

# FREEMASONRY IN AMERICA PRIOR TO 1750

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BEING AN ADDRESS

BY

MOST WORSHIPFUL  
MELVIN MAYNARD JOHNSON  
GRAND MASTER

TO THE

GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS

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SEPTEMBER 13, 1916

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## FREEMASONRY IN AMERICA PRIOR TO 1750

### ABBREVIATIONS

A.B.	Account Book (of the Lodge to which reference is being made).
ANDERSON.	Anderson's Constitutions.
B.M.S.	Beteilhe Manuscript.
ENTICK.	Entick's Constitutions.
GOULD.	Gould's (larger) History of Freemasonry. Edition of John C. Yorston & Co., 1889.
L.B.	"Libre B."
L.H.B.	Lane's Handy Book to the Lists of Lodges.
L.M.R.	Lane's Masonic Records, 1717-1894, 2nd Ed.
MACKEY.	Mackey's History of Freemasonry. (Masonic History Co., 1898.)
1 MASS.	Printed Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, 1733-1792 (containing the Proceedings of the Provincial Grand Lodges at Boston).
MASS.	Printed Proceedings of Grand Lodge of Massachusetts for year given.
M.F.M.	Moore's Freemason's Magazine.
N.E.F.	Nickerson's New England Freemason.
O.L.	Official Engraved Lists of the Lodges, published by authority of the Grand Lodge of England.
O.M.L.P.	Sachse's Old Masonic Lodges of Pennsylvania.
O.R.	Original Records (of the body of which reference is being made).
P.C.	The Pocket Companion and History of Freemasonry by J. Scott.
PRICHARD.	Prichard's Tubal-Kain (Dublin, 1760?).
P.L.	The Charles "Pelham List" of the Brethren made and accepted in the First Lodge in Boston, and of those raised and accepted in the Masters' Lodge, written in 1751. (Original in archives of Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.)
PRESTON.	William Preston's Illustrations of Masonry.
PRO. G.M.	Provincial Grand Master.
P-t.	Photo-stat on file in archives of Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.
Q.C.A.	Quatuor Coronatorum Antigrapha.
S.&H.	Stillson & Hughan's History of Freemasonry.



**HENRY PRICE**

**FOUNDER OF DULY CONSTITUTED MASONRY IN AMERICA**

## FOREWORD.

“Duly-constituted” Lodges of Freemasons, as we use the words, never existed prior to June 24, 1717. The unnumbered and mostly unknown Lodges theretofore were but voluntary and indefinite assemblages of those Freemasons who casually or for business reasons found themselves in a given neighborhood. To this rule there were exceptions becoming more numerous toward the close of the seventeenth century, but it may be said as a generality that there was no such thing as Lodge “membership.” All were Freemasons “at large.” With certain definite exceptions, no Lodge was a continuing body or had officers with terms which overran each closing or kept records. They were but occasional bodies having no persevering entity. They were, however, “regular.”

The reincarnation or transmutation commonly known as the “Revival of 1717” changed all this. It provided not only Grand Lodge organization and administrative machinery but included definite provisions for Lodge continuity. It established for all future time the fundamental test of regularity and due constitution, as existence under explicit authority lawfully granted by a Grand Master. \_

In a world which had not harnessed the energies of steam or electricity or gas for the transportation of persons or freight or intelligence, some years passed before these rules of regularity were thoroughly known, much less accepted, by all the Masons familiar with the old haphazard customs. But finally the whole Fraternity wheresoever dispersed recognized and conformed. The Regulations governing regularity (formally adopted June 24, 1721,) comparatively soon obtained full sway and have ever since been univer-

sally recognized by the Craft. No "duly-constituted" Lodge of Symbolic Masonry exists or has ever existed since then—except only the four which together organized the Grand Lodge of 1717 and Mother Kilwinning and her children—without warrant and/or constitution by act of a Grand Master or of his Deputy.

See 1700, *infra*.

The early Lodges and Provincial Grand Lodges were careless about the keeping of records. Even the Mother Grand Lodge itself has no formal record book for more than six years after its organization. And the premier Provincial Grand Lodge of the Western Hemisphere, organized in Boston, Massachusetts, July 30, 1733, has no formal and continuous records written in a book at the time of the recorded events, until 1750.

This has led some argumentative Brethren to assert that there is naught but tradition of duly constituted Masonry in America prior to 1750. And it has led me to attempt a chronological compilation of all the real known facts of Masonry in America prior to the middle of the eighteenth century with references to the original evidence, most of which I have personally examined. Now and then are also included, for convenience of the student, references to certain things which even some of our best historians and their readers have swallowed with much consequent ptomaine poisoning.

No pretension is made that this is complete. It does contain, however, everything for which the investigations of the writer have disclosed credible and authentic evidence. It is hoped that others may be stimulated to publish all possible facts of the period for which they can and do cite authority worthy of and available for examination and test as to historical accuracy.

## AUTHORITIES.

The principal sources of information are:

1. The official engraved lists published by authority of the Grand Lodge of England.
2. The various editions of the Constitutions.
3. Original record and account books.
4. Manuscripts of the period.
5. Preston's Illustrations of Masonry, the 1st edition of which was issued in 1772.
6. The various editions of the Pocket Companion, containing a history of the Fraternity (and in some editions a list of the Lodges) written by J. Scott in 1754.
7. Newspapers of the period.
8. Other manuscripts and publications by those who lived during the period in question, whether written then or shortly thereafter.

1. *Official Lists of Lodges.* -

Valuable sources of information concerning the early Lodges are the official engraved lists which since 1723 have been published at least annually by authority of the Grand Lodge of England. Just before 1730 the Lodges were given numbers in these lists, usually in accordance with seniority. When a Provincial Lodge was not reported promptly, as often happened, it was given a position later than that to which it was entitled but corresponding with the date of its report; and then when a vacancy occurred by the erasure of a Lodge somewhere near the position in which it be-

longed, the transfer would be made (e.g., the First Lodge at Savannah, Georgia. See 1735, after October 30, *infra*). The early official lists were engraved with artistic representations of the signs of the taverns, etc., in which the Lodges met.

With all of their errors—and they had many—these lists are invaluable to the Masonic student, and in many cases are the sole source of information.

Printed lists were now and then issued, but they were not official and have less probative value. Brothers Hughan and Lane have made exhaustive studies of these lists, the ultimate being reached in Lane's List of the Lodges, 1717-1894 (2d Edition) to which frequent reference is hereafter made.

Of the old official engraved lists, the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts owns originals of 1735, 1736, 1737 (1st and 2nd Editions), 1738, and 1761; and facsimiles of 1725 (1st and 2nd Editions), 1734, and 1735. Of the printed lists, the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts owns a large number, some of which were apparently unknown to Lane.

## 2. *The Constitutions.*

The first printed edition of the Constitutions and Regulations was compiled by Anderson and published by him under authority of the Grand Lodge at London in 1723. A similar, but improved edition was issued in 1738. Many editions thereof have since appeared. The first American printing was by Benjamin Franklin, in Philadelphia, in 1734. All contain a history of the Craft. But little weight



can be given to the history, as there recorded, prior to the eighteenth century, it being largely an adaptation of the old manuscript Constitutions. A considerable number of these manuscripts still exist written during the years as far back even as the fourteenth century, but they are a curious blending of fact and fiction such as usually results when facts are handed down through hundreds of years by tradition.

But the substantial accuracy of the events from and after 1717, recorded in the printed Constitutions, may be relied upon for they were recorded by participants in the events themselves or by their associates who had first-hand sources of information.

### 3. *Records and Account Books.*

None of the Masonic bodies of the early eighteenth century began to keep its records in a minute book contemporaneously with the events recorded until several years after its organization.

a. The Grand Lodge at London, for instance, was organized in 1717, but its first contemporaneous record book begins June 24, 1723.

b. The Brethren who met in Philadelphia had an account book known as "Libre B" beginning with June 24, 1731, *q.v.*, which came to light about a generation ago.

c. The First Lodge in Boston, constituted July 30, 1733, began its records at some unknown period. Its earliest record book now known begins with copies of Price's Commission, of the By-Laws of the Lodge, and of Tomlinson's Commission, followed by the record of December 27, 1738,

being the "VI" meeting of the quarter. Ebenezer Swan was the Secretary. It closes with the record of July 24, 1754.

Reversed, the volume contains the account book of the Lodge beginning December 27, 1738, the first entry being "To a Ball<sup>ce</sup> brought from a former Book 34: 8: 5."

Thomas Oxnard was then Treasurer. This account runs to February 26, 1755.

1 N.E.F. 57 and 279.

1900 Mass. 125.

d. The existing records of the Masters' Lodge in Boston begin with its constitution, December 22, 1738, Francis Beteilhe, Secretary. This book closes with the meeting of November 6, 1761. Reversed, the volume discloses the account book down to December 21, 1753. A loose sheet is inserted with a rough account from December 1, 1758 to December, 1760.

e. The known records of Saint John's Lodge of Portsmouth, N.H., begin October 31, 1739, Jonathan Loggin, Secretary.

f. The known records of Tun Tavern Lodge, Philadelphia, begin June 28, 1749.

g. The contemporaneous records of the Provincial Grand Lodge at Boston begin April 13, 1750, Peter Pelham, Grand Secretary, exactly seventeen years after the date of Price's Deputation. Pelham, following the custom of the period, opened his record book with such detail as was then in his possession of previous happenings.

See 1 Mass. 1-10.

He had his own part in a few of these events but, what is more to the point, he had available information thereof from Henry Price and the other Brethren who were participants therein and who were his intimate friends and constant associates, as well as from manuscripts now lost.

When Francis Beteilhe was elected Clerk of the Vestry of Christ Church, Boston, he had done exactly the same thing, viz.: begun his record book with a brief statement of the preceding history of the Church.

Brother Jacob Norton once fathered a petition to the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts which asked a revision of the ritual by the elimination of all reference to the Holy Saints John. The Grand Lodge denied his petition whereupon he withdrew from his Massachusetts membership and subsequently made bitter attacks upon the Masonic history of that jurisdiction.

1851 Mass. 7, 33-43.

1906 Mass. 84.

R.W. Joseph Rollins, a Masonic student and Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, accepted Norton's conclusions and reargued the case for him. Then certain Pennsylvania partisans restated Norton's animadversions and gave them wide circulation. Then Brother Hughan and some other historians, assuming the correctness of Norton's statements of fact and following his arguments, based some of their statements and conclusions upon his.

IV Gould, 330.

Entirely apart from the evidence then in hand, certain old newspaper articles, official lists, and manuscripts have been discovered since Norton's day which utterly and beyond all cavil or argument prove the falsity of his premises and of his reasoning. Unfortunately, now and then, writers have adopted Norton's views quoting as authorities those who also followed his lead. Our leading Masonic histories were written before Norton's arguments were unanswerably shown to be wrong. Masonic students and historians are requested, therefore, not to adopt without personal investigation, any conclusions by even our best and most revered historians except they are based upon a knowledge of the whole facts including the recently discovered evidence, all of which are referred to in the text or citations which follow.

#### 4. *Manuscripts of the Period.*

a. The original petition for the constitution of the First Lodge in Boston is still preserved in the archives of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

See 1733, July 30, *infra*.

Facsimile, 1871 Mass. 296.

Investigations to date have failed to disclose any older similar document in the world.

b. The original petition for the constitution of the First Lodge in New Hampshire is upon the same files:

See 1735/6, February 5, *infra*.

Facsimile, 1871 Mass. 306.

c. The Beteilhe Manuscript.

The Beteilhe Manuscript, so called, of twenty-six pages, is entitled almost to the dignity of a contemporaneous official record. It is in the handwriting of Francis Beteilhe, bound with an original of the Constitutions as printed by Franklin in 1734, was purchased some years ago for \$375 (1899 Mass. 72, *et seq.*, 1906 Mass. 93, *et seq.*) and is now in the archives of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts (1916 Mass.     ). The handwriting is abundantly attested by comparison with known specimens of his handwriting in the possession of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts and referred to in later citations, and also with the record of the Vestry of Christ Church, Boston, of which he was elected Clerk on January 15, 1732/3, serving to and including its meeting for July 30, 1739. There is no clue in the Church records as to why he ceased to serve in the middle of this year except as we may judge from the handwriting itself. His last two entries seem to be written in a larger and feebler hand, certainly in a more straggling style than was his custom. It looks almost as if his style of writing or his control of his muscles was affected by an illness of some sort which might account for his giving up the office. His successor, however, does not seem to have been elected until April 10, 1740. When he became Secretary of the First Lodge in Boston and of the Grand Lodge we do not know. He was made in the First Lodge on July 24, 1734, *q.v. infra*. He signs as its Secretary as early as June 23, 1736, *q.v. infra*. He was appointed or reappointed Grand Secretary by Provincial Grand Master Tomlinson on June 24, 1737 (1 Mass. 470). Although not a member of the First

Lodge at its constitution he had abundant opportunity to learn the facts which he records not only by his intimate association with the other Brethren in the town of Boston, but also especially because he was the partner of Provincial Grand Master Henry Price from 1736 to 1741.

The records of the Masters' Lodge from January 2, 1738/9, to and including August 7, 1739, are in his handwriting. That he gave up this Secretaryship in the same year that he ceased to be Clerk of the Vestry of Christ Church, and that the records of the Masters' Lodge for some time after August 7, 1739, *q.v.*, are not in the book give confirmatory evidence of his being afflicted by some indisposition during this year.

The Manuscript starts with a copy of the petition of July 30, 1733, of the Brethren in Boston to be regularly constituted as a Lodge. This covers three pages. Pages four to six inclusive contain an account of the formation of the Grand Lodge by Henry Price, the presentation of the petition of the Boston Brethren, and the constitution of the First Lodge on July 30, 1733, *q.v. infra*. Pages seven to twelve inclusive contain the By-Laws or Regulations of the First Lodge in Boston as adopted October 24, 1733. Pages thirteen and fourteen contain a list of the officers of the Grand Lodge and of the Lodge and also of the Brethren, this list having been written between July 27 and August 23, 1737. Pages fifteen to seventeen inclusive contain votes relative to By-Laws, the first being passed by the Lodge on March 12, 1734/5, and the last on February 9, 1736/7. The eighteenth page is blank. Pages nineteen

to twenty-one inclusive contain a copy of the Deputation issued by the Earl of Loudoun, Grand Master of England to Robert Thomlinson as Provincial Grand Master. Pages twenty-two and twenty-three contain a copy of the letter of Glasgow Kilwinning Lodge, dated February 22, 1736/7, *q.v.* Pages twenty-four to twenty-six inclusive contain a copy of the letter from Edinburgh, dated January 28, 1736/7. *q.v.*

There are twelve names on the Pelham List which do not appear in the Beteilhe Manuscript. These Brethren had probably ceased to be members of the Lodge by July 27, 1737. There is but one name, Captain Roger Willington, on the Beteilhe Manuscript which is not found on the Pelham List and that name is found in the Barons Letter of June 23, 1736, *q.v.* There are but two names on the Beteilhe list prior to the date of the Barons Letter list which are not found on the latter. These slight differences, to my mind, confirm the general accuracy of all of the lists and prove that no one of them is copied from any other but that all were drawn off from some original records which are now lost.

See also 1747, May 27, *infra.*

A facsimile of pages 13 and 14 of the Beteilhe Manuscript is herewith presented.

For facsimile of pages 4, 5, and 6, see 1733, July 30, *infra.*

# A List of the Brethren

Henry Price G.M. Constituted of Lodge AM 5733

Andrew Belcher D: G.M.

James Gordon J. G.W. Fred Hamilton J. G.W.

Henry Hope M<sup>r</sup> Wm Gordon S.W.

Andrew Hallyburton J.W.

Francis Betelke Secy

1 John McNeil

2 Edm<sup>d</sup>. Ellis

3 Tho<sup>s</sup>. Molony

4 Sam<sup>l</sup>. Pemberton

5 Moses Statterrey

6 Tho<sup>s</sup>. Phillips

7 Robert Macklean

8 Wilm<sup>m</sup> Nelson

9 Robert Kenton

10 John Overing Esq<sup>r</sup>.

11 Sam<sup>l</sup>. Curwen

12 Anthony Davis

13 Alex<sup>r</sup>. Gordon

14 Peter Hall

15 John Baker

16 Robert Peasley

17 John Gordon Tyler

18 John Smith

19 Peter Prescott

20 Benj<sup>m</sup>. Pemberton Esq<sup>r</sup>.

21 Hugh Scott

22 John Lisle

23 Rich<sup>d</sup>. Pateshall

24 Robert Gardiner

25 Tho<sup>s</sup>. Moffatt Doct<sup>r</sup>

26 Chas<sup>r</sup>. Gordon

Car<sup>r</sup> over Leaf



James Cerke Cap.  
 Robert Thomlinson  
 Alex<sup>r</sup>. Trann  
 John Osborne  
 Rob<sup>t</sup>. Boyde Cap.  
 Benj<sup>d</sup>. Hallowell  
 Fran<sup>s</sup>. Johnson  
 Luke Vardy. Master of the Exchange Tavern  
 Roger Wellington Cap.  
 Hugh M<sup>c</sup>. Daniels  
 Chas<sup>r</sup>. Bladwell Esq  
 Coll<sup>o</sup>. Jn<sup>s</sup>. Morris  
 Cap<sup>n</sup>. Jn<sup>s</sup>. Fraizier  
 Cap<sup>n</sup>. Tho. Reynolds  
 Cap<sup>n</sup>. James Crawford  
 Deed Archibald Ramsay  
 Cap<sup>n</sup>. Peter Tonkin  
 Cap<sup>n</sup>. Rich<sup>d</sup>. Parks.  
 Shaw Mackintosh Esq.  
 Nath<sup>o</sup>. Bethune.  
 Sam<sup>l</sup>. Stone of Salem

Jam<sup>s</sup>. Forbes Cap.  
 Benj<sup>d</sup>. Barons  
 Willm<sup>o</sup>. Hinton Cap.  
 Tho<sup>s</sup>. Oxnard  
 Tho<sup>s</sup>. McKnight Cap.  
 Webber Gofson Cap.  
 Robert Smith Cap.  
 Willm Frost Cap.  
 Robert Oliver  
 Cap<sup>n</sup>. Jn<sup>s</sup>. Huegett  
 James Farrell } Mates  
 Giles Vandellhire } Ship  
 Cap<sup>n</sup>. Edw<sup>d</sup>. Clarke of N. York  
 Albert Denie  
 Alex<sup>r</sup>. French ~~DEA~~  
 Tho<sup>s</sup>. Pearson

d. The Barons Letter.

See 1736, June 23, *infra*.

e. The Pelham List.

See abbreviations, *supra*.

I have personally compared the Pelham List and the original records of the First Lodge in Boston for the period when they overlap. There are two hundred and twenty-four names on the Pelham List for that period. Eight are given on the List whose names do not appear on the original records as made or accepted on the dates stated. Three names are given on the original records which do not appear on the Pelham List. Of the eight I can prove in at least three instances that the List must be correct and that the Secretary in these cases omitted from the records of the Lodge some things which actually transpired.

See 1747, May 27, and 1739, July 25, *infra*.

f. Numerous other manuscripts will be referred to in the statements and citations hereinafter contained.

5. *Preston's Illustrations*.

6. *The Pocket Companion*.

Both of these were written by men who copied or paraphrased Anderson. Both were supplemented in succeeding editions. Both occasionally contain lists of the lodges. So far, at least, as they recite facts not recorded by Anderson their statements concerning the events of the eighteenth century have great evidential value.

### 7. *Newspapers of the Period.*

Every newspaper published in Boston prior to March 25, 1750, so far as they are known to exist, has been read.

See IX Publications of the Colonial Society of Massachusetts, containing check list of Boston Newspapers, 1740-1780.

Appendix to 1915 Proceedings of American Antiquarian Society.

Extensive but not exhaustive search has been made of the papers published during the period in Charleston, S. C., Philadelphia, Penn., and New York, N. Y. No complete check lists of the existing copies of these papers have been found.

8. *Other Manuscripts and Publications will be referred to from time to time.*

### CALENDAR.

Much confusion has arisen over dates from January 1st to March 24th inclusive prior to 1753, because to and including the year 1752 the first day of the new year was March 25th instead of January 1st. Consequently old style March 24, 1750, for instance, was the day before March 25, 1751; and January 1, 1750, was the day after December 31, 1750, and not the day after December 31, 1749. In many commentaries on early Masonic matters as well as upon matters of general history this distinction has been overlooked, and this I find to be true even in many instances to be found in the printed Proceedings

of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. Accuracy of dates has been attempted herein, and for clearness both old and new style have been indicated. For instance, March 24, 1750/1 means the day before March 25, 1751. At the time, that day was officially known as March 24, 1750.

## HISTORY

1606. Nova Scotia.

Dr. Charles T. Jackson, of Boston, while making a survey of Nova Scotia in 1827, discovered upon the shore of Goat Island in Annapolis Basin a flat slab of trap rock with the date 1606 and what some have thought to be the Square and Compass deeply cut though much worn by time and weather.

1914 Mass. 247 *et cit.*

Brother R. V. Harris's theory concerning this stone seems the most reasonable one presented, namely, that "the stone marked the grave of either a mason or stone-cutter or possibly a carpenter who died November 14, 1606, and not that of a speculative Freemason."

Transactions of Nova Scotia Lodge of Research  
for Jan. 31, 1916. Pages 29, *et seq.*

In 1785, there was a tradition in Nova Scotia that Freemasonry had been known there while the country was in the hands of the French.

See "Charges and Regulations," etc., published by John Howe, Halifax, 1786. The only known copy is in the archives of Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

1656 or 1658.

There is a tale of modern fabrication that a dilapidated document had been found which recited that certain Hebrews were given the "Degrees of Maconrie" in 1656 or 1658 at Newport, Rhode Island. Unless and until the document is produced and/or accounted for, no credit can be given it.

1870 Mass. 357.

1891 Mass. 32.

*The Builder* for May, 1915, p. 111.

1697.

Henry Price, Founder of Duly Constituted Masonry in the Western Hemisphere, was born this year in London.

1870 Mass. 357.

16 M.F.M. 137.

Original Tombstone.

1700.

American Colonies.

For reasons, the statement of which is beyond our present scope, it is now accepted "that Freemasonry was introduced into the Colonies of North America at a very early period in the 18th century \* \* \* . These Freemasons (emigrants) soon established Lodges in various places, which they worked without the sanction of warrants."

Mackey, 1233, 1407.

These occasional Lodges, meeting according to the Old Customs, were never "duly constituted" but they were, nevertheless, "regular" prior to 1721. They were neither "regular" nor "duly constituted" after June 24, 1721, unless and until lawfully warranted or chartered. On

Saint John the Baptist's Day, in 1721, the Grand Lodge at London adopted and promulgated the following regulation:

“VIII. No set or number of Brethren shall withdraw or separate themselves from the Lodge in which they were made Brethren, or were afterwards admitted members, unless the Lodge becomes too numerous; nor even then, without a Dispensation from the Grand Master or his Deputy: and when they are thus separated, they must either immediately join themselves to such other Lodge as they shall like best, with the unanimous consent of that other Lodge to which they go (as above regulated) or else they must obtain the Grand Master's Warrant to join in forming a new Lodge.

“If any set or number of Masons shall take upon themselves to form a Lodge without the Grand Master's Warrant, the regular Lodges are not to countenance them, nor own them as fair Brethren and duly formed, nor approve of their acts and deeds; but must treat them as rebels, until they humble themselves, as the Grand Master shall in his prudence direct, and until he approve of them by his Warrant, which must be signified to the other Lodges, as the custom is when a new Lodge is to be registered in the list of Lodges.”

As will be seen hereafter the Brethren in Boston were the first in America to be constituted in accordance with this regulation (July 30, 1733). They thus became the first “regular and duly constituted Lodge” in the Western Hemisphere. The lodge at Montserrat was the second in 1734; the Lodge in Pennsylvania came next in 1734/5; the Brethren in Savannah, Georgia, and Charleston, South Carolina, came next in 1735; and the Lodge in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, followed in 1736.

1705.

Boston.

Brother Jonathan Belcher who had been made a Mason in England in 1704 (1 Mass. 389) returned to his post

at Boston as Governor of the Colony of Massachusetts Bay. He thus is the first Freemason known to be in the Western Hemisphere. We may therefore properly call him the Senior Freemason of America.

1914 Mass. 249, *et cit.*

1 N.E.F. 67.

*The Builder* for May, 1915, p. 112.

1715.

The John Moore letter, so called, was for a time exploited as showing meetings of the Fraternity in America during this year. The letter, however, never existed, although some of our best historians credited the story, having supposed it to be true but not having attempted verification.

*The Builder* for May, 1915, p. 112.

1718/9, January 5, Boston.

The *Boston News Letter* for this date, page 2, under its news for the Port of Boston chronicles:

“Outward Bound, Jacob William Ship Charles and Free Mafon for Jamaica.”

We shall hear of this ship again.

P-t.

1720. Boston.

Reverend Brother Montague of Dedham, Mass., about 1826 exhibited to R.W. Charles W. Moore, then Editor of the *Masonic Mirror* (Grand Pursuivant 1833; Recording Grand Secretary, 1834 to 1867; Deputy Grand Master, 1868; Corresponding Grand Secretary, 1869 to 1873; Honorary Past Grand Master, December 10, 1873, Grand Lodge

of Massachusetts; Editor of Masonic magazines 1825 to 1873), evidence that a Lodge had met in King's Chapel, Boston, in 1720. Even without Charter or Warrant such a Lodge was entirely regular prior to June 24, 1721. Unfortunately Brother Moore did not state where the original evidence is to be found.

In the concealed pages of some forgotten tome or in some hidden wrinkled and ancient manuscript, this evidence will again be discovered by some delver into the secrets of the past. Until then we shall have to rest content with the knowledge that Brothers Montague and Moore were highly respected by their compeers and were men of unquestioned veracity. The evidence, therefore, of these meetings in King's Chapel neither rises to the grade of unquestioned proof nor falls to the level of tradition. We have the definite knowledge that men of the highest standing in the community actually saw evidence which satisfied them. Certain known facts lend argumentative support. Governor Belcher of Massachusetts was a Mason. Extensive study satisfies one that at least ten of those who on July 30, 1733, applied to Henry Price for the Constitution of the First Lodge were "made here." (To this extent I desire to modify views previously expressed.) In their petition they stated in so many words that some of them were "made here."

Original petition in archives of G. L. of Mass.  
Facsimile, 1871, Mass. 297.

Confirmatory facts will later appear sufficient to warrant the conclusion that the first "regular" Lodge in the



Western Hemisphere met in King's Chapel, Boston, in 1720. 1914 Mass. 249 *et cit.*

1888 Mass. 164.

1891 Mass. 35.

S. and H. 447.

1720, August 29, Boston.

In these days it was customary for members of the Fraternity to speak of Masonic matters by indirection. For instance, if a cowan or evesdropper approached while Brethren were talking Masonry one would say, "It rains." This was the cue to turn the conversation. Bearing in mind this habit, it is interesting to read in the *Boston Gazette* for August 29, 1720, the following account:

*Constitution, Aug. 29.* On Wednesday last Four Men belonging to this Town were down in a Boat to the Mill to kill wild swine. On their return home toward Sun-set, they espied an Heron at some small distance which they attempted to shoot. And as one of the Company was discharging his Piece, Another of the Company, (Scilicet Mr. Benjamin Dorse,) unexpectedly flung up before the mouth of the Cannon and received the shot into his own Breast under his right Shoulder, upon which He expired in a minute. How with those words in Act VII, 9, *Lord of Justice* *et cetera* *et cetera*. When the Body was brought on shore, it would have melted the most sturdiest heart into feeling, to have beheld the Weeping and seen the Tears, which the whole Town shed at the Affliction. He was very much beloved and is universally lamented, being a Person of Exemplary Piety, and In every good Quality, and a Father of a Family Only Son. He was also the Town Clerk and Treasurer, and One that was very Useful in teaching the Youth, Writing, Arithmetick, and Singing of Psalm Tunes. He was decently Buried yesterday (the 30th) being a vast Concourse of People at his Funerall. *A. D. 1720. No. XXV.*

P-t.

I think that whoever wrote the above article was a Mason and intended thereby to inform all Brethren who should read the *Gazette* that Benjamin Dowse was a member of the Craft.

The facts are as he gives them but his choice of italics does not accord with the custom of the day. Benj. Dowse's father and brother predeceased him. He left a mother and three sisters.

Our learned Brother M. Huxtall thinks that this looks like "the writing of a man who 'took his Masonry seriously,' and (perhaps half unconsciously) introduced the language of the Craft more or less habitually."

1721, June 24.

On this day the Mother Grand Lodge of the Masonic world, that at London, adopted a regulation quoted under "1700" *supra*. This has ever since been the law forbidding the formation of a Lodge without a Grand Master's Warrant.

This Mother Grand Lodge then had jurisdiction over the new world and every Regular and Duly Constituted Lodge which existed in America during the period with which we are dealing derived its authority directly or mediately therefrom. At least from the public promulgation of this rule (1723) every Lodge which met in the Colonies without the required authority (and there were doubtless a number of them) was irregular and not entitled to Masonic recognition. All such came under the second paragraph of said General Regulation VIII. Clandestine and irregularly made Masons were no more entitled to Masonic recog-

dition in the eighteenth century than they are now in the twentieth century. The so-called Lodges in the Colonies, therefore, meeting without Warrant in these early days are no part of legitimate Masonic history until they "humbled themselves" as did the Masons of Pennsylvania when in 1734 they applied for and received recognition from Pro. G.M. Henry Price, in 1734/5. Until then, under the law quoted they were "rebels." And never in any phase of the life of the world have rebels obtained the rights of legitimacy unless the rebellion was successful. In dealing with questions of precedence, primacy is to be accorded to regularity, and obedience to law is to be preferred to violation thereof. The channels of regularity since 1721 are recorded and certain, susceptible of definite historic proof. The story of the irregular Craft is vague, uncertain, and almost wholly traditional. No real historian today claims the exercise of warranted Masonic authority in America until the formation of the Provincial Grand Lodge in Boston, July 30, 1733, *q.v. infra.*

1721, July 31, Boston.

The *Boston Gazette* under "Entred Inwards," gives "John Peddie Ship Free-Mafon from New-Cattle."

P-t.

1721, Sept. 18, Boston.

Under this date we find in the *Boston Weekly News Letter* "Outward Bound, \* \* \* John Peddie, Charles & Free-mafon for West Indies."

P-t.

1722/3, January 17, London.

The Constitutions and Regulations of the Grand Lodge of England were approved for publication, containing General Regulation VIII above quoted, under "1700," *q.v.*  
Anderson, (1723).

1723, Boston.

Henry Price removed to Boston.

Tombstone.

1871 Mass. 285, 286.

16 M.F.M. 137.

1727, Philadelphia.

At one time it was attempted to claim for this year proof of Masonry in Philadelphia because of the finding in 1756 of a manuscript copy of the "Old Charges" dated 1727. The contention is unworthy of serious discussion. The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts owns a similar manuscript dated 1677 but makes no claim by virtue thereof.

1909 Mass. 105-109.

1727, May 25, Boston.

The *Boston Weekly News Letter* contains an account of a meeting of the Grand Lodge in London on Monday, February 27, 1726/7. This is the earliest known account in any American newspaper of any Lodge or Grand Lodge meeting. Would this have been published if there were not a number of members of the Craft in Boston who would be interested?

P-t.

1730, June 5, London.

The Duke of Norfolk appointed Daniel Coxe, Pro. G.M. of New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania for two years. There has appeared no evidence, however, that he exercised this deputation. There is evidence that he did not and that he remained in England during its term.

