

Mark Master Masons

OF

of Leicestershire and Rutland.



Report of Proceedings

At the Annual General Communication of the

Provincial

Grand Lodge of Mark Masters

Held at Leicester, 8th May, 1916.



To be laid before the

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE

AT LEICESTER,

On TUESDAY, 1st MAY, 1917.

**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 8th day of May, 1916.

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. William A. Lea	P.M. 19
Junior Grand Warden	„ Bro. Sutton Clifford, junr.	P.M. 21
Master Overseer	„ Thomas W. Prentice	P.M. 194
Senior Overseer	„ Henry J. Ford	W.M. 491
Chaplain	„ Rev. James W. Marsh	Chaplain 19
Treasurer	„ T. G. Charlesworth	P.M. 19
Secretary	„ Charles Harry Page	P.M. 19
Senior Deacon	„ Albert J. Pilsbury	W.M. 21
Inspector of Works	„ Thomas H. Drakeford	P.M. 19
Director of Ceremonies	„ Henry Howe	P.M. 194
Standard Bearer	„ John T. Shirley	Sec. 491
Organist	„ A. Pelham Hanford	P.M. 19
Inner Guard	„ Frederick H. Doughty	S.D. 194
Seward	„ William N. Bradshaw	S.O. 19
Steward	„ Harvey G. Hurst	S.D. 30

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

V.W. Bro. Rev. C. T. Moore, P.G. Chaplain, England, P.P.S.G.W. ;
S.W.'s—Bros. J. Young, P. Joseph, Giles Eli Barton, and J. F. Snaith ;
J.W.—Bro. W. H. Russell.

M.O.—	Bro. J. B. Waring.
J.O.'s—	Bros. E. J. Marshall and G. J. Rodway.
S.D.'s—	Bros. T. C. Dawson and R. B. Adcock.
J.D.'s—	Bros. J. Lee and F. E. Wheeler.
I. of W.—	Bro. G. A. Hawthorn.
Standard B.'s—	Bros. W. Earp and A. J. Marshall.
G.O.—	Bro. R. C. Allen.
I.G.'s—	Bros. T. M. Green and W. E. Willson.
W.M.'s—	Bros. A. J. Marshall, A. J. Pilsbury, A. E. Hawthorn.
Bros.—	J. H. Inglesant, G. E. Hilton, A. E. Deacon, J. Sutliff, S. S. Paine, J. Coddard, T. Allen, J. T. Cooper, T. J. Hall, A. H. Robins, W. Antill, A. E. Armstrong, C. H. Harding, J. H. Farmer, L. Pierpoint, G. Somerville, J. H. Slingsby, W. L. Moss, L. L. Baldwin, J. C. Burton and A. Page.

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

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

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 ...	20
21.	Howe ...	9
30.	Knight of Malta ...	4
194.	Simon de Montfort ...	13
491.	Fidelity ...	13
	Total ...	59

The Minutes of the Meeting held at Leicester, on the 26th day of April, 1915, 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 :—

Jowke Lodge, No. 19.

Gratefully acknowledging the fidelity of my Officers who faithfully interpreted their obligation of service and pleurably assisted by the welcome presence of visiting Brethren, it is my honour to report, the three meetings of the past session have been equally harmonious and successful.

There have been five advancements, one death, one resignation, making a present membership improved to 64.

The financial position reflects much credit on the worthy Treasurer. The balance in hand being £5 5s. 7d. or nearly three times in excess of last report.

An interesting feature has transpired in the recovery of the FIRST MINUTE BOOK of the Lodge (1858) after many years missing.

ALMA J. MARSHALL, W.M.

Howe Lodge, No. 21.

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report of the Howe Lodge, No. 21.

The increase in the number of Meetings, as expected, is showing itself. Four Regular Lodges have been held, and notwithstanding adverse circumstances have been well attended. The Officers have been regular and punctual, and their work performed excellently. Four Brethren have been advanced during the year and there is good prospect of more candidates presenting themselves in the near future. The By-Laws have been duly observed and the finances are in very good condition.

A. J. PILSBURY, W.M.

Knights of Malta Lodge, No. 30.

