

CEREMONIAL  
TO BE OBSERVED AT THE  
CONSECRATION & DEDICATION

OF THE  
"VERNON" LODGE,

No. 1802,

OF  
Ancient Free & Accepted Masons.

AT THE  
TOWN HALL, IN THE TOWN OF RETFORD,  
IN THE  
PROVINCE OF NOTTINGHAMSHIRE,

OF  
Friday, the 7th day of March, 1879,

AT ONE O'CLOCK P.M.

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THE CEREMONY OF CONSECRATION

BY THE

W. Bro. John Watson, D.P.G.M.,

*Temp. Officer appointed by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G., etc., M.W. Grand Master.*

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THE CEREMONY OF INSTALLATION

BY THE

W. Bro. Danks, P.P.G.S.W., P.G.C.,

ASSISTED BY P.G. AND P.P.G. OFFICERS.

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Bro. THOMAS HARRISON, P.M., No. 1211 - - - - - W.M. Designate.  
Bro. JOHN HOUSLEY, M.D. - - - - - S.W. Designate.  
Bro. EDWARD DRING PIDD - - - - - J.W. Designate.

CHAS. BUTLER, Hon. Sec.



## Programme.

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The Brethren will meet at the Town Hall at One o'clock, and, after having signed the attendance book, will take their places in the Lodge.

The Presiding Officer, with the Wardens named by him, Members of P.G. Lodge, and Officers of the Lodge named in the Petition, will form a Procession to the Lodge Room in the following order:—

Two Stewards, with Wands. The P.G. Director of Ceremonies.  
Brethren forming the Choir.

The Inner Guard, with Sword. The Deacons, with Wands.  
The Wardens, with Columns.

The W.M. and three P.Ms., with the Elements of Consecration.  
The Officers of the New Lodge.

Members of the Grand and Provincial Grand Lodges.  
The Provincial Grand Chaplain.

The Presiding Officer, the W. Bro. John Watson, D.P.G.M.

As the Brethren forming the Procession advance to their places in the Lodge the Choir and Brethren will chant the following Psalm :

“Except the Lord build the house, their labour is but lost who build it : except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain.

It is but lost labour that ye haste to rise up early, and so late take rest, and eat the bread of carefulness : for so He giveth His beloved sleep.

To God, the only wise : our Creator and Redeemer, glory be.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be : world without end. Amen.”

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NOTE.—The Brethren are requested to join in the responses and hymns, and to take the time for the salutes from the P.G.D. of C.

## Order of Constitution.

*The Lodge is opened in the Three Degrees by the W.D.P.G.M.*

The P.G.R. addresses the P.O., and asks him to Constitute and Consecrate the Lodge.

The P.O. addresses the Brethren on the nature of the Meeting, and calls upon the P.G. Chaplain to deliver the following Opening Prayer :

“ Assist us, O Lord, in all our doings, with Thy most gracious favour, and further us with Thy continual help, that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in Thee, we may glorify Thy Holy Name, and finally, through Thy mercy, attain everlasting life.”

*Chant—“So mote it be.”*

The P.O. gives directions.

The Brethren of the New Lodge are then arranged in order.

The P.G.S. reads the Petition and Warrant.

The P.O. enquires of the Brethren if they approve of the Officers named in the Petition and Warrant.

The Brethren signify their approval in Masonic Form.

The P.G. Chaplain will deliver an Oration.

## Order of Dedication.

The P.O. directs the P.G. Superintendent of Works to examine the appointments of the Lodge, to ascertain if all be correct, and to see that the Elements of Consecration (Corn, Wine, Oil, Salt,) and Incense are prepared and properly placed.

*ANTHEM—133rd PSALM.*

Behold, how good and joyful a thing it is Brethren to dwell together in unity!

It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard; that went down to the skirts of his clothing :

It is like the dew of Hermon, which fell upon the hills of Zion : for there the Lord promised his blessing, even life for evermore.

*Chant—“So mote it be.”*

The P.G. Chaplain reads a passage of Holy Scripture from 1 Kings viii., v. 1 to 6, and then offers the

DEDICATION PRAYER. (FIRST PORTION.)