1914 Mass. 250, *et cit.*

J. H. Hough's Origin of Masonry in New Jersey (1870) 9.

*The Builder* for May, 1915, p. 113.

The issuance of the deputation, however, establishes three facts, *viz.*

1. The then jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of England over these Colonies.
2. That Regular and Duly Constituted Lodges could exist in the Colonies only through the authority of a Pro. G.M. appointed by the Grand Master of England.
3. That no one else had authority to establish Lodges in Pennsylvania, New York, or New Jersey until at least after June 24, 1732, the end of the term of the deputation.

The establishment of Lodges in Pennsylvania during the term of Coxe's deputation and without his sanction was, therefore, irregular and in direct contravention of his authority.

IV Gould, 362.

1730, July 9, Philadelphia.

There is an account in the *Pennsylvania Gazette* of the meeting of the Grand Lodge in London, April 21, 1730. From later instances which will be referred to it is *suspected* that this was clipped from some Boston newspaper now lost.

1730, July 27, Boston.

The *New England Weekly Journal* gives an account of a Lodge held at the Horn Tavern in London on May 12, 1730.

P-t.

1730, August 13, Philadelphia.

Benjamin Franklin, in his *Gazette*, reprints from the *New England Weekly Journal* of July 27, 1730, the account of the Grand Lodge meeting in London, last above referred to.

1730, August 20, Philadelphia.

Account in *Philadelphia Gazette* of a Lodge meeting in London in June at which "the celebrated Mr. Orator—Henley—was admitted," etc.

1730, Fall of Year. Philadelphia.

The claim was once made that a letter was written in 1754 by Henry Bell to Dr. Thomas Cadwallader in which the writer stated that at a meeting in Philadelphia in the fall of 1730 application was made to Daniel Coxe for a Charter which was granted by him. It is now admitted by every Masonic student both within and without Penn-

sylvania that there never was such a letter. The whole story deserves no more dignified reference than to call it a "fake" pure and simple.

See citations given in 1914 Mass. 252:

1730, December 8, Philadelphia.

In the *Philadelphia Gazette* appears an alleged exposé of Freemasonry which begins:

"As there are several Lodges of *Free Masons* erected in this Province, and People have lately been much amus'd with Conjectures concerning them; we think the following Account of Freemasonry from London, will not be unacceptable to our Readers."

The statement that there were "several" Lodges must be taken *cum grano salis*. Franklin was not then a Mason. There is evidence that Brethren about this time did assemble as a Lodge, but there never has been the slightest ground to believe that there was more than one such Lodge.

IV Gould, 361.

For a thorough discussion of the Pennsylvania situation prior to 1734/5 see:

Citations given in 1914 Mass. 252.

1883 Mass. 184.

1903 Mass. 52.

1906 Mass. 74-97.

1730/1, January 29. London.

Daniel Coxe was still in England and in attendance upon the Grand Lodge in London. During the year he was registered as a member of Lodge No. 8, at the Devil Tavern within Temple Bar.

X Q.C.A. 140, 152.

1730/1, February, Philadelphia.

Benjamin Franklin was made a Mason during this month in an assemblage of Brethren in Philadelphia which met according to the Old Customs although that method had for ten years been forbidden. Although irregular, they undoubtedly met and worked.

IV Gould, 362.

They became Regular soon after February 21, 1734/5, *q.v.*, by the granting by Henry Price of Franklin's petition of November 28, 1734, *q.v.*

1914 Mass. 252, *et cit.*

1730, London.

Lord Baltimore was made a Mason in England during this year. He was Proprietor of Maryland from 1715 to 1751, and Royal Governor in 1732 and 1733. There is no indication that he practiced or promoted Masonry on these shores.

IV Gould, 262.

Henry Price had returned to London and this year was a member of Lodge No. 75, meeting at the Rainbow Coffee House in York Buildings.

X Q.C.A. xviii and 183.

1 Mass. 432.

1730, Georgia.

The first edition of *Webb's Monitor* stated that Masonry in Georgia dated from 1730. This was an error which Webb corrected in subsequent editions. The statement,



however, has been copied without correction in several works and has given rise to a curious situation as to which see "1735 after October 30," *infra*.

1731, May 13, Philadelphia.

"Some Information concerning the Society called Freemasons," quoted from Chamber's Universal Dictionary, is published in the *Pennsylvania Gazette*, and in the same issue is a notice of a Masonic meeting in Dublin.

1731, June 24, Philadelphia.

Some years ago there was discovered a book known as "Libre B" containing the statement of the financial affairs of the assemblages of the Brethren in Philadelphia for about seven years. It begins with this date and is the oldest American Lodge account book known. From it we are warranted in concluding that on this day the Brethren of Philadelphia assembled as heretofore pointed out; but like all meetings in Philadelphia prior to February 21, 1734/5, the Lodge was neither "Regular" nor "Duly Constituted." Under this date "Libre B" charges the entrance fees of John Hobart (Hubert), Mark Joyce, and Thomas Rodman (Redman), and the remainder of the fees of Benjamin Franklin and Henry Pratt.

"Libre B" and accounts in the *Pennsylvania Gazette* for the next two years refer to a "Grand Master" *etc.* Brother Gould correctly states, however, that no lingering doubt now remains as to the "Lodge" and the "Grand Lodge" being one and the same body.

IV Gould, 234, 361, 363.

1731, July 5, Philadelphia.

L. B. charges Thomas Whitemarsh's entrance fee.

1731, July 22, Philadelphia.

The *Pennsylvania Gazette* publishes an account of a Masonic meeting in London.

1731, August 2, Philadelphia.

Entries in L. B. indicate a meeting.

1731, September 6, Philadelphia.

Entries in L. B. indicate a meeting.

1731, September 27, Boston.

The *Weekly Rehearsal* publishes an account of the installation at Dublin of the Right Honorable Lord Kingston as Grand Master of Ireland on July 7, 1731.

P-t.

1731, October 4, Philadelphia.

Entries in L. B. indicate a meeting.

1731, November 1, Philadelphia.

Entries in L. B. indicate a meeting.

1731, December 6, Philadelphia.

Entries in L. B. indicate a meeting.

1731/2, January 3, Philadelphia.

Entries in L. B. indicate a meeting.

1731/2, February 7, Philadelphia.

L. B. charges entrance fees of John Hall, Samuel McClanan, and Lawrence Reynold.

1731/2, February 17, Boston

The *Weekly News Letter* relates that "the Society of Real Masons held their Lodge of St. Michael" at London on September 30, 1731.

P-t.

1731/2, March 6, Philadelphia.

L. B. charges entrance fee of David Parry.

1732, April 3, Philadelphia.

Entries in L. B. indicate a meeting.

1732, May 1, Philadelphia.

Entries in L. B. indicate a meeting.

1732, May 11, Philadelphia.

The *Pennsylvania Gazette* has a Masonic notice from Dublin.

1732, June 5, Philadelphia.

By-Laws were adopted by the Brethren in Philadelphia.

1885 Penn. 37-39.

Sachse's Benjamin Franklin as a Freemason, 21.

Entries in L. B. indicate a meeting.

1732, June 24, Philadelphia.

The *Pennsylvania Gazette* for June 26, 1732, recites that a Grand Lodge was held this day at the Sun Tavern in Philadelphia at which W. Allen, Esq. was chosen Grand Master for the Province of Pennsylvania; that Mr. William

Pringle was appointed Deputy Grand Master; and that Thomas Boude and Benjamin Franklin were chosen Grand Wardens.

See 1731, June 24, *supra*.

1914 Mass. 252, *et cit*.

1883 Mass. 184.

1732, July 3, Philadelphia.

Entries in L. B. indicate a meeting.

1732, July 24, Boston.

The *Boston Weekly News Letter* contains the following curious statement under its news from London:

“Laft Monday [April 17] were admitted of the Honourable and Ancient Society of Free and Accepted Mafons, George Skinner of Enfield, Efq., a blind Gentleman; and the fame Day the Right Hon. the Earl of Strathmore.”

P-t.

1732, August 7, Philadelphia.

Entries in L. B. indicate a meeting.

1732, September 4, Philadelphia.

Entries in L. B. indicate a meeting.

1732, October 19, Philadelphia.

Entries in L. B. indicate a meeting.

1732, October 30, Boston.

The *Weekly Rehearsal* chronicles a Grand Lodge meeting in Dublin on August 1st.

P-t.

1732, November 6, Philadelphia.

L. B. charges the entrance fees of James Brigham and Humphrey Morrey.

1732, December 4, Philadelphia.

Entries in L. B. indicate a meeting.

1732/3, January 1, Philadelphia.

Entries in L. B. indicate a meeting.

1732/3, February 5, Philadelphia.

Entries in L. B. indicate a meeting.

1732/3, February 9, Annapolis, Maryland.

The *Maryland Gazette* contains the following item of interest under its London news, dated September 30, 1732.

On Sunday about Two in the Afternoon, was a Lodge of Free and Accepted Mafons, at the Rose Tavern in Cheapfide, where in the Prefence of feveral Brethren of Diftinction, as well Jews as Chrifitians, Mr. Edward Rose, was admitted of the Fraternity, by Mr. Daniel Delvalle, an eminent Jew, the Mafter Capt. Wilmot, &c. who were entertained very handfomely; and the Evening was fpend in a Manner not infringing on the Morality of the Chrifitian Faith.

P-t.

1732/3, February 19, Boston.

The *Weekly Rehearsal* contains an article relative to the Papal Nuncio under its Parisian news, *viz.*

“On the 5th, the Nuncio having made his Publick Entry in the accustomed Manner, is now buflily employed in the Ceremonious Part of his Functions; that is, in making Vifits to the Princes and Princeffes of the Blood, in paying and receiving Compliments to and fro among the Cardinals, Minifters, and prime Nobility. On Monday, his Excellency, being a FREE MASON, is to lay the firft Stone towards the building of the great Altar in the Church of S. Sulpice.”

P-t.

1732/3, March 5, Philadelphia.

L. B. charges the entrance fee of John Crapp.

1732/3, March 22, Philadelphia.

The *Pennsylvania Gazette* has an account of the initiation of a Jew in London.

1733, April 2, Philadelphia.

L. B. Charges the entrance fee of William Paschal.

1733, April 5, Boston.

The *Boston Weekly News Letter* has an account of a Grand Lodge meeting in London on January 15, 1732/3.

P-t.

1733, April 6, Annapolis, Maryland.

The *Maryland Gazette* contains the following item:

*London*, Dec. 16. Yesterday Seven-night, there was a Grand Committee of Free and Accepted *Mafons*, from several Lodges, at the Horn Tavern in Palace-yard, Westminster, to consider of raising a Sum of Money, by Subscription, for the *Relief* of their *poor Brethren*, throughout Britain and Ireland. If in this, they meet with good *Succesfs*, it will convince the World that there is some *real Merit* in the *Mafon Word*.

P-t.

1733, April 13, London—New England.

On this day Lord Viscount Montague issued his Deputation to Henry Price as Pro. G.M. of New England and Dominions and Territories thereunto belonging. This was the second Deputation issued for the western world. That issued to Coxe, however, never having been exercised, the

Deputation to Price becomes the first to be transmitted across the seas and being immediately put into operation is the first regular Masonic authority for American Masonry. The date of this Deputation has often been given as April 30th and it is possible the latter date is correct. It was so written by Pelham when he recorded the Commission in the first book of the Provincial Grand Lodge records. It is also so recorded in the earliest volume now in our possession of the Proceedings of the First Lodge in Boston, in the handwriting of Ebenezer Swan. An inspection, however, of the original record discloses that Swan started to write the word "thirteenth" and after writing the first "e" changed the word to "thirtieth." This indicates that he had something which led him to think the date was the thirteenth but concluded to accept Pelham's authority and therefore changed it to the thirtieth. I think that Pelham was wrong and that Swan's first inclination was correct. The first page of the Beteilhe Manuscript, written between July 27th and August 23, 1737, expressly gives the date as the thirteenth. (See facsimile under 1733, July 30, *infra*.) The original petition for the First Lodge in Boston, written July 30, 1733, also clearly gives the date as the thirteenth. In the Deputation of the Duke of Beaufort to John Rowe (1768) is found the recitation, "Our Right Worshipful and well beloved Brother Henry Price Esq<sup>r</sup> of North America, Constituted Provincial Grand Master for North America by Viscount Montague Grand Master April 13th, 1733."

1 Mass. 150.

I am inclined to think that when Charles Pelham wrote his copy, he misunderstood whoever was dictating it to him or misread the original and that his blunder was followed by Ebenezer Swan, though in Swan's mind he had remembered it was the thirteenth. I am further confirmed as to April 13th by an entry made by Grand Secretary French in a volume of manuscript records of the Grand Lodge of England which reads as follows:

“N.B. The Deputation of Bro<sup>r</sup> H. Price has never come to my hand, but among other loose papers I have found the following memorandum. (Signed) Thos French.

Viscount Montague, G.M.

Henry Price, Esqr P.G.M. for all North America and the Territories thereunto belonging, Date April 13th, 1733, desire the favour to resign his Provincialship in favor of John Rowe, Esqr to be Provincial G.M. over North America where no other Provincial is appointed.

(Signed) Beaufort, G.M.

He resigning recommends John Rowe, Esqr. We therefore do hereby con- . . . ’ ’ ’

Henry Price received this Deputation in person from Viscount Montague (1 Mass. 402) paying the fee of three guineas therefor to Thomas Batson, Esq., then Deputy Grand Master, who with the Grand Wardens signed the Deputation.

1 Mass. 134.

In Civil War days, when paper stock was scarce, our late Right Worshipful Brother Thomas W. Davis was employed in buying for a dealer all the old papers that could be found in Townsend, Massachusetts, and vicinity. He has told me that he then bought nearly all the old papers there were in the residences of that town. He distinctly re-



membered buying of the Wallace (or Wallis) family. What he collected he piled into his wagon and carted to Fitchburg, where it was sold to paper makers. He felt firmly convinced that he had gathered, among others, all the papers of the Wallaces and other heirs of Henry Price and thus had ignorantly and innocently been the instrument of destruction of this very Deputation.

*Note.*—The student who desires to examine the evidence upon this subject is referred to the address by the writer to be found in 1914 Mass. 253 to 290, and the citations therein given. Some other evidence is stated in the present address. Other evidence is coming to light day by day. The latest is referred to under 1734|5, February 21, *infra*, and is of great importance. I have recently found an original letter, dated April 5, 1755, from and under the seal of the Lodge at Portsmouth, N.H., expressly referring to Henry Price as "Grand Master of the Lodges of Free and Accepted Masons in North America;" also an original summons sent by Grand Secretary Leverett to the Maaster of the Second Lodge in Boston by Order of Henry Price, "Provincial Grand Master of North America," dated September 18, 1754, (Price having resumed the chair on the death of Oxnard). The records of the Lodge at Portsmouth contain confirmatory references when recording Price's visits thereat on February 12, 1756|7; March 24 and June 9, 1768, and October 26, 1769.

1733, April 26, Philadelphia.

The *Pennsylvania Gazette* copies from the *Boston Weekly News Letter* the notice referred to under April 5, 1733, *supra*.

1733, April 30, London.

The date of Henry Price's Deputation as recorded by Pelham.

1 Mass. 1.

But see, 1733, April 13, *supra*.

1733, May 7, Philadelphia.

L. B. charges the entrance fees of Peter Cuff and Richard Parkhouse.

1733, June 4, Philadelphia.

Entries in L.B. indicate a meeting.

1733, June 14, Philadelphia.

Account in the *Pennsylvania Gazette* of a Masonic meeting in London.

1733, June 25, Philadelphia.

The *Pennsylvania Gazette* for June 28, 1733, recites that a Grand Lodge was held at the Tun Tavern in Philadelphia this day at which Humphrey Murray, Esq. was elected Grand Master, and an entertainment was provided attended by distinguished guests.

1733, July 2, Philadelphia.

L. B. charges the entrance fee of Owen Owens.

1733, July 30, Boston.

Henry Price formed a Grand Lodge in Boston, appointing Andrew Belcher, Esq., his Deputy Grand Master, and Brothers Thomas Kennelly and John Quan, Grand Wardens, *pro tempore*.

1 Mass. 3.

B.M.S. 5.

When Charles Pelham wrote the record of this evening in the first existing volume of the Grand Lodge record book he either copied from the Beteilhe Manuscript or both were taken from an original now lost. For in language so nearly identical that the accounts could not have been written independently, both report that after forming the Grand Lodge Price ordered his Commission or Deputation to be read, and then he ordered to be read a petition of eighteen Brethren addressed to him praying that they might be Constituted into a regular Lodge by virtue of said Deputation. Thereupon he granted the prayer thereof and did then and

there in the most solemn manner according to ancient custom and form as prescribed by the book of Constitutions. Constitute them into a regular Lodge. This original petition, apparently in the handwriting of Henry Hope who that evening was chosen Master, is still in the archives of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, bearing the original signatures of the petitioners. A facsimile may be found in 1871 Mass. 297. Copies of both said Deputation and petition are in the Beteilhe Manuscript, the original of which is in the archives of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. M.W. Brother Nickerson and some other historians have thought that the Lodge was not constituted until August 31, 1733, that being the date stated in two letters written by Francis Beteilhe as Secretary of the First Lodge in Boston in September, 1736.

1 Mass. 393.

I am convinced, however, that the date given in the letter was an error of the scrivener. The Beteilhe and Pelham accounts are definite and detailed. Moreover, the list of the Brethren made and accepted in the First Lodge of Boston with the time when made or admitted, written by Charles Pelham in 1751 (the accuracy of which is attested by the list in the Beteilhe Manuscript, the list enclosed with the Barons letter of June 23, 1736, and the original records of the First Lodge in Boston from December 27, 1738 not only records the eighteen signers of the petition as becoming members of the Lodge on July 30, 1733, but discloses that John Smith was made on August 3, 1733. This would have been impossible if the Lodge had not been constituted until

August 31st. Smith's name, in order as given on the Pelham List, appears also in the Beteilhe Manuscript and the Barons letter. It seems certain that the Lodge was organized on July 30 and met and worked before August 31.

This Lodge, consolidated with two others later, is now Saint John's Lodge of Boston.

The *original Charter* of this Lodge was in the possession of the Grand Lodge as late as December 13, 1826, when it was voted to return it to St. John's Lodge. It had been surrendered February 7, 1783, when Grand Master John Rowe issued a new Charter upon the union of the First and Second Lodges.

O.R. of Grand Lodge for Sept. 13, and Dec. 13, 1826.

This precious document was doubtless destroyed in the disastrous fire of April 6, 1864.

"Boston in New England" without date of Constitution or time of meeting is No. 126 on the 1734 English official engraved list of Lodges. Few dates are given in this list of the constitution of Lodges in distant parts. *No other Lodge in America*, however, appears on this list, which closes with No. 128, constituted in 1734.

Hughan's Facsimile.

This is the first time that any Lodge in the Western Hemisphere appears on *any* list of Lodges.

IV *Masonic Magazine*, London (Nov., 1876)  
210-215.

This Lodge is the only American Lodge listed in the 1735 list.

L.H.B. 29, 186.




The first appearance of any other American Lodge in an official list is in the engraved list for 1736 where we find No. 139 "Savannah in ye Province of Georgia."

L.H.B. 31.

The First Lodge in Boston advanced in the various enumerations from No. 126 to 110, 65, 54, 42 and 39. It was carried on the English Register until the Union of 1813 although it had passed from that jurisdiction at the time of the Massachusetts Union of March 5, 1792.

L.M.R. 66.

In all lists after 1735 this Lodge is accredited to 1733 and is listed as meeting at the Royal Exchange, in Boston, New England. As a matter of interest we insert a facsimile of the 6th page of the official list for 1761, which we think has never been reproduced:

05		Chichester	2. 8. 4. Thursd.	May 3 1732
06		Bath	1. 8. 3. Tuesday	May 18 1733
07		Hercules Street Court Garden	First Tuesday	May 23 1733
08		Bury Lancashire	next Thur. to every Full Moon	Jul. 26 1733
09		Northbridge Newcastle	Every Wednesday	Aug. 1 1733
10		St. Pauls Church	2. 8. 4. Wednesday	Dec. 27 1732
11		Birmingham	Last Monday	1733
12	ROYAL EXCHANGE	Boston in New England	2. 8. 4. Saturday	1733
13	Valenciennois French Flanders			1733
14		Plymouth	1. 8. 3. Friday	1734
15		Southfield late the Ship at the Mermaid	1. 8. 3. Thursd.	Feb. 17 1734
16		near of Hatch house high Stollon in	2. 8. 4. Wednesday	Jun. 11 1735

For an illuminating discussion of the official listing of the First Lodge in Boston see:

IV Gould, 247.

Facsimiles of pages 4, 5, and 6 of the Beteilhe Manuscript are herewith presented.

# A Special Chapter

## of Free & Accepted M<sup>ASONS</sup>

Regularly met & Congregated at the house of  
Edw<sup>d</sup> Lutyech at the Sign of the Bunch of grapes  
in King's Street BOSTON. N. ENGL. On Monday  
July the 30<sup>th</sup> A D: 1733. Of Masonry A: 5733.

The following Brethren being regularly  
Met in the Lodge at y<sup>e</sup> house afores<sup>d</sup> Unanimously  
Agreed to petition, & Did then accordingly petition  
Our R<sup>t</sup> Wor<sup>sh</sup>: Bro<sup>r</sup>: M<sup>r</sup>: Henry Price Provincial  
Grand Master of the Free & Accepted M<sup>ASONS</sup>  
of New England, to constitute Us in a regular  
Lodge by Virtue of y<sup>e</sup> power & Authority to him  
given by a Deputation from Our R<sup>t</sup> Wor<sup>sh</sup>: full  
B<sup>r</sup>: Wor<sup>sh</sup>: full Brother and V<sup>t</sup> Hon<sup>ble</sup>: Anthony  
Lord Visco<sup>nt</sup>: Montague Grand Master  
of England Dated in London the 13<sup>th</sup> day  
of April A D 1733 And of Masonry A: 5733  
And sealed with y<sup>e</sup> Seal of the Grand Lodge  
Signed by Our R<sup>t</sup> Wor<sup>sh</sup>: full Brothers  
George Brook Esq<sup>r</sup> M<sup>r</sup>: G. W. of England  
James Moor Smith Esq<sup>r</sup>



Our said W<sup>or</sup>sh<sup>ip</sup>full G. M. having form<sup>d</sup>  
a Grand Lodge, Appointing our W<sup>or</sup>sh<sup>ip</sup>full  
Bro. Andrew Belcher Esq. his Deputy G.  
M<sup>r</sup>. And our W<sup>or</sup>sh<sup>ip</sup>full Brethren Mess<sup>rs</sup>  
Tho. Kennelly & John Guerin } Grand Wardens pro Tempore  
Ordered his Commission or Deputation afores<sup>d</sup>,  
to be read, as also our Petition: And granting  
the prayer thereof, Did then & there in the  
most 'Solemn' manner, according to Ancient  
Right & Custom, and the form prescribed in  
our printed book of Constitutions  
Constitute us into a Regular Lodge  
in Manner & Form, upon which we imme-  
diately proceeded (by our W<sup>or</sup>sh<sup>ip</sup>full  
G. Master's Order) to chuse a Master  
and unanimously chose our W<sup>or</sup>sh<sup>ip</sup>full Bro.  
Henry Hope Esq. Master of this our new  
Constituted Lodge, Who then Nominated &  
Appointed our W<sup>or</sup>sh<sup>ip</sup>full Brethren  
W<sup>or</sup>sh<sup>ip</sup>full Frederick Hamilton } his Wardens  
W<sup>or</sup>sh<sup>ip</sup>full James - Gordon }  
3 = vote

which all the Brethren unanimously  
Concurred paying the Usual respects to  
our P<sup>re</sup> Worshippfull new chosen Master &  
Wardens. And presenting them to our W<sup>or</sup>  
thfull G<sup>ra</sup> Master, who caused them to be  
duely examined & being found well qualified  
Approved & Confirmed them in their severall  
stations by Investing them with the Inve-  
stments of their Offices giving each his par-  
ticular Charge And Admonishing the Bre-  
thren of the Lodge to due Obedience &  
Submission according to Our printed  
book of Constitutions Charges and  
Regulations &c.

1733, August 3, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. John Smith made.

P. L.

1733, August 6, Philadelphia.

Entries in L. B. indicate a meeting.

1733, August 23, Philadelphia.

Account in *American Weekly Mercury* that at the Red Lyon in Canterbury, England, "the celebrated Mr. Taylor" was made a Mason.

1733, August 31, Boston.

This is the date of the constitution of the First Lodge in Boston as given in the Robertson letter of September 1, 1736, and the Barons letter of June 23, 1736, *q.v. infra*.

But see, 1733, July 30, *supra*.

1733, September 3, Philadelphia.

Entries in L. B. indicate a meeting.

1733, September 12, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Moses Slaughter and Thomas Phillips made.

P. L.

1733, September 29, Philadelphia.

Entries in L. B. indicate a meeting.

1733, Autumn.

Benjamin Franklin visits Boston and makes the acquaintance of Henry Price.

IV Gould, 235, *et cit.*

It may have been that this conference between Price and Franklin had something to do with that extension of Price's power over all North America which was granted to him from London in August of this year.

1914 Mass. 256, *et cit.*

1883 Mass. 189.

1733, October 24, Boston.

The First Lodge adopted its "By-Laws or Regulations."

O.R.

B.M.S. 7-12.

1883 Mass. 159.

These are so quaint and interesting as to be worth quoting. They read as follows:

- Ist No Person shall be made a Mason unless all the Brethren members Present are Unanimous and if but one Member be against him he shall be rejected.
- IIly No Brother shall be admitted as Member of this Lodge unless all the Members Present are unanimous as aforesaid and upon his or their admifsion shall pay twenty shillings, as also their Quarteridge, agreable to a former Vote, so many Lodge night as is past of that Quarter to be first discounted, and shall consent to the by Laws and regulations of this Lodge by Subscribing their names to the same.
- IIIly No Brother or Brothers shall shall (*sic*) eat any victuals in the Lodge Room while the Lodge is open, without the leave of the Mafter or Wardens nor call for any Liquor or Tobacco without Leave as aforesaid.
- IIIIly Any Person or Persons being balloted in may be made on a private night by dispensation from the Master & Wardens Provided the Expence of that Lodge be not taken out of the money that is paid for such making, but every Brother present at such private making shall pay his Clubb or share of that Expence.

- Vly No Brother that Lives within or about this Town (that is not a member of this Lodge) shall be admitted as a Visitor, before he has Signified his desire of being a Member and paying his Quarteridge, or else make it appear that he is actually a Member of a Regular Lodge; Unless by a Dispensation of the Master & Wardens.
- VI Every Visitor shall pay three shillings towards the Reckoning Each night.
- VII No Brother shall propose any Person in the Lodge to be made without first asking leave of the Maister and Wardens.
- VIIIthly Every Member of this Lodge shall pay eighteen shillings pr Quarter for the Expense of the Lodge, and every member that does not pay his Quarteridge on the first Lodge night of the Quarter, or on the second at farthest (if Present) shall be Excluded from being a Member, and all Priviledge of the Lodge.
- IXthly Every Member shall pay at Least two shillings more pr Qrd. to be applied as Charity Towards the Relief of poor Brethren.
- Xthly Any Member that proposes a Candidate, if Voted or Balloted in; the member that proposed his friend, shall immediately deposite fourty shillings in the hands of the Cashire, which shall be Allow'd as part of the Making, provided the candidate attends at the time he is proposed to be made, but if the candidate does not attend as aforesaid, being duly warned, the said Fourty shillings shall be forfeited and spent and not allowed as part of that making.
- XIthly The Treasurer or Cashier of this Lodge, upon his quitting his office or when another is chosen in his room, shall render a just and true Accot to the Master & Wardens of the Lodge for the time being of all the money Recd, Expended & Remaining in his hands with the Lodge book & Accompts which he is to deliver up to the Master and Wardens in order & fairly stated.
- XIIthly The Master & Wardens of this Lodge shall take care that the Expencc of a Lodge night (when there is no making) shall not Exceed three shillings pr Member present for the Reconing which sum of three shillings pr member or Bror present, the Cashire has Liberty to pay & no more.

XIIIthly The Master of this Lodge, or in absence, the Grand Master Deputy Grand Master or Wardens, when there is a private Lodge ordered to be held for a Making shall be obliged to give all the Members timely notice of the time and place in writing where such Lodge is held that they may give their attend<sup>ce</sup> and every member being duly warned as aforesaid and neglecting to attend on such Private making shall not be clothed. (The above article Voted Nov: 14th: 1733: 5733)

XIVthly No member that is absent from the Lodge of a Lodge night when there is a making, shall have the Benefit of being cloathed for that time.

“Being cloathed” refers to the very ancient custom, now almost forgotten, of requiring the candidate to furnish each member present with an apron and a pair of white gloves.

1733, November 5, Philadelphia.

L. B. charges the entrance fees of Lambert Emerson, Thomas Hopkinson, and John Newingham.

1733, November 9, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Peter Prescott and Benjamin Brenton made.

P. L.

1733, November 14, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

See 1733, October 24, XIIIthly, *supra*.

1733, November 19, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Robert McLean made.

P. L.

Philadelphia.

L. B. charges the entrance fee of Christopher Routh.

1733, December 3, Philadelphia.

Entries in L. B. indicate a meeting.

1733, December 13, London.

At a Communication of the Grand Lodge of England steps were taken to make a generous collection "to send distressed Brethren to Georgia where they may be comfortably provided for." It is known that poor families were sent to Georgia and that the Fraternity contributed toward their relief.

X Q.C.A. 235.

See 1735, after October 30, *infra*.

1733, December 22, Norfolk, Virginia.

The learned R.W. Brother John Dove, of Virginia, contended that the Royal Exchange Lodge at Norfolk, Va., was established on this date. On several official lists it so appears, being first found upon the list for 1754, near its close, as No. 236. In all lists, however, it is with the 1753 Lodges, following No. 235 accredited to December 20, 1753, and preceding No. 237 accredited to February 9, 1754. It was carried on the lists until the 1813 revision becoming numbers 173, 137, 111, 112, and 102.

O.L.

L.M.R. 101.

L.H.B. 48.

It is evident that 1753 is correct, and that 1733 is an error.

IV Gould, 378.

The information which Brother Dove had led him to suspect at one time that Blandford Lodge at Petersburg, Va., was founded about this time by the Grand Lodge of Scotland. He was misinformed. Blandford Lodge is given in the Scottish list as No. 82, whereas Saint Andrew's Lodge at Boston (1756) is No. 81.

P.C. (1st Edinburgh Ed. 1761) Appendix 112.

Const. G. L. of Scotland (1852 Ed.) 63.

The correct date for Blandford Lodge is probably March 9, 1756. In later editions of his history Brother Dove assigned it to 1757.

1733, December 28, Boston.

The Feast of Saint John the Evangelist was celebrated in Boston and James Gordon was chosen Master of the First Lodge.

1 Mass. 4.

1733/4, January 7, Philadelphia.

L. B. charges the entrance fee of Richard Howell.

1733/4, January 19, Philadelphia.

L. B. charges the entrance fee of John Waugh.

1733/4, February 4, Philadelphia.

Entries in L. B. indicate a meeting.

1733/4, February 27, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. William Walker made.

P.L.

1733/4, March 4, Philadelphia.

Entries in L. B. indicate a meeting.



1734, March 29, Boston.

The *Boston Gazette* for April 1, 1734, contains the following item:

*Annapolis Royal*, Embark'd from hence for that Place with  
Capt. Peter Blyn.

On Friday Evening last at Mr. *Lutwytche's* long Room in  
*King-Street*, was held a Grand-Lodge of the Ancient and Hon-  
ourable Society of Free and Accepted Masons where His Excel-  
lency Governor BELCHER, and a considerable Number of the  
Fraternity were present.

