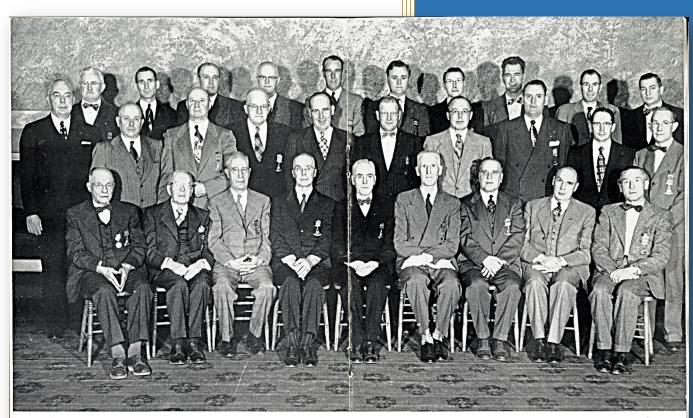




Saco Lodge History 1802 - 1952



ALL OF THE LIVING PAST MASTERS NOW MEMBERS OF SACO LODGE NO. 9
TAKEN PAST MASTERS NIGHT APRIL 15, 1952

FRONT ROW: Lawrence E. Willard, 1905; Ernest B. Woodbury, 1910; Fred J. Morrison, 1914; *Myron E. Savage, 1919; *Thomas H. Hooper, 1920-21; Rufus L. Doe, 1925; Joseph J. Stirling, 1926-27; *Edgar H. Pellerin, 1928; Lionel R. Cartwright, 1929

MIDDLE ROW:
*Edward M. Johnson, 1931; *Neil M. Dow, 1932; Clyfton Hewes, 1933; Edward M. Cloudraan, 1934; Harry S. Nielson, 1935; *Fred E. Clark, 1936; Robert M. Davis, 1937; L. Earle Hutchinson, 1938; Louis A. Patriquin, 1939; Charles S. Towle, 1940

BACK ROW, left to right:
Arthur T. Dixon, 1941; Halph H. Meserve, 1942-43; H. Thompson Stackpole, 1944; Charles E. Cark, 1945; Lawrence N. Emerson, 1946; Philip E. Graves, 1947; Clement L. Taylor, 1948;
Arthur L. Warren, 1949; Harry J. Buroham, 1950; Thomas M. Cunningham, 1951

July 12, 2017

I started compiling the histories of Saco Lodge to bring more life to it. Some of the original writing is rather dry and incomplete, mainly histories submitted during the late 1880's to 1940's. While other sources are interesting but inaccurate. I am sure some of the information presented here will also be dry and some of it will be inaccurate. My best intentions are to be as faithful to the past as I can while keeping those that read this engaged.

I chose to stop at the 150th Anniversary Year, as most of the encompassing Saco Lodge histories end there. There is a significant gap between 1952 and 1997, not because there wasn't anything to write about but the emphasis on histories was lacking. In 2003, the histories were caught up (1997 to 2003) and since then written annually. This will take more time to investigate the records of Saco Lodge. The plan is to follow up this history with another volume taking us to 2002.

In addition to the lodge histories and records of the lodge, information presented in this history came from many other sources. I have tried to cite them as I went along. Some of the information presented came from those brothers before me such as the Sesquicentennial history writers, and the previously mention history writers.

Wor. James Dufresne, PM Deering Lodge and PM of the Maine Lodge of Research and member of Saco Lodge who wrote a history of the lodge in 2002 called "They Wanted Their Own Lodge" Wor. Jim presented this history at the Saco Museum during the Bicentennial year. A large part of this is based on his work.

Also, many thanks to the Grand Lodge for having the foresight to publish online the membership cards and Grand Lodge proceedings.

Most important of all were the Masters and their annual reports and the Secretaries who recorded the meeting proceedings. A significant source of the goings on of the lodge at the time. This history is dedicated to their Service, for without them, Saco Lodge would not be the lodge it is today.

Fraternally,

Carl Marsano Saco Lodge member since 1997

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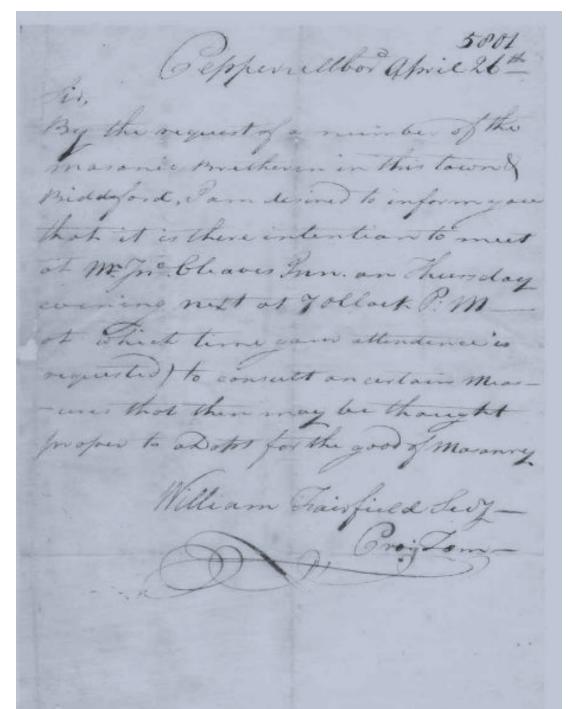
Early History The Beginning

Pepperellborough in 1802 was very different in size from the city of Saco of one 200 years later. Its population was around 1,900, and while houses lined what was later Wharf, Front, Water and Free streets, yet houses stood along Main Street only from the river part way up to where the road (North Street) leading to Buxton branched off. The area from Main Street southeast to Pepperell Park, having been confiscated from the second Sir William Pepperell, the Tory (grandson of the much beloved Sir William Pepperell for whom Pepperellborough was named), had just been staked out into house lots the year before, and the road which was later to become Elm Street had been laid out only four years previous. Practically all the rest were field and pasture. Pepperell Square was the same as later, except for the buildings around it, and Cleaves Tavern was a large dwelling standing on the southeasterly end of it, and destined to become the post office about a hundred years later, the foundation stones of which can still be seen.

In the early part of 1802 in the town of Pepperellborough in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts a group of fourteen Masons met, probably at Cleaves Tavern, which was their regular meeting place, and after serious consideration, a petition was addressed to the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts praying for a lodge to be chartered in that community.

The petitioners were as follows: Jeremiah Hill, Joseph Leland, Thomas Cutts, Jr., William Fairfield, Asa Stevens, John Allen, Samuel Collyer, Richard C. Shannon, Nathaniel Scammon, Jr., Samuel Nutting, Jr., Micheal Nason, James Murch, Alvan Bacon, and William Marshall.

One reason they wanted to have a lodge in their own town could be that the travel to Portland was too long and inconvenient for many. The other lodges in this District of Maine were located in Portland, East Machias, Wiscasset, Castine, Hallowell, Camden, Eastport and Brunswick, the last three chartered in 1801. Members could also travel to Boston to attend Lodge, but that took days of travel time.



An invitation signed by Bro. William Fairfield for a Masonic Meeting dated April 26, 1801

On June 14, 1802, in answer to that petition the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts granted a Charter to "Saco Lodge". In those days and under that jurisdiction there was no "Number 9" attached. The Charter was signed by a Samuel Dunne, the Grand Master of that time.

FROM THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS JUNE 13 - 16, 1802

"At a Quarterly Communication of The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts at Concert Hall, on the evening of the 14th of June, A.L. 5802 (1802) a petition, from a number of Brethren in the town of Pepperellboro, for charter to hold a lodge in that place, by the name of Saco Lodge, was granted this evening."

"Present at this meeting was one W. Paul Revere Jun., son of one Paul Revere."

The charter of Saco Lodge was signed in Boston on June 16, A.L. 5802, (A.D.1802) by Grand Officers as follows, viz.

Samuel Dunn, Grand Master, Joseph Laughton, D. G. Master, John Boyle, S. G. W., Allen Crocker, J. G. W. P. T., John Procter, Grand Secretary

Agreeable to that charter, the first meeting was held on July 20, 1802 at the house of John Cleaves, (this may have been at Cleaves Tavern or at the house on Front Street Hill as old maps show a John Cleaves owning each).

Nine of the petitioners together with four other masons Benjamin Patterson, Thomas Buckminster, Samuel Pingree and Ephraim Ridlon were present. At this meeting, the lodge was organized and the following officers were elected:

R.W. Master, Jeremiah Hill; Senior Warden, Joseph Leland; Junior Warden, Thomas Cutts, Jr.; Secretary, William Fairfield; Treasurer, Asa Stevens; Senior Deacon, John Allen; Junior Deacon, Samuel Collyer; 1st Steward, Nathaniel Scammon, Jr. 2nd Steward, Samuel Nutting, Jr.; Tyler, Ephraim Ridlon.



Apron worn by Thomas Cutts Jr, first Junior Warden at Saco Lodge.

Regular meetings were to be held the first Thursday in each month and the officers were to be chosen annually on the last lodge night before the Festival of St. John the Evangelist (the latter part of December).

The second meeting (August 5, 1802) was held in Cleaves Tavern. By-laws were adopted, and the report of the committee for procuring a hall was accepted. The records of the next meeting were headed "Masons Hall" but were silent as to the location. It is interesting to note that at a time when real estate as the criterion of wealth and when house lots were worth from \$30.00 on the edge of the settle section to about \$300.00 on Main Street itself, to become a Master Mason and a member of the lodge cost \$15.00, about half the price of a good house lot. In those days dues were paid quarterly. Also, each member, whether he be present or absent, and each visiting brother was assessed twenty five cents each meeting. From the records it is evident that anyone who had taken his Entered Apprentice Degree could become a member at that time by unanimous vote of the lodge, and the lodge was opened and closed and all business transacted in the Entered Apprentice Degree, or as it was then termed "on the first step of Masonry".

The first work was done by Saco Lodge on August 30, 1802, when Thomas Buckminster and Benjamin Patterson were passed to the degree of a Fellow Craft.

On April 7, 1803 approval was given by Saco Lodge for a lodge to be constituted at New Gloucester.

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Saco Lodge was Instituted and Consecrated at a special meeting April 20, 1803, Woodbury Storer, D. D. Grand Master presiding, after which a procession was formed and the brethren marched, accompanied by music, to the Meeting House, where the Rev. John Turner of Alfred, delivered a Masonic discourse based on Acts V, verses 38 and 39, - "For if this council, or this work be of men it will come to naught, but if it be of God, ye cannot overthrow it." The procession was reformed and marched to the Assembly room where the brethren were called to refreshment and enjoyed "an elegant dinner prepared for this occasion." Twenty-seven members and twenty-six visitors attended. At this meeting approval was given for a lodge to be constituted at Fryeburg.

The first inspection of Saco Lodge was held November 29, 1803, by order of R. W. Grand Master Woodbury Storer Esq. From Communications received it was evidently in the 9th Masonic District at that time.

Evidently the Grand Lodge and lodge regulations were less rigid in those days, as we read that quite often in cases of emergency petitions were entertained, balloted on, and the first degree given all in one evening. The reasons for this were probably many and valid when we consider that the jurisdiction of this lodge was extensive (record is made of several joining from as far away as Wells and Limerick), the road and travel of those times irksome and slow, and so many men from this whole area absent at sea for long voyages in sail.

One vote of the lodge during this early period is interesting, in as much as it forbid the bringing of any liquor stronger than wine into the lodge except by permission of the Worshipful Master. While this sounds peculiar in the present day, when we stop to think that their customs at that time were different from ours, that rum was a common commodity sold in all grocery stores and partaken by practically all, even the clergy, then we realize that such a vote was a drastic and far step. Let us not think that they were not strict, because in 1804 it appears that two brethren were expelled for misdemeanors.

On March 7, 1805 appears the last mention of Pepperellborough, for about that time the name of the town was changed to the former name of Saco by an act of the Massachusetts legislature.

