

mained dormant until 1809 (the precise time of the dormancy Brother Smith was unable to discover), when a few brethren in Hull, with "the advice and assistance of two military lodges in the town applied to the brethren at Liverpool, in whose possession it remained, and ultimately it was purchased for them." Application was then made to the Grand Master to permit of the arrangement, and permission was granted accordingly. The two lodges which advised the removal as mentioned were attached to Cumberland and Lancashire militia, and are thus described in the "Ancient" List of 1870: 120 "Second Lancashire Regiment." These military lodges accompanied the regiments in their travels, and, as we have seen, were at Hull in 1809. In the "Ancient" List of 1813, No. 120 was at Plymouth. It became 144 at the "Union," and soon afterwards expired. No. 205 had changed its title to "Royal Cumberland Militia," and was held at Halifax, in Yorkshire. At the "Union" it was numbered 270, and at the alteration in 1832 became 192, but did not live to witness the change in 1863.

On the 17th March, 1809, the "Ancient Knight Templars' Lodge" assembled for the first time in Hull, its final resting place, and happy and prosperous home. The house in which the meetings were then held was called the "Fleece Inn," in the Market place, which made no pretensions to rival the order of the "Golden Fleece" for antiquity. On the 2nd July, 1810, the name was changed to "Humber Lodge," at which it has since remained, but its numerical position has been altered twice since the "Union," when it was 73. In 1832 it was 65, and from 1863 it has been 57. The next alteration in the numbers, we hope is far distant. At present, if it occurred, the lodge would only be moved up to one or two numbers higher, and the fewer of such changes the better.

Brother Smith tells us that "about this time also, it became desirable that in addition to the ordinary Masons' lodge, a chapter for Royal Arch Masons should be opened, and on November 7th, in the same year (1810), it was unanimously resolved that the then Grand Secretary should be written to for instructions for this lodge to open a Royal Arch Chapter." The members, as also Bro. Smith, do not seem to have been aware that the "*Ahiman Rezon*" (constitutions of the "ancients") for the year 1807 states that "It must of consequence be allowed that every regular and warranted lodge possesses the power of forming and holding meetings in each of these several degrees, the last of which, from its pre-eminence, is denominated among Masons a chapter." The Grand Lodge controlled all the Royal Arch Chapters, by a number of its members being formed into a *General Grand Chapter*, the officers of which were for a time being taken from the Grand Lodge according to rank. No one was admitted to the degree without having "*regularly and faithfully attained the three progressive degrees, and hath passed the chair.*" A chapter was considered to be legal if assembled under the wing of a Craft Warrant, provided it was registered under the "Ancient" Grand Lodge, and that six Royal Arch Masons were present. It was styled the fourth degree, until the "Union of 1813," when it was acknowledged by the "Moderns" or regular Grand Lodge, on the condition that it was admitted to be the completion of the Master Mason's, and not a separate degree, though held apart from the three degrees as ordinarily worked.

May 26th, 1811, the members "Resolved, that a meeting be held every Sunday night, to open a chapter of Royal Arch Masons," and the first record of such an assembly being held, dated 4th June of the same year, was by virtue of the Humber Lodge warrant. No lodge or chapter meetings have for years taken place on the Sabbath day, for however religious the ceremonial may be, the day is inappropriate for the purpose.

From the union of the two Grand Chapters in 1817, the chapters took the numbers of the lodges to which they were attached. The chapter at Hull, however, appears to have been dormant for a little while, as its name does not occur in the authorized list of 1823, though we have before us the by-laws of 1834, and as amended in 1859.

"From March 17th, 1809, when, it will be recollected, the lodge was first opened, until the year 1819, during which period no fewer than 208 persons were initiated into Masonry, or joined the lodge, the minutes of the various meetings seem to have been regularly recorded and until November 5th, 1817," when alas, peace was for a time dethroned.

We have no intention to follow Brother Smith through all his descriptions of the mismanagement and embarrassments of the lodge. It is sufficient for us to know that all the difficulties were at length overcome, and the lodge is now more vigorous than it ever was. For a considerable period "*its existence or decay was hanging in the balance,*" and the various causes which operated *pro* and *con* are graphically detailed by the W. M. of 1854.

Some nine members advanced forty-three guineas to help the lodge May 26th, 1811, but apparently no change for the better occurred. The special emergency meeting of