

In 1740 it is given as No. 44, and in 1755 as No. 27.

In 1767 this Lodge, with others, separated from the Grand Lodge of England (from the roll of which it had been erased on March 27th, 1768), and formed the "Grand Lodge, Mother of Spanish Masonry," becoming in 1780 the "Grand Orient," with Count Aranda as first Grand Master, an office which he held until his death in 1799. The Craft degrees alone obtained until 1808 when the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite was introduced by Count Tilley.

The French invasion during the great war brought with it the French Rite, and the result was the formation of a second body calling itself "The Grand Orient of Spain," but unrecognized by the original G. Orient, and the latter, to avoid confusion, with the new body, thence forward styled itself "The Grande Oriente Nacionale of Spain."

At the conclusion of the war, the French having been driven out, the new G. Orient disappeared, and those who had been initiated under its regime were received into the Grande Oriente Nacionale in 1817, which then assumed supreme control over both Rites, and hence of all Masonry in Spain.

The revolution of 1868 introduced political disagreements into the Grand Lodge, and this unhappily led to a number of notable public men and politicians seceding and forming, in 1869, another "Grand Oriente of Spain," which still exists.

On the death of M. W. G. M. Calatrava in 1876, he was succeeded by the Marquess of Sevene, and no event of special importance occurred until 1880, when on June 2nd, the G. Oriente Nacionale celebrated its centenary, a handsome bronze medal being struck in commemoration of the interesting event. From this period also the status of Masonry was greatly improved under the judicious rule of the Marquess, and with an improved organization, and increased activity, came,

also the elimination of religious and political animus.

The rival Grand Orients had meanwhile split up into no less than four distinct political parties, two of which still exists, namely, the main Body and the Symbolic Grand Lodge of Seville, each having a number of Subordinate, Lodges.

The Marquess of Sevene died in 1887, and was succeeded by Don J. M. Pantoja, who endeavoured to bring about a union of the various conflicting jurisdictions, but without success.

Of course, it is well known that in Spain, Italy, Hungary, and all Roman Catholic Countries, Freemasonry can only exist under the ban of the Church, and hence it is needless to dwell on the struggles of Spanish Masonry. Even now it is not openly spoken of in Spain, nor are the Lodge rooms known to exist by the outside world generally, and as a curious survival of the time when it was dangerous to life and liberty to be known to be a member of the Craft, every member on his initiation is requested to choose a symbolic name by which he is known in Lodge, and by which he is named in Masonic publications, hence the curious string of names one sees in these latter, such as Bros. "Plato," "Friendship," "Socrates," "Shakespeare," and many such like.

Until 1869, both the Government and the Church, had as a matter of course, persecuted the Freemasons and Freemasonry, but since that date by the help of many members of Parliament who are also members of the Fraternity, an "Act of Associations" (similar to the English "Friendly Societies" Act) has been passed, and the Grande Oriente Nacionale has since February, 1889, been registered as a legally constituted body, and is at present in friendly relations with most of the Grand Lodges of the world, including Scotland.

As is customary with "Grand Orients," all the Degrees from 1 to 33 are worked as one Rite, the first three under the "Grand Lodge" and the