

participate in all the social, moral, and Masonic virtues ; presiding with a kind of parental and masterly skill over the concerns of the Lodge, vigilantly guarding its interests, enforcing its precepts, and performing its rituals in that impressive manner that often reminds us of the wisdom and skill of our First Most Excellent Grand Master.

This was a time of war, the whole country in commotion, every prospect uncertain, business fluctuating, and no permanency to any pursuit whatever. Many, on both sides of the Line, were engaged in smuggling, this being a lucrative, but at the same time most hazardous, employment. Shots were occasionally exchanged ; some slightly, others severely wounded ; and one man from Stanstead instantly killed while driving a drove of cattle into Canada. Another had his knee shattered by a musket-ball so that he lost his leg ; but this, instead of discouraging or intimidating, served rather to enrage, and render the parties more desperate and determined, and, being highly incensed at the customs officers, who so often shared in the rich spoils of the frontier war, being fraught with vengeance, gathered together and equipped for battle.

Golden Rule Lodge being apprised of their intentions, twice interposed, and twice, through masonic influence, were armed mobs prevailed upon to disperse and abandon the sanguinary enterprise. Thus Golden Rule and Lively Stone Lodges, by a reciprocal interchange of kind and friendly acts preserved a good degree of order and harmony among the frontier inhabitants of Derby and Stanstead.

In 1815 the Lodge invested a considerable sum in the building of a hall in the tavern of Bro. Adam Noyes. On the 24th of February, Brother Captain Israel Wood was buried with Masonic honors, it being the first funeral held by the Lodge.

About 1821 the Lodge was doing but a small amount of work ; the Mystic Temple exhibited marks of decay ; some