

And in 1736, the Grand Lodge of Scotland, at Edinburgh; both on a similar basis as the Grand Lodge of England.

I may here note, that up to this time, 1736, Canongate Killwinning Lodge, had held a position in Scotland similar to that held previous to 1717 by the York Lodge in England.

The Grand Lodges of Ireland and Scotland, each appointed Provincial Grand Masters at home and abroad, and followed up the English system in general, and assumed concurrent jurisdiction elsewhere outside of the kingdom.

In England, there remained many Masons who did not approve of the revised system. They not being Masters or Wardens of lodges, could not take part in the proceedings of Grand Lodge. They agitated a return to the former system of a general assembly, where every Mason, "even to the youngest apprentice," had a voice in the deliberations. This plan captivated many young Masons, and it gained proportions, until, in 1798, the schism was developed. They seceded from connection with Grand Lodge; held their assembly at London, and styled themselves "Ancient Masons;" went back to the Ashmole method of work, and taking pattern from Killwinning Lodge, added two additional degrees to their ritual, viz., Templar Mason, and Scottish Master.

This degree of Scottish Master was entirely Catholic and political; they were sworn to uphold the Stuarts.

In 1755, the lodge at York having made little progress, now merged with the so-called Ancient Masons, who then adopted the title of Ancient York Masons. This gave material strength and prestige to this schism body; they were then acknowledged by the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

In 1772, they elected the Duke of Athol as their Grand Master; he was also Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Scotland. They then became a Grand Lodge in fact, and were from that time called the "Athol

Grand Lodge," from the name of their Grand Master. They granted charters to lodges wherever they could cause their system to be adopted. Many were formed in the (now) United States; and thus the Ashmole method was planted in North America. This Athol Grand Lodge became united with the Grand Lodge of England in 1813.

I have thus far confined my sketch to the English rituals. I will now endeavor to explain the origin of the American work.

The first Masonic Lodge established in the (now) United States, was a Provincial Grand Lodge, held at Boston in 1733, under the Grand Lodge of England; it was called "St. John's Grand Lodge." From it many lodges were chartered in the several colonies, under Provincial Grand Master Henry Price.

From 1752, the Grand Lodge of Scotland established a Provincial Grand Lodge also at Boston, called the "St. Andrew's Grand Lodge."

Many lodges were chartered by this Provincial Grand Lodge throughout the colonies. Both occupied a similar position for many years. There were likewise several lodges chartered direct from the Grand Lodge of Ireland, more especially in the colonies of Maryland and Delaware.

In 1792, it was determined by the leading members of the craft in the Eastern States, to bring about the formation of an independent Grand Lodge in each State; and the English, Scotch, and other lodges, agreed together for that purpose; and this plan was soon accomplished.

Now came the question as to what steps should be taken to harmonize the different systems of work, and they adopted a similar course to that of the Grand Lodge of England in 1717.

A convention was held, and the principal officers of all the Grand Lodges in the New England States were appointed as a board to prepare the form of ritual. It is claimed that