Again on June 24, 1805, the lodge attended divine worship on St. John's Day. Twenty-five members and twenty-one visiting brethren were present, although it is probable that many of the visitors were brothers who had taken the first and second degrees and had not yet become members, as their names appear earlier in the records.

The first Masonic School of Instruction in this area was held in Portland late in 1805.

On March 6, 1806, it was voted to accept the use of the new hall as offered by Brother Storer. Although the location of this hall was not noted, it was probably on Main Street, in one of the three buildings just northeast of Storer Street.

Fun now and then creeps into the records for we find that the lodge celebrated St. John's Day in June of 1806, twenty-five members and twenty-two visitors attending at the "new Meeting House" (probably in the Unitarian Church of today). After services they repaired to Cleaves Tavern for dinner "accompanied by several respectable Clergymen".

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On December 6, 1806, the dues were increased from thirty-seven and half cents to fifty cents quarterly and in addition, members residing in Saco and Biddeford had to pay twenty-five cents if present or twelve and a half cents if absent.

The first Past Master's badge was given by the lodge to R. W. Master, Jeremiah Hill at the expiration of his services on December 11, 1806.

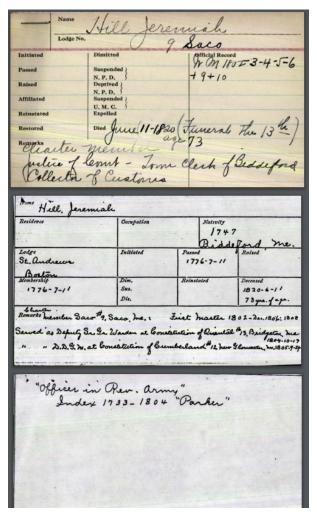
On May 7, 1806, the regular meeting night was changed from the first Thursday of each month to the Thursday preceding each full moon. This practice continues today in many country lodges where the members are widely spread and have to ravel some distance by team. This was the custom so ensure there was sufficient light to travel by after the meetings. The nearly full moon provided the light to guide our brothers who lived in the countryside.

In the summer of 1810, there was talk of moving this lodge to Kennebunk. In fact, it was voted to petition the Grand Lodge to that effect, but no further record was made of it, so the scheme must have fallen through. York Lodge in Kennebunk would later form in 1813, during the first period of closure for Saco Lodge.

From 1807 on, the lodge seemed to be struggling and conditions grew progressively worse. Attendance began to drop off materially and the financial condition became something to worry about. There did not seem to be strife or contention in the lodge, as surprisingly few applicants were rejected, and no accounts of disputes appear in the records.

However, the money situation became ever more pressing, for on January 3, 1811, the secretary and treasurer were again to make a statement of all accounts and at the next meeting it was voted to choose a person to collect all monies due the lodge, allowing him ten percent on all he might receive.

Jeremiah Hill, PM 1802, 1803, 1804, 1805, 1806, 1809 and 1810



RW Jeremiah Hill was a Charter Member and Master at Saco Lodge during the years 1802, 1803, 1804, 1805, 1806, 1809 and 1810.

Brother Jeremiah Hill served in Col. Edmund Phinney's 18th Continental Regiment in 1776. He served as Captain in the Fourth Company. He took part in the Battle of Saratoga, where Revolutionary forces defeated the British and captured British General John Burgoyne.

While recovering from smallpox in Boston, he was raised a master mason in St. Andrews Lodge in Boston. This lodge has as members such brethren as Paul Revere and John Hancock. After recovering, he moved back to the area, eventually moving to a home on Pierson Lane, in what is now Biddeford. He was one of the few townsfolk who had a college education, a Masters of Art from Harvard.

Jeremiah was the first Federal Collector of Customs for the District of Saco from 1789 to 1804, Town Clerk of Biddeford from 1780 to 1788, Representative in the Legislature in 1809, 1811, 1812 and 1813, and afterwards was one of the Justices of the Court of Sessions for this county before separation from Massachusetts.

Twice while Master, he served as a Grand Lodge of Massachusetts representative, aka District Deputy Grand Master, for the Constitution of new lodges in what would become Maine, Oriental Lodge in Bridgton on 10/17/1804 and Cumberland Lodge in New Gloucester on 09/24/1805.

One unusual event happened to him in 1793, when his uncle, a deacon at the Pool Road Church formally charged him of heresy. The trial ended with him being exonerated.

Bro. Jeremiah Hill was one of the original signers of the petition requesting a lodge be formed in Pepperellboro (Saco). The charter was granted on June 14, 1802. At the first business meeting, RW Bro. Jeremiah was elected to serve as Saco Lodge's first Master and ended up serving seven times.

On October 3, 1805, Jeremiah Hill who has served as Master from the beginning of the lodge made an exceptionally fine speech in which he stated that he did not wish to continue

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as Master after that year. However, the lodge disregarded his desires and elected him again in 1806.

"Dearly beloved Brethren,

The attention you have paid to me ever since our first attempt to form a Lodge in this place, in repeatedly choosing me for your Master, demands my warmest acknowledgements. It has ever been my sincere desire to promote the Honor, Interest and prosperity of the Institution; but finding old age fast approaching and seeing so many young men embracing the Royal Art, whose abilities I flatter myself will do ample justice to this Lodge and the Craft in General. I feel warranted in manifesting my wish to be excused from the arduous Task of presiding over you another year, tho I ever did and hope I ever shall find a sincere pleasure in attending upon the Sacred, benevolent Institution, whose true and real characteristic is "to deal justly, to love mercy and walk humbly with him, who first said, "Let there be Light and there was Light."

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who bringeth good tidings. But my Brethren, how much more beautiful are the feet of him who runneth to the assistance of the distressed, whose hands are calling for help. How beautiful are the Knees of a Brother bending to supreme Architect, imploring his kind mediation. How beautiful the Brest where the heart can deposit its Casket in perfect Security. How beautiful the Hand which backs a falling Brother, and the mouth which whispers in his Ear the Signals of Hope.

Though I wish to be excused from presiding as Master of this Lodge, yet let it be remembered, that I do not relinquish my attachment to the Craft, and this Lodge in particular, but here I shall ever attend the regular meeting of the Lodge whenever my situation and circumstances will admit, and then if necessary be ready and willing to take an active part in the Labors thereof and now request when the Great Grand Master shall see fit to summon me from this earthly lodge, that you will, if my future conduct shall prove worthy of the Honor, accompany my Remains to the silent Grave, there to rest till, He shall summon his all perfect Lodge; and desire your prayers that I may so live, and so die, as to be hailed by him with this Euge: "well done good and faithful servant, enter in, and partake of that hidden manna, that Celestial Refreshment duly prepared for all those who are found in the way of well doing.

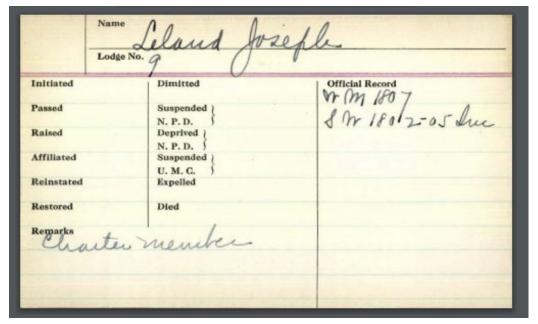
(Signed) Jeremiah Hill"

Saco Lodge's first Past Master's jewel was given to R. W. Master, Jeremiah Hill at the expiration of his services on December 11, 1806. He would later serve as Master for two more terms in 1809 and 1810.

On June 13, 1820, the lodge attended the funeral of Brother Jeremiah Hill, who died on June 11, 1820 at the age of 73. His grave is located in Woodlawn Cemetery in Biddeford.



Joseph Leland - 1807



Hon. Joseph Leland was at Bunker Hill at the start of the American Revolution in a company from Grafton, Mass. He remained in the army throughout the war. He received the rank of ensign at the age of twenty and by the end of the war was a lieutenant. He moved to Saco shortly after the war. He served in the Massachusetts Senate in 1805 and 1808.

He served as our first Senior Warden when the lodge was formed and was one of the original petition signers.

He was born on December 30, 1756 in Worcester, Massachusetts.

He died on May 29, 1839 and his grave is located in Laurel Hill Cemetery.



Thornton Hall, built for merchant Joseph Leland in 1801-3 (331 Main St.). Thornton Hall was one of the first square, three-story Adam style townhouses in southern Maine and is one of two houses in the district with traditional attributions to master builder Bradbury Johnson (1766 -1819), who resided in Saco from 1801 to 1816. (Saco City website)

Daniel Granger – 1808, 1811, 1816, 1817, 1818, 1819

Initiated 12-2 -1f02 Passed 12-27-1f02 Raised Affiliated Reinstated	Suspended } N. P. D. } Deprived } N. P. D. } Suspended } U. M. C. } Expelled	Official Record Or (M 1808 + 11+16-19 dus 88 1803 Feb Secy 1803 blec + 1808 9 (B 1806
Restored	Died	
Remarks		

Daniel Granger was originally from Andover, Massachusetts. He served a short time in the Continental Army during the American Revolution. He married Mary Jordan in 1792. Daniel Granger, Esq. succeeded Jeremiah Hill as collector of customs for the District of Saco.

In 1775, Daniel Granger, then aged 13, entered the army as substitute for a brother, and served during the winter of 1775-6. In 1777, he again enlisted, and was present at the surrender of Burgoyne at Saratoga.

In August, 1778, he served several months as a musician, and in June, 1780, he again served for a brief period.

After attaining his majority he taught school for several years at Rochester and Dover, N.H., Berwick, Me., and other places.

In 1786 he settled at Saco, Me. In 1804 he was commissioned as justice of the peace, and afterward was collector of customs at Saco under Presidents Jefferson and Monroe.

During the war of 1812 he was a commission of prisoners, and at various times held important local offices. Subsequent to 1822 he was for several years engaged in mercantile business at Saco, but in October, 1839, he removed to Eastport, where he spent the remainder of his life with his son Daniel T. Grainger.

First Closing – 1811 to 1816

Evidently this was unsuccessful for on June 6, 1811, it was voted to "resign the Charter of this lodge with the privilege of resuming the same at some future period agreeable to the provision of the Grand Lodge". A look at the conditions of the country during that period will probably explain this trouble and breakdown. It was just before the war of 1812 and the British were impressing our seamen. The embargo laws of those times tended to paralyze our commerce and throw many out of employment, and probably by reason of the great stagnation of business many members of the lodge were impoverished and many outsider the order were prevented from seeking admission. However, in that early nine-year period of labor, sixty-seven were initiated, fifty-five were passed to a Fellow Craft and forty-nine were raised.

But Saco Lodge was not dead, nor was Masonry dead in the hearts of our early brethren, for on May 27, 1816, twenty-six Masons petitioned the Grand Lodge for the restoration of the Charter of Saco Lodge, which was granted September 9, 1816. The first meeting was held on October 28th of that year "at the hall in the brick store" (which was probably on the corner of Storer and Main streets) and the lodge was organized again on the following 14th of November with Daniel Granger as Master.

During the five-year inactive period of the lodge, the war with England, which lasted for about three years, had been fought and won, followed by the readjustment period of scarcities, hard times and high prices for the necessities of life. The brethren at Wells and Arundel received a charter and had organized York Lodge at Kennebunk in 1813. This entire region was experiencing a most difficult time in 1816, known locally as "eighteen hundred and froze to death" when a frost occurred every month of the year and very little was raised.

From Wikipedia - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Year_Without_a_Summer

"Evidence suggests that the anomaly was predominantly a volcanic winter event caused by the massive 1815 eruption of Mount Tambora in the Dutch East Indies (the largest eruption in at least 1,300 years after the extreme weather events of 535–536), perhaps plus the 1814 eruption of Mayon in the Philippines. The Earth had already been in a centuries-long period of global cooling that started in the 14th century. Known today as the Little Ice Age, it had already caused considerable agricultural distress in Europe. The Little Ice Age's existing cooling was aggravated by the eruption of Tambora, which occurred during its concluding decades

A Massachusetts historian summed up the disaster:

Severe frosts occurred every month; June 7th and 8th snow fell, and it was so cold that crops were cut down, even freezing the roots In the early Autumn when corn was in the milk it was so thoroughly frozen that it never ripened and was scarcely worth harvesting. Breadstuffs were scarce and prices high and the poorer class of people were often in straits for want of food. It must be remembered that the granaries of the great west had not then been opened to us by railroad communication, and people were obliged to rely upon their own resources or upon others in their immediate locality."

