven sections of the long lecture, and gave food for every fellow-craft's mind to think over. It was proposed by Bro. Geo. Motley Waud, and seconded by Bro. N. Walker, and carried by acclamation, that the best thanks of the lodge be returned to our venerable Bro. P.M. Thomas Brown for his kindness in giving so interesting and philosophical a lecture, and that the Grand Geometrician may long preserve so eminent a F.C. amongst us.

On November 20th, 1861, the Treasurer was authorised to pay the sum of £1 to a distressed P.M.

At the meeting on January 15th, 1862, "the W. Master called the attention of the brethren to the necessity of punctual attendance, thereby leaving more of the evening for Masonic duties, and enabling the brethren to return home in good time." Bro. Joseph Denby proposed that £1 be given out of the lodge funds for the relief of Bro. P.M.—, "who is very poorly, and whose circumstances are bad." It is most satisfactory to find how readily our brethren responded to the impulses of generous sympathy and true charity.

On this occasion also, a subscription was being at once made for the same object, and the sum of £3 17s. being collected, that amount was handed over to him.

Bro. Edward Haigh presented the lodge (on February 12th, 1862) with working tools of the Three Degrees, "which he had got made during his residence in Australia; also a beautiful box made of Australian woods to place them in."

On July 9th, 1862, "the different lectures were gone through. Bro. John Walker, sen., gave the working tools in a very efficient manner, the more astonishing as he had not repeated them for near twenty years." A very good and handsome Bible was presented to the lodge by the W.M. (Bro. John C. Read,) on October 8th, 1862. In this year the Phoenix Lodge, Rotherham, was constituted as No. 1206, and the St. Oswald's Lodge, Pontefract, No. 1212.

In 1863 the Airedale Lodge become No. 387; and Lodge Trafalgar, 971, Batley, and Pentalpha, 974, Bradford, were constituted. On the 1st July, 1863, "a good muster from this lodge attended the Provincial Grand lodge at Ripon, and then proceeded in Masonic costume to dine in cloisters at Fountains Abbey." A memorial of condolence with the widow of late Bro. John Walker, jun., was ordered to be drawn up on October 28th, 1863; and at the end of the minutes of the meeting held December 23rd, 1863, occurs the following:—

The Mark Lodge was opened, and Bro. John Taylor and Bro. Craven, of Bradford, went through the ceremony of giving the Mark to Bro. S. Priestley, and all other things necessary for it.

From this night up to 1869 the lodge was greatly indebted to Bro. Taylor who was a constant visitor, and undertook the chief working. After the change of numbers this year, the roll of Yorkshire lodges stood as follows :

No.	No.
57 Humber, Hull.	387 Airedale, Baildon.
61 Probity, Halifax.	401 Royal Forest, Slaidburn.
123 Lennox, Richmond.	408 Three Graces, Haworth.
139 Britannia, Sheffield.	439 Scientific, Bingley.
149 Peace, Meltham.	448 Loyal Antient, St. James, Halifax.
154 Unanimity, Wakefield.	458 Aire and Calder, Goole.
200 Old Globe, Scarbro'.	495 Wakefield, Wakefield.
208 3 Gd. Principles, Dewsbury.	521 Truth, Huddersfield.
236 Union, York.	543 Cleveland, Stokesley.
242 St. George's, Doncaster,	561 Zetland, Guisbro'.
250 Minerva, Hull.	566 St. Germain's, Selby.
258 Amphibious, Heckmondwike.	600 Harmony, Bradford.
264 Nelson of the Nile, Batley.	602 North York, Middlesbro'.
265 Royal Yorkshire, Keighley.	603 Zetland, Cleckheaton.
275 Harmony, Huddersfield.	630 St. Cuthbert's, Howden.
289 Fidelity, Leeds.	643 Royal, Filey.
290 Huddersfield, Huddersfield.	652 Holme Valley, Holmfirth.
294 Constitutional, Beverley.	660 Camalodunum, Malton.
296 Royal Brunswick, Sheffield.	734 Londesborough, Bridlington Quay.
302 Hope, Bradford.	750 Friendship, Cleckheaton.
304 Philanthropic, Leeds.	810 Craven, Skipton.
306 Alfred, Leeds.	827 St. John's, Dewsbury.
307 Prince Frederick, Hebden Bridge.	837 De Grey and Ripon, Ripon.
312 Lion, Whitby.	904 Phoenix, Rotherham.
330 Prince George, Bottoms, Stans- field.	910 St. Oswald, Pontefract.
337 Candour, Upper Mill.	971 Trafalgar, Batley.
380 Integrity, Morley.	974 Pentalpha, Bradford.

Phoenix Lodge, Hull, No. 256, and Allman's Lodge, Almond-

bury, No. 594 had become extinct; and five lodges, as under, had been removed from the register, either for the same reason, or by erasure of Grand Lodge :

No. 323, Newtonian, Knaresbro'.	... Erased 3rd Dec., 1851.
„ 677, Savile, Leeds....	... „ „
„ 681, Verity, Ripon.	... „
„ 688, Tudor, Saddleworth....	... „
„ 716, Friendly, Barnsley.	... Erased 3rd Dec., 1851.

SECTION IV.—1864 to 1879.

At the meeting of our lodge on July 28th, 1864, a sum of money was again voted to the relief of a worthy Past Master, and in the following month (date not being specified) this entry is made in the minute book, having mournful reference thereto.

On account of the death of our dear Brother Joseph Walker the following brethren attended the funeral :—Bro. Wainman Holmes, Bro. Thomas Holmes, Bro. Wm. W. Holmes, Bro. John Walker, Bro. Nicholas Walker, Bro. L. Barker, Bro. W. Ellison, Bro. Joseph Renard, Bro. John Ambler, Bro. John Mann, Bro. Nathaniel Smith, Bro. Henry Smith, Bro. S. Atkinson, Bro. S. S. Blakey, Bro. John C. Taylor, Bradford; Bro. John T. Robinson, Bradford; Bro. John Ward, Bradford; Bro. S. O. Bailey, Bradford; Bro. Geo. M. Waud, and Bro. H. Butterworth. After the funeral the lodge was opened in the First Degree, and left open until next night.

Our brethren preferred deeds to promises, and every record of this character bears the unmistakable stamp of true charity. I have often felt it would be difficult to decide whether the objects of

sympathy, or our worthy brethren in having it in their power to dispense so much good around them, felt the most happiness on such occasions. Without doubt these men carried their beneficence into many an abode of sorrow outside the bounds of Masonry; for although, to use an old proverb, "Ill weeds wax weel," it is no less true that the desire to alleviate the sufferings of others grows equally fast upon the inclinations of him whose heart prompts him to begin it. At the next meeting, September 14, a resolution was passed that "the balance of the expenses appertaining to the funeral of our late departed brother be paid out of the lodge funds." Bro. John Mann was at this meeting proposed as and appointed Tyler. In this year seven lodges were constituted in Yorkshire, viz. :—

1001 Harrogate and Claro, Harrogate.	1019 Sincerity, Wakefield.
1010 Kingston, Hull.	1034 Eccleshill, Eccleshill.
1018 Shakespeare, Bradford.	1040 Sykes, Driffild.
	1042 Excelsior, Leeds.

On the meeting, October 19th, 1864, a proposed Provincial Grand Lodge by-law, having for its object the levying of £1 per year on every member of lodges "for expenses," was discussed, apparently without much difference of opinion. The lodge appointed a committee, and took active steps to oppose it at the next Provincial Grand Lodge, and at the meetings of other lodges in the meantime. The opposition to this proposed by-law seems to have been very strong in our lodge, and if similar unanimity prevailed in other lodges round the neighbourhood the resistance it met with must have been most formidable.

At the meeting, February 8th, 1865, the W.M. stated that West Yorkshire had sent up more than £1000 to the Widows' Fund, from which it appears the province has long and actively interested itself in the Masonic Charities. Our brethren seem also to have been personally interested in the matter, and subscribed at this meeting £31 5s. for the Aged Freemasons' Fund. Of this sum £20 was remitted May 8th, 1865, and on May 10th, 1865, the first official preposition to remove the Airedale Lodge from Baildon to Shipley was made. This was proposed by Bro. Wainman Holmes, seconded by Bro. Wm. W. Holmes. The Secretary was also "directed to give notice of this resolution in the next circular, so that the members may come and vote." A long discussion took place at the regular meetings held June 14th and August 9th following, but on both occasions was postponed to next meeting. On October 11th, 1865, "the motion connected with the removal of this lodge was then brought forward by the W.M., and on the votes being taken it was unanimously resolved that it should not be removed, and, therefore, that question is now settled for the present." Such is the entry closing for a time the first agitation which indicated that the lodge was making its progress rather in the direction of Shipley and Bradford than Baildon. At this meeting a proposition was made and passed that the monthly subscriptions of the brethren should be one shilling. Up to this time, it ought to be stated, the contributions were but six shillings per annum.

Early in the year 1866 (January 31,) the sum of two shillings and sixpence per lodge night was voted to the landlord of the Angel Inn at Baildon (then Mr. Joseph Field) "as a small remuneration

for the use of the lodge-room, fire, and light, as under the present circumstances he must be a loser through the bad attendance of members and other causes." Bro. John C. Taylor now took a lively interest in the working of the lodge, and under his able tuition the junior members attacked the ritual in real earnest. On March 28th, I was initiated, having been proposed by the W. Master, (Wm. W. Holmes, P.M.,) the preceding month. On June 26th, 1866, Bro. Thomas Murgatroyd, Bro. Thomas Renton, and Bro. J. R. Riley "were made Mark Masons." In this year the Mirfield Lodge, Mirfield, No. 1102, and the Wharfedale Lodge, Otley, No. 1108, were constituted.

The year 1867 was in several respects, so far as concerned Airedale Lodge, an important year, and a trying one in its history. On February 20th "revision and regulation of our by-laws" was proposed, and a committee of three formed for that purpose. It was also proposed that £21 be given to the Masonic Charities, Bro. Henry Smith being appointed Charity Steward. At the next meeting, March 20th, it was agreed that ten guineas be given to the Aged Freemason's Annuity Fund, five guineas to the Boys' and five guineas to the Girls' Schools. It was settled, on the 17th April, that the donation to the Aged Freemasons should be given in the names of the two Wardens, but was remitted in the name of the S.W. only. On the same evening Bro. Saml. Jackson (of Shipley, architect) again brought forward his plans for building a new lodge room at Shipley, and after discussing the desirability of the change, Bro. Thomas Murgatroyd proposed "that this lodge

be removed to Shipley when suitable rooms can be got." Bro. Joseph Denby seconded the proposition, which was carried. Later on the same evening, the Brethren carried another resolution, "that the rooms about to be built by Bro. Jackson be taken." Illustrative of the inconsistency or thoughtlessness of members, many discussions and resolutions were brought forward about this time, apparently without the slightest regard whether the Lodge would benefit or suffer thereby. One brother, who had not been in the lodge since 1862, supported quite vehemently a proposition made on the 8th April, 1868, "that from the 1st July next the members should pay their subscriptions in advance." This very desirable and proper resolution has since been in operation; but it is a strange fact that not only was the brother referred to an absentee from the lodge ever after, but his subscriptions in arrears had to be written off as a bad debt, and his name erased in 1871. The furnishing of the new rooms was soon brought forward, and on May 6th a committee, consisting of the W.M. Bro. Thomas Murgatroyd; J. Renton, S.W.; J. R. Riley, J.W.; Thomas Denby, S.D.; F. W. Booth, J.D.; S. S. Blakey, I.P.M.; and Samuel Jackson (of Bradford, Builder) was appointed to carry out the same. The joining fee was fixed at twenty-one shillings the same night. On August 5th, 1868, the initiation fee was raised to five guineas, and a motion to raise a furnishing fund by £1 shares amongst the members was passed. At the installation of Bro. Thomas Renton as W.M., December 30th, 1868, the lodge being held at Baildon, was closed there, and the brethren adjourned to the new lodge rooms at Westgate. Shipley,

to celebrate the St. John's Festival. This year seven lodges were established, viz.: Goderich, No. 1211, Leeds; Scarborough, Batley, No. 1214; Defence, Leeds, No. 1221; Savile, Elland, No. 1231; Wentworth, No. 1239, Sheffield; Marwood, Redcar, No. 1244; and Denison, No. 1248, Scarborough.

On January 27th, 1869, the first lodge meeting was held at Westgate, Shipley, and on that occasion Bro. Wardman presented the beautiful centre lamp in the lodge room, and Mrs. Wardman a handsome Bible cushion for the pedestal. On April 28th, 1869, the subscriptions were advanced to £1 13s. per annum, and on May 6th, this resolution was added to, and finally passed, December 15th, 1869, in the form following: "That all members of this lodge who have been initiated since January, 1864, pay an annual subscription of £1 13s., the same to include suppers."

I was unanimously chosen by the Brethren to fill the chair of W.M., but within a few days of the election, by means of an extraordinary statement by a P.M. who called upon me privately for the purpose, I was induced to give way for Bro. Sam Priestley a Past Warden, the P.M. stating that this was the wish of the Past Masters of the Lodge. Calling to see Bro. Priestley, I found him exceedingly unwilling to stand in my way, but believing as I did that it was the expressed wish of the Past Masters, and misled by my own anxiety to see him in the Chair on account of his knowledge of the ritual which I thought would be beneficial to the Lodge, he allowed himself to be put forward. It was a great mistake, and of

course could not have occurred had not Bro. Priestley been my personal friend—we were united by musical and other congenial sympathies, as well as by the more practical every day courtesies of business life, and therefore I gave my word unconditionally not to oppose him. On this becoming known amongst the members, they pressed me to stand as W.M. which led to an explanation from me, and an intimation (not without regret when I discovered how I had been duped) that I could not withdraw my promise to Bro. Priestley, even if misrepresentations had been made.

On the night of election several Past Masters again tried to induce me to stand, and of course I knew well the willingness of the Brethren to elect me W.M., but I still considered myself bound by my promise. Then I was told that the Brethren would not elect Bro. Priestley because by frequent absence from Lodge Meetings, he had rendered himself ineligible for the Office (he had himself owned this to me,) and *if he persisted they would elect an eligible Shipley brother*. I fear this information was purposely withheld from Bro. Priestley. Bro. Thomas Denby was elected W. Master for 1869-70 and a serious division from that date, known as Bradford versus Shipley, affected everything connected with the Lodge for many years, causing me as Secretary endless anxiety and never ceasing efforts to overcome it. Fortunately for the Lodge I had the confidence and was equally trusted by both sides, and ultimately succeeded.

At the meeting referred to (Dec. 15th, 1869,) being St. John's and the installation of Bro. Thomas Denby as W.M., Bro. J. R.

Riley was, owing to the removal of Bro. Wainman Holmes to Wiltshire, officially appointed acting Secretary. Bro. Blakey was also elected Charity Steward, superseding Bro. Henry Smith, this being one of the first results indicative of an unwholesome feeling and unsatisfactory condition of the Lodge. The Ryburn Lodge, Sowerby Bridge, No. 1283, was established in 1869.

The year 1870 was an important one, the by-laws of the lodge being drawn up by the Secretary and passed in open lodge on 15th July. The 35th Regiment of Foot being stationed at Bradford Moor Barracks, several Masons being amongst them, visited Airedale Lodge frequently. The unusual popularity and good name which the regiment had gained during its stay in Bradford was forcibly illustrated on the day it left the town; the occasion being regarded as a public loss, and as such alluded to in all the local papers. The Airedale Lodge felt its particular loss also, and several of the members, amongst whom were Bros. Wardman, Todd, and myself, attended at Laister Dyke Station, and with many hearty good wishes, presented a M.M.'s jewel to Bro. Quartermaster-Sergeant Imbusch, as a slight memento of his sojourn in Bradford. On September 15th died suddenly a worthy, though humble brother, John Mann, an obituary notice of whose death, written by me, appeared in *The Freemason's Magazine* of 1st October, 1870.

The Brethren of Airedale Lodge preferred to have a framed address of condolence sent to Mrs Mann, and having a strong personal appreciation of Bro. Mann's amiable character, I wrote it

out myself, and it was signed by thirty-five members. I was so pleased with the reading of this memorial recently (1878) that I am tempted to reproduce it in the Appendix (G.) At one time it was contemplated placing a memorial window in Baildon Church, but serious illness overtook the brother most wishful for it, and in the anxiety to "set his own house in order," the project had to be abandoned. Bro. John Mann was a good Freemason, and his example might be fitly followed by many whose university education has not prevented them from engaging in unseemly wranglings in print of late years. Amongst his Masonic brethren he was universally esteemed, and, in all probability, had scarcely an enemy in the world. Four lodges were established in 1870, viz: Brighouse, Brighouse, No. 1301; De Warren, Halifax, 1302; Zetland, Leeds, No. 1311; and Anchor Lodge, 1337, Northallerton. In consequence of the disposal of the funds in the Treasurer's hands to the three Masonic Charities on removal from Baildon to Shipley, and the very heavy outlay requisite to furnish the new rooms, as well as the increased rent, etc., the Lodge was getting uncomfortably into debt; and on the 5th April, 1871, the position of affairs was discussed, this resulting in a proposition that the Secretary should prepare a list of members, and that each should be called upon to contribute something towards starting the lodge fairly in its new quarters free from debt. I recollect how careful we were to avoid any compulsory levy, which, though generally the best as well as the fairest course, will not answer during certain stages of a lodge's existence. Ours had passed into the hands of another generation, whose youthful

vigour was practically ousting the former one from a position it was compelled reluctantly to resign: whilst a distasteful removal also combined to influence many of the old members at this time to withhold even a passive assistance. The appeal was cheerfully responded to by about twenty brethren, all the rest refusing to subscribe. The amount raised was £90 only, but this sufficed to cause an anxiety which did much good afterwards, by checking all unnecessary expense. One of the first things thought of was the letting of one of the rooms, and so strongly did a majority of the brethren regard retrenchment and economy as necessary, that although actively opposed by one or two influential Past Masters, the room was let for one night a week to a building society at Shipley, on the 2nd August, 1871. On November 29th, 1871, a bye-law was passed, the existence of which is quite unknown to most members now, viz: that non-resident members shall only pay 21s. per annum subscription. To come within the operation of this bye-law it is requisite that every such member must reside not less than ten miles from the lodge. It has been a useless bye-law, and did not even satisfy the brother for whom it was originated (I believe he did not, however specially ask for it,) who resigned in 1874.

At the meeting on February 28th, 1872, the Secretary read a letter to the Prov. G.S.E. West Yorks, with reference to the removal of the Moravia Chapter to Shipley. I certainly never saw any excuse for the "mysterious mysteries" with which this beautiful degree was invested for our novitiate. However, the dullest performance has its termination, and probably the wholesome

exercise of other than Masonic virtues (meekness especially) did none of us any harm. The following members of Airedale Lodge being wishful to become R.A. Masons, were the resuscitators (we all felt "resurrectionists" I am sure) at this period of the Chapter's history:—Thomas Murgatroyd, Thomas Denby, F. W. Booth, George Glover Atkinson, and J. R. Riley.

Comp. Booth had been exalted in Charity Chapter, 302, and now joined Moravia. The last meeting of the Chapter prior to resuscitation was on March 26th, 1862, so that after being dead eleven years a little special mystery might perhaps have been expected. On April 24th, 1872, still carrying out the retrenchment policy, four members in arrears of subscriptions were erased from the list, and on the 24th July the annual subscription was raised to two guineas. In September this year a goodly sum was subscribed towards the De Grey Scholarships. In 1872 the Falcon Lodge, No. 1416, Thirsk, was constituted.

The 15th January, 1873, was in many respects an important meeting, and the culmination of a feud and distrust dating from the election of Master in 1869. It was the "black-letter" day of our lodge, and for a time the prospects of Airedale Lodge were gloomy indeed.

In marked contrast to other "business," on the same evening, our late worthy Bro. H. J. Wardman (then S.W.) presented the lodge with a fine harmonium. We were supposed to possess one of these instruments, until after several years' use it was suddenly

removed by the donor! To supply the loss thus sustained, Bro. Wardman purchased and presented the harmonium now in the lodge room. On June 11th, this year, five more members were erased "in arrears;" and on November 5th Bro. F. W. W. Booth, P.M., was for the first time elected charity member. Bro. Henry Smith, P.M., held the office from 1857 to 1869, and Bro. S. S. Blakey from 1870 to 1873, inclusive. In this year the Wharncliffe Lodge, Penistone, 1462, was founded.

Two more defaulting members were erased, January 15th, 1874; and on February 4th, 1874, the Secretary presented to the lodge a large tracing board of the First Degree, which he fully explained on several subsequent occasions. Two handsome stands for the globes were, at the next meeting (March 4th, 1874,) presented by Bro. Samuel Jackson, W.M.

The finances of the lodge continued a source of anxiety to the more interested members, and on the 29th April 1874, Bro. John Morrell gave notice of a proposition to levy £1 each "on every member without distinction," for the purpose of clearing off the Furnishing Fund of 1868. At the same time Bro. P.M. Thomas Denby's proposition to raise the initiation fee to ten guineas was negatived, and Bro. Morrell's amendment (seven guineas) substituted and passed. Bro. Morrell also proposed that the joining fee be raised from two to three guineas, which was passed.

Bro. Morrell's proposed levy was passed in open lodge, June 3rd, 1874, and the project of building new rooms was first discussed

as a practical scheme. The first effect of the levy was, unfortunately, to cause dissatisfaction to our oldest member and first Master, Bro. Wainman Holmes, who wrote to me on the subject; and, in accordance with his instructions, it ultimately became my disagreeable duty to propose that his resignation be accepted. On the 1st July, 1874, Bro. Thomas Murgatroyd, P.M., moved, seconded by Bro. Samuel Jackson, P.M., "that this lodge expresses its thanks to Bro. Wainman Holmes for his past services and usefulness during upwards of forty years, and accepts his resignation with sincere regret."

By the 26th August the meetings and discussions had fairly settled down into a project of "enlarging" the lodge premises, the former idea of building a new hall being entirely abandoned. A very acceptable and thoughtful gift of crimson table cloths was made by the retiring W. Master, (Bro. Chas. Roebuck,) on 30th December, 1874. In this year the Alexandra Lodge, Hornsea, No. 1511; Friendly, Barnsley, No. 1513; Thornhill, Lindley, No. 1514; and Olicana, Ilkley, No. 1522, were founded.

In January, 1875, the lodge lost two worthy members:—Bros. Wardman and Delves, the former after a long and painful illness. Letters of condolence with Mrs. Wardman and the family of Bro. Delves were duly passed by the brethren and forwarded by the Secretary. The last resting-place of the latter is near the lower gate of the graveyard at Bolton Abbey, the waters of the silvery Wharfe singing their ceaseless requiem within a few yards of the spot.

On the 24th July four more erasures were made for arrears. Legiolium Lodge, Castleford, No. 1542, and Baildon Lodge, No. 1545, Baildon, were constituted; and in 1876 the De La Pole Lodge, Hull, No. 1605; Eboracum Lodge, York, 1611; Colne Valley Lodge, Slaithwaite, No. 1645; and the Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 1648, Bradford. On the 25th May, 1876, nine brethren attended our lodge as promoters of a new lodge to be called the Prince of Wales Lodge, to be held at Bradford, and these signed in open lodge the declaration and petition required by the Book of Constitutions. The same evening, Bro. Charles Marchbank having generously promised a useful piece of furniture in return, it was unanimously carried that the old furniture formerly used in the lodge at Baildon should be presented to him. July, August, and September were chiefly occupied with my notices for the revision of certain bye-laws and the renewed proposition of Bro. Thomas Denby, P.M., to raise the initiation fee to ten guineas; the latter, however, Bro. Denby withdrew, after an unfavourable report upon it by the Lodge Committee. The amended bye-laws were all passed, 6th September, 1876.

