

Thirdly, on the death of Grand Master Phillips in 1760, he was succeeded by the Hon. Jonathan Belcher, the Governor of the Province, who held the office until his death in 1776. The entire absence of any reference to him or his appointment in the records of the Grand Lodge of England, ("Ancients" or "Moderns") or in those of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, leads to the inference that he must have been elected to that office by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia.

It has also been assumed that "no lodges were opened under the authority of the Prov. Grand Warrant of 1757." This assumption would also seem to be in error for in 1769, there was published in Boston, "A Candid Disquisition on the Principles and Practices of the A. & Hon. Soc. of F. & A. M.," by William Calcott, P. M.. The second edition, published in 1772, contains a list of the original subscribers, including a considerable number from Nova Scotia. Many of these names are followed by the number of the Lodge to which the subscriber belonged, and it is significant that the only Lodges mentioned are the Provincial Grand Lodge and Lodges Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6, clearly showing that the three charters issued by the "Ancients" in 1757, had been acted upon, and that they had continued to work until 1769 if not later.

Lodge No. 2. Additional evidence of the continuance of one of these Lodges is to be found in the records of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts where we find the following correspondence, between Isaac DeCoster, (one of the petitioners to the Grand Lodge of Scotland in 1752, for the charter of St. Andrew's Lodge) in Boston, and the members of that Lodge. DeCoster was named as the first Master of the proposed Lodge. DeCoster was evidently at Louisburg in 1758-9. The charter for St. Andrew's Lodge arrived in Boston sometime during 1756-7, and is dated Nov. 30th, 1756, (a very appropriate date for a Lodge named after the Patron Saint of Scotland). The first letter is as follows:

"Halifax, June 23rd, 1760.

"Worshipful Brother,—

"I understand from a letter from Brother Whatley, that the Warrent for holding a Lodge in Boston is arrivde in Boston from Scotland, though you have not writ one word