

to grant dispensations for conferring degrees at irregular times.

This prerogative was not anciently possessed by the Grand Master, because no such dispensations were needed, inasmuch as each lodge was entirely uncontrolled in regard to the times of conferring the degrees, and conferred them when it pleased.

7°. The prerogative of the Grand Master to grant dispensations for opening and holding lodges.

The old lodges were opened and held by the spontaneous and free action of the members, without authority from any one. The practice of granting warrants and charters grew up in modern days; and the Grand Lodges may if they see fit, take away from the Grand Masters the power of granting what are now incorrectly styled dispensations.

8°. The prerogative of the Grand Master to make Masons at sight.

The Grand Master could make Masons with the aid of a proper number of brethren called together by him, but the power of a Grand Master to take a person into a room and by himself alone to make him a Mason will be looked for in vain in the ancient charges and regulations. And this supposed prerogative was not a landmark, because it no longer belongs to Grand Masters.

It is supposed to have always been a landmark that a man could only be made a Mason in a just and lawfully constituted lodge. But this became a law of Masonry by being enacted by the Grand Lodge; and independent lodges, at Newcastle, and elsewhere, holding no charters, but self-constituted, continued to make Masons at will.

In Scotland private lodges had the right to issue commissions on "dispensations" to one or more individuals to admit and enter such duly qualified persons as might apply to them into the society or lodge, either as Apprentices or Fellow Crafts. This was done by the lodge of Kilwinning in 1677; in the lodge of Haughfoot in the early part of the eighteenth century; in 1804, by Lodge Royal Arch, of Maybole, which commissioned one of its members to confer degrees, and in other cases.

9°. The necessity for Masons to congregate in lodges.

10°. The government of every lodge by a Master and Wardens.

These were undoubtedly landmarks.

11°. The necessity that every lodge, when congregated, should be duly tiled.

Undoubtedly it was a landmark that the work of the lodge should be done in private; but it was not necessary that it should have a Tiler without the door, if it could be otherwise made secret and secure.

12°. The right of every Mason to be represented in all general meetings of the Craft, and instruct his representatives.

Every Apprentice and Fellow Craft in London and Westminster has a right to be present and vote, but no right to be "represented" in the general assembly. In the Grand Lodge individual Masons were not represented. The Masters and Wardens represented the lodge, and not Masons who were unaffiliated; and the right of instruction never belonged to "every" Mason or to any individual Mason; neither was any such right recognised when the general assemblies were deprived of their powers by usurpation on the part of the Grand Lodge.

Nor was it ever a landmark that a lodge represented in Grand Lodge could instruct its representatives there in regard to questions and matters as they arose.

13°. The right of every Mason to appeal from the decision of his brethren in lodge convened to the Grand Lodge or to a general assembly of Masons.

There never was any right of appeal from the decision of a lodge to the general assembly; and the right of appeal to the Grand Lodge was not possessed by individual members, except so far as it was given by the Grand Lodge, and in regard to very many decisions, never had existed in England at all.

14°. The right of every Mason to visit and sit in every regular lodge.

There is no such right now, and there never was any such right. No Mason from this country can visit a lodge in London without being vouched for, not only as a Mason, but as a person fit to be received. Any member of a lodge can object to a Mason seeking to visit his lodge.

15°. That no visitor not known to some brother present as a Mason can enter a lodge without undergoing examination.

It is a law enacted by the Grand Lodge of England that no brother can visit without being vouched for; but in most countries of the world there are no examinations, a visitor being admitted upon production of his diploma or patent.

If it is a landmark that no person not vouched for can visit without being examined, brethren from other countries, in