

Companies," on the Island of St. John, on the Eastern Shore of this Province, praying likewise, a Dispensation for forming and holding a Lodge on said Island or elsewhere travelling on the First Thursday in each Calendar Month." This dispensation was duly granted by Lodges 155 and 211, dated May 29, 1781, and was known as St. George's Lodge. The Independent Companies referred to became on their transfer to Halifax, the Royal Nova Scotia Regiment. In 1800, this Lodge became No. 24 R. N. S., and can be traced to the year 1802, when the Regiment was disbanded. It is noteworthy, that the meetings of this Lodge, while in Charlotte-town, were probably the first Masonic meetings held in Prince Edward Island.

Virgin Lodge. On Jan. 21st, 1782, Lodge 155 and Lodge 211 issued a dispensation to form Virgin Lodge "in Major Anthony Farrington's Company in the Fourth Battalion of His Majesty's Royal Regiment of Artillery". The first officers of the Lodge were John Deas, W. M., John Brown, S. W. and Andrew Gray, J. W. The Lodge worked under this dispensation until October, 1784 when it was chartered by the newly-formed Provincial Grand Lodge as No. 2, with its name changed to "Artillery"—due probably to the military character of its members; sixteen years later the original name was resumed, by authority of the Grand Lodge. Today it is No. 3, R. N. S.

Thistle Lodge, 82nd Regiment. Another military Lodge established by Lodges 155 and 211, under dispensation, was that formed in the 82nd Regiment of Foot, in 1782. We have not been able to ascertain how long this Lodge continued after the Regiment left the Province. A second Lodge in this Regiment was chartered by the Grand Lodge of Ireland, in 1817, and continued until 1858. It is also of especial interest to Masons in Halifax, to know that prior to the granting of the dispensation for Thistle Lodge, Capt. (afterwards Sir) John Moore, of the 82nd Regt., was made a Mason in St. John Lodge, No. 211.

Solomon's Lodge, Fredericton. The beginnings of Masonry in New Brunswick, as in Prince Edward Island, are to be traced to Lodges No. 155 and 211. On Nov. 7th, 1783, Jared Betts wrote from St. Ann's, now Fredericton, N. B., to