Having prepared a complete list of the members of Airedale Lodge from its foundation, shewing the date of initiation, passing and raising, or joining, Bro. Chas. Howroyd, P.M., most kindly volunteered to have it framed for the lodge room. On 4th October, 1876, he presented it on his and my behalf. On the same evening Bro. Marchbank presented a most useful gift of a sideboard for the kitchen, which had long been needed.

On November 1st, 1876, an occurrence of great rarity took place in our lodge, viz., the signing of a Grand Lodge certificate twenty-five years after its issue. The brother was originally initiated to become Tyler in 1848, and finding that he had not been returned by Airedale since 1856, I felt it incumbent upon me to require that this certificate should be signed in our Lodge, and meanwhile obtained the Grand Secretary's sanction. I found the document crammed, with "ten rows a penny" of antiquated pins and several aged candle ends, in the corner of a huge wooden chest which formerly belonged to the Duke of York's Lodge at Doncaster, and which chest I had taken a great fancy to. The contents took me the whole of one Saturday afternoon, and several nights of the following week, to turn over. If one of our "antient brethren" had been in the habit of occupying the box in question after exceedingly festive occasions as a bedstead, and had all the brethren regarded and made use of it at other times as a dust-bin, it could not have been more effectually soddened down, and consequently, more got into it!

"Oblivion" I named it, and should have moved in the lodge that it be cleansed in the only effectual manner—*by fire*, but for the pleasure the dirty old thing had given me in rummaging its contents. At the bottom was another certificate, still older, and several more in other parts of the box, together with many written curiosities, *wherein the writers specially desired that after perusal they should be destroyed!* The dates of many of these papers went back to 1788, and some were very interesting—the reminiscences of the old

coaching days especially—but such having no connection with Freemasonry beyond that the writers and receivers were Masons, and being for the most part domestic and family matters intended to be the secrets of the recipient, I did not hesitate to obey the injunction of the writers of several by burning them. The Masonic papers I carefully preserved.

One of the certificates had evidently been used as a “church-warden” lighter, hastily extinguished and thrown into “oblivion;” I presume to hide the unpardonable sacrilege. Seeing the burnt end of a dirty-looking “screw” of paper, about an inch thick, I unfolded it carefully, and after spending some weeks’ trouble in pressing and otherwise preparing, I mounted it on a large cardboard. I am only sorry that the brown and black patch in the middle cannot be hidden; but few would suspect the use to which the document had been applied if ignorant of its history, whilst those who *were* acquainted with it might possibly regard the patch as a “beauty spot,” under the circumstances of its discovery.

At the installation of Bro. John Hey as W. Master, St. John’s, 6th December, 1876, I received from my brethren of Airedale Lodge two gifts which I shall ever prize, not only as a spontaneous act of good feeling on their part, but for the very delicate and thoughtful manner in which they sought to further honour me by inviting my father to be present. As the presentation was entirely unexpected on my part (in fact, I had to attend in travelling dress, for I had come from London the same evening, and it was therefore by no means certain that I should be present at all, excepting that my

absence would have been unusual,) I could not fail to appreciate their goodness, especially as I have always felt during my Masonic career that the esteem and goodwill of my brethren were infinitely preferable to any gift of whatever intrinsic value. There were present the W. Master, Bro. William Parker, the W.M. elect, Bro. John Hey, ten Past Masters, and twenty-three members of Airedale Lodge, besides representatives of seven other lodges, viz., Amphibious, 258; Three Graces, 408; Truth, 521; Harmony, 600; Eccleshill, 1034; Wharnccliffe, Penistone, 1462; and Baildon, 1545.

The presentation consisted of a beautiful gold Past Master’s Jewel of special and exquisite design, and a very handsomely framed Address most artistically executed which reads as follows:—

TO

Bro. John Ramsden Riley, P.M.

Dear Sir and Brother,

Your Brethren of

AIREDALE LODGE, No. 387,

being desirous of expressing the high esteem and fraternal regard they have for you, and their gratitude for the many years of service so ably and cheerfully rendered by you to the Lodge in the Three-fold capacity of **WORSHIPFUL MASTER, PAST MASTER, AND SECRETARY**, beg your acceptance of this **SCROLL AND JEWEL** as a feeble but sincere token of their hearty acknowledgment and appreciation of the kindness and courtesy with which you have

performed your varied labours in furthering the interests of the Lodge, and the cause of Freemasonry.

They trust that you will be long spared amongst them, and pray THE GREAT ARCHITECT OF THE UNIVERSE to give you Health, Prosperity, and Happiness.

In the Lodge circular dated 28th February, 1877, I inserted a foot-note as follows:—"The 11th April being the fiftieth anniversary of the lodge, in which all should be interested, you are specially desired to attend and assist the W.M. in deciding what steps should be taken to celebrate that important event."

The announcement took the brethren by surprise, but there was an unmistakable desire generally shown to commemorate the event in a fitting manner, and a committee was at once formed, with Bro. John Morrell as secretary of same, to decide upon and carry out a suitable programme; and at a meeting of that committee on the 8th March, 1877, it was decided to give a banquet to the W. Master, (Bro. John Hey,) on the 11th April; and, in order permanently to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the constitution of the Airedale Lodge, a bookcase and the foundation of a Masonic library, for the use of the members, should also be inaugurated. Accordingly, a lodge of emergency was called for the 11th April, 1877, at four o'clock in the afternoon, at which twenty-seven brethren were present. After the usual preliminary

business of the lodge, a letter and "Reminiscences" of our first W. Master, (Bro. Wainman Holmes,) were read. As these, with the proceedings on this occasion, have been already published in the appendix to my address it is unnecessary to reproduce them here.

On the 25th April, 1877, several matters in connection with the library were settled, books being presented by members of the lodge on 30th May; and on June 27th, 1877, "Laurie's History of Freemasonry in Scotland," by our late Bro. Thomas Murgatroyd, P.M., also a portfolio of music by the W.M., (Bro. John Hey.)

On the 26th September, 1877, the sum of five guineas was voted to the Indian Famine Fund; and the W.M. was empowered to treat with the owner of the lodge premises for their alteration according to plans already passed by the Shipley Local Board. Trustees on behalf of the lodge were appointed, on October 9th, to sign a ten years' lease of the premises at an increased rental, and the circumstances gave me an opportunity of reviewing the financial position of the lodge for the seven years preceding, and warning the brethren that the proposed undertaking would require increased solicitude about lodge affairs, and a more general anxiety for progress on the part of all. A full report of this is in the minute book. It had a beneficial result, although, as a consequence of an investigation into the Treasurer's ledger, five more members were erased. However, difficulties arose with the owner of the lodge premises, and under the circumstances it became imperative that other premises should be secured as soon as possible. On the 24th, "Bro. Hey, W.M., presented to the library a handsomely

bound copy of my so-called "History of the Airedale Lodge." A similar copy he was good enough to present to me, also to the R.W. Prov. G. Master and to the D.P.G. Master, whose acknowledgments for the same are copied in the minute Book. It was practically decided, 21st November, 1877, that in future the duties of Tyler should be the first step to office in the lodge, there being a general wish amongst those more nearly affected by it—viz., the junior brethren—that it should be so.

Building negotiations were now in progress, and at the St. John's, 19th December, 1877, plans were submitted of new premises at Well Croft, Shipley, and being recommended by the committee, were duly passed.

I received a letter on the 20th February, 1878, from Bro. John C. Taylor, P.M., which I have much pleasure in giving in the Appendix. The writer of this letter (Appendix H) is Masonically known in Bradford and district as "Working Taylor," a cognomen he had, in fact, earned when I was received into Masonry. He was initiated in the Lodge Three Graces, August 18th, 1834; was greatly attached to Airedale Lodge, of which he has long been an honorary member, and I know of no brother more generally respected. In the early part of my Masonic career, Bro. Taylor, the late Bro. Sam Priestley, and myself, met on Saturday afternoons, for Masonic practice, in the fields at Horton, where is now Scholemoor Cemetery. I take this opportunity of publicly acknowledging the pride I always felt in his Masonic friendship, as well as thankfulness and gratitude for inexhaustible Masonic

information and instruction received at his hands. He is a worthy Mason, and no eulogies of mine will add to the praise he has universally gained and merited.

Of a naturally retiring disposition, Bro. Taylor has not found it possible to entirely neglect Masonry in his old age, and one of his greatest pleasures is in receiving brethren at his own house and communicating to them "light and instruction" from a fountain of Masonic lore, alas! too rarely equalled. Bro. Taylor took a very active part in the Airedale Lodge between 1863 and 1869, during which time he was a constant attender and undertook all the principal working. He, moreover, instructed the "workmen," who ultimately again raised, almost on its very ashes, the superstructure of our lodge. *Palmarum qui meruit ferat.* A feature, not unworthy of imitation by all lodges, characterised the business of the meeting on February 20th, 1878, for, as a practical illustration of cosmopolitan Masonry and true charity, a subscription was made on behalf of a distressed brother of a neighbouring lodge. It ought to be remembered that the brethren had continual claims upon their liberality at this time, as the Charities were not allowed to suffer, whilst many sacrifices had to be made for the new premises now actively progressing. The chief business of every meeting consisted of committee reports and building suggestions and arrangements, but on the 17th April receipts were handed to the Secretary for thirty guineas subscribed to the Girls' School for the purpose of re-endowing chairs of the lodge.

Bro. Bentley Shaw, J.P., P.D.P.G.M. of West Yorkshire, and

our highly esteemed and justly beloved Prov. G. Supt. of R.A. Masons, died at his residence, Woodfield House, near Huddersfield, on the 20th March, 1878.

The memory of his virtues as a man, not less than as a Mason, will long live in the hearts of the Freemasons of West Yorkshire. To him I was indebted for the first practical example of what Masonry can do for the destitute and oppressed. I shall never forget the circumstance, nor could I ever see him afterwards, either in Prov. Grand Lodge or in any other capacity public or private, without calling it to mind, and no doubt many readers will recognise it. At one of the Prov. Grand Lodge meetings, years ago, held at the Masonic Hall, Great George Street, Leeds, a peculiar case of charity came before Prov. Grand Lodge—one in fact which to all appearance had to be dragged there. It was a case of *the real poor*, and the subject a widow lady. In the absence of the R.W. Prov. Grand Master (Earl de Grey and Ripon,) Bro. Bentley Shaw presided as Deputy Prov. Grand Master, and I was present on this particular occasion. Suffice it to say, owing to the urgency of the case, no petition had been forwarded to the Charity Committee in the usual way, and it could not on that account be officially entertained by Prov. Grand Lodge. It happened, however, that the poor lady's late husband had been a member of the same lodge as the worthy Deputy Prov. Grand Master, who made himself acquainted with the particulars; and the explanations and eloquent appeal he made for a subscription amongst the brethren present resulted in a sum being collected which I could not help reflecting would make

"the widow's heart leap for joy." The episode is imperfectly sketched, but few of the Masons present on that day will find it difficult to fill in the particulars which had so much influence upon me.

Here was a wide field of usefulness open if I chose to accept it, and I mentally desired to profit by the teaching I had received. But Bro. Bentley Shaw's useful life was passed in the exercise of benevolence and charity, and the 114 votes lost to the province of West Yorkshire by his death exemplify but a drop in the ocean of his philanthropy.

On the 19th June our lodge passed a rather strong resolution against a proposition in Prov. Grand Lodge to compel payment of one shilling per member annually throughout the province for additional purposes of the Charity Committee. The motion in Prov. Grand Lodge was ultimately withdrawn however, there being quite as strong objection to it shown in other lodges. After voluminous reports and "building business," on the 17th July, 1878, including that of raising £150 for additional furniture, etc., the lodge sanctioned the necessary arrangements made by me for the opening of the new hall by the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, M.W. Pro. Grand Master, on the 2nd October, 1878. The action of the Secretary throughout his communications, with the M.W. Pro. Grand Master, was also enthusiastically approved of and confirmed; also the invitations of the R.W. Prov. G.M. (Sir Henry Edwards, Bart.,) the V.W.D.P.G.M. (Thomas W. Tew, J.P.,) and the officers of Prov. Grand Lodge to dedicate the building on the same occasion. The raising of the annual subscriptions had for some time been

contemplated, and was finally settled at £3 on the 14th August, 1878. At the same time precisely the same resolutions were moved as on several previous occasions, to raise the initiation and joining fees to ten guineas and five guineas respectively, and met with the same result as before, the brethren being still unwilling to make any alteration in them. The meetings of September 2nd and September 11th, 1878, were chiefly for the purpose of removing the lodge, the necessary formalities being completed at the latter meeting. The following circular was issued 27th September, 1878:—

Masonic Hall, Kirkgate, Shipley, 27th September, 1878.

Dear Sir and Brother,—You are requested to attend the duties of the lodge next Wednesday morning at 11-30 o'clock. By order of the W.M. Yours respectfully and fraternally,

J. RAMSDEN RILEY, P.M., Secretary.

BUSINESS.

Opening and Dedication of the New Masonic Hall by M.W. Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, Pro. G. Master; R.W. Bro. Sir Henry Edwards, Bart., D.L., Prov. G. Master W. Yorks; W. Bro. Thos. W. Tew, J.P., D. Prov. G. Master W. Yorks.—The W.M. will open the lodge in the three degrees at 12 punctually.—Luncheon in the dining-room at 2-15 p.m.

On October 2nd, 1878, a red-letter day in the history of our lodge, there were present:—

M.W. Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, Pro. G. Master; R.W. Bro. Sir Henry Edwards, Bart., Prov. G.M. W. Yorks; V.W. Bro. Thomas W. Tew, J.P., Deputy Prov. G.M. W. Yorks; nineteen Provincial Grand Officers, eleven Worshipful Masters of Lodges surrounding Shipley; two old Past Masters of

Airedale Lodge, but now of Baildon, 1545 (Bro. John Walker and Bro. Lycias Barker,) besides members of Airedale Lodge as follows:—

Bro. John Morrell, W.M.	„ F. W. Booth, P.M., Prov. G.D.C.
„ John Hey, I.P.M.	„ Samuel Jackson, P.M.
„ John Magson, S.W.	„ C. Roebuck, P.M.
„ Frederick Ives, J.W.	„ C. Howroyd, P.M.
„ James Lister, S.D.	„ W. H. Hargreaves.
„ J. R. Riley, P.M. & Sec.	„ T. J. Gamble.
„ Samuel Smith, as I.G.	„ Samuel Smith.
„ J. W. Taylor, as O.G.	„ Joseph Dawson.
„ J. R. Riley, P.M., as Sec.	„ William Spencer.
„ H. Smith, P.M., Prov. G. Sec.	„ Elias Heaton.
„ W. W. Holmes, P.M.	„ C. W. Marchbank.
„ Joseph Denby, P.M.	„ S. A. Auty.
„ J. C. Taylor, P.M.	„ Alfred Glaize.
„ S. S. Blakey, P.M.	„ William Oddy.
„ Thos. Murgatroyd, P.M.	„ S. Minakin.
„ Thos. Denby, P.M.	„ C. W. Curran.
„ Wm. Turner, W.M., 1545.	„ John Holder.
Bro. F. W. Nicholson, P. Prov. G.O.	„ Joseph Atkinson.

Reports of the proceedings at the opening appeared in several local papers, but were necessarily incorrect in some particulars.

In the *Freemason*, however, a correct report was given, and after reading this over I have decided to reprint it here, making, however, an important addition and expunging two complimentary paragraphs referring to myself.

The occasion of the Earl of Carnarvon's visit to Saltaire has been taken advantage of by the Freemasons of Shipley to give *éclat* to the opening proceedings of a new Masonic Hall in that town, an event which was looked forward to with considerable interest, not only by Masons in the district but by those of the Craft resident elsewhere. The securing of a hall specially adapted for Masonic purposes by the brethren at Shipley was of itself an event sufficiently interesting, and has been rendered increasingly so by the circumstance that they have been able to secure the good offices of so distinguished a Mason as the Pro. Grand Master of the Order to conduct the inaugural proceedings. Another circumstance of interest is the fact that the new hall is a memento of the jubilee of the Airedale Lodge, 387, for whose accommodation the hall has been erected.

From the published address of the Secretary, P.M. J. Ramsden Riley, which was given on the fiftieth anniversary of the lodge in April, 1877, we learn that the Airedale Lodge was established at Baildon, on April 11th, 1827, having succeeded to the paraphernalia of the defunct Duke of York Lodge, which was constituted at Doncaster in 1788.

During the latter part of this earlier lodge's existence it does not appear to have shown much vitality, and in 1807 it was removed to Bingley, where it existed under slightly better conditions until January, 1815. A few brethren of the district appear to have met without interruption at each other's homes, but it was not until 1827, mainly through the exertions of Wainman Holmes and Jonathan Walker, assisted strenuously by two or three members of the Keighley Lodge, that a lodge could be formed, and the present Airedale Lodge constituted. The last fifty years has been so important an epoch of Masonic history that it would have been extraordinary if the Airedale had not had its vicissitudes, and notably in 1838, when its members were returned to Grand Lodge as seven (although nominally

about fourteen,) the career of the lodge had well nigh ended through the severe commercial depression in the Baildon district. It had even then, however, some staunch supporters, whose example has no doubt materially affected the subsequent growth and importance of the lodge, which since 1866 (commencing as it were another generation,) has had an uninterrupted prosperity, while its future prospects are decidedly auspicious. The jubilee of the lodge was held on the 11th April last year, in the old rooms in Westgate, Shipley. The number of members is now about fifty, the following being the acting officers of the lodge, viz., John Morrell, W.M.; John Hey, I.P.M.; John Magson, S.W.; Fred Ives, J.W.; J. Lister, S.D.; H. Mitchell, J.D.; S. Smith, I.G.; E. Heaton, O.G.; the indefatigable Secretary of the lodge being J. R. Riley, P.M.

The new Masonic Hall is situate in Wellcroft-court, Kirkgate, Shipley, and has been erected upon the site of the former New Inn, by Mr. Jonas Bradley, who has built the Star and Garter Hotel adjoining. About £1000 has been expended upon the building, which is every way adapted for the purposes of a lodge of Freemasons. There are two large rooms for lodge purposes, a room of medium size, a large kitchen, with store-rooms, lavatories, &c. The lodge-room, which is upon the upper storey, is twenty-seven feet by twenty-five feet; the dining-room being of equal dimensions, and situate upon the floor beneath. To the former a small ante-room is attached, and to the latter a convenient store-room. Upon the first floor are situate the practice room, twenty-five feet by twelve-feet, and a kitchen, eighteen feet by thirteen-feet. The latter is fitted with the best appliances for cooking and upon all those occasions when the austerities of the Craft are so far relaxed as to allow its members to dine, this department of the lodge premises will be regarded as an indispensable adjunct. A hoist communicates with the dining-room. All the rooms are lofty, and are well ventilated. The lighting of the lodge-room is effected by means of a central chandelier and six side lights, while in the dining-room a central light on Benham's principle is introduced: this being supplemented by side lights, a very cheering effect is produced thereby. The furnishing and decoration of the premises are quite in keeping with the structural arrangements of the hall, the appointments of the lodge-room being such as to entitle it to rank as one of the neatest in Yorkshire. The decoration of this room has been effected with considerable taste, all the colours being in distemper. The ground colour of the wall is of fawn, relieved by parallelograms divided by chocolate lines, the panels filled in with Masonic emblems drawn in vermillion and blue. Boldly-designed corbels support the roof,

the frieze being effectively relieved by a series of Egyptian figures continued round the room. This design is produced from one introduced into the decoration of the former lodge-room. The ceiling of the room is done in colours and gold. The dining-room is of a modest tone, the prevailing colour being drab. Round this room is a surbase moulding in pitch pine, the interval between this and a deep plinth being filled in with geometrical designs in black. The furnishings have been the subject of much attention, and in respect to some portion of the furniture a more than ordinary interest attaches. Three of the pedestals, presented to the lodge by Bro. Marchbank, have withstood the wear and tear of over ninety years, having been used in the old Duke of York Lodge, and, re-furnished, look equal to quite as long a tenure of existence. Apropos to the opening of the new hall, various presents have been made by the members of the lodge, including an eagle-lectern, a large quarto copy of the Holy Scriptures, a beautiful ivory mallet, &c. The various works in connection with the erection of the building were contracted for by the following tradesmen, viz.:—Mason, John Rhodes; joiner, George Yates; plumbers, S. Rushworth and Son; plasterers, Walsh and Son; decorators, Sam Oddy and Son; gas fittings, C. Howroyd. The architects for the works were Messrs. Jackson and Longley. The extra decorations rendered necessary by the ceremony consisted of the laying of crimson cloth along the passages and staircases of the hall, and draping the windows with curtains, &c. These have been supplied by Messrs. Pratt and Sons, of Bradford.

The brethren of the lodge assembled in good force, but owing to the limited accommodation of the building (although sufficiently large for the purposes of their own meetings,) they were unable to make the occasion so general as it otherwise would have been. Their invitations included the acting members of the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire; and they had succeeded in securing the honour of the company of the M.W. Bro. Earl Carnarvon, Pro. Grand Master. The lodge having been opened by the W.M. and officers of the Airedale Lodge, the Provincial Grand Lodge entered, and was presided over by the R.W. Bro. Lieut.-Colonel Sir H. Edwards, Bart., Prov. G.M., assisted by the V.W. Bro. T. W. Tew, D.P.G.M. of West Yorkshire. After the customary salutations of these two dignitaries, a procession was formed, and escorted the M.W. Pro. Grand Master (Earl of Carnarvon) into the lodge.

Bro. Sir Henry Edwards, Prov. G. Master of West Yorkshire, said:—

I beg to return my hearty thanks to this assembly for their very cordial reception of me. We are gathered here to-day to perform an important ceremony.

It is to dedicate this new Masonic Hall to the purposes of Freemasonry for ever, and to encourage and exhort the brethren in this town and province to learn and practice more and more the beautiful principles of our ancient Fraternity. We are honoured to-day by the presence of the Pro. Grand Master of England, the Earl of Carnarvon. This compliment to West Yorkshire is warmly felt and appreciated by the whole Craft in this province, over which I have the honour to preside. I need not dilate on the admirable way in which the Pro. Grand Master performs his Masonic responsibilities, or the immense interest he takes in the affairs of the Grand Lodge. He always does everything he undertakes for the benefit of the Craft in the same admirable manner, and, I repeat, we owe him a debt of gratitude for being present amongst us to-day. The address of the Pro. Grand Master to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales on his installation as Grand Master on the 28th April, 1873, which I had the honour to listen to, will be long remembered. We welcome the Pro. Grand Master to West Yorkshire, a province of sixty-five lodges and 3000 loyal Masonic subjects, who read with the deepest interest of his dignified conduct whilst occupying the throne of Freemasonry in Grand Lodge. I can assure the Pro. Grand Master that implicit obedience to Masonic law is in my province encouraged and enforced; and it is with pride that I can refer his Lordship to his highly esteemed Grand Secretary, (Bro. John Hervey) as to the punctuality of this province on the part of the brethren in rendering and making the annual returns and payments. It is a well-known circumstance that wherever you find prosperous lodges they are certain to be the most loyal and punctual observers of the regulations and landmarks of the Grand Lodge and the bye-laws of the Craft. I may also point out the strictly enforced rule laid down in our Provincial Grand Bye-laws, especially No. 47, in which it is incumbent on the Master of a lodge wherein a candidate seeks admission to make inquiry, in writing, of the Master of the lodge established in the town or place wherein the candidate resides, touching the character and moral fitness of such candidate or joining member. Our great difficulty is with candidates coming into our province and obtaining admission from lodges over the border, or from some populous place where sufficient enquiry cannot be made. This appears to be a weak point in Masonic watchfulness and carefulness, as to the admission of "just, perfect, and upright" men only, "of mature age, sound judgment, and strict morals," and I hope one not unworthy of his Lordship's grave consideration. Again thanking the Pro. Grand Master for his presence here to-day I call upon you to salute him with the honour due to his exalted rank. This having been done, the Secretary (Bro. Riley, P.M.) read an address of welcome to Lord Carnarvon, of which the following is a copy.

