

of the passengers who had never seen Indians before. After a while she arrived at Fillis' Wharf near the foot of Prince Street. There were only two other wharves at that time. The gentlemen of Halifax who went down to the wharf to see the incoming brig and get the latest news from England were dressed in knickerbockers, silk stockings and buckled shoes. Some wore powdered hair and queue. The arrival of one of these brigs was a very important event to the inhabitants at that time; it was the only means of receiving news from Europe, as cables, and wireless telegraphy were unknown. Among those going to the wharf were three men who did not differ much in appearance from the others except to the careful observer their countenances expressed unusual hope and expectation. The men were John Cody, W. M., Thomas McLellan, S. W., and John Woodin, J. W. of Lodge No. 155, that was to be. After a short time these men were able to go on board and down into the cabin where they conversed freely with the passengers, the captain and mate. After a while they appeared again on deck with a triumphant expression on their faces for they carried a precious Masonic parchment in a small box which was destined to outlive all its contemporaries. Bro. Cody took it to his house which was on Water St. not far from the wharf where many of the leading citizens lived. That evening the Brethren were called together for consultation and to outline as far as possible the future policy and regulations for the new Lodge. The first meeting under the new Charter was held on the first Tuesday of July, 1768, at the Amherst Tavern on Hollis St. next door north of where the Bank of Nova Scotia now is, a small one and a half story wooden building with gable roof. The rooms were comparatively small and heated by open fire places, where there was any heating, as stoves were very expensive at this time and not much in use. In one of these rooms on the upper flat the Brethren assembled and the precious document spread upon the table, and the Lodge was duly established and began its work. No electric lights brightened the room but three burning candles on an improvised altar furnished the greater part of the illumination. One of the first votes was for a frame to hold the Charter. This frame is with us yet."