Capt. *Woodbury* on Friday last Arrived here in about 24 Days

P-t.

1734, April 1, Philadelphia.

L. B. charges the entrance fee of Isaac Browne and  
James Hamilton.

1734, May 6, Philadelphia.

L. B. charges the entrance fee of Joseph Shippen.

1734, May 16, Philadelphia.

Benjamin Franklin first advertises in the *Pennsylvania  
Gazette* his reprint of the Constitutions.

Benjamin Franklin as a Freemason (Sachse), 3.  
S. & H. 222.

They were not ready for delivery until August, when he  
sent seventy copies to Boston. Later in the year he sent  
still more copies to his brother James in Boston by the  
hand of his brother Peter.

Franklin's Journal.

Only a few copies of this book are known to be in exist-  
ence and are in the libraries of the Grand Lodges of Penn-

sylvania and Massachusetts. One perfect copy belonging to Massachusetts is bound with the Beteilhe Manuscript. When they were put together no one knows. They were purchased by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts in this condition. The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts also owns a copy bearing the autograph upon the title page of William Walker who was made in the First Lodge in Boston, February 27, 1733/4.

1734, May 22, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge in Boston. William Wesson made and Brother Benjamin Pemberton, Esq. admitted.

P.L.

B. MS.

1734, June 3, Philadelphia.

L. B. charges the entrance fees of Thomas Bond, William Pyewell, and John Robinson.

1734, June 12, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Brother Andrew Scott admitted.

P.L.

1734, June 24, Boston.

Celebration of the Feast of Saint John the Baptist and election of Frederick Hamilton as Master of the Lodge.

1 Mass. 4.

The original manuscript of the address delivered upon this occasion is in the archives of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. It was printed in full in 8 M.F.M. 289.

Until recently I have followed the opinion of those who believed that Benjamin Franklin was present at this meeting (1914 Mass. 256). I have changed my mind because of the event recorded later under this date. It is the fact, however, that before this time he had visited Boston and became acquainted with Pro. G.M. Henry Price who conferred with him about Masonic matters and laid the foundation for the petition which was sent Price later from Philadelphia.

See 1734, November 28, *infra*.

Philadelphia.

The *Pennsylvania Gazette* for June 27, 1734, publishes an account of a Grand Lodge meeting at the Tun Tavern, Philadelphia, this day at which Benjamin Franklin was elected Grand Master. Again distinguished guests honored the entertainment by their presence. The *Gazette* article was copied by the *Saint James Evening Post* for September 3rd, and by *Read's Weekly Journal* for September 7, 1734, both of London.

1734, June 26, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Brother Noe Tyler admitted.

P.L.

1734, July 1, Philadelphia.

L. B. charges the entrance fees of William Plumsted and Septimus Robinson.

- 1734, July 24, Boston.  
 Meeting of the First Lodge. Francis Beteilhe made.  
 P.L.
- 1734, August 5, Philadelphia.  
 L. B. charges the entrance fee of Joseph Breintnall.
- 1734, August 14, Boston.  
 Meeting of the First Lodge. Brothers Hugh Scott and  
 John Young admitted.  
 P.L.  
 B.M.S.  
 Barons Letter.
- 1734, August, Boston.  
 Pro. G.M. Henry Price's authority was extended over  
 all North America by the Earl of Craufurd, Grand Master  
 of England,  
 1914 Mass. 256-273, *et cit.*, 284.  
 1733, April 13, *supra*.  
 1734, November 28, *infra*.  
 1734/5, February 21, *infra*.  
 1871 Mass. 284 *et seq.*  
 1883 Mass. 150 *et seq.*  
 1888 Mass. 107 *et seq.*  
 1891 Mass. 19 *et seq.*  
 1899 Mass. 50 *et seq.*  
 1903 Mass. 44 *et seq.*  
 1906 Mass. 74 *et seq.*  
 1909 Mass. 105 *et seq.*

In addition to the numerous authorities for the state-  
 ment that Price's jurisdiction was extended over all North

America which have been given by Gardner, Nickerson, myself, and others and referred to in above citations, I have found an original letter from Thomas Durant, Secretary of the Lodge at Portsmouth, N. H., dated April 5, 1755, and directed "to Henry Price, Esq., Grand Master of the Lodges of Free and Accepted Masons in North America," also an original notice issued by John Leverett, Grand Secretary, dated September 18, 1754, in which he states that he has received orders to summons a Grand Lodge, "from our R.W. Brother Mr. Henry Price, Provincial Grand Master of North America which reverts to him by the death of our R.W. Brother Thomas Oxnard, Esq., deceased." Both of these originals are in the archives of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

1734, August 19, Boston.

Franklin's Constitutions are advertised in the *Weekly Rehearsal*.

P-t.

1734, September 4, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Robert Kenton made and Brother John Lyle admitted.

P.L.

B.M.S.

Barons Letter.

1734, September, Montserrat.

The *American Weekly Mercury* for December 24, 1734, recites under date of "London, October 1," that "the Earl of Crawford, Grand Master of the Society (sic) of Free-

Mafons, hath sign'd an Infrument for establishing a Lodge of Mafons in the Inland of Montferat."

P-t.

1734, October 7, Philadelphia.

Entries in L. B. indicate a meeting.

1734, October 23, Boston.

The Provincial Grand Lodge at Boston wrote a letter to Benjamin Franklin. Unfortunately we have no indication whatever of its contents except that it referred to Price's recovery from an illness.

1914 Mass. 283.

1734, November 7, Philadelphia.

L. B. charges the entrance fees of Josiah Rolfe and Philip Syng.

1734, November 13, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Richard Patteshall and Samuel Curwen made.

P. L.

B.M.S.

Barons Letter.

1734, November 28, Philadelphia.

Benjamin Franklin as the head of the so-called Grand Lodge for the Province of Pennsylvania writes Pro. G.M. Henry Price and his Grand Lodge, acknowledging Price's authority over all North America, admitting that the Fraternity in Pennsylvania "seems to want the sanction of some authority derived from home" and praying that Henry Price as Grand Master of all America will confirm

(heal) the Brethren of Pennsylvania by a Deputation or Charter, "the said Grand Master of Pennsylvania only yielding his chair when the Grand Master of all America (Henry Price) shall be in place."

In a personal letter Franklin refers to his previous conferences with Price and points out the necessity that the Brethren of Pennsylvania should be "countenanced and distinguished by some special authority." The first letter is a flat and explicit admission made officially that the Brethren of Pennsylvania had no authority, and that they were irregular without it; and they prayed for the grant thereof.

Benjamin Franklin when he signed the letter of November 28, 1734, as Grand Master and "at the request of the Lodge," knew what he was writing *ex cathedra*. It is also submitted that the Brethren who officially requested their Grand Master to send the petition to Price, knew more about the facts of that day and generation than some partisan historians one hundred and fifty years later who have struggled to convince the Masonic world that Franklin, Price, and their associates were all wrong as to these facts.

Should all other evidence and argument be disregarded, these letters are definite and final in establishing the irregularity of Pennsylvania Masonry prior thereto, and the premiership of Henry Price as the "Founder of Duly Constituted Masonry in America."

1914 Mass. 257, *et cit.*, 283.

1871 Mass. 356-359.

*The Builder* for May, 1915, p. 114.

The Deputation or Warrant granted Franklin and the Brethren of Pennsylvania has disappeared as have all of Franklin's American Masonic documents. (There are no Pennsylvania Grand Lodge records prior to July 29, 1779, and no Lodge minute book for that jurisdiction earlier than that beginning June 28, 1749, *q.v.*)

Franklin's letter states as his source of information that Price's authority had been extended over all North America; "We have seen in the Boston prints an article of news from London, importing that at a Grand Lodge held there in August last, Mr. Price's deputation and power was extended over all America." Because of the delays in transportation of the mails in those days, this means that the article which Brother Franklin saw must have been published some time between the first of September and the middle of November, 1734. At that time there were five Boston newspapers. The oldest was *The Boston News Letter*. Complete files of that paper for the period in question have been examined and no such article is found therein.

The *Boston Gazette* was at that period frequently publishing Masonic items. Only three copies of the *Boston Gazette* after August 19, and before December, 1734, are known to exist. September 16th is in the library of the Massachusetts Historical Society; October 21st and November 25th are in the library of the Bostonian Society. They have been examined and no such item has been found. The paper was issued, however, on August 26th, September 2nd, 9th, 23rd; October 7th, 14th and 28th, and November 4th, 11th and 18th, but no copies of these issues are now known to exist.



The *Boston Post Boy* began with the issue of October 7, 1734. No copies of this paper, however, are known to exist prior to April 21, 1735.

A copy of each issue of the *New England Weekly Journal* for the period has been searched but no such article has been found. This statement applies also to the *Weekly Rehearsal*, except that no copy of this for September 16, 1734, is known.

We may safely assume that Franklin told the truth and therefore must possess our souls in patience until, if ever, the print to which he referred is found. There is much other evidence than Franklin's letter or the missing print that Price's commission was extended as stated, all of which has been quoted or referred to in citations. The reporter who wrote the newspaper article, however, was in error in thinking that the commission was extended at a *meeting* of the Grand Lodge, for in those days the Grand Lodge neither issued nor endorsed Provincial Grand Masters' commissions. That was a prerogative of the Grand Master. We, in this day and generation, can well understand from familiarity with our newspapers how a reporter can get the essential fact as a basis of his article and yet mistake many of the details. He would not have written the report unless he had information of the fact that the Commission had been extended. Unless he were a well informed member of the Craft, however, he would easily fall into the error of stating that the act was of the Grand Lodge instead of the Grand Master.

On this subject, see the important recent discovery cited under 1734/5, February 21, *infra*.

1734, December 2, Philadelphia.

Entries in L. B. indicate a meeting.

1734, December 11, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Anthony Davis Made, Brothers Robert Gardiner, and William Grice admitted.

P.L.

B.M.S.

Barons Letter.

Montserrat—Philadelphia.

The *American Weekly Mercury* of Philadelphia publishes the item quoted under 1734, September, *supra*.

1734, December 27, Boston.

Celebration of the Festival of Saint John the Evangelist.

1 Mass. 4.

1734/5, February 21, Boston-Philadelphia

Meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge in Boston.

Appointment of Benjamin Franklin as Pro. G.M. for Pennsylvania by "HENRY PRICE GRAND MASTER OF HIS MAJESTY'S DOMINIONS IN NORTH AMERICA."

I have just discovered an item of news, dated Boston, February 24, 1734/5, published by the *American Weekly Mercury* (Philadelphia), No. 795, "March 20 to 27, 1735," as follows:

"BOSTON, Feb. 24."

"On Friday laft was held a Grand Lodge of that Ancient and Honourable Society of *Free and Accepted Mafons*, at the Bunch of Grapes Tavern in King Street, where Mr. *Henry Price*, Grand Mafter of His Majesty's Dominions in North America, Nominated and Appointed his Grand Officers for the Year enfuing, viz.: *Andrew Belcher*,



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PY Sufferers by last Wednesday's Storm, we had another very hard Gale of Wind last Night at S. S. E. and South, which still continues, and has done great Damage. The Friends Adventur', Capt. Manby, for Maryland, that was ashore at Gillsicker, is overlet, and supposed to be broke in pieces, there being nothing of her to be seen. The Princess of Orange, Capt. Dent, the Warden, Capt. Wigram, and the Mary, Capt. Lithered, are also broke to pieces. The Coddington, Capt. Boraston, for Antigua, lost all her Masts, but rode out the Storm at Spithead, and came Yesterday into the Harbour, as did the Wisbech, Capt. Norris, having rode the Storm, but lost her Fore-mast and Bowprit. Came in the Princess of Alturias, Holman, in Ballast from Cadiz; the Amela, Spillman, from London for Malaga; the Success, Snelling from ditto for New-England, she had been ashore on the Horse; the Richard and Anne, Carter, from Harwich for Cadiz; the Sarah, Chapman, from London, bore for the Fiat; the three Sisters, Grindal, ditto for Maryland. Such quick repeated violent Storms and Losses as this Winter has produced, far exceeds any in the Memory of Man. The Swallow Brig. Leonard Bezer, Master, bound from Petersburg to Bristol, who was forced on Shore at Portsmouth in the Storm on Wednesday last, got off on Thursday, and went into the Harbour to refit, as did the Anne, Higginson, for Jamaica.

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that Ancient and Honourable Society of Free and Accepted Masons, at the Bunch of Grapes Tavern in King Street, where Mr. Henry Price Grand Master of His Majesty's Dominion in North America, Nominated and Appointed his Grand Officers for the Year ensuing, viz. Andrew Belcher Elq; Deputy Grand Master; Mr. James Gordon and M. Frederick Hamilton Grand Wardens for this Province; And Mr. Benjamin Franklin Provincial Grand Master for the Province of Pennsylvania.

Extract of a Letter from Charlestown, in South-Carolina, dated January 18. 1734.

Our Assembly met here according to Adjournment on Tuesday the 14th Instant, but the Governor not being fully Recovered of his Illness, no Business is done yet. Our Planters here find themselves very mistaken in their Estimation of the last Crop of Rice, since some of them, who after having their Rice in the Burn, thought to have 300 Burrels, found when beaten out but 100. In some Plantations the Buggs come into it and destroy it, so that Rice still will keep up its Price.

We hear from Rh. Island, That the beginning of last Week Capt. Dersey and another Vessel belonging to that Place, arrived there from the Bay of Honduras, and that the other Vessels which came out with him were daily expected. 'Tis said Capt. Dersey brought the Spanish Sloop which he took in the Bay as far as the

...d z, are put into Sheernels, to repair the Damage they had receiv'd in the late Storm at the Nore; the former's Sheet Anchor broke, which obliged them to cut away her Main Mast, and that carried away her Mizzen Mast.

[N. B. The farther Particulars of this Storm we shall present in our next.]

**B O S T O N, Feb. 24.**

Last Week, at the Court of Assize and general Goal Delivery held here for the County of Suffolk, Two Negro Fellows were tried, one for Burglary and Felony, in breaking into the House of Capt. *Greenwood*, and stealing lundry Bills of Credit, and the other for feloniously setting Fire to his Master's Hay, by which his Barn, Dwelling House, Shop, and other Buildings were destroyed, near *Barion's Point* in this Town, some Months since; but for want of legal Evidence they were both acquitted, tho' 'tis thought by all they were guilty of the Facts.

Yesterday arrived here Capt. *Smith* from the Bay of *Honduras*, who came out in Company with Capt. *Darvey* and others; he says they left 9 Sail in the Bay, one of which was Capt. *Moy* of this Town, and that two others went in as they came out. 'Tis said Provisions are very scarce and dear in the Bay.

On Friday last was held a Grand Lodge of that



low the Fleet for a considerable Time, in hopes no doubt of taking some of them, till Capt. *Darvey* fired at him and obliged him to leave off the Chase

**March 3.** Last Week arrived Capt. *Gary* from Cadix, who left London the latter end of January, and that Place the beginning of January with Advice, That by Letters from London in the beginning of December a Peace was likely to be accommodated. The following is a Paragraph of a Letter to a Gentleman in this Town, Dated *Cadix*, Dec. 30th 1734. " I saw " a Letter this Day from *Alicant*, giving an " Account that Capt. *Ellis Bennett* in the Six " Brothers, and 5 or 6 sail more of English " Ships were Cast away in that Bay, but all " the Men saved.

We hear Mr. Alderman *Vining* of *Portsmouth*, (Brother to *Benjamin Vining* Esq; Collector of *Salern*) has the Honour of Knightwood conferred on him.

We are told, a certain Person in this Town has bear his Apprentice to unmercifully that his Life is disparced of, which may serve as a Caution to prevent the like abominable inhumane Cruelty.

On Tuesday last his Excellency our Governor, with the Advice of his Majesty's Council, issued a Proclamation, appointing *Thursday*

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Efq., Deputy Grand Master; Mr. *James Gordon* and Mr. *Frederick Hamilton*, Grand Wardens for this Province; and Mr. *Benjamin Franklin*, Provincial Grand Master for the Province of *Pennsylvania*.''

P-t.

A reproduction of the last column of page 2 and the first column of page 3 of this number of the *American Weekly Mercury* is herewith presented.

We are now, for the first time, in possession of the date of Franklin's appointment, for which he had petitioned less than three months before.

1734, November 28, *supra*.

And we have also from Pennsylvania's own press unequivocal evidence of the extension of Price's authority over all North America, and Pennsylvania's recognition thereof.

See also 1734, August, *supra*.

I cannot help but wonder how the above quoted item, from a newspaper which I found in Philadelphia in the library of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, has escaped the notice of those particular Pennsylvania partisans whose arguments we have been obliged to puncture from time to time. Their researches have been indefatigable. They have made frequent and extensive use of quotations from newspapers both before and after the date of this one. Yet I have looked in vain for a reference to this item in the printed Proceedings or in the elaborate official and quasi official publications of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, including the works of Brother Julius F. Sachse, its librarian.

One can hardly help wondering, also, if there does not still remain in the great libraries of Pennsylvania other information which remains unpublished.

1734/5, March 12, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge which amended the 8th Article of its By-Laws by providing :

“That no Person Shall be a Member of this Lodge, that has not on a Lodge Night, been publickly ballotted in accords to Our Constitutions, and Consents to our by-Laws, and pays the Lodge for his Making, unlesf by a Dispensation from the Master & Wardens of the Lodge.”

B.M.S. 15.

1735, March 26, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge at which the following vote was passed :

“That any Member of this Lodge that goes abroad, or beyond Seas, Shall Still continue a Member & be entitled to all the priviledges of the Lodge, if he Constantly attends when here in Boston and pay his quarteridge or Clubb as the other Members doe

That no Member shall offer to pafs his Word for a Brother for his Quarteridge, or Clubb, but Shall pay Money down.”

B.M.S. 15.

1735, March 28, Philadelphia.

The *American Weekly Mercury* of Philadelphia, publishes the item quoted under

1734/5, February 21, *supra*.

1735, April 17, London—South America.

In the Grand Lodge of England a motion was agreed to for Randolph Took, Esq<sup>r</sup> to be Provincial Grand Master for South America.

X Q.C.A. 254.



This vote was inadvertent or the scrivener was in error for since the institution of the office of Provincial Grand Master (1727) the appointment thereto has always been a prerogative of the Grand Master.

Preston (Portsmouth, 1804) 306.  
1914 Mass. 255.

The Deputation was issued by Lord Weymouth.

Anderson (1738 Ed.) 195.

1735, After April 17, Charles Town, South Carolina.

The first Lodge at "Charles Town," South Carolina, appears for the first time upon the Official English Lists in that for 1760, as No. 251. Later it took the place vacated by Bristol Lodge as No. 74. The Lists accredit the Lodge to 1735, and it was Warranted under Lord Weymouth, installed G.M. April 17, 1735.

P.C. (3rd Eng. Ed. 1764) 382.

Hammerton's deputation as Pro. G.M. for South Carolina did not issue until after April 15, 1736 (*q.v.*), and he appears as the Master of the Lodge when it met "for the first time" on October 28, 1736, (*q.v.*). There accordingly is some ground for the arguments, which have been heard, that this Lodge was constituted by Hammerton under his commission and not by Lord Weymouth direct, or that authority for the 1735 Lodge came from Boston.

See 1735, Dec. 27, *infra*.

See also a discriminating and careful study of the situation in the first chapter of Mackey's History of Freemasonry in South Carolina.

I thought I had definitely established the date of the Constitution of this Lodge when I found it given in the 6th Edition of Jachin and Boaz (London 1765) as November 12, 1735. No reliance can be placed upon that month and day, however. Bristol Lodge, Gloucestershire, Constituted November 12, 1735, was No. 74 in the 1755 listing. It was erased in 1757, but the date of Constitution was retained in the lists against the number, although no Lodge was given. This is the case in the Official List for 1761 (original in archives of Grand Lodge of Massachusetts), where "Solomon's Lodge in Charles Town, South Carolina," meeting the 1st and 3rd Thursdays, is given as No. 251, with 1735 as the date of Constitution. It is inserted between Lodges Constituted in 1756 and 1759, thus indicating about when the information officially reached the Grand Officers. Later Solomon's Lodge was put in No. 74, vacated by Bristol Lodge. This brought it with the 1735 Lodges, where it should be, but the *date of the Constitution of Bristol Lodge was left*. Thus the date (other than the year) clearly does not belong to the South Carolina Lodge. Furthermore, its placement ahead of the Lodge at Savannah does not indicate priority of Constitution, but merely the convenience of the engraver.\*

1735, June 2, Philadelphia.

Entries in L. B. indicate a meeting.

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\*Bro. W. J. Songhurst, the learned secretary of Quatuor Coronati Lodge, says, "Early printed lists were mostly unofficial. So also were some of the engraved lists. And even with the official lists the engravers frequently rubbed out the particulars of a Lodge and engraved particulars of a new one under the old date."

1735, June 12, Philadelphia.

The *Pennsylvania Gazette* publishes the following, referring to the English Grand Lodge meeting of March 31, 1735 (X Q.C.A. 247), among items of London news, viz:

“On Monday Night was held a Quarterly Communication of the most Ancient and Honourable Society of Free and Accepted Masons, at the Devil Tavern, Temple Bar; most of the Grand Officers and upwards of Three Hundreds Masters and Wardens of Lodges, properly clothed were present; particularly the Right Hon. the Earl of Crawford, Grand Master; Sir Cecil Wray, Bart. Deputy Grand Master; Sir Edward Mancell, Bart. and John Ward, Esq.; Grand Wardens. His Grace, the Duke of Richmond, his Grace the Duke of Buccleugh, the Right Hon. the Lord Balcarras, Dr. Desaguliers, and several other Persons of the first quality and Distinction. A handsome Sum was disposed of towards the Relief of several poor Brethren. They unanimously chose the Right Hon. the Lord Viscount Weymouth, Grand Master, for the Year ensuing; Sir Cecil Wray, Bart. and Sir Edward Mancell, Bart., Grand Wardens; After which a most elegant Oration in Praise of Masonry, was pronounced by —— Bowman, Esq. which received the universal Approbation of that Antient and Honourable Fraternity.”

1735, June 24, Boston.

Celebration of the Festival of Saint John the Baptist.

About this time the First Lodge moved from Edward Lutwyche's Bunch of Grapes Tavern to Luke Vardy's Royal Exchange Tavern.

1 Mass. 4.

Philadelphia.

The *Pennsylvania Gazette* for July 3, 1735, gives an account of a Grand Lodge held at the Indian King Tavern, Philadelphia, on this day at which James Hamilton was chosen Grand Master as Franklin's successor.

1735, June 30, Boston.

The *Weekly Rehearsal* contains the following item:

“London, April 18. Yesterday about two o’Clock in the Afternoon, the Proceffion of the Antient and Honourable Society of Free and Accepted Mafons paffed from Grofvenor fquare to Mercers-Hall, where a grand Dinner was provided for them. The Proceffion began in the following Manner, viz. one Kettle-Drum; four Trumpets, two and two, two French Horns; with two Hautboys; and two Baffoons, all on white Horfes, with Leather Aprons and white Gloves.

“After thefe, fix Coaches, with the twelve Stewards with their white Wands, follow’d by an infinite Number of Gentlemen’s Coaches, the Officers of each Lodge being diftinguifhed by the proper Badges of their Office pendent to red Ribbons, or Squares, Levels, Plumets, &c. fome Silver, others Gold, the Grand Mafter and Grand Wardens clofing the Proceffion.”

P-t.

1735, July 14, Boston.

The *Boston Post Boy* copies from the *Pennsylvania Gazette* its account of the Grand Lodge meeting in Philadelphia, June 24, 1735, *q.v.*

P-t.

1735, October 2, Philadelphia.

Entries in L. B. indicate a meeting.

1735, October 9, Philadelphia.

The *Pennsylvania Gazette* has a notice of a meeting of the Grand Lodge of Ireland.

1735, After October 30, Savannah, Georgia.

Webb’s Monitor in its first edition holds the following statement: “The Grand Lodge of Georgia is holden by virtue and in pursuance of the right of succession legally derived from the most noble and most worshipful Thomas

Thynne, Lord Viscount Weymouth, Grand Master of England, A.D. 1730, by his warrant directed to the right worshipful Roger Lacey," etc.

The statement, of course, was entirely in error and Webb made a correction in subsequent editions. Weymouth was not Grand Master in 1730 and the warrant issued by him to Mr. Roger Lacey, merchant, for constituting a Lodge at Savannah, Georgia, was issued some time during that part of 1735 when Weymouth was Grand Master; viz.—after April 17.

Anderson (1738 Ed.) 195.

P.C. (2nd Eng. Ed. 1759) 380.

As fixing the date with a trifle more accuracy, I find that in the Official English List for 1737 "Savannah in ye Province of Georgia" is given as No. 139. No. 138 is reported as Constituted October 30, 1735. No. 140 was Constituted March 1, 1735/6. It is evident, therefore, that the date for the Constitution of this Lodge must be after October 30, 1735, and before March 1, 1735/6.

The Lodge at Savannah first appears on the Official List for 1736 as No. 139 and is the second Lodge in America enrolled on the Official English Lists; although in the later English Lists the Lodge at Charleston, South Carolina, took one number's precedence over the Lodge at Savannah, Georgia. That this does not, in this case, indicate earlier Constitution, see "1735, after April 17," *supra*. For further evidence that 1735 is the correct date, see also

Preston (Portsmouth, 1804) 185.

L.M.R. 70.

L. H. B. 31.

The Grand Lodge of Georgia, in the preamble to its Constitutions adopted about 1856, made the following remarkable statement: "The Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Georgia, existing by virtue of a Warrant issued by Thomas Thynne, Lord Weymouth, Grand Master of England, dated A.D. 1733, and renewed by Sholto Charles Douglas, Lord Aberdour, Grand Master of England, A.D. 1755," *etc.*

R.W. Charles W. Moore in July, 1856, pointed out that this preamble was incorrect in the following particulars: "1. The Grand Lodge of Georgia does not exist by virtue of a Warrant from Lord Weymouth. 2. Lord Weymouth was not Grand Master of England in 1733. 3. Lord Aberdour was not Grand Master of England in 1755. 4. The Grand Lodge of Georgia had no existence in 1733."

He proceeded conclusively to prove these negations and pointed out that the Warrant which was issued by Lord Weymouth in 1735 was for a particular Lodge, not a Provincial Grand Lodge, in Georgia.

15 M.F.M. 263, 353-362.

The first appointment of any Provincial Grand Master for the Province of Georgia was made by Lord Aberdour sometime between May 18, 1757, and May 3, 1762.

Preston (Portsmouth, 1804) 202.

The Grand Lodge of Georgia has amended its preamble so that the corresponding part of it now reads as follows: "The Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, according to the Old Institution, of the State of Georgia, existing since 1733, and by virtue of, and in pursuance of the

right and succession legally derived from the Most Noble, and Right Worshipful Thomas Thynne, Lord Viscount Weymouth, Grand Master of England, for the year of Masonry Five Thousand Seven Hundred and Thirty-Five, by his warrant directed to the Right Worshipful Roger Lacey, and by the renewal of the said power by Sholto Charles Douglass, Lord Aberdour, Grand Master of Scotland, and for the year Five Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty-Five and Five Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty-Six, the Grand Master of England for the years Five Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty-Eight, by his warrant directed to the Right Worshipful Gray Eliot," *etc.*

I must confess that I do not understand quite what this means but if there is any evidence to sustain the claim that the Grand Lodge of the State of Georgia has existed since 1733, I sincerely wish our good Brethren of that jurisdiction would refer us thereto. I am unable to find it, although I have carefully considered Brother Rockwell's arguments.

15 M.F.M. 353-359.

Brother Sidney Hayden in his Washington and his Masonic Compeers (page 342) speaks of "King Solomon's Lodge at Savannah which had commenced its work under an old oak tree in 1733 when the first settlement of Georgia began."

Brother Hayden gives us no suggestion of his authority, if he had any, for this remark made one hundred and thirty-three years after the event. Too many times even good historians have been led astray by the error of others

for us to give much weight to any statement of this type unless and until we know what evidence there is or was for it or what sources of information the declarant possessed which are not available to us.

In February, 1733, Oglethorpe arrived at Port Royal with a charter, "in trust for the poor," dated June 9, 1732, to establish a colony south of the Savannah River to be called Georgia. He proceeded to the Savannah River and began to fortify his new settlement to protect the immigrants from the Indians who then inhabited the locality and the Spanish who claimed to own it. The record tells us that for "almost a year, the Governor dwelt under a tent." It doesn't seem likely and there is no evidence that either a Lodge or Grand Lodge was organized under such circumstances.

On December 13, 1733, at a communication of the Grand Lodge of England, steps were taken to make a generous collection "to send distressed Brethren to Georgia where they may be comfortably provided for." It is definitely known that contributions were made by the Fraternity for this purpose.

#### X Q.C.A. 235.

It would be natural that these Brethren, although poor, would in their new home gather as a Lodge and this gives additional credit to the date of 1735. Oglethorpe (having returned to England in 1734) took about three hundred emigrants of a better class (among them the celebrated Methodist divine John Wesley) with him to Georgia in 1736.



Roger Lacey may have preceded these emigrants or gone with them. He must have taken out his Warrant, however, between October 30, 1735, and March 8, 1735/6.

1735, October 31, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Alexander and Charles Gordon made. Brothers Capt. James Cerke and Dr. Thomas Moffatt admitted.

P.L.

B.M.S.

Barons Letter.

1735, November 12, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge at which a vote was passed relative to the construction of the 8th Article of the By-Laws.

B.M.S. 16.

1735, November 20, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Capt. James Forbes made.

P.L.

B.M.S.

Barons Letter.

1735, December 1, Philadelphia.

Entries in L. B. indicate a meeting.

1735, December 27, Boston.

Celebration of the Festival of Saint John the Evangelist. Captain McLean chosen Master of the First Lodge.

1 Mass. 4.

### South Carolina.

Charles Pelham, in 1750, when, as Grand Secretary of the Provincial Grand Lodge at Boston, he began his book of records by recording the principal events theretofore, wrote under date of December 27, 1735, that "about this time sundry Brethren going to South Carolina met with some Masons in Charlestown who thereupon went to work, from which sprung Masonry in those parts."

This may be the Lodge referred to under 1735, after April 17, *supra*.

Undoubtedly, Pelham knew whereof he spoke; but we are hardly warranted in assigning December 27, 1735, as a definite date or in making too explicit assertions about it. If it be not Lodge 251, then it is doubtless the Lodge referred to under January 26, 1737/8, *infra*. There is, it seems to me, hardly original evidence enough to warrant any definite conclusion. Too much weight, however, cannot be given to Pelham's assertion that from this movement sprung Masonry in South Carolina. He may not have known the exact facts about the authority obtained from England above referred to. (See 1735, after April 17, *supra*.) Moreover, he does not recite the issuance of any warrant or deputation. On his bare statement, the Lodge would be irregular.

At the same time, there is no evidence that No. 251 did not spring from Massachusetts for there is nothing to show the exercise of any authority direct from England prior to October 28, 1736, *q.v.* Pelham had sources of information in 1750 of which we are not to-day aware. He was

intimately associated with those who had participated in the events from 1733 onward, and could have gained much information at first hand.

1735/6, January 4, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge at which it was voted:

“That the Charge of making a Single Brother Shall be Eight pounds this Currency.”

B.M.S. 16.

1735/6, January 13, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Robert Tomlinson, John Overing, Esq., Benjamin Barrons (Barons), and Alexander Tran made.

P.L.

B.M.S.

Barons Letter.

1735/6, January 14, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Capt. William Hinton and John Osborne made.

P.L.

B.M.S.

Barons Letter.