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

Five regular lodges have been held during the year and have been as well attended as could be expected in the abnormal times we are passing through.

The attendance of the officers, so far as the exigencies of the war permitted, has been regular, their duties carefully discharged.

Three candidates have been advanced and one is due for advancement. There have been two resignations.

The finances of the lodge at the last audit were very low, due largely to the number of outstanding subscriptions.

We have 24 subscribing members.

The Lodge has sustained a heavy loss by the untimely death of our Secretary, W. Bro. F. W. Marchant, P.D. J.G.W., a zealous mason and an ardent supporter of Mark Masonry.

THOS. A. KING, 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 three meetings of the Lodge have been held and good attendances have been made. The officers have been attentive to their duty and have discharged them in a most satisfactory manner.

In consequence of the illness of the Senior Warden the Rev. A. H. Matthews, D.A., the installation could not take place and the whole of the officers retained their respective positions.

On December 31st the number of subscribing members was 71, since then six brethren have been advanced, making a total of 77.

The finances of the Lodge are in a satisfactory condition.

Yours fraternally,

F. W. HASKARD.

Fidelity Lodge. No. 491.

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report of Fidelity Lodge, No. 491.

The three Regular Meetings of the Lodge have been held, and the attendance of members satisfactory.

The Officers have been regular and punctual in attendance, and have faithfully discharged their duties.

The Lodge mourns the loss, by death, of Bro. John William Stableford, Bro. William Sheffield, W. Bro. Sherard Joyce, and Bro. Amos Wortley (Serving Brother).

One Brother has been advanced, leaving the present membership at 23.

A donation of £5 5s. has been made to the Mark Benevolent Fund, and a donation of £2 2s. to the widow of a Serving Brother.

The financial position for a Lodge with such a small membership is satisfactory, having a balance in hand of £17 14s. 9d.

ALFRED E. HAWTHORN, W.M.

On the motion of the R. W. Prov. Grand Master, seconded by W. Bro. G. E. Easton, the following Report of the Committee of General Purposes was received and adopted :

Report of the Committee of General Purposes.

Your Committee, in presenting their Annual Report, again refer to the great War through which the country is now passing and desire to express the sincere hope that the same may speedily and successfully terminate in favour of the Allies.

Mark Masonry, in common with the Craft and other degrees, has been affected by the War, and it is a matter for congratulation that Mark Masonry has been carried on so successfully during the year.

The Committee 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.

2. Your Committee have pleasure in reporting the continued prosperity of Mark Masonry in the Province. The membership on the 31st of December last was 243 against 232 in the year 1914. The increase of membership during the year has been 19 and the decrease was 8, due to death, resignation and exclusions, giving a net increase of 11.

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

3. The Knights of Malta Lodge mourns the loss of W. Bro. F. W. Marchant who was a Past Master of the Lodge and also Secretary and Registrar of Marks. He was also P.P.G.J.W. in 1914.

The Howe Lodge mourns the loss of W. Bro. W. H. Goodwin who was Past Master of the Lodge in 1890 and P.P.G.M.O.

The Fidelity Lodge has lost W. Bro. Sherard Joyce, a Past Master of the Lodge in 1913 and P.P.G. Inspector of Works, and Bros. W. Sheffield and J. W. Stableford. The Serving Brother A. Wortley's death is also deplored.

Your Committee regretfully reports the death of the Rev. Canon S. J. W. Sanders, LL.D., who was Deputy Grand Master of the Province of Leicestershire, Northamptonshire, Derbyshire and Rutland in 1883, and Grand Chaplain 1891. He was formerly a joining member of the Simon de Montfort Lodge.

4. Your Committee wish to draw attention to the New Rules and Bye-Laws relating to the Mark Benevolent Fund, which were adopted last year by Grand Lodge; and which have improved and enlarged the scope of its work; the division of the Annual Fund is now left to the General Board instead of being divided into three equal parts. Applicants for relief need only be subscribers to their respective Lodges for three years instead of eight, and the General Board in certain cases may reduce it to one year. The General Board can now vote £25 to a Brother, £20 to a widow and £15 to a child; and the Grand Master may increase the amounts to £50 to a Brother, and £30 to a widow or child.

