

66 Golden Spikes at Hamstead, 2nd and 4th Saturday. April 28th, 1730.

67 King's Head in Fleet street, 2nd and 4th Friday. May 22nd, 1730.

As we have copied the foregoing from a printed list of 1730, which was not an *authorised* publication, the dates of constitution ascribed to Nos. 1 and 2 must be received as an approximation only, no particulars being obtainable of the origin of either Lodge. Some of the other dates are also doubtful.

The following will exhibit at a glance, the few of the 67 in existence in 1730, which have continued their meetings down to the year 1874, (viz. 15) and the changes which have been made in their respective numbers.

	1863	'32	'13	1792	'56	'30
Antiquity, London.....	2	2	2	1	1	1
Royal Somerset, London.....	4	4	4	2	2	3
Friendship, London.....	6	6	6	3	3	4
British, London.....	8	8	8	4	4	6
Westminster and K. S., London.....	10	10	10	5	5	7
Fortitude, London.....	12	12	12	6	8	11
Tuscan, London.....	14	14	14	7	7	10
Royal Alpha, London.....	16	16	16	8	6	8
Old Dundee, London.....	18	18	18	9	9	9
R. Kent of Antiquity, Chatham.....	20	20	20	10	10	13
Emulation, London.....	21	21	22	12	13	19
Globe, London.....	23	23	25	14	16	23
Castle L. of H., London.....	26	27	29	18	22	37
Old King's Arms, London.....	30	33	36	21	25	42
St. Alban's, London.....	32	35	38	22	26	45

MOTHER KEMP ON MASONIC HISTORY.

ON Sunday last we paid our usual visit to the humble domicile of our highly-esteemed old friend, Mother Kemp. We found her sitting in her big arm chair, with her well-worn Family Bible on her lap, which she appeared to be perusing with more than her usual interest. But few Christain women read the Good Book more than Mother Kemp.

"I have just been reading, James," said she, as she lifted her well worn specs to the top of her head, "of the history of Solomon. He was a might smart man, Jeems, to live so far back in history as he did. But then, the Bible tells us that God gave him an extra amount of wisdom in order that he might have sense enough to build that great Temple at Jerusalem. That was a big job, Jeems," said she, "and there are but few men now, in these days, who could have built such a great, costly house as that without breaking up at it."

"Was Solomon the first Mason, Jeems?" she asked.

"I judge not, Mother Kemp," we responded. "The institution of Masonry," we informed her, "went back of even Solomon's time."

"Went back of even Solomon's time?" she repeated, with a stare of surprise—"then it must be as old as the Bible, Jeems," she added. "If it is," said she, "it is the oldest institution we read of in history."

"It certainly goes back a long way, Mother Kemp," said we.

"Well, but Jeems, why don't the Bible say something about it then?" she asked, very inquiringly.

"I think it does, Mother Kemp, in a good many places," we affirmed.

"Well, now, Jeems, I would like for you to show me the book, chapter and verse where Masonry is named in the whole Bible," she said, rather defiantly.

We saw that the good lady was getting into one of her philosophic ways, and for fear she would lose her confidence in Masonry, as well as in the antiquity of our institution, we informed her that the Masonic Order did not, like the churches, profess to be of divine or Bible origin, but that it claimed to be only a fraternal Society, organized a long time ago, on the moral basis of the Bible, but when and by whom we did not exactly know, nor did we particularly care, as its present character and vitality were worth a great deal more to us than any dead antiquities.

"Just so, Jeems," broke in the good woman; "I see now why you all prize Masonry so much. It is not because it had some great body to give it a start, but, as you say, because it looks after all of us poor humans now. "Well, Jeems," said she, "you know I first took a notion to Masonry when I saw how good you were to Sister Forbes and her little children, although she was only a non-affiliated widow. I like your way of doin' things in helping her, and I don't think you need care who started Masonry up, if it always looks after the poor and the sufferin', as it now does, so to speak."