1735/6, January 21, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Thomas Oxnard, and Capts. Robert Boyd and Thomas McKnight made.

P.L.

B.M.S.

Barons Letter.

1735/6, January 23, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Capt. Benjamin Hallowell and Capt. Webber Gofton made.

P.L.

B.M.S.

Barons Letter.

1735/6, January 30, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Francis Johonnot, Capt. Robert Smith, Hugh McDaniel, and Luke Vardy (Master of the Exchange Tavern) made.

P.L.

B.M.S.

Barons Letter.

1735/6, February 5, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Robert Oliver and Capt. William Frost made.

P.L.

B.M.S.

Barons Letter.

Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

On this day six Brethren of Portsmouth, N.H., executed a petition to Henry Price for the Constitution of a Lodge at Portsmouth. The original petition is in the archives of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. For facsimile see 1871 Mass. 307. We do not know the exact date of the Constitution of this Lodge except that it was some time in 1736. Its earliest existing record book begins October 31, 1739, *q.v.*, with the adoption of a set of Regulations or By-Laws.

1735/6, March 24, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Charles Bladwell, Esq.,  
made.

P.L.

B.M.S.

Barons Letter.

1735, Philadelphia.

There is a tradition without any definite evidence to  
support it that Franklin laid the Corner-stone of the State  
House (Independence Hall) in Philadelphia, during this  
year.

Benjamin Franklin as a Freemason (Sachse),  
27-30.

In the *Pocket Companion* (Dublin, 1735 Ed.) a Lodge  
is given as No. 116 at the Hoop, in Water Street, in Phila-  
delphia. Such a Lodge was never on the English Register.

L.M.R. 56, 480.

By fanciful and strained reasoning some Brethren have  
sought to say that it belongs as No. 79 on the English  
Register which happens this year to be blank. But that  
it does not belong there is evident from the fact that on  
the earlier and later English lists, No. 79 is duly accounted  
for. Moreover this Lodge is not to be found in the later  
published Irish lists.

If a Lodge at The Hoop existed before 1733, it could  
not have had the place of No. 79 which belonged until that  
year to the Lodge at Castle, Highgate, when it united with

No. 4. No. 79, thus vacated, was officially filled by the Lodge at the Two Angels and Crown, Little Saint Martin's Lane.

X Q.C.A. 241, 246.

L.M.R. 57.

1736, April 6, Philadelphia.

Entries in L. B. indicate a meeting.

1736, After April 15, London—South Carolina.

The Earl of Loudoun issued a Deputation to John Hamerton, Esq., as Pro. G.M. for South Carolina.

Preston (Portsmouth, 1804) 186.

Anderson (1738 Ed.) 195.

Entick (1756 Ed.) 333.

P.C. (London 1759.) 115.

1736, April 26, Boston.

The *Boston Evening Post* contains the following item:

“Some private Societies of Gentlemen who call themselves Free Mafons, having been fet up in Holland, the Mob began to fiew their Diflike to fuch Meetings, by threatening to pull the Lodge or Houfe where they affembled, about their Ears; but foon after the States of Holland thought fit, it feems, to pais a Refolution againft fuch private Affemblies; whereupon the City of Amfterdam published a Placart againft them, in Subtance as follows, viz.:

Forasmuch as the Magiftrates in the City of Amfterdam have heard, that there are Perfons in it, who, under Pretence of being Members of a certain Society called Free Mafons, have had the Affurance to form and frequent Conventicles and unlawful Affemblies upon that Account, and that fome have made ufe of their Houfes and Lodgings for holding the faid prohibited Affemblies; The Magiftrates having it at Heart to take Care of the Tranquility and Welfare of the City and its Citizens, have thought it proper and neceffary, to forbid and prohibit all Perfons in the faid City and its Jurisdiction, as they are by thefe Presents forbidden and prohibited, to hold and frequent

fuch unlawful Conventicles, whether with the Names of Free Mafons, or any other fpecious Title which they may affect; as alfo to hire, lett, and make ufe of their Houfes, Chambers, Barns, Cellars, Coach-houfes, or other Places, for the holding of fuch Affemblies, under Pain of being feverely punifhed, as Disturbers of the publick Peace, &c.

Such another Placart has been publifhed againft them at the Hague, and 'tis faid their Lodges or Affemblies are to be fuppreffed throughout the whole Province of Holland; for the Dutch, it feems, look upon them as Accademies not only of Libertinifm and Debauchery, but of Faction and Rebellion, and therefore thofe, who keep or frequent fuch Affemblies, are to be punifhed as Difurbers of the publick Tranquility.''

P-t.

1736, May 12, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Patrick Robertson made.

P.L.

1736, May 31, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Capt. John Frazier and Col. John Morris made.

P.L.

B.M.S.

Barons Letter.

1736, June 7, Philadelphia.

Entries in L. B. indicate a meeting.

1736, June 9, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Brother Capt. John Hugget admitted. Mate John (James) Farrell and Mate (Capt.) Giles Vandelure made.

P.L.

B.M.S.

Barons Letter.

1736, June 14, Boston.

The *Boston Evening Post* contains an account of a society erected at Rome under the name of *La Cuchiara*, after the model of the Free Masons, and its immediately meeting with persecution by some of the Priests.

P-t.

1736, June 23, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge at which the following votes were passed:

“That all New made Brothers, Shall Signify upon the Same Night of their Making for the next Lodge night follows Whether they will be Members or Not, And if they desire to be Members, Then they Shall be Admitted In, without a vote, paying twenty Shillings Entrance For their Quarteridge.”

“That Every foreign Brother Admitted in, Member of this Lodge Shall pay two Shillings & Six pence to the Tyler.”

“That our present Secretary be Excused & free from all Charges & Expences of this Lodge.”

B.MS. 16.

Bro. Capt. James Crawford admitted.

P.L.

B.MS.

In the archives of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts is the original draft of a letter dated this day:

“From the Holy Lodge of St. John held in Boston New England” to “the Rt. Hbl. and Rt. Worshipful Grand Master or Deputy G. M. or G. W. of the Grand Lodge of the Free and Accepted Masons In England” of good wishes and of recommendation “of our Rt. Worshipful Bro. Mr Benja Barons (our present S. G. W.)”

This letter with an accompanying list of names of the Free and Accepted Masons who were then members of the



Lodge are also in Beteilhe's handwriting. The letter has the original signatures attached of Henry Price, G.M., James Gordon, D.G.M., and Francis Beteilhe, G.Sec'y., although they are all crossed out in ink. The letter and list either were retained as copies, or else for some reason were not issued. They are clearly genuine. The water-marks and texture of the paper are those of the period. The handwriting is unquestionably the same and even the ink is obviously the same that was used upon other documents by Beteilhe. Every name on the list is to be found on the Pelham List of 1751 except those of Captain Roger Willington and Saml. Wethered. The former is on the Beteilhe List of 1737 and both are upon the original records of the First Lodge in Boston. The list, so far as I know, has never been published. They read as follows:

"From the Holy Lodge of St John's Held in Bofton New  
England the 23<sup>d</sup> Day of June A.M. 5736.

Most Worthy and Dear Brethren,

Our great Affection for the whole Fraternity will not permit Us, to Slip this favourable Opportunity, to Give you Sincere Afsurances of our due Regards, for all our Most Worthy Brethren, regularly Met in the Rt Worshipful Holy Lodge of St John, under the Protection of the Heavenly Canopy And in Particular, That of England.

Our hearty good Wishes, We forward to You under the Recommendation of our Rt Worlpi. Brother Mr Benja Barons (our present S.G.W.) Who's great Meritts has Contributed very much to the flourishing State of Masonry in this great Town.

Our Lodge was Constituted by Our Right Worlhipfull Grand Master Mr Henry Price (Provincial Grand Master) on the 31<sup>st</sup> day of August A:D: 1733 & is held at the Royall Exchange Tavern in King Street Boston. And Meet the 2<sup>d</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday in every

Month; It is Adorned with the most Eminent Gentlemen of this Place, And kept in it's Primitive Beauty & Purity.

We Should think our Selves thoroughly Happy, if any favorable Opportunity, would offer to Convince all Our Worthy Brethren, of our true Affection for their Person; and for their Interests in these Parts: But in a particular Manner for those of your Rt Worshipfull Lodge; to whome

We Remain with due Respect

Most Worthy & Dear Brethren

Y<sup>o</sup>e Affectionate Bro<sup>s</sup> and very  
humble Servents.

Francis Beteilhe, G.Sec'y. Henry Price, G.M.

James Gordon, D.G.M.

See 1883 Mass. 157.

A List of the Names of the Free & Accepted Masons who are  
Members of the Holy Lodge of St John's Held in  
Bofton in New England.

Mr Henry Price. G.M.	Mr Chas Gordon
His Excelly Jona Belcher, Esqr	Mr Alex <sup>a</sup> Trann
Andrew Belcher Esqr	Mr Sam. Pemberton
Benja Pemberton Esqr	Mr Willm Weison
Henry Hope Esqr	Mr Robt Kenton
Capn James Cerke	Mr Robt Peafley
Capn Roger Willington	Mr Peter Prefcott
Mr John McNeal	Mr John Baker
Brethren made in Bofton	Mr Sam: Curwin
Mr James Gordon D.G.M.	Mr Anto Davis
Mr Benja Barons S.G.W.	Mr John Smith
Mr Robert Thomlinfon J.G.W.	Mr Sam: Wethered
Capn Robert Mackeleen, M.	Mr Hugh Scott
Mr Hugh McDaniel S.W.	Mr John Gordon
Mr John Osborne jun. J.W.	Mr Rich <sup>d</sup> Pattenhall
Francis Beteilhe Secy	Mr Fran Johonot
Charles Bladwell Esqr	Coll. Jn. Morris
Doc. Thos Moffatt	Capn John Fraizier
John Overing Esqr	Capn Jas Farrell
Mr Thos Phillips	Capn Giles Vandellure
Mr Andrew Hallyburton	Capn John Huggott
Mr Thos Oxnard	Mr Fredk Hamilton
Capn Willm Hinton	Mr Thos Molony
Capn Robt McKnight	Mr Edwd Ellis
Capn Webber Gofton	Mr Luke Vardy (Master of the
Capn Robert Smith	Royall Exchange Tavern
Capn Willm Frost	
Capn Robert Boyd	
Capn James Forbes	
Capn Benja Hallowell	
Doc. Robert Gardiner	
Mr Moses Slatteney	
Mr Alex <sup>a</sup> Gordon	

A facsimile of the list is herewith.

1736, June 24, Boston.

The *Boston Evening Post* for June 28, 1736, has the following account of the celebration of the Festival of Saint John the Baptist on this day:

“Thursday laft, being the Festival of St. John the Baptift, the Annual Meeting of the Free and Accepted Mafons, they accordingly met at the Royal Exchange in King-Street, Bofton: The Grand Mafter Nominated and Appointed Meflieurs Hugh Mac Daniel and John Osborne Wardens for the Year enfuing; after which they had an elegant Entertainment, his Excellency the Governour, the Rev. Mr. Commiffary Price, and feveral other Gentlemen of Diftinction being prefent.”

P-t.

1 Mass. 5.

Philadelphia.

The *Pennsylvania Gazette* for July 8, 1736, reports that Thomas Hopkinson, Gent., was chosen Grand Master of the Province of Pennsylvania at a Grand Lodge held in Philadelphia this day.

1736, June 28, Boston.

A petition was forwarded for the appointment of Robert Thomlinson to fucceed Henry Price as Pro. G.M.

1871 Mass. 309.

1883 Mass. 159.

1736, July 5, Philadelphia.

Entries in L. B. indicate a meeting.

1736, July 15, Philadelphia.

The *Pennsylvania Gazette* has an account of the election of Thomas Hopkinson as Grand Master of the Province of Pennsylvania.



A List of the Names of the Free & Accepted Masons  
who are Members of the Holy Lodge  
of St. John. Held in Boston  
In New England.

Mr. Henry Price. G. M.  
His Excellency Belcher Esq.  
Andrew Belcher Esq.  
Benj. Pemberton Esq.  
Henry Stone Esq.  
Cap. James Cerke  
Cap. Roger Willington  
Mr. John McNeal  
Brethren made in Boston

Mr. Char. Gordon  
Mr. Alex. Tramm  
Mr. Sam. Pemberton  
Mr. William Nelson.  
Mr. Robt. Kenton.  
Mr. Robt. Peaseley.  
Mr. Peter Prescott  
Mr. John Baker  
Mr. Sam. Furwin

Mr. James Gordon Esq. & Co  
Mr. Benj. Barons J. G. W.  
Mr. Robert Thomlinson J. G. W.  
Cap. Robert Mackelven J. G. W.  
Mr. Hugh McC. Daniel S. W.  
Mr. John Osborne J. W.  
Francis Betathe Secy  
Charles Bladwell Esq.  
Doc. Tho. Moffatt  
John Overney Esq.  
Mr. Tho. Phillips  
Mr. Andrew Hallyburton  
Mr. Tho. Oxnard  
Cap. Wilm. Hinton  
Cap. Robt. M. Knight  
Cap. Walter Gorton  
Cap. Robert Smith  
Cap. Wilm. Frost  
Cap. Robert Boyd  
Cap. James Forbes  
Cap. Benj. Hallorwell  
Doc. Robert Gaveliner  
Mr. Moses Huttonrey  
Mr. Alex. Gordon

Mr. Ant. Davis  
Mr. John Smith  
Mr. Sam. Wehner  
Mr. Hugh Scott  
Mr. John Gordon.  
Mr. Rich. Gatehall  
Mr. Fran. Johnson  
Col. W. Morris  
Cap. John Frazier  
Cap. J. J. Farrell  
Cap. Giles Vandelluce  
Cap. John Huggott  
Mr. Fred. Hamilton  
Mr. Tho. Molony  
Mr. Edm. Ellis

Mr. Luke Vardy (Master of the Royall  
Exchange Tavern)





1736, July 22, Philadelphia.

The *Pennsylvania Gazette* gives an account of a Masonic parade in London.

1736, July 27. Boston.

The *New England Weekly Journal* of this date had the following item:

“London, March 20,

On the 15th of next Month an extraordinary Feaft is to be held at Fishmongers Hall by a select Number of Free Mafons, in Honour of his Highness the Duke of Lorrain's Narriage (sic), who is one of the Brethren.

N.B. Every Brother is to introduce two Sifters to this grand Feaft, to convince the Publick that they are no Enemies to the fair sex.”

P-t.

1736, August 2, Philadelphia.

Entries in L. B. indicate a meeting.

1736, August 11, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Shaw Mackintosh, Esq. and James Stevenson made.

P.L.

B.M.S.

1736, September 1, Boston.

Henry Price, G.M., James Gordon, D.P.G.M., Robert Tomlinson, M., Hugh McDaniel, Sr.W., John Osborne, Jr.W., and Francis Beteilhe, Sec'y., wrote a letter of recommendation for Brother Patherick (Patrick) Robertson.

1 Mass. 393.

See 1736, May 12, *supra*,  
and 1736, November 2, *infra*.

1736, September 6, Philadelphia.

Entries in L. B. indicate a meeting.

1736, September 8, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Brother Nicholas Davis admitted.

P.L.

1736, October 4, Philadelphia.

Entries in L. B. indicate a meeting.

1736, October 28, Charleston, S. C.

The *South Carolina Gazette* for October 29, 1736, has the following item:

“Last night a Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Society of Free and Accepted Masons, was held, for the first time, at Mr. Charles Shephard’s, in Broad Street, when John Hammerton, Esq., Secretary and Receiver General for this Province, was unanimously chosen Master, who was pleased to appoint Mr. Thomas Denne, Senior Warden, Mr. Tho. Harbin, Junior Warden, and Mr. James Gordon, Secretary.”

1736, November 2, Boston.

Brother Robertson presents his letter of recommendation (see 1736, September 1, *supra*) to the Lodge Glasgow Kil-winning and it is recorded in full upon the minute book of that Lodge.

1 Mass. 393.

See also 1736/7, January 28 and

February 22, *infra*.

1736, November 8, Philadelphia.

Entries in L. B. indicate a meeting.

1736, November 10, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Capt. Thomas Renolds  
(Reynolds) made.

P.L.

B.M.S.

1736, November 19, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Capts. Peter Tomkins  
(Tonkin) and Richard Parks made.

P.L.

B.M.S.

1736, November 24, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Dr. Archibald Ramsay  
made.

P.L.

B.M.S.

1736, December 6, Philadelphia.

Entries in L. B. indicate a meeting.

1736, December 7, London—Boston.

On this date the Earl of Loudoun, Grand Master of Eng-  
land, issued his Deputation to Robert Thomlinson as Pro-  
vincial Grand Master.

B.M.S. 19.

1 Mass. 5.

1871 Mass. 309, 349.

1900 Mass. 126.

Anderson (1756 Ed.) 333.

P.C. (2nd London Ed.) 115.

1736, December 20, Philadelphia.

Entries in L. B. indicate a meeting.

1736, December 22, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge at which the following vote was passed :

“That when ever any Town-dweller Shall be proposed to be Made, the 5th Article in the General Regulations in the printed-book of Constitutions, Shall be Strickly Observed.”

B.M.S.

The 5th Article referred to provides that no man can be made or admitted without one month's notice to the Lodge (unless by Dispensation) and due enquiry.

1736, December 27, Boston.

The *Boston Gazette* for January 17, 1736/7 contains the following item :

“It being St. John's Day the 27th of December laft, a Grand Lodge was held at the Royal Exchange Tavern in King ftree Boston, by the ancient and honourable Society of Free and Accepted Mafons there, Mr. Henry Price Grand Mafter appointed his Deputy Grand Mafter and Grand Wardens for the Year enfuing, viz. Mr. Robert Thomlinfon Deputy Grand Mafter, Mr. Hugh McDaniel Sen. and Mr. John Osborne Jun Grand Wardens.”

P-t.

1 Mass. 5.

South Carolina.

Gould says that James Graeme was elected Pro. G.M. for South Carolina.

IV Gould, 394.

But see, 1737, July 21, and August 18, *infra*.

1736/7, January 3, Philadelphia.

Entries in L. B. indicate a meeting.

1736/7, January 12, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Nathaniel Bethune made.

P.L.

B.M.S.

1736/7, January 28, Boston.

The Lodge of Glasgow Kilwinning addresses a letter to Thomlinson, Pro. G.M., in answer to that presented by Brother Robertson (1736, November 2, *supra.*)

1 Mass. 394.

B.M.S. 24.

It would be interesting to know how this Lodge knew of Thomlinson's appointment. It had been petitioned for and the Commission had been issued (December 7, 1736), but the Commission was not received in Boston until April 20, 1737, *q.v.*

1736/7, February 7, Philadelphia.

Entries in L. B. indicate a meeting.

1736/7, February 9, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge at which the following vote was passed:

“That if at any time hereafter any foreign Brother Should Come to the Lodge and after due Examination found to be but an Enter'd Apprentice, Shall be desired to withdraw in proper Time: Unless he desires to be made a Fellow Craft. Which Shall be granted, he paying forty Shillings, for Such Admittance.”

B.M.S.

1736/7, February 22, Boston.

Glasgow Kilwinning Lodge addresses to the First Lodge in Boston a letter of recommendation of Capt. Robert Paisly.

1 Mass. 394.

B.M.S.

1736/7, March 7, Philadelphia.

Entries in L. B. indicate a meeting.

1736/7, March 21, Boston.

The *Boston Evening Post* quotes the *South Carolina Gazette* of February 19, 1736/7, as announcing that the "Free Mafon, Capt. Phoenix from Jamaica," had been "taken and condemn'd by a Spanifh Man of War near the Havannah."

P-t.

1737, April 4, Philadelphia.

Entries in L. B. indicate a meeting.

1737, April 13, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Samuel Stone of Salem made.

P.L.

B.M.S.

1737, April 20, Boston.

The Commission of Provincial Grand Master Thomlinson arrives in Boston.

1 Mass. 5.

1914 Mass. 262.

1736, December 7, *supra*.

1737, April 24, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Brother Richard Wolfe admitted.

P.L.

1737, April 25, Boston.

The *Boston Gazette* contains the following item of news, viz.

“That the Order of Free Mafons, established long since in England, has become lately much in Vogue at Paris, there being great striving to be admitted, even at the Expence of ten Louis d’Ors; 18 or 20 Persons of great Distinction have been lately created Mafons, amongst whom was the Marfhal d’Eftrees; and five Lodges are already established, which makes so great a Noife, and gives so much Offence to People ignorant of their Misteries, that it’s expected they will speedily be suppressed as they have been in Holland.”

P-t.

1737, After April 28, and before April 27, 1738.

London—West Indies.

The Earl of Darnley, Grand Master of England, issued a Deputation to Captain William Douglas, as Provincial Grand Master on the coast of Africa and in the Islands of America; excepting such places where a Provincial Grand Master is already deputed. He also issued one to James Watson, Esq., as Provincial Grand Master for Montserrat.

Preston (Portsmouth, 1804) 187.

Entick (1756 Ed.) 333.

Anderson (1738 Ed.) 195.

P.C. (2nd London Ed.) 116.

1737, May 3, Philadelphia.

Entries in L. B. indicate a meeting.

1737, May 11, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Alexander French made and Brother John Maxwell admitted.

P.L.

B.M.S.

1737, May 12, Philadelphia.

The *Pennsylvania Gazette* has an account of the election of the Grand Master of Scotland.

1737, May 26, Charleston, S. C.

“The Recruiting Officer” was acted at Charleston for the entertainment of the Fraternity “who came to the play-house \* \* \* in the usual manner.” The Entered Apprentice’s and Master’s songs were sung, the Masons in the Pit joining in the chorus. “After the play, the Masons returned to the Lodge at Mr. Shepheard’s in the same order observed in coming to the play-house.”

*South Carolina Gazette* for May 28, 1737.

1737, June 2, Philadelphia.

The *Pennsylvania Gazette* has an account of a Masonic funeral in London.

1737, June 6, Philadelphia.

L. B. charges the entrance fees of Dr. Thomas Cadwalader, Michael Cario, William Deering, Thomas Esdaile, David Humphrey, John Jones, and Henry Lewis.



1737, June 8, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Captain Edward Clerke (Clarke) of New York and Albert Dennie made.

P.L.

B.M.S.

1737, June 9, Boston.

The *Boston Weekly News Letter* has the following curious item:

“The Humour of entering into the Society cal’d Free Mafons, runs fo high in France that there are no lefs than nine Lodges confituted in Paris, a vaft many young Noblemen are become Members of the Order, particularly the Prince of Conti, and even the Miniſter for the Marine Affairs, as well as feveral General Officers and two Biſhops. The Ladies puſh forward for an intitution of this Kind, in order for an engraftment but the Princefs of Carignan is the only Woman yet diſcovered that can ſteep (ſic) a ſecret, fo that the Female Maſonry, it’s thought, will fall to the Ground.—juſt now we have Advice that Monſieur Blarer the noted Flute Player, and Monſieur Leclainlee, the famous Fidler, with feveral other Men of Science, and Poets of all Sizes were admitted Members, but as the old Cure of St. Sulpice the Great Pro ector (ſic), and Father Tournemin the celebrated preacher and Jeſuit, were going to initiate themſelves, out comes an Order from the King, like a Thunderbolt, and throws down the Babel Building.”

P-t.

1737, June 16, Philadelphia.

The *Pennsylvania Gazette* publishes an item copied in the *Boston Evening Post* of June 27, 1737, the *New England Weekly Journal* of June 28, 1737, and the *Boston Weekly News Letter* of June 30, 1737. It is as follows:

“Philadelphia, June 16.

We hear, that Monday night laſt, ſome People pretending to be Free Mafons, got together in the Cellar, with a young Man who was

defirous of being made one, and in the Ceremony, 'tis faid, they threw some burning Spirits on him, which burnt him so that he was obliged to take to his bed, and died this Morning.'

Under the same date Thomas Hopkinson, Grand Master; Will Plumstead, Deputy Master; and Joseph Shippen and Henry Pratt, Grand Wardens "in Behalf of all the Members of St. John's Lodge at Philad'a" issued a declaration expressing their abhorrence of such practices and the innocence of the Fraternity, which was published as an advertisement in the *Pennsylvania Gazette* and the *American Weekly Mercury*. Incidentally we note that this confirms what has been hinted above to the effect that there was, down to this date, but one Lodge in Philadelphia and also that the Lodge and the Grand Lodge there were one and the same.

1737, June 23, Philadelphia.

The *Pennsylvania Gazette* publishes the result of the coroner's inquest on the matter referred to under 1737, June 16, *supra*.

1737, June 24, Boston.

The *Boston Gazette* for June 27, 1737, publishes the following account of the Festival on this day:

"Friday last being the Feast of St. John the Baptist, the annual Meeting of the Free and Accepted Mafons, they accordingly met. The right worshipful Mr. Robert Thomlinson G. M. nominated and appointed his grand Officers for the Year ensuing, viz Mr. Hugh McDaniel D.G.M. Mr. Thomas Moffatt, (Doctor of Medicines) S.G.W. Mr. John Osborne J.G.W. Mr. Benjamin Hallowell, G.T. Mr. Francis Beteillie (Beteilhe) G.S. after which the Society attended the G.M. in Proceffion to his Excellency Governour Belcher, & from thence the Governour was attended by the G.M. and the Brotherhood to the

Royal Exchange Tavern in King-Street, where they had an elegant Entertainment. It being the first Proceffion in America, they appeared in the proper Badges of their Order, some Gold, the rest Silver. The Proceffion was clofed by the Grand Wardens.''

P-t.

1 Mass. 6.

This item was copied in the *St. James Evening Post*, London, for August 20, 1737.

1 Mass. 470.

This was probably the first American procession of a Lodge as such and in regalia.

See *The Builder* for July, 1916, page 212.

But see 1737, May 26, *supra*.

#### Philadelphia.

William Plumstead was chosen Grand Master of Pennsylvania at a Grand Lodge held at the Indian King.

*Pennsylvania Gazette* for June 30, 1737.

*Boston Weekly News Letter* for July 14, 1737,  
*q.v.*

1737, June 27, Boston.

The *Boston Evening Post* publishes the item referred to under 1737, June 16, *supra*.

P-t.

1737, June 28, Boston.

The *New England Weekly Journal* publishes the item referred to under 1737, June 16, *supra*.

P-t.

1737, June 30, Boston.

The *Boston Weekly News Letter* publishes the item referred to under 1737, June 16, *supra*.

P-t.

1737, July 2, Charleston, S. C.

The *South Carolina Gazette* announces the arrival at Charleston of the "Free-Mason," from Providence, referring to it as a sloop.

1737, July 4, Boston.

The *Boston Gazette* publishes the following item of news from London:

"April 26. Yesterday at Noon the Earl of Darnley Grand Master elect of the Antient and Honourable Society of Free Maçons in a Chariot drawn by six fine Horses, attended with upwards of an hundred Coaches & Chariots, went from his Lordship's House in Pall-Mall, where the Company Breakfasted, which cost his Lordship two hundred Pounds, and then proceeded thro' the City to Fishmonger's Hall, where a Grand Entertainment was provided: There were three Pair of Kettle Drums, six Trumpets, and eight French Horns, properly dispos'd in the Procession."

P-t.

1737, July 11, Boston.

The *Boston Evening Post* publishes the following extract of a private letter from Paris:

"The Court has taken such Offence at the vast and sudden Increase of the Society of Free Maçons, that the King has forbid their Meeting at any of their Lodges, and looks with an indifferent eye on those who have been forward in entering into a Society, that even the States of Holland would not suffer amongst them."

P-t.

1737, July 14, Boston.

The *Boston Weekly News Letter* publishes the following item quoted from the *Pennsylvania Gazette* of June 30, 1737:

“Friday laft was held, at the Indian King in this City, a Grand Lodge of the Free and Accepted Mafons; when William Plumstead was unanimously chofen Grand Mafter of this Province, for the Year enfuing; who appointed Jofeph Shippen, jun. to be his Deputy, and Meffrs Henry Prat, and Philip Syng, were nominated and chofen Grand Wardens.”

P-t.

1737, July 21, Charleston, S. C.

The *Carolina Gazette* for July 23, 1737, announces that at a meeting of the Lodge at Charleston, held this day, John Hammerton, about to sail for London, resigned his office as *Master of the Lodge* and James Graeme was chosen and installed in his stead and appointed his Wardens. The “whole Society \* \* \* were 30 in number.”

Philadelphia.

The *Pennsylvania Gazette* copies from the *Boston Gazette* the item referred to under 1737, July 4, *supra*.

1737, July 27, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Thomas Pearson made.

P.L.

B.MS.

1737, August 18, Charleston, S. C.

The *South Carolina Gazette* for August 20, 1737, reports a meeting on this day of the Lodge at Charleston. A Depu-

tation from the Earl of Loudoun was read appointing James Graeme Provincial Grand Master of South Carolina and then he appointed James Wright, Esq., to be Master of the Lodge. In this article for the first time the Lodge is referred to as "Solomon's Lodge."

1737, August 24, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Brother Richard Wolfe admitted.

P.L.

1737, September 12, Boston.

The *Boston Evening Post* quotes "From the *Political State* for May, 1737," the following item:

"The 28th Instant at Noon the Society of Free Mafons, went with uncommon Splendor from the Houfe of their Grand Mafter the Earl of Darnley, in Pall Mall, to Fifhmonger's Hall; his Lordfhip appeared on this Occafion in a Superb Chariot drawn by fix fine Grey Horfes, Kettle Drums, French Horns, Trumpets, were properly difpofed in the Proceffion which confifted of above a hundred Coaches and Chariots, all filled with Perfons of Eminence, and the Breakfast at his Lordfhip's Houfe coft upwards of Two Hundred Pounds, all which are undeniable Marks of the Wealth and Wifdom of the prefent Age!"

P-t.

1737, October 12, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Brother Nathaniel Derby admitted.

P.L.

1737, October 24, Boston.

The *Boston Evening Post* under the heading of "London, August 5" publishes the following two items among others, viz.

“It seems they resolv’d at Paris to go thro’ Stitch with the Free  
Mafons: The Lientenant General of the Police sent to an English-  
man’s Lodging in the Hotel de Bourgogne, Fauxbourg St. Ger-  
main, and his Messengers brought away not only the Utenfils, Fig-  
ures, &c. belonging to the Free Mafons, but also the Statutes of their  
Order, and every thing that seem’d to have any Relation to it. In  
the Year 1734 the French Ministry would have confider’d better of  
the Matter before they insulted an English Free Mafon, for fear of  
ruffing the P—of B—; but Adieu Panniers, Vendanges: font faites.”

“We hear that a Deputation from the Society of Free and Ac-  
cepted Mafons of this Kingdom is to be sent to Germany, to con-  
gratulate (a Royal Brother) the Duke of Lorraine on his Acceffion  
to the Dutchy of Tuscany.”

P-t.

1737, October 26, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Andrew Hill made and  
Brother John Waghorn admitted.

P.L.

1737, November 9, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. John Tucker and Peter  
Buckley made, and Brother John Saint admitted.

P.L.

1737, November 11, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Joseph Smith made.

P.L.

1737, November 14, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Erasmus James Phillips  
made, and Brother J. Sheriff admitted.

P.L.

1737, November 15,        New York.

Capt. Richard Riggs was this day appointed Provincial Grand Master for New York by the Earl of Darnley, Grand Master of England. It is believed that he authorized the formation of one Lodge for in the *New York Gazette* for 1739 are notices of its meeting.

Anderson (1738 Ed.) 195.

Entick (1756 Ed.) 333.

P.C. (2nd English Ed.) 116.

S. & H. 255.

IV Gould 414.

1737, November 28,        Boston.

The *Boston Evening Post* contains a notice of the meeting of Lodge No. 9, in London, on September 21, 1737.

