

# Provincial Grand Lodge of Worcestershire

Antient Free and Accepted Masons.

## ANNUAL MEETING

Holden at THE TOWN HALL, KIDDERMINSTER,

ON SATURDAY, 23rd OCTOBER, 1920.

### Present:

The Wor. Bro. WILLIAM THOMAS PAGE, P.G.D., Eng., DEPUTY PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER, in the Chair.

Supported by Grand Lodge Officers, Visitors, and a large number of Officers (present and past) of Worcestershire.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE was opened with solemn prayer.

The Deputy Provincial Grand Master expressed the deep regret of the Rt. W. Provincial Grand Master at his inability to be present as all military leave was cancelled. A telegram of loyal greeting was dispatched to him from the Meeting.

The summons convening the Meeting was taken as read.

The Minutes of the last Annual Meeting held at Great Malvern on Saturday, September 27th, 1919, were taken as read and confirmed.

Apologies were announced from a number of Brethren.

The Provincial Grand Secretary read his report on the state of Masonry in the Province, as follows:—

The returns from the various Lodges, dated December 31st, 1918, shewed that there were 1201 Subscribing Brethren in the Province. During the year ending December 31st, 1919, this number was decreased by 33 deaths and resignations, and increased by 186 Initiations and Joining Members, which brought the total to 1354.

The number returned by the Masters to-day is 1429.

In all these returns due allowance must be made for a number of Brethren whose names appear as Members of more than one Lodge in the Province.

On Saturday, November 1st, 1919, the St. Werstan's Lodge No. 4004 was duly consecrated at the Masonic Hall, Belle Vue Terrace, Great Malvern, by the Rt. Wor. Provincial Grand Master, Lieut.-General SIR FRANCIS J. DAVIES, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., K.C.V.O., who appointed the following Brethren as Consecrating Officers to assist him:—

Wor. Bro. JAS. WOODYATT, Prov. S.G.W.	Senior Warden.
" " P. A. RODEN, Prov. J.G.W.	Junior Warden.
" " REV. ARTHUR H. PHILIPS, Prov. G. Chap.	Chaplain.
" " R. A. ERNEST PAYNE, Prov. G. Sec.	Secretary.
" " SYDNEY HILL, Prov. G.D.C.	D.C.
" " A. W. HARLEY, Prov. G.O.	Organist.
" " R. W. JARVIS, Prov. G.P.	Inner Guard.

At the close of the Ceremony the Deputy Provincial Grand Master installed the Rt. Rev. the LORD BISHOP OF WORCESTER, P.G. Chaplain, as the first Master according to Antient Custom.

The Founders of the Lodge numbered 16.

The Rt. Wor. Provincial Grand Master presided at Luncheon prior to the Ceremony.

The Wor. Masters of the various Lodges made brief statements concerning the work of their Lodges in the past year.

The audited accounts were approved and adopted. Reference was made to the fact (although not disclosed in the accounts) that this year there is a slight profit on the Calendars. W. Bro. C. P. PERRY proposed that a very hearty vote of thanks from this Provincial Grand Lodge be accorded to W. Bro. F. D. RATCLIFF for his excellent work for many years as editor of the Calendars. This was warmly supported by W. Bro. C. D. EATON (Acting Prov. S.G.M.) and carried unanimously.

W. Bro. F. D. RATCLIFF expressed his hearty appreciation of the vote and suitably thanked the Brethren.

The Deputy Provincial Grand Master announced that only one nomination had been received for the Office of Provincial Grand Treasurer, W. Bro. F. T. GOODMAN, of the Ferneverance Lodge 573; he therefore declared Bro. GOODMAN duly elected. In doing so he wished to tender W. Bro. C. P. PERRY hearty thanks for his work as Provincial Grand Treasurer during the past three years.

The Deputy Provincial Grand Master stated that the Report of the General Committee upon the War Relief Fund was comprised in the statement of account on the last page of the summons. He moved its adoption. This was seconded by W. Bro. T. MASON and carried.

W. Bro. WILLIAM WALDRON (Acting D.P.G.M.) moved the adoption of the Report of the Charity Committee. This was seconded by W. Bro. T. MASON and carried.

The Deputy Provincial Grand Master announced that much to his regret he was prevented from proposing the re-election of W. Bro. R. A. ERNEST PAYNE as Secretary of the Charity Organization as Bro. PAYNE had informed him that owing to the greatly increased pressure of business upon him he felt unable to do full justice to the work, and consequently asked that another Brother might be elected in his stead. The D.P.G.M. spoke in kindly terms of Bro. PAYNE'S services to the Committee, and said that on their recommendation he had pleasure in proposing the election of a worthy successor in the person of W. Bro. C. P. PERRY. The proposition was seconded by W. Bro. H. J. RAWSON and carried.

W. Bro. PERRY expressed his thanks for the honour and expressed his intention of doing his utmost.

W. Bro. J. CAMPBELL proposed the adoption of the Report of the Library and Museum Committee. This was seconded by W. Bro. E. LARKHAM and carried.

The Deputy Provincial Grand Master referred to the account of the Campbell Memorial Fund, on which the balance in hand was shewn as £62 6s. 10d. Since that date a further sum of £53 11s. 0d. had been received.

In moving the adoption of the Report, he suggested that one hundred guineas should be sent to the R.M.I. for Girls in the name of the Provincial Grand Chapter of Worcestershire as a Memorial to our late beloved Provincial Grand Master, General SIR WM. CAMPBELL, K.C.B., who was also Grand Superintendent of the Province.

W. BRO. PERRY, in seconding the adoption, asked that the balance in hand after discharging all liabilities might be transferred to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

This was agreed to and the proposition carried.