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The regular meetings of this period were scheduled for the Wednesday night on or before the full moon of each month. From this time on, no one became a member of the lodge who had not attained the Master Masons degree, but the business of the lodge seemed to continue to be transacted while open in any degree, and business pertaining to the lodge was performed in a Lodge of Entered Apprentices.

Grand Lodge of Maine Formation – 1820

In the early part of 1820, Maine was set off from Massachusetts and became a state, and about that same time there was much agitation relative to separating the lodges in Maine from the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts and forming a Grand Lodge of Maine. In this connection, the Maine lodges met in Portland on September 29, 1819 to discuss the matter and our delegates were Brothers Thatcher, Granger and Calif, and on June 1st, 1820 the Grand Lodge of Maine was organized. Saco Lodge accepted the by-laws of the Grand Lodge of Maine December 27, 1820.

The lodge approved January 8, 1823, the petition of brethren at Parsonsfield for the Charter of a lodge, later removed to Limerick as "Freedom Lodge". On December 15, 1826, Saco Lodge approved the petition for a lodge at South Berwick.

Saco Lodge was incorporated by an act of the Maine Legislature passed in January 1823.

On October 6 1824, a committee was appointed to procure a hall over the bank, and in August 1826, the lodge voted to hire a hall in the new building erected by Mr. Shepley, provided they could rent it for the same amount they were paying. However, this committee was apparently unsuccessful as on March 2, 1827, the lodge voted to hire a hall of Mrs. King for one year. This may have been in the wooden building which stood at the corner of Main and Water streets and was on land which at present is a part of the York National Bank brick block. On January 24, 1828, it was voted to hire the new hall on Pleasant Street.

We do not know what prompted these various changes but hope and trust it not due for non-payment of rent.

York Royal Arch Chapter commenced work in 1828 and occupied the hall on Pleasant Street, sharing the rent with Saco Lodge, as appears by an arrangement made in May of that year. The Chapter was consecrated and the officers were installed October 16, 1828, at the First Parish Meeting House, the lodge joining in the procession.

The original Buxton Lodge No. 47 was consecrated September 27, 1827, this lodge having invitations to attend. Buxton Lodge No. 47 moved to Biddeford and became Dunlap Lodge No. 47 in 1855.

On May 23, 1830, the lodge attended the funeral of Brother Ephraim Ridlon, age seventy five, a Revolutionary soldier, who had been Tyler from the organization of the lodge in 1802 (during the time of work) until 1827. Bro. Ephraim has served as an aide de camp under General Knox.

There is no record of the proceedings of the lodge from October 27, 1830, until July 11, 1832, but from the fact that three blank leaves were left, it is presumed that the minutes of the Secretary were allowed to go unrecorded until they were lost. The last record of a meeting in the second period of labor was January 11, 1832. During that period (1816 to 1832) forty-seven were Entered, forty six Crafted and forty-seven Raised.

Second Closing – 1832 to 1846

The bitter anti-Masonic persecution of those times was the reason for the second closing of the lodge. Most of the lodges ceased work and the members waited patiently for better days, when the storm should pass. Masonry was prostrated but it did not come to naught, neither could its enemies overthrow it Truly, Brother Turner's text at the consecration of the lodge in 1803 was prophetic, - "For this Council or this work be of men, it will come to naught, but if it be of God, ye cannot overthrow it".

The lodge remained dormant for fourteen years until, on April 1, 1846, a meeting was held to make enquiries to take measures preparatory to reopening it. A committee was chosen to contact Grand Lodge to go about the process of forming a lodge. The report of this committee is not recorded. Nor is there a record at Grand Lodge of reissuing the Charter. Most likely upon the resignation of the Secretary in 1832, the Master, Thomas Tufts, kept the charter for safekeeping and waited until we could reopen.

From Freemasonry in Maine, 1820 to 1945, Chapter 6 by Ralph J. Pollard: "Most of the Lodges, however, neither surrendered their Charters nor maintained an active existence. They simply became dormant. Some faithful brother retained custody of the Charter, jewels, and records. The hall was closed, and all meetings were discontinued. The Lodge went to sleep, like a hibernating bear, until the dark night was past and a new day dawned."

At the same time of the closing several brothers, RW Frederick Clark, served as DDGM from 1832 & 1833 for the newly formed 8th Masonic District, RW Rev. Samuel Johnson served as Grand Chaplain & DDGM in 1834 & 1835 and Past SGW RW George Thatcher as DDGM of the 8th in 1836 & 1837.

Several subsequent meetings were held until on May 6, 1846, officers were chosen, the Master, Thomas P. Tufts, being the same as was in office in 1832. From 1846 Grand Lodge proceedings, "R. W. Arthur McArthur, D. D. G. M. of the Eighth Masonic District, presented the return of Saco Lodge, at Saco."

Then as now, friendly relations existed with other Orders, for we read that this lodge joined the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in the celebration of their third anniversary in September 1846. There were also several inquiries with the Odd Fellows to rent their hall.

Visiting brethren were not required to pay an assessment each time they visited the lodge after May 26, 1847.

The office of Marshal was mentioned for the first time on November 26, 1847 and that of Chaplain on November 28, 1849.

On October 27, 1852, the lodge was requested by Virginia Masons to contribute to the erection of a monument to Brother [Worshipful] George Washington.

Fire Burns the Lodge – 1854

The lodge moved to the hall in Batchelder's Block on Cutts Island which housed "The Union", the forerunner of the "Biddeford Journal" and the post office and was on the same site that was later occupied by the Calif Block. The Hall was dedicated February 22, 1853. From September of that year, the Chapter shared the hall with the lodge, each paying its proportional share of the rent, etc.





Fire destroyed this hall and its contents on September 2, 1854. All the property of the lodge (with the exception of the records) was lost. Even the Charter was burned. The records were in the care of the Secretary at the time of the fire.

A special dispensation was granted by the Grand Lodge to continue the meetings in temporary quarters furnished by the Saco Lodge of Odd Fellows. This condition obtained until November 29, 1854, when the lodge moved to the hall above the York Counting

Room.

Dispensation granted "Sept. 12, To Saco Lodge at Saco, authorizing them to continue their labors under their present organization, they having lost their Charter by fire."

From the Grand Lodge Proceedings of 1855:

On motion of Bro. Burnham, the petition of Saco Lodge for renewal of charter was taken from the table and referred to the Committee on Dispensations and Charters.

Petition of Buxton Lodge for removal to Biddeford, and for change of name, was presented and referred to the Committee on Dispensations and Charters.

The M. W. Grand Master than read his annual report—referred to the Committee on Doings of the Grand Officers.

On September 27, 1854, several members of Buxton Lodge which had been dormant for several years, petitioned the Grand Master for the restoration of their Charter and a

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dispensation authorizing the removal of that lodge to Biddeford. Saco Lodge unanimously recommended that petition, which was later granted and the lodge was moved. At that time, most of the members of Saco Lodge who were residing in Biddeford withdrew and helped in the reorganizing of Buxton Lodge, the name of which was changed to Dunlap Lodge in May 1855.

At about the same time Saco Lodge was granted a new Charter to replace the one that was burned. It was presented to the lodge by RW Timothy J. Murray (PM Saco) the District Deputy Grand Master on May 21, 1856.



Saco City Hall

The Building Committee for the construction of the new town hall in Saco invited the lodge to lay the cornerstone with Masonic Ceremonies.

The Grand Master gave, upon request of the lodge, a dispensation to Past Master Dunlap to hold a special Grand Lodge for this purpose. From the proceedings – "On the 2d of August, I specially appointed M. W. E. P. Dunlap to form and open a Grand Lodge, and lay the foundation stone of a public building in Saco; which service was performed on the 15th of August."

The cornerstone was laid August 15, 1855.



City Hall Circa 1896

Portland Encampment acted as escort. York Chapter and a delegation from all the lodges in the district were present. Masonic statements from Saco Lodge and York Royal Arch Chapter were deposited under the stone. That Town Hall of 1855 comes down to us with very few changes as our City Hall – the cupola has gone and the front tower had been added.

At this time we were in the first Masonic District (five years prior it was the 8th District) along with the following lodges from Grand Lodge Proceedings 1856:

Name.	No.	Location.	Name.	No.	Location.
Saco,	9.	Saco,	Dunlap,	47,	Biddeford,
York,	22,	Kennebunk,	St. John's,	51,	So. Berwick
Adoniram,	27,	Limington,	Fraternal,	55,	Alfred,
Freedom,	42,	Limerick,	Arundel,	76,	Ken. Port.

We held stated meetings on the first and third Wednesdays of the month and the annual meeting/election was held in May. The following year, when Edward P. Burnham was Master 1856-1857, the lodge stated meetings were on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month, except June, July, August and September. The year after that (1857-58), it went back to 1st and 3rd Wednesdays.

Early in 1856 a beginning was made toward forming a lodge library and a code of by-laws for the regulation of the same was adopted.

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Masonry was taken seriously and earnestly by our brothers of that day, and constant vigil was maintained to safeguard and perpetuate its integrity, as we read of brothers expelled for unmasonic conduct. Also, the word "Brother" meant much, for we read several times of a committee being appointed to act as "Peace Makers" between the brethren. Truly they were their brother's keepers.

The two communities of Biddeford and Saco were growing fast during the period. The Portmouth, Saco and Portland railroad – later the eastern division of the Boston and Maine – was put through around 1842. Yet it is evident that the lodge found itself in financial difficulties, since in November 4, 1857, it was voted to assess the members fifty cents each, in order to pay the rent of the hall "now over-due". This probably was due largely to the famous business collapse of 1857 in addition to the fact that late in 1854 the lodge lost everything it owned, including all of its furnishings and property by fire; and in addition to that, many of its members living in Biddeford transferred to Dunlap Lodge, leaving many fewer members to carry the burden.

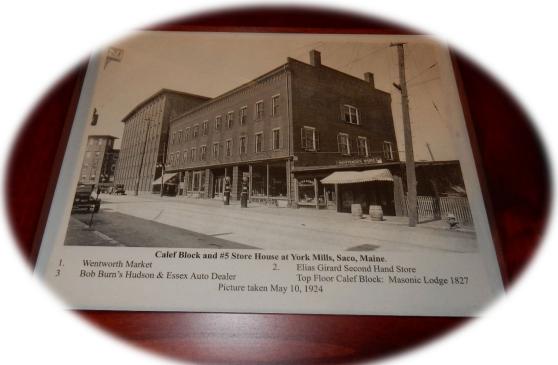
Regulations were still less stringent than at a later date for we learn that in 1858 and in 1859 candidates made application, were accepted and were given the first degree or all degrees all on the same night.

At the invitation of Dunlap Lodge, Saco Lodge attended the ceremonies of laying the cornerstone of the City Building in Biddeford on July 4, 1860. Also, on June 4, 1862, both lodges attended the one hundredth anniversary of Masonry in the State of Maine.

Calif (or Calef) Hall – 1865

In 1864 the lodge voted to move to Calif Hall, which was dedicated on December 27, 1865. The older members (in 1952) could remember meeting in this hall on Factory Island, a part of the Bates Company cotton house, which stood just southwest of the flagman's shanty at the railroad crossing. Downstairs of the lodge hall was the Saco Biddeford Savings Institution. This building was demolished many years ago, at the site of the Amtrak Train Station after the Bates factory closed in 1958.





There was no summer vacation in those days, and the lodges met every month in the year. Interest was great. We read that at the July meeting in 1870, one hundred and twenty brethren met and had a good time and a feed. The new officers took office in June and it was not until 1882 that the lodge year was begun in January.

