

PROVINCIAL LODGES

To No. 105 (now No. 37), Bolton,

By Bro. W. J. HUGHAN, Past S.G.D. of England, and
P. Prov. G. Secretary of Cornwall, &c.,

READ AT THE

Bi-centennial of the Anchor & Hope Lodge, No 37

23rd OCTOBER, 1882.

The compilers of the excellent history of the Anchor and Hope Lodge, No. 37, Bolton, claim for that Lodge the special distinction that it is the Premier Provincial Lodge in England originally warranted as a Provincial Lodge, and continually on the roll to the present time. My purpose is to prove the assertions made by my friends (Brothers Brockbank and Newton), and in order to do so make another assertion, which I shall prove herewith, viz : That all the Lodges originally chartered as Provincial Lodges prior to that of the Lodge at Bolton have either been erased or for a time removed from the roll.

These make a rather long list, and to illustrate the point in question I have consulted all the copies I have of Lodge Lists from 1723, and also carefully examined Bro. Gould's "Four Old Lodges and their descendants." To make the list easier for reference I have alphabetically arranged the provinces, a task of itself, strange to say, never attempted by any one before :—

BRISTOL.

No. 29, of A.D. 1724, Bristol.

CHESHIRE.

No. 32, of A.D. 1724, Chester.

No. 36, of A.D. 1724, Congleton.

No. 33, of A.D. 1724, Chester.

No. 80, of A.D. 1731, Macclesfield.