£350 per annum, of interest on invested capital, may be set aside for founding scholarships of £80 for three years, and for annual grants for advancement in life for boys and girls. Five years qualify a Mark Mason for an annuity of £30 per annum instead of £26, and widows £26 instead of £21.

Our thanks are specially due to the General Board and Mark Grand Lodge for a donation of £50 to one of our Brethren.

5. The Finances of the Province are in a satisfactory state and its thanks are due to W. Bro. T. G. Charlesworth, who so satisfactorily keeps the accounts. The balance in hand on the General Account amounts to £36 8s.

6. The Festival of the Mark Benevolent Fund was held on July 14th last, when the R.W. Bro. Major William Jesse Freer, D.L., V.D., F.S.A., P.S.O. Eng., Prov. G.M., W. Bro. The Rev. C. T. Moore, P.G. Chaplain, and W. Bro. W. E. Willson and Bro. F. H. Doughty served Stewardships and contributed £42. The total sum realised was £3,065 11s. 4d.

The endowment of the Provincial Grand Master of Leicestershire and Rutland's Chair has now £31 10s. to its credit, and 24 votes in perpetuity; this includes the annual donation of £5 5s. from the Provincial Grand Master.

7. The Right Worshipful P.G.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 5th July next, to be presided over by R.W. Bro. the Hon. Arthur Stanley, M.P., M.V.O., Prov. G.M. for West Lancashire, your Committee recommend his appointment, and that a sum of £5 5s. be contributed from the Provincial Grand Lodge to his list.

The Committee understand that the D.P.G.M. (Colonel C. F. Oliver, T.D., D.L., the Colonel commanding the 2/4th Batt. of the Leicestershire Regiment) will shortly leave for France with his Battalion, and desire to express the wish that he may have a safe and speedy return.

Dated this 28th day of April, 1916.

W. J. FREER,

Prov. Grand Master, P.G.S.O. England.

The Return of the Provincial Grand Registrar, having been printed and circulated, was, on the motion of V.W. Bro. Rev. C. T. Moore, P.G. Chaplain, England, P.P.G.S.W., seconded by W. Bro. J. F. Snaith, P.P.G.S.W., taken as read, received and adopted.

Provincial Grand Registrar's Return.

Summary of Lodge Returns, December 31st, 1915.

No. of Lodge.	Name of Lodge.	Subscribing Members, 31st December, 1914.	Increase.	Decrease.	Subscribing Members, 31st December, 1915.
19	Fowke	56	8	3	51
21	Howe	58	4	0	62
30	Knight of Malta ...	21	—	0	26
194	Simon de Montfort...	70	2	1	71
491	Fidelity	27	0	4	23
		232	9	8	243

Total increase during year ... 19

Total decrease during year ... 8

Net increase ... 11

T. FLAVELL,
Prov. Grand Registrar.

The Treasurer's Accounts, having been printed and circulated, were on the motion of W. Bro. G. E. Barton, seconded by V.W. Bro. Rev. C. T. Moore, P.G. Chaplain, England, 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, 1915-16.

RECEIPTS	£	s.	d.	EXPENDITURE.	£	s.	d.				
To Balance	...	34	13	0	By One-tenth of all Fees	...	2	10	0		
" Fees of Honour	...	12	16	6	" Transfer to Benevolent Fund	...	2	15	0		
" Dues from Lodges—	...				" Hall Committee (3 years' rent)	...	18	0	0		
Fowke, No. 19	...	3	5	0	" Balance	...	36	8	0		
Howe, No. 21	...	3	1	6							
Knight of Malta, No. 30	...	3	5	0							
Simon de Montfort, No. 194	...	1	3	0							
Fidelity, No. 491	...										
" Bank Interest	...										
		£51	13	0					£59	13	0

BENEVOLENT FUND.

