

NONOGENARIANS IN THE LODGE.—

When Grand Master Eichbaum, accompanied by his Grand Officers, visited Sharon Lodge, No. 250, of Sharon, Pa., recently, two brethren were present (one of them a member of No. 250) who were respectively 90 and 98 years of age—Bro. James Bently, aged 90 years, made a Mason in 1819; and Bro. Henry Clarke, 98 years of age, made a Mason in 1816.

BRO. WM. JAS. HUGHAN read a paper on "Connecting Links between Ancient and Modern Freemasonry from a non-Masonic Standpoint," before the Quartor Coronati Lodge, No. 2076, London, at its stated meeting on June 2nd last. It is needless to say that the lecture received the intelligent attention which the world-wide repute of our Brother entitled him to. The object of the paper, as indicated by its title, was to demonstrate that no thoughtful enquirer, even if unaided by Masonic teaching, could refuse candidly to acknowledge that our present system of Craft Masonry is directly derived from the building fraternities of the Middle Ages; that its connection with the mediæval Freemasonry is unbroken, its title to the inheritance indisputable, and the proofs thereof palpable to all the world, and independent of esoteric aid to their comprehension. A perfect master of all the details, Bro. Hughan marshalled his facts, documents, authors and proofs with consummate skill, as was evinced by the total inability of a critical audience acquainted with the subject to pick a single flaw in his argument. Bro. Gould was in the chair.

BRO. WILLIAM J. HUGHAN, of Torquay, England, the distinguished Masonic historian, gave an address to the brethren of the Lodge of Unanimity and Sincerity, No. 264, Taunton, recently. He discussed several important questions pertaining to the early history of Freemasonry, showing its continuity from the Four-

teenth Century, his remarks being based on facts which can be examined by non-Masons, and proving not only the honorable character, but the antiquity of the Fraternity. Bro. Hughan commenced with the Fourteenth Century because that is the period of the oldest manuscript that was written, which contains a recital of the ancient charges. This is now preserved in the British Museum. Many of the old records of the Craft were referred to, particularly those in Scotland, where there are Lodges with minutes dating from the Sixteenth Century to the present time. At the close of his address, Bro. Hughan responded to enquiries from a number of brethren, the meeting taking on a conversational character, which made the proceedings all the more animated. In the course of his remarks Bro. Hughan mentioned that Somerset County received the first county warrant issued by the Grand Lodge of England, viz., at Bath in the year 1724.—*Freemasons' Repository.*

QUEBEC AND ENGLAND.—The following action was taken at the recent Annual Grand Communication of the Grand Lodge of Iowa.

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, that it is every way equitable and right, and would greatly tend to the peace, harmony and prosperity of the Craft, that the three Lodges in the Province of Quebec now in allegiance to the Grand Lodge of England should transfer their allegiance to the Grand Lodge of Quebec.

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge will rejoice in all reasonable and proper efforts to secure this desirable object, and that to this end the Grand Lodge of England be earnestly requested to use her earnest endeavors, and authority, if need be, as a last resort, to induce its three Subordinate Lodges in that Province to transfer their allegiance to the Grand Lodge of Quebec.