

## PREFACE TO THE CORRECTED EDITION.



THE laws enacted for the regulation of the craft, on the 23d August, 1815, having, in pursuance of the plan then proposed, and of subsequent resolutions of the Grand Lodge, been revised, and several amendments having been made therein, the sheets in which any alterations occurred have been reprinted, and are distinguished by an asterisk (\*) at the bottom of such sheets.

The part of the Constitution-Book now printed being intended as a book of reference, all laws relating to the same subject have been collected and placed under one head; but inasmuch as any particular law may have a bearing upon a subject which two individuals might expect to find under different heads, so each law has been repeated under every head to which it in any way has reference. This mode of classification, although by its repetitions it has necessarily extended the work, affords such facility in obtaining information, upon every subject sought after that it has met with general approval.

It was the intention of the Grand Lodge that the History of Masonry, which is to form the first part of the volume, should have been forwarded with the alterations: but it having been recently ascertained that the manuscripts and papers of a deceased brother, formerly grand chaplain, and who for some time had been collecting and preparing materials for a History of the Craft, have come into the hands of a brother, application has been made to him on the subject, and he has kindly undertaken to search amongst such papers, and to transmit to the Grand Master all those which may be useful to the Grand Lodge. Under these circumstances, it is thought advisable to defer printing the historical part until the result of that research be known, because there is every reason to believe that from these papers much advantage may be derived.

W. WILLIAMS.

*Belmont-House,  
19th February, 1819.*