Most Worshipful Pro. Grand Master,—The brethren of this lodge, being animated with a desire to promote the interests of Freemasonry, have caused these premises to be erected for their convenience and accommodation. They are wishful, should the various arrangements meet with your Lordship's approval and that of the R.W. Provincial Grand Master, that the building should be solemnly dedicated to the purposes of our Order, according to the ancient usages of the Craft, and that your Lordship will formally declare it open on this auspicious occasion. My lord, with sentiments of the heartiest welcome, the Worshipful Master and Brethren of the Airedale Lodge, No. 387, humbly beg your Lordship to accept their most sincere and grateful thanks for the honour your Lordship has condescended to do them by consenting to be present and take part in the ceremonies of this day. The reality and world-wide usefulness of Freemasonry is sufficiently testified by its continual spread throughout all lands, and is especially identified in our own favoured country by the results of those labours which proceed from brotherly love. In this visit of your Lordship we are proud to recognize and acknowledge a noble example of that first grand principle of Freemasonry which cannot fail to support and animate us in all our Masonic duties. Although occupying so deservedly high and distinguished a position, no doubt your Lordship finds a pleasure in being present; and associated as your Lordship's noble name will henceforth be with this lodge, it will also continually remind us, as members, to take especial care that the Airedale may be always worthy of the distinguished honour conferred upon it. One and all the brethren of this lodge feel (so magnanimous has been your Lordship's kindness) that no words can adequately express their sentiments of gratitude towards your Lordship, and they pray that by the providence of the Great Architect of the Universe your Lordship may long be spared to devote to Freemasonry that love and attachment to our illustrious institution, which, we believe, have entirely influenced your Lordship to come amongst us, in so generous a manner, on this occasion. We most cordially wish your Lordship health, prosperity, and happiness; and trust that this visit to Airedale will not be the least pleasurable of your Lordship's Masonic experiences; but that your Lordship will always be able to look back upon the proceedings of this day with feelings of unalloyed satisfaction.

The M.W. Pro. Grand Master, in responding said:—

Right Worshipful Master, and Brethren,—It does not need so hearty a demonstration of feeling to assure me of meeting in Yorkshire, and, indeed, in

every part where Freemasonry prevails, with a truly fraternal and sympathetic welcome. I rejoice greatly to have the opportunity of coming amongst you to-day; I rejoice greatly to hear from your Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master of the progress of Freemasonry in West Yorkshire; I rejoice greatly in meeting the Worshipful Master and brethren of the Airedale Lodge—a lodge old in Masonic history, well known in the Craft, and holding an honourable position in this province—in their new home; and I cordially tender to each and all my hearty good wishes. May it be the beginning of a fresh and bright chapter in the history of the lodge; and may it also be the beginning of fresh honours for Masonic success. It has been truly said in that address which has just been read to me that Masonry had a world-wide name and character. I will only say that when we reflect on the truthfulness of that assertion it becomes more patent to us that we have a great duty to perform; that by our actions, whether we act in the lodge, or whether we act in the province, or whether it be in our individual capacity outside the lodge, our aim should be to uphold and maintain the fair fame of the name and character of Freemasonry; that we may not only be able to hand it down to future brethren in all its brightness, but that we may be able to send it on with additional lustre. All who study Freemasonry know the high standard of its principles, and I believe all who do, make it a study to try to live to those principles. I hope the number may be largely augmented in the future members of this lodge. Every lodge ought to possess a home of its own; nothing, I think, so much as a migratory residence tends to damage the prestige of a lodge. A settled home is a source of continual pleasure; a constant gathering of new history. Such, I hope, will be the new home of the Airedale Lodge; and may it be to its several members a source of additional attraction. I will say no more on this subject, but will most gladly, at the proper time in the ceremony, and if requested so to do by your Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, comply with the wish you have expressed in that address, and formally declare this lodge open.

The ceremony of dedication was proceeded with, according to ancient Masonic custom, by the W.D. Prov. Grand Master, (Bro. Tew,) in an able manner, the oration being given by Bro. the Rev. William Collings Lukis, M.A., F.S.A., Prov. G. Chaplain West Yorkshire, De Grey and Ripon Lodge, 837, as follows:—

Brethren,—We have met together to assist in a stirring and interesting ceremonial, and our heartiest wishes accompany the performance of the act. In addressing the members of the Airedale Lodge on this auspicious occasion, I am not addressing a young Lodge, but one that has already attained to a respectable

and respectful age. It is composed of well-instructed brethren, many of whom are better qualified to teach me than I am to tell them anything which they have not already learned and endeavoured to practice as true and loyal Masons. The Airedale Lodge is in the fifty-second year of its existence, its Warrant of Constitution bearing date 12th, March, 1827. It seems in its origin to have risen, phoenix-like, out of the ashes of an old lodge, viz., the Duke of York's Lodge, No. 428, originally constituted at Doncaster in 1788, and removed to Bingley in 1807. In 1815 the Duke of York's Lodge at Bingley is supposed to have closed its career, and the Airedale Lodge sprang into existence, at Baildon, in 1827, its originators being Bro. Wainman Holmes, of the Lodge of Hope, Bradford, and other brethren of the defunct Bingley Lodge. From Baildon it finally settled here at Shipley, where we trust it will long continue to pursue an honourable and useful career. This wandering life will account for the circumstance that no dedication of the lodge should have occurred earlier. During the period between 1827 and 1877 its number has been twice changed, owing to the erasure of extinct lodges; the first time in 1832, when from 814 it was recognised on the roll of the Grand Lodge of England as No. 543, and the second time in 1863, when it obtained its present number, 387. It is not necessary that I should enter more at length into the history of the lodge and its vicissitudes, because that history has been compiled by Bro. P.M. Riley, and printed in a very handsome volume. I shall simply add what I believe will be felt by every member of the lodge, that the brother who must always be gratefully recognised as its founder and mainstay, and whose long and active services have contributed to its prosperity, is the venerable Bro. P.M. Wainman Holmes, who, to quote his own words, stated last year that "out of the fifty years that the Airedale Lodge has been constituted, I think I should be W.M. and Secretary at least thirty or more years (perhaps forty years, and whatever I had to do I did it with pleasure, and particularly in my younger days, when Masonry was my 'hobby horse.'" I will venture to say that there is probably no other lodge in this province that can grasp the warm hand of its living founder at the end of fifty-one years. May the prayer of the lodge uttered last year be fulfilled, that the G.A.O.T.U. may make Bro. Holmes's closing years happy and contented. Before making a few general remarks I cannot forbear alluding very briefly to two points which come to light in the printed history of this lodge, because they indicate in a forcible manner that the brethren have in the past, and continue to be at the present time, imbibed with the true spirit of Masonry; that they have not only maintained a careful adherence to its ritual, but have practically illustrated its principles. Firstly, the brethren have, throughout the long

career of their lodge, manifested the deepest sympathy in the sufferings and distress of sick and mourning members. Secondly, to the Masonic Charities the lodge has been a liberal contributor; and, owing to the zealous exertions of its indefatigable Charity Steward, Bro. F.W. Booth, P.M., a large increase of charity votes has been secured. This example is worthy of imitation on the part of all lodges of the province. You are no doubt, as in duty bound to be, firm believers in the great antiquity of the Craft, and you have been taught that, as regards structural science, there was a period in the history of mankind—a period dark, dreary, and comfortless—when Masonry had not laid her line, or extended her compasses; when men took refuge from storm and tempest and the attacks of savage beasts in thickets of woods and in dens and caverns of the earth; and that from these poor recesses and gloomy solitudes the Grand Geometrician of the Universe in pity drew them and instructed them to erect buildings of a rustic kind in artless imitation of simple nature. This remark of the author of the Fourth Section of the Second Lecture contains the element of a truth, of which he was probably little conscious at the time. The earliest buildings of which antiquarians have any knowledge, were not of the Tuscan order, as he states, however rustic that order may be, but were structures of Cyclopean architecture, many of which in all their majestic proportions and solidity have survived through tens of centuries of civilisation (in spite of civilisation itself, which is not always disposed to show a conservative reverence towards the works of former times) and remain to this day as footprints of Masonry. These rude monuments may be briefly described as constructions whose walls are composed of ponderous unquarried stones, selected with a certain amount of care and suitability, on which are placed, so as to form a ceiling, blocks of far greater dimensions and weight, the whole being hidden from sight by an outer covering of earth or of small stones, often of considerable altitude, and constituting a chambered mound. In process of time, and from various causes, natural and regrettable, which need not be detailed here, these mounds fell away, or have been in many instances partially or wholly removed, and the denuded chambers now stand forth in imposing nakedness and grandeur, and proclaim to us the mighty power of united action of the enduring nature of works undertaken with combined energy and resolution, even when those works have been accomplished with the aid of simple and mean appliances. In their exposed condition they are commonly called cromlechs, which are ignorantly considered by some persons (happily an almost extinct family) to have been connected with the bloody rites of Druidic worship. These constructions, which have been observed in all parts of the world, are rude, yet, in a certain sense, skilful Masonic

institutions of those natural dens and caverns in which men of the palæolithic age lived, died, and were oftentimes buried, and were intended for sepulchral places only. They are, however, standing and imperishable witnesses to truths of considerable importance, for they tell of a belief in the G.A.O.T.U., the Almighty and Eternal Teacher of His people, of the immortality of the soul, and of a future life. They speak also of respect and reverence for chiefs and heroes, of brother and family affection, and of mystic rites of religion which have been, from the earliest ages, inseparable from burial customs. May we not perceive in this parallel how the grand principles of the Craft are amply illustrated? If the origin of Freemasonry is not lost in the mists of pre-historic antiquity as some sceptics suppose, it possesses similar attributes to those possessed by the monuments of which I have spoken. It can boast of an immemorial existence. It is universal in its distribution, and its chief glories are reverence for the Eternal Architect, and ruler of the Universe, loyalty to the throne, brotherly love, and truth, based upon a comprehensive faith. It teaches us that in our perishable frame there resides a vital and immortal principle, and that when we consign the mortal remains of a faithful and true brother to the cold bosom of the grave, it is with a holy confidence that the immortal principle is in the merciful hands of the Lord of Life. A Provincial Grand Master once remarked that if any brother wishes to rise to eminence in the Craft, he should give to the subject deep study, much thought, and constant antiquarian research, for Masonry is a well-stored mine, in which treasures are deeply hidden. Research thus directed may never be able to decide to the satisfaction of the fraternity the conjectures that Julius Cæsar and his generals were patrons and protectors of the Craft in England; that the Emperor Carausius held its tenets in the highest veneration; that Alban, the canonized martyr, presided over British Masons as their Grand Master: and that Athelstane was a promoter of the art in the same capacity. But, however interesting these investigations may be to the inquirer, we may rest assured that a wide field of study is open in the direction of those grand principles which have exalted Masonry into a moral science, and have helped to humanize mankind. It is an inspiring reflection that our God-honouring institution advocates and upholds a morality of the highest kind, and a never failing charity in a cold, unsympathizing world. The G.A. of the Universe has not placed us here and endowed us with various gifts that we may live for ourselves alone. The immortal bard has uttered this sentiment in these sublime words:—

Heaven doth with us as we with torches do,
Not light them for themselves; for if our virtues
Did not go forth of us, 'twere all alike

As if we had them not. Spirits are not finely touched,
But to fine issues.

With one other quotation I will conclude. In 1876, our very excellent and greatly respected Provincial Grand Master expressed a wish that there might be "on the part of the fraternity in his province an earnest desire to study the principles upon which our ancient and time-honoured Order is founded," being well convinced that by doing so they would become better men, and better fitted for higher things than if they confined their attention to the mere routine work of the lodge. As in the monuments of which I have spoken, the outer covering of earth hid from sight the massive and imperishable portion of the sepulchral structure, which when its solid materials are brought into view, is a token of marvellous engineering skill, so should the external ceremonial of Masonry be regarded as the simple clothing which conceals from the superficial observer those everlasting principles of Heaven-born truth, which it is our duty to study and to teach. May the lofty purposes of Masonry, which have been so earnestly fulfilled in the past by the members of the Airedale Lodge, continue to animate them through a long future, causing them to work harmoniously, in obedience to the will of Him who would have all men to be steeped in the effulgence of His Divine love.

The Pro. Grand Master then rose, and said: Brethren, the ceremony of dedication being now completed in all its parts, it only remains for me to perform the task I undertook to-day, namely to open this building. And it is open accordingly.

The musical part of the service was most impressive, the really fine consecration service of Bro. F. C. Atkinson (Mus. Bac., Cantab., P. Prov. G.O., W. Yorks.) having rarely had such an interpretation as was given to it on this occasion by the musical members of the lodge under his direction.

After the business of the lodge had been brought to a close, a sumptuous luncheon, under the superintendence of Bro. R. Breuer, of the Belle Vue Hotel, Bradford (and which reflected the highest credit upon that brother for the ability and exquisite taste displayed in all its details), was served in the banqueting-room after which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and honoured.

In response to the toast of "The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, M.W. Pro. Grand Master, which was most enthusiastically received with loud and continuous cheering, his lordship said: Worshipful Sir and Brethren—It is with no

common feeling of satisfaction I find myself here to-day; and it is also a great satisfaction to meet with so hearty a welcome. If there was one circumstance that could have pleased me more than another, it is the pleasure of having my health proposed by one of the oldest members of the Airedale Lodge; by one whom I am quite willing to accept as a representative brother. I thank the Airedale Lodge most heartily for their invitation; I thank the representatives of the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire who have attended here to-day; and I thank all those representative brethren who have come to join in the interesting ceremony of to-day, and to assist in giving me so hearty a welcome. I, too, share the regrets that have already been expressed of the lack of accommodation; but I rejoice to see so many here present. My knowledge of Yorkshire is, as yet, small, yet it is such as to teach me that no plainer, franker-speaking people lived than Yorkshire people, none who could give so hearty a welcome. The county possesses some of the best temporal gifts which God could send. Brethren, I cannot lay claim to an extended age in Masonry, as some around me can, but since I have been enrolled in its ranks I have taken great interest in its welfare. I can truly say I have never known the Craft in so prosperous a position. We are wealthy, we are powerful; we are free from internal strife; and that is a condition of which all who are in authority ought to be justly proud. May I qualify that remark, however, with one word of counsel, in a homely saying, that "times of prosperity are times of anxiety and watchfulness." Our strength lies not in the number, or the wealth of our members; it rather lies in our maintaining intact the great principles of Freemasonry, in standing steadfast to its great and good landmarks, in acting in whatever sphere we move, in our corporate and private capacities, honestly and honourably to its precepts. I am glad to have made your acquaintance to-day, and I shall carry away with me a lively recollection of to-day's ceremony and of your truly fraternal welcome. I trust the day may not be far distant when I may have another opportunity of speaking to you (loud cheers), not then as a half stranger, but as an old friend. One reason that takes me away so soon and so hurriedly to-day is that I am going to see your late Provincial Grand Master, the Marquis of Ripon. He is an old and dear friend of mine. No one felt more deeply the loss we sustained by his secession from our Order than I. After many periods of doubt and anxiety did he decide on the action he took, and although I have no sympathy with his action, yet I believe he acted honestly and conscientiously to his convictions. I believe I was one of three friends to whom he communicated his change of creed and withdrawal from our ranks, but it was then too late to endeavour to dissuade him from his purpose.

The act was then done. Of all the difficulties he had to contend with, mentally and otherwise—of all the sacrifices he felt called upon to make, I have reason to know that the severing of himself from Masonry was the greatest possible wrench his feelings sustained. I am sure, brethren, it will be a source of satisfaction to him to know, as it is to me, that though his Masonic brethren disagreed with the action he took, he had not forfeited their esteem. Allow me again to thank you, and I hope soon to meet you again. (Loud and continued applause.)

His lordship again rose, and said:—I rise to give you the sentiment "Success to the New Hall." To no one could that task be more acceptable. May all the good omens which form a part of that strikingly interesting ceremony in which we have to-day taken part be accomplished in this lodge. May the oil of kindly feeling and brotherly goodwill ever make smooth the differences and dissensions our natures are prone to; may the grain, the symbol of plenty, indicate the combined growth and prosperity of your lodge; and may the salt, which symbolises "the feast of reason and the flow of soul," make your Masonic meetings pleasant and attractive. Accept my every good wish for your prosperity.

The toasts of "The Visitors," "The Worshipful Master," "Past Masters," "The Building Committee," "The Secretary," "The Musical Committee," and last of all "All Poor and Distressed," brought this red-letter day in the annals of Airedale Lodge to a truly harmonious and happy termination.

Letters were received by the W. Master from the R.W. Prov. G. Master (Sir Henry Edwards, Bart.) and by the Secretary from the M.W. Pro. Grand Master (the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon,) both expressing their acknowledgments for the reception, also approval of the admirable arrangements for their comfort and the pleasure generally which the day's proceedings had given them.

On the 29th November, 1878, twenty-nine brethren attended the funeral of our late Bro. Thomas Murgatroyd, P.M. and P.Z.

387, forcibly reminding us of the uncertainty of all things. He was present at the opening of the new hall in the preceding month. Bro. Murgatroyd was a zealous Mason, and before his illness compelled him to be absent from the lodge meetings, he interested himself earnestly in its welfare and prosperity. I had many opportunities of knowing him beyond the circle of Freemasonry, and probably felt his loss, both as an intimate friend and Mason, more keenly than others outside his own family.

Initiated at Baildon in 1864 (April 20,) just after the death of Dr. Fearnley, then D.P.G.M. of W. Yorkshire, he had but got through the rudimentary offices of Masonry when I became acquainted with him, as J.W., at my initiation, February 28th, 1866, he having served J.D. in 1865. He was appointed J.W. at the preceding St. John's, January 10th, 1866. The friendship then begun never diminished, and, I believe, up to the hour of his death, his regard for myself amounted almost to affection. I sent up the following memento to the *Freemason* :—

“ Bro. Thos. Murgatroyd closed his earthly labours on the 25th ult., at the early age of thirty-nine, and was interred with every mark of respect on the 29th November, at St. Paul's Church, Shipley, the vicar, the Rev. W. Kelly, officiating. Most of the shops in the town were closed during the funeral, and a large number of persons attended at the church to pay their tribute of respect to the memory of a highly-esteemed townsman. The funeral procession was in the following order:—The members of the Shipley police force: tradesmen and gentlemen of the neighbourhood; the medical profession; the W.M., officers, and members of the Airedale Lodge, No. 387; the hearse; mourning coaches containing the widow and friends of the deceased. Whilst the coffin was being lowered into

the grave, the relatives and friends of the deceased placed flowers, and the W.M., officers, and members of the Airedale Lodge each a sprig of acacia, upon it, the latter ceremony evidently incomprehensible to the large assemblage in the churchyard.

Bro. Dr. Murgatroyd was born at Baildon Green, near Shipley, on the 9th February, 1839, and educated at Scalebro' Park School, Burley-in-Wharfedale. He was afterwards apprenticed to Bro. Dr. Taylor of Bradford, and eventually took his degrees as a surgeon in 1862, when he commenced practice in Shipley. During the sixteen years of his residence in the town, his naturally generous and kindly disposition won for him the affection of all classes with whom he came in contact. He was surgeon to the West Riding Constabulary and held other public appointments.

As a Mason, our late brother was universally beloved by the members of his lodge, (Airedale, No. 387,) in which, whilst at Baildon, he was initiated in 1864, and may be regarded as the connecting link between two generations. Though of a somewhat retiring disposition, he attained the dignity of W.M. in 1868; and acting for many subsequent years as Installing Master, he acquired from the members the name of “second father” of the lodge, a title justly merited for his Masonic attainments, fidelity to the ancient landmarks, and general earnest attachment to what he believed to be the true interests of the Order. Alike a faithful brother and a firm friend, he put into practice in private life the precepts inculcated by pure Freemasonry.

The many bystanders, however, who were moved to tears during the funeral ceremony, testified to his worth far more eloquently than any written eulogium on his character.

He had a hand, open as day,
To melting charity.

The lodge went into mourning for three months, and a letter of condolence was sent to Mrs. Murgatroyd; whilst such was the desire to show marked respect to the memory of so worthy a brother,

that the installation of new Master being on December 11th, it was decided to have no banquet on that occasion, as customary. The Airedale, or, indeed, any lodge, can ill afford to lose members as zealous as our late Bro. Murgatroyd, and now that the earth has closed over his remains, it may not be unprofitable to reflect that there are few members of the lodge who, if they would look around them, could not do something towards filling up the void he has left us. In this year St. John's Lodge, Halifax, No. 1736; Leopold Lodge, Scarbro', No. 1760; and Ivanhoe Lodge, No 1779, Sheffield, were constituted.

On January 8th, 1879, valuable presents made to the lodge before the opening of the new hall were duly acknowledged in the lodge, and the several donors were unanimously thanked for the same, viz.: The lectern, by Bro. John Hey, P.M.; W.M.'s ivory gavel, by Bro. Saml. Jackson, P.M.; mirror in preparing-room, by Bro. Chas. Howroyd, P.M.; mirror in committee-room by Bro. Chas. Roebuck, P.M.; pedestal Bible, by Bro. S. A. Auty, W.M.; trestle tables in dining-room, by Bro. Fred Ives, S.W.; and three "Duke of York" pedestals, and curtains in Tyler's room, by Bro. C. W. Marchbank.

Owing to the severe distress in the district, and especially in Shipley at this time, I gave much thought to the subject of relief, and without communicating in any way with my lodge, I sent out a circular, first to the W. Masters, and afterwards to the 400 brethren in the Bradford district. From the first, however, I was warned that the project would not be supported, but the reasons assigned

were so unsatisfactory that I would not attribute them to Masons, more especially as several distinguished and influential Past Masters not only highly approved of the scheme, but strongly urged me to carry it out. My own lodge meantime at once responded most generously, and others were willing earnestly to support me; but as I felt that for such a fund the credit of the Order should have primary consideration—and as this could only be assured by the movement being general and finding moreover that this was impossible, I was obliged to relinquish the plan and discontinue further action in the matter. Since then, however, we have had occasion to apply the same scheme for the relief of distress so successfully that on this ground I give a copy of the circular. (Appendix I.)

I have now only to state that since the opening of the new hall six candidates have been initiated in the Airedale Lodge. A son of our late Bro. Dr. Murgatroyd has, through the earnestness of the brethren and zeal of the Charity Steward, (Bro. Fred. W. Booth, P. Prov. G.D.C.,) been elected to the Boys' School. I had marked out the latter event, and certainly now regard these generally satisfactory results as signs of prosperity with which I may fitly conclude my task. For the special effort of the lodge £36 has been raised for the Boys' School, and altogether £66 for the Masonic Charities during 1879.

May the next fifty-two years' history of the Airedale Lodge be as creditable and equally progressive, and may the bonds of fellowship and brotherly love continue to unite all the members;

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May the next fifty-two years' history of the Airedale Lodge be as creditable and equally progressive, and may the bonds of fellowship and brotherly love continue to unite all the members;

and, as the elders pass away to their rest, may their places be filled by generations of worthy Masons anxious to tread in their footsteps. May these not only emulate their example, but so imbibe the true lessons of our Order that the differences and jealousies of our common nature be never permitted to act prejudicially either to a brother or to the lodge. I know of nothing more powerful for good than the chain of Freemasonry, but if the links rust through disuse, or break away in consequence of any fancied slight or want of appreciation in the lodge, who can estimate the loss to that lodge, and, indeed, to society at large?

That some abler pen may take up the thread of history in the future, and derive as elevating pleasure from the task as it has been my lot and privilege to experience, is the wish most prominent to my mind in concluding this unpretending account of my mother lodge.



APPENDIX.

A.

On January 5th, 1790, Bro. Colonel Lenox was ballotted for and admitted a member of the Duke of York's Lodge. In the previous year this brother fought a duel with the Duke of York on Wimbledon Common, which, absurd as the whole proceedings appear, made a considerable sensation throughout the country. As an interesting episode of the lodge and a record of the time, and especially as a practical illustration of the influence exerted by the teaching of Freemasonry, I give the origin of the duel and a report published by the two seconds. Amongst non-Masons the general opinion will of course be, that teachings which did not make such an exhibition altogether impossible between two Masons are not of much value. I cannot fairly find fault with such an opinion, but the Craft for whom alone this work is written, must decide whether the bit of Freemasonry in the sequel is not the only redeeming feature of this burlesque *affaire d'honneur*.

