

The By-Laws  
of  
John of Gaunt Lodge,  
of  
Free and Accepted Masons,  
No. 766, Leicester.



Confirmed in Open Lodge, January 17th, 1856.

Printed by Bro. T. C. Browne,  
At the Sign of the Bible & Crown, Market Place, Leicester.  
mdccclvii.

The Signs

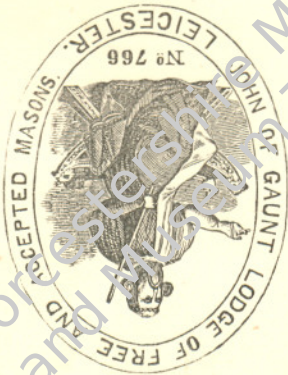
of

John of Gaunt Lodge,

of

Free and Accepted Masons

No. 766, Leicester.

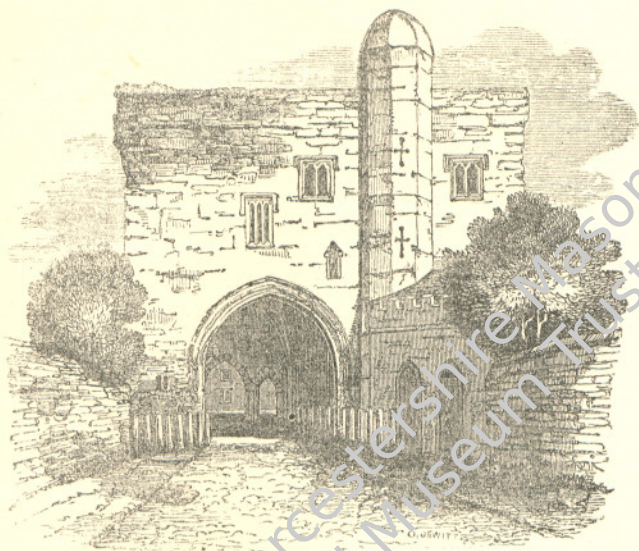


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Gateway of Leicester Castle.

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PREFACE.

*The Master, Wardens, and earliest Brethren of the Lodge of Free-Masons lately constituted at Leicester, have selected for its distinguishing appella-*

tion, the name of JOHN OF GAUNT, not so much on account of his prominent place in the history of their Country, as of his peculiar connexion with their Town. The Regent of England during the minority of Richard the Second! the Protector of Wickliff in after years! the most powerful nobleman of his time! he not only made the Castle of Leicester his principal Place of Residence for many years; but adorned the Town with extensive and costly buildings, parts of which remain to this day. That he had deserved well of the men of Leicester and had endeared himself to them by his conduct, while residing amongst them, may be fairly assumed from the readiness with which they mustered to protect his Castle and Property, when threatened by a rebellious mob under the leadership of Jack Straw; a token of esteem far exceeding in value any amount of his service, and alike honorable to the Prince and the People.

That John of Gaunt was himself a Mason, may be well imagined, or at least that he loved and



*encouraged the Craft; and no name has been deemed more fitting for a Lodge of Freemasons at Leicester than that of*

“OLD JOHN OF GAUNT, TIME HONOR'D  
LANCASTER!”

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## By-Laws

OF

## John of Gaunt Lodge,

No. 786

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### INTRODUCTION.

THE UNITED GRAND LODGE having empowered every Lodge to frame By-Laws for its own government, and from time to time to alter and amend the same; provided such By-Laws be not contrary to, nor inconsistent with, the General Regulations of the Grand Lodge; it was resolved at the first meeting of this Lodge, held at the Exchange, Leicester, on the 26th day of March, 1846, that the following be adopted as the By-Laws and Regulations of this Lodge:—

## I.

Without due order and decorum, harmony cannot be preserved, nor the business of Masonry properly conducted; therefore at the third stroke of the Master's hammer profound silence shall be observed.

