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THE
 CONSTITUTIONS
 OF THE
 FREE-MASONS.

CONTAINING THE
History, Charges, Regulations, &c.
 of that most Ancient and Right
 Worshipful *FRATERNITY.*

For the Use of the **LODGES.**



L O N D O N:

Printed by WILLIAM HUNTER, for JOHN SENEX at the *Globe*,
 and JOHN HOOKE at the *Flower-de-luce* over-against *St. Dunstan's*
Church, in Fleet-street.

In the Year of Masonry ——— 5723
Anno Domini ——— 1723

P O S T S C R I P T.

Here follows the Manner of constituting a **New Lodge**, as practis'd by his *Grace* the D U K E of W H A R T O N, the present *Right Worshipful Grand-Master*, according to the ancient Usages of *Masons*.

A *New Lodge*, for avoiding many Irregularities, should be solemnly constituted by the *Grand-Master*, with his *Deputy* and *Wardens*; or in the *Grand-Master's* Absence, the *Deputy* shall act for his *Worship*, and shall chuse some *Master* of a *Lodge* to assist him; or in case the *Deputy* is absent, the *Grand-Master* shall call forth some *Master* of a *Lodge* to act as *Deputy pro tempore*.

The *Candidates*, or the new *Master* and *Wardens*, being yet among the *Fellow-Craft*, the G R A N D - M A S T E R shall ask his *Deputy* if he has examin'd them, and finds the *Candidate Master* well skill'd in the *noble Science* and the *royal Art*, and duly instructed in our *Mysteries*, &c.

And the *Deputy* answering in the affirmative, he shall (by the *Grand-Master's* Order) take the *Candidate* from among his *Fellows*, and present him to the *Grand-Master*; saying, *Right worshipful G R A N D - M A S T E R, the Brethren here desire to be form'd into a new Lodge; and I present this my worthy Brother to be their Master, whom I know to be of good Morals and great Skill, true and trusty, and a Lover of the whole Fraternity, wheresoever dispers'd over the Face of the Earth.*

Then the G R A N D - M A S T E R, placing the *Candidate* on his left-Hand, having ask'd and obtain'd the unanimous Consent of all the *Brethren*, shall say; *I constitute and form these good Brethren into a new Lodge, and appoint you the Master of it, not doubting of your Capacity and Care to preserve the Cement of the L O D G E, &c.* with some other Expressions that are proper and usual on that Occasion, but not proper to be written.

Upon

Upon this the *Deputy* shall rehearse the *Charges* of a *Master*, and the GRAND-MASTER shall ask the *Candidate*, saying, *Do you submit to these Charges, as Masters have done in all Ages?* And the CANDIDATE signifying his cordial Submission thereunto, the Grand-Master shall, by certain significant Ceremonies and ancient Usages, install him, and present him with the *Constitutions*, the *Lodge-Book*, and the *Instruments* of his Office; not all together, but one after another; and after each of them, the *Grand-Master*, or his *Deputy*, shall rehearse the short and pithy *Charge* that is suitable to the thing presented.

After this, the Members of this *new Lodge*, bowing all together to the *Grand-Master*, shall return his *Worship* Thanks, and immediately do their *Homage* to their *new Master*, and signify their Promise of Submission and Obedience to him by the usual *Congratulation*.

The *Deputy*, and the *Grand-Wardens*, and any other Brethren present, that are not Members of this *new Lodge*, shall next congratulate the *new Master*; and he shall return his becoming Acknowledgments to the GRAND-MASTER first, and to the rest in their Order.

THEN the *Grand-Master* desires the *new Master* to enter immediately upon the Exercise of his Office, in chusing his *Wardens*: And the NEW MASTER calling forth two *Fellow-Craft*, presents them to the *Grand-Master* for his Approbation, and to the *new Lodge* for their Consent. And that being granted,

The *senior* or *junior* GRAND-WARDEN, or some Brother for him, shall rehearse the *Charges* of *Wardens*; and the *Candidates* being solemnly ask'd by the *new Master*, shall signify their Submission thereunto.

Upon which the NEW MASTER, presenting them with the *Instruments* of their Office, shall, in due Form, install them in their proper Places; and the Brethren of that *new Lodge* shall signify their Obedience to the *new Wardens* by the usual *Congratulation*.

And this LODGE being thus compleatly constituted, shall be register'd in the *Grand-Master's* Book, and by his Order notify'd to the *other Lodges*.

A P P R O B A T I O N.

WHEREAS by the Confusions occasion'd in the Saxon, Danish, and Norman Wars, the Records of Masons have been much vitiated, the Free Masons of England twice thought it necessary to correct their CONSTITUTIONS, CHARGES, and REGULATIONS; first in the Reign of King A T H E L S T A N the Saxon, and long after in the Reign of King E D W A R D IV. the Norman: And W H E R E A S the old Constitutions in England have been much interpolated, mangled, and miserably corrupted, not only with false Spelling, but even with many false Facts and gross Errors in History and Chronology, through Length of Time, and the Ignorance of Transcribers, in the dark illiterate Ages, before the Revival of Geometry and ancient Architecture, to the great Offence of all the learned and judicious Brethren, whereby also the Ignorant have been deceiv'd.

