

Bussy, Paris, and that he also granted another for a lodge at Valenciennes. In the *Freemason's Companion* of 1736 this lodge, No. 90, met in the Rue de la Boucherie in Paris every Wednesday, and is said to have been founded April 3, 1732. Lalande, in the *Encyclopedie Methodique*, 1773, states that the lodge was opened in 1725 by Lord Derwentwater and others, that other lodges were formed, and that in 1729 several lodges existed in Paris; he also states that in 1736 Lord Derwentwater, who had been the first Grand Master, was succeeded by Lord Harnouster, elected as such by six lodges. Some say, however, that a certain James Hector Maclean had been Grand Master before Lord Derwentwater. The French official account, as in 1783 in the *Instruction Historique* of the Grand Lodge de France, accepts Lalande's statement. The Duc d'Antin is said to have succeeded Lord Harnouster in 1738, and to have been succeeded by the Comte de Clermont in 1743. During this time the police in Paris had interfered a good deal with the lodges and Freemasons. In 1737 the court of the Chatelet sentenced a certain Chapelet in La Rapee, who was the landlord of an hotel, the "Shield of St. Benedict," to a heavy fine and the closing of his house for six months, on account of a meeting of Freemasons. So far the evidence seems to be plain, that in 1748 the Masonic system was established and known and attacked in Paris. The year 1743 we are inclined with others to consider as the epoch of the steady advance of French Freemasonry. In 1735 it is said indeed that the French lodges had petitioned the English Grand Lodge for a Prov. Grand Lodge, and that it was granted in 1743, and established as the "Grand Loge Anglaise de France." But we feel bound to observe that we find no trace of such a proceeding in any English records. We read of no deputation being granted for a Prov. Grand Master in France, and not until

1768 do we hear anything of the Grand Lodge of France. When, on January 27 that year, the Grand Lodge of England was informed that two letters had been received from the Grand Lodge of France, expressive of a desire for regular correspondence, it was resolved that a "mutual correspondence be kept up, and a book of Constitution, a list of lodges, a form of a deputation bound in an elegant manner, be sent to the Grand Lodge of France." At the same meeting two lodges in France were erased for "having ceased to meet or neglected to conform to the laws of the society." The French histories however, have it that in 1767 the "Grande Loge Nationale de France" was instituted, and was ruled inefficiently by the Comte de Clermont until 1771, when the Duc de Chartres (Egalite d'Orleans) became Grand Master. For some time previous, Masonry in Paris had been very disturbed. The ruinous appointment of Lacorne as his deputy by Comte de Clermont, the introduction of the "Loges d'Adoption," the conflict with the high grades, had rendered the position of French Freemasonry a very difficult and delicate one. Some very unwise provisions, moreover, of the Grand Lodge as regards immovable Masters and the oblivion of provincial interests, seem all to have combined to bring about a spirit of animosity and of faction, and to give rise to proceedings in which it becomes almost impossible to apportion properly the blame to those who so equally set at naught the first principles of Freemasonry. There can be no doubt that the high grades constituted the most disturbing element of French Freemasonry, and the subsequent schism may fairly be traced to their partisans. In 1771 a movement was made in the Grand Lodge to amend the Constitution, and to revert practically to symbolical Masonry. After many struggles and much recrimination, in 1773, October 22, the Grand Master, the Duke of