The Provincial Grand Secretary announced that it was impossible to give a full report on the M.M.M. Fund as many Lodges had not so far been in a position to reply to his letters on the subject. He had, however, received some replies, the promises from two Lodges each exceeding £300.

W. Bro. SOMERS said that the Lodges would probably respond eventually by contributing amounts which would average £5 5s. od. per Member.

A collection was then made which amounted to £28 1s. 3d. ; this was ordered to be made up to thirty-five guineas and given to the Kidderminster Infirmary.

The Muster Roll was then called and declared as follows :—

No. 252	Harmonic .. ..	20	No. 2654	Arter .. ..	13
.. 280	Worcester .. ..	8	.. 2724	St. Lawrence ..	7
.. 377	Hope and Charity ..	46	.. 3185	Stechford .. ..	15
.. 498	Royal Standard ..	21	.. 3308	Abbot Lichfield ..	6
.. 529	Semper Fidelis ..	6	.. 3371	Fage .. ..	9
.. 560	Vernon .. ..	23	.. 3560	Avon .. ..	6
.. 564	Stability .. ..	12	.. 3938	Wyche .. ..	9
.. 573	Perseverance .. ..	29	.. 3643	Campbell .. ..	10
.. 1097	St. Michaels .. ..	13	.. 3862	King's Heath ..	11
.. 1204	Royds .. ..	13	.. 3972	Mystic Quest ..	4
.. 1874	Lechmere Volunteer ..	10	.. 3979	St. Mary's .. ..	2
.. 2034	Masefield .. ..	6	.. 4001	King's Norton ..	10
.. 2385	Godson .. ..	14	.. 4004	St. Werstan ..	7
					327
			Visitors .. ..		8
					<u>335</u>

In announcing the number present the Provincial Grand Secretary stated that it formed a record in the Province.

The Deputy Provincial Grand Master announced that it was unnecessary to elect a representative to the Board of General Purposes as W. Bro. KENT is still our representative for the year.

On behalf of the Rt. W. Provincial Grand Master, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master nominated W. Bro. T. Mason to serve on the General Committee under By-Law No. 6.

W. Bro. WM. WALDRON proposed and W. Bro. PAYNE seconded the names of W. Bro. C. D. EATON and W. Bro. W. J. HILL to serve on the General Committee under By-Law No. 6. This was carried.

W. Bro. C. P. PERRY (Prov. G. T.) announced that he had received all the Fees of Honour.

On behalf of the Rt. W. Provincial Grand Master, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master invested the Officers for the year 1920-21 as follows :—

Senior Warden	.. .. .	C. P. PERRY, P.P.G. Treas...	.. .. .	2654
Junior Warden	.. .. .	C. J. HOLDER.. .. .	.. .. .	377
Chaplain	.. .. .	Rev. A. J. STOCKHAM	.. .. .	1097
Treasurer	.. .. .	F. T. GOODMAN	.. .. .	573
Registrar	.. .. .	J. FAULKNER	.. .. .	3569
Secretary	.. .. .	R. A. ERNEST PAYNE, P.A.G.D.C. Eng.	.. .. .	3642
Director of Ceremonies	.. .. .	G. R. GRIFFIN	.. .. .	554
Senior Deacon	.. .. .	A. D. CAPEL LOFT	.. .. .	550
Junior Deacon	.. .. .	T. H. DEAN	.. .. .	2034
Supt. of Works	.. .. .	H. PREEDY	.. .. .	498
Asst. Director of Ceremonies	.. .. .	W. E. MEGGISON	.. .. .	1876
Sword Bearer	.. .. .	A. MILLINGTON	.. .. .	3135
Standard Bearer	.. .. .	C. AYRTON	.. .. .	543
Standard Bearer	.. .. .	W. H. COLLIER	.. .. .	2654
Organist	.. .. .	G. W. BLANDFORD	.. .. .	529
Asst. Secretary	.. .. .	C. J. KEATS	.. .. .	3378
Pursuivant	.. .. .	E. A. C. PHIPPS	.. .. .	377
Asst. Pursuivant	.. .. .	F. JUCKES	.. .. .	2724
Steward	.. .. .	C. J. VINNY	.. .. .	377
"	.. .. .	H. J. POWDEROY	.. .. .	377
"	.. .. .	THOS. HILTON	.. .. .	377
"	.. .. .	CLARE W. CHESHIRE	.. .. .	377
"	.. .. .	J. ROBINSON	.. .. .	377
"	.. .. .	H. M. GREEN	.. .. .	377
Tyler	.. .. .	O SCOTT	.. .. .	564
Asst. Tyler	.. .. .	J. LADLAND	.. .. .	280

and conferred Past Rank as follows :—

Senior Warden	.. .. .	F. W. LARKWORTHY	.. .. .	280
Deacon	.. .. .	F. STEVENS	.. .. .	564
Deacon	.. .. .	S. HUGO	.. .. .	2034

Invitations were offered to the Rt. W. Provincial Grand Master to hold his next Provincial Grand Lodge under the banner of the King's Heath Lodge and also under the banner of the Abbot Lichfield Lodge at Evesham.

The Deputy Provincial Grand Master expressed his thanks but deferred decision.

The Deputy Provincial Grand Master tendered a hearty welcome to V. Wor. Bro. GRANVILLE CRENFELL, G.D.C. Eng., the Rt. Wor. Bro. COL. WYLEY, Provincial Grand Master of Warwickshire and other distinguished visitors. Wor. Bro. EATON supporting, said that the Province would do what they could to make the festival under the Chairmanship of the Rt. Wor. Bro. WYLEY a success by their contributions.

The Provincial Grand Master of Warwickshire expressed his pleasure at being present, and thanked the Brethren for their promised help.

Nothing further being advanced for the good of the Order in general or this Province in particular, Provincial Grand Lodge was closed.