

States, are the lineal descendants of the operative lodges or societies of centuries ago. The records of the Worshipful Company of Masons are extant from 1620. The Mason's Hall was in the lane between Basinghall street and Coleman street, known as Hazlewood Abbey, now called Mason's avenue. Its erection dates from 1467, and it was destroyed in the great fire of 1666. In 1668-9 the Hall was rebuilt and occupied by the Company until 1865, when the Hall was sold, and meetings held in other premises. While alterations were being made on the Hall in Mason's avenue, Mr. Robertson obtained a fine piece of English oak that had been taken from part of the interior of the building, and had it fashioned into a chair, which is shown with a carving of the original arms of the Company granted by the Crown in 1472, in the reign of Edward IV. (1461-83).