



Consecration

by
W. Bro. BEN MARSH, J. P.,
P.G.D., P.P.G.W., Deputy Provincial Grand Master in Charge

AND

Installation

OF

W. Bro. J. H. HODGE P.P.G.Purs.

MASONIC HALL,
KINGS HEATH,
BIRMINGHAM.

SATURDAY,
AUGUST 27TH.
1949

TOASTS

The King and the Craft.

The Most Worshipful the Grand Master, His Grace The Duke of Devonshire, K.G.

The Right Worshipful the Deputy Grand Master, The Right Hon. The Earl of Scarbrough, K.G., G.C.S.I., S.C.I.E., T.D.; the Right Worshipful the Assistant Grand Master, Brig.-General W. H. V. Darell, C.B., C.M.S., D.S.O.; and the Officers, Present and Past, of the Grand Lodge of England.

Proposed by Bro. L. W. Martin.

The Worshipful, The Deputy Provincial Grand Master in Charge, Ben Marsh, J.P., P.G.D., P.P.G.W., the Assistant Provincial Grand Master, Dr. E. L. Bunting, M.B., P.G.D., P.P.G.W.; and the Officers, Present and Past, of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Worcestershire.

Proposed by Bro. A. H. Rollason, J.W.

The Lodge of Merston Culy, No. 6879.

**Proposed by W. Bro. Ben Marsh, J.P., P.G.D.,
P.P.G.W., Dep. Prov. Grand Master in Charge.**

Response by the Worshipful Master.

The Consecrating Officers.

Proposed by Bro. J. Smith, S.W.

**Response by W. Bro. Dr. E. L. Bunting, M.B.,
P.G.D., P.P.G.W., Asst. Prov. Grand Master.**

The Visitors.

Proposed by Wor. Bro. R. V. Clarke, D.C.

The Founders.

Proposed by Wor. Bro. J. C. Burrowes.

The Tyler's Toast.

A FEW HISTORICAL NOTES ON MERSTON CULY

At the time of Alfred the Great, Marston Green, or Merston Culy was known as MERESTONE. The name being derived from the Saxon MERE, meaning a lake or pool, and TUN meaning a hedge, wall or hill, so it appears that in those days Marston Green was little more than a hedge by a pool.

It was located in the kingdom of MERCIA, which was the Saxon name for the Midlands.

MERCIA was ruled over for sometime by ETHELFIELD, a daughter of Alfred the Great. She was a remarkable woman, of Joan of Arc qualities and was known as The Lady of the Mercians.

MARS, MAS or MARSH all come from the Saxon word meaning a fenn or a fenny place, so it looks as though the pool, later filled up, and Marston Green became a hedge by a marsh.

At the time of the Norman Conquest the land was divided into Centuries or Hundreds. In the twelfth century these Hundreds were reduced to four only, with the names of BARLICHWAY, HEMLINGFORD, KINETON or KENGTON and KNIGHTLOW.

Marston Green was in the hundred of HEMLINGFORD, and it was described as consisting of Two "Hides." (A hide being as much land as one plough team could cultivate in one year.)

In the Domesday Book map, Marston Green is given as MERESTONE in 1086, but in the Assize Rolls of 1262 it had become MERSTON DE CULY, named after Ralph de Culy, who held the land, and who occupied the Manor in 1272. In those days, records were not so well kept as they are to-day, and the fact that Culy is mentioned at all means that he was a man of some note.

At the time of Edward the Confessor, Merston Culy was possessed by one Aluric, who, after the Norman Conquest, sold it with the licence of King William to Robert de Oilgi, of which Robert Venator held it at the time of the General Survey. It then being accounted for two hides, and having woods extending to four furlongs in length, and one in breadth. All valued at 20/-. The Culy's seem to have belonged to this family either by birth or marriage, and the land continued in their descendants till the reign of Henry the Third, at which time Hugo de Culy was the owner, and this seems to be about the last mention of the Culy name. The next mention of Merston Culy itself came in the 21st year of the reign of Edward the Third (about 1348), when Sir Foulk de Birmingham possessed it, as appears by a special licence granted by him to Ranulph Laycroft, to set aside land and 12/- rent therein for the maintenance of a priest.

It is supposed that Marston Hall was the site of the original settlement, but all Doomsday Book says of this is that it lies low by a stream. Culy corner, now part of Gorse Farm, and St. Leonard's Chappelle are early mentioned in the history of Marston Green, but Marston Green itself seems to have had many names.

Starting, as has been said, with:—

MERESTONE, in 1086, it became in turn—			
MERSTON DE CUYLEY	....	....	1272
MERSCHTON CULY	....	....	1285
MERSTON CULEY	....	....	1314
MERSCHTON CUYLLY	....	....	1315
CULISMERSHTON	....	....	1317
MERSTON CULY	....	....	1340
MARSTON CUELEY	....	....	1610

MARSTON GREEN, with an alternative of Marston Culy in an O.S. map for 1830, and this seems to be the first mention of it's name as we know it to-day.

A further interesting avenue can be opened up by a study of the deeds and records of the Old Yardley Trust and Parish Church, in which the name Marston so frequently occurs and lends particular interest to the proposed location of the Lodge, the Temple itself lying under the shadow of the Yardley Parish Church.

OFFICERS

W.M.	Wor. Bro. J. H. Hodge, P.P.G.Purs.
I.P.M.	Wor. Bro. C. F. Smith, P.P.A.G.D.C.
S.W.	Bro. J. Smith.
J.W.	Bro. A. H. Rollason.
Chaplain	Wor. Bro. C. F. Smith, P.P.A.G.D.C.
Treasurer	Bro. J. W. Chalkley.
Secretary	Bro. W. J. Martin.
D.C.	Wor. Bro. R. V. Clarke.
S.D.	Bro. H. J. Lowe.
J.D.	Bro. L. W. Martin.
A.D.C.	Wor. Bro. W. J. Sheward
Almoner	Wor. Bro. W. J. Sheward.
Organist	Bro. N. Smith.
Asst. Sec.	Bro. G. F. H. Satchwell.
I.G.	Bro. A. C. Mason.
Steward	Bro. J. W. Chalkley.
Tyler	Bro. T. Norris.

FOUNDERS

Wor. Bro. J. H. Hodge, P.P.G.Purs., 3239, 5600.
Wor. Bro. C. F. Smith, P.P.A.G.D.C., 2897. ✓
Wor. Bro. R. V. Clarke, 1792. ✓
Wor. Bro. W. J. Sheward, 2897. ✓
Bro. A. H. Rollason, 2897. ✓
Bro. J. Smith, 5660. ✓
Bro. W. J. Martin, 3239. ✓
Bro. L. W. Martin, 3239. ✓
Bro. A. C. Mason, 3239. ✓
Bro. J. W. Chalkley, 3239. ✓
Bro. G. F. H. Satchwell, 4004. ✓
Bro. N. Smith, 2897. ✓
Bro. H. J. Lowe, 5947. ✓
Bro. C. C. Bradbury, 150 (E.C.).
Bro. J. Hughes, 3914.
Bro. E. E. Howell, 5051.
Bro. E. J. Jenkins, 2331.
Bro. H. H. Plester, 252.