## II.

If a Brother say anything improper in the Lodge, hold private conversation, dispute about religion, or politics, interrupt another while speaking to the Master, be not on his legs while speaking or addressing himself to the Master, sit down unclothed, or otherwise conduct himself indecorously, he shall be subject to such fine or censure as the majority of the Members then present shall think proper: to which if he refuse to submit, after having been thrice admonished by the Master, he shall be liable to exclusion, (subject to an appeal to the Grand Lodge.) No Brother shall be allowed to speak more than once on any subject (except by way of explanation, or when called on by the Master or mover in reply) to any matter, or question that may be under discussion. No Brother shall leave the Lodge before it is closed, without leave first obtained of the Master; and every Brother

shall keep his seat in time of business, (unless he has some communication which he wishes to make privately to the W. M.) excepting the Treasurer, Deacons and Stewards, who are allowed to move from place to place in discharge of their respective duties.

### III.

#### *Day and Time of Meeting.*

The Lodge shall be held on the third Thursday in every calendar month at the hour of Seven in the Evening, and shall be closed at Ten o'clock, and not later.

### IV.

#### *Fines for non-attendance.*

Every Officer who shall neglect to attend the regular meetings of the Lodge shall be fined, say, the W. M. Wardens, and Tyler, one shilling for each night on which they are absent at Seven o'clock, and all other officers sixpence, unless absent from sickness, or unavoidable business, in which cases an intimation to that effect must be made in writing to the W. M.



## V.

*Election of Master and appointment of Officers.*

The Master shall be elected by ballot at the Lodge in May, and at the next regular meeting after his being elected (or sooner if a Festival be kept) he shall be regularly, and in ancient form installed and invested, after which he shall appoint, and invest all the other Officers of the Lodge, the Treasurer only excepted. The following law in the Book of Constitutions shall be strictly attended to :—"All preferment among Masons, shall be grounded on real worth and personal merit only, therefore no Brother shall be elected Master of a Lodge, or appointed to any office therein merely on account of seniority or rank" (page 76.)

## VI.

*Election of Treasurer and his duty.*

The Treasurer shall be elected by ballot at the time the Master is installed, and shall be duly invested at the next regular meeting; he shall receive the cash of the Lodge, and discharge bills when duly vouched and sanctioned by the Master; he shall keep books in which his accounts of receipts and disbursements shall be regularly stated

so as to disclose at one view the amount of cash in his hands; and which books shall be open for the inspection of every subscribing Member of the Lodge at every time of its meeting. One of the Stewards or Deacons shall (if necessary) assist him in his duty; his accounts shall be yearly audited by the Committee provided for in rule 10 previous to the regular Lodge in June, and the balance (if any) appearing to be due shall then be paid over to the Treasurer elect, or otherwise as the Lodge shall direct.

## VII

*The Secretary and his duty.*

The Secretary shall issue summonses five days at least previous to each Meeting, particularly noticing elections, makings, persons proposed to be initiated, or new members to be admitted, specifying their additions or professions and places of abode, and by whom proposed and seconded. By-Laws to be altered, repealed, or new ones made: he shall make minutes of such matters as shall be regularly proposed and seconded in the Lodge; make and answer all communications under the direction of the Master; and during the first week in March he shall furnish (if called upon) a list of

the Members to be registered with the Clerk of the Peace. This officer may, if he please, appoint a Deputy to assist him, such Deputy being a Member of the Lodge.

### VIII.

#### *The Stewards and their duty.*

The Stewards shall take care that the Tyler keep in good order the furniture and regalia, that members and visitors are introduced in due form, and properly situated in the Lodge; and at Initiations they shall discharge such parts of that duty as may be allotted to them; they shall assist in the examination of visitors, and take care that the Tyler provide everything requisite in the Lodge; they shall inspect the Tyler's accounts and refreshment bills, and deliver the same signed by them to the Treasurer.

### IX.

#### *Inner Guard.*

The Inner Guard must be a Brother skilled in Masonry, punctual in his attendance, and circumspect in the discharge of his duties.

at the same meeting, but if again two negatives appear, the Candidates shall be precluded for six months, but if three negatives appear on any ballot the proposition shall be considered as rejected, and the same motion shall not again be made until the expiration of twelve months. No one shall be proposed without the previous sanction of the W. M. and Wardens.