RECEIPTS.	£	s.	d.	EXPENDITURE.	£	s.	d.			
To One-tenth of all Fees	...	2	10	0	By Mark Benevolent Fund per R. W. Bro. W. J. Freer	5	5	0		
From General Account	...	2	15	0						
		£5	5	0				£5	5	0

Audited and found correct, 28th April, 1916.

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

W. J. FREER, Esq., P.G.S.O. Eng.
G. E. BARTON, P.M. No. 1, P.P.S.G.W.
THOS. FLAVELL, H.O. No. 30, P.G.R.
GIDEON A. HAYTHORN, W.M. No. 491.
CHAS. H. PAGE, Prof. G. Secular, P.G. Stwd. Eng.

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

Bro. C. H. Harding was elected Tyler.

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

Appointed at Leicester May 8th, 1916.

Rank in Provincial Grand Lodge.	NAME.	Lodge Rank and Number
Senior Grand Warden	Bro. Thomas H. Prentice	P.M. 194
Junior Grand Warden	„ E. J. Marshall	P.M. 21
Master Overseer	„ A. J. Marshall	W.M. 19
Senior Overseer	„ G. A. Hawthorn	W.M. 491
Junior Overseer	„ R. B. Adcock	P.M. 194
Chaplain	„ Rev. J. T. Williams Fisher	Chaplain 491
Treasurer	„ T. G. Charlesworth	P.M. 19
Registrar	„ T. H. Drakeford	P.M. 19
Secretary	„ Charles Harry Page	P.M. 19
Senior Deacon	„ W. E. Willson	P.M. 19
Junior Deacon	„ L. Pierpoint	P.M. 19
Inspector of Works	„ Marshall Green	J.W. 194
Director of Ceremonies	„ Henry Howe	P.M. 21
Asst. D. of Ceremonies	„ Frederick H. Doughty	P.M. 194
Sword Bearer	„ Arthur Armstrong	S.D. 194
Standard Bearer	„ Harvey G. Hurst	J.W. 21
Organist	„ G. E. Hilton	S.O. 30
Inner Guard	„ John W. Farmer	Organist 19
Steward	„ T. James Hall	J.D. 491
Steward	„ C. W. Edwards	R.M. 19
Steward	„ J. H. Inglesant	R.M. 21
Steward	„ W. L. Moss	Sec. 194
		J.O. 491

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." V.W. Bro. Rev. C. T. Moore, P. Chaplain (Eng.), P.P.G.S.W., seconded. The resolution was carried unanimously.

On the motion of W. Bro. G. E. Barton, seconded by W. Bro. J. B. Waring, P.P.G.M.O., "W. Bro. C. H. Page, Prov. G. Secretary, P.G. Steward, England, was appointed to represent the Provincial Grand Mark Lodge upon the Committee of Freemasons' Hall."

It was resolved to send a letter of sympathy to W. Bro. Sir J. H. Marshall, P.G.S.D., England, P.P.G.S.W., in his serious illness, and wishing him a speedy recovery.

W. Bro. H. Howe, Director of Ceremonies, reported that certain collars and jewels were missing, and asked for authority to purchase new ones, and on the motion of R.W. Prov. G.M., seconded by W. Bro. W. A. Lea, P.S.W., it was resolved to refer the question to a Committee consisting of the P.G.M., the Director of Ceremonies, Treasurer and Secretary, with full power to act.

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. Gashorpe (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), V.W. Bro. Rev. E. Morse, P.G.C. Eng., V.W. Bro. T. P. Dorman, P.G.O. Eng. (D.P.G.M. North Hants., Hunts. and Beds.), R.W. Bro. A. D. Hansell, G.S.Eng., W. Bro. G. Trevelyan Lee (Derbyshire), 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. Thorp, 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. J. Thorpe, H. A. Marshall, E. Bland, J. H. Ward, R. Curtis, T. M. Hibbins, J. W. Barker, F. W. Haskard, W. H. Wootton, and Bros. W. C. Rudkin, G. H. Light, H. Mallinson, W. W. Grant, W. Ball, A. S. Nice, A. B. Talbot, T. Flavell, H. Brewster and A. H. J. Matthews.

Provincial Grand Lodge was closed in due form at 6-30 o'clock p.m.