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Jan. 1941

formerly J. Wells

SUPPLEMENT

TO THE

HISTORY OF THE

"CAVEAC LODGE" No. 176.

BY

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IT will be in the recollection of the Brethren that one of the principal objects of my writing the History of the "Caveac Lodge" was to elucidate, if possible, the mystery which surrounded the name of the Lodge.

My theory as to this was that the Lodge at Hammersmith that received a Warrant in 1768 was but a continuation of an older City Lodge which ceased to meet at the Caveac Tavern, Spread Eagle Court, Threadneedle Street, just opposite the Broad Street entrance to the Stock Exchange, in the same year. The actual Buildings forming this Tavern afterwards became Lemann's Biscuit Manufactory, and were finally pulled down in 1840 in connection with the Royal Exchange Improvement Act.

Now, I should desire for a moment to call the attention of the Brethren to the names of five persons mentioned in my History, viz.:—Wm. Acton, of St. Margaret's, Lothbury, Painter, the last Master of the "Caveac Lodge" meeting at the old Caveac Tavern in 1768 (see page 7); John Caveac, the nephew of Bertrand Caveac, the Landlord of the Caveac Tavern who appears in the Parish Lists of 1769, and died 1781 (page 28); John Maddocks, Henry Adams and Vaughan, the first Master, and Wardens of the Caveac Lodge at Hammersmith (pages 46 & 47, and Warrant page 77). I give some account of the two former Brethren, and with regard to

the three latter I mention on page 46 that I cannot trace their names in the Grand Lodge Records, but that possibly they were "experienced Masons who undertook to put the Brethren on the true Masonic line and rule, and then retired." I think the Brethren will agree with me that if the whole of the five names are found connected closely together we have discovered a final and conclusive link between the old Caveac Lodge in the City and the Lodge at Hammersmith.

This link has again been supplied by a happy accident, and through the kind instrumentality of my old friend Bro. Henry Sadler. When writing his interesting History of the Emulation Lodge, No. 21, he informed me that he had come across the name of John Caveac as a Member of that Lodge, and as he was described of Threadneedle Street, he presumed he was the same individual as mentioned in my book. On looking over the old Minute Books of the Emulation Lodge this proved to be the case, and the further important discovery was made that Wm. Acton of Lothbury was also a Member of the Emulation Lodge, and further that John Maddocks, Henry Adams, and John Vaughan were respectively Masters in the years 1757, 1768 and 1769.

Wm. Acton was initiated in the Emulation Lodge 12th December, 1760.

John Caveac of Threadneedle Street, proposed by John Jonesque, 13th July, 1772.

John Maddocks of Castle Street, Laurence Lane, 12th August, 1763.

Henry Adams 27th January, 1764.

John Vaughan joined 25th December, 1764.

I think without doubt what happened was that Wm. Acton, finding he could not assist his old Lodge at Hammersmith, asked three prominent Members of his Mother Lodge, Brothers Maddocks, Adams and Vaughan, experienced Craftsmen, to put the Brethren at Hammersmith on the true Masonic

line and rule, as I conjectured in my History, and thus to give them a good send off. This they very kindly consented to do, and hence probably the peculiar wording of the Warrant: "And do further at their said Petition, and of the great trust and confidence reposed in every of the said above-named Three Brethren Do hereby appoint John Maddocks to be Master, Henry Adams Senior Warden, and Vaughan Junior Warden for opening the said Lodge, and for such further time only as shall be thought proper by the Brethren thereof." It is somewhat late after the lapse of 138 years to return thanks for this kindly and fraternal action, but I think a decided debt of gratitude is due by us to the Emulation Lodge, No. 21.

I should like also to point out that in my History I omitted to mention that the Lodge meeting at the Caveac Tavern originally met at the Blossoms Inn, Lawrence Lane, on the 12th December, 1736; Buffaloes Head, Finch Lane, 1744; Fountain, Bartholomew Lane, 1745; and the Caveac Tavern, 1755 to 1768.

