

whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder."

Let then this Sacred Truth prevail with us, my Brethren, over all Herefy in opinion, till it burn up and consume the precious Superstructure of Wood, Hay, and Stubble, and true Masonry, like oft tried silver appear again in its native purity and candor. In this condition we received it from our Fathers; so sacred a deposit let us religiously keep, and transmit with the same pious care to our Posterity.

Some account of that Ancient Body of Free Masons who have delivered to us these records, may justly merit a place here; which will lead me to the Second Point I proposed to handle—A Brief detail of the past and present state of that Ancient order of York Masons.

England is the Country where our Order has from the beginning appeared with the greatest Eclat.

We read that Prince Edwin first summoned all the Ancient Masons at York, A. D. 626, at which time the laws and regulations were made for the perpetual Harmony of the Brotherhood. The Innocence and Integrity of its first principles have to our days been conspicuous, without having incurred the shadow of suspicion or reproach.

It has admitted amongst its members, the honest men of all Parties—Catholics and Protestants, Presbyterians,