

HOWE

LODGE, No. 587

(formerly No. 857)

Birmingham

in the Province of Warwickshire.

1851 - 1951

CENTENARY
MEETING

12th March, 1951

Coast List

1.—H.M. The King and the Craft.

Proposed by
THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER.

2.—The Most Worshipful The Grand Master.

Proposed by
THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER.

3.—The Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, the Right Worshipful Assistant Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past.

Proposed by
W. BRO. BRIGADIER H. N. NORTH,
D.S.O., P.DIST.G.D. (PUNJAE).

4.—The Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master.

Proposed by
THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER.

5.—The Deputy Provincial Grand Master, W. Bro. Charles F. Monk, P.G.D.; the Assistant Provincial Grand Masters, W. Bro. P. H. Jackson, P.G.D., and W. Bro. Gerald G. Alderson, F.R.C.S., P.G.D.; and the rest of the Officers, Present and Past, of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Warwickshire.

Proposed by
BRO. THE REV. E. F. H. SPENCER.

6.—The Howe Lodge, No. 587.

Proposed by
THE DEPUTY PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER
W. BRO. CHARLES F. MONK, P.G.D.

7.—The Visitors.

Proposed by
W. BRO. G. E. WEARING.

Officers

Installation, 12th February, 1951

Worshipful Master	-	W. BRO. J. C. PARSONS, P.P.G.W.
I.P.M.	- -	W. BRO. S. H. MORRIS.
Senior Warden	- -	BRO. A. P. BODDINGTON.
Junior Warden	- -	W. BRO. L. ARTHUR SMITH, M.A., B.C.L., P.P.G.REG.
Chaplain	- -	BRO. REV. E. F. H. SPENCER, B.Sc.
Treasurer	- -	W. BRO. C. O. SAXBY, B.A., P.P.G.T.R.
Secretary	- -	BRO. C. LE COUTEUR.
Director of Ceremonies	-	W. BRO. B. A. PEACE, M.C., P.P.G.D.
Senior Deacon	- -	BRO. M. J. WILLIAMS.
Junior Deacon	- -	BRO. H. F. KETCH.
Asst. D. of C.	- -	W. BRO. T. W. WILLANS, PROV.J.G.D.
Almoner	- -	W. BRO. F. W. NASH, P.P.G.D.
Inner Guard	- -	BRO. W. N. DUDLEY EVANS.
Steward	- -	BRO. A. R. ADAMS.
Steward	- -	BRO. W. L. COLE.
Steward	- -	BRO. L. H. M. FOWLE.
Tyler	- -	BRO. L. C. BARRETT.

BRETHREN NOT IN OFFICE.

W. BRO. BRIG. H. N. NORTH, D.S.O., P.DIST.G.D. (PUNJAB), P.M. 691, 1960 AND 4323.	
BRO. PROF. H. POTTER.	BRO. CHARLES LEES.
BRO. A. P. MORLEY.	BRO. F. GOLLINS.
BRO. T. O. GRAY.	BRO. C. L. BOUCHER.
BRO. L. E. HANSON.	BRO. HUBERT RUXTON.
	BRO. R. C. GARDNER.