A short extract from my Paper, "Old City Taverns and Masonry," in the Quattuor Coronati Transactions may be of interest. It relates to the Blossoms Inn, the first home of the Lodge.

"A little further east in Lawrence Lane once stood
 "'The Blossoms Inn,' (Plate No. XII) one of the most
 "ancient in the City. Stow refers to it as 'among many
 "four houses there is one large Inn for the receipt of
 "Travellers called Blossoms Inn, but corruptly Bossums
 "Inn, and hath a sign, St. Lawrence the Deacon, in a
 "border of blossoms or flowers.' The legend of St.
 "Lawrence is that he was martyred by being roasted
 "alive on a gridiron, and that flowers sprang up on the
 "spot. In the reign of Henry VIII, 1522, the Emperor
 "Charles V visited England, and an enquiry was held as
 "to the accommodation of certain Inns for housing his

"retinue. 'The Blossoms' is put down as having '20
 "beddes and stabling for 60 horses' (Rutland Papers,
 "Camden Society). Ben Jonson also refers to it in his
 "Masque of Christmas:—

"But now comes Tom of Blossoms Inn

"And he presenteth misrule."

"At this Inn a Master's Lodge (the Caveac) met as
 "early as 1736, the Royal Kent Lodge of Antiquity
 "No. 20 in 1741, and the Jordan Lodge No. 20 as late
 "as 1831. Soon after this date it was pulled down,
 "but the name is still retained in Blossom Yard, the
 "receiving office of the Great Eastern Railway."

SOME FURTHER EXTRACTS FROM THE MINUTES OF GRAND
 LODGE AND "MALCOLM'S ANECDOTES OF LONDON MANNERS
 " IN THE 18TH CENTURY " THROW SOME FURTHER LIGHT
 ON THE LODGE HISTORY

From GRAND LODGE MINUTES, QUARTERLY
 COMMUNICATION, 20th October, 1765.

Concerning Warrant Caveac Lodge. Finch Lane. Two of
 the Brethren attending.

"The Master of the CAVEAC LODGE was for
 "surrendering the Constitutions. A Member of the said
 "LODGE approved it. ORDERED that the Brethren
 "be summoned to the next C.C."

At a Meeting of the Charity Committee for the disposal of the
 GENERAL CHARITY at the HORN TAVERN in Fleet
 Street, January 22nd, 1766.

"The complaint of several Brethren of the Caveac
 "Lodge Finch Lane preferred against the Master, and
 "other Brethren of the said LODGE and referred by
 "the last Quarterly Communication to this Committee
 "of Charity setting forth that the said LODGE had

“been regularly dissolved notwithstanding which the
 “Master and Wardens still continued to hold the said
 “LODGE as usual, and praying that the Dissolution
 “of the said Lodge might be confirmed was heard, and
 “duly considered. RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY
 “that the said pretended dissolution of the LODGE
 “was illegal, and therefore that the said LODGE ought
 “still to subsist, and recommended Harmony to the
 “Brethren for the future, and a choice of new Officers
 “of the LODGE next lodge night.”

The above extracts show beyond doubt that the name
 “Caveac Lodge” was applied to the Lodge meeting at the
 Old Tavern at the corner of Finch Lane and Threadneedle
 Street, and several years before the Warrant was granted in
 1768 for the Lodge at Hammersmith.

EXTRACT FROM MALCOLM'S ANECDOTES OF
 LONDON MANNERS OF 18TH CENTURY. Vol. 1,
 page 279.

“Near the Exchange are two very good French
 “Eating Houses: the one the Sign of Pontack a President
 “of the Parliament of Bordeaux from whose name the
 “best French Claret are called, and where you can
 “besteak a Dinner from 4/- or 5/- a head to a guinea
 “or what sum you please. The other is CAVEACK'S
 “where there is a constant Ordinary as abroad for all
 “comers without distinction, and at a very reasonable
 “price.”