

Copy

Freemasons Hall, London
June 28. 1860.

Dear Sir & Brother

I am sorry to find
by your letter of yesterday's date
that mine of the 25th in answer to
yours of the 23rd was not sufficiently
explicit. - I hope I shall be more
successful this time.

A provincial Grand Lodge
has no connection whatever with
a private lodge. It is convened
by the Provincial Grand Master
and held wherever he may
appoint. It cannot be held
under the auspices of a Private
Lodge inasmuch as it is altogether

a superior body; the private lodges
in the district being merely or portions,
the atoms that help to make up the
whole.

As regards the installation
of a provincial Grand Master certain
ceremonies have of late years been
introduced for which there is no
warrant or authority. - A provincial
Grand Master is appointed by Patent
from the Grand Master. - The Patent
gives him authority, not the after
act of installation. - By virtue
of his patent a provincial Grand
Master convenes a meeting of the
provincial Grand Lodge when and

where to him may seem meet.
The constituents or elements of the
Provincial Grand Lodge are defined
by the Book of Constitutions - They
assemble where summoned to do so.
The Provincial Grand Master can,
if he think fit, at once take the Chair
and open the Provincial Grand Lodge -
without his authority it cannot be
holden. - He reads or causes to be
read his Patent; which being done,
he takes an obligation faithfully and
impartially to discharge the duties of
the high Office to which the Grand
Master has appointed him. - There is
of necessity no other Ceremony. - He

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nominating his Deputy, if he intends to
appoint one but the appointment of this
Officer is like his own done by Patent.
He appoints and invests his Officers, and
the Provincial Grand Lodge elects by its
Treasure. - The other business of any is
then proceeded with. -

If a Provincial Grand Master is not
an installed Master of a Craft Lodge, it
is of course necessary that a Board of
Installed Masters be formed in some
convenient town where the Provincial
Grand Lodge is held, and that he be
formally entrusted with the secrets &
vested to the Master's Chair.

I remain Dear Sir & Brother
Yrs faithfully & paternally
Wm. Gray Clarke G.S.

Wm. Gray Clarke
Horsley Heath n. Tipton.