Home Lodge, No. 587

List of those who have filled the Master's Chair,
1851 - 1951

1851	J. W. Lloyd.	1901	F. W. Richards
1852	B. Smith	1902	Sir A. D. Brooks
1853		1903	C. W. L. Evans
1867	} B. W. Goode.	1904	Sir W. H. Bowater
1868			1905
1854	I. H. Bedford	1906	F. W. Foxcroft
1855	F. H. Roberts	1907	H. R. F. Brooks
1856	J. Ross	1908	W. R. Lane
1857	E. Marshall	1909	G. H. Morley
1858	H. Weiss	1910	Gardner Tyndall
1859	S. L. Foster	1911	R. Heaton
1860	H. Thompson	1912	C. E. Keep
1861	J. H. Chandler	1913	C. T. Appleby
1862	G. Jones	1914	F. H. Finney
1863	W. Robinson	1915	J. Bowater
1864	R. Dawson	1916	G. F. C. Matthews
1865	J. S. Benson	1917	F. W. Nash
1866		1919	R. Savage
1883	} T. Naden	1920	J. R. MacIntosh
1869			1921
1870	E. Ratcliff	1922	T. P. Chatwin
1871	J. V. Solomon	1923	M. Macintosh
1872	J. Treadwell	1924	T. B. Dixon
1873	J. Weiss	1925	} E. A. Edwards
1874	E. Uren	1944	
1874	} Dr. H. Denne	1926	L. N. Middleton
1875			1927
1876	C. F. Rowe	1928	A. Dudley Evans
1877	J. B. Welch	1929	A. E. Cutler
1878	W. C. McEntee	1930	} J. E. Parsons
1879	G. E. Earnshaw	1951	
1880	C. T. Starkey	1931	J. H. Toon
1881	S. E. Howell	1932	L. Arthur Smith
1882	Rev. H. J. Coachafer	1933	A. P. Caudle
1883	A. H. W. Radcliffe	1934	T. H. Gladstone
1884	M. Hooper	1935	} B. A. Peace
1885		1936	
1885	} J. W. Martin	1937	J. R. Keyte
1886			1938
1887	S. Walliker	1939	A. B. Scott
1888	E. B. Podmore	1940	C. O. Saxby
1889	A. W. Young	1941	K. L. Mole
1890	E. F. Thorley	1942	} T. W. Willans
1891	W. A. Bindley	1943	
1892	J. H. Dent	1945	G. A. Clifford
1893	R. J. R. Mackenzie	1946	W. C. Edwards
1894	F. Dudley Docker	1947	H. T. Horton
1895	T. Spearpoint	1948	G. E. Wearing
1896	L. H. Elkington	1949	J. W. Cole
1897	G. E. Stenbridge	1950	S. H. Morris
1898	} H. J. Collins.		
1899			
1900	J. E. Wearing		

William H. Darrell P. G. M.
Chas J. Mowbray Dep. Master

Edw. V. Radford - Wm. J. Parsons
Conrad Pederson

We Commemorate

The Burman

the first Regular Meeting of the HOME LODGE, then
SAMPSON GUILD F. & A. M. Rooms, NEWHALL
STREET, BIRMINGHAM, on

Samuel Guise F. & A. M. Secy
E. Stamp F. & A. M. Pres. G. D. C.
10th March, 1851

when, after the reading of the Petition and the Warrant of Constitution, the Worshipful Master was installed and the Officers appointed and invested as follows:—

Worshipful Master	—	BRO. JOHN WARD LLOYD.
Senior Warden	—	BRO. BASSETT SMITH.
Junior Warden	—	BRO. BENJAMIN WILLIAM GOODE.
Treasurer	—	BRO. ISAAC HAWKER BEDFORD.
Secretary	—	BRO. RICHARD FAIRBAIRNS.
Senior Deacon	—	BRO. FREDERICK JAMES ROBERTS.
Junior Deacon	—	BRO. ROBERT SPENDLOVE GIBBINS.
Director of Ceremonies	—	BRO. MAURICE MYERS.
Inner Guard	—	BRO. LEOPOLD COHEN.
Senior Steward	—	BRO. JOHN ROSS.
Junior Steward	—	BRO. EDWIN MARSHALL.
Tiler	—	BRO. WILLIAM HEELEY.

John Little P. A. G. D. C.
Samuel R. Guinness P. A. G. D. C.