In 1870-1871 Brother Burnham was commissioned to write a history of the lodge, and although the finished work was not found, yet his notes were on file and were used to develop the 10th Anniversary History. Again in 1935 a committee was chosen to write a

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history of Saco Lodge. That history was presented to the lodge on June 3, 1936, but unfortunately no copy of it can be found.

We read that on August 14, 1873 the lodge went upon an excursion to Lake Winnepesaukee and in 1879 the lodge attended the St. Johns Celebration at the Islands in Portland Harbor.

During the years 1874-1875 the hall was leased for another ten-year period at \$200.00 per year, again in 1885 it was leased for ten years more at the same price. In fact, the lodge resided there until the present quarters in the Saco and Biddeford Savings Institution Building, known as the Masonic Block, was acquired in 1907.

On March 3, 1875, the lodge voted to consent to the forming of a new lodge in Biddeford to be called Palestine Lodge. That lodge was united with Dunlap Lodge at the time the Masonic Block in Biddeford was built, in 1895.

On November 7, 1879, we read, it was "voted that Ministers should pay dues the same as all members". Just imagine the discussion that arose around that decision. Also, we were now becoming modern in several ways as in 1889 electric lights were installed in Calef Hall and dues were raised to \$10.00 for each degrees.

Many worthy things stand out in those days. We cannot read the records without being aware of how religiously the brethren met to attend funerals and to bury their brothers with due ceremony; of how, although the treasury might be low, help was many times given to widows upon application for such; and of how any brother violating his Master Mason's oath met with prompt and efficient punishment. Truly our elder brothers were worthy and were in every way Masons.

On May 2, 1882, it was voted to change the time of the annual meeting to the first Wednesday in January, and this has been the established date from that time. At that meeting the Watcher's fund was established by taking one hundred dollars from the general fund and voting to set aside fifty dollars each year in addition.

March 13, 1883, the lodge attended the celebration of the seventieth anniversary of York Lodge No. 22 of Kennebunk.



On October 3, 1888, Bro. Willis T. Emmons was Raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason. He was Mayor of Saco at the time (1887 to 1890) and again in 1928 & 1929.

(Photo from Maine Historical Society circa 1900)

In 1892 there was talk of raising the dues to four dollars and in 1895 (at the time the Masonic Block in Biddeford was being built) there was much talk of building a Masonic building in Saco, and a committee was appointed to consider it, but those projects were not undertaken. [How can they say that just 12 years later it was built!]



On November 15, 1897, the lodge attended the dedication of the Masonic building in Biddeford.

Edward Burnham, PM 1856, PGM 1877 & 1878



"At this time it is fitting to pay tribute to [M.W.] Brother Edward P. Burnham (left). The records for several years disclose his zeal for Masonry and its good works. These were recognized when in 1878 he was elevated to Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine, and again, upon his leaving the community, when a testimonial resolution was passed by the lodge, and he was given presents and made an honorary member." (150th Anniversary)

Brother Burnham was made a Mason in Maine in York Lodge, Kennebunk, Maine on July 26, 1852. Of this Lodge his father had been a member, and his grandfather, Seth Burnham, a Master. In August 1853, he affiliated with Saco Lodge No. 9, and in 1856 became its Master. Before he was Master, he served as Secretary and after his term as

Master, he served as the lodge Treasurer from 1871 to 1885. He was District Deputy Grand Master in 1860 to 1862.

He would go onto to serve as Senior Grand Warden (SGW) for three years before progressing to Deputy Grand Master (DGM), and finally Grand Master from 1877 to 1878. Up until 1874, Grand Masters served three years, the same for DGM & SGW. After 1874, the constitution and bylaws changed so Grand Wardens could only serve a one year term, Making Edward Burnham the last Senior Grand Warden to serve three consecutive years.

He received the Order of High Priesthood in 1860; was ten years Master of Ceremonies, and in 1879 was a Junior or Senior Vice-President of the Council of the Order of High Priesthood. He was a member of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters since 1856; became Grand Master in 1867, and from 1880 to 1883 was General Grand Marshal.

He was also a member of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar starting in 1857, and after serving as a subordinate officer for fourteen years, became Grand Commander in

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1881 and 1882. He was a delegate to the Grand Encampment in 1859 and 1880 at Chicago.

He received the various grades of the Scottish Rite at Portland, Maine. May 7, 1857, concluding the series in Massachusetts Consistory, at Boston, Mass. In May 1858, and was created a Sovereign Grand Inspector General 33° and elected an Honorary Member of the Supreme Council of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the United States in Boston, May 22, 1862. On September 27, 1883, he became an Active Member.

In May 1861, he was among the petitioners for the charter of Maine Consistory at Portland, and for eight years became an officer of said body, six years in Dunlap Chapter of Rose-Croix and two year as Master of Portland Council, Princes of Jerusalem (1862 and 1863), and during the latter years was Deputy Master of Yates Lodge of Perfection.

Not only was Bro. Burnham active in Masonry but also within the community of Saco. Bro. Burnham was chosen Mayor of Saco in 1872 and 1873, and was an alderman for five years. For 32 years (1853 to 1885) he was Secretary and Treasurer of the Saco Biddeford Savings Institution, at that time a position equivalent to Chief Executive Officer. During this time with Saco Biddeford, he helped it grow into a much larger and successful bank. He resigned his position to move to Roxbury, Massachusetts. He returned three years later and was elected President of Saco Biddeford Savings until 1901.

According to the records of the New England Historic Genealogical Society, "he was an easy and interesting speaker, and gave many valuable talks on local and family histories. His wide range of information made him a first class conversationalist, and he delighted to give as well as to receive information."

He was married to Mary Osborn of Kennebunk in 1854. They remained a devoted couple until her passing in 1897. They had no children.

In addition to Masonry, he was a member of the Odd Fellows, a life member of the New England Historic Genealogical Society, the Maine Society of the American Revolution and the Pine Tree Club of Massachusetts.

Due to ill health, he moved to Somersworth, NH to be with relatives and passed to the Celestial Lodge above on May 12, 1902. He is buried in Kennebunk at Hope Cemetery.

During the 1903 Grand Lodge Proceedings the following Memoriam was presented.

Bro. JOSEPH A. LOCKE presented the following memorial, which was accepted:

IN MEMORIAM-EDWARD P. BURNHAM, P. G. MASTER. We remember that at the last communication of this Grand Lodge one was absent who had not been absent before during a long course of years. Past Grand Master BURNHAM was not here. We remember also that at the last Proceedings of the May, session of that communication, upon the motion of Past Grand Master DRUMMOND we stood up, unanimously desiring to send some friendly word to the brother that was ill. And now-both of these brothers are away and

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can neither speak nor be spoken to. At that last meeting we could not know that when again we met in annual communication our words would not be to these brothers but of them, and of them very gently. They are asleep, but it is not mortal sleep from which the touch of brother hand can rouse them that they longer minister to our needs. It is for us to be roused-to be conscious of the bountifulness of their service, to express our sense of their worth, to renew our loyalty to the ideals of our common brotherhood. It is for us to grow greater by whatever beauty and truth and strength in their lives we have the capacity to feel. Death is not the great tragedy. The great tragedy is that a man with capacity for knowledge and for feeling should die ignorant and hardened, or linger living in the dark and cold. In what manner are we lingering? We are told, "Weep not for the dead but for the spirit withering." To be living is to be filled with warmth of feeling. The man who is cold in feeling, has let his spirit die.

Not one of us here can help being stirred, at realizing that the memorial for Brother BURNHAM was intended to be given by Brother DRUMMOND. We know how earnestly, sorrowfully, kindly he would have spoken, but now he no longer sorrows for the separated brother. The sorrow has fallen doubly upon us, yet with double strength comes the feeling that as the brother who would have spoken no longer grieves, surely we, as we think and speak of Brother BURNHAM, however solemnly and seriously, shall yet catch here and there a gladdening gleam of light. The death of a man who has lived so long and so well does not crush us but spurs us on to accomplish more while we may. How much has he accomplished for human institutions who has lived a long life actively, honestly, intelligently! Brother BURNHAM did the day's work manfully and for many days, and as we recount the external events of his life and the positions of trust that he held, we shall find them clearly marked sign posts in a long course of honorable action. Honor to his memory.

Brother BURNHAM was born in Kennebunk in this state December 3, [827, and departed this life at Somersworth, New Hampshire, May [2, [902. His early education was received in Bridgton Academy, followed by a clerkship of four years in an uncle's store in Kennebunk. When eighteen years of age he decided to fit himself for the law and entered upon his studies in the office of WILLIAM B. SEWALL, ESQ., of that place, with whom, and afterwards with Hon. EDWARD E. BOURNE, Judge of Probate for man y years in York County, he completed his studies, being admitted to the Bar in York County, April 4, 1849. For two years he followed the practice of law at Bangor, in this state, and at Holyoke, Mass., when, being offered the position of Deputy Collector of Customs, at Kennebunk, he accepted, remaining there two years.

April 18, 1853, when twenty five years of age, having been elected Secretary and Treasurer of Saco and Biddeford Savings Institution, he moved to Saco and entered upon his life's work. Soon afterwards he was also elected Secretary and Treasurer of the Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Saco, and he held these positions until his resignation in 1885. Of keen intelligence, a shrewd financier, patient, kindly and honest in his dealings with all with whom he came in contact, he soon acquired the entire confidence of the community and the surrounding towns, with the result that under his management this Savings Institution became stronger and stronger as time passed, and it was not many years before it became one of the soundest and safest banks in the state.

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It was when making a deposit in this bank, October 14, 1853, six months after Brother BURNHAM'S election as Secretary and Treasurer, that one of us first met him. He was a mere lad, nine years of age, his father taking him to the bank to deposit his first boyish savings of five dollars. He can never forget the kindly greeting he received. He thought Mr. BURNHAM one of the finest gentlemen he ever met. Mr. BURNHAM obtained his full confidence at once. That deposit with its small additions and accumulations still remains in that bank, as an evidence that he still thinks his confidence was not misplaced.

In 1885, on account of his wife's health, with the hope that a change of climate might be beneficial to her. he resigned his position as Secretary and Treasurer of the Bank and the Insurance Company, positions of emolument and trust, in which he had so signally succeeded, and moved to Roxbury, Mass. Thus he showed his love and attachment to his family, ties stronger than any words we can utter. The change of location not proving beneficial, after a three years residence there, he returned to Saco in 1888, when he was elected President of the Saco and Biddeford Savings Institution, in the building up of which he had devoted so many years of his active business life. This .position he held until October, 1901, when he resigned and moved to Somersworth, New Hampshire, where, although 74 years of age, he again took up the study of law, which he was systematically and industriously following when stricken down by his last sickness.

Bro. BURNHAM was highly esteemed, and possessed the confidence of the business community of Saco, as is evidenced by the fact that in addition to his Banking and Insurance business he was called upon to be Executor and Trustee of many estates, and had a large amount of Probate business. He was keenly alive to the business interest of his city, serving in the city government as Alderman of his Ward for five years, and being Mayor of Saco in 1872 and 1873.

He was also deeply interested in historical and genealogical matters; was a member of the New England Historical and Genealogical Society in Boston; of the Webster Historical Society of Boston; of the Maine Historical Society; of the Sons of the American Revolution; and a constant attendant at their annual meetings at least, and of the monthly meetings of some of them. His mind was a vast storehouse of historical information, and he was probably the best informed man in York County in its history and in the genealogy of its prominent families. He was methodical in these as in all other matters, ' making a record of all important events as they occurred. In this way he became, and continued until his death, an authority on such matters. This habit, coupled with a remarkable memory, made him a "ery interesting and instructive conversationalist. A man of reliable judgment, and consequently of strength and high standing in the community.

MASONIC HISTORY.

The record of Brother BURNHAM'S masonic life is an unusual one, and gives striking evidence of the interest he felt in our beloved fraternity and the time he must have devoted to it. He was initiated July 26, 1852, and made a Master Mason September 22, 85 ~, in York Lodge, No. 22, at Kennebunk, of which lodge his father had been a member, and his grandfather, SETH BURNHAM, a Master. In August, 1853, he dimitted from York Lodge and joined Saco Lodge in Saco, where he had taken up his residence April 18, 1853.