“ Great Architect of the Universe, Maker and Ruler of all worlds,  
“ pour down Thy blessing upon us, and upon this our present

"undertaking. We humbly implore Thee to give us *Wisdom* in all  
"our designs, *Strength* to overcome all difficulties, and *Beauty* of  
"harmony in all our works. Permit us this day, in fear and love of  
"Thee, to dedicate this Lodge to Thy service in all good works.  
"We know the heaven of heavens cannot contain Thee, how much  
"less then this house? Yet hearken Thou unto our prayers, when  
"we perform our worship unto Thee, that Thine eyes may be open  
"towards the place in which Thy Name dwelleth: hear Thou our  
"cry and supplications, and when Thou hearest, forgive. Grant,  
"O Most High, that they who are invested with the government  
"of this Lodge may be endowed with wisdom to instruct the  
"Brethren in their duties. May *Brotherly Love, Charity* and  
"*Truth*, ever prevail in this Lodge, and may the bonds of union  
"strengthen our Lodges throughout the world."

*Chant*—"So mote it be."

SANCTUS—"Glory be to Thee, O Lord."—GRAND HONOURS.

All the Brethren turn to the East when the Presiding Officer gives the Invocations, and the following are the

#### RESPONSES.

All glory be to God most high!—*Grand Honours.*

Peace on earth!—*Grand Honours.*

And good will to warring men!—*Grand Honours.*

*Chant*—"So mote it be."

#### SCRIPTURE PORTION.

"All wisdom cometh from the Lord, and is with Him  
for ever.

"Honour and majesty are before Him: strength and  
beauty are in His sanctuary."

"For God said:—In my strength will I establish this  
mine House, to stand firm for ever."

#### ODE.

Supreme Grand Master, God of Power!  
Be with us in this solemn hour;  
Smile on our work, our plans approve,  
Fill every heart with joy and love.

Let each discordant thought be gone,  
And love unite our hearts in one;  
May we in union strong combine,  
In works and worship so divine.

The P.G. Chaplain takes the Censer three times round the Lodge (Solemn Music during his progress), halting in the East each time.

The Presiding Officer repeats INVOCATION.

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## Order of Consecration.

The D.P.G.M. demands the aid of his staff to commence operations by a procession three times round the Lodge, and the music plays a solemn air, the D.P.G.M. halting in the East at each preambulation.

The P.G. Sword Bearer. A P.M. with a Light.  
A P.M. with the Bible, Square and Compasses on a Velvet Cushion.  
Two P.M.s each with a Light.

The P.G.S. with Salt in a Silver Vase.  
The P.G.T. with his Staff. P.G.J.W. with Corn in a Golden Vase.  
P.G.S.W. with Wine in a Silver Vase.  
P.P.G.M. with Oil in a Silver Vase.

The D.P.G.M.

Two Stewards with Wands

The rest of the Brethren remain in their places but standing.

The Lodge Symbol is then uncovered, and the Procession moves once round. When the D.P.G.M. arrives at the East, the P.G.J.W. hands him the vessel, which he bears, and he, taking a handful of Corn from thence, sprinkles it upon the Lodge with

### INVOCATION.

MUSICAL RESPONSE—"So mote it be." GRAND HONOURS once.

### ODE.

Hail! Masonry divine! Glory of ages shine, Long may'st thou reign! Where'er thy Lodges stand May they have great command, And always grace the land— Thou art divine!	Great Fabric! still arise, And grace the azure skies; Great are thy schemes; Thy noble orders are Matchless beyond compare! No Art with thee can share, Thou art divine!
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Hiram, the architect,  
Did all the Craft direct  
How they should build:  
Sol'mon, great Israel's king,  
Did mighty blessings bring,  
And left us cause to sing—  
Hail! Royal Art!

The Music again strikes up, and the Procession moves a second time round the Lodge, and on arriving at the same point the P.G.S.W. steps forward and presents the vessel containing Wine, with which the D.P.G.M. sprinkles the Lodge Symbol.

### INVOCATION.

MUSICAL RESPONSE—"So mote it be." GRAND HONOURS twice.