A dispute happened between His Royal Highness the Duke of York and Colonel Lenox (son of Lord George Lenox, and nephew and heir to the Duke of Richmond) which terminated in a duel. This dispute originated in an observation of His Royal Highness, namely, that Colonel Lenox had heard words spoken to him at the club at Daubigny's to which no gentleman ought to have submitted. This observation being reported to the Colonel, he took the opportunity, while His Royal Highness was on parade, to address him, desiring to know what were the words which he had submitted to hear, and by whom they were spoken. To this His Royal Highness gave no other answer than by ordering the Colonel to his post.

The parade being over, His Royal Highness went into the orderly room and

sending for the Colonel, intimated to him, in the presence of all the officers, that he desired to derive no protection from his rank as a prince and his station as a commanding officer, but that when not on duty he wore a brown coat, and was ready, as a private gentleman, to give the Colonel satisfaction.

After this declaration Colonel Lenox wrote a circular letter to every member at Daubigny's, requesting to know whether any such words had been used to him, and appointing a time for an answer from each, their silence to be considered as a declaration that no such words could be recollected. No satisfactory answer to this being returned, the duel took place, of which the following account was published by the seconds :—

In consequence of a dispute already known to the public, His Royal Highness the Duke of York, attended by Lord Rawdon, and Lieutenant-Colonel Lenox, accompanied by the Earl of Winchelsea, met at Wimbledon Common. The ground was measured at twelve paces, and both parties were to fire at a signal agreed upon. The signal being given, Lieutenant-Colonel Lenox fired, and the ball grazed His Royal Highness's curl. The Duke of York did not fire.

Lord Rawdon then interfered and said he thought enough had been done. Lieutenant-Colonel Lenox observed that His Royal Highness had not fired. Lord Rawdon said it was not the Duke's intention to fire. His Royal Highness had come out upon Lieutenant-Colonel Lenox's desire, to give him satisfaction, and had no animosity against him. Lieutenant-Colonel Lenox pressed that the Duke of York should fire, which was declined upon a repetition of the reason. Lord Winchelsea then went up to the Duke of York and expressed his hope that His Royal Highness could have no objection to say he considered Lieutenant-Colonel Lenox as a man of honour and courage. His Royal Highness replied that he should say nothing; he came out to give Lieutenant-Colonel Lenox satisfaction, and did not mean to fire at him; if Lieutenant-Colonel Lenox was not satisfied he might fire again.

Lieutenant-Colonel Lenox said he could not possibly fire again at the Duke, as His Royal Highness did not mean to fire at him. On this both parties left the ground. The seconds think it proper to

add that both parties behaved with the most perfect coolness and intrepidity.

Tuesday evening.
May 26th, 1789.

RAWDON.
WINCHELSEA.

B.

LAWS, RULES, AND REGULATIONS, for the Government of the Duke of York's Lodge begun and established at the House of Brother Thomas Watson, the Sign of the Black Boy, in Doncaster, in the County of York, the first day of September, in the year of Masonry 5788, and in the year of our Lord 1788.

THE DUKE OF YORK'S LODGE is constituted to consist of the following Officers, viz. :—

A Right Worshipful Master,
Senior Warden,
Junior Warden,
Treasurer,
Secretary, and
Tyler,

who are authorized to wear such Badges of Masonry as are usual or proper in their respective offices. And the presiding officers of such lodge with the consent of the other members thereof whose names are hereunto subscribed, in open Lodge assembled, have made the following Bye-Laws :—

1st. That the Lodge shall assemble at six o'clock in the evening precisely on the first Monday of the following months; viz. :—October, November, December, January, February, March, and April; and at seven o'clock precisely during the months of May, June, July, August, and September. And that all officers absent at the hour of meeting shall forfeit sixpence each, except such absentee be sick, confined, or distant three miles from the lodge.

2nd. That the Lodge shall be duly closed at half an hour past Ten o'clock at night, otherwise the presiding officers to forfeit one shilling each.

3rd. That as without order and regularity, this, and every other regular

Society, must submit to a total Dissolution; therefore at the third stroke of the Master's Maul, every Brother shall be silent.

4th. That every brother shall appear in clean, decent Apparel, with proper Clothing; and observe a due Decorum, while the lodge is engaged in what is serious and solemn; otherwise the transgressor not to be permitted to sit in the lodge.

5th. That if any brother in this lodge, curse, swear, lay or offer to lay wagers, or use any reproachful language in derogation of God's Name and corruption of good manners, or interrupt any officer while speaking or otherwise misdemean himself, he or they shall be fined at the discretion of the Master and majority.

6th. That if any member of this lodge come disguised in liquor, he shall be admonished by the presiding officers, for the first offence; for the second, of the same nature, he shall be fined sixpence; and for the third, or refusing to pay his fine, he shall be excluded, without any benefit from the lodge.

7th. That a lecture on the Science of Masonry shall precede all manner of Business, except making of masons, and chusing of officers.

8th. That any person desirous of being made a mason in this lodge, shall be proposed by a member hereof, in lodge hours, the monthly meeting immediately preceding his reception, viz.:—his name, age, occupation, and residence, that the brethren may make a strict inquiry into the candidate's character. And the brother that makes such report shall at the same time deposit Ten Shillings and Sixpence in the Treasurer's hands to ensure the lodge that the candidate will attend. On the first regular meeting after such candidate has been proposed, he shall be ballotted for, and if less than two negatives appear against him, he shall be approved of and made. Upon which, said candidate shall pay whatsoever sum the brethren may think proper, not under Two Pounds Twelve Shillings and Sixpence sterling, including the above Ten Shillings and Sixpence. But if the lodge do not approve the candidate's character, the said Ten Shillings and Sixpence shall be faithfully returned to him. But in case the lodge approve of him and he refuse to be made, then shall he forfeit said Ten Shillings and Sixpence to the brethren. It is here most strictly recommended to all the brethren in general, and to the members of this lodge in particular, to be extremely cautious in their recommendations that none may arrive at the knowledge of our sacred mysteries, but those who, they are fully convinced and can safely vouch for, will be conformable to the honourable

laws and incomparable maxims of our ancient society. And it is hereby further declared, that no person is capable of being made a mason in this lodge, but such as is of a mature age, has the senses of a man, is free from bondage, and endowed with an estate, trade, occupation, calling, or in some visible way of gaining an honest and reputable livelihood, as becomes the members of this antient and honourable Fraternity.

9th. That any old mason desirous of becoming a member of this lodge shall be proposed by a member hereof, in lodge hours, on the monthly meeting immediately preceding his admission; and if, after being ballotted for, as before mentioned in the 8th Article, he shall happen to be approved of and admitted, such brother shall pay whatsoever sum the brethren may think proper, not under Five Shillings.

10th. That if any admitted member has been only initiated into the first degree of masonry, and is desirous of being passed to the second degree in this lodge, he shall make known his resolution to the Master and presiding Officers on a regular monthly meeting while the lodge is open; and if such brother shall have the good fortune after intimation thereof has been given by the master to the brethren then assembled, to meet with their approbation and concurrence, he shall be passed on the regular meeting thereafter, in due Form. And that said brother shall thereupon pay whatsoever sum the brethren may think proper, not under Five Shillings. But if such admitted member has already been passed to the second degree of masonry, and desires to become a master mason in this lodge after a report thereof has been made, as above, and the consent of the brethren for that purpose obtained, said brother shall be raised on the first regular meeting succeeding such report. And that thereupon he shall pay whatsoever sum may be then agreed upon, not under Five Shillings.

11th. That no visitors shall be admitted after lodge hours, nor at any time, without the knowledge and consent of the presiding officers; and if such visitors, after report made, are approved of and admitted, each of them shall pay any sum which may be then stipulated, not less than Five Shillings sterling. And it is hereby ordered and declared, that no brother shall be allowed to visit this lodge a second time, except he belongs to, and is present member of a regular constituted lodge. But sojourners to be admitted at the discretion of the master and presiding officers.

12th. That on each of the monthly meetings of November, February, May, and August, every member of this lodge shall pay Four Shillings and Sixpence

sterling, present or absent. But if any member hereof may be under a necessity of absenting himself from three following monthly meetings, upon previous intimation thereof being given to the master of the lodge, such absentee shall only pay Three Shillings upon any of the above quarterly meetings.

13th. That if an Emergency meeting be called to make a candidate, already reported to the lodge, such candidate shall defray the expenses thereof exclusive of the lodge dues for making, &c., provided said dues and expenses do not exceed Five Pounds Fifteen Shillings and Sixpence sterling.

14th. At the third stroke of the Master's Hammer, (always to be repeated by the Wardens) there shall be a general silence: and he who breaks silence without leave from the chair, shall be publicly reprimanded.

15th. Every brother shall take his seat and keep strict silence, whenever the Master, or his Deputy, shall think proper to rise from the chair, and call to order.

16th. That every one who speaks shall rise, and keep standing, addressing the chair; nor shall any interrupt him, unless the Master, or his Deputy, finding him deviate from the point in hand, shall think fit to reduce him to order; but after he hath been set right, he may again proceed if he pleases.

17th. That if in this lodge, any person after having been twice called to order, shall be guilty of a third offence, the Master, or his Deputy, shall peremptorily order him to quit the room for that night.

18th. That whoever shall hiss at a brother, or at what he says, he shall be immediately excluded the lodge, and be declared incapable of ever being a member of the lodge for the future, unless he publicly owns his fault, and asks pardon of the party offended.

19th. That this Lodge shall transmit regular Lists of its members, with the registering fee of Five Shillings each member, to the Provincial Grand Master or his Deputy, at the usual and proper times.

20th. That an annual sum of money shall be paid by this Lodge, towards the general Fund of Charity, into the hands of the Provincial Grand Treasurer, at the last Grand Lodge for each year, or at least before the end of March in the following year, in order that such sum may be paid into the fund of the Grand Lodge on each quarterly communication preceding the Grand Feast.

21st. That the brethren with the master of this lodge, when congregated, shall have power and authority to make, amend, correct or explain the foregoing Laws, or any such other Bye-Laws, Rules, and Orders, as shall be hereinafter contained, as may seem most necessary and convenient to them, provided such amendments, additions, or alterations, do not remove the antient land-marks of our most antient and honourable Society.

That every member of this lodge shall sign the Rules, Laws, and Regulations, in this Book contained, hereby subjecting himself to the strict observance of them.

C. Plummer, M.
Jos. Hawley, S.W.
Thos. Girdley, J.W.
William Bennett, T.
WM. Sleeford, S.
George Nicholson.
Thos. Priest.
Joseph Webster.

Wm. Lockwood.
Robt. Henry.
John Nicholson.
Thomas Atkinson.
Thomas Bingham.
Thos. Watson.
Willm. Hall.

C.

Three brethren of the Duke of York's Lodge attended the Provincial Grand Lodge at York in 1808; and a note of their expenses, now interesting, is copied and reproduced hereunder:

		EXPENCES PAID TO YORK AND BACK.			£	s.	d.
Oct. 25, 1808.	Dinners and Ale at Bradford	...	...	...	0	3	3
	Coach-hire from Bradford to York	...	...	...	0	18	0
	Paid to Coachmen and Guards and expenses to York	...	...	...	0	6	7
Oct. 26.	Paid to the Provincial Grand Lodge for the Hall—Lickquadrations and Register Fees	...	...	...	4	5	6
	Dinner Tickets for three, at 10s. 6d. each	...	...	...	1	11	6
	Coach-hire from York to Bradford	...	...	...	0	18	0
	Sunderey Expences to Coachmen and Guards and upon the Road from York to Bingley	...	...	...	0	7	2
121					£8 10 0		

D.

The following interesting circular was sent to the Duke of York's Lodge, 438, Bingley, in 1810, about the date stated. The occasion is referred to in the History:

To the Worshipful Master, Senior and Junior Wardens, and the rest of the Officers and Brethren of the Lodge Duke of York, 438, Bingley.

Worshipful Sir and Brothers,—We beg to inform you that we intend to have a procession here in honour of His Royal Highness George Prince of Wales, our worthy Grand Master's birthday (to be kept on the 13th August next.) We therefore particularly wish the attendance of as many brothers as possibly can from your lodge. Your reply, on or near the 31st instant, saying what number we may expect, will oblige us.

Dinner tickets, &c., 7s. each.

It is also desired that such as mean to walk will not be later than nine o'clock.

The dress (if convenient) black coat, waistcoat, breeches, white apron, gloves, and stockings.

We remain, Worshipful Sir and Brothers,
Your faithful Brothers,

Lodge of Hope, No. 539.	}	Rd. M. SCHOLEFIELD, M.
Bowling Green, Bradford,		JOHN TALBOT, S.W.
July 11th, 1810.		

E.

Original petition for a lodge at Baildon, noting the alterations subsequently made, sent to Robert Carr, Esq., Deputy Grand Master, Wakefield, in January, 1827:—

TO THE MOST WORSHIPFUL PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER OF THE UNITED
FRATERNITY OF ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF ENGLAND.

We, the undersigned, being regular registered Masons of the Lodges mentioned against our respective names, having the prosperity of the Craft at heart, are anxious to exert our best endeavours to promote and diffuse the genuine principles of the

art, and for the conveniency of our respective dwellings and other good reasons, we are desirous of forming a new lodge to be named the Duke of York's Lodge [subsequently altered to "Airedale Lodge."]

In consequence of this desire we pray for a Warrant of Constitution empowering us to meet as a regular lodge at the Malt Shovel Inn, Baildon, in the West Riding of Yorkshire, on the first Wednesday of every month [altered to "on or nearest to the full moon,"] and there to discharge the duties of Masonry in a constitutional manner, according to the forms of the Order and the Laws of the Grand Lodge, and we have nominated and do recommend Brother William Simpson to be the first Master [altered to "Wainman Holmes,"] Bro. John Smith to be the first Senior Warden, and Brother Abraham Hartley to be the first Junior Warden of the said lodge. The prayer of this petition being granted, we promise strict obedience to the commands of the Grand Master and the laws and regulations of the Grand Lodge.

Wm. Simpson, Kendal, No. 175.*	Thomas Lund, Keighley, No. 503.
John Smith, Keighley, No. 503.	Jeremiah Parker, Do. No. 503.†
Abm. Hartley, Do. No. 503.	William Fox, Do. No. 503.
Wm. Foulds, Do. No. 503.†	Phineas Smith, Do. No. 503.
Thos Wild, Do. No. 503.†	Abm. Bolton, Bradford, No. 565.
Richard Stell, Do. No. 503.	

The amended Petition (re-written and signed) was transmitted to the Grand Lodge by Bro. Carr, Dep. Prov. G.M., 5th February, 1827.

* Altered to "Wainman Holmes, Bradford, 565." † Omitted afterwards as not returned.

F.

The following is a copy of a letter sent to the W.M. of Airedale Lodge, in 1831, and is a specimen of Masonic Charity as practised fifty years ago:—

Dated at Keighley, June 18th, 1831.

W. SIR AND BRO.,

The purport of this letter is to inform you that Bro. James Shaw, of Bingley, is in such a state of health as to be confined to his bed of a mortification in the leg, and is in such a state of mind that he does not know any person he has been

particularly acquainted with, and, as a brother, I think he requires immediate relief. We have set a subscription on foot at our place, and I thought that I would let you know, knowing that he was a worthy brother, hoping that you would do likewise, as he has no other dependence but the parish allowance. He is at Abraham Grace's the Fleece Inn, in Bingley, and I hope to be there at 4 o'clock to-morrow afternoon, and I should be glad to see any of your brothers there.

I remain, yours fraternally,

JOSH. MURGATROYD.

G.

Address of Condolence.

Masonic Hall,

Shipley, 12th Oct., 1870.

DEAR MADAM,

At the regular meeting of the Airedale Lodge, No. 387, this day a resolution was unanimously passed by the Brethren, that a letter of Condolence be addressed to the Widow of our late Brother John Mann.

We are sensible of the heaviness of that trial which it has pleased God, in His inscrutable but infinite wisdom, should at this time come upon you; and in the fullness of our grief we cannot but feel how very little, in this hour of your bereavement, we can expect to mitigate *your* sorrows.

Nevertheless, we beg to offer you our sincere commiseration and heartfelt sympathy, and we pray that inasmuch as He has thought fit to remove our dear Brother from the cares and troubles of this transitory life, thereby breaking the fraternal chain which binds us together: He will in His mercy so instil into your and our minds the uncertainty of life and the vanity of all human pursuits, that when *our* earthly course is run and *our* work ended; we may be found so prepared for the same great change, that we may rise from the tomb of transgression to shine as the stars for ever and ever. May we, when the last scene of this sublunary existence shall gradually fade from our weary eyes, open them in those immortal mansions of the Grand Lodge above, where sorrow is unknown and the King of Terrors never enters. We are but human, and must, therefore, mourn; but whilst you mourn over one who has been your partner and protector, we trust that the husband and father has but exchanged the troubles of this weary life for the eternal rest of Heaven.

Rest assured, dear Madam, that He Who "tempers the wind to the shorn lamb," will in His infinite mercy look down with tender compassion upon the widow and the fatherless in the hour of their desolation. May the Great Architect of the Universe preserve both you and yours from all evil; may He give you true Christian resignation to patiently submit to His will, and guide your feet into the way of peace.

The signatures of 35 members, including the most distinguished members of Airedale Lodge, are attached to this document. The late Bro. H. J. Wardman had the Address (which was my production, and therefore scarcely a work of art, labour of love, though it was) suitably framed in black, and gave me much assistance in obtaining the signatures by driving me to Baildon, and other places on several occasions. Like most of us, he had a very high regard for Bro. Mann, whose death was very sudden. His opinion of this Address of Condolence was expressed to me with tears of genuine sympathy.

J. R. R.

H.

*Letter from Bro. John C. Taylor, P.M., to J. R. Riley,
February 19, 1878.*

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,

I write to say that I have been reading your History of the Airedale Lodge,* and I have been very much pleased with it, for it brings old times and Brethren to my mind, for I knew and was well acquainted with a many of them. At page 14 the John Craven was my grandfather. I was called after him. I have a circular of his framed dated 1812. The Phineas Smith was a tinner by trade and he went to the different lodges to give the Mark degree, and very often left his hat (he had a rough head of hair) having forgotten it. When I took it a William Fox and some Brethren from the Royal Yorkshire, came up to Haworth on Sunday, in 1835. He (Wm. Fox) kept the Lord Rodney Inn, in Keighley. The Lodge was held at his house before he let them have a private room behind the Inn. The Thos. Fox I have forgotten, but might be his brother. The Thos. Lund was a joiner and did all kind of work for hand-weavers, and for Mill masters. I used to go to his shop in the morning of a holiday, and spend the whole day with him, and living at his house * * * Richard Stell was a mechanic * * * Hugh Eaton was a Spirit Merchant, and Joseph Murgatroyd that Bro. Wainman Holmes

* My address so-called. J. R. R.

particularly acquainted with, and, as a brother, I think he requires immediate relief. We have set a subscription on foot at our place, and I thought that I would let you know, knowing that he was a worthy brother, hoping that you would do likewise, as he has no other dependence but the parish allowance. He is at Abraham Grace's the Fleece Inn, in Bingley, and I hope to be there at 4 o'clock to-morrow afternoon, and I should be glad to see any of your brothers there.

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* My address so-called. J. R. R.

speaks of meeting in Bradford, was a manufacturer or manager for one. He used to give the excellent and super-excellent degrees. I walked from Bradford to Keighley and back, to his funeral just when I had got better of a fever and had no hoofs on my feet. What a getting home I had! My cousin married his daughter. * * *

The John Smith and William Fox whose names are in your Warrant, the former kept the White Horse Inn, in Bingley, for a very long time, and was a member of the Scientific till he died. The latter was a corn-miller at Cockcroft Fould, Harden. He did not join the Scientific, but gave a "Preston" to the Lodge * * * At page 33 your Brethren came to the consecration of the Scientific Lodge in 1841. That was when it was removed from Cullingworth to Bingley. The Warrant was granted in 1836, and I was appointed its first W.M., so I was chosen for its first W.M. at Bingley. I am very sorry that you cannot find the former minute book. I do not think that they would make P. or R. any on Baildon Moor, but only practise. At that time there were not so many masons as now so we had to make appointments on Sunday—Haworth and Station House Bottoms—on Haworth Moor—Baildon Moor—Keighley, and Bradford, and Halifax, near Queensbury,* but there were no minutes kept of them that I knew of. As for your Royal Arch Chapter, the names of every one of them besides your own from Baildon are from the Chapter of Judea, Keighley. I think that most of the old Baildon companions took the degree at Keighley (as I did myself.) There were some very good workers there then, and Baildon was always more connected with Keighley than Bradford, for it was more alive at that time.

The first revival of Baildon was given by some Brethren at Bingley wanting to have a second lodge, and we not liking to remove the "Scientific" and Baildon being low,† they applied to buy or get it removed to Bingley. But they sprouse up‡ and would not, and revived their own. We then agreed to go from Cullingworth to Bingley. Excuse me for writing.

I remain, yours fraternally,
J. C. TAYLOR.

* Then called Queen's Head.

† In funds and numbers.

‡ Were offended. J. R. R.

I.

[Copy of Circular forwarded to the Worshipful Masters of
302, 387, 600, 974, 1018, 1034, and 1648.]

Heath House,
Bradford, 25th January, 1879.

DEAR SIR AND BRO.,

Now that there is a probability of having a properly organised central committee for the relief of the distressed poor of Bradford, I propose to form a Fund to be paid weekly to such committee, to be called the "BRADFORD MASONIC FUND," and I beg most earnestly and respectfully to solicit your support, and that of the members of your lodge, to the same, which needs no recommendation.

Having a very extensive acquaintance amongst the brethren, I propose to devote every Saturday Afternoon to call upon Freemasons only for the purposes of this fund, towards which I shall receive subscriptions from sixpence upwards weekly, as the circumstances of each brother will permit; the amount thus collected to be paid every Monday to the central committee when formed, under the name above stated.

My object being strictly and wholly for the honour of Freemasonry, may I beg that you will help me by interesting the members of your lodge in its behalf, especially as without the assistance of your Secretary many members of your lodge could scarcely fail to be overlooked. I feel confident, however, that several brethren from each lodge will so sympathize with the movement as to be willing to co-operate and assist in collecting subscriptions. I shall be very grateful for such assistance and believe work can be found for all such volunteers.

There being many of the members of my own lodge upon whom alleviation of the distress at Shipley and Windhill I know has and is falling heavily, I should not include these except as voluntary subscribers to *Bradford*, but there are twenty-eight who reside in Bradford, or near it, and these I can count upon independently of the very many members of the craft who belong to Bradford lodges, and upon whom I should personally call for weekly subscriptions.

The sum is small but the good to be done is great; and it is within the bounds of possibility that whilst some may be able to give their pounds, which will be very acceptable, many poorer brethren will be equally glad to give their sixpences,

though perhaps unable to do more: and I hope, therefore, the weekly amount will be such as the Freemasons of Bradford may be proud of.

I remain, Dear Sir and Brother,

Yours truly and fraternally,

J. RAMSDEN RILEY, P.M., 387.

I enclose copies of this Circular all stamped which you will no doubt instruct your Secretary to address and forward with as little delay as possible. The project does not emanate from any particular lodge but is entirely my own idea.

K.

Allman's Lodge, Almondbury, pages 25 and 42. This Lodge is generally called Allman's Aldermanbury, London, Bro. Hughan having made the same error.

L.

Oblivion. A name given by me to an old chest as explained on page 87. The second resolution on page 7 refers to the identical piece of lodge property, which in 1790 was regarded with a certain amount of reverence. Its glory departed with advancing years, and holding a gradually less dignified position at Bingley and Baildon, its degradation was completed at Shipley. I make use of this word in the preface to suggest how many masonic documents have been lost, others destroyed, and where many are likely to be discovered.

