

Mark Master Masons
OF
Leicestershire and Rutland.



Report of Proceedings

At the Annual General Communication of the

Provincial

Grand Lodge of Mark Masters

Held at Leicester, 26th April, 1915.

To be laid before the
ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE
AT LEICESTER,

On MONDAY, 8th MAY, 1916.

Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Leicestershire and Rutland.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of this Province was held at the Freemasons' Hall London Road, Leicester, on Monday, the 26th day of April 1915.

PRESENT :

The R.W. Bro. Major William Jesse Freer, D.L., V.D., F.S.A., P.M. 21,
P.G.S.O. England, R.W. Provincial Grand Master, in the chair.

Rank in Provincial Grand Lodge.	NAME.	Lodge Rank and Number.
Senior Grand Warden	Bro. P. Joseph	P.M. 194 & 491
Chaplain	„ Rev. J. W. Marsh	Chaplain 19
Treasurer	„ T. G. Charlesworth	P.M. 19
Secretary	„ C. H. Fage	P.M. 19
Senior Deacon	„ A. P. Hanford	P.M. 19
Junior Deacon	„ F. E. Wheeler	W.M. 194
Director of Ceremonies	„ H. Howe	P.M. 194
Asst. D. of Ceremonies	„ T. H. Drakeford	W.M. 19
Organist	„ T. Gillott	Organist 21
Inner Guard	„ W. C. Rudkin	R.M. 194
Steward	„ J. T. Shirley	Sec. 491
Steward	„ G. P. Braund	I.G. 21
Steward	„ T. Flavell	S.D. 30
Steward	„ F. Haines	S.D. 194

The following Grand and Past Grand Officers and Past Provincial Grand Officers were present :—

V.W. Bro. T. P. Dorman, P.G.O. England (D.P.G.M. Northants., Hunts. and Beds.), V.W. Bro. Rev. C. T. Moore, P.G. Chaplain, England, P.P.S.G.W., and R.W. Bro. A. D. Hansell, G.S. England ; S.W.'s—Bros. W. A. Spencer, J. Young, J. W. Barker, Giles Eli Barton, and W. Walters ; J.W.—Bro. W. H. Russell.

- M.O.'s— Bros. J. B. Waring and R. L. Adkinson.
- S.O.— Bro. E. Bland.
- J.O.'s— Bros. H. J. Grace, W. A. Lea, T. H. Prentice and
G. D. Orchard.
- Chaplain— Bro. Rev. H. J. Matthews.
- Registrars— Bros. R. S. Clifford, Junr. and A. B. Talbot.
- J.D.— Bro. J. Lee.
- I. of W.— Bro. H. J. Ford.
- Asst. D. of C.— Bro. T. H. Drakeford.
- Standard B.'s— Bros. W. Earp and A. J. Marshall.
- G.O.— Bro. R. C. Allen.
- W.M.'s— Bro. F. W. Haskard, C. J. Pilsbury, H. J. Ford and
W. E. Willson.
- Bros.— W. W. Warren, C. H. Doughty, G. I. Light, J. Sutliff,
S. S. Paine, J. Goddard, T. Allen, J. T. Cooper,
W. Sheriff, W. H. Sheen, W. Antill, W. N. Bradshaw,
C. H. Harding, H. G. Hurst and L. Pierpont.

Provincial Grand Lodge was opened in due form at 5-10 o'clock p.m.

The R.W. the Prov. Grand Master, V.W. Bro. T. P. Dorman, P.G.O. (England), V.W. Bro. Rev. C. T. Moore, P.G. Chaplain (England), and L.W. Bro. A. D. Hansell, G. Secretary (England), were saluted according to ancient custom.

It was resolved to send a telegram to the Deputy Provincial Grand Master conveying the hearty good wishes of the Lodge.

The Roll of Provincial Grand Officers was called and the apologies sent by the absentees were accepted by the R.W. the Provincial Grand Master.

The Roll of Subordinate Lodges was called and found to be represented as follows:—

No.	Lodge	No. present.
19.	Fowke ...	19
21.	Howe ...	9
30.	Knight of Malta ...	4
194.	Simon de Montfort ...	16
491.	Fidelity ...	7
	Total ...	55

The Minutes of the Meeting held at Leicester, on the 27th day of April, 1914, having been printed and a copy sent to each subscribing Member, were taken as read, and subsequently received, adopted, confirmed and signed.

Reports were read by the Worshipful Master of each Lodge in the Province, as follows:—

Fowke Lodge, No. 19.

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report of the Fowke Lodge, No. 19.

The three Regular Meetings of the Lodge have been held and well attended.

The Officers have been attentive to their duties and discharged them in an excellent manner.