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He became a R. A. Mason November 12, 1853, in York R. A. Chapter, No. 5, at Saco; a Royal and Select Master December 20, 1855, in Portland Council, and immediately thereafter was one of the petitioners for a chapter for Maine Council, at Saco; he was made a Knight Templar April 9, 1855, in Portland Commandery, No.2, (then Encampment) at Portland; and became a charter member in 1857, of Biddeford Encampment, now Biddeford Commandery, of Biddeford. He received the Order of High Priesthood in March, 1860, at Portland; the Order of Knight of the Red Cross of Constantine, May 5,1875, at Portland, when the order was first established in Maine; and the Royal Order of Scotland, September 15, 1879, at Philadelphia.

Brother BURNHAM'S service in official position is remarkable. In York Lodge he was appointed Junior Deacon in December, 1852; moving to Saco he was elected Secretary of Saco Lodge in November, 1853; Senior Warden in June, 1855; Wor. Master in May, 1856; he was Marshal from 1857 to 1860; Treasurer from 187 1 to 1885; and was elected an honorary member in Saco Lodge, January 7,1885, and in York Lodge, May 21,1883.

In this Grand Lodge he served as Junior Grand Deacon in 1856; Senior Grand Deacon from 1857 to 1860; D. D. Grand Master 1860 and 1861; Grand Standard Bearer from 1862 to 1865; Cor. Grand Secretary from 1866 to 1871; Senior Grand Warden from 1872 to 1874; Deputy Grand Master 1875 to 1876: Grand Master in 1877 and 1878.

Thus it Stems that Brother BURNHAM served this Grand Lodge for sixteen years as an appointed officer, and five years as an elective officer before he became Grand Master in 1877. Making twenty-five years of active service as an officer in this Grand Lodge. In addition to the above he was elected a member of the Board of Trustees of the Grand Charity Fund In 1870, and has been triennially re-elected since that time. his last election being at the annual meeting in 1900. Thus he served in this office. looking after the finances of the Grand Charity Fund, and participating in the distribution of the income among the poor and needy, for a term of thirty-one years up to and including the year 1901, during which time he did not miss a single meeting.

Brother BURNHAM was equally interested in other masonic bodies. In York Chapter he served as Secretary from December. 1853, to June, 1856; and again from July, 1863, to May. 1867; was elected Scribe in 1856; King in 1857 and 1858; High Priest in 1859; Treasurer from 1871 to 1875; and again from 1877 to 1885.

In the Grand Chapter he served as Grand Master of the First Veil from 1856 to 1858; Grand King in 1858; D. Grand High Priest in [859 and [860; Grand High Priest in 1861. and afterwards as D. D. Grand High Priest in 1869. He was a delegate to the General Grand Chapter in Chicago in 1859, and at Detroit in 1880.

In the order of High Priesthood he was Steward from 1862 to 1865; Master of Ceremonies from 1865 to 1875; and after 1879 served as a Vice President of the Council up to the time of his death.

In Maine Council of Royal and Select Masters he was an officer from the date of charter in 1855 to 1875; and was Master from 1858 to 1862. In the Grand Council he was an officer

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from 1863 to 1867 when he was elected Grand Master, afterwards becoming General Grand Chaplain of the General Grand Council of the U. S. from 1880 to 1883.

He was a charter member of Biddeford Commandery in 1857 and served as Generalissimo in 1857 and 1858; and Em. Commander in 1859 and 1860; he was Recorder from 186 1 to 1865; Generalissimo again in 1865; Prelate in 1868; Treasurer from 1874 to [877, and again from 1879 to 1885.

In the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar he held various offices from 1857 to 1881, when he was elected Grand Commander. holding that office for two years. He represented this Grand Commandery at the Grand Encampment holden at Chicago, in 1859, and again in 1880.

From the above minutes it will be observed that he was Treasurer of lodge, chapter, council and commandery at the same time for many years. Showing the confidence and respect in which he was held by the members of the subordinate bodies with which he was connected. Brother BURNHAM was also deeply interested in the A. A. Scottish Rite; he was one of the petitioners for the charter of Maine Consistory at Portland. and for eight years an officer therein; he was also an officer for six years in Dunlap Chapter of Rose Croix; was Master of Portland Council Princes of Jerusalem in 1862 and 1863; and during the same time was the second officer in Yates Lodge of Perfection. He received the several degrees as follows, viz: The 4th to the 14th inclusive at Portland, May 7,1857; the 15th to the 18th inclusive at Portland, May 6, 1858; the 19th to the 32d inclusive in Bos· ton, May 27, 1858; was created a Sovereign Grand Inspector General in the Supreme Council in Boston, May 22, 1862, and was crowned an active member of the Supreme Council at Cincinnati, September 27, 1883.

The record reads like a succession of honors, and now the last honor has been bestowed upon him the dignity of death. It is a distinction common to all, the titled and the untitled, yet none the less is it a distinction. The man who has lived here among us, lived humanly, perhaps stumblingly, like the rest, and has gone out from among us and become no more capable of dying, is raised above us, above his own former state, and becomes a guide in countless ways, according as we know why he succeeded or why he failed. He brings our thoughts back to the serious things, we are led to "take unto the height the measure of ourselves." So there is in sorrow a "power friendly to virtue," sorrow having no power to shake but only to make firm and seal the bond of brotherhood seemingly broken. We think and talk about our brother's life and find the springs of noble action, and the loser of life's light becomes a lamp to our souls.

Brother BURNHAM was a lifelong worker of manly mind and honorable heart, led not by idle impulses but by earnest purpose-fullness that found its opportunity everywhere. He was always counted upon to be in h\s place. He was always here at the opening ready to take up his work on the committees and to do his duty. We are reminded that ..

"A light of duty shines on every day
For all; and yet how few are warmed or cheered!" (William Wordsworth)

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Duty is often stern and exacting and we can realize, perhaps better now than formerly, how Brother BURNHAM, patient in healings, honest in his convictions, candid in expressing his opinion, held the scales of justice in equal poise, ready to render the verdict against himself, and what he thought might be for the best interest of his friend~, if the weight of evidence turned the scale the other way. Thus stern was his sense of justice. Yet he was a kindly man, a gentleman of the old school, ever courteous and affable and considerate of the views of others. The death of a just and kindly man is to be mourned by us who cannot save ourselves from perishing. We know that death is the one inexorable thing, but we know too that, though men die, man lives, and we can pass on good deeds, good thoughts, until justice and kind· ness become as inexorable as death. Then good men will not have lived and died in vain.

Great changes have taken place in the permanent membership of this Grand Lodge since the writer first became a mason. FREEMAN BRADFORD, TIMOTHY CHASE, HIRAM CHASE, TIMOTHY MURRAY, JOHN H. LYNDE, DAVID CARGILL, ALBERT MOORE, of Past Grand Masters; OLIVER GERRISH, JOSEPH COVELL, and SUMNER J. CHADBOURNE, THADDEUS R. SIMONTUN, of Past Grand Wardens; MOSES DODGE, WILLIAM O. FOX, and FREDERICK FOX, Past Grand Treasurers; IRA BERRY, Past Grand Secretary, all these were noble and true men who loved our fraternity and labored for it because they believed in the Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of men, and now since our last session two more Past Grand Masters have ceased from their labors and are at rest.

More and more there has come to us a realization of Brother BURNHAM'S labors. Indeed, his life was an active one and he filled some one or more important positions in masonic bodies from the first year of his being a mason until his death. The many with whom he came 'in contact will miss him.

When a strong man joins our ranks, there is a thrill of joy, a feeling of new strength. And when a strong man leaves the ranks it is a call to us to put forth the best strength of which we are capable.

JOSEPH A. LOCKE, MARQUIS F. KING, HORACE H. BURBANK, Committee

Note: By 1905 all three authors would have joined Bro. Burnham in the Celestial Lodge Above.

100 Years in Saco - 1902

Then came the new century and the lodge was growing up. On the first day of 1901 there were one hundred and fifty-two members and for the first time the general fund was over one thousand dollars.

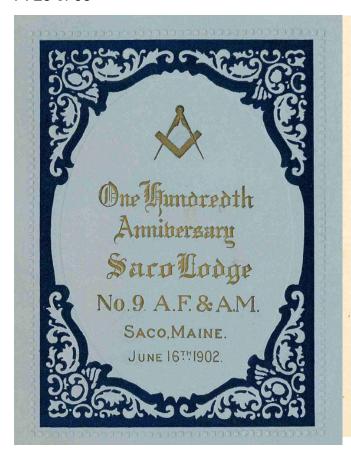
A "real celebration" was held on July 9, 1902, to mark the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of Saco Lodge. It was held at the Old Orchard House at Old Orchard Beach. There were invited Masons of Saco Lodge, affiliated resident Masons, five Grand Lodge officers, the District Deputy Grand Master, officers and Past Masters of Dunlap Lodge. A banquet was enjoyed, after which came a program, both interesting and instructive. The cost of this affair borne by donations, the amount of which came to six hundred and eleven dollars, more than enough to cover expenses incurred – five hundred and nineteen dollars.



The program consisted of Prayer, Banquet,

Historical Address by MW Horace H. Burbank, PGM, Music, Poem by MW John Locke, PGM, Music, Address by MW Alfred Kimball, Grand Master,

Music, Letters from absent members, Auld Lang Syne and Benediction.



60.
Officer
Officers
1802
JEREMIAH HILL
JOSEPH LELAND
THOMAS CUTTS, JR JUNE. WARDEN
WILLIAM FAIRFIELD SECRETARY
ASA STEVENS TREASURER
JOHN ALLEN SENIOR DEACON
BAMUEL COLLYER JUNIOR DEACON
NATHANIEL SCAMMAN, JR 1ST STEWARD
SAMUEL NUTTING, JR
EPHRAIM RIDLON
1902
PHILIP C. TAPLEY WORSHIPPUL MASTER
GEORGE H. DYER SENIOR WARDEN
LAWRENCE E. WILLARD JUNIOR WARDEN
WILLIAM O. FREEMAN TREASURER
ABRAM T. LORD SECRETARY
JOHN W. SHAW BENIOR DEACON
CLARENCE F. BAWYER JUNIOR DEACON
ALONZO A. SEAVEY SENIOR STEWARD
SAMUEL W. CASSESOOM JUNIOR STEWARD
JOSEPH F. OHADBOURNE OHAPLAIN
JOHN G. SMITH MARSHAL
HARRY O. QUINBY TYLER

BANQUET

GIVEN BY

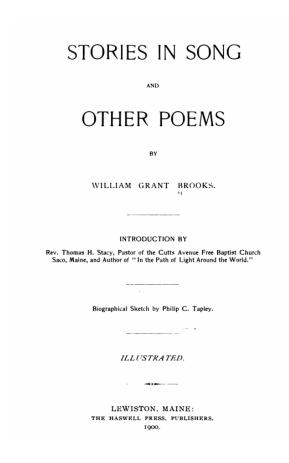
SACO LODGE NO. 9, A.F. & A.M.

SACO, MAINE,

OELEBRATING

ITS

ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY



Philip C. Tapley PM 1899 - 1902

1902 was the final year of a four year stretch (1899 – 1902) where Wor. Philip C. Tapley was Master. He was presented with a Past Master's jewel in 1903. In 1904, he participated as a member of the By-laws Committee to rewrite the by-laws.

He served the City of Saco as Mayor of Saco from 1904 to 1906. He began work for the local paper in 1907 and became the Biddeford Daily Journal editor in 1912. He died on January 18, 1917.

Wor. Tapley was well versed, assisting a friend, William Grant Brooks, in writing his biography for "Stories in Song and Other Poems" written by Mr. Brooks and published in 1900

Horace Burbank, PGM 1893, 1894

Also we pay tribute to [M.W.] Brother Horace H. Burbank (right) who, faithfully and well, was made Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine for the years 1894 and 1895, became a 33rd Degree Mason and fifty years ago, even after his tour of duty was ended came back and delivered an able address at the one hundredth anniversary of Saco Lodge. (150th Anniversary)

He was made a Mason in Freedom Lodge, Limerick, February 17, 1864, and served as Master of the lodge in 1869 and 1870.

