

P/137.

KING AND THE CRAFT.

- 1430 Andersons Constitutions 1738, Page 173.
The King and Craft drunk in Scotland in 1430 time of James 1st. of Scotland.
- 1607 At Stone Laying of Banqueting Hall in Whitehall, purse given for the Masons to drink to the "King and Craft."
- 1719 At the Grand Festival Dr. Desaguliers, G.M., renewed the old peculiar Toasts and healths of Freemasonry the first again of which was "King and the Craft".
- 1727 At the Foundation Stone Laying of the Church of St. Martins-in-Campis in reign of George 1. 1727, the toast of the "King and the Craft" was drunk with full Masonic Honours.
- 1757 Dr. Thomas Massingham, D.G.M. 1752 to 1756 wrote Dr. Sauer of the Hague that he was authorised by the Grand Master, the Earl of Carnarvon to set out the practice and customs of the English Grand Lodge and the first toast is the "King and the Craft" with 33.
- 1760 In the minutes of the Grand Lodge of the Antients the Grand Secretary sets out on two occasions the correct toast to be given, June 1760 and again September 1761. the authorised toast the "King and the Craft" heads the list. On the first occasion George II was King and on the second George III neither of whom were Free Masons.
- 1813 At the act of Union of Ancient and Modern Masons in 1813 the toast was given with full Masonic Honours.
- 1912 At the Grand Festival in 1912 the Pro Grand Master, Lord Amptill said Brethren I give you the time honoured toast of the "King and the Craft". It is a pledge to which we might be called upon to prove our sincere attachment and it is of that I wish to remind you.
- 1751 Under the Grand Lodge of Ireland, it is stated in the Constitutions published in 1751 that when the foundation stone of Parliament House was laid, a great number of Freemasons were present, the health of the "King and the Craft" was drunk.
- 1817 In the Constitutions of same Grand Lodge published in 1817 the first toast is that of the "King and the Craft."
- Canada. During the life time of Queen Victoria the first recognised toast was "The Queen and the Craft" this custom was followed faithfully by Lodges in Canada up to the time of her death.
- January The Grand Secretary, Sir Edward Letchworth writing to the Masters
1911 of Lodges under the E.C. stated "the real significance of the toast is that loyalty to the King is an essential principle of Freemasonry

January 1911 The Pro Grand Master has been asked by many Brethren to give a ruling as to the proper form of toast, but he does not feel justified in interfering with the discretion of Masters of Lodges in that which appertains to the convivial part of Freemasonry. The Pro Grand Master hopes that the ancient form of Toast "King and the Craft" will be generally retained.