On December 31st, 1914, 56 members were returned as subscribing. Since then four Brethren have been advanced also a serving Brother (C. Harding), one joining Brother and the ceremonies completed for Bro. Gascoyne, so that the Lodge has now 61 subscribing Brethren and a serving Brother.

The financial position is still very weak, there being a balance in hand at last audit of £2 1s. 5d.

W. E. WILLSON, W.M.

Howe Lodge, No. 21.

I have pleasure in presenting a favourable report on the Howe Lodge, No. 21.

We have held four meetings during the year which have been well attended. The Officers have shown praiseworthy interest and ability in their work, and the alteration in the By-laws to hold four instead of three meetings during the year promises to work for the further prosperity and usefulness of the Lodge which now numbers 61 members. The financial condition is quite sound, there being a balance in hand at the last audit of over £35 (£35 rs. 3d.).

Unfortunate circumstances have made it necessary for me to hold the office of master for the ensuing year, and there is every prospect of a prosperous and progressive future.

A. J. PILSBURY, W.M.

Knight of Malta Lodge, No. 30.

I have pleasure in presenting the annual report of the Knight of Malta Lodge, No. 30.

During the year five lodges have been held.

The officers have been regular in their attendance.

Two candidates have been advanced and two other advancements are due.

The balance in hand at last audit was £1 19s. 4d.

We have 22 subscribing members.

R. BEDINGFIELD, W.M.

Simon de Montfort Lodge, No. 194.

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report of the Simon de Montfort Lodge, No. 194.

The Officers and Members of the Lodge have been regular in their attendance, and the working in the Lodge has been satisfactory.

It is with regret I report the loss the Lodge has sustained by the death of W. Bro. J. Cleaver, Past P.G.S.O., and Bro. J. Evans.

One resignation was accepted. Five Brothers were advanced. We have seventy-two subscribing Members.

The Finances of the Lodge are in a satisfactory condition.

Yours fraternally,

FRANCIS W. HASKARD, W.M.

Fidelity Lodge, No. 491.

I have the pleasure to present the Annual Report of Fidelity Lodge, No. 491.

Owing to the Great War and the many calls necessitated thereby, this has been a quiescent year, but the attendance of the Officers and Members has been very good.

The Financial position is sound, and the balance in hand at the last Audit was £23 7s. 6d. The Lodge subscribed through the Right W. Prov. Grand Master Major Wm. Jesse Freer, five guineas to the Local Patriotic Fund.

The number of subscribing Members is 26, and with the return to more peaceful times I regard the future prospects of the Lodge as in every way excellent.

H. J. FORD, W.M.

On the motion of the R.W. Prov. Grand Master, seconded by V.W. Bro. Rev. C. T. Moore, the following Report of the Committee of General Purposes, down to the end of paragraph 6, was received and adopted :

Report of the Committee of General Purposes.

1. Your Committee, in presenting their Annual Report, must refer to the great War through which the country is now passing, and desire to express a sincere hope that the same may speedily and successfully terminate in favour of the Allies. The War has affected all classes of

the community, and many Mark Masons have relinquished their avocations and are serving their country with the Colours in various ways, and the Committee desire to wish them a safe and speedy return to their duties. The Committee also wish to place on record the names of all Mark Masons serving with the Colours, and will be glad if each Secretary of the several Lodges will forward a list of the Brethren of his Lodge to the Provincial Grand Secretary for the purpose.

The following donations have been made to the Leicester and Leicestershire Patriotic Fund: The Provincial Grand Mark Lodge, £10 10s.; The William Kelly Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners, £3 3s. A donation of £5 5s. has also been made by the Fidelity Lodge No. 491, to the same Fund.

Your Committee cordially approve of the action taken by the Provincial Grand Master in contributing £10 tes. to the first-named Fund on behalf of the Province.

2. Your Committee again have pleasure in reporting the continued prosperity of Mark Masonry in the Province. The membership on the 31st December last was 232 against 231 for the year 1913. The increase of membership during the year has been 20 and the decrease was 19 due to deaths, resignations and exclusions, giving a net increase of one. The Committee desire to point out that owing to discrepancies in some of the Lodge Returns the total membership does not agree with the Masonic Calendar, the total membership being there given as 234 for the same period of the year. The special attention of the Secretaries to the various Lodges is called to this.

With regard to exclusions your Committee again express the opinion that these might to some extent be avoided if greater vigilance were used in the collection of subscriptions.

3. The Simon de Montfort Lodge mourns the loss of Bros. A. Tacey, James Cleaver and James Evans. Bros. Tacey and Evans remained regular subscribers to the Lodge until their decease. Bro. Cleaver was W.M. of the Lodge in 1908, and in Prov. Grand Lodge he was appointed Grand Junior Deacon in 1909, and at the time of his decease was Prov. Grand Senior Overseer. He was always keenly interested in Mark Masonry, and will be greatly missed.

