

Sayer, Grand Master, commanded the Masters and wardens of lodges to meet the Grand Officers every quarter in communication at the place appointed in his summons sent by the Tyler.

The preliminary meeting was held on the 20th of February, 1716, according to the old style, which was in use at the time Grand Lodge was formed and when Dr. Anderson wrote, but it was in 1717 as we now reckon time.

Steps were at once taken to harmonize the legend of the craft with modern ideas, to frame a system of regulations for the government of the newly created Grand Lodge, and to re-arrange the ceremonies. James Anderson, D.D. a Scotchman, and pastor of a Presbyterian church in London was asked to undertake the first of these tasks. He procured as many Masonic documents as possible and "digested" them into a new narrative, adding such items of later history as he thought necessary.

The General Regulations (which may be called the first Constitution of Grand Lodge) were compiled by George Payne in 1718, when Grand Master. They were revised by Anderson and adopted by Grand Lodge.

It is certain that there was but one degree in the old Masonic work, used at the initiation of Apprentices and at the acceptance of members not Masons. The second and third degrees appear to have been invented between 1717 and 1723, but by whom is not known.

Apparently there was rivalry between the operative masons and the accepted, or gentlemen masons, for control of the new Grand Lodge. For the satisfaction of the former, it was provided that the old landmarks should be carefully preserved, and that no new regulations should be adopted, nor change made in the old regulations without the assent of the majority of all the brethren, even of the youngest apprentices.

There is reason for thinking that the phrase relating to the ancient landmarks merely meant the privileges and customs of the lodges of operative masons, and that this enactment was afterwards strengthened by the declaration that it was not in the power of any man or any body of