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FOR THE CANADIAN CRAFTSMAN.]

"ATHOLL" LODGES IN NORTH AMERICA, 1757, 1813.

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*DEDICATED TO M. W. BRO. DANIEL SREY, P. G. M.

It is very confusing to any one, not versed in the vagaries of the "Atholl" Grand Lodge (or "Ancients,") started as a secession from the Premier Grand Lodge of England, in 1750-1, who seeks to unravel the history of the origin and growth of "Atholl" Freemasonry in North America, or indeed, anywhere. The custom was to sell extinct warrants to the highest bidders, new charters being then issued, but preserving the original numbers, so that three distinct lodges may be represented under the same number! I shall deal with the subject according to priority of existence, rather than that of numerical precedency, and therefore commence with A. D. 1757:—

1.—NOVA SCOTIA.

No. 65,—*Provincial Grand Lodge, Nova Scotia.* Dec. 27, 1757. Copies of this charter, and of its re-issue, June 2, 1784, are to be found in the "History of Freemasonry in the Maritime Provinces of British America," by Bro. J. Fletcher Brennan, the best of the kind ever written,† to which I refer my readers. Bro. Brennan thinks "there could be no propriety in numbering this Provincial Warrant with so high a number as 65;" neither would there be if it meant 65 Provincial Grand Lodge Warrants; but it did not. The numbers were given in consecutive order to lodges, or Provincial Grand Lodges, *irrespectively*; hence, it simply means that 64 charters had been issued before No. 65, whether lodges or Provincial Grand Lodges.

This number was not on the

"Union" List of 1815, published in 1814, of the united roll of the two rival Grand Lodges.

No. 66,—*St. George, Halifax, N. S.* Dec. 27, 1757.

No. 67,—*St. George, Halifax, N. S.* Dec. 27, 1757. These two lodges were, respectively, the first and second that were chartered by the "Ancients" for any part of America; and, as with No. 65, were on all lists until 1813, after which they were removed, and never appear again. I refer, of course, to the lists published in this country (England.)

No. 155,—*St. Andrew's Lodge, Halifax, N. S.* March 26, 1768. Including the Prov. Grand Lodge, this was No. 4 in Nova Scotia, and, happily, still exists. Its number was changed in 1814 to 188; in 1832 to 137; and in 1863 to 118; but has been removed from the roll on joining the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia.

No. 156,—*Halifax, Nova Scotia.* A.D. 1768, (General Amhurst's Lodge). This was evidently a Military Lodge, and on becoming extinct, was re-issued in 1809, to the "Royal Artillery," at Colchester, England.

No. 211,—*St. John's Lodge, Halifax, N. S.* This lodge also continued on the roll as original No. 155, until the formation of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, its numbers being 265 in 1814, 187 in 1832, and 161 in 1863.

No. 28,—*Coast of Halifax.* Issued for London, 1753. It occurs as "Coast of Halifax" in the list of 1807, and in 1807 was at Gibraltar, but was soon extinct.

2.—PENNSYLVANIA.

No. 69,—*Philadelphia.* June 7, 1758. This was the first lodge granted for any por-

*By whose desire I have written the article.
†Attached to Rebold's History (translation), 1833.