4. The Finances of the Province are in a satisfactory state, and the thanks of the Province are due to W. Bro. T. G. Charlesworth, who so satisfactorily keeps the accounts. The balance in hand on the General Account amounts to £34 13s.

5. The Festival of the Mark Benevolent Fund was held on 1st July last when the R. W. Bro. Major William Jesse Freer, D.L., V.D., F.S.A., P.M. 21, P.S.O. Eng., Prov. G.M.; W. Bro. Col. C. F. Oliver, D.L., P.D., Deputy P.G.M.; and W. Bros. The Rev. C. T. Moore, F.R.S.G.W., Grand Chaplain; Frank Bouskell, P.P.G.O.; and Philip Joseph, Prov. G.S.W.; and Bro. F. H. Doughty, served Stewardships and contributed £52 10s. The total sum realised was £3,126 14 6d.

The endowment of the Provincial Grand Master of Leicestershire and Rutland's Chair has now £31 10s. to its credit and 18 votes in perpetuity.

6. The Right Worshipful P.C.M. Bro. Major W. J. Freer, D.L., V.D., F.S.A., having again expressed his willingness to serve as Provincial Charity Steward at the Festival on the 14th July next, to be presided over by V. W. Bro. Thomas Henry Gardiner, P.G.O., President of the General Board, your Committee recommend his appointment, and that a sum of £5 5s. be contributed from the Provincial Grand Lodge to his List.

7. Your Committee have further to report that the Patent appointing the R. W. Bro. Major Wm. Jesse Freer as Provincial Grand Master expires this year, and they have pleasure in recommending him to His Royal Highness the Grand Master for re-appointment for a further period of three years.

Dated this 19th day of April, 1915,

WM. J. FREER,
Provincial Grand Master.

W. Bro. J. Young moved the adoption of paragraph 7 of the Report, W. Bro. P. Joseph seconded. The Resolution was carried unanimously.

The R.W. Prov. Grand Master returned thanks.

The Return of the Provincial Grand Registrar, having been printed and circulated, was, on the motion of W. Bro. R. S. Clifford, P.P.G.R., seconded by W. Bro. W. Walters, P.P.G.S.W., taken as read, received and adopted.

PROVINCIAL GRAND REGISTRAR'S RETURN.

Summary of Lodge Returns, December 31st, 1914.

No. of Lodge.	Name of Lodge.	Subscribing Members, 31st December, 1913.	Increase.	Decrease.	Subscribing Members, 31st December, 1914.
19	Fowke	59	3		56
21	Howe	58	9	9	58
30	Knight of Malta ..	21	1	1	21
194	Simon de Montfort...	68		2	70
491	Fidelity	25	3	1	27
		211	20	19	232

Total increase during year ... 20

Total decrease during year ... 19

Net increase ... 1

H. A. PRITCHARD,

Prov. Grand Registrar.

The Treasurer's Accounts having been printed and circulated, were, on the motion of R. W. Prov. G. Master, seconded by W. Bro. J. W. Barker, P.P.S.G.W., taken as read, received and adopted.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to W. Bro. T. G. Charlesworth (P.G. Stwd., England), P.P.J.G.W., for his services during the past year.

W. Bro. T. G. Charlesworth returned thanks.

Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Leicestershire and Rutland.

PROVINCIAL GRAND TREASURER'S ACCOUNT, 1914-15.

	£	s.	d.
RECEIPTS.			
To Balance	2	8	5
Fees of Honour	2	13	6
Dues from Lodges—			
Fowke, No. 19	3	0	0
Howe, No. 21	3	1	0
Knight of Malta, No. 30	4	0	0
Simon de Montfort, No. 194	1	6	0
Fidelity, No. 491	1	7	0
Bank Interest	—	—	8
	£51	4	8
EXPENDITURE.			
By One-tenth of all Fees	2	10	11
Transfer to Benevolent Fund	5	2	7
Printing Account	8	18	2
Balance	34	13	0
	£51	4	8

BENEVOLENT FUNDS.

	£	s.	d.
RECEIPTS.			
To One-tenth of all Fees	2	10	11
From General Account	5	2	7
Euston Memorial Fund	8	1	6
	£15	15	0
EXPENDITURE.			
By Mark Benevolent Fund per R. W. Bro. W. J. Freer	5	5	0
Leicester and Leicestershire Patriotic Fund	10	10	0
	£15	15	0

Audited and found correct, 19th April, 1915.

W. J. FREER, P.G.S.C. Exp., Prov. G.M.
 PHILIP JOSEPH, T.G.W.
 G. E. BARTON, T.M., P.F.S. G.W.
 F. W. HASKARIAN, W.M. 194
 W. E. WILLSON, W.M. 79.
 CHAS. H. PAGE, Prov. Secy, Secretary, T.G. Stwd. Eng.