He demitted from Freedom Lodge in February 1877 and affiliated with Saco Lodge on May 2, 1877 upon his moving to Saco. He had also served as Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter in 1873 and 1874; as Grand Master of the Grand Council in 1884 and 1885; and as Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery in 1893. He was

Senior Vice President of Maine Council of High Priesthood at the time of his death.



Burbank was born in Limerick, Maine, in 1837 and died in Saco in 1905. He served in the 27th and 32nd Maine Volunteer Infantry during the Civil War. After the war, he practiced law in Limerick and Saco. He held numerous positions in the County and State including Register of Probate and Representative to the State Legislature.

Horace Harmon Burbank was born in Limerick, York County, Maine, October 27, 1837, and was the eldest son of Abner and Eliza Adams (Harmon) Burbank. His early education was obtained in the

village schools of his native town, and the academies at Limerick and Yarmouth. After the usual preparatory studies, he entered Bowdoin College, and graduated in the class of 1860. Among his classmates at Bowdoin were Hon. Thomas B. Reed, Hon. Joseph W. Symonds, General John M. Brown, Hon. W. W. Thomas, Hon. Amos L. Allen, and other well-known Maine men. After his graduation, he began the study of law with L. S. Moore of Limerick, and while reading law, he taught school, until August, 1862.

He then enlisted as a private in Company A, Twenty-Seventh Maine Infantry Volunteers, for nine months service. Three months after enlistment, he was promoted to quartermaster-sergeant. When his term of service was about to expire, in June, 1863, Lee's invasion alarmed the North, and he was one of the three hundred members of the Twenty-Seventh who voted to remain in the service after their period of enlistment terminated to assist in the defense of Washington, DC. He served until after the battle of Gettysburg, being discharged on July 17, 1863. Upon his return home, he entered Harvard Law School, intending to complete his legal studies.

But his desire to return to the army was too strong to be overcome. And in March, 1864, he re-entered the service, being commissioned as First Lieutenant of Company A, of the Thirty-Second regiment of Maine Infantry Volunteers.

In the following May, he was promoted to the captaincy of Company K, of the same regiment. He went to the front with the first battalion, and participated in all of the battles from Spotsylvania to the Mine Explosion. In the last named, on July 30, 1864, he was taken prisoner, together with many other officers of his regiment. On the 5th of August he reached Columbia, S. C, and was confined in Richland County Jail, and was there held as a prisoner of war for four months. On December 5th, he with other prisoners, was transferred from the jail to Camp Asylum, an enclosure taken from the grounds of the State Insane Asylum at Columbia, for a prison-camp.

In February, 1865, he, with others, made their escape from prison, and succeeded in reaching Sherman's army. After having joined Sherman, Captain Burbank went through to Fayetteville with the army, and from thence, by consent of General Sherman, went to Wilmington on a gunboat, and thence to Fortress Monroe and Washington. During his imprisonment, the Thirty-Second regiment had been consolidated with the Thirty-First

Saco Lodge History P. 31 of 58

Maine, and he had been transferred to the captaincy of Company B, of the latter regiment. But he never assumed the command of that company, and, on May 15, 1865, was discharged by special order from the War Department, on account of disability.

Since his return to peaceful life, he had always manifested a lively interest in everything pertaining to the Civil War. At the first opportunity after being mustered out of the service, he became a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. And he had since been a constant and efficient worker for the welfare of the order. He was a Past Commander of his Post, and had served 19 terms as Post Quartermaster. He had also been Judge Advocate of the Department for two years. Junior Vice Department Commander one year, and in 1888, was elected Department Commander. He is also a member of the Maine Commandery of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion.

In the years 1876-78, he was Judge Advocate on the staff of Gov. Selden Connor, with the rank of Colonel. In his chosen profession of the law, he had also won honors, having been County Attorney for York County five years, Register of Probate eight years, City Solicitor of Saco five years, and Judge of the Municipal Court of the city of Saco, since December 5, 1890, having been recently appointed for his fourth term. He was married, and had four children, two boys and two girls.

Brother Burbank was stricken with a shock of paralysis, and died at his home in Saco, January 8, 1905. He is buried in Laurel Hill Cemetery overlooking the Saco River.

From the Grand Lodge proceedings in 1905

"Our pleasure, however, is alloyed with sadness. We do not, we cannot, forget that during the year, death has taken two of our best known and most prominent members, Past Grand Masters Marquis F. King and Horace H. Burbank, both gentlemen, both upright citizens, both earnest, active, aggressive masons, both having troops of friends...Their places will be hard to fill. We shall miss them, their ability, their wise counsel, their earnestness.

It would be hard indeed to find a body of men of equal numbers that has suffered more grievously by the entrance of the great destroyer within its ranks than has the Grand Lodge of Maine, which has lost six Past Grand Masters and four Past Grand Wardens in less than four years, including those of who we especially speak today. "Verily the elder counsellors are passing away:"

The following Memorial was presented.

MEMORIALS.

Bro. Stephen Berry presented the following, which was accepted:

HORACE H. BURBANK.

Our thirty-sixth Grand Master, HORACE HARMON BURBANK, died at Saco, of paralysis, Sunday, January 8, 1905, aged 67 years, 2 months and 12 days. He was born at Limerick, Maine, October 27, 1837.

He graduated at Bowdoin College in the class of 1860, of which Speaker Reed and other distinguished men were members.

He enlisted as a private in the 27th Maine and came out a captain, after fighting in the battles of Spottsylvania, North Anna, Cold Harbor and numerous engagements in front of Petersburg. He was taken prisoner at the battle of the Crater and spent nearly seven months in prison at Danville, Va., and Columbia, S. C., whence he escaped with others, and joined Sherman's army.

He was admitted to York Co. bar in January, 1865, and held many positions of trust, being judge of the Municipal Court at his death.

He had been Department Commander of the Grand Army and was Grand Treasurer of the Good Templars.

He married, June 11, 1872, Miss Elizabeth P. Thompson, of Kennebunk, who survives him, with four children, one of whom is a mason and an officer in this body.

Bro. BURBANK was initiated in Freedom Lodge, Limerick, Feb. 17, 18649 was Secretary in 1867 and Master in 1869 and '70. He first appeared in the Grand Lodge in 1867 and has ever since continued to take a conspicuous part. He was Grand Master in 1893 and 1894, was Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter in 1873 and '74, Grand Master of the Grand Council in 1884 and '85, and Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery in 1893. He was Senior Vice President of the Council of High Priesthood at his death. He

was a member of the Scottish Rite, having received the degrees in Maine Consistory Jan. 28, 1879. He had filled most acceptably many of the offices in all the bodies, and had been chairman of many important committees. He was able and eloquent and was a power in every assemblage. Withal he had a hearty good nature which made him the beloved friend of all his associates, who will long remember and long mourn him as not the least of that distinguished group who have so recently left Maine in sadness.

STEPHEN BERRY, CHAS. I. COLLAMORE, FRANK E. SLEEPER,

Move to Masonic Hall – Saco Biddeford Savings – 1907

At the turn of the century, a committee on repairs was appointed to work with Chapter to redo our lease with the current landlord and improve the building in "a first class manner". The committee also recommended changes including that the owner should heat the rooms with steam. From the impression the records make, the brethren were less than pleased with the appearance and operations of the building and the owner less than willing to help.

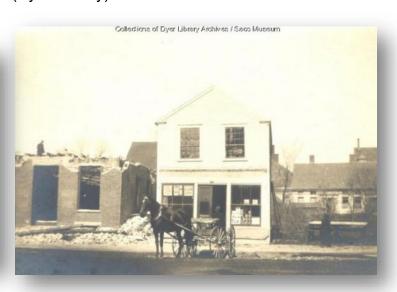
At the Stated Communication on May 2, 1906, it was reported that the officials of the bank (Saco Biddeford Savings Institution) had informed the lodge that the price of the rent on the hall was too low, owing to the high costs of the building and the cost of rent must be considerably more. On motion, it was voted that should the lodge hire the third floor of the new hall, the Masons should have exclusive use of the same. On motion, it was voted that the committee from the lodge and the committee from the Chapter be authorized to contract with the bank for quarters in the new block, rent not to exceed \$600.00 (Lodge History – 1891 – 1917)



J.W. Beatty & Co., and E.D. Thomas, Cash Grocer occupied this corner until 1906. The Old Thornton House, by now a hotel, appears to the right. By 1908, Saco's Masonic Building occupies this corner and is currently home to Saco and Biddeford Savings Institution as well as Saco Masonic Lodge.

(Dyer Library)





The Masonic Building on Main Street in

Saco, Maine, was built c. 1906. The Saco and Biddeford Savings Institution had the corner spot. Among the building's other occupants was the E. J. Bradbury's Pharmacy. The many flags and banners appear to be for a public celebration. (Dyer Library)

From the Lodge History 1891 to 1917, Grand Lodge Archives...

"The first Stated Communication in the new hall was held on October 2, 1907. A committee was appointed to purchase an organ for the new hall. Three meetings were held in December, and thus eneded a very busy year for Saco Lodge. 57 applications for degrees received, 36 elected and 21 rejected, raised 36, reinstated 1, demitted 2, suspended 5, 4 have died, present membership 189. Exemplified 96 degrees in 1907. Finest year in the history of Saco Lodge to date."

Dr. L. E. Willard Dies At Biddeford

BIDDEFORD — Dr. Lawrence E. Willard, 80, a practicing physician here for more than 50 years and one of the first members of the staff of Webber Hospital, died last night in a Biddeford hospital after a brief illness. He was born in Island Pond, Vt., was graduated from Bowdoin College and received his medical degree from Baltimore Medical School, Baltimore, Md.

Dr. Willard was one of the earliest of local physicians to practice pediatrics and for many years served as health officer for Biddeford and Saco.

He was the oldest past commander of Bradford Commandery and was a past master of Blue Lodge and the American Legion.

Surviving besides his widow are a son, Lawrence E. Willard Jr., of Hebron, and two grandchildren.

Private funeral services will be held at the Willard residence at 2 p. m. tomorrow. From the 150th Anniversary Booklet...

"Now we come to familiar ground. In 1905, Doctor Lawrence E. Willard was Master. On April 4, 1906 it was voted to move the lodge to our present quarters in the Saco and Biddeford Bank building, a ten year lease was taken. The brick building had been built at that time, and the third floor arranged to conform to the desires of Saco Lodge. The hall was dedicated on September 24, 1907 by the Grand officers. Over 250 Brethren and guests attending the event. The Secretary at the time noted that a good time was had by all.

On January 2, 1907, the Thomas Buckminster fund of one thousand dollars was accepted and later that year we bought our pipe organ, the cost being wholly borne by subscriptions of the various members.

In 1912 the dues were raised from two dollars to three dollars. In 1914 a piano for the dining room was purchased by donations. On March 3, 1915 approval was given to form the Lodge at Old Orchard and the next year we gave some of our furniture to the young lodge."



The Bradford Commandery of Knights
Templar march with Painchaud's Band in
Biddeford, circa 1915. The groups are
parading down Main Street near Bradbury
Street, headed toward downtown. It is
probably a parade in honor of St. John's Day,
which occured each year in June and was a
popular event in Biddeford for many years.
Bradford met at the lodge hall in Saco.

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Various visitors and special meetings were held:

The Anchor Club of Boston - Master Mason - September 27, 1919

On September 9th, 217 members and guests gathered at a special communication with MW Harry G. Noyes, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, and the Anchor Club. The Anchor Club were Masons who were employed by the Boston and Maine Railroad with the goal of promoting Masonry and performing degree work.

Saco Lodge performed the first section on Bros. Robert Mowat, Jr, who became Master in 1924 and died while serving as Master on May 11, 1924, and Otto L. Carter.

The Anchor Club performed the second section and lectures. Prior to the degree they presented a handsome gavel to Saco Lodge, which is still brought out on special occasions.