P-t.

New York.

Article in *New York Gazette* on the "New and unusual sect or society of persons of late appeared in our native country and at last has extended to these parts of America" and complaining that "this society, called Freemasons, meet with their doors shut and a guard at the outside." It will be noted that this was after Provincial Grand Master Riggs' appointment but before his arrival in New York (May 21, 1738).

1737, December 1,        Philadelphia.

The *Pennsylvania Gazette* reports the appointment of a Provincial Grand Master for the Leeward group of the West India Islands.



1737, December 5, Boston.

The *Boston Gazette* contains the following advertisement concerning the Pro. G.M.:

“Mr. Robert Thomlinton being bound speedily for England, desires all Persons that have any Demands on him forthwith to apply for Payment; and also Requests those Indebted to him not to delay the same.”

P-t.

1737, December 8, Charleston, S. C.

The *South Carolina Gazette* announces the arrival of the “Free Mason” from New York.

1737, December 12, Boston.

The advertisement of December 5 (*q.v.*) is repeated.

1737, December 14, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Stephen Deblois made.

P.L.

1737, December 19, Boston.

The advertisement of December 5 (*q.v.*) is repeated.

1737, December 27, Boston.

The Festival is celebrated and shortly thereafter Provincial Grand Master Thomlinson leaves for England by way of Antigua.

1 Mass. 6.

Charleston, S. C.

The Festival is celebrated by a procession of the Craft escorting Provincial Grand Master James Graeme to the

Court House where he made an address. Following this the Grand Lodge met and he was reelected and appointed his Grand Wardens.

Solomon's Lodge also held its election.

*South Carolina Gazette* for December 29, 1737.

1737/8, January 24, New York.

Gould states that the earliest Lodge in New York "of which any record has been preserved was in full working order, and had probably existed for some time," on this day.

IV Gould, 260.

1737/8, January 25, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. James Carrel Tabbs and Thomas Walker made and Brother John Hutchinson admitted.

P.L.

1737/8, January 26, Charleston, S. C.

The *South Carolina Gazette* reports that the Lodge of St. John meets at Charleston, S.C., at the Harp and Crown Tavern. Mackey supposes this to be the Lodge organized by the Brethren from Boston and the report would indicate that it had been meeting for some time.

Mackey's History of Freemasonry in South Carolina, 14.

See 1735, December 27, *supra*.

1737/8, January 31, Antigua.

Lodge Constituted at Parham, Antigua, first given in the Official English List for 1740, appearing as No. 154.

P.C. (2nd Eng. Ed.) 378.

Entick (1756 Ed.) 337.

L.M.R. 74.

L.H.B. 40.

1737/8, February 13. Boston.

The *Boston Evening Post* copies from the *London Magazine* an article reading as follows:

“This Writer supposes, that this Fraternity might as well be call'd the Society of Carpenters, Joiners, Chimney-Sweepers, or Rat-Catchers, as Maçons; and endeavours to prove this paradoxical Truth, That the Maçons are no Maçons.

Agatharebus the Athenian, Archimedes, Virtruvius, &c as well as the later Architects and Mathematicians, have deliver'd their Knowledge in this Science freely, generally and publicly. How then can this be the Art, that is kept secret in the Breasts of the Members of the modern Lodges? as the Constitution Book affects, that altho' this Society is possess'd of many Arts (curious ones, no doubt) yet do they dwell securely in the Breasts of the Brethren.

Nor does it appear by their Performances, that they are taught in the Lodges to hew, mould stone, lay a Level, or raise a Perpendicular. How then can they be said to be Maçons? Is a Drawer a Maçon, because he keeps his Reckoning square? Or a Tinker, because he rings his Kettle by Rule? If a Lawyer can compose his Cause, or a Bookfetter erect monumental Volumes; if a Porter stand strong as a Coloffus, and an Apothecary can temper his electuarial Mortars and Cements, to new-frame, and, as it were, rebuild our animate edifices: Yet cannot I perceive the least Tincture of Vitruvism, Euclidism, or Burlingtonism in any of these.

Lately, if the Art of Maçonry be really and truly vested in this Society, how comes it to pass, that the Brethren build no better than some of the monied Gentry among the Grubs, who, I own, seldom build any Thing but Castles in the Air?

Having thus shewn what they are not, let us consider what they are, and from whence the Word Mafon, as applied to this Club, may be corrupted. The Society I allow to be a very antient one; and, I believe, they will not thank me for acknowledging, that such a strange Society may have been even as old as Chaucer; in whose Days the Word mafe was used to signify a Whim, or Fancy; And what could be more natural, than to distinguish a Society by this Name, which hath so many peculiar whimsical Oddities? Doubt not then candid Bavy that the Word Mafon is a corruption of this Mafe; Which will appear still more probable, if thou wilt take a Ride or Walk to Devonshire; where, to this Day they call any Person whom they imagine to be mad, a Mafe, or Maze, Man or Woman. Some wicked Persons, I know, would derive this Name from the popish Mafe, which, I own is of very intricate Nature: Yet must I reject such a malevolent Supposition, if it was only because so many zealous Protestants, nay even Jews, the constant Enemies to Transubstantiation, are accepted Brethren.

A. H. F. G. S.''

P-t.

1737/8, February 14, Philadelphia.

The *Philadelphia Gazette* publishes an account of the trial of those concerned in the mock initiation in Philadelphia which is copied in part in the *Boston Evening Post* for March 6th, *infra* (q.v.), the *New England Weekly Journal* for March 7th, and the *Boston Weekly News Letter* for March 9th.

The *American Weekly Mercury* published February 14th, at Philadelphia starts an anti-Masonic campaign by a letter based upon the events of the trial. Franklin in the *Gazette* of the same date (though issued the next day) replies.

Bradford in the *Mercury* is so bitter that he even refers to a band of negro thieves as a Lodge of Free Masons, and, utterly without foundation, accuses Franklin of conniving in the mock initiation.

1737-8, February 21, Philadelphia.

The *Pennsylvania Gazette* publishes an account of a Masonic Celebration in Charleston, S. C., and a notice of a Lodge in New York.

In the *American Weekly Mercury* is a rejoinder to Franklin's reply of February 14th.

1737/8, February 23. Boston.

The *Boston Weekly News Letter* publishes the following in an extract of a letter from Paris repeated from London under date of October 5, 1737, *viz.*

“You have no doubt the Account of an Act of arbitrary Power of a very high Strain, I mean the forcing open the Doors of the French Free Mafons Lodge here by the Lieutenant-General of Police. Various are the Discourses upon this Ocaſion: Some ſay that the Inquiſition of Florence has tortur'd out Confeſſions from the Brethren of the Order imprifon'd ſome Weeks ago in that City, and ſent our Court an Account of their Diſcoveries; but whether there is any Truth or not in this Report, the Clergy here have decided open War againſt all Free-Mafonry, and upon this Declaration of the Clergy, the People look upon all Free-Mafons to be rank Heretiicks, and dangerous to common Society. But, not to lay any Streſs on theſe Opinions, the Free-Mafons were doubtleſs a Parcel of Madmen, to think of eſta bliſhing Lodges under an arbitrary Government, eſpecially in any Country where there is an Inquiſition or a Baſtille.”

P-t.

1737/8, March 6, Boston.

The *Boston Evening Post* quotes from the *Pennsylvania Gazette* the article referred to under date of February 14, 1737/8, *supra*, as follows:

“Philadelphia, Feb. 7. On Wednesday laſt, at the Court of Oyer and Terminer then fitting here, came on the Trial of Evan Jones,

Chymist, for being a Principal concern'd in the death of D. R. a young Man who had been his Apprentice, and was but juft free, in June laft. The Trial began at Nine o'Clock in the Forenoon, and lafted till almoft Two next Morning. The Jury found him guilty of Manflaughter, and he was accordingly burnt in the Hand, and order'd to find fufficient Security for his good Behaviour. There was the greateft Throng of People to hear the Trial, that perhaps ever appear'd at any Trial in this Province. By the Evidence, fome of whom were deeply concern'd in the Affair, it appear'd, That the Deceafed, having made known to his Mafter his Defires of being a Free-Mafon, he and fome of his Affociates, contriv'd to make themselves Mirth, by impofing on the young Fellow, and making him believe that they were Free-Mafons: The unwary young Man was toofoon prevail'd with to believe them, fuffer'd fuch Impositions (befide that of his Treating them) as at length terminated in his Death. He was perfuaded to repeat, after one of the Company, what was call'd an Oath of Secrecy, but as vile, ftupid, and prophane (to fay no worfe of it) as ever was invented; after which, he being Blindfold, they gave him Phyfick to Drink; and then led him to, and made him Kifs, the bare Pofteriors of one of their Company. After all this, viz. on the 13th of June, at Evening, the Company, who call'd themselves a Lodge, met again, at Dr. Jone's, in order, as the Deceafed was made to believe, to make him a compleat Free-Mafon. After Supper, the Company retir'd to the Cellar, and then this unhappy Perfon was led down blindfold to them, and there unveil'd: They had prepar'd a Pan of burning Spirits, with Raifins at the Bottom, and were ftanding round, dipping in their Hands for the Raifins, and flirting the Flames about. This was call'd Snap-Dragon. One of the Company was wrap'd in a Hide to represent the Devil, which, with the ftrange Countenances that the Light of the burning Spirits caus'd, made Things there look ghafly, frightful, devilifh. However, this it seems did not terrify him as was expected, and he had not been long in the Cellar, when the whole Pan of burning Spirits was thrown on him, at which he cry'd out, Mafter, I'm kill'd, I'm kill'd; and, notwithstanding they immediately ftrove to extinguifh the Flames, he was feorch'd to that Degree that he died on the 16th of the fame Month, in a miferable Manner. It was fworn, that the Doctor was the Perfon who flung or fpilt the Liquor; but no premeditated Malice could be proved, fo he came off with only burning in the Hand, as before related.

And on Thursday F—R—g—n, Attorney at Law, and E—W—Taylor, were tried for being present at, and concern'd in, the said Affair. The former was found Guilty of Manlaughter, but was pardon'd. The other the Jury acquitted."

P-t.

1737/8, March 7, Boston.

The *New England Weekly Journal* publishes the account quoted under 1737/8, March 6, *supra*.

P-t.

1737/8, March 9, Boston.

The *Boston Weekly News Letter* publishes the account last referred to.

P-t.

1737/8, March 13, Boston—Nova Scotia.

The *Boston Gazette* publishes the following paragraph:

"We are inform'd, That Major Phillips is Appointed Provincial Grand Master over the Free and Accepted Mafons, in the Province of Nova Scotia, and that a Deputation is getting ready for that purpose."

P-t.

See 1739, April 11, *infra*.

Brother Phillips was made a Mason in the First Lodge on November 14, 1737, *q.v.* It has been heretofore thought that the above appointment was made about 1740.

1 Mass. 7.

Ross's History of Freemasonry in Nova Scotia,  
19.

IV Gould, 331.

I Robertson's History of Freemasonry in Canada, 140-152.

1737, Maryland.

There is a tradition of a Lodge at Georgetown, Md., during this year, but without any supporting evidence.

IV Gould, 262.

Boston.

It may be interesting to note in this connection that during this year Provincial Grand Master Henry Price's portrait, the original of which has been destroyed by fire, although copies are preserved, was painted.

1871 Mass. 285, 295.

1914 Mass. frontispiece and 171.

Antigua.

Some time during this year Provincial Grand Master Thomlinson while at Antigua found some old Boston Masons and went to work, making the Governor and sundry other gentlemen of distinction Masons.

1 Mass. 6.

L.M.R. 483.

1738, April 6, Philadelphia.

"John Hammerton, Esq., P.G.M. of S. Carolina," visited the Grand Lodge of England.

X Q.C.A. 295.

Anderson (Ed. 1738) 138.

1738, April 13, Philadelphia.

Benjamin Franklin writes a letter, the original of which is still preserved, to his father and mother that they are unduly exercised and that Freemasons "have no principles or practices that are inconsistent with religion and good manners."



1738, April 18, Boston.

The *New England Weekly Journal* published under its news from London:

“We hear that the principal Members of the Society of Free and Accepted Maçons intend to wait on the Prince of Wales, with an humble Request to his Royal Highness, to accept of the Grand Master-ship of that Ancient and Honourable Body for the Year ensuing.”

P-t.

1738, April 26, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Ebenezer Swan made.

P.L.

1738, May 21, New York.

Provincial Grand Master Riggs' arrival at New York is announced in the *New York Gazette* for this date.

1738, June 2, Philadelphia.

The last known meeting of the Lodge at Philadelphia, about which we have learned much from “Libre B,” occurs on this date.

L.B.

1738, June 24, Boston.

Celebration of the Festival. Benjamin Hallowell chosen Master of the First Lodge.

1 Mass. 6.

Philadelphia.

The *Pennsylvania Gazette* for July 6, 1738, recounts the choosing of Joseph Shippen as Grand Master of Pennsyl-

vania at a Grand Lodge held at the Indian King this day and the last entry in "Libre B" bears this date.

The prejudice induced by the mock initiation heretofore referred to was so great that the activities of the Fraternity in Pennsylvania utterly ceased so far as we can learn until June 28, 1749, (*q.v.*) with the exception of a single meeting June 24, 1741, (*q.v.*)

See also

1914 Mass. 262.

1906 Mass. 90.

1903 Mass. 49.

#### Savannah, Ga.

The Lodge in Savannah celebrated the Festival by attending church and dining.

Rev. George Whitefield's Diary.

Mackey 1395.

IV Gould, 261.

1738, June 26, New York.

The *New York Gazette* publishes a song for the Freemasons and a parody on the same for the ladies.

1738, August 3, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. John Cunningham made.

P.L.

1738. August 23, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. John Cunningham made.

P.L.

1738, August 28, Boston.

The *Boston Evening Post* publishes the following paragraph:

“A Constitution by the Pope is published at Rome, which forbids the associating of the Free Masons upon Pain of Excommunication; and that in the mean time those Societies at Florence and Leghorn which were suppress’d in the Reign of the late Duke, have open’d their Lodges again without fear of the Inquisition, because the Present Great Duke is a Brother; and they write from Constantinople, Smyrna, and Aleppo, that the Societies there are very much increased; and that they have admitted several Turks of Distinction.”

P-t.

1738, September 11, Boston.

The *Boston Evening Post* publishes the following:

“They write from Florence, that the Pope judging the Fraternity of the Free Masons to be highly deserving of the Ecclesiastical Censures, his Holiness has issued a Bull of Excommunication against that Society, the substance of which is as follows:

In the midst of the Cares of the Apostleship, and the continued Attention we have to extirpate Heresies, and maintain the Lord’s Vineyard in all its Purity; we have heard with Grief and Bitterness of Soul, that a certain Society, who stile themselves the Fraternity of Free Masons, after making Progress in several States in Europe, have likewise spread into Italy, and even had some Increase. We have considered that the impenetrable Secret of this so Mysterious Society is the essential Part, and as it were the Basis of its Institution; and that being thereby become suspicious to the Temporal Powers, several of them have proscribed it in their Dominions. We have likewise consider’d, that by much stronger Reasons it ought to be suspicious to the Spiritual Power, whose Charge it is to have an ever watchful Eye to every Thing that may concern the Salvation of Souls. For these Reasons, and animated by our Pastoral Care, we have condemn’d, and do condemn by the present Bull the Societies of Free Masons, as perverse, contrary to publick Order, and having incurr’d the Major Excommunication in its utmost Extent, forbidding all Persons, of what Rank, Quality, or Condition soever, who profess the Catholick Apostolick, and

Roman Religion, to caufe themselves to be written down, or received into that Society, to frequent any of its Members, or hold Correspondence with them, or to suffer or tolerate any Assemblies of Free Mafons in their Houses, under Penalty to the Contraveners of incurring likewise the said Excommunication; reserving to ourselves alone the Right of taking it off, except in Cafe of Death, &c.

Given at Rome, May 29, 1738.’’

P-t.

1738, September 18, Boston.

The *Boston Evening Post* publishes the following:

“Letter from Florence, dated May 24.

The Free Mafons Lodges which had been interdicted here, during the Life of the late Great Duke, are now held again with all the Liberty and Freedom imaginable; and without any Dread of the Inquisition, which has no Right to attack a Society of which the new Sovereign is a Member. (This is false Logick; a Sovereign may be a Member of a very illegal and evil Society: But the Strefs lies in this point; the Inquisition has Power over the Sovereign himself in Matters of Religion, Etc.)

The Free Mafons of Leghorn have also re-open'd their Lodges; and we hear from Constantinople, that the Lodges at Smyrna & Aleppo are greatly increas'd, and that several Turks of Distinction have been admitted into them. This is false again; the Free Mafons here are Men of too much Honour, Religion and Good-Sense, to receive the declar'd Enemies of Jesus Christ into their Society.’’

P-t.

1738, September 28, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. John Tanner made.

P.L.

1738, October, Boston.

Pro. G.M. Tomlinson sails for England by way of Antigua.

1 Mass. 6.

1738, October 9, Boston.

The *Boston Gazette* publishes an elaborate account of the laying of the Corner-stone of the new Royal Infirmery at Edinburgh, Scotland, by the Fraternity on August 2, 1738.

P-t.

1738, October 11, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Brother Alexander Woodrop and Alexander Bowman admitted.

P.L.

1738, November 8, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Peter Pelham made.

P.L.

*Re* Peter Pelham, see 1 Mass. vi and  
1900 Mass. 121.

1738, November 22, Antigua.

On this date a Lodge was Constituted at St. John, Antigua. This became "The Great Lodge" April 4, 1744, *q.v.*

O.L.

L.M.R. 81.

Entick (1756 Ed.) 337.

P.C. (2nd Eng. Ed.) 378.

Prichard 28.

1738, December 9, Boston.

The accounts of the Masters' Lodge which are written in the back of their First Book of Records begin by showing that upon this date there was bought of Beteilhe & Price

“4 yds. Green Coating and 3 1-4 yds. Scarlet Riband,” in preparation for Institution.

O.R.; A.B.

1738, December 22, Boston.

The Masters' Lodge was constituted on this date and Regulations or By-Laws were offered by a committee.

The original record book of this Lodge beginning on this day is in the archives of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. On its first pages it bears the report of this committee and annexed thereto are the original signatures of Hallowell, Oxnard, and Overing.

O.R.

See also O.R. for December 7, 1753.

1738, December 27, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge in Boston. The existing original records of the First Lodge in Boston begin on this date with the “VI” meeting of the quarter.

This is also the first date in the account book of this Lodge which opens “to a Ball<sup>ce</sup> brought from a former book,” &c.

O.R.; A.B.

1883 Mass. 159.

1900 Mass. 126.

The Grand Lodge also celebrated the Festival.

1 Mass. 6.

Charleston, South Carolina.

The Fraternity in Charleston celebrated the Festival with meetings of the Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodge,

James Wright being elected Provincial Grand Master. They attended Divine Service, held a public meeting in the Court House, dined, wined aboard the "Hope," and concluded with a ball and entertainment.

*South Carolina Gazette* for December 28, 1738.

1738/9, January 2, Boston.

This is the date of the first regular meeting of the Masters' Lodge, which had been Constituted December 22, 1738, *q.v.* It has been stated erroneously that it was founded this day. Some similar condition of affairs undoubtedly accounts for the dates of July 30 and August 31, 1733, having been assigned at different times as the Constitution of the First Lodge in Boston. Of the Masters' Lodge, Henry Price was the first Master and Francis Beteilhe the first Secretary.

O.R. ; A.B.

1 Mass. 7.

16 M.F.M. 135.

1871 Mass. 317.

1888 Mass. 173.

With this date and until July 6, 1753, the Treasurer's accounts of the Masters' Lodge are to be found in detail in the back of the original record book.

A.B.

1738/9, January 10, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Leonard Lockman made.

O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.

1738/9, January 22, New York.

There is an advertisement in the *New York Gazette* announcing that the Lodge will for the future be held at the Montgomerie Arms Tavern. This would indicate that it had been meeting for some time at least elsewhere. This Lodge was never shown upon the Official Lists.

L.M.R. 478.

1738/9, January 24, Boston

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R.; A.B.

1738/9, January 31,

Robert Tomlinson, Esq., Pro. G.M. of New England and John Hammerton, Esq., Pro. G.M. of South Carolina, were present at a meeting of the Grand Lodge in London.

X Q.C.A. 306.

1738/9, February 2, Boston.

The *Boston Gazette* for February 5, publishes the following article evidently intended as an answer to some criticisms of our Fraternity, *viz.*

“To the Publisher of the Boston Gazette,

S I R,

By inserting the following Lines in your Paper, you will greatly oblige your constant Readers and humble Servants;

S I S.

Homo ad Societatem natus,

St. Augustin

Man is a social Creature, and cannot possibly enjoy any Comfort or Happiness in a recluse and retired Life, entirely deprived of Conversation or Society; for it is that which sweetens Life unto us and



renders us fit for Converſe with Heav'n. By exerciſing our Tho'ts, and by communicating that Knowledge we are inveſted with to our Fellow-Creatures, we not only oblige ourſelves, but them; For we by thinking furniſh our Minds with more Knowledge, and by communicating to our Fellow Creatures we afford them Aid in their Search after Truth. And as no one will deny but that this is a glorious Practice, ſo they muſt allow that the Way for executing it muſt be by Society, for without it what would become of the Minds of Men? Even the Body which is only the cortex of the Man could not ſubſiſt without it. But then, How much greater Care ought to be taken of the Mind, which would inevitably ſuffer without it, and come to nothing, but Unhappineſs and Confuſion?

And is this the Caſe that we muſt be in without Society? Let every Lover of Reaſon then ſtir himſelf up, and put forth all his Powers for ſetting up ſuch Societies for the inveſting the Mind with Learning and true Knowledge. And if there are already any ſuch Societies ſet up among us, let the Members of ſuch Societies conſider that the Ends of Society is the good of the Perſons affociated, and that the keeping private the Secrets of ſuch Societies is doing a great Benefit to the Society to which they belong. For it is to be ſuppoſed by all Men of Reaſon, that every Society is governed by ſome Laws or other, and that the Members are to keep them with all Care. But let the ignorant and unthinking Part of Mankind ſpit out all their Malice and Fury, and call Society to Taſk for their convening together; the Way they ſhall be answered is according to the Advice of Solomon the wiſeſt of Men—answer not a Fool according to his Folly, left he be wiſe in his own Conceit.

Boston, Feb.

2d 17; 8 9.

Philo-Mathes.''

P-t.

1738/9, February 6, Boston.

Meeting of the Masters' Lodge. George Moncrieff (Moncrief) raised.

O.R.; A.B.

The Treasurer's account for this day shows the purchase and engraving of Jewels, Rods, etc.

O.R.

1738/9, February 14, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge.  
O.R.; A.B.

1738/9, February 28, Boston.  
Meeting of First Lodge.  
O.R.; A.B.

1738/9, March 6 Boston.  
Meeting of the Masters' Lodge.  
O.R.; A.B.

1738/9, March 14, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge.  
O.R.

Antigua.

Baker's Lodge constituted at St. John, Antigua.  
O.L.  
Entick (1756 Ed.) 337.  
L.M.R. 79.  
Prichard 28.

This Lodge as No. 164 first appears on the Official English List in 1740. On the same list another appears at St. John as No. 170.

L.H.B. 40.

1739, March 28, Boston.  
Alexander Delavoux made.  
O.R.; P.L.; A.B.

1739, April 3, Boston.  
Meeting of the Masters' Lodge.  
O.R.; A.B.

1739, April 11, Boston—Nova Scotia.

Meeting of the First Lodge. The records report the presence as a visitor of "R<sup>t</sup> W.pfull Br<sup>o</sup>: Erasmus Ja<sup>s</sup>: Phillips G: M. De Nov: Scot:"

O.R.; A. B.

For notes concerning Pro. G.M. Phillips see 1891 Mass. 24-30, and I Nova Scotia Lodge of Research, 44.

Pro. G.M. Robert Tomlinson of Boston was in London, where this day he executed his will.

1916 Mass.

1739, April 14, Jamaica.

Lodge Constituted at Kingston, Jamaica.

O.L.

Entick (1756 Ed.) 337.

L.M.R. 82.

Prichard 28.

1739, April 25, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R.; A.B.

1739, May, Boston.

Pro. G.M. Thomlinson returns to Boston from London.

1 Mass. 7.

- 1739, May 1, Boston.  
Meeting of the Masters' Lodge.  
O.R.; A.B.
- 1739, May 9, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge.  
O.R.; A.B.
- 1739, May 15, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge. Capt. William Morris  
made.  
O.R.; P.L.; A.B.
- 1739, May 23, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge. Brother Clement Vincent  
admitted.  
O.R.; A.B.
- 1739, June 5, Boston.  
Meeting of the Masters' Lodge.  
O.R.; A.B.
- 1739, June 13, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge. Hugh McDaniel chosen  
Master.  
O.R.; A.B.  
1 Mass. 7.
- 1739, June 14, Boston.  
The *Boston Weekly News Letter* publishes the follow-  
ing passage, viz.:

“We hear from Rome, that about a Month since, by Order of the  
Inquisition, was burnt there, in the open Place before the Church of

Santa Maria supra Minerva, with great Solemnity, a Piece wrote by the Chevalier Ramfay (Author of the Lives of Cyrus, Fenelon Archbishop of Cambray, &c) in Defence of Free-Mafonry, (of which he was a member) entitled, Relation Apologique et Hiftorique de la Secrets des Francs-Mafons, par J. G. D. M. F. M. A Dublin chez Patriae Odonoko, 1738. This was published at Paris in Anfwer to a pretended Catechifm printed there by Order of the Lieutenant de Police, much of the fame Nature and Authority of that printed in Englifh by one Pritchard and paraded into the World by the fame folemn Oaths; though the one is as little credited as the other.’’

P-t.

1739, June 21, St. Christopher.

The Mother Lodge held at Scotch Arms, Basseterre, St. Christopher, Constituted.

O.L.

Entick (1756 Ed.) 337.

L.M.R. 78.

1739, June 22, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Capts. John Pringle and John Akins made.

O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.

1739, June 25, Boston.

The *Boston Evening Post* contains the following paragraph:

“We hear, that the Society of Free and Accepted Mafons belonging to the Lodge in this Town, intend to Morrow in the Afternoon, to walk in Proceffion in all their Formalities, with a pair of Kettle Drums before them, from the South End of the Town, to the Houfe of Mr. Luke Vardy in Kingftreet, where a moft elegant Supper will be provided.’’

P-t.

1739, June 26, Boston.

An account of the elaborate celebration of the Festival of Saint John the Baptist on this day appears in the *Boston Gazette* for July 2, 1739, viz.:

“Tuefday laft being the Day appointed by the Right Worfhipfull Robert Thomlinfon Grand Mafter of the ancient and honourable Society of the Free and Accepted Maſons, in and of New England, for the Celebration of a Feſtival, in Commemoration of their Patron Saint John the Baptist: The ſame was obſerved here with the utmoſt Decency, and Solemnity, by the Gentlemen of that Society.

At three in the Afternoon They aſſembled at the Houſe of their Brother John Wagborn, from whence they walk'd in Proceſſion to His Excellency's Houſe, properly Cloathed, and Diſtinguiſhed, with Badges, and other Implement pertaining to the ſeveral Orders and Degrees of the Society, preceeded by a Compleat band of Muſick, conſiſting of Trumpets, Kettle Drums, &c.

The Society was elegantly entertain'd at the Governour's, from whence they walk'd in the ſame Order with his Excellency their Brother, to their Brother Stephen Deblois Houſe, where they were entertain'd with a fine Concert of Muſick: After which they walk'd to the Royal Exchange Tavern in Kingſtreet, where a ſumptuous Supper was provided, to which were invited many Gentlemen of Diſtinction, Civil, and Military.”

P-t.

An account of the celebration in doggerel which was written and circulated at the time and reproduced later may be found in 1 Mass. 471.

1739, June 27, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Brother Peter Prescott admitted.

O.R.; A.B.

1739, June 28, Boston.

The *Boston Weekly News Letter* prints the following paragraph, *viz*:

“There are Letters from Poland \* \* \* \* \*

They add, that the Society of Free Mafons spreads so fast at Pofen, that the Clergy there have thought it their Duty to oppofe it, and that a Bull of Excommunication has been publifh'd againft that Fraternity, not only in all the Churches there, but in other Parts of Poland.”

P-t.

1739, July 3, Boston.

Meeting of the Masters' Lodge.

O.R.

1739, July 10, Boston.

Meeting of the Auditing Committee of the First Lodge

A.B.

1739, July 11, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R.; A.B.

1739, July 25, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

Robert Jenkins and Lincy Wallis made and admitted. That they were made this night does not appear on the original records, but the record for July 11th shows their election and the record for this night shows their admission; therefore the Pelham List must be correct notwithstanding the omission in the records. Both the Pelham List and the original records show the admission of James

Montier and John Nappier. The original records also state that Brothers John Pringle, John Akins, and Albert Dennie were admitted.

O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.

1739, August 7, Boston.

Meeting of the Masters' Lodge. Peter Napper (Nappier) raised. Election.

O.R. ; P.L.

Following the record of this meeting are two blank pages. No other records of this Lodge appear until December 2, 1743, *q.v.* The Pelham List, however, gives proof that meetings were held during the interval for it gives the names of four Brethren who were raised and seven who were admitted during the unrecorded period.

O.R. ; P.L.

1739, August 8, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Upon the records appears the following letter :

“Right Worshipfull  
Worshipfull  
Thrice Worthy & Ever Dear Brethren

We with the utmost Pleasure recd: your hearty congratulation Upon the Establishment of Masonry in this our Island, And return thanks to Our Worthy Brethren of Boston for the good Opinion they entertain of the virtues of Our Countrymen, which we hope will be continually encreasing as the Royal Craft comes every day to flourish and gain ground among us, not only by the Accession of numbers of New Brethren, but especially under the happy Influence of our thrice Worthy Right Worshipfull Grand Master his Excellency William Mathew, whom we boast of as a true good, Mason & a sincere lover and encourager of our inestimable craft.



We take kindly our Dear Brethren offer of a friendly correspondence and should before this time have signified the pleasure we hope to reap from it, by an answer to yours of the 4th of April last but that we waited for an Opertunity of sending our sincere and hearty good wishes to our Brethren and Fellows by the hands of one who might in our name greet you in a Brother like manner.

We are now so happy as to enjoy this wishd for Opertunity by Our well beloved Brother Majr. John Murrays intending for Boston in a Very few Days, whom we commend to you as a Worthy upright Master Mason who has for some time past. Executed the office of SW of one of our Lodges to the entire satisfaction of all his Brethren and Fellows.

All the Brethren here salute you well beloved with the greeting of St. John, wishing that all Prosperity may attend you, and that no Malicious Cowan may ever with profane ears & eyes approach even the lowest step of your Worshipfull Lodge, in Order to listen to the Wisdom or pry into the Beauty or Disturb the order & harmony thereof.

From the Grand Lodge held at the Court House in St. Johns the 27th June A L 5739.

Signed by the Command  
of the Rt. W:ypfull the Grand Master

We are Dear Brethren  
Your Sincer Efectionate Brethren  
and Humble Servants.

William Mercer G S''

O.R.; A.B.

1739, August 22, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R.; A.B.

1739, September 12, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Caleb Phillips made.

O.R.; P.L.; A.B.

1739, September 24, New York.

The *New York Gazette* has an advertisement that the Lodge will meet on Wednesday, September 26th, at 6.00 P.M.

1739, September 26, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Thomas Smith and Capts. James Underdown, Narias Vaughn, and Edward Calior (Keller) made.

O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.

1739, October 8, Boston.

The advertisement of John Dabney appears in *The Boston Evening Post* offering for sale, among other things, Freemason's jewels.

