

ment, we have no minutes in our possession, and there is very little reference to the Lodge during that period. It was a period of trouble throughout Scotland, and Masonic matters were very much neglected. However, our minutes began again in 1725, and go on until 1777, when we have another break, as from that date to 1815 there is a minute-book missing.

AN AFFILIATION SURPRISE.

For more than a decade there has been a crusade against non-affiliation. No matter how justly a brother remained under dismission he received severe censure from Grand Masters, Committees on Jurisprudence, Committees on Correspondence, and many others, until, in some jurisdictions, he was coldly told that he had no right but that of petitioning for lodge membership. All this came from a gross overestimate of the loss to the Fraternity by dismission. All who dimitted, were dropped or suspended or expelled, were counted as loss, and the affiliations and restorations were overlooked, and, of course, not counted as regained. One day, while examining a table of general statistics, we discovered that no per centum of non-affiliates regained was shown. We forthwith tried the matter and was surprised to find that more than two thirds of all who had become non-affiliated had been regained. Since that time we have been watching the per centum in the respective Grand Jurisdictions, and, this month, was surprised to find that in Utah the number affiliated so far exceeded the non-affiliated that the per centum of regaining was one hundred and forty-one. We were also surprised at finding from the statistics of one Grand Royal Arch Chapter that more than ninety-eight per centum of the non-affiliates had been regained. Judging by the light we now possess, we believe that the brethren who willfully remain non-affiliated, are comparatively few in number, and that nearly all could and would be regained

if true Masonic means were used to accomplish that object. More than sixty six per centum of the non-affiliates are regained; at least ninety per centum of them ought to be; let brotherly love accomplish that object. Let the non-affiliated be sought and invited to visit the lodges and to petition for membership. Let the law be made so that nought but objection, sustained by charges, trial and verdict, shall prevent affiliation, and let the affiliation fee be abolished.--*Voice of Masonry.*

MASONIC LODGE AT GATES-HEAD.

On the 1st May, Bro. W. J. Hughan, of Torquay, P.G.D. of England, the well-known Masonic historian, gave a special lecture in the Industry Masonic Hall, Gateshead, on "The Old Lodges of Great Britain and Ireland."

Bro. W. J. Hughan, in the course of his lecture, maintained that lodges had existed in Great Britain from the 14th century. There was abundant evidence of the antiquity of the Order, and that it was not a modern institution, with its origin in last century, as some had contended. He referred to the actual records that were in existence of there being Operative Masons meeting in connection with the building of some of their grand and ancient cathedrals; and there was no doubt they met and carried on their trade in private to preserve the mystery of their Craft as Masons. Then they admitted for certain purposes a number of gentlemen, many in high positions, and in time there became societies which were composed of those who were not Operative, and were called "Speculative Masons." There were also lodges with both Operative and Speculative members. He was glad that the lecture was held in that old Industry Lodge at Gateshead, which had its records for nearly two centuries past, into the time when they were an Operative lodge, and met at Swalwell. The old minute-book of that Industry Lodge