## XII.

### *Motions to be made in Writing.*

No Motion of any kind shall be regarded unless duly seconded and forwarded in writing to the Master, with the names of the mover and seconder.

## XIII.

### *Fees for Initiation of Candidates and Admission of Members.*

When any gentleman is proposed to be made a Mason in this Lodge, a deposit of one guinea shall be made, and for any one to join the Lodge, a deposit of half a guinea shall be made, and he shall be balloted for at the next regular Lodge, (unless in case of emergency as provided for in clause 15) and if approved, and not a Mason, he shall in con-



sequence be initiated into the first degree; and when proposed, examined, and approved, he shall be admitted into the second degree; lastly, when approved by a Board of Trial, he shall be admitted into the sublime degree of a Master Mason. The fee for initiation into Masonry and to become a Member shall be four guineas, including the Tyler's fees, registry at Grand Lodge, and Grand Lodge Certificate. If a Brother who is only an entered apprentice wish to join the Lodge and take the Second and Third Degrees, the fees shall be £3 3s., and if a Fellow Craft £2 2s. The joining fee, if formerly initiated in this Lodge, shall be One Guinea, and if initiated in any other Lodge shall be £1 11s. 6d., in all cases to include the deposit. If a Candidate, approved by ballot, do not attend within three months, the deposit shall be forfeited, unless a sufficient apology be made and accepted; and if a rejection should be the result of the ballot, the previous deposit shall be returned to the Member who made the proposition.

#### XIV.

##### *Annual Subscription.*

The annual subscription of each Member of the Lodge shall be One Guinea, inclusive of Two Shillings

to the Grand Lodge to be paid yearly in advance at the Festival in June. The fees or dues received on account of, and payable to, the Grand Lodge, shall be kept separate and distinct from the monies belonging to the private fund of the Lodge, and shall be deposited in the hands of the Master instead of the Treasurer of the Lodge; they shall be transmitted to the Grand Lodge at such time as the Laws of the Craft require (Book of Constitutions Art. 15, page 61. Ed. 1855.) A newly made Brother shall go free for the current quarter in which he is initiated. Any Member being in arrear at the expiration of twelve months after the day of payment shall be reported in open Lodge by the Treasurer, and shall be written to by the Secretary to remind him of his default; when, should no satisfactory answer be returned within a month, the name of such Member shall be liable to erasure, nor shall he again be admitted a Member until the sum in which he stood indebted at the time of his erasure, together with the regular fee on joining, be paid. A Member whose subscription is not fully paid up shall not be allowed to vote on any question or proposition, nor be qualified for election or appointment to any office.

## XV.

*Cases of Emergency.*

In cases of emergency, satisfactorily explained, the Master is empowered to summon a Meeting of the Brethren, stating in the summons the particular business on which the Lodge is summoned. Any gentleman desirous of being made a Mason, passed, or raised, previous to a regular meeting, must defray the Tyler's fees and other necessary expences of the Lodge in addition to the regular initiation fees.

## XVI.

*Propositions to be made in writing and inserted in the Summonses.*

All propositions for admission or initiation shall be made in writing and be delivered to the Master, expressing the christian and surname, and additions, profession and place of abode of the Candidate; and the persons by whom proposed and seconded; that those particulars may be correctly entered on the minutes, and inserted in the next summonses.

## XVII.

*Member erasing his name.*

Any Member who shall in open Lodge, desire his name to be erased from the books of the Lodge, shall not again be admitted as a Member without a fresh ballot, and paying £1 11s. 6d. exclusive of a due proportion of the current year; this however shall not extend to any Member desirous of being discontinued; who on stating such his intention by letter to the Secretary, previous to the Lodge in July, and discharging all arrears, may be discontinued accordingly; and be at any time afterward re-admitted on application for that purpose, paying One Guinea independent of a due proportion of the subscription for the current year: provided in all cases that the Candidate be approved on ballot. But whoever shall not have given in his name, prior to the Lodge in July, (as above required) shall be considered as a subscribing Member for the ensuing year.