M.

Humourous Notes.

Pages 55 and 56. Whilst recording these notes as I found them, it must not be understood that I consider the minute book of the Lodge to be their proper place. Considerable allowance should be made however, because neither envy nor jealousy existed where brethren practised what they professed. Generally, there were few secrets between the members, all of whom stated their opinions candidly in consequence. These and many more such notes were entered quite innocently in the minute book, where they remain as incontestable proofs of the excellence of masonic teaching.

N.

On page 91 mention is made of a letter and "Reminiscences" of our first Worshipful Master (Bro. Wainman Holmes).

As this is of very great interest, we feel that this History would be incomplete without it, and we therefore append a copy from J. R. Riley's published address, on the 50th Anniversary celebration. It reads as follows:—

MALMESBURY, WILTS.,

APRIL 10th, 1877.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,

After much consideration I have concluded not to visit your Lodge as you kindly requested me to-morrow evening. 'Tis a long journey, and at present I have no business whatever that calls me into Yorkshire; I have hastily noted down a few Reminiscences of 50 years standing in connection with your Lodge, which you can make use of as you think proper: you must excuse errors of the pen for I have not time for corrections. I hope Bro. Nicholas Walker will be with you at the Lodge, as he could add many additions to my remarks. Remember me kindly to the W.M., and all brethren; with my best wishes for the future good of the Airedale Lodge,

I am, Dear Sir and Brother,

Yours truly and fraternally,

W. HOLMES.

Perhaps some of your brethren would like to have it read in the Lodge.

REMINISCENCES OF AN OLD MASON ON HEARING OF THE 50th ANNIVERSARY OF CONSECRATION OF THE AIREDALE LODGE

First, my Grand Lodge Certificates lay before me: one states W.H. was regularly received into Freemasonry on the 16th day of October, A.L. 5826, and admitted to the third degree on the 15th day of January, 5827, in the Lodge of Hope, No. 565. This certificate is signed by William H. White and Edward Harper, G.S. The Royal Arch Certificate bears date of admission on the 9th day of September (by the Chapter of Judea, No. 503) A.L. 1827, and is signed by Augustus Frederick, Z., Dundas, H., and J. Ramsbottom, J. also William H. White and Edward Harper, E. and N.

Fifty years ago the Lodge of Hope was held at the Nag's Head Inn, Kirkgate, Bradford. My first attention to Free Masonry was drawn by seeing an engraving hung up in the Market Room there, drawing attention to our charity in connection with the aged and widows. Soon after I learned that Mr. Jonathan Walker, of Baildon, was belonging the Order, and through him I was proposed and initiated in the Lodge of Hope, then consisting of a very limited number; and it sometimes happened afterwards that we could barely open the Lodge through non-attendance. I do not know of one Brother Mason now living that met with us then; indeed years ago when I visited that Lodge there was only Bro. Richard Scholefield. From the opening of the Airedale Lodge the brethren of the Lodge of Hope always supported and assisted us in all their power. Oft in former years have the brethren from Baildon been trudging back home from visiting the Hope when the lark was singing, and *vice versa* in the days of Bro. Robert Haley, Bro. Abraham Bolton, and others. In the year 1827, Masonic instruction was not so diffused as now: nearly every market day I met Bro. Murgatroyd, from Keighley, in Bradford, and had an hour or two with him. Bro. Jonathan Walker also took great interest in meeting with other Keighley brethren, who were then considered to be "well posted up," and for years after the opening of the Airedale Lodge we met weekly for instruction, and in summer time formed different groups on Baildon Moor to lecture, and instruct the newly initiated. It strikes my mind that at that time "brotherly love" was our motto. Several of our brethren (say) Bros. Waterhouse, Jonathan Walker, John Walker and others, got well qualified to fill any office. When first Bro. Jonathan Walker and myself thought to have a Lodge in Baildon, we applied to one or two of those who had been members in the Duke of York's Lodge, in Bingley, which was then and had been laid dormant for years at the Queen's Head. James Scott had all the paraphernalia, etc., under his care, having lent some six pounds upon it, or rather say to the Lodge; he would give it up to us upon the payment of that sum. We paid him and removed all to the Malt Shovel Inn, Baildon, but found that the dispensation under which it had been held was void: no proper returns had been made; and about six whom I knew that were members had not been returned to the Provincial Grand Lodge, and were, therefore, not able to assist in getting a new warrant. Indeed we found some difficulty in finding the number properly registered and *paid up* before we could obtain it. Twice Bro. Jonathan Walker and me went to the Prov. Grand Secretary (Bro. France), the first time we had eight names—*only two were qualified*—the second time we thought we were "all right" but found *two properly qualified* were yet wanting! That was the reason that I was appointed W.M., and I added Bro. A.

Bolton's name before I mentioned it to him. I think not one of those whose names appear in the Airedale Warrants are now left but myself! Past events are now pouring upon me like a hailstone shower, and I scarcely know what to refer to.—How well I remember the many lively and happy meetings we had when old Bro. Winterburn used to trudge over regularly from Guiseley; Bro. Gaunt and others from Idle; Bro. Simpson from Bingley; we certainly did not keep good hours then—oft 'twas day-light when we parted! In 1827 there was only one Lodge in Bradford, and, as I have before remarked, few brethren met; and not one remains that I know of—the last old brother I saw was Robert Haley, and I never met him in a Lodge after the Hope removed from the Nag's Head Inn. If I remember right the following brethren's names appear in the warrant:

W. HOLMES, W.M., Hope Lodge
JOHN SMITH, S.W., Keighley Lodge
ABRAHAM HARTLEY, J.W., Keighley Lodge
THOS. LUND, Keighley Lodge
RICHARD STELL, Keighley Lodge
ABRAHAM BOLTON, Hope Lodge
Wm. FOX, Keighley Lodge

At a Lodge held prior to the consecration, we had with us old Bros. Thomas Smith, Hugh Heaton, and Wm. Simpson, also Bro. Jonathan Walker, who always took great interest in Masonry. This meeting was in March, 1827, and I believe five were proposed as candidates, viz: (first I would remark that not one of those whose names I have mentioned are now living; at least I think not.)

Proposed—

BENJAMIN WATERHOUSE (Dead)
JOHN WALKER
JOSEPH WALKER (Dead)
JOHN HUDSON (Dead)
ROBERT SMITH (Dead)

Only Bro. John Walker, now a member of the Baildon Lodge remains. I can call to mind many brethren that were present at the Consecration, namely—

FROM LODGE OF HOPE, 565.

Bro. ROBERT HALEY,
„ JOHN KING,
„ Wm. CROSSLAND,
„ JOHN RAMSDEN,
„ JOHN BEANLAND,
„ JOHN SNOWDEN,
„ R. HELM,
„ THOS. HILL,*
„ Abm. BOLTON,
„ JOHN MALONY (? MOLYNEUX)

*The only one I know living unless Bro. John Beanland be alive.

Besides others from Keighley, Batley, Howarth, and a few from other places, in all upwards of 60 brethren. We had a day of pleasure never to be forgot. Poor old Nicholson, the poet, was in the Malt Shovel Inn at the time, and seeing so many there, he composed a few lines for the occasion; Bro. Josh. Walker used to repeat them occasionally, but I have forgot them. I can well remember 6 to 7 of us going to visit the Humber Lodge, at Hull, from which we received much pleasure; also the Lodge then held at Mill Bridge, where we were very kindly and hospitably treated. As regards myself I have visited many Lodges, and several during the last few years; three years ago I spent two evenings in two different Lodges in St. Heliers, Jersey, where they have a splendid Masonic Hall. I visited Portland Lodge, also the Lodge of Weston-Super-Mare, and at Ryde, the Isle of Wight; on each of these occasions there was either initiation, passing or raising, and with one exception I took a part in the ceremony though it must be confessed I felt "very rusty." Out of the 50 years the Airedale Lodge has been constituted I think I should be W.M. and Secretary at least 30 or more years (perhaps near 40 years) and whatever I had to do I did it with pleasure, particularly in my younger days when Masonry was my "Hobby Horse." The nearest Lodge to my present residence is at Chippenham, 10 miles off; I have not visited it, being no longer a young man I cannot "knock about" as I used to do, though, thank God, I am enjoying good health, not forgetting that 'ere long I shall have my final notice given to attend the "everlasting Lodge." Oh! that I may be found "well posted up" and be able to pronounce "The Pass Word" with confidence, and through it be allowed even the lowest seat, but where I can see the "Grand Master" who ruleth and governs all things. May you, and all who meet to celebrate your Anniversary to-morrow, bear in mind that the true objects of Freemasonry is to post himself well up, and be prepared for a full examination by the Great Architect of the Universe, for if not so, and also your Certificate duly signed, you cannot expect to gain admittance to that Lodge where I hope every Brother Free Mason may meet to join in the song, "Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing."

Written in great haste; errors must be excused.

HISTORY OF
AIREDALE LODGE
No. 387 SHIPLEY

1880—1927

Compiled by

W. BRO. THOS. E. POWER, P.M. 387,
Secretary of Airedale Lodge, No. 387

1880

The year 1880 was a very busy one for the Lodge, the work consisting of twenty-four Ceremonies, *viz*:—Eight each in the three degrees.

1881

In the Minutes of February 16th, 1881, appears the following:—

Bro. J. Murgatroyd was placed before the J.W.'s pedestal, and the Working Tools were explained by Bro. J. W. Taylor, after which the Charge was given to him by the same Brother, opposite the S.W.'s pedestal.

It is to be noted that Bro. Taylor in this connection performed a dual office. He was not a P.M., his position being I.G. This Bro. J. W. Taylor must have been a very zealous and expert Bro., as I read of him later, when he had become J.D., giving the Working Tools to two Brethren and the Charge to three Brethren in the first degree on the same evening.

In 1881 there were thirteen Ceremonies, *viz*:—Six Initiations, four Passings and three Raisings.

1882

On April 5th, 1882, Bro. Wm. Turner, P.M., did a real service to Airedale Lodge in proposing as a candidate Mr. Francis Lister, who was duly initiated by his proposer on May 3rd, 1882, about forty-six years ago. Little did W. Bro. Turner think, nor could he possibly realise, that the young man he was then proposing would prove such a tower of strength to his Lodge and be in harness doing active work, both in his Mother Lodge, the Daughter Lodge and other degrees of Freemasonry, forty-six years afterwards.

On the Emergency Lodge Summons dated June 17th, 1882, summoning the Brethren to an Emergency Meeting on Friday the 23rd., it is stated:—

As on this evening the M.W. Grand Master, H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, will be staying at Milner Field, will you kindly state on enclosed post-card not later than Monday, whether you will be present or not, so that proper provision may be made for commemorating the occasion in a fitting manner?

There is no mention in the Minutes of having celebrated or commemorated the occasion, but this would no doubt be attended to around the festive board after Lodge business was finished. The Bradford Technical College was opened by the late King Edward VII and Queen Alexandra (then Prince and Princess of Wales), who were the guests of the late Mr. Titus Salt, of Milner Field, Saltaire.

At the Lodge Meeting on August 22nd, 1882, Bro. H. Mitchell, the W.M., presented to the Lodge the portrait of the M.W. Grand Master, H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, in commemoration of his visit to Shipley and Bradford.

The average attendance in 1882 was twenty-one Members, and twenty Ceremonies were performed, *viz*:—Five Initiations, seven Passings and eight Raisings.

1883

In the Minutes of December 12th, 1883, there is a resolution proposed by Bro. J. W. Taylor, S.W., seconded by Bro. Starkey Minakin, J.W., and carried unanimously:—

That the names of the Brethren who went as representing Airedale Lodge to the last Quarterly communication of Grand Lodge, in London, be entered in the Minute Book with such remarks as the Secretary may think proper.

The remarks inserted in the Minute Book by the Secretary are as follows:—

Referring to the proposition above named, Bro. Elias Heaton, W.M.; Bro. E. Bottomley, W.M. Elect.; Bro. John Hey, P.M., Treasurer; Bro. F. W. Booth, P.M.; Bro. Charles Howroyd, P.M.; Bro. Henry Mitchell, I.P.M.; Bro. S. Auty, P.M., and Bro. J. R. Riley, P.M., Secretary, attended Grand Lodge on Wednesday, December 12th, to vote against an extraordinary proposition, which, if carried, would have entailed a serious unnecessary outlay in the rebuilding of Freemasons' Hall, as well as future inconvenience by the indiscreet extension of leases. Mainly by the support of the Brethren from East Lancashire, the proposition was lost, and the amendment of the Prov. G. Registrar of West Yorks. met with the almost unanimous support of Grand Lodge. The object of this deputation was attained in every way, and, whilst the Airedale Lodge cannot but feel great satisfaction that a matter in which it so strongly interested itself received such marked support on this occasion outside West Yorkshire, it is still more of importance to the Craft at large that what we believe would have proved both a great financial failure and, in the future, a grievous burden has, by the determined efforts of this and other Lodges, been avoided. That the Airedale Lodge should send six Past Masters with the Worshipful Master and W.M. Elect is highly creditable to it, but it also unmistakably demonstrates that our ancient prestige still lives, and that, although death is busy amongst us, the same fire which fifty years ago warmed the breasts of our predecessors now exists as then. The Brethren who attended on this occasion felt that they had more than a simple duty to perform. They felt that Airedale had entrusted to them the keeping up of her ancient name, which may the G.A.O.T.U. ever preserve.

The average attendance in 1883 was twenty-four, and there were fifteen Ceremonies performed, *viz*:—Five Initiations, five Passings and five Raisings.

1884

The year 1884 seems to have been a very trying one for the Secretary, Bro. J. Ramsden Riley, P.M., who had repeatedly

endeavoured to interest the Brethren in the revision of the By-Laws. The Minutes of February 13th, 1884, state:—

Bro. J. R. Riley, P.M., proposed that the revised and complete By-Laws being now ready a meeting of the Lodge Committee be summoned immediately to consider and report on them in their entirety next Regular Meeting in order that a new edition may be issued. There was no seconder, so that the delay, if any, now rests with the Brethren.

In the Minutes of the next Meeting held March 12th, 1884, we read:—

Bro. S. A. Auty, P.M., referred to the oversight in not seconding Bro. P. M. Riley's proposition at the last Meeting, and in due course proposed that a meeting of the Lodge Committee be summoned for the consideration of the By-Laws as soon as possible. Seconded by Bro. S. Minnakin, J.W.

There would appear to have been a certain amount of lethargy on the part of the Brethren in dealing with the revision of the By-Laws, since it was not until several months later (July, 1884) that the matter again came before the Lodge, when Bro. J. R. Riley, P.M., read a list of the proposed revisions (which is pasted in the Minute Book) and on the proposition of Bro. Elias Heaton, seconded by Bro. A. E. Allatt, the same was referred to the Lodge Committee for report in the usual manner.

In Minutes of Emergency Lodge held October 15th, 1884, we read:—

Bro. S. A. Auty, P.M., reported that the Lodge Committee had discussed the By-Laws in a complete form and now presented these to the Lodge.

The By-Law question created a lot of discussion at this meeting, and one Junior Brother in particular, whose name I will not mention, appears to have been very aggressive in his opposition to the mode of procedure in revising the By-Laws. This notwithstanding the fact that at a previous meeting it had

been decided that the same should be referred to the Lodge Committee for report in the usual manner. The discussion was evidently a very lengthy one, since the Minutes state:—

... Bro. . . . , being the only dissident, failed to find a seconder and the amendment was lost. There was now no time to proceed with the By-Laws or other business, which had to be neglected, and the acting W.M. closed the Lodge with prayer according to ancient custom at 9-15.

Along with these Minutes there are two notes by the Secretary, reading as follows:—

Several matters of business ought to have been brought forward this evening, but being left in the ordinary way until the questions round, had to be entirely abandoned. One of these, the Secretary desires it to be known that he much regrets; *viz.*: the letter of condolence to Mrs. Magson. This was amongst the Secretary's papers to bring forward with one or two less important matters, the Lodge having to be closed hurriedly at 9-15 without the usual questions being given.

J. Ramsden Riley, P.M., Secretary.

This book, entered up to October 15th inclusive, sent with my resignation to the Worshipful Master, October 17th. By the W.M.'s orders, I sent out the Circular of November 1st, but I acknowledge no responsibility as Secretary after October 15th, 1884.

J.R.R.

W. Bro. J. Ramsden Riley was apparently very much upset at the delay in dealing with the By-Laws, and the policy of obstruction from one particular quarter. I have not the slightest doubt that this very worthy and broad-minded Brother had just cause. The Minutes of November 5th, 1884, were still entered up by him, as Acting Secretary, and there is a Minute which reads as follows:—

Bro. John Hey, P.M., referred to the resignation of the Secretary, Bro. J. R. Riley, P.M., after fifteen years' service in that capacity, and made certain suggestions with a view of securing his

future services, and stating that it had been desired that a deputation of the best men in Airedale Lodge should wait upon him with that object. Bro. Riley pointed out that a deputation was quite unnecessary, besides being out of place, inasmuch as the office of Secretary was peculiarly a W.M.'s appointment, and it was not for the Brethren nor for him to anticipate the new W.M.'s intentions. Bro. Riley, whilst declining to withdraw his resignation, promised to give any assistance in his power, and if he could see his way to accept office for another year, as he had been just spoken to by Bro. Taylor, W.M. Elect, on the subject, he would endeavour to meet the wishes of the W.M. and Bro. John Hey, P.M., so kindly expressed, and announce his decision before next Lodge night. This appeared to give general satisfaction and the subject dropped.

Evidently W. Bro. Riley persisted in his determination to resign the Secretaryship, as Bro. Fred Ives, Past Senior Warden, was invested as Secretary at the Installation Meeting on December 3rd, 1884. Although W. Bro. Riley had resigned his position as Secretary (I assume largely as a protestation against the action of certain Brethren with regard to the By-Laws), he continued to take an active interest in the Lodge, and officiated at many of the ceremonies.

The average attendance of Members in 1884 was twenty-four, and there were eleven Ceremonies performed, *viz.*:—four Initiations, four Passings, and three Raisings.

1885

On the Lodge Circular for the meeting to be held January 28th, 1885, under the heading of "Business" appears, "To consider new By-Laws," but the Minutes of the meeting do not record any discussion of same. There is a footnote to the Minutes which states:—

On January 5th, 1885, when the Brethren were assembled the Dispensation to wear Masonic Clothing on the 7th of January last, was read. The Re-union held by the Brethren passed off most satisfactorily.

What the occasion was, or the reason for the Dispensation, the minutes do not state.

On April 24th, 1885, the Lodge was highly honoured by the appointment of one of its Past Masters to be Deputy Provincial Grand Master. I refer, of course, to W. Bro. Henry Smith, who was initiated in Hope Lodge 302, Bradford, May 3rd, 1852, joined Airedale Lodge in June, 1854, and was installed W.M. of Airedale on December 29th, 1856. He was made Provincial Senior Grand Deacon in 1859, and was Provincial Grand Secretary from 1870-1885, as well as becoming a P.G.D. of England. A copy of his Patent as Deputy Provincial Grand Master is inserted in the Minute Book.

The average attendance in 1885 was twenty-four, and only four Ceremonies took place, *viz.*:—one Initiation, one Passing and two Raisings.

1886

The Minutes of May 19th, 1886, state that Bro. John Hey, P.M., proposed, and Bro. J. R. Riley, P.M., seconded, that the following resolution be placed on the Minutes, which was adopted, *viz.*:—

That this Lodge desires to record upon its Minutes its sense of the loss the Craft has sustained by the death on Good Friday, April 23rd, of our lamented Bro. Colonel Sir Henry Edwards, C.B., R.W., Grand Master of this Province from April, 1875, to July, 1884, and also to record its sympathy and condolence with Lady Edwards and members of her family.

The question of Lodge By-Laws was finally settled at the meeting on August 11th, 1886, according to the following, from the Minutes of that date:—

Bro. Fred Ives (Secretary) proposed, and Bro. F. W. W. Booth, P.M., seconded, the following resolution (after permission had been granted for the purpose), that the old By-Laws be rescinded and that the new revised By-Laws, as passed by the Grand Provincial Secretaries, are now in force, which was duly passed by the Brethren.

In the Minutes of September 15th, 1886, there are two interesting items, *viz.*:—

Communications were read from the Scientific Lodge 439, Bingley as follows:—Jubilee Meeting—"To commemorate the Jubilee of the Lodge, and to present to Bro. John C. Taylor, P.M. (the first W.M. of the Lodge at its formation in 1836), an address of congratulation."

also

An intimation from the Provincial Grand Secretary, Bro. Herbert G. E. Green, that the Chairman, Bro. W. F. Smithson, of the Provincial Charity Committee was wishful to hold the next Meeting of the Committee under the banner of Airedale 387, Shipley, on the 25th inst. (By command of the W.M., an invitation was duly forwarded to the Chairman of the Committee, and a reply received that he accepted the invitation with pleasure.)

There is a footnote to the Minutes which reads:—

On Saturday the 25th inst., the Provincial Charity Committee held their Regular Meeting at this Lodge, presided over by Bro. W. F. Smithson, and supported by R. W. Bro Thos. W. Tew, Prov. G.M.; Bro. Henry Smith, P.M., 387, Deputy Prov. G.M.; Bro. Thos. Hill, P.M. (Mayor of Bradford), and upwards of sixty Charity (Prov.) Stewards. After the Meeting they were entertained by the W.M., P.M.s, Officers and Brethren to tea.

The average attendance during 1886 was twenty-five, and twelve Ceremonies were performed, *viz.*:—Four Initiations, four Passings, and four Raisings. The number of Members returned to Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodge was forty-four.

1887

At the Meeting held January 12th, 1887, circular letters were read from the Prov. Grand Secretary, respecting a communication from the M.W. Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Carnarvon, asking for the approval or disapproval by the Brethren of the scheme for the Imperial Institute as advocated by our M.W.

Grand Master, The Prince of Wales, in commemoration of the Queen's Jubilee. At an Emergency Meeting held February 1st, 1887, this matter was considered by the Brethren, and after objections by Bro. Thompson and Bro. Morgan, as to any subscriptions towards this object except as loyal citizens and subjects, the following proposition was unanimously carried, *viz.*:—

That this Lodge do not, as Masons, support the Imperial Institution by subscriptions.

Facing the Minutes of February 1st, 1887, is pasted a very interesting letter from U.S.A., which reads as follows:—

NAVAL CHAPTER No. 35.

R.A.M.,

Vallejo, Cal., Feby. 17th, 1887.

To the W.M., Wardens and Members of Airedale Lodge No. 387, F. & A.M., Shipley Yorkshire, England.

Brethren,

Our Companion Benjamin Lister has returned to us after a visit to his childhood's home. Among the many pleasant incidents of his visit, he tells us of having visited your Lodge; of the kind and fraternal manner in which you received him; of the brotherly and affectionate regard showered upon him; that he was made to feel that he was among Brothers in fact as well as in name. He tells us that of all the pleasures derived from his visit, and they were many, none was greater than that derived from his visit to your Lodge, the pleasant memory of which will remain with him while life lasts.

Companion Lister has the confidence and esteem of his Brethren, Companions, and Sir Knights of this community. We feel that a kindness done to him is a kindness to us all.

Brethren of Airedale Lodge, accept the heartfelt thanks of the Brethren of Vallejo, California, and particularly of the Members of Naval Chapter No. 35, R.A.M., for the kindness shown Companion Lister on the occasion of his late visit to his home in your midst.

Very respectfully and fraternally,

CHARLES DALY, Secretary,

NAVAL CHAPTER.

At the Meeting of May 4th, 1887, the resolution of February 1st of that year, not to subscribe to the Imperial Institute, was rescinded, and in response to the resolution adopted by the Provincial Grand Lodge at Huddersfield, that each Lodge be invited to subscribe a sum of three guineas at least, it was decided unanimously to contribute three guineas towards the Imperial Institute of the United Kingdom, the Colonies and India.

