

Grand Warden, the Right Worshipful and Honorable Richard Bulkeley, Esq., was made a Master Mason.

"Governor Cornwallis, indeed, while he resided in the Province was Master of this Lodge and governed it by a Deputy, according to the custom prevailing in Scotland. He was succeeded in the government and in the chair by Governor Lawrence, who enjoyed both till his death." (Oct. 19th, 1760).

Had the 1750 Lodge an earlier origin. R. W. Bro. Geo. J. Bennett, of the Grand Lodge of Canada in Ontario, in the "Library of Freemasonry" (Gould & Hughan) Vol. IV, P. 502, says, "The only two Lodges that appear to be traceable to Philips authority were those claimed to have been warranted at Annapolis in 1738 and at Halifax in 1750. The Annapolis Lodge, it is said, was removed to Halifax in 1749, becoming No. 1. There is no record however of its original working or subsequently." With this theory, that the Halifax Lodge of 1750 was the Annapolis Lodge transferred to the new capital, we entirely disagree.

First, the language of the petition for the 1750 Lodge is altogether inconsistent with such theory.

Secondly, in the minutes and proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, from 1750 to 1767, the Annapolis Royal Lodge is frequently mentioned in the same minutes along with the Lodge at Halifax established by Cornwallis.

Thirdly, there is the possession of the Annapolis Royal Lodge of today, a travelling certificate or dimit, dated April 30th, 1758, signed by the W. M. and Wardens of a Lodge at Annapolis Royal, No. 136. The No. 136 has never been explained but there seems no reason to doubt that the Annapolis Lodge of 1758 (No. 136), was the same Lodge as that founded by Philips in 1738 and referred to in the Massachusetts Grand Lodge Proceedings from 1738 to 1767.

It may well be that with the transfer of the capital from Annapolis Royal to Halifax some of the members of the Annapolis Lodge affiliated with the Halifax Lodge. Possibly Philips himself did this for he was often in Halifax and came to the capital as the representative for the County of Annapolis in the Legislature in 1759, dying there in 1760.

The Founders. The names signed to the historic document of June 12th, 1750, as founders of the First Lodge