

fame, his glorious actions, are engraven on the tablet of universal remembrance, and will survive in marble monuments or local inscriptions.

1777, March 8. The brethren who had been dispersed in consequence of the war, being now generally collected, they assembled to take into consideration the state of Masonry. Being deprived of their chief by the melancholy death of their Grand Master, as before mentioned, after due consideration they proceeded to the formation of a Grand Lodge, and elected and installed the Most Worshipful Joseph Webb, their Grand Master.

1783, January 3. A committee was appointed to draft resolutions explanatory of the power and authority of this Grand Lodge. On the 24th June following, the committee reported as follows, viz. :—

The committee appointed to take into consideration the conduct of those brethren who assume the powers and prerogatives of a Grand Lodge, on the ancient establishment in this place, and examine the extent of their authority and jurisdiction, together with the powers of any other ancient Masonic institution within the same, beg leave to report the result of their examination, founded on the following facts, viz. :—

That the commission from the Grand Lodge of Scotland, granted to our late Grand Master, Joseph Warren, Esq., having died with him, of course his deputy, whose appointment was derived from his nomination, being no longer in existence, they saw themselves without a head, and without a single grand officer; and in consequence it was evident that not only the Grand Lodge, but all the particular lodges under its jurisdiction, must cease to assemble, the brethren be dispersed, the penniless go unassisted, the craft languish, and ancient Masonry be extinct in this part of the world.

That in consequence of a summons from the former grand officers to the Masters and Wardens of all the regular constituted lodges, a grand communication was held, to consult and advise on some means to preserve the intercourse of the brethren.

That the political head of this country having destroyed this connection and correspondence between the subjects of these states and the country from which the Grand Lodge originally derived its commissioned authority, and the principles of the Craft inculcated on its professors submission to the commands of the civil authority of the country they reside in; the brethren did assume an elective supremacy, and under it chose a Grand Master and Grand Officers, and erected a Grand Lodge, with independent powers and prerogatives, to be exercised however on principles consistent with, and subordinate to the regulations pointed out in the constitutions of ancient Masonry.

That the reputation and utility of the Craft, under their jurisdiction, has been more extensively diffused by the flourishing state of the fourteen lodges constituted by their authority, within a shorter period than that in which three only received dispensations under the former Grand Lodge.

That in the history of our Craft we find, that in England there are two Grand Lodges independent of each other; in Scotland the same; and in Ireland their Grand Lodge and Grand Master are independent either of England or Scotland. It is clear that the authority of some of those Grand Lodges origi-

nated in assumption; or, otherwise, they would acknowledge the head from whence they derived.

Your committee are therefore of opinion, that the doings of the present Grand Lodge were dictated by principles of the clearest necessity, founded in the highest reason, and warranted by precedents of the most approved authority.

This report was accepted, and corresponding resolutions entered into by the Grand Lodge and recorded.

A MODEL MASTER.

BY M. W. BRO. WM. MERCER WILSON, GRAND MASTER.

To become the model Master of a Lodge should be the ambition of every Brother, and to discharge with efficiency and zeal the duties of that important office should be his most anxious desire. These duties are not confined to the mere repetition of a few phrases, learned by rote, but he should be enabled to instruct the Craft, not only as to the meaning and origin of our ceremonies, but also to explain to them the philosophy which is veiled in its allegories and illustrated by its symbols. He should be able, also, to convince his Brethren, that all science and art, legitimately directed, are but lines that radiate towards the great "I AM," that the Sciences are the *media* by which we are led to contemplate the goodness, greatness, wisdom and power, of the Great Architect of the Universe; and that the Arts are the modes we have developed of expressing our sense and admiration of the wondrous glories of an Almighty Father which are scattered around us. The Master of a Lodge should also, in his life and in his conversation, be a model for his Brethren to admire and imitate, and should himself practice, out of the Lodge, those great moral doctrines and virtues which he inculcates within its walls. He should be punctual and methodical in all things, and, both by his character and conduct, command the respect, the esteem, and good will of all men; for, as the Master is supreme in his Lodge, and distinguished by his position in the Craft, so should he also be distinguished as the possessor of an irreproachable character, a dignified demeanor, an expanded intellect, and a liberal education. Happy and prosperous must those Lodges be which are governed by such men!—their time of meeting is looked forward to by the Brethren with the most pleasing anticipation. Prompt at the hour, every Brother is at his station, and the work is carried on with pleasure and profit. The Worshipful Master who presides over his Lodge with ability, firmness, and decision; (for without force of character there can be no force of impression) whose manner is courteous yet dignified; whose decisions are consonant with reason and Masonic Law; and who dispenses light and information among the Craft, will ever be regarded by his Brethren as one who is entitled to their highest respect and their most fraternal regard. The anxious enquirer after Truth and Light feels that he may appeal with confidence and safety to such a ruler of a Lodge, as to one who is not only able and willing to reward and advance him according to his ability and worth, but to one whose duty and high privilege it is to diffuse the beams of light and to scatter abroad the seeds of truth. The aspirant, animated by the love of truth, uninfluenced by mercenary motives, duly appreciating the philosopher's apothegm, that