T. G. CHARLESWORTH, P.M. 19, P.P.J.G.W.,
 P.G. Stwd. Eng., Treasurer.

On the motion of W. Bro. H. Howe, P.P.G.J.W., Prov. D. of C., seconded by W. Bro. G. E. Barton, P.P.G.S.W., W. Bro. T. G. Charlesworth was re-elected Treasurer for the ensuing year.

Bro. C. H. Harding was elected Tyier.

The Provincial Grand Officers were then appointed and invested as follows :

Appointed at Leicester April 26th, 1915.

Rank in Provincial Grand Lodge.	NAME.	Lodge Rank and Number.
Senior Grand Warden	Bro. William A. Lea	P.M. 10
Junior Grand Warden	„ R. Sutton Clifford, Junr	P.M. 21
Master Overseer	„ Thomas H. Prentice	P.M. 194
Senior Overseer	„ Henry J. Ford	W.M. 491
Junior Overseer	„ Arthur B. Talbot	J.W. 30
Chaplain	„ Rev. James W. Marsh	Chaplain 19
Treasurer	„ T. G. Charlesworth	P.M. 19
Registrar	„ Thomas Flavell	J.O. 30
Secretary	„ Charles Harry Page	P.M. 19
Senior Deacon	„ Albert J. Pilstbury	W.M. 21
Junior Deacon	„ George P. Prasad	R. 21
Inspector of Works	„ Thomas H. Drakeford	P.M. 19
Director of Ceremonies	„ Henry Howe	P.M. 194
Asst. D. of Ceremonies	„ Francis W. Haskard	W.M. 194
Sword Bearer	„ George T. Wood	J.W. 21
Standard Bearer	„ John T. Shirley	Sec. 491
Organist	„ A. Pelham Hanford	P.M. 19
Inner Guard	„ Frederick H. Doughty	S.D. 194
Steward	„ William N. Bradshaw	S.O. 19
Steward	„ James Flint	M.O. 194
Steward	„ Frederick Griffin	J.O. 491
Steward	„ Harvey G. Hurst	S.D. 30

W. Bro. J. Young, P.P.G.S.W., moved : "That R.W. Bro. Major William Jesse Freer, D.L., V.D., F.S.A., P.M. 21, P.G.O. Eng., P.G.M., be appointed Charity Steward to represent this Province at the forthcoming Festival, and that the sum of Five Guineas be contributed from the Provincial Grand Lodge Funds to R.W. Bro. Freer's list." W. Bro. J. W. Barker, P.P.G.S.W., seconded. The resolution was carried unanimously.

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On the motion of R.W. Provincial Grand Master, seconded by W. Bro. R. S. Clifford, Jnr., P.P.G.R., "W. Bro. C. H. Page, Prov. G. Secretary, P.G. Steward, England, was appointed to represent the Provincial G.M. Lodge, upon the Committee of Freemasons' Hall."

Apologies for absence were received from R.W. Bro. the Duke of Devonshire (Prov. G.M. Derbyshire), R.W. Bro. Lord Lilford (Prov. G.M. Northants., Hunts. and Beds.), R.W. Bro. Fitzhugh (Prov. G.M. Notts.), W. Bro. J. T. Spalding (D.P.G.M. Notts.), W. Bro. C. W. Gowthorpe (P.S.W. Notts.) W. Bro. T. H. Thorpe (P.G. Secretary Derbyshire), W. Bro. C. Eaton (P.P.G.S.W., P.G. Sec. Warwickshire), W. Bro. G. B. Wilkinson (P.G. Secretary Northants., Hunts., and Beds.), V.W. Bro. Rev. E. Morse, P.G. Eng., W. Bro. S. S. Partridge, P.D.P.G.M., P.G.J.D. Eng., W. Bro. Col. Oliver, D.L., T.D., P.P.G.S.W., D.P.G.M., W. Bro. G. Toller, P.P.G.S.W., P.G.S.D. Eng., W. Bro. J. T. Thorpe, P.P.G.S.W., G.A.D.C. Eng., W. Bro. W. H. Barrow, P.P.G.S.W., P.G.O. Eng., W. Bro. W. Vial, P.P.G.S.W., P.G.O. Eng., W. Bros. F. Marchant, E. J. Marshall, R. Bevingfield, J. H. Ward, J. F. Snaith, J. T. S. Nobbs, F. C. Cook, W. E. Goodwin, S. Joyce, W. H. Wootton, W. A. Musson, G. J. Pooley and J. C. McRobie, and Bros. W. W. Grant, G. T. Wood, S. H. Davis, E. A. Denne, H. A. Pritchard, G. A. Hawthorne, A. E. Hawthorne and F. Griffin.

Provincial Grand Lodge was closed in due form at 6-15 o'clock p.m.