P-t.

1739, October 11, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R. ; A.B.

1739, October 15, Boston.

The *Boston Evening Post* contains the following paragraph:

“ Friday June 1st, was interred in Burnhill Fields, the Corpse of Dr. Anderson, a Dissenting Teacher, in a very remarkable deep Grave. His Pall was supported by five Dissenting Teachers and the Rev. Dr. Defaguliers: It was followed by about a Dozen of Free Mafons, who encircled the Grave; and after Dr. Earle had harranged on the Uncertainty of Life, &'c the Brethren, in a most folemn difmal Pofture, lifted up their Hands, sigh'd, and ftruck their Aprons three Times in Honour to the deceafed.”

P-t.

The Dr. Anderson referred to was the compiler and publisher of the first printed Constitutions.

1739, October 24, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Brother James Monk admitted.

O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.

1739, October 31,

Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

Meeting of the First Lodge at Portsmouth, N.H., at which "Regulations or By-Laws" were adopted as shown by the earliest volume now known of the records of this Lodge. It is not certain whether a record book, now lost, was kept prior to this date or not. Concerning this Lodge see 1735/6, February 5, *supra*.

O.R.

1739, November 14, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Hugh Surrey, John Lamport, and Peter Dillon made.

O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.

1739, November 28, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R. ; A.B.

1739, December 12, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Capt. Timothy McDaniel made.

O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.

Antigua.

Antigua Lodge, Courthouse Lodge, Lodge in Saint Mary's Street, and Baisatee (Basseterre) Lodge, each

stated as of Antigua (although the latter is of course the Lodge in Saint Christopher) are reported on the records of the Grand Lodge of England as making payment to the Grand Treasurer for their Constitution.

X Q.C.A. 322.

1739, December 26, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Election. The records for this meeting appear in a new handwriting and state that Peter Pelham was elected Secretary.

O.R.

1883 Mass. 159.

1900 Mass. 122.

1739, December 27, Boston.

Celebration of the Festival by the First Lodge and Grand Lodge.

O.R.

1 Mass. 7.

South Carolina.

Meeting of the Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodge at Charleston, South Carolina. Graeme again chosen Provincial Grand Master.

*South Carolina Gazette* for December 31, 1739.

1739/40, January 1,

Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

Meeting of the Lodge at Portsmouth, N.H., when the By-Laws adopted October 31, 1739, *q.v.*, were approved, being subscribed by Geo. Mitchell, Master; N. Fellows,

S.W.; Robert Hart, J.W.; Henry Sherburn, Treas.; Jon<sup>a</sup> Loggin, Sec. pro tem, and other Brethren. These By-Laws in the original record book bear the signatures of fifty one Brethren, although most of them signed after this date.

O.R.

1739/40, January 9, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R.

1739/40, January 17, New Hampshire.

Meeting of the Lodge at Portsmouth. Pro. G.M. Robert Tomlinson of Boston was present.

O.R.

1739/40, January 23, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R.

1739/40, February 13, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R.

1739/40, February 27, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R.

1739/40, March 12, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R.

Barbados.

St. Michael's Lodge Constituted at Bridgeton, Barbados.

O.L.

Entick 337.

L.M.R. 86.

1739, *circa*. New York.

Lodge Constituted in New York, so it is rumored.

L.M.R. 478.

I cannot find confirmation. But see 1738/9, January 22; and 1739, September 24, *supra*.

1740, March 26, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. At this meeting a committee was appointed "to prepare a Remonstrance," to lay before the Lodge on the matter of increasing the initiation fee.

O.R.

See 1740, April 9, *infra*.

1740, April 3, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. John Webster and Capt. Thomas Durfey made.

O.R.; P.L.

Portsmouth, N. H.

Meeting of the Lodge. William Wentworth made.

O.R.

1740, April 7, Boston.

Meeting of the Committee on the "Remonstrance" referred to under 1740, March 26, *supra*.

O.R. 1740, April 9.

1740, April 9, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. The use of the words "humble Remonstrance." in the Oxnard petition of October 7, 1751 (for facsimile of same see 1915 Mass. 266) has been misinterpreted because of the present common use of the word. As showing the true use of the word in those days as well as because of its general interest I quote the record of the First Lodge for this meeting as follows:

Wednesday April 9th: 1740. Being Lodge Night  
The following Brethren Mett.

The Rt.W: Bro: Robert Tomlinson G M.

The Rt.W: Bro: Hugh McDaniel M. Bro; I Waghorne S W.

The Rt.W: Bro: T: Oxnard, D: G: M Pd: 20/.

Bro: I Farrel J W Pd: 20/.

Bro: Benjn: Hollowell

Bro: T: Walker T. Pd: 20/.

Bro: Fran: Johonnot

Bro: H. Surrey Pd: 20/.

Bro: John Hutcheson

Bro: Durfee Visr: Pd: 5/.

Bro: Henry Price

Bro: I: Webster " Pd: 5/.

Bro: T: Moffatt

Bro: S. Deblois PD: 20/.

Bro: Luke Vardy

Bro: P. Pelham S

Bro: Stevenson Tylar 3/. Reed: 56/6...2., 19., 6.

The Lodge being open'd, the Comms: Appointed last Lodge Night, to prepare a Remonstrance to lay before the Rt. W. Masr: and Brethren of this Society, were Introduced in due form; and Order'd to Present the same: Bro: T: Moffat one of the Sd: Comms: was desir'd to Read it, in Audience of the Rt W: Masr. & Brethren; And, after due Attention

Voted, Nemeni Con: that the Sd: Remonstrance be Ingross'd in the Book and to pass into a Law, that, for the Future, the Premium to be paid by Candidates, at their Initiation, to be Ten Pounds.

Voted, that the Sd: Comms: be Respectfully Thanked for their Care and Trouble in drawing up Sd: Remonstrance: Which was perform'd by the Rt W: Masr: & Brethren in due form.

Voted, that the Sd: Comms: be continued, and, that our W: Brothers Oxnard and Waghorne be added to them, in order to prepare a Remonstr: (as soon as posable) for the Benefit of the Bank Stock &c of this Society.

The Rt W: Masr: Hugh McDaniel, Propos'd and Nominated, Mr: Box, (Rope Mkr:) a Candidate: and to answer 40 /s.

To the Rt W: Mastr:, and W: Wardens, and the rest of the Members of this Lodge.

We whose Names are hereunto Annex'd being a Committee appointed by this Lodge to consider, whether it be Expedient that a greater Premium than that now Stipulated by a Quadam Vote of this Society, be required from Candidates before Admission into our Lodge.

We, after due Deliberation upon the present Circumstances of this Lodge, and Treasury thereof, do think that it is now, not only Proper, but absolutely Necessary for preserving the Honour and Dignity of Masonry in General, and advancing the Interest of this Lodge in particular: That the Sum paid by Novices before Intiation be Augmented, and that the said Augmentation when concurr'd to, & agreed on, may presently have the Sanction of a Law hence-forward.

We Your Said Committee are perswaded, that most of the Reasons which prevailed for then establishing the Inaugurating Fee at the present Rate, do not now Subsist; and consequently cannot be employ'd as Arguments against our Judgment, and Opinion, to abrogate, or alter that Decree. As that was a Resolution of this Lodge when in its Infant-state, and scarcely a sufficient Number to form One perfectly, much less to Maintain it with Spirit: We regard it only as a Result of Necessity, and good Policy, whereby the Society might be Encreased to a proper Number.

We Your Committee are convinced that if the Sum paid by Candidates was fixed at Ten Pounds, it would not prevent any Man of merit from making Application: on the Contrary—would Invite, and induce Them, inasmuch as it would discourage those of mean Spirits, and narrow, or Incumber'd Fortunes from Solliciting to Enter with Us: both which are Inconveniences which We cannot carefully enough avoid, or provide against: because We apprehend the First to be a Disparagement to, and Prostitution of Our Honour; And the Latter are often a heavy Charge, and Burthen, in a General and Particular Respect.

We Your Committee observe that at Some Admissions, There has little or not part of the Money (after defraying incumbent Expenses) been applyed towards the encreasing of Our Publick Bank Stock—nay! that at Times, there has been Occasion Voluntarily to Contribute for discharging the Deficiency, or else Vote the Same



out of the Treasury: by both which pernicious Practices, that Fund, which should be encouraged, & encreas'd by all honest Methods, & Means—is Lessen'd, & and the Noble Ends, & Purposes, for which it was destin'd, & appropriated—are frustrated, and rendered abortive.

Wherefore, We Your Committee move for Concurrence with Us in Opinion, whereby the General, & Particular Interest: & Honour of Our Society may be advanced: and by which Men of Eminence may be encouraged; and those of base Spirits, & embarras'd Fortunes may be discouraged to Associate with Us—And by which our Fund, which ought to be inavoidably sacred towards the Relief of Indigent & Distress'd Masons, their Wives, & Children—may be preserv'd and Encreas'd.

We Your Committee think there are Further Means, whereby all these Advantages might be further enlarged, and Secured, which We heartily wish.

April the 7th: 5740

Thos: Moffatt

Thos: Walker

Peter Pelham

O.R.

1740, April 22, Barbados.

Charles Crawford, Esq., from Saint Michael's Lodge at Barbados attended the Grand Lodge at London and paid ten guineas for charity.

P.C. (2nd Eng. Ed.) 119.

1740, After April 22 and before March 19, 1740/41.

West Indies.

The Earl of Kintore, Grand Master of England, appointed Thomas Baxter, Esq., Provincial Grand Master of "Barbados and of all the Islands to the Windward of Guardaloup."

Preston (Portsmouth, 1804) 191.

Entick 334.

P.C. (2nd Eng. Ed.) 120.

1740, April 23, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R.

The records contained in this volume are so unusually attractive that a facsimile of the record of this meeting is presented herewith as a specimen. It is the most ornate page of the book.

1 N.E.F. 57.

II.

Wednesday April the 23. 1740.

Being Lodge Night the following Brethren Mett.

The Right Worshipful Bro: Rob<sup>r</sup> Tomlinson P<sup>o</sup> 20/

The R<sup>o</sup> W<sup>o</sup> Bro: Hugh M<sup>o</sup> Daniel M P<sup>o</sup> 20/

The R<sup>o</sup> W<sup>o</sup> Bro: Oxnard P<sup>o</sup> 20/

Bro: Aben<sup>o</sup> Price P<sup>o</sup> 20/

Bro: J. Phillips P<sup>o</sup> 20/

Bro: Moffatt P<sup>o</sup> 20/

Bro: Hutchinson P<sup>o</sup> 20/

Bro: Jenkins P<sup>o</sup> 20/ by J. W.

Bro: Swan P<sup>o</sup> 20/

Bro: Hollowell P<sup>o</sup> 20/ J. W.

Bro: N. Bethune P<sup>o</sup> 20/ P.P.

Bro: Johnnot P<sup>o</sup> 20/

Bro: Luke Vardy P<sup>o</sup> 20/

Bro: Deblois

Bro: Surrey

Bro: Wagborne S. W.

Bro: J. Farrel J. W.

Bro: J. Walker J.

Bro: P. Pelham S.

Bro: Slater Vis<sup>o</sup>

Bro: Webster Vis<sup>o</sup>

Bro: Durfee Vis<sup>o</sup>

Bro: Facey Vis<sup>o</sup>

Bro: Atkins Vis<sup>o</sup>

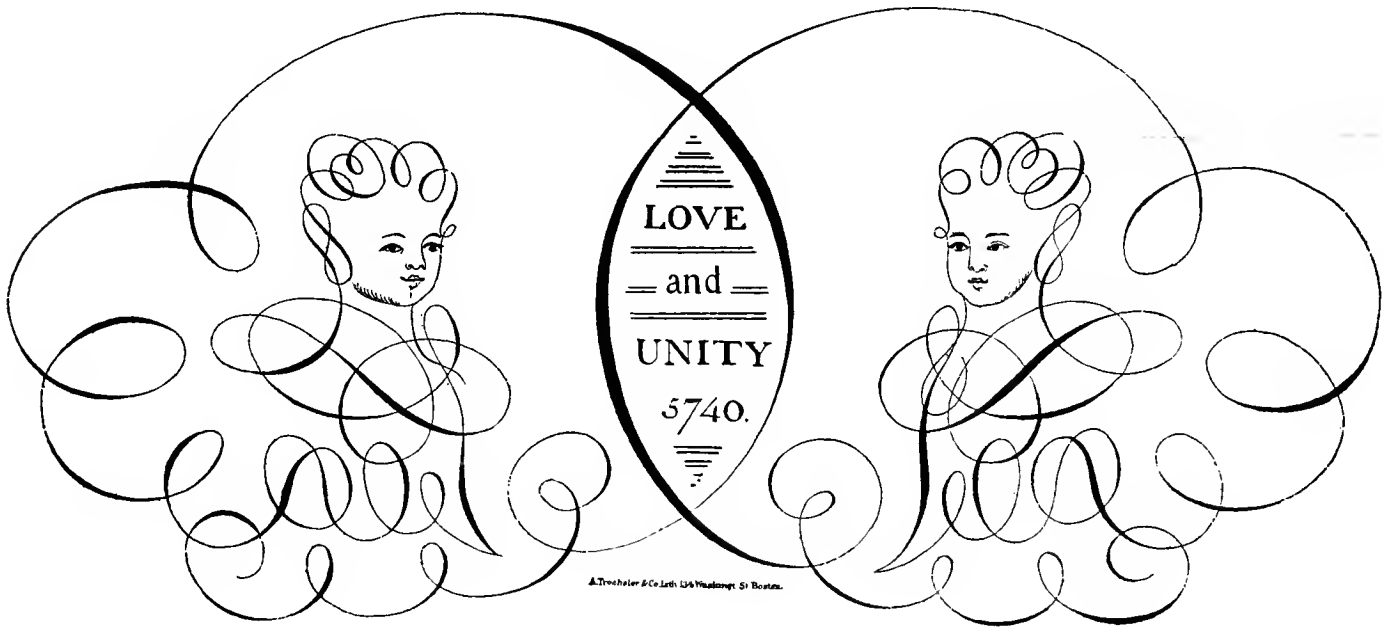
Bro: Stevenson

Tyler 3

Roeck £ 4 " 2 " 6

£ 4 " 5 " 6

The Lodge being open'd; Voted, that Bro. Bethune will take the welfare of this Society so far into consideration, as to frame a Law, to lay before us: in order to prevent for the Future any Differences in Opinion that might at any time arise about the Proposing, Ballotting, and Making of Candidates and Likewise, to collect the Whole Body of By Laws into a System







1740, May 14, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R.

1740, May 28, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R.

1740, June 11, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Election.

O.R.; A.B.

1740, June 24,

Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

Meeting of the Lodge. Brother Thomas Newmarch admitted.

O.R.

1740, June 25, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R.; A.B.

1740, July 9, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R.; A.B.

1740, July 15 or 16, Boston.

Pro. G.M. Tomlinson died in Antigua. He made his will on the 15th and was buried on the 16th.

See 1916 Mass.

1740, July 23, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Robert Charles, John Box, John Rowe, and Capt. John Furney made.

O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.

1740, August 11, Barbados.

A badly mutilated copy (but the only one known) of the *Boston Gazette* of August 11, 1740, contains the beginning and the ending of an account of the celebration of the Festival, in part as follows :

“Barbados, June 24th, 1740.

This being the Feast of St. John the Baptist, the Master and Brethren of the St. Michael's Lodge of Free and accepted Masons, in a grand Procession, went to St. Michaels Church in Bridge Town, to pay their Devotions, wher they heard a most excellent Sermon fuitable to the Occasion, preached by their Reverend Brother Huxley, Rector of St. Michaels, the Service of the Day being perform'd by their Reverend Brother Rose, Rector of St. Thomas's.

\* \* \* \* \*

After Sermon the Master and Brethren, with the other Gentlemen attendant on His Excellency in the Procession, proceeded from Church, in the same order as above to the Lodge House, where an elegant Entertainment was prepared for them, and the Ladies the Sisters; and in the Evening, they conducted the Ladies to the Assembly Room, where they gave a Ball to the Sisters, and other Ladies and Gentlemen, to whom Tickets had been given for that purpose.

The whole was conducted with great Order, and Decency, and gave great Satisfaction to every Body. As the like was never seen before in this Part of the World, the Town was crowded with People from all Parts of the Island to see the Solemnity.”

P-t.

1740, August 13, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R. ; A.B.

1740, August 21, Boston.

The *Boston Weekly News Letter* publishes the following paragraph:

“We have the sorrowful News from Antigna, of the Death of Mr. Robert Tomlinson, after Five Days Illness. He was Grand Master of the Lodge of Free and Accepted Mafons, in this Town. A Gentleman well respected, and his Death is much lamented by his Brethren and Acquaintance among us.”

P-t.

1740, August 25, Boston.

The *Boston Gazette* publishes the paragraph last quoted.

P-t.

1740, August 27, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R. ; A.B.

1740, September 10, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Capt. Samuel Waterhouse made. Brothers John Rickman, P. Hall, and H. Wethered admitted.

O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.

1740, September 24, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R. ; A.B.

1740, October 8, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. John Wright (Right) and Patrick Tracy made.

O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.



1740, October 22, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R.; A.B.

1740, November 12, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R.; A.B.

1740, November 18,

Charleston, South Carolina.

A large part of Charleston was destroyed by fire. The Fraternity there contributed two hundred and fifty dollars to the relief fund.

*South Carolina Gazette.*

1740, November 26, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Capt. George Ladain (Led-dain) made and accepted.

O.R.; P.L.; A.B.

1740, December 10, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R.; A.B.

1740, December 24, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Election. Capt. Edward Oliver made.

O.R.; P.L.; A.B.

1 Mass. 7.

1740, December 27,

Charleston, South Carolina.

The Fraternity of Charleston again celebrated the Festival in a most imposing manner. John Houghton elected Provincial Grand Master.

*South Carolina Gazette* for January 1, 1740/1.

1740, December 29, Boston.

Celebration of the Festival of Saint John the Evangelist at Boston by Thomas Oxnard as Deputy Grand Master and "a great number of Brethren." He opened a Grand Lodge and appointed his officers.

O.R. and A.B. of the First Lodge.

1740/1, January 14. Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R.; A.B.

1740/1, January 28, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Peter Pelham directed to have a copper plate engraved for blank summonses.

O.R.; A.B.

1740/1, February 11, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Charity Committee appointed. Edward Tothill (Tuthill) made and admitted.

O.R.; P.L.; A.B.

1883 Mass. 165.

1740/1, February 25, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Peter Cade and Capts. Thomas Dunster and Robert Rand made and admitted.

“The other candidate not attending forfeited his praemium.”

O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.

1740/1, March 5,

Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

Meeting of the Lodge, “being the Third Night of the Quarter.” Brother Jno. Nailor admitted, Jno. Tufton made.

O.R.

The above quotation shows that records have not been preserved of every meeting for we have no such between June 24, 1740 and March 5, 1740/1. Similar hiatuses are to be found later.

1740/1, March 11, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R. ; A.B.

1741, March 25, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R. ; A.B.

1741, April 2, Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

Meeting of the Lodge.

O.R.

1741, April 8, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R. ; A.B.

1741, April 22, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. The ballot on an application showed "More Nay's than Yea's."

O.R.; A.B.

1741, May 7, Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

Meeting of the Lodge.

O.R.

1741, May 13, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R.

1741, May 25, Boston.

The *Boston Post Boy* has the following interesting item of News from London :

"London, March 20. Yesterday the antient and honourable Society of Free and Accepted Mafons had their grand annual Feast at Haberdashers-Hall. The Conclave was very grand, (more Noblemen and Gentlemen attending than has been known for many Years) the Entertainment in the most elegant Taste, mang'd with the nicest Decorum, and the Evening spent as became the Brothers of that Society.

Yesterday some Mock Free-Mafons march'd thro' Pall-Mall and the Strand, as far as Temple-bar, in Proceffion; first went Fellows on Jack-Affes, with Cows Horns in their Hands, then a Kettle-Drummer on a Jack-Afs, having two Butter-Firkins for Kettle-Drums; then followed two Carts drawn by Jack-Affes, having in them the Stewards, with several Badges of the Order; then came a Mourning-Coach, drawn by six Hories, each of a different Colour and Size, in which were the Grand-Mafter and Wardens, the whole attended by a vast Mob; they staid without Temple-bar till the Mafons came by, and paid their Compliments to them, who return'd the same with an agreeable Humour, which possibly disappointed the Contriver of this Mock-Scene, whose Misfortune is, that tho' he has some Wit, his

subjects are generally so ill-chosen, that, he loses by it as many Friends, as other People, of more Judgment, gain.”

P-t.

XVIII Q.C.A. 129, 120.

1741, May 27, Boston.

The record says “The house being all taken up and engaged on some publick affairs, there was no Lodge held.”

O.R.

1741, June 1, Norfolk, Virginia.

It has been stated by several Masonic historians that St. John’s Lodge No. 117 was Chartered for Norfolk, Virginia, by the Grand Lodge of Scotland on this date.

Dove’s History of the G. L. of Virginia.

IV Gould 379.

S. & H. 298.

I have been unable to find proof of this statement. Neither the Lodge at Norfolk nor any other Lodge in America warranted from Scotland prior to St. Andrew’s Lodge in Boston (1756) is to be found in the Official List of Lodges Removed from the Roll, published with the 1904 edition of the Constitutions and Laws of the Grand Lodge of Scotland (pgs. 198-207) ; nor in the Edinburgh edition of the *Pocket Companion* of 1761, 1763, or 1765. Brother Dove says that on the Scottish Register it is given as No. 111, Constituted in 1741. I can find it on the Scottish lists only as No. 117, Instituted 1763.

Constitutions of Grand Lodge of Scotland, 1904 Ed., 199 and 1852 Ed., 86.

P.C. (3rd Edinburgh Ed. 1772) 143.

1741, June 2, Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

Meeting of the Lodge. Election.

O.R.

1741, June 10, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R.; A.B.

1741, June 15, Boston.

The *Boston Evening Post* publishes an interesting article relative to the mock Masons in London, as follows:

March 28. By the Right Worshipful the Grand Master, Grand Officers, Stewards and Brethren of the SCALD MISERABLE MASONS.

**A M A N I F E S T O.**

**W**HEREAS it hath been maliciously and impudently insinuated that Our Procession of the 19th Instant, was intended as an unkind and ungenerous Reflection on the Cavalcade of Our younger Brethren the Free Masons. Let this satisfy the Public, that We had no such Intention, bearing always the greatest Brotherly Love and Friendship towards Our seperated Brethren. But Our Reasons are.

*Primo*, That We are the True Original SCALD MISERABLE MASONS, as We can prove by the Records of the Ancient Lodges of RAGG-FAIR, HOCKLEY in the HOLE, St. GILES's, BRICK-STREET, and the GOOSE and GRIDIRON in St. Paul's Church-Yard.

*Secundo*, That we were incontestibly one Body at the *ÆRA* of the Grand Mastership of Mr. AYER now Tyler, or Porter to their Grand and several other of their Lodges,

*Tertio*, Because several of the *Genry*, without our Privity, have crept in among Us who had more *Money* than *Wis*, and more *Nicety* than *Good-Fellowship*, and have set up, themselves as a distinct Body, under the Name of *FREE MASONS*, in open Violation of our Ancient Constitution.

*Quarto*, Because We have heard it insinuated, that our discontinuing the *Annual Procession* was urged as a proof of our Non Existence; or, at least, was a Tacit Resignation of Right of Eldership to our *Younger-Brothers*, the *FREE MASONS*.

Wherefore, We have at this time thought fit, according to the *known Constitutions* of the above *ancient Lodges*, to re-assume our *Processional Ceremony*.

And that All whom it may concern may Judge of the Justness of our Pretensions, We have annexed a Scheme of our *Procession*, and their *Cavalcade*, and submit to the Public which will most becoming the *Dignity* and *Solemnity*, of so *Ancient* and so *Venerable* a *Society*.

#### PROCESSION OF THE SCALD MISERABLE MASONS.

Two *Sackbuts*, vulgarly call'd *Cow's Horns*, in *Liveries*.

An *Ass*, in proper Habillments, led by two *Pages*, in the *Liveries* and *Ribbons* of the *Stewards* Colour; carrying a Pair of *cutter Firkins*, on which a Youth in a neat Attire beat, with a Pair of *Marrow-Bones*.

A dextrous one legged Man riding on an *Ass*, and playing on a *Tinkling Combat*, viz. a *Salt Box*.

The *TYLER*, in a long Robe or Vestment, compleatly arm'd; on his Head a Cap of Maintenance, on which was Hieroglyphically depicted the mystical Emblems of the *RAFT*; in his Hand a wooden Sword, riding on a *Lean, Lame, cropt Sorrel Nagg*.

Three *Stewards* in *Proper Cloathing*, with *Jewels* and *Wands*, in a *GIT CART*, drawn by Three *Asses* beautifully adorned, with *Ribbons* and *Cockades*. A *Postilion* on the first, which was led by two *Pages*.

Three more *Stewards* in a *SAND CART*, drawn as before.

*GRAND GARDER*, or *Tyler* to the Grand Lodge, in a *Huge Cap* of Skins, in his Hand a *Truncheon*; his Shoulders from both Sides ornamented with *LAY-BANDS*, like a *Hamlet Colonel*, riding on a *Fine prancing Steed*, well managed in a *Grain Cart*.

*RAGGED BRETHREN* in proper Cloathing, walking according to the Ancient Constitutions, *THREE, THREE* and *THREE*.

The Right Worshipful *GRAND MASTER* with his *GRAND OFFICERS* in a *superb magnificent, sable State Coach*, drawn by *Spanin Splint, Sawistail, Babbail, One eye, and None-eye*, all of various Colours, and bedecked with *Azure Ribbons*.

This *Grand and Illustrious Procession*, was finish'd by vast Numbers of different Instruments, which all together compos'd a *delectable* Symphony of *ROUGH MUSICK*.

The — Mark of the right worshipful

HONEY

1741, June 24, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Election. Thomas Oxnard as Deputy Grand Master held a Grand Lodge to celebrate the Festival and appointed his officers.

O.R. of the First Lodge.

1 N.E.F. 64.

Pennsylvania.

A Grand Lodge for the Province of Pennsylvania was held at the Indian King, Philadelphia, and Philip Syng was chosen Grand Master.

*Pennsylvania Gazette* for June 25, 1741.

See 1738, June 24, *supra*; and 1749, July 10, *infra*.

1741, July 9, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R.; A.B.

The Lodge should have met on the 8th, but the house was "fill'd by the members of the General Court, and no possibility of a proper room to hold a lodge," &c.

O.R.

1 N.E.F. 64.

1741, July 18, Boston.

The Masters' Lodge bought 2 1/4 yds. of Double Gold Lace.

A.B.

1741, July 22, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R.; A.B.



1741, August 12, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. William Maul made.  
O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.

1741, August 26, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.  
O.R. ; A.B.

1741, September 9, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Daniel Hooper made and  
admitted.

O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.

1741, September 23, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Resolutions were adopted  
concerning the proper method of toasting the health of our  
R.W. Brother the Honorable Mr. Belcher, late Governor.

O.R. ; A.B.

1 Mass. 388.

1883 Mass. 160.

*The Builder* for August, 1915, p. 175.

1741, September 25, Boston.

A committee of the First Lodge waits upon Belcher, late  
Governor, and presents a complimentary address.

O.R. of First Lodge.

1 Mass. 389.

1883 Mass. 161.

*The Builder* for August, 1915, p. 175.

1 N.E.F. 66.

1741, October 2, Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

Meeting of the Lodge.

O.R.

1741, October 13, Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

Meeting of the Lodge. "Capt. Andrew Tombes was made a Mason and *raised* to a Fellow Craft."

O.R.

1741, October 14, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. A committee was appointed to wait upon His Excellency William Shirley, the new Governor of the Province.

O.R.; A.B.

1 Mass. 389.

1883 Mass. 162.

*The Builder* for August, 1915, p. 175.

1 N.E.F. 66.

1741, October 23, Boston.

The committee of the First Lodge waited upon Governor Shirley and exchanged complimentary addresses.

O.R. of First Lodge.

1 Mass. 390.

1914 Mass. 263, *et cit.*

*Boston Gazette* for November 3, 1741. (P-t.)

*The Builder* for August, 1915, p. 175.

1 N.E.F. 279.

1741, October 28, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge. George Ruggles and Edward Cahill made.

Report of Shirley Committee.

O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.

1 N.E.F. 279.

1741, November 6,  
Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

Meeting of the Lodge.

O.R.

1741, November 11, Boston  
Meeting of the First Lodge. George Ruggles admitted.  
O.R. ; A.B.

1741, November 25, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R. ; A.B.

1883 Mass. 163.

1 N.E.F. 280.

1741, November 27, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R. ; A.B.

1741, December 4,  
Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

Meeting of the Lodge.

O.R.

1741, December 9, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R. ; A.B.

1741, December 23, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Election.

O.R. ; A.B.

1 Mass. 7.

1 N.E.F. 280.

1741, December 27,

Charleston, South Carolina.

Elaborate celebration of the Festival. John Hammerton chosen Provincial Grand Master.

*South Carolina Gazette* for January 2, 1741/2.

1741/2, January 1, Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

Meeting of the Lodge. Capt. Henry Darling made and "raised Fellow Craft."

O.R.

1741/2, January 13, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R. ; A.B.

1741/2, January 27, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Samuel Rhodes, Benjamin Marlow, Charles Price, and Bagwell Irish made.

O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.

1741/2, February 3, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. William Bishop made.

O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.

1741/2, February 4, Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

Meeting of the Lodge.

O.R.

1741/2, February 10, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Thomas Kelby (Kilby) Esq., made.

It was voted that a petition to the Grand Lodge of England be sent with all speed for the appointment of Thomas Oxnard as Provincial Grand Master.

O.R. ; A.B.

1741/2, February 24, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R. ; A.B.

1741/2, March 4, Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

Meeting of the Lodge.

O.R.

1741/2, March 10, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. George Diamond made. Brothers Samuel Rhodes, Benjamin Marlow, and William Bishop admitted.

O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.

1741/2, March 24, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Phillip O'debart (Audi-bert), John Lee, and Henry Smithson made and admitted.

O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.

1742, April 14, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Charles Gautier and Peter Cossett made.

O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.

1742, April 22, Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

Meeting of the Lodge. Capt. Eliakim Bickford made and "raised Fellow Craft."

O.R.

1742, after April 27 and before May 2, 1744. Jamaica.

Lord Ward, during his term as Grand Master of England, in addition to Oxnard as Provincial Grand Master for North America (September 23, 1743), appointed Ballard Beckford, George Hynde, and Alexander Crawford, Esqrs., Provincial Grand Masters for Jamaica and one Provincial Grand Master for Bermuda.

Preston (Portsmouth, 1804) 192.

Entick 334.

P.C. (2nd Eng. Ed.) 123.

1742, April 28, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Brothers Peter Cossett and Francis Johonott (Johonnott) admitted.

O.R. ; A.B.

1742, May 12, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R. ; A.B.

1742, May 26, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R. ; A.B.

1742, June 9, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge. Election.  
O.R. ; A.B.  
1 Mass. 7.

1742, June 16, Boston.  
Meeting of the Auditing Committee of the First Lodge.  
A.B.

1742, June 17, West Indies.  
Lodge Constituted at Old Road, St. Christopher, by  
Grand Master of England.  
O.L.  
L.M.R. 87.

1742, June 23, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge. Abraham Orpin, William  
Ball, and William Starkey made. "Brother William Foy,  
Rais'd F. C. & Mem<sup>r</sup>."  
O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.

1742, June 24, Boston.  
Meeting of the Grand Lodge and celebration of the Fes-  
tival by about forty Brethren.  
O.R. of First Lodge.  
1 N.E.F. 280.

