

subscribers to the orders of A. D. 1701] Jno. Kennington and others, offenders. be prosecuted and find Nobles each for their absence from Warkworth and Alnwick Lodge, as witness or. hands the day & year above written. The Fines upon the said offenders, to be forthwith prosecuted as agreed by us present this day at the Lodge holden at Alnwick." (Signed) ———.

At the Lodge held ——— 1706 (?) several brethren, "for not meeting at the Lodge held on this Day at the usual place upon due summons are fined six shillings Eightpence each of them."—Signed by Thomas Davidson, master, and 14 members.

Dec. 27th, 1707: "Agreed upon by the consent of this Lodge holden at Alnwick this St. Jnos. Day, the Day and year above written Thatt James Mills of Alnwick aforesaid is by general consent of the sd. lodge chosen and elected master of the sd. Lodge. Thos Dally jr. and Thos. Davidson Wardens."

Fines and prosecutions were common to the early Scottish lodges also. The next election occurred 27th Dec., 1708.

At Alnwick Dec. 27th, 1710: "Its ordered by the genll. consent of our Lodge that on the Third Day of February next after the Date hereof that all the Brothers and Fellows concerned in the sd. Lodge then & there to appear & to concert & enquire into all such offences contrary to the Orders and Constitutions of the sd. Lodge and to put the same in Execution, according to Law, as they shall answer the contrary the Penalty for not answering on the Day aforesaid six shillings, eightpence, as witness our hands the Day and year above written."

(Signed.)

THOMAS DAVIDSON, Master;
MATTHEW FORSTER } Wardens;
DARRICK MILLES }
and Brethren.

Then follow several instances of fines for non-attendance and disobedience. The next minute is the most important of those recorded, and is the only instance we can find of sermons being preached on behalf of the society, or, indeed, of any public appearance of the members of the Lodge in the book. That the Masons walked in procession with their aprons on, and that the Masters for the time being were held responsible for such taking place annually, the record proves clearly; and these old minutes are therefore of much interest, apart from the importance necessarily attached to the "MS. Constitution" of A. D. 1701, which prefaces the volume:

That at a true and perfect Lodge kept at Alnwick in the house of Mr. Thomas Davidson, then one of the Wardens of the said Lodge the twentieth Day of this instant Jany. 1708. It was ordered that for the future noe member of the said Lodge Master Wardens, or Fellows should appear at any Lodge to be kept on St. John's Day in Christmas without his apron and common square fixed in the belt thereof; upon pain of forfeiting two shillings sixpence, each person offending, and that care be taken by the Master and Wardens for the time being that a Sermon be provided and preached on that day at the Parish Church of Alnwick by some clergyman at their appointment: when the lodge shall appear with their aprons on and common squares as aforesaid, and that the Master and Wardens neglecting their duty in providing a clergyman to preach as aforesaid shall forfeit the sume of Tenn Shillings. The severall forfeitures to be disposed of as the then Lodge shall direct, and all persons offending shall upon refusall of paying the severall mulcts above mensioned shall be excluded the said Lodge.

Witnesse our hands the said Twentieth Day of Jany. 1708.

JAMES MILLES, Master of the aforesaid Lodge.
THOS. DAVIDSON } Wadens of the said
JOHN CHARLTON } Lodge.
(and eleven others.)

The next minute is dated Alnwick, 27th December, 1748, and

"Is to certify that we whose names are hereunder subscribed are made Free Bros. of the said Lodge holden at the house of Mr. Thos. Harrison, jr., Alnwick. The Lodge elected as follows: Roger Robson in Thropton chosen Master; George Snowdon and Richd. Atkinson, Wardens; Cuthbt. Yeuns, Robt. Snowdon, and Wm. Anderson, Bros. to the assistance of the said lodge."

The minute is also signed by twelve other brethren. It appears as if several leaves had been removed, and in fact in some places the remains of a few pages are distinctly visible. The proceedings sometimes are