The telephone degree team coming from Boston to work the same degree, and from 1945 the Saco-Lowell degree team visiting at least seven times; the purchasing of the motor for the Organ in 1919; the fees for degrees being raised to forty dollars in 1920; the Annette Chapter of the Eastern Star being formed and sharing the lodge rooms with us, beginning that same year;

From the Lodge History of 1920, "The Secretary reported as follows:

Applications received	- 67	Degrees Conferred	- 142
Elected	- 47	Stated Communications	– 11
Rejected	- 20	Special communications	- 24
Present Membership	– 270	Average Attendance	-43

This was one of the most prosperous years that Saco Lodge ever had."

The Secretary didn't exactly know what he was talking about, the following year, they received more applications (72), Raised 45 and increased membership to a total of 315!

In 1921, Bro. and Dr. George R. Love was elected Mayor of Saco. He was the father of



Bro. George D. Love, who became Master in 1952. He lived for many years at 408 Main St, known as the Roscoe Bowers house, which was built in the stick style in 1885

Dr. George R. Love Saco, Oct. 5 .- Funeral services for Dr. George Rusk Love, 77, former mayor of this city, who died Friday at a Biddeford hospital, will be held at 2 p. m. Monday at his residence, 408 Main Street.

Dr. Love was born in Plainfield. O., and received his degree from Ohio State University. He was superin-State tendent of the Hospital a Toledo for many years before com ing to this city where he practiced 25 years. He was a Mason and mem-Shrine and the local Rotary Club. his widow, Helen Surviving are Deering Love and a son, George D. Love of this city; a sister, Mrs. Bessie Kirk and a brother, R. M. Love, both of Coshocton, O.

He was Raised in Barton Smith

Lodge #613, Toledo, Ohio before moving here. He affiliated with Saco Lodge in 1920. The state of Ohio deeply missed Dr. Love when he moved to Saco.

Saco Lodge working the third degree in Grand Lodge in 1927. From the Grand Lodge proceedings:

The Ohio State Institution Journal 83

the staff for six years, then resigned to engage in private practice in the city of Toledo. After Dr. Tobey resigned, Dr. Love, on February 9, 1906, was appointed superintendent, which position he has since filled.

In October, 1904, Dr. Love was married to Helen Josephine Deering, of Saco, Maine. They have one son, George Deering Love, born April 26, 1907. Dr. Love is a member of the Presbyterian church and a 32nd degree Mason. Dr. and Mrs. Love will make their future home at Saco, Maine.

In the resignation of Dr. Love, Ohio has lost a most useful public servant. Concerning his resignation, the Ohio State Journal (Columbus) under date of June 19, published the following editorial:

Ohio will lose a valuable public servant when Dr. George R. Love leaves his post as superintendent of the Toledo State Hospital. He is leaving to engage in the practice of his profession.

There are other men in state service in technical work who are losing important opportunities in private life by staying in state service. The state is appreciative but it does not put salaries anywhere near the possible earnings for highly trained men in professional life. These men become attached to the work placed in their hands, they develop a real interest in the care of the wards of the state in their keeping, and they stay at the work ofttimes, as has been recently shown, until age has disqualified them from even taking advantage of the opportunities in private employment and professional life.

Dr. Love has made a fine record in the management of the Toledo Hospital. He has rendered a real public service while there.

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EXEMPLICATION OF WORK.

The Grand Master then invited the Worshipful Master and officers of Saco Lodge, No. 9, of Saco, to assume their stations and exemplify the work of Master Mason degree. The following named brethren, being the regular officers of the lodge, except Organist and Tyler, assumed their stations:

Worshipful Master, Joseph J. Sterling Senior Warden, . EDGAR H. PELLERIN Junior Warden, LIONEL R. CARTWRIGHT Treasurer, Myron E. Savage RUFUS L. DOE Secretary, Senior Deacon, EDWARD P. JOHNSON ELROY B. BOOTH Junior Deacon, Chaplain, THOMAS H. HOOPER Marshal EDWARD M. CLOUDMAN Senior Steward, Donald S. Skilling CLYFTON HEWES Junior Steward, FRED L. HILL Organist, MELVIN C. ABBOTT Tyler,

The work of the Master Mason degree was performed upon a regular candidate of Saco Lodge in a manner so nearly perfect in both ritual rendition and floor movement as to call for merited applause by the brethren and the approbation of the Grand Lecturer.



In 1930, membership had risen to 350 brethren. During this year, Bro. Theodore T. Young passed away on June 22, 1930. Young Elementary School in Saco is named after him for years of service as a school administrator. He was one of the last brethren Raised in Calif Hall on September 4, 1907, just three weeks before the move to the Masonic Block. He served as Chaplain and as Junior Deacon the years following his Raising.



Again from 150th Anniversary: "The redecorating of the Lodge Hall in 1932; the American Red Cross using the dining room during the first and second world wars for meetings and rolling bandages; the renovating of the lodge rooms in 1945; the use of the kitchen facilities by the Salvation Army during the great fires of 1947 and the visit of about thirty brethren from Melrose and Medford, Massachusetts in 1950 to perform the work of the evening."

"Here we should pause and take cognizance an act that has done much to bring the ritualistic work of the Saco Lodge to its present high standing. Around 1923 it was voted to clothe the officers in dress suits, the lodge and officers to share the cost. All work was to be done in that formal dress and few will question the facts that this had a marked effect immediately, as a certain pride and extra responsibility went with those clothes, especially since it was agreed and promised that if an officer could not attend a particular meeting he must obtain someone to be there and "fill his dress suit"."

Saco Lodge exemplified the Master Mason Degree once again at Grand Lodge in Portland, Maine on May 4, 1938. The Candidate for the work was Saco Lodge's own Fellow Craft Fayette Lobley.

From the Grand Lodge Proceedings

EXEMPLICATION OF WORK,

The Grand Master called the Grand Lecturer, Charles E. Crossland, to the East and requested him to proceed with exemplification of the work. Bro. Crossland announced that the work of the Master Mason degree would be performed by the officers of Saco Lodge, No. 9, of Saco, and asked those officers to assume their stations.

The officers of Saco Lodge who performed the work were:

WESTBROOK — Fayette "Fay" G. Lobley, 75, of 41 Webster Ave., formerly of Saco and Greenville, S. C., died unexpectedly Friday in his home after a short illness. He was a retired Saco-Lowell employe.

Born May 18, 1888, in Guilford, he was a son of Isaac B. and Mary Grady Lobley. He attended schools in Old Town and later served in the 103rd Infantry of the 26th Division, U.S. Army, in France during World War I.

After the war he attended textile schools in Massachusetts. He was employed in the parts division of Saco Lowell Shops for 20 years, retiring last May.

He was a member of Saco Lodge, AF&AM, a former commander of the Owen-Davis American Legion Post, Saco, and the James F. Daniels Jr. Post, Greenville, S.C.

Besides his widow, the former Ruth Whitten, he is survied by a son, Walter Lobley, Winston-Salem, N.C.; a daughter, Mrs. Vernice Marston, Waterboro, six grandchildren and several cousins,

The funeral will be at 2 p.m. Monday at a Scarborough funeral home. Interment will be in Woodlawn Cemetery, Biddeford.

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Worshipful Master, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer, Secretary, Senior Deacon, Junior Deacon, Chaplain, Senior Steward, Junior Steward, Marshal, Organist, Tyler, First R., Second R., Third R., Speaking F. C., F. C., F. C.,

L. EARLE HUTCHINSON
LEWIS A. PATRIQUIN
CHARLES S. TOWLE
THOMAS H. HOOPER
RUFUS L. DOE
ARTHUR T. DIXON
RALPH H. MESERVE
ROBERT M. DAVIS
LAWRENCE H. HUOT
PHILIP E. GRAVES
H. THOMPSON STACKPOLE
FRED LINCOLN HILL
CARL IVERSON
SETH M. HANSON

JAMES V. NEITHERCUT RUFUS L. DOE LAWRENCE H. HUOT PHILIP E. GRAVES

W. HOWARD STACKPOLE

The Grand Lecturer commented on the excellence of the work and on the examination of the candidate.

The Grand Master resumed the East and again thanked the Grand Lecturer and the officers of Saco Lodge for the beautiful exemplification of the work for the benefit of the brethren present.

The one officer who performed both the 1927 and the 1938 degrees was James Neithercut as the 3rd Ruffian.

To quote our records for that event...

"while these officers lay no claim to ritualistic perfection at the same time they may _ Be proud of the smoothness of their work. Immediately after the work, these brethren marched out of the Grand Lodge amid the exceptionally heavy applause from the more than four hundred members who were in attendance.

On arriving at our own quarters to attend our stated Communication, W. M. Hutchinson received a splendid telegram from the Grand Lecturer Charles Crossland expressing praise of and satisfaction with the work."



Portrait of Brethren who participated in Degree Work

The Storm Clouds of World War II

World events rarely enter into the records of Saco Lodge, but the approaching storm in Europe and Asia, Wor. Louis Patriquin spoke eloquently on the gifts we have living within these United States.

January 3, 1940 – Master's Report from Wor. Louis Patriquin, who later served as Treasurer of Saco Lodge.

"I have tried to emphasize particularly through our notices and in our meetings from time to time, the importance of remembering the privileges which are ours in these times of world confusion. Privileges of living our lives in a country where men may think and speak freely, which automatically makes the individual responsible for his own government. A great responsibility to be cherished and developed by every Mason, to the end that belief in God is and will continue to be foundation on which the superstructure of our lives is safely built."

World War II

Ralph Meserve was elected and installed as Master, on January 1942 by RW Fred Clark. This was the first meeting after the bombing of Pearl Harbor. To read the meeting minutes from that night was quite moving. Once again the outside world has little effect on the business of Masons, but not on this occasion, from the Finance Committee:

"We recommend that owing to the grave state of emergency under which we are now living and to do what we can to help the local, state and National Governments to carry forward the work of Defense, Saco Lodge No.9 A, F & A. M. will, in so far as we can, buy Defense Bonds to the limits of our cash resources. And that the Treasurer be empowered to purchase these Defense Bonds as soon as feasible. We also, recommend that this Lodge participate in so far as we can, in the local and National relief work to the extent we feel we can without injustice to our Masonic obligations."

One must remember, the Philippines were about to fall, the battles of Midway, El Alamein and Stalingrad had not yet occurred and the Axis powers were dominating the battlefields. So when we stated grave situation, they meant GRAVE!

By the end of 1942, 15% of our assets were invested in War Bonds, a little over \$12,000 which is equivalent to \$176,000 in 2016 dollars.

Now we come to the end of Ralph's term as Master. By the time Ralph left the office in January 1944, the Allied powers were on their way to winning the war. D-day was only five months away. A total of 10 Candidates in 1942 and 11 candidates in 1943 were Raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason during his time as Master. Membership was essentially steady during this time with 300 members in January 1944.

At the December Stated in 1942, the brethren voted to remit all dues to those serving in the armed forces. It is a tradition we carry to this day.

19 members were serving in the conflict. The following brethren were reported to be in the armed forces or merchant marine at the end of 1943:



Norman H. Bryant	Justus E. Cobb, 2nd	Lawrence H. Dyer	Charles C. Foss, (PM 1989)
Arthur S. Hamilton	William R. Johnston, III	Fred Kosiba	Harry A. Mapes
George A. Martin	Ernest B. Pollock	Philip R. Scammon	Robert W. Seaward
M. Calman Savage	Ivory H. Towle	Lyle D. Wiggins	Norman A. Wilcox (PM 1953)
Lewis E. Webber	Charles E. Walker	Phillip E. Graves	



Saco Lodge History P. 42 of 58

Many other members of Saco Lodge served in the armed forces before joining Saco Lodge. Wor. Gordon Flood (PM 1970) served in the 101st Airborne and was at Bastogne during the Battle of the Bulge. Bros. Thomas Quigley Davis (USN), Arthur Rumery (USMC) and Reed Rumery (USN) also served. [Apologies to those brethren who were missed in this listing.]