At a Regular Lodge Meeting held August 3rd, 1887, the following resolution was carried unanimously:—

That from the first day of January, 1887, all the Initiation and Joining Fees received by the Lodge (less the amount payable to Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodge from time to time, in respect of the Brethren paying such Fees) be applied towards clearing off or redeeming the seventy-nine Debenture Shares held by some of the Brethren; and that in case there should be any deficiency in the Lodge Funds on account thereof, at the end of any Financial Year, a Levy be made upon the Brethren to make up such deficiency, in accordance with Lodge By-Laws.

On August 31st, 1887, Bro. J. Ramsden Riley's work in connection with the Lodge was recognised by the Brethren in the following resolution, which was passed unanimously:—

That in consideration of the many eminent and valuable services for many years past rendered by Bro. J. R. Riley, P.M. and P.P.G.D. of C., to the Craft in general, and to this Lodge in particular, it is resolved that he be made an Honorary Member of this Lodge, and that from this date the Secretary of the Lodge regularly return the name of Bro. Riley in the List of Subscribing Members of the Lodge, and that the Treasurer pay the Fees thereof to Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodge, and, further, that nothing in this resolution shall in any manner affect or prejudice the status of Bro. Riley as a full Member of the Lodge or Craft.

W. Bro. J. Ramsden Riley had, at that time, attained his majority in Freemasonry, he having been initiated in "Airedale Lodge" on February 28th, 1866.

A Special Lodge Committee, which had for some time been

considering various matters in relation to the building, the sub-letting of rooms to the Musical Union and the conducting of affairs of the Lodge generally, recommended:—

That in future the Almoner's Box be passed round to the Brethren every Lodge night, and the amount collected recorded by the Secretary on the Minutes of the Lodge; and that any surplus money in the Almoner's hands from time to time be dealt with by resolution of the Lodge at any Regular Meeting of the Lodge, without any previous notice being required to be given of such resolution. Also that a book be procured for the Almoner in which may be recorded all receipts and payments, and that such book be balanced and delivered to the Worshipful Master at the Festival of St. John in each year.

This was passed unanimously by the Brethren at the Regular Lodge Meeting held October 5th, 1887. It is evident from this resolution that the Almoner's Box had previously been left in the Lodge or adjoining rooms for any Brother who felt inclined to do so to drop a contribution therein, and that no direct appeal had been made individually to the Brethren. At the present time the Almoner's Box, or Alms Box as we invariably term it, is passed round by the J.D. to our own Brethren (not to visitors) every Regular Lodge Meeting (excepting Installation evening), just prior to closing the Lodge.

From the Minutes of the Regular Lodge Meeting held November 2nd, 1887, I extract the following:—

There being no special business besides, the W.M. called upon P. M. Riley to give his lecture on *Modern Freemasonry*. In introducing his lecture P.M. Riley intimated that his subject being a big one, he proposed to deal for the present with the Failings of Modern Freemasonry, previously noting and refuting some of the calumnies and accusations launched against the Craft at the present day, e.g., The Pope's Last Encyclical. He then pointed out the following Defects and Failings, viz.:—

1. Applicable to Craft Lodges in general.
 - (a) In respect of the introduction of new habits, etc., in Lodges owing to the great increase of new Initiates.

- (b) In ignoring some of the best features of Lodge working as carried on in the last century, *e.g.*, too few lectures.
 - (c) The importance of a good example to the sons of our Fraternity.
 - (d) The neglect of giving Junior Brethren the benefit of older Masonic experience.
2. In the quality of Members seeking admission to our Order, and their objects in doing so; for instance, some for business considerations, others for the enjoyment of the Social Board.
 3. In not using proper care and judgment by the Proposer of a Candidate.
 4. Objections to late hours after Lodge business, and the temptations of the Supper Table, and deprecating the admission of any one with any tendency to extremes in matters of temperance or otherwise.
 5. The neglect by P.M.s of throwing more interest into the Lodge.
 6. The desirability of catering more for the admission of men of education.
 7. To discourage the practice of using printed rituals surreptitiously.
 8. The neglect of attending Instruction Meetings.
 9. The importance of Junior Brethren accepting and not disputing the corrections by P.M.s of mistakes in the ritual.

P.M. Riley concluded by exhorting the Brethren to do their part in furtherance of Masonic objects and principles. "*So Mote it be.*"

The lecture was listened to with general marked attention, and gave great satisfaction to the Brethren, and reflected the greatest credit on the lecturer, occupying exactly thirty minutes.

On a Motion, which was carried unanimously, it was resolved that a hearty vote of thanks be tendered to P.M. Riley for his lecture, same to be recorded on the Minutes. P.M. Riley returned thanks for this resolution, remarking that he had been induced to adopt this subject from remarks of a parent averse to the Craft.

Reference has previously been made to a "Re-union held by the Brethren" on January 7th, 1885. Another "Re-union"

was held on November 22nd, 1887, and with reference to that occasion the following remarks are added to the Minutes of November 30th, 1887:—

On November 22nd, 1887, a Re-union of the Brethren of Airedale Lodge No. 387 was celebrated in the Lodge Rooms, when a Dispensation from Provincial Grand Lodge was read by the Secretary authorising the Brethren to appear in full Masonic clothing and costume on that occasion. Appended is a programme of the proceedings which were taken part in by twenty-three of the Brethren along with their wives, sweethearts, and sisters and daughters, and which were of a most enjoyable character, giving the utmost satisfaction and pleasure to those who took part.

In the year 1887, forty-seven Members were returned to Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodge. Eleven Ceremonies were conducted, *viz.*:—Four Initiations, four Passings and three Raisings. The average attendance of the Brethren was twenty-six.

1888

It has been the custom for some years, and it is still the custom, for our Board of Past Masters, along with the Worshipful Master, to meet on the Tuesday evening following each Regular Lodge Meeting to make arrangements for the following Lodge Meeting and to consider any business of importance to bring before the Brethren. Emergency Meetings are, of course, held when necessary, but the Tuesday following the previous Regular Lodge Meeting is an invariable custom nowadays. It evidently had its inception on January 25th, 1888, as in the Minutes of that date there is a paragraph reading:—

Bro. Ives, I.P.M., next intimated to the Brethren that in order to promote the good working of our Ceremonies, the preservation of our old ritual, and the discussion of other matters belonging to and for the benefit of the Lodge in general, the W.M. and P.M.s had expressed a willingness to meet once a month, if the Brethren

would grant them the use of the practising room. In furtherance of this Bro. Ives, I.P.M., proposed the following resolution:—

"That the Lodge give permission for the W.M. and P.M.s to meet accordingly for the above objects."

This was unanimously adopted.

The year 1888 was one of serious import to the Members of our Lodge, as the lease for the existing Lodge Rooms expired on April 30th, 1889, and a strong feeling existed that the rooms they occupied were bordering on the "unsafe" mark, and that the exits, in case of fire, were by no means everything to be desired. A great many discussions took place at various meetings, some being in favour of building new premises, whilst others were in favour of removing to a more desirable building, if such could be obtained, rather than to embark on so ambitious a scheme as to build a new one. A few favoured staying at the old rooms on the best terms obtainable, but they were greatly in the minority.

In the year 1888, forty-nine Members were returned to Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodge. Twelve Ceremonies were performed, *viz.*:—four Initiations, four Passings and four Raisings. The average attendance of the Brethren was twenty-five.

1889

Satisfactory arrangements having been made with the Governors of the Salt Schools, Saltaire, for accommodation at the Saltaire Institute, it was proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously at an Emergency Lodge Meeting held April 3rd, 1889:—

That as our tenancy of the present premises expires on April 30th, 1889, and seeing that the Lodge having made satisfactory terms with the Governors for suitable rooms in the Saltaire Institute, that the Lodge leave these premises on the above date, and forthwith remove to Saltaire.

The last Meeting in the old rooms at Shipley was held on April 17th, 1889, and at its conclusion the Worshipful Master called upon the Chaplain to read a portion of Holy Writ. P.M. Auty responded by reading the last Chapter in the "Grand Old Book," as appropriate to its being the last Meeting the Lodge would hold in the old rooms.

The first Meeting in the new rooms at the Saltaire Institute was held on May 15th, 1889, there being forty-two Brethren present (including the Deputy Provincial Grand Master West Yorks.) out of a total membership of forty-nine. In the Minutes of this Meeting it is stated:—"Past Master Auty (Chaplain) read a portion of Holy Writ from *Genesis*, 1st chapter;" also that amongst the communications received was one from the Provincial Assistant Grand Secretary announcing that the Most Worshipful Grand Master approves of the removal of Airedale Lodge No. 387 from the Masonic Hall, Shipley, to the Saltaire Institute, Shipley.

From the same Minutes is extracted the following:—

The Deputy Provincial Grand Master West Yorks., Bro. Henry Smith, P.M., thanked the Worshipful Master and Lodge for the salutation and reception given him. As an old Airedale Past Master of thirty-two years' standing, he congratulated the Lodge on the change they had made. Having followed the Lodge from Baildon to the two rooms in Shipley, thence to Saltaire, he believed this last change was the best. It was a pleasure to him to have to compliment the Worshipful Master and Officers on the way they had done their work, more especially the Senior and Junior Wardens. He regretted the absence of the older members of the Lodge, naming especially Bro. Nicholas Walker, P.M. He cordially thanked the Brethren for the fraternal reception accorded him, and said it would be his very great pleasure to report most favourably to the R.W. Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Tew, on what he had seen, and had no doubt the latter would at some favourable time pay us a visit.

In addition to the large muster of our own Brethren there there were thirty-eight visitors representing eleven different Lodges.

Anyone reading through the old Minutes cannot help feeling the greatest possible admiration for W. Bro. J. Ramsden Riley's interest in Airedale Lodge. He was a prodigious worker in its interests, and must have been a most lovable Brother, though possibly not always appreciated at his true value. That he was punctilious there is not much doubt. In the Minutes of July 10th, 1889, I read:—

Bro. Past Master Riley apologised to the Worshipful Master and the Lodge for unavoidably appearing in undress clothing, it being his first occasion of doing so since he joined the Lodge. The Worshipful Master expressed his sympathy with Past Master Riley, having been in the same predicament.

Steps having been taken for the formation of our first Daughter Lodge at Pudsey, to be named the St. Lawrence Lodge, a petition for same was brought before the Brethren at a Regular Lodge Meeting held September 11th, 1889, and it was unanimously resolved that the petition be signed by the Worshipful Master and the two Wardens of the Lodge. In our first Daughter Lodge, as in our own, there seems to have been a slip made in the name, for I am informed that the actual name chosen was "St. Lawrence," whereas the Warrant shows "St. Laurence."

In the year 1889, forty-nine Members were returned to Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodge. Twelve Ceremonies were performed, *viz.*:—Four Initiations, four Passings and four Raisings. The average attendance of the Brethren was twenty-seven.

1890

The Minutes of Regular Lodge held July 2nd, 1890,
state:—

Bro. Riley, P.M., intimated to the Brethren that he was about to remove from this district to Liverpool, but before doing this he had great pleasure in handing over to the Worshipful Master and to the Lodge the Minute Book of Airedale Lodge for the first twenty-one years of its existence, which he had received from our old Past Master Bro. Wainman Holmes, together with the Warrant from the Duke of York Lodge.

The Worshipful Master thanked Bro. Riley for his kindness, and expressed regret at Bro. Riley's leaving. It was proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously that the best thanks of the Brethren be given to Past Master Riley for being the means of these old relics being restored to the Lodge. Past Master Riley responded, remarking that after a service of almost twenty-five years this vote was very gratifying, and expressed his willingness to do all he could for Airedale Lodge in the future, as he had in the past. It was unanimously resolved that Past Master Riley get the Warrant from the Duke of York framed, on account of the Lodge. To while away a few minutes, some interesting items were read from the old Minute Book to show how the Founders of Airedale Lodge enjoyed themselves, etc., fifty to sixty years ago.

It is surprising to find that so vital and valuable a document as the first Minute Book of the Lodge should not have been in the hands of the rightful owner, *viz.*:—the Lodge itself, and we have every reason to be grateful that it is now in our possession. In the absence of the Provincial Grand Lodge Registers it would probably have been exceedingly difficult without it to satisfy Grand Lodge as to our uninterrupted existence of 100 years.

The year 1890 was a "lean" year so far as Ceremonies were concerned, there being no Candidates throughout the year, but at the Regular Lodge Meeting held October 1st, the Master intimated "that there were one or two Candidates on the point of being brought forward as Candidates for Freemasonry." The Lodge was very active, however, in the number of visitors

received, and a lecture on the Second Tracing Board was given. The number of Members returned to Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodge was forty-five, and the average attendance of the Brethren was twenty.

1891

The "Grim Reaper" was busy amongst the older Past Masters of our Lodge in the early part of 1891. On the 13th of February the Lodge lost its oldest P.M., W. Bro. Nicholas Walker, who had occupied the Chair some fifty-two years previously, *i.e.*, in 1839 and again in 1841. On the 14th of April following, the Lodge suffered a further loss of an old P.M., in W. Bro. Joseph Denby, who was in the Chair in 1863. Then less than a month later, W. Bro. John Symonds, who occupied the Chair in 1889, passed away on May 4th, 1891.

The attendances of the Brethren of our Lodge during this year were very poor, and at the Lodge Meeting held June 24th, 1891, although there were visitors from eight Lodges, only ten of the Airedale Brethren were present, one of whom was an E.A., and the rest included four Past Masters and the Master. The attending Past Masters took junior offices and a visiting Past Master acted as I.P.M. The Lodge was opened at 7-40 p.m. and closed at 8-10 p.m. The Master apologised to the visitors for such a poor attendance of Airedale Brethren, who were not numerous enough to fill the offices. In the year 1891 forty Members were returned to Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodge. Nine Ceremonies were performed, *viz.*:—Three Initiations, three Passings and three Raisings. The average attendance was fifteen.

1892

During the year 1892 nothing of importance transpired in the History of the Lodge. Forty-four Members were

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returned to Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodge. Fifteen Ceremonies were performed, *viz.*:—Five Initiations, five Passings and five Raisings. The average attendance of the Brethren was twenty.

1893

During 1893 there was nothing outstanding in the Minutes. Forty-eight Members were returned to Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodge. Eighteen Ceremonies were performed, *viz.*:—Six Initiations, six Passings and six Raisings. The average attendance of the Brethren was twenty-six.

1894

From the Minutes of the Regular Lodge Meeting held October 17th, 1894, I extract the following:—

Bro. Truelove, on behalf of himself and a number of Junior Brethren, here made the Lodge a present of a handsome Brussels carpet for the Lodge Supper Room. This duty was discharged by Bro. Truelove in a truly Masonic spirit and in very happy terms. By command of the W. Master, and on his behalf for the Lodge, Bro. Mitchell, P.M., Provincial G. Sw. B., as the oldest Past Master present, accepted this gift, expressing the pleasure it afforded to the older Brethren to see such a thoughtful and charitable spirit displayed by the donors, and assuring them of the sincere gratitude of the recipients.

As an example of work for the Lodge, and in the interests of Freemasonry generally, the following reference to W. Bro. Hey, from the Minutes of November 14th, 1894, is worthy of note:—

The election of Treasurer next took place, previous to which the W. Master proposed a vote of thanks from the Lodge to W. Bro. Hey, P.M., for his long and valuable services in this capacity. This being cordially seconded by Bro. Denby, P.M., was unanimously adopted. Bro. Hey, P.M., thanked the Brethren for their kind

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expression, and spoke very hopefully of the future of Airedale 387, remarking he had held the Office since 1878, besides holding other Offices during the last twenty-two years and looked forward to a continuation of his happy connections with 387.

At the Regular Lodge Meeting held December 12th, 1894, W. Bro. Hey was to have made a presentation on behalf of W. Bro. Morrell, but being confined to the house by illness the duty was undertaken by W. Bro. Telford, I.P.M. The gift consisted of sixteen new Collars, and three Emblems or Jewels, viz.:—Chaplain, Charity, and D. of C. W. Bro. Morrell's duties had taken him to Liverpool, but he continued to take a very active interest in the Lodge. He remained a full paying Member and each year sent a generous contribution to the Charities. He was Initiated on November 18th, 1869, and thus celebrated his Silver Masonic Wedding in a very happy manner, by his gift to the Lodge. He occupied the Chair in 1879. The best thanks of the Brethren were voted to W. Bro. Morrell for his gift, and also to W. Bro. Wheatley Jackson for the valuable gift of Chaplain's Gown.

Fifty-one Members were returned to Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodge in 1894, and thirteen Ceremonies were performed, viz.:—Five Initiations, four Passings and four Raisings. The average attendance of the Brethren was twenty-seven.

1895

On January 9th, 1895, a resolution was passed by all the Brethren present that a Banking Account be opened with the Bradford Old Bank, Shipley Branch, that payments be made by cheque signed by Thos. Denby, P.M., Treasurer, also that W. Master and four Past Masters become guarantors to the Bank for twelve months in case of overdrafts being required,

to the amount of £6 each, i.e., £30. The W. Master instructed the Secretary to write the Bank, sending a copy of the above resolution.

Early in 1895 the Lodge lost two old Past Masters in W. Bro. Starkey Minakin, who died January 21st, and W. Bro. C. W. Curran, who died February 23rd. Both of these worthy Brethren had given of their best to the Lodge and had been very active working members. W. Bro. Minakin was Master in 1886, and W. Bro. Curran occupied that position in 1891.

On the 10th April, 1895, there was Initiated into Freemasonry in our Lodge Mr. Alfred Bagnall, proposed by W. Bro. Wheatley Jackson, I.P.M., and seconded by Bro. A. Marshall. How thankful we all are to these sponsors (who undoubtedly knew that their responsibilities in that direction would be of a very light order) for having introduced into Airedale Lodge Bro. Alfred Bagnall, who is to-day our Grand Old Man of Airedale, having passed his 81st milestone, and still taking a very active participation in the working of our Lodge, our Daughter Lodge Amity 4148 and Moravia Chapter 387. W. Bro. Bagnall is, indeed, one of our shining lights, and more assiduous in his duties in various Degrees of the Order than many Brethren fifty years his junior. Highly respected and revered by every Brother, happy in disposition, the very essence of Charity in thought and action, he is a pattern for every Brother to follow. His many valuable gifts to the Lodge cannot be counted, in fact, many are known only to himself. Long may he be spared to come amongst us.

Fifty-three Members were returned to Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodge in 1895. Six Ceremonies were performed, viz.:—Two Initiations, two Passings and two Raisings. The average attendance of the Brethren was twenty-three.

1896

On August 26th, 1896, the Lodge lost another of its old Past Masters, who had been a Member over twenty-five years. I refer to W. Bro. Fred Ives, who was Initiated in 1870, served the office of Secretary in 1884 and 1885, and was Master in 1887.

At the Regular Lodge Meeting held December 16th, 1896, Bro. Francis Lister (to whose Initiation reference has previously been made) was installed in the Chair by W. Bro. Wheatley Jackson, and it is worthy of note that when the Board of Installed Masters was opened there were no less than thirty-two P.M.s and W.M.s present. This is an exceptionally large number, even in our present-day Installations, and obviously a compliment to our worthy Brother.

In 1896 forty-seven Members were returned to Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodge. No Ceremonies were performed and the average attendance of Brethren was twenty.

1897

At the Regular Lodge Meeting of February 17th, 1897, a resolution was passed "that all Members, who having continuously paid their annual subscriptions for a term of twenty-five years, shall after that time, on application to the Lodge, pay the yearly subscription of one guinea and be fully entitled to all the Lodge privileges." The W. Master expressed his approval and instructed the Secretary to call a Meeting of the Lodge Committee to frame a By-Law, to place before the Lodge, Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodge for confirmation.

Provincial Grand Lodge did us the honour of accepting an invitation extended to them to hold their half-yearly Meeting under our banner at Saltaire on October 20th, 1897. Committees were formed to deal with the various branches, such as

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Dinner Committee, Refreshment Committee, Lodge Committee (to see the Victoria Hall and Clothing Rooms are all in order and furnished), Entertainment Committee, Railway Train Times, etc., etc. The results showed that the Committees had done their work well, and the following note is extracted from the Minute Book:—

Wednesday, October 20th, 1897.

Meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge, held in Victoria Hall, Saltaire. The Rt. Hon. W. Lawies Jackson, M.P., J.P., Prov. Grand Master of West Yorkshire in the Chair. Held under the Banner of Airedale Lodge No. 387, Bro. Francis Lister, W. Master. Special preparations had been made for the Meeting and every Brother of the Lodge did his best to make it a success. The Brethren subscribed over £40 to meet expenses. The Governors of the Salt Institute placed the whole Institute at our service. A vote of thanks and cheque for £10 10s. was forwarded to them as a donation to the Institute. Dinner was provided in the Reading Room, and over 100 sat down. Caterers: Messrs Spinks, Ltd., who gave great satisfaction.

The R.W. Provincial Grand Master expressed his pleasure at the way everything was carried out for the comfort of the Meeting, and said it was, without exception, the best he'd had the pleasure of attending, and gave special praise to our W. Master.

The Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Bro. J. C. Malcolm, P.G.D., presided at the Dinner, and said without a doubt the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire had been well entertained. He could not call to mind such a splendid Meeting and reception, and very great credit was due to the Master and Brethren of 387.

At this meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge at Saltaire, reference was made to the West Yorkshire Charity Fund which had been launched a short time previously, with the idea of dealing locally with a considerable number of cases which might, from time to time, come up for their support and relief from Provincial Grand Lodge. Some Brethren had felt that this

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might tend to diminish the support hitherto given to the Institutions in London. That this view was not a correct one has been abundantly proved in the succeeding years, and at the meeting in question a sum of 100 guineas was voted to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

Further history was made at this meeting, when a suggestion was made that the offices of Provincial Grand Lodge be removed from Wakefield to Leeds. The appointment of the place at which the Provincial Grand Offices should be was entirely within the control, authority and jurisdiction of the Provincial Grand Master, and the Provincial Grand Lodge had nothing to do with it. Consequently, that Meeting could not decide the point, but after much discussion the majority of the Brethren present favoured Leeds, and so recommended.

Fifty Members were returned to Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodge in 1897. Fifteen Ceremonies were conducted, *viz.*:—Five Initiations, five Passings and five Raisings. The average attendance of the Brethren was twenty-four.

1898

There was nothing of outstanding importance during the year 1898. The number of Brethren returned to Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodge was fifty-two. Ten Ceremonies were performed, *viz.*:—Four Initiations, three Passings and three Raisings. The average attendance of the Brethren during this year was twenty-five.

1899

At the Regular Lodge Meeting held May 24th, 1899, the Brethren assembled unanimously resolved that a telegram be sent to Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, as follows:—

The Worshipful Master, Officers and Brethren of the Airedale Lodge 387 of Freemasons, now assembled, send their hearty

congratulations on this your 80th birthday, and earnestly hope that the Great Architect of the Universe may continue to bless your prosperous reign.

The number of Brethren returned to Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodge in 1899 was fifty-six. Eighteen Ceremonies were performed, *viz.*:—Six Initiations, six Passings and six Raisings. The average attendance of the Brethren was twenty-four.

1900

In the Minutes of November 17th, 1900, it is stated:—

The ballot for Treasurer was unanimous in favour of W. Bro. Thos. Denby, P.P.G.D. of C., being re-elected. Our W. Master congratulated W. Bro. Denby on his re-election, also thanked him for consenting to serve the Lodge another year. W. Bro. Denby thanked the Brethren most sincerely for the unanimous vote. He felt the vote to be a great compliment, and more especially when he remembered that it is now thirty years since he served the Lodge as Master.

Airedale Lodge has been blessed with Past Masters who have taken an active part in the working of the Lodge over long periods. We might say in passing, that at the present time (1928) it is just thirty-one years since our W. Bro. Francis Lister served as Master.

In the year 1900 fifty-one Members were returned to Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodge. Only three Ceremonies took place, one in each Degree. The average attendance of the Brethren was twenty-one.