One Hundred Years

In the year 1850 there were only four Masonic Lodges in the newly-created town of Birmingham, and they all met at the Town Hall Tavern, Ann Street (now known as Colmore Row). Some of the Brethren, all zealous members of the same Lodge of Instruction, resolved to found a new Lodge, which would shew Masonry pure and undefiled, free from the old tavern associations, and applying its money to purely Masonic purposes. These excellent principles naturally attracted some opposition and the founders sustained some set backs, but eventually, on 27th January, 1851, Grand Lodge issued to them a Warrant of Constitution under the name of the Howe Lodge, No. 857, taking its name from Lord Howe, the Provincial Grand Master of Warwickshire.

Suitable premises were found over the old Coal Wharf in Newhall Street, the site of which is now occupied by Richmond House, and on 10th March, 1851, the new Lodge held its first Regular Meeting in "The Masonic Rooms, Newhall Street." W. Bro. T. C. Roden, a Past Master of St. Paul's Lodge, No. 51, acted as Installing Master, and installed Bro. John Ward Lloyd as the first Worshipful Master of the Lodge, but there was no ceremony of consecration as would be the case at the present day.

During the ensuing four years the Lodge grew and prospered, devoting the whole of its income to purely Masonic purposes, until it was at length in a sufficiently strong financial position to carry out its original intention of erecting a Masonic Hall. In November 1855 a house, No. 27 (now No. 75) Newhall Street, nearly opposite the existing Masonic Rooms, was acquired on lease, and a sum of £825 was spent on erecting a Lodge Room and in carrying out alterations and improvements. On 8th December, 1856, the Lodge held its first meeting in the new Rooms, and the Building Committee "congratulated the Brethren upon being in possession of the most commodious premises for Masonic purposes in the Province of Warwickshire."

Much of the Lodge furniture and equipment was presented by the Brethren, and their generosity and enthusiasm was so great that within a year the new building was entirely free of debt. The new Rooms provided a home not only for the Howe Lodge itself, but also for its various associated Masonic bodies, the Howe Lodge of Instruction, the Howe Mark Lodge, and the Howe Royal Arch Chapter, all of which were under the direct control and management of the Lodge. Not only were the accounts kept by the Lodge Treasurer, who received and paid all income and expenditure, but all candidates for membership of the Lodge of Instruction, the Mark Lodge and the Royal Arch Chapter were balloted for in the Craft Lodge, to whom their fees were paid.

The Lodge then offered the use of the premises to other Lodges at very low rentals, and within a few years the majority of the Birmingham Lodges were holding their meetings there. In 1863, on the revision of the Register of Grand Lodge, the number of the Howe Lodge was altered from 857 to 587. By that time there were fourteen Masonic bodies meeting in the Howe Masonic Rooms, and it became clear that if the organisation was to continue to expand larger premises must be found. The Howe Lodge again took the lead in the matter, and a Limited Liability Company was formed, charged with the responsibility for erecting a Masonic Hall.

A suitable site was acquired at the corner of New Street and Ethel Street, and on 20th September, 1865, the foundation stone of a Masonic Hall was laid with appropriate ceremonial. When the new building was completed the Howe Lodge, in consideration of what it had done for the promotion of Freemasonry in Birmingham, was granted the privilege of holding the first meeting there on 11th October, 1869.

The Lodge granted to the Masonic Hall Company the right to use all its furniture and effects presented by the Brethren and at the same time sold all the remaining furniture, organ and equipment to the Company at valuation so that the links with the past might, as far as possible, be preserved.

From that time forward the history of the Lodge has been quiet and uneventful. The aims of the founders have been accomplished and their idea of meeting in premises set apart for Masonic purposes, so novel in Birmingham in 1850, has now become the general policy not only in Warwickshire but generally throughout the country.

In the past hundred years the Lodge has numbered among its Members leaders in the arts, the professions, in business and in municipal affairs. Its Members have made a worthy contribution to their day and generation in their respective spheres. It will be for those who follow in the years to come to preserve the great principles which the Founders had in mind in establishing the Lodge, and which have during the past hundred years become a tradition.

"Every reform was once a private opinion."

—Emerson.