### ODE.

All Masons that on earth do dwell, Sing to the Lord with joyful voice— Him serve with fear, His praise forth tell, Come ye before Him and rejoice.	Come, holy <i>Virtue</i> , by whose aid In heavenward steps we long to tread— Bring love, bring truth, bring friendship here, Bring peace and unity sincere. <i>Chant</i> —"So mote it be."
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The Music once more strikes up, and the Procession passes a third time round the Lodge and halts in the East, and the P.P.G.M. presents the vessel containing Oil, which the P.O. pours upon the Lodge.

INVOCATION.

MUSICAL RESPONSE—"So mote it be."

"Glory be to God on high!"—GRAND HONOURS three times.

The P.G.S. then steps forward with the vessel which he bears, and the P.O. sprinkles the Lodge with Salt.

**Final Dedication.**

The P.O. declares in the South the Lodge Dedicated according to the *Antient form to Freemasonry*; in the West, to *Virtue*; and in the East, to *Universal Benevolence*.

ODE.

Come, *Charity*, with goodness crown'd,  
Encircled in thy heavenly robe,  
Diffuse thy blessings all around,  
To every corner of the globe.

*Chant*—"So mote it be."

DEDICATION PRAYER. (SECOND PORTION.)

"May the Almighty Architect of the Universe, who has disposed  
"all things in order, according to the excellency of His will, who  
"made the heavens for His majesty, the sun and stars for His glory  
"and our benefit, and the earth as a place for our obedience to His  
"laws, look down upon us Master Masons, now endeavouring to  
"consecrate this Lodge according to the rules of Charity and the  
"bonds of Love. May this Lodge be an habitation for good men,  
"meeting together to do good; may their Assemblies be convened  
"in Law, proceed in Order, and end in Charity; may all Masons  
"who enter under the shadow of its roof remember 'That the  
"secret of the Lord is in them that fear Him.' May the work  
"done here prosper; may the hearts of the workmen be com-  
"forted; may no strife, brawling, or unseemly words be heard  
"within its walls; may the Master love the Brethren, and the  
"Brethren honour and obey the Master. May our baskets be filled  
"with plenteousness, and the voice of joy and thanksgiving abound;  
"may there be no mourning or sorrow of heart, may the way-  
"faring Mason find a comfort in his journey to his home when he  
"passeth by the gates of this Lodge; and may our going out and  
"our coming in be blessed for evermore."

MUSICAL RESPONSE—"So mote it be."

The Choir will chant :

Blessed is he that considereth the poor and needy : the Lord shall deliver him in the time of trouble.

The Lord preserve him and keep him alive : that he may be blessed upon earth, and deliver not Thou him unto the will of his enemies.

The Lord comfort him when he lieth sick upon his bed : make Thou all his bed in his sickness.

To God, the only wise : our Creator and Redeemer, glory be.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be : world without end. Amen.

During which the Offertory will be collected.

The P.O. then Constitutes the Lodge with FINAL INVOCATION.

*Chant*—"So mote it be." GRAND HONOURS.

ODE AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE CONSECRATION.

SOLO. Hail ! mystic Light Divine,  
May'st Thou ne'er cease to shine  
Over the land.  
*Wisdom* in Thee we find,  
*Beauty* and *Strength* combined ;  
Masons are ever joined  
In heart and hand.

SOLO. O Lord, Thou King of kings,  
Shield with Thy mighty wing  
This Lodge from harm.  
O, may our Order shine,  
And fight with strength Divine  
'Gainst all our foes and Thine,  
Succ'd by Thine arm.

CHORUS. Come, then, ye Sons of Light,  
In joyous strains unite—  
God save the Queen !  
Long may Victoria reign,  
Queen of the azure main,  
Masons resound the strain—  
God save the Queen !

**Ceremony of Installation.**

The Worshipful Brother Danks, P.P.G.S.W., P.G.T., will install the W.M., and the Officers will afterwards be invested.

CONCLUDING ODE.

*To be sung immediately after the Lodge is closed, and before the I.P.M. concludes the work.*

Now the evening shadows closing  
Warn from toil to peaceful rest ;  
Mystic arts and rites reposing  
Sacred in each faithful breast.

God of light, whose love unceasing  
Doth to all Thy works extend,  
Crown our Order with Thy blessing ;  
Build,—sustain us to the end.

Humbly now we bow before Thee,  
Grateful for Thy aid Divine ;  
Everlasting power and glory,  
Mighty Architect ! be Thine.

