

We have already referred to the first great name in Nova Scotia Masonry, Major Phillips, and to his appointment in 1739 as Provincial Grand Master of this jurisdiction. On his death he was succeeded in office by Lieut. Governor the Hon. Jonathan Belcher, who died in 1776. During his tenure of office comparatively little activity existed in matters Masonic, and after his death the Grand Warrant lay dormant until the revival in the Craft in 1784 when the new Provincial Grand Lodge came into being. The latter was presided over by R. W. Brother John George Pyke as Grand Master, assisted by R. E. Brother William Campbell as Deputy Grand Master; R. W. Brother Joseph Peters (Postmaster-General) Secretary; Rev. Brother Joshua Wingate Weeks, Chaplain. The latter's prayer at opening was one of singular eloquence. The good effects of a recognized governing body were at once apparent, and the Craft grew and flourished. R. W. Brother Pike resigned the chair in 1785, and was succeeded by the Hon. John Parr, Lieutenant Governor of this province. Governor Parr was elected Grand Master annually until his death in November, 1791; and his funeral on the 29th of that month was the occasion of a most imposing Masonic display. He was succeeded as P. G. M. by the Hon. Richard Bulkeley, Secretary of the province, who held office until 1800. During M. W. Brother Parr's regime six lodges were chartered and in that of his successor eight more came into existence.

We have now dealt briefly with the introduction and establishment of the Craft in Halifax, and we must follow its extension to other settlements in the province. It is true that the first lodge was undoubtedly in Annapolis Royal in 1739 or thereabouts; but it was not until 45 years later that the Craft was systematically organized into lodges outside of the capital. The then flourishing city of **Shelburne** led off in this respect, Parr Lodge No. 3, and Solomon Lodge No. 5 being established there in 1784; and it may be noted that there also existed in Shelburne about this period "Unity Lodge" formerly in His Majesty's Seventeenth Regiment, which claimed to be under the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. "Solomon Lodge" No. 5 returned its warrant to Grand Lodge in 1786. In the same year 1784, residents of the new town of **Digby** petitioned for Masonic light, and Digby Lodge No. 6 began work. Then came **Manchester** (now known as Gt. Sable) its lodge being designated as Temple No. 7. A warrant was granted to certain residents of **Sheet Harbour**, resulting in Hiram Lodge No. 8; No. 9 was chartered at **Chester**, and St. George's No. 11 in the township of **Cornwallis**, all in the same year 1784—a red-letter year in the annals of Nova Scotian Masonry. St. George's still survives, its home being at Wolfville.