## XVIII.

No business shall be transacted in the Lodge, unless seven subscribing Members be present.



## XIX.

*Visitors.*

No Brother shall be admitted to visit the Lodge unless he has been duly examined and approved, or is satisfactorily vouched for by a Member of the Lodge, and introduced in due form by the proper officer; but no resident Brother who is not a subscribing Member to some Lodge shall be admitted to visit more than once at regular meetings, during his secession from the Craft.

## XX.

*Furniture, &c. of the Lodge.*

The books, papers, and other property of every kind attached to the Lodge, shall be considered as vested in the Master and Wardens for the time being; in trust, nevertheless, for themselves and the other members of the Lodge. A regular inventory of the whole shall be entered in the Minute-book, and the same shall be examined by the Deacons and Stewards at the Meetings in April and October, and by the Master previous to his installation.

## XXI.

*Tyler's Fees and Duty.*

The Tyler shall be allowed on the Initiation of every Candidate One Shilling and Sixpence, and on the admission of every Member One Shilling, and for each regular Meeting of the Lodge Four Shillings, he shall take care of, and keep in good order, the Furniture, &c. belonging to the Lodge; and shall see that every person, whether Member or Visitor, enters his name in a book (provided for that purpose) previous to his admission into the Lodge.

## XXII.

*Relief.*

Whilst recognizing to the fullest extent the principle that Relief is one of the Keystones of the Masonic Temple; it is equally true that indiscriminate relief is not Charity, for it encourages impostors and unworthy brethren and lessens the effectual relief which can be bestowed on the truly needy and deserving Brethren. It is, therefore, earnestly requested that no Member of the Lodge will personally relieve any applicant, but will refer him to the W. M., who, on investigating his case,

is authorized either to afford him immediate relief to a moderate extent, or, in unusually deserving cases, to bring the application before the Lodge.

## XXIII.

That these By-Laws shall be read in open Lodge by the Secretary or some Brother appointed by the Master, at the Lodge when the Master is elected, and at all such times as the Master shall direct.

## XXIV.

These By-Laws shall be transcribed in a book and the same shall be signed by every Member of the Lodge. A printed copy of the By-Laws and a List of Members, with their places of abode, distinguishing their degrees in Masonry, dates of admission, or Initiation, Offices, &c., shall be provided for every Member.

## XXV.

*Mode of altering By-Laws.*

No alteration shall be made in these By-Laws, nor any new ones added, but at a regular Meeting of the Lodge, by writing handed up to the Master

in the Chair, and if seconded, inserted in the proceedings of the Lodge; to which the Master shall call the particular attention of the Members at the next regular Meeting, announcing that it will be discussed the following month, for which purpose it shall then be mentioned in the Summonses.

*Passed in open Lodge, March 26th, 1846*

*Confirmed in open Lodge, April 23rd, 1846.*

WILLIAM KELLY, W. M.

W. WILLIAMSON, S. W.

F. R. CROUCH, J. W.

W. N. REEVE, SEC.

*The foregoing By-Laws were amended and duly confirmed in open Lodge, on the 17th of January, 1856, with the addition of the By-Law relative to Relief, inserted as No. 22.*

W. B. SMITH, W. M.

W. MILLICAN, S. W.

GEO. BANKART, J. W.

S. S. STALLARD, SEC.



# John of Gaunt Lodge,

No. 766.

Held at the Three Crowns Hotel, Leicester.

The Third Thursday in each Month.

Founders of the Lodge, March 26, 1846.

- W. M. BRO. W. KELLY, P. M., 348, Leicester.  
 S. W. „ W. WILLIAMSON, F. S. W., 348, Leicester.  
 J. W. „ E. R. CROUCH, P. M., Newcastle-upon-Tyne.  
 „ THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL HOWE, D. G. M.  
 of England P. M. 348, Gopsall Hall.  
 „ SIR F. G. FOWKE, BART., D. P. G. M., P. M.,  
 348, Lowesby.  
 „ R. L. BURNE, P. M., Bristol.  
 „ REV. GERVASE WRIGHT, P. M., Derby.  
 „ J. B. MURPHY, P. M., Derby.  
 „ R. ALLEN, W. M., COMMERCIAL LODGE,  
 Nottingham.