And our late *Worthy Grand-Master*, his Grace the DUKE of MONTAGU, having order'd the *Author* to peruse, correct, and digest, into a new and better Method, the *History, Charges, and Regulations*, of the ancient FRATERNITY; He has accordingly examin'd several Copies from *Italy and Scotland*, and sundry Parts of *England*, and from thence, (tho' in many things erroneous) and from several other ancient Records of *Masons*, he has drawn forth the above-written new CONSTITUTIONS, with the *Charges and General Regulations*. And the *Author* having submitted the whole to the Perusal and Corrections of the late and present DEPUTY Grand-Masters, and of other learned Brethren; and also of the *Masters and Wardens* of particular Lodges at their *Quarterly Communication*: He did regularly deliver them to the late GRAND-MASTER himself, the said DUKE of MONTAGU, for his Examination, Correction, and Approbation; and His Grace, by the Advice of several Brethren, order'd the same to be handsomely printed for the use of the Lodges, though they were not quite ready for the Press during his *Mastership*.

THEREFORE We, the present GRAND-MASTER of the Right Worshipful and most ancient Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, the DEPUTY Grand-Master, the Grand-Wardens, the Masters and Wardens of particular Lodges (with the Consent of the Brethren and Fellows in and about the Cities of LONDON and WESTMINSTER) having also perused this Performance, Do JOIN our laudable Predecessors in our solemn Approbation thereof, as what We believe will fully answer the End propos'd; all the valuable Things of the old Records being retain'd, the Errors in History and Chronology corrected, the false Facts and the improper Words omitted, and the whole digested in a new and better Method. K And

And we ordain That these be receiv'd in every particular *Lodge* under our Cognizance, as the ONLY CONSTITUTIONS of *Free and Accepted Masons* amongst us, to be read at the making of *new Brethren*, or when the *Master* shall think fit; and which the *new Brethren* should peruse before they are made.

PHILIP Duke of WHARTON **Grand-Master,**
J. T. DESAGULIERS L. L. D. and F. R. S.
DEPUTY *Grand-Master.*

Joshua Timson }
William Hawkins } *Grand-Wardens.*

And the *Masters* and *Wardens* of particular *Lodges*, viz.

- | | |
|---|---|
| I. THOMAS MORRIS, <i>sen.</i> Master. | XI. FRANCIS Earl of DALKEITH Master. |
| John Bristow }
Abraham Abbot } <i>Wardens.</i> | Capt. Andrew Robinson }
Col. Thomas Inwood } <i>Wardens.</i> |
| II. RICHARD HAIL Master. | XII. JOHN BEAL M. D. and F. R. S. |
| Philip Wolverston }
John Doyer } <i>Wardens.</i> | Master. |
| III. JOHN TURNER Master. | Edward Pawlet Esq; }
Charles More Esq; } <i>Wardens.</i> |
| Anthony Sayer }
Edward Cale } <i>Wardens.</i> | XIII. THOMAS MORRIS <i>jun.</i> Master. |
| IV. Mr. GEORGE PAYNE Master. | Joseph Ridler }
John Clark } <i>Wardens.</i> |
| Stephen Hall M. D. }
Francis Sorell Esq; } <i>Wardens.</i> | XIV. THOMAS ROBBE Esq; Master. |
| V. Mr. MATH. BIRKHEAD Master. | Thomas Grave }
Bray Lane } <i>Wardens.</i> |
| Francis Baily }
Nicholas Abraham } <i>Wardens.</i> | XV. Mr. JOHN SHEPHERD Master. |
| VI. WILLIAM READ Master. | John Senex }
John Bucler } <i>Wardens.</i> |
| John Glover }
Robert Cordell } <i>Wardens.</i> | XVI. JOHN GEORGES Esq; Master. |
| VII. HENRY BRANSON Master. | Robert Gray Esq; }
Charles Grymes Esq; } <i>Wardens.</i> |
| Henry Lug }
John Townshend } <i>Wardens.</i> | XVII. JAMES ANDERSON A. M. }
The Author of this Book. } <i>Master.</i> |
| VIII. Master. | Gwinn Vaughan Esq; }
Walter Greenwood Esq; } <i>Wardens.</i> |
| Jonathan Sisson }
John Shipton } <i>Wardens.</i> | XVIII. THOMAS HARBIN Master. |
| IX. GEORGE OWEN M. D. Master. | William Attley }
John Saxon } <i>Wardens.</i> |
| Eman Bowen }
John Heath } <i>Wardens.</i> | XIX. ROBERT CAPELL Master. |
| X. Master. | Isaac Mansfield }
William Bly } <i>Wardens.</i> |
| John Lubton }
Richard Smith } <i>Wardens.</i> | XX. JOHN GORMAN Master. |
| | Charles Garey }
Edward Morphey } <i>Wardens.</i> |