1901

At the Regular Lodge Meeting held January 30th, 1901, the W. Master referred to the decease of Her late Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, when he proposed the following

resolution to be placed in the Minutes, which was approved by the whole of the Brethren standing in their places:—

Resolved that the Brethren of the Airedale Lodge at this, their first Lodge Meeting after the death of Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, desire to record their loyal affection for the late Sovereign, their great appreciation of her Majesty's pre-eminent qualities, and their profound thankfulness for the long and prosperous reign which has just closed amidst universal sorrow, and also express our loyalty to His Majesty King Edward the Seventh, our Grand Master. Long may he reign.

There was nothing further of outstanding importance in the Minutes of 1901. The number of Members returned to Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodge was forty-nine. There were nine Ceremonies, *viz.*:—Three Initiations, three Passings and three Raisings. The average attendance of the Brethren was twenty-three.

1902

At the Regular Lodge Meeting held July 23rd, 1902, the W. Master addressed the Lodge as follows:—

Brethren. Within the last few weeks we have in this Country passed through a remarkable period. The whole nation had prepared itself for an event which was to be of surpassing grandeur, and in which Princes and Chiefs and Rulers from all quarters of the World, had come to take a part. I mean the Coronation of our beloved King. On the verge of the great day His Majesty was suddenly siezed with a severe and dangerous illness, and had to give up everything and place himself in the hands of his medical advisors, who, with their skill and the help of a good constitution, have brought him almost to complete recovery. To-night I should like you to pass the following resolution, so that it may be recorded in our Minute Book. I now propose "That we, the Members of Airedale Lodge 387, in Lodge assembled, wish to offer our prayers and thanksgiving, to the Great Architect of the Universe, for sparing the life of our beloved King Edward the Seventh (for many years our Grand Master) and also in His Great Mercy restoring him to convalescence; and also take the opportunity of expressing our warmest sympathy to

Her Majesty Queen Alexandra and to the rest of the Royal Family in their anxious moments during His Majesty's dangerous illness." This was seconded by W. Bro. Thos. Denby and carried unanimously.

The number of Members returned to Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodge in 1902 was forty-seven. Six Ceremonies were performed, *viz.*:—Two Initiations, two Passings and two Raisings. The average attendance of the Brethren was twenty-three.

1903

At the Lodge Meeting held January 14th, 1903, the Brethren presented to W. Bro. Thos. Denby, P.P.G.D. of C., the Lodge Treasurer, a gold English lever watch. The outside bore the initials "T.D.", and on the inside was inscribed "Presented to W. Bro. Thomas Denby, P.P.G.D. of C., by the Members of Airedale Masonic Lodge 387 in recognition of his valuable services rendered to the Lodge during his thirty-six years' membership. January 14th, 1903." The W. Master, in presenting this token to Bro. Denby, remarked that it had been subscribed for by nearly every member of the Lodge in a true Masonic manner, and he trusted that he would be long spared in good health to wear it, and that in time it might come to be worn by a worthy son in memory of his illustrious father. Several other Past Masters and Brethren added appropriate remarks. W. Bro. Denby, in accepting the present, said he heartily thanked the Brethren for their extreme generosity and kindness in presenting him with such a valuable gift, and that he hoped to continue to have the good opinion of the Members. He also feelingly referred to the pleasure it would give to Mrs. Denby for this recognition, and again he thanked them on behalf of himself and his dear wife.

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1904

At the Lodge Meeting of February 3rd, 1904, reference was made to the loss that the Lodge had sustained by the death of W. Bro. Thos. Denby, P.P.G.D. of C., Treasurer, who had been a member of the Lodge for thirty-eight years.

In the year 1904, forty-six Members were returned to Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodge. Nine Ceremonies were performed, *viz.*:—Three Initiations, three Passings and three Raisings. The average attendance of the Brethren was twenty-three.

1905

There was nothing of outstanding importance in 1905, with the exception of discussions as to the renewal or otherwise of the lease of the Lodge Rooms at Saltaire Institute. Forty-three Members were returned to Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodge. Six Ceremonies were performed, *viz.*:—Two Initiations, two Passings and two Raisings. The average attendance of the Brethren was twenty.

1906

As satisfactory terms could not be arranged with the Governors of the Salt Schools, in regard to a renewal of lease for the tenancy of the Lodge Rooms, it was decided to vacate the same at the expiration of the lease on April 30th, 1906. Temporary accommodation was very kindly provided for us by Brethren of Scientific Lodge 439 in their rooms at Bingley, and the Airedale Lodge held its first Meeting *there* on November

11st, 1906. On account of removal, etc., only six Lodge Meetings were held in that year. The number of Members returned to Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodge was thirty-six. There were three Ceremonies, one in each Degree, and the average attendance of Brethren was twenty-one.

1907

On September 18th, 1907, the Lodge met for the first time in the new rooms at Wainman Street, Shipley. On October 30th, 1907, at the Regular Lodge Meeting, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, W. Bro. Richard Wilson, P.G.D., was present, and presided over the formal opening of the Lodge, congratulating the Brethren on the beautiful and well-appointed rooms they had acquired and offering his very best wishes for the prosperity of the Lodge.

In connection with the new premises, the thought arises as to whether the name of Wainman Street had any connection (however remote) with Wainman Holmes, one of the Founders.

In the Minutes of this date it is stated:—

At this juncture our W. Bro. Henry Smith gave a touching review of his connections with our Lodge, and declared that although he was unable to attend the Lodge Meetings regularly on account of his age, and consequent infirmity, his attachment and interest in its welfare never faltered, and that so long as he lived he would remain a Member.

It is to be noted that at this time W. Bro. Henry Smith had been a Member of the Lodge for over fifty-three years.

In the year 1907 forty Members were returned to Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodge. Eight Ceremonies were performed, *viz.*:—Four Initiations, two Passings and two Raisings. The average attendance of the Brethren was twenty-one.

1908, 1909, 1910, 1911

I pass quickly over the years 1908 to 1911, which were uneventful in the history of our Lodge. The average attendance of the Brethren during this period was twenty-three, and there was an average of about fifteen Ceremonies a year performed. There is nothing of outstanding importance in the Minutes covering the period mentioned.

1912

In the year 1912 W. Bro. Henry Smith attained his Diamond Jubilee as a Freemason, and the Minutes of June 5th, 1912, state:—

The Worshipful Master reported that our W. Bro. Henry Smith, P.G.D. of England, P.D.P.G.M. of West Yorks., had attained the Diamond Jubilee of Masonry, and that he had sent W. Bro. Smith a telegram on May 3rd. congratulating him on the event, reading as follows:—"The Worshipful Master, Past Masters and Brethren of Airedale Lodge 387 send to Brother Henry Smith hearty congratulations on the occasion of his Diamond Jubilee of his Initiation."

In 1912 forty-seven Members were returned to Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodge. Eleven Ceremonies were performed, viz.:—Five Initiations, three Passings and three Raisings. The average attendance of the Brethren was twenty-four.

1912, 1913

During 1912 and 1913 the Lodges of Hope 302 and Pentalpha 974 were having new rooms prepared, and were temporarily without a home. A hearty invitation was extended to them to make use of our rooms at Shipley for their Lodge Meetings, which was gratefully accepted. At the Lodge

Meeting of September 17th, 1913, just before closing, a report was given by the I.G., and on enquiry it was ascertained that the Worshipful Master of Pentalpha 974, W. Bro. E. G. Heilborn, accompanied by several eminent Brethren sought admission, which was promptly granted. The following reference thereto is taken from the Minutes:—

The Worshipful Master of Pentalpha Lodge 974 (W. Bro. E. G. Heilborn) rose and saluted our Worshipful Master, and in beautifully chosen remarks he delivered the following speech:—

"You will no doubt be wondering what can be the reason of our uninvited presence here this evening, and with your permission I will offer the explanation. You will remember that about a year ago we suddenly found ourselves without a home, and you very generously came forward and in a truly brotherly spirit offered us the friendly shelter of these rooms, an offer which we gratefully accepted. Our tenancy is now at an end for, as you know, our new rooms are to be opened on the 30th instant, and, before I proceed any further, let me say that it is the unanimous wish of the Brethren of Pentalpha that you should be our first guests on our first Lodge night in the new rooms. I have great pleasure, therefore, in extending to you and your Brethren a very cordial invitation to visit us on Tuesday, October 7th, at 7.30 p.m. I hope that you will be able to come and that you will be accompanied by every Brother in your Lodge. Well, Worshipful Master, during our tenancy of these rooms you have done so much for our comfort and convenience that you have succeeded in making us feel that we were not visitors but that we were in our own house, and I do not think that I could better express our feelings than that. We are here to-night as a deputation from Pentalpha to convey to you and your Brethren our most grateful thanks for your truly fraternal hospitality to us during the last twelve months, and I can assure you that we shall carry away with us the pleasantest recollections of the time we have spent under your roof. I have now a very pleasant duty to perform, and it will no doubt be recorded in your Minutes, that we attended your Lodge Meeting to-night in order to express the thanks of the Lodge of Pentalpha; but that is not sufficient for us. We desire that you should have some permanent and lasting memorial of our gratitude and of our sentiments towards you, and with this object we are here to-night to

present you with a token. That token, Worshipful Master, now stands at the door of your Lodge, and I should be much obliged if you would kindly instruct your Bro. Inner Guard to admit it. Worshipful Master, I have very great pleasure on behalf of the Pentalpha Lodge in asking you to accept this token. It is intended to mark the Master's place at the Supper Table, and I hope that you and your successors in office will live to enjoy it for many a day to come. I hope that it will please you, and that you will ever regard it as a token of the very special bond of friendship which exists between the Lodges of Airedale and Pentalpha."

W. Bro. Heilborn then resumed his seat and our Worshipful Master, in accepting the beautiful token on behalf of Airedale Lodge, said that he thanked the Worshipful Master and Brethren of Lodge Pentalpha for the token, but he was so much impressed by the unexpected entrance and the impressive remarks, as well as the depth of fraternal regard indicated by the splendid present, that he feared he could not find words fitting for the occasion, but that W. Bro. Heilborn and the Brethren of Lodge Pentalpha might rest assured that the beautiful token would be valued for all time.

The token above mentioned is a very beautiful silver column on ebony base, supporting the Globe. It stands about twenty-five inches high, and bears a suitably engraved presentation tablet on the base. From the Lodge of Hope 302 we were also the recipients of a very beautiful silver flower epergne as a token of their appreciation for the use of our Lodge Rooms when they were without a home during the same period as our Brethren of Pentalpha. Unfortunately there are no details of the presentation proceedings either in our Minutes or those of Hope Lodge. This is no doubt due to the fact that in all probability the presentation took place at the festive board, and not in the Lodge. In the latter event it would certainly have been recorded in the Minutes. Although we are without more elaborate details, it may be stated that it was a very valuable gift, and highly appreciated by our Lodge.

In 1913, forty-five Members were returned to Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodge. Thirteen Ceremonies were

performed, viz.:—Three Initiations, five Passings and five Raisings. The average attendance of the Brethren was twenty-two.

1914

On October 5th, 1914, our highly revered and oldest Past Master, W. Bro. Henry Smith, P.G.D. of England, P.P.G.D., P.P.G. Secretary, and P.D.P.G.M. of West Yorks., ended his earthly career. Mr. Arthur Smith had expressed a desire to present to the Lodge the Provincial Grand Clothing of our highly esteemed late Past Master. It was arranged that at our Lodge Meeting of February 3rd, 1915, W. Bro. W. F. Smithson, P.G.D., should make the presentation on behalf of Mr. Arthur Smith. As W. Bro. Smithson, however, was indisposed, W. Bro. Arthur W. Sonnenthal, P.P.G.D., deputised for him, and I extract the following from the Minutes of that Meeting:—

W. Bro. Sonnenthal apologised for the absence of W. Bro. Smithson, who had undertaken to present the clothing to the Lodge, and said that W. Bro. Smithson's visit was postponed on account of illness, and that he intended visiting the Lodge on a later occasion.

W. Bro. Sonnenthal spoke of the high rank and good work of our late Past Master, who was initiated into Freemasonry at the Lodge of Hope No. 302, on May 3rd, 1852, joined Airedale Lodge, June, 1854, Worshipful Master of Airedale Lodge in 1857, and who had been a subscribing member of our Lodge up to the time of his death on October 5th, 1914, a period of sixty years. He said it was fitting that the clothing should be presented to the Lodge, of which W. Bro. Smith had held the position of Worshipful Master, and he therefore asked our Worshipful Master's acceptance of the same.

The Worshipful Master (Bro. R. A. Millington) accepted the clothing on behalf of the Lodge. He promised that it should be properly cared for and preserved, and that a suitable case would be obtained and hung in the Lodge Room. W. Bro. F. Lister also

supplemented the W. Master's remarks, and gave some interesting reminiscences of W. Bro. Henry Smith, and his connection with the Lodge.

A vote of thanks to W. Bro. Sonnenthal for making the presentation was unanimously carried, and W. Bro. Sonnenthal in replying said that it always gave him much pleasure to visit the Airedale Lodge.

The Provincial Clothing was afterwards fittingly mounted and framed, and in its completed state was again formally presented to the Lodge by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master of that day, W. Bro. Sir William Raynor at the Regular Lodge Meeting held October 20th, 1915. The Deputy Provincial Grand Master paid a warm tribute to the character and work of our late Brother and specially referred to his noble efforts in the cause of Masonic Charities.

1914, 1915, 1916

From 1914 onwards the Lodge increased in numbers. The number of Members returned to Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodge were forty-eight in 1914, fifty-six in 1915 and sixty in 1916. The number of Ceremonies performed were eleven in 1914, twenty-two in 1915 and thirteen in 1916. The average attendance of the Brethren was twenty-six in 1914, twenty-seven in 1915 and thirty-one in 1916.

1917

On August 29th, 1917, at a Regular Lodge Meeting, attended by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master of our Province (W. Bro. Sir William Raynor), the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, North and East Yorks. (W. Bro. Miles J. Stapylton), and other Grand and Provincial Grand Officers, a presentation was made to the Lodge by W. Bro. J. R. Riley, P.M., of a very unique collection of old Lodge Certificates. W. Bro. Riley

was always a zealous student in such matters, and these old Certificates were the result of many years' collecting. The Lodge naturally values this collection very highly. Under the guidance of the late W. Bro. T. M. Woodhead, P.M. 3255, P.G.D., they were mounted in a most efficient manner, so that they could be seen to advantage, and bound in a very handsome volume, for which a glass case and stand were afterwards provided.

1918

During 1918 there was nothing of outstanding importance excepting that a highly-respected old Past Master of our Lodge was called to the Grand Lodge above. I refer to the death of the late J. Ramsden Riley, who was one of the "pillars" some fifty years ago. His interest in the Lodge was unflagging for many years until failing health necessitated his removal from the district, and the latter part of his life had been spent at Liverpool. He was a prodigious worker in Masonry, and was a regular contributor of articles to Masonic journals. He also wrote the History of Airedale Lodge up to its Jubilee celebration, which forms the first part of the present volume. The work he did for Freemasonry, and particularly for our own Lodge was, without doubt, invaluable, and it would be difficult to conceive a more earnest or ardent worker for the general welfare of the Craft.

1919

A very pleasant gathering took place on October 29th, 1919, when, in commemoration of the termination of the Great War, the Lodge entertained the ex-Service Brethren and their ladies to dinner, there being ninety-eight present.

1920

At a Regular Lodge Meeting held on June 2nd, 1920, it was proposed:—

That the approval and support of this Lodge be given to the proposal to form a daughter Lodge, and that the petition to the Most Worshipful the Grand Master be countersigned by the Worshipful Master and Wardens.

This was carried unanimously, and the petition was duly signed by the Worshipful Master and Wardens in open Lodge.

The Lodge Committee had met to consider the question of tenancy for the new Lodge, and recommended that every assistance and support be given to the new Lodge, and hospitality afforded them to meet in our Lodge Rooms. The Committee also recommended the following financial proposals, necessary to meet the new conditions.

The Airedale Lodge to sell its assets at an agreed valuation to the Airedale Masonic Hall Co. Ltd., and in exchange therefor to receive Share Certificates in the Company, for an equal amount.

Certain heirlooms belonging to Airedale Lodge not to be included in the aforesaid valuation, and these to remain the private property of Airedale Lodge.

The new Lodge, when constituted, to pay to the Company an amount in cash equal to the total of the aforesaid valuation, and receive Share Certificates of that value in satisfaction.

The Airedale Masonic Hall Co. Ltd. would then stand possessed of the Hall, furniture and furnishings (excepting the heirlooms above-mentioned), and charge a rental to each of the two Lodges, proportionate to that now payable by Airedale Lodge, and would be responsible for all expenditure in connection with the premises, other than catering charges.

These recommendations were carried unanimously at a Regular Lodge Meeting held June 30th, 1920, and a Committee of three, along with the Worshipful Master, was appointed to meet three of the Founders of the new Lodge, with authority

to agree upon the amount of the valuation of Airedale Lodge property. It was also proposed and carried unanimously that the same Committee be empowered to select the furniture to be reserved as heirlooms belonging to Airedale Lodge.

The following is a copy of the Memorandum of the Meeting held by the Joint Committees on July 27th, 1920, from which it will be noted that the new Lodge was to be called the Lodge of Amity:—

MEMORANDUM of a Meeting held at Masonic Rooms,
Wainman Street, Shipley, July 27th, 1920.

Owing to the formation of a new Lodge called AMITY it was necessary to agree on a scheme whereby AIREDALE and AMITY LODGES could have the common use of the furniture and effects now belonging to AIREDALE LODGE.

Preliminary Meetings having been held to formulate a scheme, it was agreed by the founders of AMITY LODGE and Brethren of AIREDALE LODGE that the two Lodges become the tenants of the MASONIC HALL CO. LTD.

The following Brethren met to discuss the amount to be contributed in cash by the Brethren of AMITY LODGE for which they will receive script.

Representing AIREDALE LODGE

W. Bro. Albert Shaw.

W. Bro. J. R. Wilson.

W. Bro. A. A. Abbott.

Representing AMITY LODGE

W. Bro. Dr. Bonner.

W. Bro. Ernest Illingworth.

W. Bro. Joshua Briggs.

Worshipful Master of AIREDALE LODGE, Bro. A. H. Bagnall presiding.

After considerable friendly discussion it was mutually agreed that AMITY LODGE contribute the sum of £260 (two hundred and sixty pounds) as being their share of the assets of the MASONIC HALL CO., LTD.

The Brethren of AIREDALE LODGE suggested that the personal property which is of sentimental value to AIREDALE LODGE should be earmarked and not become the property of the MASONIC HALL CO. LTD., the particulars of which are as follows:—

- | | |
|--|---|
| 3 Ancient Pedestals | 1 Frame (ancient silk apron presented by Bro. J. Briggs) |
| 3 Candlesticks (brass) | 1 Glass Case and Stand containing volume of ancient certificates, presented by late W. Bro. Ramsden Riley |
| 1 Silver Column with globe, (presented by Pentalpha Lodge 974) | 1 Lodge Banner |
| 1 Silver Flower Stand. (presented by Hope Lodge 302) | 1 Framed Lodge Warrant |
| 1 Safe | 1 S.W. Small Mahogany Pillar |
| 2 Sets Working Tools | 1 J.W. Small Mahogany Pillar |
| 1 Worshipful Master's Mallet (Ivory) | 1 Ancient Lodge Parchment |
| 1 Framed List of W. Masters | 2 Ancient Lodge Parchment Certificates (Framed) |
| 1 Ancient Bible (small) | 1 Organ. (Presented by Bro. W. Fox during W. Bro. Fred Power's year of office as Worshipful Master.) |
| 1 Trowel (Silver) | |
| 1 Plumb Line | |
| 1 Library Book-case and contents | |
| 1 Frame (clothing of late W. Bro. Smith) | |

Our Daughter Lodge, Amity 4148, was duly consecrated on November 19th, 1920, W. Bro. Francis Lister, our oldest Past Master, being the first Worshipful Master. They extended to us, their Mother Lodge, a hearty invitation to visit them on the occasion of their first Regular Meeting, December 17th, 1920, and we turned up in goodly numbers.

In the years 1917 to 1920 the Membership of the Lodge increased rapidly. The number of Members returned to Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodge during these years was sixty-three in 1917, sixty-eight in 1918, eighty-one in 1919 and seventy-eight in 1920. Ceremonies performed were fourteen in 1917, twenty-one in 1918, thirty-one in 1919 and twenty in 1920. The average attendance of the Brethren for the four years was thirty-three.

At the Regular Lodge Meeting held September 29th, 1920, the Worshipful Master extended, on behalf of the Lodge,

the congratulations of the Brethren to the Chaplain, W. Bro. Alfred Bagnall, P.P.A.G.D.C., on his completion of twenty-five years' membership of the Lodge. W. Bro. Francis Lister, P.P.A.G.D.C., who was unable to be present, sent a letter drawing attention to the fact that on October 20th, 1920, W. Bro. Alfred Bagnall and Mrs. Bagnall would have completed fifty years of married life, and suggested that the Lodge should mark the occasion of the Golden Wedding. A Committee was appointed to give effect thereto, and it was arranged to have a special Ladies' Evening on October 20th, 1920. A highly successful social evening was spent, and, on behalf of the Brethren of our Lodge, W. Bro. Francis Lister, with very well chosen remarks, presented to W. Bro. Alfred Bagnall and Mrs. Bagnall an illuminated address signed by the Brethren and a silver gilt Epergne. W. Bro. Alfred Bagnall, in responding, thanked the Brethren for the gifts. He was in a very happy reminiscent trend of mind, and entertained the gathering with many incidents, both grave and gay, of their fifty years' partnership. "Auld Lang Syne" was sung lustily, and the party broke up, wishing long life and prosperity to the dear affectionate couple they had assembled to do honour to. It is interesting to note that at this time their eldest son, W. Bro. A. H. Bagnall, was occupying the Master's Chair of the Lodge.

1921

A very interesting ceremony took place at the Regular Lodge Meeting, February 23rd, 1921, viz.:—the unveiling of a Roll of Honour engraved on a brass plate, and mounted on an oak base, which had been presented by W. Bro. A. H. Bagnall. An extract from the Minutes, reads as follows:—

The Worshipful Master then called upon Bro. Harold Mitchell, M.C., J.D., of Pentalfa Lodge 974, Lieutenant, 6th West Yorks. Regt., to unveil the Roll of Honour presented to the Lodge by W. Bro. A. H. Bagnall, I.P.M.

Bro. Harold Mitchell descended from the dais, and after a most fitting speech, performed the ceremony of unveiling the Roll of Honour.

The Worshipful Master then called upon W. Bro. A. H. Bagnall, I.P.M., who asked the Lodge to accept the Roll of Honour as a token of thanksgiving for the Victory of our Forces in the Great War, 1914-1918.

The Worshipful Master replied in a suitable speech, accepting the handsome gift on behalf of the Lodge. W. Bro. A. A. Abbott, Secretary, and Bro. Hugh Rand, J.D., spoke on behalf of the Services.

The year 1921 was a particularly busy one, twenty-five Ceremonies being performed, *viz.*:—Eight Initiations, eight Passings and nine Raisings. The number of Members returned to Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodge was eighty-two, and the average attendance of the Brethren thirty-eight.

1922, 1923, 1924, 1925

There is nothing of outstanding importance to record in the years 1922 to 1926. The Lodge continued to make progress, and reached its highest membership in 1922, with a total of eighty-four Members. The average Membership of the Lodge during the five years under review was seventy-eight, a number of whom were on the long distance list, and unable to attend regularly. The average attendance at the Lodge Meetings was thirty-six.

1926

On Friday, October 8th, 1926, at the Town Hall, Leeds, R. W. Bro. The Viscount Lascelles, K.G., D.S.O., Senior



R.W. BRO. THE VISCOUNT LASCELLES, K.G., D.S.O.
Senior Grand Warden, Provincial Grand Master (West Yorks.)