Portsmouth, New Hampshire.  
Meeting of the Lodge. Election.  
O.R.

1742, June 28. Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Brother Thomas James Gruchy (Luchy) admitted. Henry Lawrence of South Carolina made.

O.R.; P.L.; A.B.

1883 Mass. 164.

1 N.E.F. 280.

1742, July 14, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Lewis Vassal made.

O.R.; P.L.; A.B.

1742, July 28, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R.; A.B.

1742, August 11, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. James Brunette made and Brother Edward Cahill admitted.

O.R.; P.L.; A.B.

1742, August 25, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R.; A.B.

1742, September 8, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R.; A.B.

1742, September 22, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R.; A.B.



1742, October 8,

Portsmouth, New Hampshire,

Meeting of the Lodge.

O.R.

1742, After October 11, Jamaica.

Lodge Constituted at Port Royal.

O.L.

Entick 337.

L.M.R. 88.

1742, October 13, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. ' Brother Thomas Campling  
admitted.

O.R.; P.L.; A.B.

1883 Mass 165.

1 N.E.F. 280.

1742, October 14,

Portsmouth, New Hampshire,

Meeting of the Lodge at which it was voted that it meet  
the first and third Thursday in every month.

O.R.

1742, October 27, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R.; A.B.

1742, November 4,

Portsmouth, New Hampshire,

Meeting of the Lodge.

O.R.

1742, November 10, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R.; A.B.

1742, November 24, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. James Sprowll made.

O.R.; P.L.; A.B.

1742, December 8, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge at which rules were adopted concerning the issuance of letters of recommendation for Brothers intending to travel in foreign countries.

O.R.; A.B.

1 N.E.F. 281.

1742, December 22, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Election. Joseph Smythurst (Smithurst) made.

O.R.; P.L.; A.B.

1742, December 28, Boston.

Celebration of the Festival by the Grand Lodge.

O.R. and A.B. of First Lodge.

Charleston, South Carolina.

The Festival was celebrated in the usual elaborate manner, and Benjamin Smith was chosen Provincial Grand Master.

*South Carolina Gazette* for January 3, 1742/3.

There is no further account known of Masonic meetings in South Carolina until 1751. It does not follow that no such meetings were held, and the next accounts (*South*

*Carolina Gazette* for January 10, 1751/2, and January 8, 1752/3, and *Timothy's Gazette* for March 30, 1752) show abundant signs of continuity.

See Mackey's History of Freemasonry in South Carolina, 21.

1742/3, January 6,  
Portsmouth, New Hampshire.  
Meeting of the Lodge.  
O.R.

1742/3, January 12, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge.  
O.R.; A.B.

1742/3, January 26, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge.  
O.R.; A.B.  
1 N.E.F. 281.

1742/3, February 9, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge.  
O.R.; A.B.

1742/3, February 23, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge.  
O.R.; A.B.

1742/3, March 9, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge.  
O.R.; A.B.

1742/3, March 23, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R.; A.B.

1883 Mass. 165.

1 N.E.F. 281.

1743, April 13, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R.; A.B.

1743, April 27, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Joseph Murry (Murray) and Edmund Lewis (Ellis) made.

O.R.; P.L.; A.B.

1743, May 11, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Brothers William Ball, Edmund Lewis (Ellis), and Archibald Spencer admitted, and Lewis Turner and George Wilson made.

O.R.; P.L.; A.B.

1743, May 25, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Brother Benjamin Franklin attended this meeting.

O.R.; A.B.

1 Mass. 390.

1888 Mass. 153.

1743, June 8, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Brother Lewis Turner admitted. Brother Benjamin Franklin was also present at this meeting.

O.R.; A.B.

1743, June 20, Boston.

The *Boston Evening Post* publishes the following item,  
*viz.*:

“Extract of a Letter from Vienna, dated March 20, N.S.

The Affair of the Free-Masons, still makes a great Noise here, because of the Persons of high Rank concerned in it. By a List handed about here, it appears that the Lodge was composed of a young Prince of an illustrious House, two other Princes; six Counts of the greatest Families of Austria, four Generals, a Foreign Minister, well known in the learned World, and three Priests, besides others of inferior Note. Among them there were Roman Catholics, Protestants, and Lutherans, the Free-Masons admitting all Sort of Religions among them, not even excepting Mahometans; but what we most wonder at, is, to have found Priests in this Society. The latter are close confined in the Prison of the Archbishoprick, and have been interrogated several Times already, but absolutely refused to give any Eclaircissement concerning the Secret of the Fraternity: Cardinal Collonitz, our Archbishop, is charged to prosecute them. Among other Things found in the Lodge, there was a Book, in which these Words are wrote; Our Orders, the most illustrious that ever was known, is of as great Antiquity as the World itself, for Adam was the first Free-Mason, &c. Upon which it is further to be observed, that when the Guards broke the Door of the Lodge, they found a Bible on the Table, open at the first Chapter of Genesis; but as to the Report of their having a Death's Head and black Tapers, is a mere Invention of the Populace, who take the Free-Masons to be Magicians.”

P-t.

1743, June 20. Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Election. Capt. John Shannon made.

O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.

1743, June 23, Boston.

The *Boston Weekly News Letter* publishes the following item:

“We have Letters from Lisbon which say, that the Inquifitors having discover'd that there were Free-Mafons in that City, found Means to take up about 18 of them; that they examin'd them about the Secret of the Society; but upon their refusing to reveal it, the Inquifitors dee'ear'd to them, that they should remain in the Prifons of the Inquifition until they give fatisfactory Answers on that Head.”

P-t.

1743, June 24, Boston.

Celebration of the Festival by the Grand Lodge.

O.R. of First Lodge.

i Mass. 7.

1743, July 13, Boston.

Brothers Hall, Phillips, Allen, and Thomas Rind admitted. Thomas Aston made.

O.R.; P.L.; A.B.

1743, July 27, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. John Amil and John Vanhartburger made.

O.R.; P.L.; A.B.

1743, August 10, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Daniel Perehard and Benjamin Ives made.

This record contains the first notice that I have seen of the issuance of a "dispenccation."

A committee was appointed to invite Governor Belcher.

O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.

1883 Mass. 162.

*The Builder* for August, 1915, p. 175.

1 N.E.F. 281.

1743, August 24, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R. ; A.B.

1883 Mass. 165.

1 N.E.F. 281.

1743, September 14, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R. ; A.B.

1743, September 23, Boston.

Deputation issued by Lord Ward, Grand Master of England, to Thomas Oxnard as Provincial Grand Master for North America. A copy of this Deputation certified by Peter Pelham, Grand Secretary, on May 29, 1744, is in the archives of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. For a reproduction thereof see 1914 Mass. between pages 264 and 265.

1 Mass. 8.

1743, September 28, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R. ; A.B.

1 N.E.F. 282.

- 1743, October 12, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge.  
O.R.; A.B.
- 1743, October 26, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge.  
O.R.; A.B.
- 1743, November 9, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge. Dr. Edward Ellis made.  
O.R.; P.L.; A.B.
- 1743, November 23, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge. Capt. John Boutin (by  
Dispensation) and Henry Johnson made.  
O.R.; P.L.; A.B.
- 1743, December 2, Boston.  
Meeting of the Masters' Lodge. This is the first record  
after August 7, 1739, *q.v.*, and two blank pages. This  
record is in the handwriting of Peter Pelham, Secretary.  
O.R.; A.B.
- 1743, December 14, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge. Brother Edward Cahill  
admitted.  
O.R.; A.B.
- 1743, December 27, Boston.  
Celebration of the Festival by the Grand Lodge.  
O.R. of First Lodge.  
1883 Mass. 165.  
1 N.E.F. 282.



1743, December 28, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge Election.  
O.R.; A.B.

1743/4, January 6, Boston.  
Meeting of the Masters' Lodge.  
O.R.; A.B.

1743/4, January 9, Boston.  
The *Boston Evening Post* contains an account of the recent formation in Avignon of the Knights and Knightesses of the Order of Felicity soon after the Freemasons were suppressed there, and the mandate of the Archbishop against the new society.

P-t.

1743/4, January 11, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge. Joseph Holbrook made. Brother Abraham Reller admitted. Under this date the Treasurer paid for binding a book for the Laws and list of the members of the Lodge. (This book has been lost.)  
O.R.; P.L.; A.B.

1743/4, January 26, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge.  
O.R.; A.B.

1743/4, February 3, Boston.  
Meeting of the Masters' Lodge. Election.  
O.R.; A.B.

1743/4, February 8, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Vote concerning the entertainment of Governor Belcher.

O.R.; A.B.

1 N.E.F. 282.

1743/4, February 9, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Entertainment of Governor Belcher who attended with about forty of the Brethren.

O.R.; A.B.

1 Mass. 391.

1883 Mass. 162.

*The Builder* for August, 1915, p. 176.

1 N.E.F. 282.

He soon thereafter sailed for England. See 1744, September 26, *infra*.

1743/4, February 22, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Jonathan Pue made.

O.R.; P.L.; A.B.

1743/4, March 2, Boston.

Meeting of the Masters' Lodge. Brothers Thomas Aston, John Boutin, and Philip Audibert raised.

O.R.; P.L.; A.B.

1743/4, March 6, Boston.

Thomas Oxnard receives his Deputation as Provincial Grand Master of North America, and the original records

of the First Lodge contain a copy thereof together with an account of his holding a Grand Lodge and appointing his officers.

O.R. of First Lodge.  
1 Mass. 7, 8, 387.  
1871 Mass. 313, 350.  
1 N.E.F. 283.

1743/4, March 14, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Louis Demoulin made. A vote is passed to procure a new book for the By-Laws. (This book lost.)

O.R.; P.L.; A.B.

1743 South Carolina.

Prince George Lodge Constituted at George Town (Win-yaw) South Carolina.

L.M.R. 89.  
IV Gould 395.

1744, March 28, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Brother Benjamin Hallowell admitted.

O.R.; A.B.

1744, April 4, Antigua.

Francis Byam, D.D., Master and in behalf of Court-House Lodge, Antigua, petitioned the Grand Lodge in London that as they had built a new Lodge-room sixty feet long and thirty feet wide, with a small room adjoining, the said new built Lodge might be entered on the Register

as "The Great Lodge of St. John's." The petition was granted with the alteration that the name should be "The Great Lodge at St. John's in Antigua."

Entick 242.

Preston (Portsmouth 1804) 192.

P.C. (2nd Eng. Ed.) 123.

1738, November 22, *supra*.

1744, April 6, Boston.  
Meeting of the Masters' Lodge.  
O.R.; A.B.

1744, April 11, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge.  
O.R.; A.B.

1744, April 25, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge.  
O.R.; A.B.

1744, May 4, Boston.  
Meeting of the Masters' Lodge.  
O.R.; A.B.

1744, May 9, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge. Richard White made.  
O.R.; P.L.; A.B.

1744, May 23, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge.  
O.R.; A.B.

- 1744, June 1, Boston.  
Meeting of the Masters' Lodge. Brothers Jonathan Pue, Henry Johnson, and Timothy McDaniel raised.  
O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.
- 1744, June 13, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge. Election. Brother W. Starkey admitted. Daniel Plaister and Samuel Winslow made.  
O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.
- 1744, June 26, Boston.  
Celebration of the Festival by the Grand Lodge.  
O.R. and A.B. of First Lodge.
- 1744, June 27, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge.  
O.R. ; A.B.
- 1744, July 6, Boston.  
Meeting of the Masters' Lodge. Election.  
O.R. ; A.B.
- 1744, July 11, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge.  
O.R. ; A.B.
- 1744, July 25, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge.  
O.R. ; A.B.
- 1744, August 2, Boston.  
The *Boston Weekly News Letter* publishes an account of the burlesque procession by the mock Masons which we reproduce as follows:

*From the St. James's Evening-Post.*

L O N D O N, May 3.

**Y**ESTERDAY the Cavalcade of Scald Miserable-Masons, went in Procession from the Place of Meeting thro' the Strand to Temple-Bar, and on returning back to meet the Free and Accepted Masons, they were put into Disorder near Somerset-House, by the High Constable of Westminster, attended by a large Body of inferior Officers, who press'd Dag-A-c Jack, Pony and several others, to the Number of 20, whom they secur'd in St. Clement's Church and Round House, for his Majesty's Service.

*A Key to the Procession of the Scald-Miserable Masons.*

**W**HEREAS by our Manifesto of last Year, dated from our Lodge in Brick-Street, we did, in the most explicit Manner, vindicate the ancient Right and Privileges of this Society, and by incontestable Arguments evince our superior Dignity and Seniority to all other Institutions, whether Grand-Volgi, Gregorians, Hurothrombians, Ubiquarians, Hiccubites, Lumber-Troopers, Hungarians, or Free-Masons; yet nevertheless, a few Persons under the last Denomination, still arrogate to them the usurped Titles of Most Ancient and Honourable, in open Violation of Truth and Justice,——still endeavour to impose their false Mysteries (for a Premium) on the Credulous and Unwary, under Pretence of being Part of our Brotherhood, and still are determin'd with Drums, Trumpets, gilt Chariots and other unconstitutional Finery to cast a Reflection on the primitive Simplicity and decent Oeconomy of our Ancient and Annual Peregrination: We think therefore proper, in Justification of Ourselves, publicly to Disclaim all Relation or Alliance whatsoever, with the said Society of Free Masons, as the same must manifestly tend to the Sacrifice of our solemn Mysteries: And further, to convince the Publick of the Candour and Openness of our Proceedings, We here present them with a Key to our Procession; and that the rather, as it consists of many Things Emblematical, Mystical, Hieroglyphical, Comical, Satirical, Political, &c.

And whereas many persuaded by the Purity of our Constitution, the nice Morality of our Brethren, and peculiar Decency of our Rites and Ceremonies, have lately forsok the gross Errors and Follies of the Free-Masonry, are now become true Scald-Miserables, & cannot but afford a most pleasing Satisfaction to all who have any Regard to Truth and Decency, to see our Procession ~~enriched~~ with such Number of Profelytes, and behold those, ~~whose~~ Vanity, but the last Year, ~~enriched~~ them into a borrow'd Equippage, now condescended to become the humble Cargo of a Sand-cart: But, ————— *Magnus est Veritas, & prevalebit.*

Two Tylers, or Guardians

In yellow Cockades and Liveries, being the Colour ordain'd by the Sword-Bearer of State. They, as youngest enter'd Apprentices, are to guard the Lodge, with a drawn Sword, from all Cowens and Eves-droppers. that is Listners, lest they should discover the incomprehensible Mysteries of Masonry.

A Grand Chorus of Instruments, viz.

Four Sackbutts, or Corn's Horns; six Hottentot Hautboys; four Tinkling Cymbals, or Tea Canisters, with broken Glia in them; four Shovels and Brushes; two Double Bass Drippingpans; a Tenor Frying pan; a Salt-Box in De-la-foi; and a Pair of Gut Tub.

Two Pillars, Jachin and Boaz.

After the Proportion and Workmanship of the famous ones in the Porch of Solomon's Temple. Their Height, their Thickness, and their Capital. Adorn'd with Lilly-work, Net-work, and Pomgranet-work.

Three pair of Stewards.

With their Attendants, in Red Ribands, being their Colour, in three Gut-Carts drawn by three Asses each, their Aprons being lined with Red Silk, their Jewels pendant to Red Ribands, and their Heads properly adorned with emblematical Caps.

The true Original Mason's Lodge,

Upon which poor old Hiram made all his enter'd Prentices.

The entered Prentices Token,

That is to say, the Manner in which the Novices, or those lately admitted, shake each other by the Hand; and it is by putting the Ball of the Thumb of the Right Hand (for we never do any Act of Masonry with the Left) upon the Knuckle of the third Joint of the first Finger of the Brother's Right Hand, squeezing it gently.

Ragged entered Prentices.

Properly clothed, giving the above Token, and the Word, which is Jachin.

Three great Lights.

Mystically resembling the Sun and Moon, and the Master Mason.

The Sun; To Rule the Day. Hieroglyphical.

The Moon; To Rule the Night. Emblematical.

A Master Mason, To Rule his Lodge. Political.

The Letter G. The Fellow Craft's Token.

The Fellow-Craft, or Letter G. Men,

A Master's Lodge.

The Funeral of Hiram.

Grand Band of Musick as before.

Two Trophies.

The Equipage of the Grand Mistress.

Attendants of Honour.

The Grand Secretary with his Insignia, &c.

Probationists and Candidates close the whole Procession.

**N. B. After the Procession was over, it was spent at one of the Lodges 4 l. 19 s. 4 d. in Geneva, and 8 d. in Bread and Cheese; the Night was concluded with Drinking, Swearing, Fighting, and all other Demonstrations of Disturbance.**

P-t.

1744, August 3, Boston.  
Meeting of the Masters' Lodge.  
O.R. ; A.B.

1744, August 8, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge. William Coffin made.  
Charles Pelham proposed by Henry Price as a candidate for the purpose of making him Secretary of the Lodge; Peter Pelham desiring to withdraw from the office.  
O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.

1744, August 22, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge.  
O.R. ; A.B.

1744, September 7, Boston.  
Meeting of the Masters' Lodge.  
O.R. ; A.B.

1744, September 12. Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge. Charles Pelham made.  
O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.  
Re Charles Pelham, see 1900 Mass. 122.



1744, September 26, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Charles Pelham elected Secretary.

O.R. ; A.B.

1900 Mass. 124.

On this same day Governor Belcher visits the Grand Lodge at London with a letter from the First Lodge of Boston.

Records of the Grand Lodge of England.

1871 Mass. 316.

1888 Mass. 156.

1744, October 5, Boston.

The record book of the Masters' Lodge under this date says: "No meeting this night, our R<sup>t</sup> W: M. and several of the members being out of Town on Extraordinary Business."

O.R.

1744, October 10, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Capt. Lewis Delabraz (Dolobaratz) a prisoner of war elected and, by Dispensation, made, gratis, "as he might be serviceable (when at Home) to any Brother whom Providence might cast in his way."

O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.

See *The Builder* for October, 1916, pg. 319.

1744, October 24, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Brother Pearson admitted.

O.R. ; A.B.

1744, November 2, Boston.  
Meeting of the Masters' Lodge.  
O.R.; A.B.

1744, November 14, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge. Ballard Beckford, Pro.  
G.M. of Jamaica, visited the Lodge. Peter Pelham, Jr.,  
made.  
O.R.; P.L.; A.B.

1744, November 28, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge.  
O.R.; A.B.

1744, December 7, Boston.  
Meeting of the Masters' Lodge. Brother William Coffin  
raised.  
O.R.; P.L.; A.B.

1744, December 12, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge.  
O.R.; A.B.

1744, December 17, Boston.  
The *Boston Post Boy* contains the following paragraph  
under date of London, August 14, 1744.

“We learn by Letters from Lisbon, that there has been lately  
Auto de Fe; after which several Jews were burnt, and some French  
Men, who were Free Mafons, and have been two Years in the Prifons  
of the Inquifition, appeared in the S. Benito on that Occafion.”

P-t.

1744, December 26, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Election. Mr. Belviel made.

O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.

1 Mass. 8.

1744, December 27, Boston.

Celebration of the Festival by the Grand Lodge.

O.R. of First Lodge.

1 Mass. 9.

1744/5, January 4, Boston.

Meeting of the Masters' Lodge. Election. Brothers Edward Ellis and Lewis Demouline raised.

O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.

1744/5, January 9, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R. ; A.B.

1744/5, January 23, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Brother Robert Glover admitted. James Gough made.

O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.

1744/5, February 1, Boston.

Meeting of the Masters' Lodge.

O.R.

1744/5, February 13, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R. ; A.B.

- 1744/5, February 27, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge.  
O.R. ; A.B.
- 1744/5, March 1, Boston.  
Meeting of the Masters' Lodge.  
O.R.
- 1744/5, March 13, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge. Richard Hood made.  
O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.
- 1744/5, March 22, Boston.  
Meeting of the Masters' Lodge. Brother Robert Glover  
raised.  
O.R. ; P.L.
- 1745, March 27, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge.  
O.R. ; A.B.
- 1745, April 10, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge.  
O.R. ; A.B.
- 1745, April 24, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge. Daniel Marquand made.  
O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.
- 1745, May 2, Boston.  
Meeting of the Masters' Lodge.  
O.R.

- 1745, May 8, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge.  
O.R. ; A.B.
- 1745, May 22, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge. John Colson made.  
O.R. ; A.B.
- 1745, June 7, Boston.  
Meeting of the Masters' Lodge.  
O.R.
- 1745, June 12, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge.  
O.R. ; A.B.
- 1745, June 24, Boston.  
Celebration of the Festival by the Grand Lodge. Thirty-  
three Brethren in attendance.  
O.R. and A.B. of First Lodge.
- 1745, June 26, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge. Election.  
O.R. ; A.B.
- 1745, July 1, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge. Daniel Byles and Capt.  
John (James) Heweton made.  
O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.
- 1745, July 10, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge. Richard Smith Made.  
O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.

1745, July 24, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. William Coffin, Jr., made.  
O.R.; P.L.; A.B.

1745, August 2, Boston.

Meeting of the Masters' Lodge. After this meeting the following is written in the record book: "Adjourned 'till Octo<sup>r</sup> ye 4th; for substantial reasons from time to time."  
O.R.

1745, August 14, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Antho. D'Laboladree (D'Laboulardree), and Peter Phill Chas. St. Paul made.  
O.R.; P.L.

The Pelham List furnishes the information that Thomas Cross was admitted. In this respect the list must be in error for he is recorded as a Visitor as late as November 13, 1745, on the Original Record.

1745, August 28, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.  
O.R.; A.B.

1745, September 11, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.  
O.R.; A.B.

1745, September 25, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.  
O.R.; A.B.

1745, October 4, Boston.  
Meeting of the Masters' Lodge.  
O.R.

1745, October 9, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge.  
O.R. ; A.B.

1745, October 23, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge.  
O.R. ; A.B.

1745, November 1, Boston.  
Meeting of the Masters' Lodge. Brothers Thomas Cross  
and Charles Pelham raised. At the same meeting Charles  
Pelham is elected Secretary and the handwriting changes  
from Henry Johnson's to his.  
O.R.

1745, November 13, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge. Brother Price reported  
that the Masters' Lodge had voted a set of Candles to this  
Lodge.  
O.R. ; A.B.

1745, November 27, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge.  
O.R. ; A.B.

1745, December 6, Boston.  
Meeting of the Masters' Lodge. Election.  
O.R.

1745, December 11, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R. ; A.B.

1745, December 24, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Election. William Merchant made.

O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.

1 Mass. 9.

1745/6, January 8, Boston.

Meeting of the Masters' Lodge. Brothers Thomas James Gruchy and James Gough raised.

O.R. ; A.B.

The same evening the First Lodge met and immediately adjourned.

O.R. ; A.B.

1745/6, January 22, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. The records state that the Lodge being opened, "Bro. Jones being but an Enter'd Apprentice (by his earnest desire) made a Fellow Craft in due Form & Voted Mem<sup>r</sup>."

Brothers John Phillips and Richard Gridley admitted.

O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.

1745/6, February 7, Boston.

Meeting of the Masters' Lodge.

O.R. ; A.B.



- 1745/6, February 12, Boston.  
 Meeting of the First Lodge.  
 O.R. ; A.B.
- 1745/6, February 26, Boston.  
 Meeting of the First Lodge.  
 O.R. ; A.B.
- 1745/6, March 7, Boston.  
 Meeting of the Masters' Lodge.  
 O.R. ; A.B.
- 1745/6, March 12, Boston.  
 Meeting of the First Lodge. Barnard Townsend and  
 Benjamin Brimston (Brimsdon) made.  
 O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.
- 1745/6, March 26, Boston.  
 Meeting of the First Lodge.  
 O.R. ; A.B.
- 1746, April 4, Boston.  
 Meeting of the Masters' Lodge. Brother Richard Grid-  
 ley raised.  
 O.R. ; A.B.
- 1746, April 9, Boston.  
 Meeting of the First Lodge.  
 O.R. ; A.B.
- 1746, April 23, Boston.  
 Meeting of the First Lodge.  
 O.R. ; A.B.

- 1746, April 29, Jamaica.  
 Lodge Constituted at St. Jago de la Vega (now Spanish  
 Town), Jamaica.  
 O.L.  
 Entick 337.  
 L.M.R. 89.  
 Prichard 29.
- 1746, May 2, Boston.  
 Meeting of the Masters' Lodge.  
 O.R. ; A.B.
- 1746, May 14, Boston.  
 Meeting of the First Lodge.  
 O.R. ; A.B.
- 1746, May 29, Boston.  
 Meeting of the First Lodge. Robert Williams made.  
 O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.
- 1746, June 6, Boston.  
 Meeting of the Masters' Lodge.  
 O.R. ; A.B.
- 1746, June 11, Boston.  
 Meeting of the First Lodge.  
 O.R. ; A.B.
- 1746, June 24, Boston.  
 Celebration of the Festival by the Grand Lodge, twenty-  
 five Brethren in attendance.  
 O.R. of First Lodge.

- 1746, June 25,                      Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge.  
    ·   O.R. ; A.B.
- 1746, July 4,                      Boston.  
Meeting of the Masters' Lodge. Election. Brother  
Joseph Holbrook raised.  
    O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.
- 1746, July 9,                      Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge. Election.  
    O.R. ; A.B.
- 1746, July 23,                      Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge.  
    O.R. ; A.B.
- 1746, August 1,                      Boston.  
Meeting of the Masters' Lodge.  
    O.R. ; A.B.
- 1746, August 13,                      Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge.  
    O.R. ; A.B.
- 1746, August 27,                      Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge.  
    O.R. ; A.B.
- 1746, September 5,                      Boston.  
Meeting of the Masters' Lodge.  
    O.R. ; A.B.

1746, September 10, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R. ; A.B.

1746, September 24, Boston.

The records of the First Lodge state that by reason of an  
"Alarm of French Fleet" the Lodge was not opened.

O.R. ; A.B.

1883 Mass. 165.

1746, October 3, Boston.

Meeting of the Masters' Lodge.

O.R. ; A.B.

1746, October 8, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Rev. John Woods made.

O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.

1746, October 13, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Robert McKennen (Mack-  
inen) made.

O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.

1746, October 22, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R.

A.B. records this meeting as the 24th.

1746, November 7, Boston.

Meeting of the Masters' Lodge. Brother Rev. John  
Woods raised.

O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.

1746, November 12, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Capts. John Bradford and Joseph Sherburne made. James Buck "made for a Tylar."

O.R.; P.L.; A.B.

1746, November 26, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R.; A.B.

1746, December 5, Boston.

Meeting of the Masters' Lodge. Election.

O.R.; A.B.

1746, December 10, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Fee for making raised from 15 Pounds to 20 Pounds.

O.R.; A.B.

1746, December 24, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Election.

Voted: "That all Visiting Bro<sup>rs</sup> who are Town inhabitants shall pay 15/ each night, and Transient persons 10/."

O.R.; A.B.

Boston—Newfoundland.

Pro. G.M. Oxnard grants a Constitution for a Lodge to be held in Newfoundland.

1 Mass. 9.

L.M.R. 472.

1746/7, January 2, Boston.

Meeting of the Masters' Lodge.

O.R.; A.B.

1746/7, January 14, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. James Day, Jonathan Prescott, Newcoming Herbert, Andrew Irwin, Andrew Dure, Joseph Aberry, and Estes Hatch made. Brother Jonathan Rush "made F. C." Brother Robert Cummins admitted:  
O.R.; P.L.; A.B.

1746/7, January 16,

Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

Meeting of the Lodge. Election. Capt. Nathaniel Pierce made.  
O.R.

1746/7, January 28, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Capt. William Day, Peter Hammond, William Martin, and Simeon Potter made and admitted. Rev. Brother Charles Brockwell, King's Chaplain, admitted.

O.R.; P.L.; A.B.

1746/7, February 5, Boston.

Meeting of the Masters' Lodge.  
O.R.; A.B.

1746/7, February 11, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Brother Benjamin Stansbury admitted.  
O.R.; P.L.; A.B.

1746/7, February 25, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.  
O.R.; A.B.

1746/7, March 7, Boston.

Meeting of the Masters' Lodge. Brothers Samuel Waterhouse, James Day, John Colson (Collson), and Robert Williams raised.

O.R.; P.L.; A.B.

1746/7, March 11, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R.; A.B.

1746, Nova Scotia.

Lord Cranstoun, Grand Master of England, appointed Robert Commins, Provincial Grand Master for Cape Breton and Louisburgh.

Preston (Portsmouth, 1804) 192.

Entick 334.

P.C. (2nd Eng. Ed.) 126.

1747, March 25, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R.; A.B.

1747, April 3, Boston.

Meeting of the Masters' Lodge.

O.R.; A.B.

1747, April 8, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R.; A.B.

1747, April 22, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R.; A.B.

1747, May 1, Boston.  
Meeting of the Masters' Lodge.  
O.R. ; A.B.

1747, May 13, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge.  
O.R. ; A.B.

1747, May 27, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge. Brother Andrew McKenzie  
admitted.

O.R. ; A.B.

The Pelham List says "pass'd F.C." But it is wrong.  
McKenzie was pass'd July 22, 1747.

O.R.

The few errors which from time to time we find in the Pelham List, in the Beteilhe Manuscript, in the Barons Letter, and in the records prove their general correctness. In them there are no more errors than the average secretary or copyist makes in his work. The fact also that names are often differently spelled, although *idem sonans*, is a further indication that much of Pelham's information was obtained from other sources than the books now in our possession. The agreement, however, between the original Proceedings which we have and the Pelham List from January 10, 1738/9 to August 28, 1751, is the best possible evidence of the correctness of the List for the period from July 30, 1733, to November 8, 1738, a period for which we have no original records except now and then a document such as the petition of July 30, 1733, the Beteilhe Manuscript, and others cited *supra*. In this con-



nection I want to note again the surprisingly accurate agreement between the Pelham List, the Beteilhe Manuscript, and the Barons Letter for the periods when they overlap. All of these facts and others noted now and then *supra* give remarkable proof that we may rely upon the Pelham List except for such an occasional error as might be made by an accurate scrivener. As a modern instance of just such errors creeping in let me cite instances in my article on The Establishment and Early Days of Masonry in America, found in 1914 Mass. 243 to 288, and in *The Builder* for the months of May, August and October, 1915, *q.v.* I gave the date of Henry Price's commission as April 2, 1733, which should of course have been April 13, 1733. I spoke of the Provincial Grand Lodge of New South Wales in June, 1727. It should of course have been South Wales. I gave the date of the Deputation to Phillips as Provincial Grand Master for Nova Scotia as 1740 when it should have been 1738. I gave the date of the Portsmouth petition as February 9, 1735/6, instead of February 5; and the establishment of the Second Lodge in Boston February 17, instead of February 15, 1750. I have gone over this address dozens of times, yet some such errors may escape me and a number of other Brethren who have kindly assisted me by verifying citations, etc.

Henry Price himself made a similar error on one occasion by stating that his extension of authority over all North America was in 1735 instead of 1734.

1914 Mass. 270.

1871 Mass. 330.

See Foreword 4, c, and e;  
also 1739, July 25, *supra*.

