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TRINITY.

Through the kind courtesy of Mr. Richard Ash, of St. John's, I have been given the privilege of looking over and reviewing some Masonic literature, that takes us back over a hundred years in the history of Trinity, and gives us a glimpse of the fraternal life of some of the men of those years. The literature consists of an original manuscript-copy of the Bye-Laws of Union Lodge, A.F. and A.M., names of members, and a copy of a letter from the Secretary of the Grand Lodge of England, under the jurisdiction of which the local lodge did its work.

Although there was no Masonic Lodge in Trinity when I was a small boy, yet I was familiar with the words "Free Mason." These words to me were always associated with love and mystery, and as some man would be pointed out to me as a Free Mason, I usually took the other side of the road, kept my eye on him, and made for home as fast as I could, with a consciousness that I had a narrow escape from something—I did not know just what. Whilst in later years the local doctor, the magistrate and other leading residents of Trinity were supposed to belong to the Order, the majority of the Trinity who came to us, were the captains and the engineers of the sailing vessels and steamers, that traded between Trinity and foreign ports.

I did not know just what those men were to one another, but to me and to others they represented high respectability, plus the knowledge of something deeply mysterious, and we treated them accordingly, with a feeling that something might happen if we did not. The names of the ten members of Union Lodge for whom a per capita tax of two shillings was remitted to the Grand Lodge of England in 1820, were Richard Ash, Thmoas Powell, Thomas Bell, James Clemence, John Hall, John Lander, Joseph Tavernor, Thomas Gaylor, William Collins, John Skelton; and the occupation as given of eight of those men is **"Mariner."** Thomas Powell was the Sheriff, and Richard Ash is marked as "Dealer and Shopman"—though of course he was a "Master Mariner."

This list of members was made up at a meeting of Union Lodge, No. 698, held in the Court House at Trinity on the 27th of December (St. John's Day) 1819, and signed by Joseph Tavernor, Secretary. In a previous list of names, appended to the By-Laws made and passed in open Lodge, on August 6th, **1818,** the names of George Pittman, Robert Slade, Jr., Philip Hammon, and John Clacher are given as members; and the date, April 20th, **1795** as given on a fly leaf would indicate the existence of the Lodge at that date. Judging from the positions of the names of Richard Ash and Joseph Tavernor in those lists, the former, (the great grand-father of our present Richard Ash) was the first Secretary; and though the name of Rev. John Clinch does not appear in the list of members, he was a Free Mason, and probably was the Chaplain when he died in **1819.**

The Lodge Room in which the meetings were held (after the first meeting in the Court House) was the upstairs of the house now occupied by Mr. George Bartlett as a dwelling house. The regular meetings were held during the evenings of the first and third Wednesdays "in every calendar month." Every member absent from either of those meetings was fined one shilling; the Initiation fee was **four pounds five shillings,** and the annual fee was **four shillings and sixpence.** Section 7 of the By-Laws provides that "the annual Feast of this Lodge shall be held on the 24th of June, in commemoration of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist." The bill of fare, however, on his occasion is not given, but I presume it was more comprehensive than that of their patronal Saint.

Section 10 of the By-Laws corresponds with that in the By-Laws of the old Trinity Benefit Club of the same period, and exacts a fine of **Two shillings and sixpence,** and to quit the Lodge, and for the second offence to be expelled in the case of a member coming to the Lodge meeting "in a state of intoxication, or for swearing or behaving in an indecent and unbecoming manner." Though, doubtless, this By-Law was necessary in those days, as years went by the times changed for the better, and it was eliminated. Running all through the twenty-one By-laws as given in this manuscript, there is a thread of high moral requirement demanded of the members of the Order, such as make for that gentlemanly conduct which Masonry ever strives to produce; and Union Lodge, during its working years, must have had an influence for good, not only upon its members, but also upon the people of Trinity with whom they were associated.

The Jewels of this (Union) Lodge are now in a glass case in the Lodge Room of the Masonic Temple at St. John's, and, I presume, they would be handed over to a resuscitated Union Lodge in Trinity, if it ever were undertaken. There are at present, at least twelve members of the Order in Trinity and Trinity East. I have some notes on the life of old Richard Ash during the war with France, but I shall keep them for use next week.

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Long years ago in the history of Trinity there was a battery of muzzle loading cannon on the top of Gun Hill, to assist in defending the town against the marauding Frenchmen of that day. After peace had been proclaimed and the Frenchmen, like gentlemen, had gone home, the guns were left to look after themselves. They did not, however, enjoy many peaceful years there, for the temptation to throw them over the hill was too strong for the boys and men who went up to see them, and the guns were soon dismounted, and reposing at the base of the hill. Then, later, they were taken up and mounted on Rider's Hill. Then some were taken to Cape Mackerel. Then they were removed to different places, and one was thrown over the Government Government wharf. There it lay in the water under the slip till last week, when Mr. Bishop had it taken up, placed in position on the new wharf, embedded in concrete, and converted into a "grump-head." It does not follow that it is a **substantial** one, for it has reached that condition of disintegration that renders the material of which it is made, easy of defacement, and already the boys have begun to dig into it with their knives. I wish it had the power to talk to me of history and reminiscences. I would gladly give it a patient hearing, and then I would give my readers something deeply interesting. But, alas!