Grand Warden, was installed as Provincial Grand Master of West Yorkshire, in consequence of the retirement of Sir William Raynor, who had relinquished this office in June, 1926, on account of ill-health. Our newly installed Provincial Grand Master early expressed his desire to visit all the Lodges in the Province. It was obvious, however, that on account of his many duties, he could not do so individually, and had therefore decided to visit the various Lodges in Groups. Our Lodge was included in the Bradford and District Group. A meeting of the Worshipful Masters of this Group was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Westgate, Bradford, on February 13th, 1927, at which it was decided to hold the United Lodge Meeting at the Victoria Hall, Saltaire Institute, on Monday, February 28th, 1927. Our Lodge was honoured by our Worshipful Master being asked to occupy the Master's Chair on that occasion. The Bradford Masonic Permanent Committee had laboured faithfully and well to ensure that the Meeting should be a highly successful one, and so it proved to be. The Provincial Grand Master held a Reception from 6-0 to 6-30 p.m., and at the Lodge Meeting which followed, gave a most interesting and masterly address, which must have deeply impressed every Brother present.

1927

About this time the Brethren of our Lodge were very busily engaged making arrangements for the celebration of the Lodge Centenary. All our Minute Books, from the first Lodge Meeting in 1827 up to the most recently completed one (November, 1924), had been submitted to Grand Lodge and found in order, with the result that our Petition for a Centenary Warrant was granted. The Minute Book of 1927 contains a full record of the more important correspondence relating to the arrangements for the celebration of the Centenary, which consisted of

a special Service at Shipley Parish Church on Sunday morning, March 13th, 1927, and a celebration at the Lodge on March 23rd, 1927. The Provincial Grand Master kindly accepted an invitation to be with us at our Lodge Meeting, and present the Centenary Warrant. The Church Service on March 13th, 1927, was conducted by V. W. Bro. Arthur, Lord Bishop of Bradford, and the Lesson was read by our oldest Past Master, W. Bro. Francis Lister, P.P.A.G.D.C., About fifty Brethren of our Lodge were present. There was also a large attendance of the Brethren from Bradford Lodges, whilst Baildon, Bingley, Howarth, Keighley and Pudsey Lodges were well represented. The following report of the Service is reprinted from *The Yorkshire Observer* of March 14th, 1927:—

BASED ON GOD'S FATHERHOOD

BISHOP AT MASONIC CENTENARY

AIREDALE LODGE

In celebration of the centenary of the Airedale Lodge (No. 387) of Freemasons, Shipley, a Masonic service was conducted at the Shipley Parish Church yesterday by the Bishop of Bradford (Dr. Perowne).

There was a large congregation of Freemasons, all the Bradford and associated lodges being well represented. Brethren from the Baildon, Bingley, Keighley, and Haworth lodges were also present.

The Bishop said that because Freemasonry was built upon the right foundation—the Fatherhood of God—he believed it would last. If it had not had that foundation he, for one, would certainly not have been a member.

In the early days of Christianity, he went on, it had been said, not with a cynical sneer but in sober truth, "See how these Christians love one another." Then the world had crept in. Man had tried to introduce uniformity rather than unity, and the great Christian Church had split up. Then there had begun another



W. BRO. RICHARD GILL, J.P.

Past Grand Deacon, Deputy Provincial Grand Master (West Yorks.)

movement among men, the movement of Freemasonry, which came into birth with just the same kind of design, that of fellowship among men, with no distinction of class or creed.

But mere fellowship, in his opinion, was not the real object of Freemasonry. Many of them, he thought, had joined the movement with the idea of meeting together in good fellowship, but once inside it they had found that there was something far deeper about it—the desire of finding out how to remedy the world's ills.

NOT A RELIGION

What else could their rites of initiation mean? The candidate began his Masonic career as a natural man but ended by becoming a regenerated man. He was first taught to purify and subdue his sensual nature. That was the first degree, as they knew. Then he was taught to purify and develop his mental nature, and finished by the utter surrender of his old life.

This ideal had now been set before the Airedale Lodge for 100 years, and he hoped that the Lodge had not only grown in numbers and efficiency but in its insight into the inner meaning of Masonry. It had certainly grown in numbers. Beginning at a tavern in Baildon, it had remained there for forty years. Then it had taken lodging at Shipley, moving into its present well-appointed quarters early in this century, and now had two daughter lodges.

The prosperity of the lodge, and of Freemasonry in general, would remain so long as they built upon the great foundation. If, however, they did not build with God as the foundation, and the great brotherhood of humanity as their ultimate object, then their labours as Freemasons were in vain.

Freemasonry did not take the place of religion. It could not really give them a driving motive, and did not pretend to do so. He had not read anywhere in the secrets and mysteries of Masonry that it pretended to be a religion.

Worshipful Bro. Francis Lister read the lesson, and the offertory, which is to be divided between the Saltaire Hospital and the Parish Church Centenary Renovation Fund, was collected by Past Masters of Airedale.

MASONRY UNIVERSAL, IMMORTAL

THE CENTENARY

Where are the wise, the great, the good,
Those sturdy sons of yore,
Who labor'd here with square and plumb,
But labour now no more?

Another generation comes,
And in their places meet;
The Silver Cord again is loosed,
For human life is fleet.

O years! What have they seen, what known,
What ties of love revealed!
What shrines and temples built since then,
What bonds of friendship sealed.

We'll meet them still for work with rest,
In joy, sometimes through tears;
And trust God's blessing on our Lodge,
Another hundred years.

AIREDALE LODGE, 387.

MASONIC HALL,
WAINMAN STREET,
SHIPLEY,
1st March, 1927.

DEAR SIR AND BRO.,

With reference to the forthcoming **Centenary Celebrations**, I beg to advise you that our next Regular Lodge Meeting will be held on **Wednesday, 23rd March, 1927**, instead of 16th March, 1927. To cover the extra cost in connection with this evening, there will be a special charge of One Guinea per member.

Kindly reply on the enclosed form, as early as possible, but certainly not later than 12th March, **whether you intend to be present or not**. No seating accommodation at the Festive Board can be reserved after that date. A negative reply will be treated as an apology, and so mentioned in the Lodge.

Owing to the very limited accommodation, it has been decided that **no Brother be allowed to invite a Visitor** on this particular evening.

The usual Lodge Circular, giving full particulars of the business to be transacted, will be posted to you in due course.

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

THOS. E. POWER, P.M.,
Secretary.

Centenary Celebrations.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE.

1. Hymn, during the singing of which,
The Provincial Grand Master,
The Deputy Provincial Grand Master,
The Assistant Provincial Grand Master,
Grand Officers, and Provincial Grand Officers,
present and past, will enter the Lodge.
2. The Provincial Grand Master will be saluted.
3. The Deputy Provincial Grand Master will be saluted.
4. The Assistant Provincial Grand Master will be saluted.
5. The Officers of Grand Lodge, present and past, will be saluted.
6. The Officers of Provincial Grand Lodge, present and past, will be saluted.
7. The Lodge will be lowered to the 2nd Degree, and resumed in the 1st Degree.
8. To offer a welcome to the Provincial Grand Master.
9. To read a short History of the Lodge.
10. To read the Minutes of the first Lodge meeting held April 11th, 1827, and to ask the Provincial Grand Master, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, the Assistant Provincial Grand Master, and the Provincial Grand Secretary, kindly to countersign those minutes.
11. The Provincial Grand Secretary will hand the Centenary Warrant to the Provincial Grand Master, who will request the Provincial Grand Registrar to read the same, and afterwards the Provincial Grand Master will present the Centenary Warrant to the Worshipful Master.
12. Presentation of Centenary Jewels.
13. Bro. Arthur Davy will present to the Lodge the Throne and Oak Panelling in commemoration of the Centenary of the Lodge. The Worshipful Master will ask the Provincial Grand Master formally to dedicate the same to the use of Freemasonry for all time.
14. To proceed with ordinary business of the Lodge.

I now come to the Lodge celebration of the Centenary on March 23rd, 1927, and give herewith copy of a circular issued to the Brethren, also copy of the regular Lodge Circular convening the Meeting.

There was a good muster of the members of the Lodge, fifty-three being present. Visitors amounting to thirty-six, comprised the Provincial Grand Master (R.W. Bro. The Viscount Lascelles, K.G., D.S.O., Senior Grand Warden), the Deputy Provincial Grand Master (W. Bro. Richard Gill, J.P., P.G.D.), the Provincial Grand Secretary (W. Bro. Chas. E. Frobisher), and Officers of Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodge, present and past, and the Masters of various Lodges in the district.

The Master gave an address of welcome to the Provincial Grand Master as follows:—

It is my pleasing duty on behalf of the Brethren of Aire-dale Lodge to offer to you this evening a very hearty Masonic welcome. We are not unmindful of the fact, that since your Installation into the Chair last October, you have been very very busy, and assiduous in your Masonic duties. Therefore, when you promised to come to us this evening, on the occasion of the celebration of our Centenary, we were more than delighted, because we know your many duties naturally make you a busy man. After hearing the manner in which you spoke at Leeds, on the occasion of your Installation as Provincial Grand Master, it is naturally what we should expect, as a true Mason, and Head of this great Province. Naturally, this is a great occasion for us, and to be graced by your presence is one which we shall ever remember, along with the kindly act which prompted you to come and visit us. We sincerely hope that you will have a long life and good health to carry out your Masonic duties, and we trust that the G.A.O.T.U., will spare you for many years to carry out those duties faithfully and well.

The Provincial Grand Master returned thanks for the hearty welcome, and the Worshipful Master then called upon the Secretary to read a short History of the Lodge. A copy of

this short History, as read in the Lodge, is attached to the Minutes.

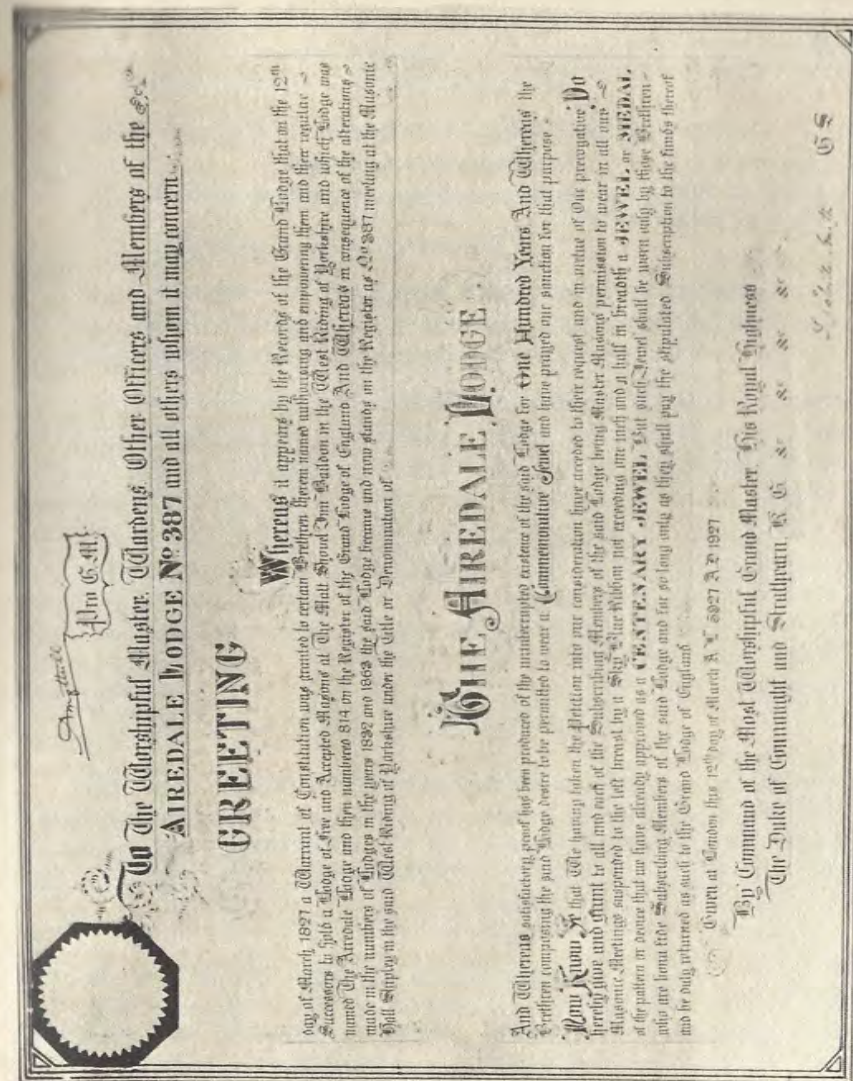
The Secretary read the Minutes of the first Lodge Meeting held April 11th, 1827, which were then counter-signed by the Master, The Provincial Grand Master, The Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and The Provincial Grand Secretary.

The Provincial Grand Secretary then handed the Centenary Warrant to the Provincial Grand Master, who requested the Provincial Grand Registrar to read the same. This being done, the Provincial Grand Master presented the Centenary Warrant to the Master with the following remarks:—

Worshipful Master! In rising to hand you this certificate from the Grand Lodge of England, I want, first of all, to congratulate your Lodge upon having attained the great age which entitles the Lodge to have such a certificate, and more still, I want to congratulate you upon the fact that you can prove the antiquity of your Lodge.

You have, in the short History of your Lodge, paid a tribute to two Lodges still in existence, who did a great deal to proving various facts connected with your Lodge during the hundred years of its life, and who have also contributed to that end. I am glad also, that you do not omit to mention those Brethren of your own Lodge who succeeded in keeping the Warrant in existence during the troublous times when the Lodge was reduced to as few as seven members, as was mentioned in the course of the résumé of the Lodge's history, and had remained, as I trust it always will, "a perfect Lodge."

Brethren, I should also like to congratulate you upon the presence this evening of W. Bro. Francis Lister, who was initiated into this Lodge some forty-five years ago. W. Bro. Lister, I am very glad you are here this evening, and it is nice to know that for forty-five years you have taken such a genuine interest in the affairs of this Lodge, and been such an active worker.



Worshipful Master, with these few words, I now hand you this certificate, feeling sure that the very honoured record of the Lodge in the past will be an incentive to your Brethren to even greater efforts in the future, and to hand on to posterity, unsullied, the reputation which the Lodge has held for the last hundred years.

The Worshipful Master in responding, said:—

Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, in accepting this Warrant from your hands, I can assure you it will be the endeavour of every member of this Lodge to hand it down to posterity, and keep the record of the Lodge unsullied.

The Brethren of the Lodge then formed in procession, and in passing the Dais were presented, individually, with their Centenary Jewels by the Provincial Grand Master.

At this juncture the Provincial Grand Master conferred a great honour upon Airedale Lodge by investing W. Bro. Francis Lister, P.P.A.G.D.C. (our oldest subscribing Past Master), with the rank of Past Provincial Senior Grand Warden. W. Bro. Lister, who attended at great personal inconvenience, and probably no little suffering, on account of a badly sprained ankle, had been assisted into the Lodge on crutches, and accommodated with a seat at the left of the Senior Warden, with his foot supported on a cushion. The Provincial Grand Master walked down the room to W. Bro. Lister and there invested him with the Collar and Jewel of his new rank.

W. Bro. Lister in a few facetious remarks, wherein he pointed out that he was a hospital patient, but had been permitted to attend the Lodge that evening, expressed his grateful thanks for the honour conferred, which he did not look upon in a personal sense, but rather as a compliment to the Lodge.

Bro. Arthur Davy, in commemoration of the Centenary, presented to the Lodge a beautifully carved Oak Chair for the Master, also the Oak Panelling behind the Chair, extending

across the Lodge Room. He made reference to the fact that they were of oak construction, and a few remarks regarding the important part which oak, in various forms, played in the life of Britishers. He further remarked that oak was symbolical of great strength, and that it mellowed and ripened with age. He expressed the hope that these virtues would be reflected on the Lodge for all time. He then, with all humility, and by the grace of the G.A.O.T.U., presented the Chair and Panelling to the Lodge.

The Master thereupon addressed the Provincial Grand Master, saying:—

Right Worshipful Sir, it is with humility, and yet with great pleasure, that I would ask you to accept this beautiful Chair and Oak Panelling on behalf of the Lodge, and formally to dedicate the same to the use of Freemasonry for all time.

The Provincial Grand Master responded:—

At your request I dedicate this Chair and Oak Panelling to Freemasonry in general, and the Airedale Lodge in particular. May the principles of Freemasonry, which have radiated from the old chair, continue for many generations to do so from the Chair in which you now are sitting.

The Master then remarked that they had present with them that evening W. Bro. S. A. Auty, the oldest living Past Master of Airedale Lodge, who was initiated in our Lodge in 1870, and occupied the Master's Chair in 1879. Addressing W. Bro. Auty, the Master said:—

On behalf of the Brethren of Airedale Lodge, I beg to offer you a very hearty Masonic welcome, and most sincere wishes for continued health. We are thankful that you have been able to join us on this auspicious occasion, and we trust that you may be spared for many years to come.



W. BRO. GEORGE WHITTINGTON

Past Grand Deacon, Assistant Provincial Grand Master (West Yorks.)

W. Bro. Auty, in responding, thanked the Brethren for their kind wishes, and stated that it was a great pleasure for him to visit Airedale Lodge, after so many years, particularly on the occasion of the celebration of the Lodge Centenary.

W. Bro. R. A. Millington P.P.G.D. (Treasurer) proposed, and W. Bro. Thos. E. Power (Secretary) seconded, that the Provincial Grand Master, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, the Assistant Provincial Grand Master, and the Provincial Grand Secretary, be asked to honour us by accepting Honorary Membership of the Lodge. This was carried unanimously. The Provincial Grand Master, responding, said:—

On behalf of my Provincial Brethren and myself, I beg to thank you from the bottom of my heart for the great honour you have bestowed on us. I hope we shall all find opportunity of using our membership even if we may be able only to visit you occasionally.

The Master then said:—

We are glad you have accepted Honorary Membership of our Antient Lodge, and we should also like you to accept Centenary Jewels which will be sent to you in due course.

The Deputy Provincial Grand Master, W. Bro. Richard Gill, J.P., P.G.D., then arose and said:—

I should have been very sorry indeed to find that the Lodge had been closed without my being able to say a few words. We are indeed proud that the Provincial Grand Master has been able to come and be with you when you are celebrating the Centenary of your Lodge. You have had an important life, and taking into consideration the various vicissitudes through which you have passed, I feel that you are to be heartily congratulated. I hope that you will have your third Jubilee in due course, although I shall not live to see it, and may your Lodge continue to prosper.

W. Bro. R. A. Millington, P.P.G.D., expressed on behalf of the Lodge our high appreciation and grateful thanks to Bro. Arthur Davy for his magnificent gift. The Brethren were very

proud of the enhanced beauty of the rooms, and considered it a very fine act on his part. On behalf of the Brethren of Airedale Lodge, he begged to propose a very hearty vote of thanks to Bro. Davy. This was seconded by W. Bro. Francis Lister, P.P.G.W., and carried unanimously.

Bro. Davy, responding to the vote of thanks, stated that he was a "Dalesman" born in Airedale, proud and fond of Airedale, and our own Airedale Lodge in particular. On account of business taking him out of the Country a great deal, he had not been able to attend the duties of the Lodge so frequently as he would wish, but begged to assure the Brethren that he had the interests of Airedale Lodge at heart.

After the closing of the Lodge, the Brethren adjourned to the Dining Room where seating accommodation had been arranged for eighty-seven, and every place was occupied. The tables had been beautifully decorated by Mrs. Chas. E. Place, the good lady of our Worshipful Master, and the caterer (Bro. J. W. Rawnsley) provided a very substantial meal. The Stewards rose to the occasion magnificently, and supplied all that could be desired, of any, and almost every kind, from Stone Ginger Beer to Champagne, to those who desired it. Our grateful thanks are due to several Brethren of our Daughter Lodge, Amity 4148, who acted as Carvers and Stewards, in order that the Brethren of our own Lodge who usually undertake these duties could on this occasion have seats at the dining table. The Amity Brethren who so generously served us in this way were as follows:—

W. Bro. Luther Clough, P.M.
W. Bro. Fred Clough, P.M.
Bro. Harold Barnes
Bro. W. Bilsborough
Bro. P. Blackburn
Bro. L. A. Briggs
Bro. S. Holmes
Bro. A. W. Keighley

The usual toasts were received with great enthusiasm, and the Brethren of our Lodge who had been entrusted with the proposing of certain of them did their part exceedingly well. Musical items and recitations were rendered by W. Bro. F. Power, Bro. J. W. Brayshaw, Bro. H. F. Peel, and Bro. J. W. Rawnsley, and a recitation in the Yorkshire dialect on the "Bramla Band" by W. Bro. T. H. Wilson, the Master of our Daughter Lodge, St. Laurence 2330. Bro. Percy Parkin of our own Lodge, also gave an original recitation in the Yorkshire dialect, which he had composed especially for the occasion. The Provincial Grand Master, who appeared to be thoroughly enjoying himself, was very much amused and entertained, particularly by the recitations in the Yorkshire dialect. That he had a really enjoyable evening was obvious from the fact that, whilst he had ordered his car for 9-30 p.m., it was nearly 11-0 p.m. when he took his departure.

Numerous congratulations were showered upon us for the complete and highly satisfactory arrangements that had been made. Everything passed off remarkably well, without the slightest hitch or complication of any kind. It would, indeed, be difficult to conceive a more successful or happier celebration, and the enjoyable evening spent, with the references to our Brethren of one hundred years ago, will undoubtedly live long in the memory of all those who were present. Great credit is due to the various sub-committees, for the work done, *thoroughly well done*, in making all the arrangements, and the complete success secured is their reward.

It was a real pleasure to have with us at our Centenary celebration, W. Bro. S. A. Auty who had occupied the Master's Chair in our Lodge, forty-eight years before. He had the unique experience of being present at the Jubilee and also at the Centenary. When the Lodge celebrated its Jubilee, he

was in office as S.W. and in responding to the toast of the Officers, a portion of his remarks was as follows:—

. . . . The occasion on which we are assembled, although a very pleasant one, yet to my mind, brings with it reflections both of the past and the future.

Of the past, reminding me that others, who fifty years ago to-day were occupying the position we now hold, have (with two exceptions) gone, I trust, to the Grand Lodge above, reminding us all that we are but creatures of the dust.

Of the future, that the position now held by us will fifty years hence be occupied by others, and that we, in all probability (or most of us) will then have been called by the Great Architect of the Universe to give an account of our transactions here below.

We had some difficulty in tracing W. Bro. Auty, and only got in touch with him the day before the Centenary celebration. He was the only living person, so far as we knew, who had attended the Jubilee celebration, and we were very thankful to have him with us when we celebrated the Centenary. Apart from a little deafness, he possessed all his faculties and was looking very well.

The Brethren of Airedale 387 have always been most generous with gifts to their Lodge, which are almost too numerous to mention. Amongst those of recent date, however, I may refer to the Lodge carpet subscribed for by the Junior Brethren, the Organ presented by W. Bro. Willie Fox, the Framed List of Past Masters and the Emblem in the centre of the Lodge, presented by W. Bro. Alfred Bagnall, the Roll of Honour Tablet to those who served in the Great War, presented by W. Bro. A. H. Bagnall, a set of Working Tools presented by W. Bro. Fred Power, and the beautiful Oak Panelling and Master's Chair, presented by Bro. Arthur Davy.

It is rather a remarkable coincidence that the name of William Fox (of Harden) appears on the Warrant as one of the petitioners, and one hundred years later when we celebrated

our Centenary, W. Bro. Willie Fox, one of our highly respected Past Masters, was the I.P.M. I understand that W. Bro. Willie Fox's antecedents came from the same district, so there may be some relationship.

I have thought it appropriate to conclude with the record of the Centenary Celebration, that being the occasion which has brought this book into existence.

Bro. J. Ramsden Riley's earlier publication has been of the greatest assistance to me in the preparation of this, and I express a very sincere hope that my labours will not have been in vain, but that this publication will be of similar assistance to some future historian of the Lodge.

THOS. E. POWER, P.M. 387.

Secretary

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