## Officers, 1856—57.



BRO. WILLIAM MILLICAN, ...	...	... W. M.
„ W. B. SMITH, ...	...	... I. P. M.
„ GEORGE BANKART ...	...	... S. W.
„ GEORGE F. LLOYD, ...	...	... J. W.
„ E. CLEPHAN, P. M., ...	...	... TREASURER.
„ J. O. BATES, ...	...	... SECRETARY.
„ S. D. BROMHEAD, ...	...	... S. D.
„ C. J. WILLEY, ...	...	... J. D.
„ J. D. PAUL, ...	...	... I. G.
„ SAMUEL HARRIS, ...	...	} STEWARDS.
„ CHARLES NOON, ...	...	

BRO. GEORGE HAWKINS, TYLER.

## List of Members, 1857.

Those marked \* are deceased or have resigned;

those marked † are joining Members.

MEMBERS NAMES.	WHEN INITIATED OR JOINED.
*Allen, R.† ... ..	March 26, 1846.
*Allen, Edward, junior ... ..	Nov. 15, 1848.
Bailey, Henry ... ..	Nov. 20, 1851.
Bankart, George ... ..	July 24, 1852.
*Bankart, James ... ..	July 24, 1852.
Barber, Hardy ... ..	Nov. 3, 1856.
Bates, John Oscar ... ..	Sept. 19, 1851.
*Beeson, Richard ... ..	Nov. 14, 1850.
Beattie, John ... ..	March 19, 1857.
Bell, William ... ..	Dec. 14, 1846.
Bell, Thomas ... ..	July 13, 1855.
*Berrington, Joseph ... ..	Feb. 21, 1849.
Bithrey, William Silvester ... ..	April 16, 1857.
Brewin, Robert, Jun. ... ..	Nov. 3, 1856.
*Broadbent, Benjamin ... ..	Oct. 12, 1846.
Bromhead, Samuel Dixon ... ..	July 4, 1854.

MEMBERS NAMES.	WHEN INITIATED OR JOINED.
Browne, Thomas Chapman† ... ..	March 26, 1846.
*Brown, Serjeant Major James ... ..	Jan. 24, 1848.
*Burne, R. L.† ... ..	March 26, 1846.
Carter, Samuel ... ..	Oct. 16, 1856.
Clephan, Edwin, P.M. ... ..	Jan. 11, 1847.
Cooke, James ... ..	Sept. 28, 1848.
Cooper, Thomas, P.M. ... ..	March 26, 1846.
*Colville, Lieut. Hugh George ... ..	June 17, 1847.
*Cort, Joseph ... ..	Dec. 14, 1846.
*Crouch, E. R.† ... ..	March 26, 1846.
Dawson, Edward Finch ... ..	May 26, 1855.
*Eaglesfield, William Appibby ... ..	June 17, 1847.
*Farren, Francis Morgan ... ..	Dec. 14, 1846.
*Fielding, William ... ..	Aug. 18, 1847.
*Flower, Joseph† ... ..	Nov. 24, 1848.
*Fowke, Sir F. G. Bt., D.P.G.M., P.M. 348†	March 26, 1846.
Freer, Charles Thomas† ... ..	May 21, 1846.
*Freer, Thomas ... ..	June 4, 1847.
*Frisby, William Smith ... ..	June 8, 1846.
Goodwin, John Willis ... ..	June 12, 1849.
Goodyer, Frederick, P.M. ... ..	March 26, 1846.
*Grover, John† ... ..	Dec. 18, 1851.
*Hall, Charles, P.M. ... ..	Dec. 15, 1847.
*Hamel, R. B. ... ..	May 2, 1853.
*Harding, Henry, P.M. ... ..	April 23, 1846.
Hardy, William, P.M. ... ..	June 8, 1846.
*Harris, William Smith ... ..	Sept. 19, 1851.
Harris, Samuel† ... ..	Oct. 16, 1851.
Howe, the Earl, D.G.M. of England, P.G.M. Leicestershire † ... ..	March 26, 1846.