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Goldwithey, 1774. Henry Goldwithey, married to Jean Jones, daughter of William Jones, Planter in English Harbour.

Lambert, 1780. George Lambert, of Dorset, England, married to Catherine Ivamy, of English Harbour.

Knight, 1792. Stephen Knight, of Dorset, England, married to Ann March, daughter of Stephen and Ann March, Old Perlican.

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Sunday last—**Memorial Day**—was a day filled with hallowed associations and deeply interesting actions, in connection with St. Paul's congregation, Church of England. At 8 o'clock there was a celebration of the Holy Communion in the Mortuary Chapel. Before the service began, the Altar, Reredos, and Altar Cross—placed there by Mrs. Orlando Morris and her children—were offered to God, and dedicated to His honor and glory, and in loving memory of **Orlando Jas. Morris,** (husband and father) who was lost at sea. After the dedication, verse four of Rev. William Bullock's hymn was sung—"We love thine Altar Lord; O what on earth so dear? For there in faith adored. We find Thy presence near."

The service of Holy Communion that followed was in every sense most beautiful, and such a service as can be rendered only in the quiet morning hour, and there in God's Acre, with the most sacred memories coming to us through a dozen different avenues. The names of loved ones on stone and tablet, on windows and Altar, not only reminds us of those "we loved and lost awhile," but as the words "We also bless Thy Holy Name for all Thy servants departed this life in Thy faith and fear" were uttered, we mentally spoke their names to God, with the assurance that, in that holy service they are always very near to us, and that they are the better for our prayers. Truly it was, and is always a Memorial Service!

At 11 o'clock, Morning Prayer was said, and Holy Communion was celebrated in the Parish Church. The Church was decorated with British flags, and a sermon on the lessons and duties of Memorial Day was preached by the rector.

Three o'clock found us all again in and around the Mortuary Chapel (which was filled to overflowing) for the service of the two beautiful windows, in memory of **Charles Rowe** and **James R. Woolridge.** Every window and tablet in the building was wreathed with evergreen. No name was forgotten, whilst the two windows to be dedicated were draped with the White and Red Ensigns and Union Jacks. Mr. William White (the Secretary of the Chapel and Cemetery Committee) represented the donors of Altar and Windows, and formally offered them for dedication, which was then done by the Priest in charge of the service. The whole service was a beautiful rendering of special hymns and prayers and psalms, and lessons, together with an address on the objects of the service, followed by the hymn "The Supreme Sacrifice," and ending with the Benediction. This little chapel, always open, and frequented every day by those who have learnt to value it—is a silent but the most powerful preacher of some of God's revealed truths, that the parish has ever had.

Festal Evensong at 6.30 in the Parish Church, with special hymns and lessons, and a Memorial sermon from the text: **"The souls of the righteous are in the Hands of God"** brought to a close a Sunday not soon to be forgotten, and fraught with blessings to souls on earth and in the Paradise of God.

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S.S. Diana came in on Friday on her way to Labrador.

The water at **"Barlow Beach,"** Glencove, is still cold for bathing, but in other respects it is very attractive just now.

Capt. Barbour is again in charge of the **"Senef"** and will do duty in the mail and passenger service on Labrador.

Mrs. John House, of St. John's, is visiting friends at Trinity and Trinity East. Always glad to see her.

Mr. Azariah King, school teacher of Bonaventure, spent the week end and Sunday with his friend, Mr. Smith, at Trinity.

The Hon. D. A. Ryan was a passenger from St. John's by schooner on Sunday, and registered at Garland Hotel. Always glad to see him.

One of the little boys who came here with his parents (Mr. and Mrs. William House) from Grand Falls to spend a holiday, died of croup on Sunday last.

We are glad to see Miss Bessie Green (Nurse) at home again. She came from New York by Saturday's express, and will spend a quiet holiday with parents and friends.

Miss Marie Eriksen and Miss Mollie White, of Bishop Spencer College, St. John's, came home by Monday's express. We wish them the usual pleasant vacation, such as Trinity alone can supply.

Nurse Tibbs and her sister Miss Ruth, were passengers by the Prospero from St. John's, to spend their summer vacation at their old home in Trinity. Glad to see them.

Miss Somerton came by the Prospero from St. John's last week. She will spend the summer in Trinity, and then she will go to Toronto where she has accepted a position on the teaching staff of Bishop Bethune College.

Dr. and Mrs. Sinclair are enthusiastic golfers, and are doing their best to enjoy the game, on an apology for links, on the Neudic Point. It is a long time since any one golfed in Trinity, and though we do not understand the game we are glad to see the Doctor and Mrs. Sinclair enjoying it.

Some few weeksk ago I referred to Rev. Mr. Crouch, who was Rev. Benjamin Smith's curate, and who taught a private school for Mr. Smith's children. Those who remember him and Mrs. Crouch, may be pleased to know that Mrs. Crouch is still living in England. She is over 80 years of age now, but "hale and hearty."

The new public wharf is completed, and the captains of the steamers who have brought their vessels alongside of it, and the passengers who have landed on it, endorse public opinion, that it is a fine structure, and that good value has been received by the Government for the work done in connection with it. It will outlast many of us, who, at present are deeply interested in the structure, and are grateful for it.

—W.J.L.

Trinity, June 9.

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