- 1747, June 5, Boston.  
 Meeting of the Masters' Lodge.  
 O.R. ; A.B.
- 1747, June 6, West Indies.  
 Lodge Constituted by the Grand Master of England at  
 St. Eustatius.  
 O.L.  
 Entick 337.  
 L.M.R. 90.  
 Prichard says January 6, 1747, but he is wrong.
- 1747, June 10, Boston.  
 Meeting of the First Lodge. Election.  
 O.R. ; A.B.
- 1747, June 24, Boston.  
 Meeting of the First Lodge.  
 O.R. ; A.B.
- 1747, July 3, Boston.  
 Meeting of the Masters' Lodge. Election.  
 O.R. ; A.B.
- 1747, July 8, Boston.  
 Meeting of the First Lodge.  
 O.R. ; A.B.
- 1747, July 22, Boston.  
 Meeting of the First Lodge. Capt. Archibald Grayham  
 made.  
 P.L. ; O.R.  
 Brother Andrew McKenzie "Rais'd F.C. in due Form."  
 O.R. ; A.B.

1747, August 7, Boston.  
Meeting of the Masters' Lodge.  
O.R. ; A.B.

1747, August 12, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge.  
O.R. ; A.B.

1747, August 26, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge. Committee appointed to  
send congratulations to Governor Belcher upon his ap-  
pointment as Governor of the Jerseys (New Jersey).  
O.R. ; A.B.  
1 Mass. 391.  
1883 Mass. 162.  
*The Builder* for August, 1915, p. 176.

1747, September 3, Boston.  
Letter of congratulation sent from the Provincial Grand  
Master and from the First Lodge to Governor Belcher upon  
his safe arrival to assume his new office as Governor of the  
Jerseys (New Jersey).  
1 Mass. 391.  
1871 Mass. 376.  
O.R. of First Lodge for September 9, 1747.

1747, September 4, Boston.  
Meeting of the Masters' Lodge.  
O.R. ; A.B.

1747, September 9, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. John Ray (Rae) made.

The report of the committee appointed to send congratulations to Governor Belcher together with their letter is spread in full upon the records.

O.R.; A.B.

1883 Mass. 163.

*The Builder* for August, 1915, p. 176.

1747, September 18,

Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

Meeting of the Lodge. Samuel Solly, Charles Gorwood, John Salmon, and Alexander Malcum made.

O.R.

1747, September 23, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R.; A.B.

The Pelham List gives Robert Bowers as made, John Salmon as passed on this evening. The record is silent as to both.

See 1747, October 28, *infra*.

1747, September 24,

Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

Meeting of the Lodge at which a vote was passed that application be made to Pro. G.M. Oxnard that there be a Provincial Grand Master for New Hampshire.

O.R.

1747, October 2, Boston.  
Meeting of the Masters' Lodge.  
O.R. ; A.B.

1747, October 6,  
Governor Jonathan Belcher from Kingswood House in  
the City of Burlington wrote to R.W. Thomas Oxnard,  
Esq., Provincial Grand Master of North America, and the  
Master, Wardens and Fellows of the First Lodge in Boston,  
a letter in acknowledgment of and thanks for the letter of  
September 3, 1747.

1 Mass. 392.  
O.R. of First Lodge for November 11, 1747.  
*The Builder* for August, 1915, p. 176.

1747, October 14, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge. Brothers John Salmon and  
Robert Bowers admitted.  
O.R. ; A.B.

1747, October 28, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge. Brother Charles Gorwood  
passed.  
O.R. ; P.L.

Brother John Salmon passed and Brother John Rowe  
admitted.  
O.R. ; A.B.

1747, November 3, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge. John Conally (Conolly,  
Connally), Hugh Hardgrove, and Sampson Hodge made.  
O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.

1747, November 11, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Letter of October 6, 1747, from Governor Belcher read and recorded.

O.R.; A.B.

1 Mass. 392.

1883 Mass. 163.

*The Builder* for August, 1915, p. 176.

1747, November 25, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Brother Alexander Malcolm passed and admitted.

O.R.; P.L.; A.B.

1747, December 9, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R.; A.B.

1 Mass. 9.

1747, December 23, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Election of John Huske (Huske) made.

O.R.; P.L.; A.B.

1747/8, January 13, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Rev. Alexander Malcolm, Capt. Aeneas Mackay (McKay), Samuel Levins, Thomas Newton, and Samuel Stone ("Master of the House") made.

O.R.; P.L.; A.B.

- 1747/8, January 15,  
Portsmouth, New Hampshire.  
Meeting of the Lodge.  
O.R.
- 1747/8, January 21,  
Portsmouth, New Hampshire.  
Meeting of the Lodge.  
O.R.
- 1747/8, January 25,  
Portsmouth, New Hampshire.  
Meeting of the Lodge.  
O.R.
- 1747/8, January 27, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge. Capts. William Norris,  
Thomas Bogle, and Pat. Montgomery (Montgomerie) made.  
O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.
- 1747/8, February 5, Boston.  
Meeting of the Masters' Lodge. Election.  
O.R. ; A.B.
- 1747/8, February 10, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge. Jonathan Dwight and  
James Abercrombie made.  
O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.
- 1747/8, February 24, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge. Capt. Paul Binney made.  
O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.

- 1747/8, March 4, Boston.  
Meeting of the Masters' Lodge. Brother John Husk  
(Huske) raised.  
O.R.; P.L.; A.B.
- 1747/8, March 9, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge.  
O.R.; A.B.
- 1747/8, March 23, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge. Benjamin Smithers made.  
O.R.; P.L.; A.B.
- 1748, April 1, Boston.  
Meeting of the Masters' Lodge. Brother Andrew Mc-  
Kenzie raised.  
O.R.; P.L.; A.B.
- 1748, April 13, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge.  
O.R.; A.B.
- 1748, April 21,  
Portsmouth, New Hampshire.  
Meeting of the Lodge.  
O.R.
- 1748, April 27, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge.  
O.R.; A.B.
- 1748, May 6, Boston.  
Meeting of the Masters' Lodge.  
O.R.; A.B.



- 1748, May 11, Boston. Meeting of the First Lodge. Jeremiah (Jeremy) Gridley and Belshr (Belthar) Bayard made.  
O.R.; P.L.; A.B.
- 1748, May 25, Boston. Meeting of the First Lodge.  
O.R.; A.B.
- 1748, June 3, Boston. Meeting of the Masters' Lodge.  
O.R.; A.B.
- 1748, June 8, Boston. Meeting of the First Lodge.  
O.R.; A.B.
- 1748, June 22, Boston. Meeting of the First Lodge. Sidney George and Capt. John James made.  
O.R.; P.L.; A.B.
- 1748, July 1, Boston. Meeting of the Masters' Lodge. Election.  
O.R.; A.B.
- 1748, July 13, Boston. Meeting of the First Lodge. Brothers Nicholas Ferritor and Thomas Vavasour admitted.  
O.R.; P.L.; A.B.

1748, July 27, Boston. Meeting of the First Lodge. Capt. Michael Buttler made.  
 O.R.; A.B.

O.R.; P.L.; A.B.

1748, August 5, Boston. Meeting of the Masters' Lodge.  
 O.R.; A.B.

O.R.; A.B.

1748, August 10, Boston. Meeting of the First Lodge.  
 O.R.; A.B.

1748, August 24, Boston. Meeting of the First Lodge.  
 O.R.; A.B.

1748, August 31, Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Meeting of the Lodge. "Admitted Masons to the Fellow Craft, Viz:  
 Cap. Brother Henry Barnsley  
 Brother Smith  
 Brother Michael Henry Pascal  
 Brother Gardner  
 Brother Wallis  
 Brother Jenness"  
 O.R.

1748, September 2, Boston. Meeting of the Masters' Lodge.  
 O.R.; A.B.

- 1748, September 14, Boston.  
 Meeting of the First Lodge.  
 O.R. ; A.B.
- 1748, September 28, Boston.  
 Meeting of the First Lodge.  
 O.R. ; A.B.
- 1748, September 29,  
 Portsmouth, New Hampshire.  
 Meeting of the Lodge. Messrs. Campble and Richard  
 Ion (I'on) made.  
 O.R.
- 1748, October 7, Boston.  
 Meeting of the Masters' Lodge.  
 O.R. ; A.B.
- 1748, October 12, Boston.  
 Meeting of the First Lodge. Brother William Dalton  
 admitted.  
 O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.
- 1748, October 20,  
 Portsmouth, New Hampshire.  
 Meeting of the Lodge. Election.  
 O.R.
- 1748, October 25, Boston.  
 Meeting of the First Lodge. Jonathan Fuller made,  
 Brothers William Ellery admitted, Andrew Ramsey (Ram-  
 say) admitted and passed.  
 O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.

1748, November 3,

Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

Meeting of the Lodge. Nathaniel Wheelwright made  
and passed.

O.R.

1748, November 4, Boston.

Meeting of the Masters' Lodge.

O.R. ; A.B.

1748, November 9, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R. ; A.B.

1748, November 17, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Bar'w (Bartho.) Svere,  
Fran's Baulos, and William Ross made.

O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.

1748, November 23, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Brother David Littlejohn  
admitted.

O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.

1748, December 2, Boston.

Meeting of the Masters' Lodge.

O.R. ; A.B.

1748, December 14, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Election.

O.R. ; A.B.

1 Mass. 9.

- 1748, December 15,  
Portsmouth, New Hampshire.  
Meeting of the Lodge. Election.  
O.R.
- 1748, December 27, Boston.  
Celebration of the Festival by the Grand Lodge.  
O.R. of First Lodge.
- 1748, December 28. Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge.  
O.R. ; A.B.
- 1748/9, January 6, Boston.  
Meeting of the Masters' Lodge. Election. Brothers  
Andrew Ramsey (Ramsay), Belthar Bayard, Aenneas Mc-  
Kay, William Day, and Jona. Dwight raised.  
O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.
- 1748/9, January 11, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge.  
O.R. ; A.B.
- 1748/9, January 19,  
Portsmouth, New Hampshire.  
Meeting of the Lodge.  
O.R.
- 1748/9, January 25, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge.  
O.R. ; A.B.

1748/9, February 3, Boston.

Meeting of the Masters' Lodge.

O.R. ; A.B.

1748/9, February 8, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Capt. Benjamin Stoddard,  
Peter McTaggart, and Elias D'Larue made.

O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.

1748/9, February 16,

Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

Meeting of the Lodge.

O.R.

1748/9, February 22, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R. ; A.B.

1833 Mass. 164.

1748/9, March 3, Boston.

Meeting of the Masters' Lodge.

O.R. ; A.B.

1748/9, March 8, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R. ; A.B.

1748/9, March 22, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R. ; A.B.

1749, April 5, Boston.  
Meeting of Auditing Committee of the Masters' Lodge.  
A.B.

1749, April 7, Boston.  
Meeting of the Masters' Lodge. Brother Thomas Pearson raised.  
O.R.; P.L.; A.B.

1749, April 12, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge. Brother Hugh McKay admitted.  
O.R.; P.L.; A.B.

1749, April 26, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge.  
O.R.; A.B.

1749, May 5, Boston.  
Meeting of the Masters' Lodge.  
O.R.; A.B.

1749, May 10, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge. Capt. James H. Ewing (Ewing) made. Brother Robert Gardner admitted.  
O.R.; P.L.; A.B.

1749, May 24, Boston.  
Meeting of the First Lodge.  
O.R.; A.B.

1749, June 2, Boston.

“Being Masters’ Lodge night; Adjourned on Account of the House being taken up by the General Court.”

O.R.

1749, June 14, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Election.

O.R.; A.B.

1749, June 24, Boston.

Celebration of the Festival. There is no record of this celebration, but the First Lodge appointed Stewards therefor at its meeting on June 14, and there is in the archives of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts an original letter in the handwriting of Charles Pelham, Secretary, signed by him and by the Master and Wardens of the First Lodge recommending Brother Robert Jenkins to the Master, Wardens and Brethren of any Lodge in London, and which is dated “From the Lodge in Boston N. Engld. held June 24th A.D. 1749.”

1 Mass. 395.

1749, June 28, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R.; A.B.

Philadelphia.

Meeting of Tun Tavern Lodge. With this meeting the known records of this Lodge begin. It is evident, however, that it was not its first meeting.

1 O.M.L.P. 82.



In this connection it is interesting again to note the ostrich-like perspicacity with which some Pennsylvania Masonic historians view facts, and the utterly reckless way in which they make statements and claims. In a volume written by Brother Sachse, the Librarian of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and compiled at the request of the Grand Master (1906), the claim is made that this record book of Tun Tavern Lodge is "the oldest American Masonic minute book known."

Benjamin Franklin as a Free Mason, 85.

It has, however, been common knowledge for many years that the original minute books of the Masters' Lodge in Boston, beginning December 22, 1738; of the First Lodge in Boston, beginning December 27, 1738, and of the First Lodge in Portsmouth, N.H., beginning October 31, 1739, all of which I have personally examined, are in their proper custody and available for inspection.

1749, July 3, Philadelphia.

Meeting of Tun Tavern Lodge.

1 O.M.L.P. 100.

1749, July 5, Philadelphia.

Meeting of Tun Tavern Lodge. John Ord and John Slydorn (Schleydhorn) made, Brother Hugh Wright passed, and Brother John Eve raised and admitted.

1 O.M.L.P. 100.

1749, July 7, Boston.

Meeting of the Masters' Lodge. Election. Brother Jonathan Fuller raised.

O.R.; A.B.

1749, July 10, Boston—Pennsylvania.

Provincial Grand Master Oxnard of North America appointed Benjamin Franklin Provincial Grand Master for Pennsylvania.

The Picture of Philadelphia, etc., etc. (1811)  
290.

1888 Mass. 155.

1903 Mass. 49.

1906 Mass. 90.

See also 1734/5, February 21; 1738, June 24;  
1741, June 24, *supra*.

1749, July 12, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R.; A.B.

Philadelphia.

Meeting of Tun Tavern Lodge. Brothers Phillips and Stephen Vidal admitted.

1 O.M.L.P. 82, 100.

1749, July 26, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Samuel Massey, Paul Doux-saint, and Lewis Peach made.

O.R.; P.L.; A.B.

1749, August 2, Philadelphia.

Meeting of Tun Tavern Lodge. John Fisher made, Brothers Foster and Thomas Blake passed, and Hugh Wright raised.

1 O.M.L.P. 100.

1749, August 4, Boston.

Meeting of the Masters' Lodge. Brothers John Rae and Samuel Levens raised.

P.L.; O.R.; A.B.

1749, August 5, Philadelphia.

Meeting of Tun Tavern Lodge. Three Brethren discharged from membership.

1 O.M.L.P. 83.

1749, August 9, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R.; A.B.

Philadelphia.

Meeting of Tun Tavern Lodge. Election. Brothers John Ord and Thomas Blake admitted.

1 O.M.L.P. 83, 100.

1749, August 16, Philadelphia.

Meeting of Tun Tavern Lodge. Edward Hemlin and Flanagan made. Brother Walter Murray passed.

1 O.M.L.P. 100.

1749, August 23, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Brother Robert Anderson passed.

O.R.; P.L.; A.B.

Philadelphia.

Meeting of Tun Tavern Lodge.

1 O.M.L.P. 83.

1749, August 29, Philadelphia.

Meeting of Tun Tavern Lodge at which it was voted that a petition be sent to Benjamin Franklin, Pro. G.M. of Pennsylvania by appointment of Pro. G.M. Oxnard of North America, to grant the Lodge a Deputation under his sanction.

Dr. William Parker made.

1 O.M.L.P. 84, 100.

1749, September 1, Boston.

Meeting of the Masters' Lodge.

O.R. ; A.B.

1749, September 5, Philadelphia.

First meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge under the Deputation granted Franklin by Oxnard, and a revival of the earlier St. John's Lodge under that Deputation.

The Picture of Philadelphia, etc., etc., (1811)  
288-292.

IV Gould 239.

On the records of the Grand Lodge at Boston for April 10, 1752, we find :

“For the Lodge att Philadelphia Bro<sup>r</sup> McDaniel appeared and paid for their Constitution 31 ,, 10 ,, 0”

1 Mass 20.

1749, September 11, Philadelphia.

Brothers Murray, Phillips, Edward Hemlin, Dr. William Parker, William Mason, and John Ord passed. Brothers John Slydorn and Flanagan passed and admitted.

1 O.M.L.P. 84, 100.

1749, September 13, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R.; A.B.

1883 Mass. 163.

1749, September 27, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R.; A.B.

Philadelphia.

Meeting of Tun Tavern Lodge. John Simes made.

Brother Capt. Richard Savage passed.

1 O.M.L.P. 84, 100.

1749, October 4, Philadelphia.

Meeting of Tun Tavern Lodge. Capt. James Whyte made. Brother John Simes Passed and Brothers Thomas Blake and Wasdale raised.

1 O.M.L.P. 100.

1749, October 6, Boston.

Meeting of the Masters' Lodge.

O.R.; A.B.

1749, October 11, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Henry Leddell, Saml. Calf, Benj. Badger, and Capts. John Bennett and Benj. Clifford made. Brothers John Leverett and William Epps passed, Edmund Quincy and Henry Bowers admitted.

O.R.; P.L.; A.B.

In the original records of the Lodge this is the first time that the word "Passed" has been used in connection with

the Fellow Craft Degree. In all previous incidents, although the Pelham List (written later) has used the word "Passed," the original record has used the phrases "Raised Fellow Craft," or "made Fellow Craft."

1749, October 12, Philadelphia.

Meeting of Tun Tavern Lodge. Brother Capt. Vina Leacroft passed. Brother Capt. James Whyte passed and raised.

1 O.M.L.P. 100.

1749, October 25, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R. ; A.B.

1749, October 26,

Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

Meeting of the Lodge on board the British Frigate America of fifty-four guns, then building at Portsmouth. Mr. Farr made and passed. Mr. Kipling made.

O.R.

1749, November 1, Philadelphia.

Meeting of Tun Tavern Lodge. Enas Batter, John Boude, and John Bruliet made. Brothers John Ord and William Mason raised.

1 O.M.L.P. 100.

1749, November 3, Boston.

Meeting of the Masters' Lodge.

O.R. ; A.B.

1749, November 8, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. James Thompson and Capt. James Bruce made. Brothers Peter Oliver and John Indigot admitted.

O.R.; P.L.

Philadelphia.

Meeting of Tun Tavern Lodge. Brother Enas Batter passed. Brother Foster, Flanagan, and Capt. Michael James passed and raised. Brother Capt. James Whyte admitted.

1 O.M.L.P. 100.

1749, November 22, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Brother John Huston admitted.

O.R.; P.L.; A.B.

Philadelphia.

Meeting of Tun Tavern Lodge. Brother John Bruliet passed. One member was fined two shillings for "swearing two Oaths." Another, one shilling sixpence for improperly addressing the Master.

1 O.M.L.P. 84.

1749, November 29, Philadelphia.

Meeting of Tun Tavern Lodge. Mr. Flanagan made and passed. Brother John Boude passed. Brother Michael James admitted.

1 O.M.L.P. 100.

1749, December 1, Boston.

Meeting of the Masters' Lodge. Brothers Alexander Ross, William Epps, and John Bennett raised.

O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.

1749, December 4,

Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

Another meeting of the Lodge on the Frigate America. Brothers Smith, Pascal, Wallace, Jenness, and Campble raised.

O.R.

1749, December 6, Philadelphia.

Meeting of Tun Tavern Lodge. Brothers Walter Murray, Enas Batter, and John Bruliet raised.

1 O.M.L.P. 100.

1749, December 11,

Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

Another meeting of the Lodge on board the Frigate America.

O.R.

1749, December 13, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Election.

O.R. ; A.B.

Philadelphia.

Meeting of Tun Tavern Lodge. William Shute, Franklin Manny, and Capt. Thomas Glentworth made. Capt. Richard Harris made and passed. Brother Falkner (Falckner) admitted.

1 O.M.L.P. 101.



1749, December 22, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Jacob Tuthill, Martin Beker, Roscow Sweeny, and Capt. Gilbert Faulkner made Samuel Wells "raised F.C."

O.R.; P.L.; A.B.

1749, December 23, Philadelphia.

Meeting of Tun Tavern Lodge. Capts. Jenkins and Tege made.

1 O.L.M.P. 101.

1749, December 24, Boston—Newport.

Pro. G.M. Oxnard granted a Constitution for a Lodge to be held at Newport, R.I.

L.M.R. 482.

1749, December 27, *infra*.

1749, December 27, Boston.

The Grand Lodge celebrated the Festival by attending Christ Church where a sermon was preached by Rev. Brother Charles Brockwell, after which they repaired in procession to the Royal Exchange Tavern "Where was an elegant Dinner provided, at which were several Gentlemen of Note, besides the Fraternity."

1 Mass. 9.

*Boston Evening Post* for January 1, 1749/50,

P-t.

*Boston Post Boy* for January 1, 1749/50, P-t.

O.R. of First Lodge.

1883 Mass. 165.

Rev. Brother Brockwell's sermon entitled "Brotherly Love Recommended" was printed and published in Boston immediately by John Draper in Newbury Street. An original copy thereof is in the archives of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts containing the vote of thanks to the preacher passed by the Grand Lodge. A burlesque in doggerel of the procession of the Grand Lodge on this day was printed and circulated in 1750 and reprinted in 1795. One of each edition is in the archives of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. It is reprinted in 1 Mass. 473.

In the evening there was also a meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R.; A.B.

19 M.F.M. 51.

The *Boston Weekly News Letter* for January 1, 1749/50 contains Draper's advertisement of Brockwell's sermon.

P-t.

On January 9, 1749/50, the First Lodge paid 50 Pounds for the printing of the sermon.

A.B.

#### Newport, Rhode Island.

The First Lodge at Newport held its first meeting as is shown by the following paragraph which appeared in the *Boston Weekly News Letter* for January 1, 1749/50:

"On the 27th ult. being the Festival of St. John the Evangelist the first regular Lodge of free and accepted Maçons was congregated and held at Newport on Rhode Island; by Virtue of a Warrant given them by the Grand Maister of North-America."

P-t.

And the *Boston Post Boy* for January 15, 1749/50, contained the same item.

P-t.

Philadelphia.

Meeting of Tun Tavern Lodge. Election.

1 O.L.M.P. 84.

1749/50, January 3, Philadelphia.

Meeting of Tun Tavern Lodge. Brother Tege passed and Brother Richard Harris raised.

1 O.M.L.P. 85, 101.

1749/50, January 5, Boston.

Meeting of the Masters' Lodge. Election.

O.R.; A.B.

1749/50, January 9, Philadelphia.

Meeting of Tun Tavern Lodge. Brother Jenkins passed and raised.

1 O.M.L.P. 101.

Boston.

Meeting of Auditing Committee of the First Lodge.

A.B.

1749/50, January 10, Boston.

Meeting of First Lodge. Joseph Gorham and John Brown made.

O.R.; P.L.; A.B.

1749/50, January 24, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R.; A.B.

Philadelphia.

Meeting of Tun Tavern Lodge. Capt. John Austin made and passed. Brothers William Shute and Thomas Glentworth passed. Brother Tege raised.

1 O.M.L.P. 101.

1749/50, January 26, Boston.

Meeting of Auditing Committee of the Masters' Lodge.  
A.B.

1749/50, February 2, Boston.

Meeting of the Masters' Lodge. Brothers Edmd. Quincy, Benja. Clifford, Henry Bowers, John Leverett, Robt. Jenkins, John Brown, and Benj. Stoddard raised.

O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.

1749/50, February 8, Philadelphia.

Meeting of Tun Tavern Lodge. Brothers John Slydorn and John Boude raised.

1 O.M.L.P. 85, 100.

1749/50, February 12, Boston.

The *Boston Evening Post* contains an advertisement of the Constitutions of the Freemasons to be sold by the publishers of the paper.

P-t.

1749/50, February 14, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. James Steward (Stewart), William Tyler, and Nathaniel Gilman made.

O.R. ; P.L. ; A.B.

1749/50, February 15, Boston. P  
Meeting of the Grand Lodge for the Constitution of the  
Second Lodge in Boston, to be held at the Royal Exchange  
Tavern on the third Thursday in every month. 1749  
1 Mass. 9. 101

On the O.L. this Lodge was first numbered 141. 1749  
L. M. R. 91. Meeting of A. A. O. U. W. Lodge

Philadelphia.

Meeting of Tun Tavern Lodge. 1749  
1 O.M.L.P. 85. Meeting of the Masters'  
1749/50, February 28, Boston. King, John Brown  
Meeting of the First Lodge. O.R. A.B.

1749/50, March 1, Philadelphia. Meeting of Tun Tavern  
Meeting of Tun Tavern Lodge. and John Boude raised.  
1 O.M.L.P. 85. 100

1749/50, March 2, Boston. The Boston Evening  
Meeting of the Masters' Lodge. the constitutions of the  
O.R.; A.B. fishers of the paper

1749/50, March 5, Philadelphia. P  
Meeting of Tun Tavern Lodge. Anthony Duchee made.  
Brothers Franklin Manny passed and Thomas Glentworth  
and William Shute raised. Brother John Boude admitted.  
1 O.M.L.P. 100, 101. O.R.

1749/50, March 7, Boston. Meeting of the Grand Lodge for the Constitution of the Third Lodge in Boston, to be held at the White Horse Tavern on the first and third Wednesday in every month.

1 Mass. 9. Philadelphia.

Meeting of Tun Tavern Lodge. Brothers William Shute and Thomas Glentworth admitted.

1 O.M.L.P. 86.

1749/50, March 13, Philadelphia.

William Allen exhibited a patent signed by Lord Byron, the Grand Master of England, appointing him Provincial Grand Master for Pennsylvania.

This being from the fountain head and from an authority superior even to Oxnard's, was at once recognized by Franklin and his associates of the then existing Provincial Grand Lodge. Franklin became Deputy Grand Master. Those who were his officers under Oxnard's Deputation all remained in line but like himself demoted one station. Word of this and some similar matters having come to Boston the Brethren there, after long and careful consideration, prepared a remonstrance on October 7, 1751 to the Grand Master of England.

1 Mass. 396. 1914 Mass. 266. Facsimile.

The four Lodges in Boston very properly pointed out that Oxnard's Commission granted by Lord Ward, Grand Master of England, September 23, 1743, *q.v.*, made him

“Provincial Grand Master of North America.” (1 Mass. 8.) and that, therefore, Deputations for the Provinces here should issue from him in the future as they had in the past. When Franklin visited the Grand Lodge at London on November 17, 1760, he was recognized as “Provincial Grand Master of Philadelphia” which is at least a recognition of Oxnard’s Commission to him.

Records of English Grand Lodge.

1749/50, March 14, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Capt. Hugh Purdie made.  
Rev. Brother Samuel Quincy passed.

O.R.; P.L.

Philadelphia.

Meeting of Tun Tavern Lodge. Brother John Reily admitted.

1 O.L.M.P. 86.

1749, Nova Scotia.

During this year a Lodge was Constituted at Halifax, Nova Scotia, by the Grand Lodge of England.

L.M.R. 92.

Note.

This completes the chronological record of every Masonic event which concerns the Western Hemisphere prior to the close of the legal year 1749 of which I have been able to learn.

That the record may be brought down to the beginning of the first bound volume of contemporaneous records of

the Grand Lodge at Boston (i.e., written at the time of the events recorded), the following five dates are added.

1750, March 28, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge. Brother Walter Logan admitted.

O.R.; P.L.; A.B.

Philadelphia.

Meeting of Tun Tavern Lodge. One member was excluded from the Lodge "for aiding and assisting in making two Brothers Irregular." Brother Hampton admitted.

1 O.M.L.P. 86.

1750, April 4, Philadelphia.

Meeting of Tun Tavern Lodge. Brother William Gamble passed and raised. Brother Franklin Manny raised and admitted.

1 O.M.L.P. 86.

1750, April 7, Boston.

Meeting of the Masters' Lodge. Brothers Gilbert Faulkner and Rev. Samuel Quincy raised.

O.R.; P.L.; A.B.

1750, April 11, Boston.

Meeting of the First Lodge.

O.R.; A.B.

1883 Mass. 164.



Philadelphia.

Meeting of Tun Tavern Lodge. Peter Hudson made.  
Brother Archdall admitted.

1 O.M.L.P. 86.

1750, April 13, Boston.

With the meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge this day, its continuous contemporaneous record commences in the handwriting of Charles Pelham who was Secretary of the First Lodge as well as Grand Secretary.

O.R.

1 Mass. 10.

1900 Mass. 127.

From that day to this, Massachusetts has never been without an active Provincial or Independent Grand Lodge keeping official records which are now in the Masonic Temple in Boston.

#### CONCLUSION.

For the statements of fact hereinbefore contained, the original sources of information have been examined and little probative value has been given to the text of any author later than Preston (1772) except only where he has actually quoted the language of the authority upon which his statement has been made. I have assumed the correctness of the actual quotations in Mackey's and McClenahan's Histories of Freemasonry in South Carolina and in New York, respectively, in Sachse's Benjamin Franklin as a Freemason and Old Masonic Lodges of Pennsylvania, and in a few other works cited.

I confess to bias in favor of the position of Massachusetts, but have nevertheless tried to be accurate and fair toward all other jurisdictions and to view all matters dispassionately and judicially. The result is but to confirm the premiership of Massachusetts in the Masonic history of the Western Hemisphere.

In the following respects, Massachusetts is the Senior Masonic Jurisdiction of America:

1. The first Freemason definitely known to be in the Western Hemisphere was Governor Jonathan Belcher of Massachusetts Bay Colony, in 1705.

2. The earliest use in America, in writing or in print, of the word "Freemason," so far as now known, was in the *Boston News Letter* for January 5, 1718/9.

3. The first Lodge meetings in America of which we may speak with any degree of definiteness were held in King's Chapel, Boston, in 1720.

4. The first known American newspaper account relating to Freemasonry was published in Boston, May 25, 1727.

5. The first known Warrant, Deputation, Commission, or other authority, issuing from the Grand Lodge of England or its Grand Master (or from any other Masonic organization or officer, for that matter) to be exercised in America was that (April 13, 1733) by virtue of which Henry Price founded a Provincial Grand Lodge in Boston, July 30, 1733.

6. The first particular Lodge in America to be duly constituted was the First Lodge in Boston, July 30, 1733.

7. The first Lodge in America to be registered by the Grand Lodge of England in the official list of Lodges was the First Lodge in Boston.

8. The first Masonic officer in the Western World to have jurisdiction over the whole of North America was Henry Price, whose authority was extended thus broadly in August, 1734.

9. The first exercise by any Masonic authority in America of the right to grant provincial Masonic powers was the appointment of Benjamin Franklin as "Provincial Grand Master of the Province of Pennsylvania," February 21, 1734/5, by Henry Price, "Grand Master of His Majesty's Dominions in North America."

10. The first independent Grand Lodge in America was Massachusetts Grand Lodge, which organized and declared its independence on March 8, 1777.

1 Mass. 259, 372, 436.

1870 Mass. 27.

1870 Supreme Council, 33°, N.M.J., 15-21.

1915 Mass. 280-282.

See also 1877 Mass. 1 to 148, *et cit.*

Prior to 1733, there had been meetings of Brethren in Boston, Philadelphia, and elsewhere in the Colonies. Before 1721, such meetings had been regular. After 1721 they were neither regular nor duly-constituted until that of July 30, 1733. Therefore, in studying organized, duly-constituted

Freemasonry in America, it more than ever seems certain that Henry Price was, as he said himself, the FOUNDER of DULY CONSTITUTED MASONRY in AMERICA and that the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts is the first among her equals of the Western Hemisphere.

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*Note.* Proofs of this address were submitted in November, 1916, to every Grand Secretary in the Western Hemisphere and in the English-speaking world elsewhere. Copies were also sent to those who were known to the writer, in England and North America, to be Masonic historians, about two hundred in all. Requests were made in each case for suggestions, criticisms, or additions. No one has called attention to a single additional item. During the four months which have elapsed before publication, many helpful suggestions have been received. The author has made quite a number of changes in consequence thereof and hereby extends his acknowledgment and thanks.—M. M. J.