MEMBERS NAMES.	WHEN INITIATED OR JOINED.
*Hunt, Frederick ... ..	July 4, 1848.
Johnson, William, Jun. ... ..	Oct. 16, 1856.
Kelly, William, P.M. † ... ..	March 26, 1846.
Kinton, John Joseph, P.M. ... ..	April 23, 1846.
Leaveaux, Isidore ... ..	Nov. 16, 1854.
Lee, Barnard, Artist ... ..	March 19, 1857.
*Little, George ... ..	March 20, 1846.
Lloyd, G. F. ... ..	Dec. 15, 1853.
Lohr, George Augustus ... ..	April 21, 1847.
*Lomax, Arthur Robert ... ..	Aug. 10, 1847.
Millican, William, W.M. ... ..	Nov. 20, 1851.
*Murphy, J. B. † ... ..	March 26, 1846.
*Nall, James ... ..	Feb. 21, 1849.
Noon, Charles ... ..	March 17, 1852.
*Owen, Rev. Octavius F. † ... ..	May 21, 1846.
Pares, Thomas Henry ... ..	Oct. 18, 1855.
Pares, John ... ..	July 13, 1855.
Paul, John Dennis ... ..	Dec. 20, 1855.
*Payne, James ... ..	May 16, 1849.
Ratcliffe, Rev. Thomas, M.A. ... ..	March 22, 1856.
*Reeve, William Napier ... ..	March 26, 1846.
Rowe, Samuel, F.R.C.S. ... ..	Feb. 19, 1857.
*Ruddock, — † ... ..	April 19, 1855.
Shaw, George, M.D. † ... ..	Sept. 16, 1852.
Sheppard, Thomas ... ..	Nov. 3, 1856.
Smith, William Beaumont, P.M. ... ..	Jan. 14, 1852.
*Spencer, William ... ..	June 8, 1846.
Spencer, John ... ..	Nov. 3, 1856.
Spooner, Thomas ... ..	Oct. 20, 1847.
*Stallard, Joshua Harrison ... ..	April 21, 1847.

MEMBERS NAMES.	WHEN INITIATED OR JOINED.
*Stallard, Samuel Slack ... ..	Nov. 25, 1852.
*Staples, James .. ...	Nov. 9, 1846.
*Stubbs, William John ... ..	Dec. 14, 1846.
*Thomas, William ... ..	June 8, 1846.
*Thompson, James ... ..	March 26, 1846.
*Thomson, Thomas Harrower ... ..	Dec. 14, 1846.
*Turner, William ... ..	March 26, 1846.
Valpy, Rev. Thomas R.† ... ..	Dec. 18, 1856.
Wiley, Charles Joseph ... ..	April 19, 1855.
Williamson, W., P.M.†... ..	March 26, 1846.
*Wright, Rev. Gervase† ... ..	March 26, 1846.

# PRESIDING OFFICERS

OF

## JOHN OF GAUNT LODGE,

No. 766,

*From its foundation March 26th, 1846.*

YEAR.	WORSHIPFUL MASTER.	SENIOR WARDEN.	JUNIOR WARDEN.
1846	William Kelly,	William Williamson	Edmund R. Crouch,
1847	William Williamson	William Turner,	Henry Harding,
1848	Henry Harding,	Thomas Cooper,	John J. Kinton,
1849	Thomas Cooper,	John J. Kinton,	Edwin Clephan,
1850	John J. Kinton,	Edwin Clephan,	William Hardy,
1851	Edwin Clephan,	William Hardy,	Charles Hall,
1852	William Hardy,	Charles Hall,	Frederick Goodyer,
1853	Charles Hall,	Frederick Goodyer,	William Harris,
1854	Frederick Goodyer,	W. B. Smith,	William Millican,
1855	William B. Smith,	William Millican,	George Bankart,
1856	William Millican,	George Bankart,	George F. Lloyd,
1857	George Bankart,	George F. Lloyd,	Samuel Bromhead.

CHARLES J. WILLEY,  
*Secretary.*