Ralph Meserve PM 1942, 1943

Ralph Meserve was initiated as an Entered Apprentice on April 12, 1932 with Worshipful Neil M. Dow sitting in the East. Passed to the Degree of a Fellowcraft on May 4, 1932 with the Senior Warden Clyfton. Hewes as Master. The Master was absent, perhaps the Grand Lodge session ran late. Raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason on June 1, 1932 with Worshipful Neil M. Dow sitting in the East.

Ralph was JS in 1936, SS in 1937, JD in 1938, SD in 1939, JW in 1940, SW in 1941, WM in 1942 & 1943 and Chaplain in 1944.

Wor. Ralph Meserve participated as Junior Deacon for Saco Lodge when they exemplified the Master Mason Degree at Grand Lodge in Portland, Maine on May 4, 1938. The Candidate for the work was Saco Lodge's own Fellow Craft Fayette Lobley.

Ralph Meserve was elected and installed as Master, on January 1942 by RW Fred Clark (PM 1936).

Master's Message for 1943:

For the Officers and Brethren of Saco Lodge #9 A, F & AM Brethren,

I am most appreciative of the high honor which you conferred upon me by reelecting me as Master of Saco Lodge for the year 1943. I appreciate very much the loyal support of the Past Masters and members who have given their untiring effort to make my year a success.

I was confronted from the very beginning of the year with the shortage of regular officers, many of whom were called into the armed forces, so that it became necessary for me to fill many of the stations at each meeting. Many tasks are left unfinished, but 1have endeavored to fulfill my duties faithfully and willingly.

If any measure of success has been attained this year it is due largely to the whole hearted cooperation which I have received. We have worked in unison for the advancement of our order.

Respectfully submitted, Ralph H. Meserve, WM

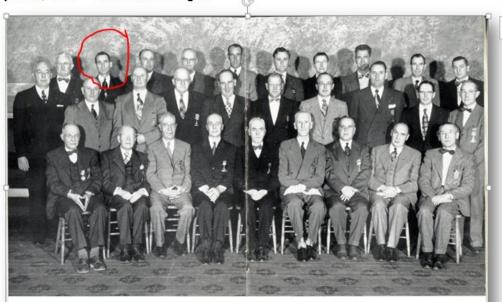
In 2007, we celebrated with his family, his receiving his 5th Service Star for 75 years as a Mason.





RW Joel F. Tripp, DDGM presenting Wor. Ralph Meserve with his 5th Service Star. VW Carl Marsano, DER assisting.

April 15, 1952 - Past Masters Night



Ralph was present at the 150th Anniversary's Past Master's Night. His chair for the night was steward.

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Post War Era

On March 7, 1945, Saco Lodge once again appeared in "full dress after a lapse due to war conditions. On May 15th, the Saco Lowell degree team exemplified the Master Mason degree.

In October of 1945, Saco Lodge hosted a School of Instruction for the 17th, 18th & 19th Masonic Districts. "An excellent supper was prepared by Annette Chapter and a well-attended and enthusiastic meeting resulted."

In September of 1946, Saco Lodge had a field day at the Fish and Game Club Lodge in Goodwins Mills.

The Salvation used our kitchen facilities during the forest fire crisis. A letter of appreciation from the Salvation Army was read in lodge on November 5, 1947. The Salvation Army thanks us for the use of the kitchen and equipment during the disaster.

From the New England Historical Society web page http://www.newenglandhistoricalsociety.com/maine-fires-1947-year-state-burned/

When the alarm went out, men and boys dropped what they were doing and rushed off to fight the fires. Men who went to work in small towns didn't know if they'd be called on to fight the Maine fires that day. Volunteers came from all over Maine, New Hampshire and Massachusetts. An eight-mile-long wall of fire burned in Kennebunkport. In North Waterboro, nearly 60 residents and volunteers were trapped for more than an hour behind a line of fire before escaping. In York County, the fires destroyed most of the homes in Shapleigh and Waterboro. then swept toward the sea and consumed swathes of Alfred, Lyman, Newfield, Kennebunk, Kennebunkport, Arundel, Dayton, Wells, Biddeford and Saco.



USS Little Rock rushed to Portland to help put out the Maine fires.

The Army-Navy Day in Boston scheduled for October 26 was cancelled. The USS *Little Rock*, a light cruiser harbored in Boston for the celebration, sailed to Portland instead with 1,000 servicemen and equipment to help fight the Maine fires. They saved the town of Hollis and many other small villages, working 'as if their own homes were endangered.'

150 Years in Saco - 1952

April 15, 1952 - Past Masters Night



The Living Past Masters of Saco Lodge at the time of the 150th Anniversary Past Masters Night, April 15, 1952

(At the time of the photo, every living Past Master was present)

Front Row: Lawrence E. Willard, 1905, Ernest R. Woodbury, 1910, Fred J Morrison, 1914, Myron E. Savage, 1919, PDDGM, Thomas H. Hooper, 1920, 21, PDDGM, Rufus Doe, 1925, Joseph J. Stirling, 1926,27, Edgar Pellerin, 1928, PDDGM, Lionel Cartwright, 1929

2nd Row: Edward M. Johnson, 1931, PDDGM, Neil M. Dow, 1932, PDDGM, Clyfton Hewes, 1933,
 Edward M Cloudman, 1934, Harry S. Neilson, 1935, Fred E. Clark, 1936, PDDGM, Robert M. Davis, 1937,
 L. Earle Hutchinson, 1938, Louis A. Patriquin, 1939, Charles S. Towle 1940

3rd Row: Arthur T. Dixon, 1941, Ralph H. Meserve, 1942, 43, H. Thompson Stackpole, 1944, Charles E. Clark, 1945, Lawrence N. Emerson, 1946, Philip E. Graves, 1947, Clement J. Taylor, 1948, Arthur L. Warren, 1949, Harry J. Burnham, 1950, Thomas M. Cunningham, 1951

Saco Lodge History P. 47 of 58

Past Masters Night was held on April 15, 1952.

The following past masters were presiding to open the lodge:

Worshipful Master: Philip Graves Senior Warden: Joseph Stirling Junior Warden: Harry Burnham

Treasurer: Harry Neilson Secretary: Myron E Savage Senior Deacon: Edward Johnson Junior Deacon: Charles Towle Senior Steward: Ralph Meserve Junior Steward: Lionel Cartwright

Chaplain: Thomas Hooper Marshal: Arthur Warren Tyler: Arthur Dickson

With RW Edgar Pellerin presiding in the East, Brothers John Kelvin Black and Gerald R. Gavin were raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason.

Other officers who participated: Speaking Fellowcraft: W. Rufus Doe

1st Gate: RW Fred E. Clark

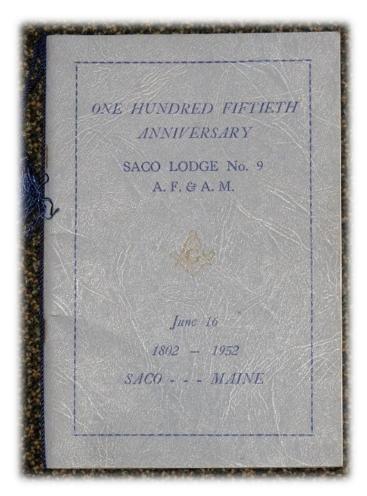
2nd Gate: W. H. Thompson Stackpole 3rd Gate: W. Lawrence Emerson

Lecture: RW Neil Dow

Charge: RW Thomas Hooper

Before the degree, Wor. Thomas Cunningham was presented with his Past Master's jewel by Wor. Charles Clark.

Previous to the meeting, supper was prepared by the regular officers of Saco Lodge, who were all present at the meeting.





June 16, 1952 Anniversary Celebration

From the program

"One cannot read the record of Saco Lodge without being impressed by the caliber of the men who have been its Masters and members, and especially is this true to one who knows a little of the history of our town. For here we find the same men who were prominent in the life of the community in every good way. Much of the growth of this area is directly attributed to the work and lives of early members of this lodge. No matter if it be church, business, civic or municipal records one reads, he finds the names of the same people and finds them doing things for the good of all and not sitting calmly by, uninterested or waiting for others to carry the burden. They have handed us a good heritage and with it a challenge not only to pass it on but to add to it."

"So down through the years with ebbings and surges, we have grown much, both in money and number of members, surely a far cry from the humble beginnings of twelve men in a little country village one hundred and fifty years ago. But let us each and every one remember that the true strength of Saco Lodge depends not on the appointments of our hall, the finances, the precision of our work, our bank balance, or our large number of members, but rather it depends and its very life rests on the spirit within each of our hearts,

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on the thoughts we harbor on our integrity and responsibility and on what we do, on our determination to become real Masons, to accept the privileges of Masonry and to be zealous in abiding by and carrying out its precepts. Then let us each work and so conduct our lives that Saco Lodge will be the better for having known us and that when the Great Creator calls us, we may meet our Ancient Brethren gladly and unashamed, and receive their firm hand clasp and their level gaze and hear their word of appreciation for our strivings and contributions."



GEORGE D. LOVE Worshipful Master Saco Lodge No. 9, A. F. & A. M. Saco, Maine

Brethren

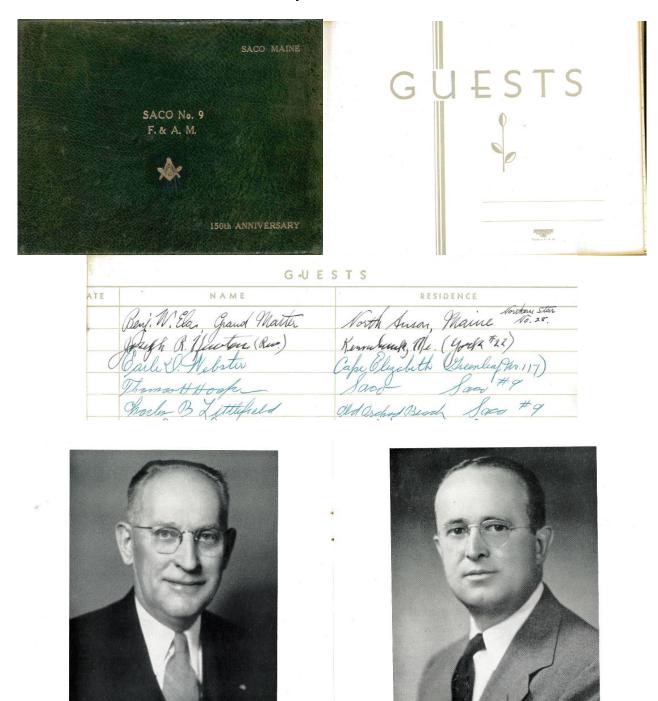
There are sections of our country where one hundred and lifty years of existence for an organization would seem extraordinary, but to us in New England it does not seem so. None the less, that Saco Lodge No. 9 has upheld the traditions of Masonry for that many years is something of which we can well be proud.

This is an occasion for rejoicing and celebrating; at the same time it is one for serious reflection. Forces are at work in the world of today whose aims are as opposed to those of Masonry as the poles. These forces are most formidable in that they are expressed not so much by deed or act as by a state of mind, a way of thinking, an attitude toward mankind which can creep into the life of the individual gradually and insidiously. That attitude is created by dissatisfaction and unrest, and no nation or race is immune to the infiltration of false ideals working toward the destruction of Man the individual.

The lessons of Masonry teach us that through improvement of the individual the community, the nation, and mankind as a whole benefit. With this responsibility in mind let us rededicate ourselves to the principles of our Order.

Let us have renewed Faith in the inspired teachings of Masonry, continued Hope that these teachings will spread as they have in the past, let us hold always in our hearts the greatest of these rounds—Charity.

George D. Love, Worshipful Master, 1952. The celebration was held at the Saco City Hall.



BENJAMIN W. ELA Sixty-sixth Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine, A. F. & A. M.

PAUL L. POWERS
Deputy Grand Master of the
Grand Lodge of Maine, A. F. & A. M.

MW Benjamin W. Ela (left), Grand Master of Masons in Maine had the honors to be the first signer of the guest book.



EDGAN H. PELLERIN
District Deputy Grand Master of the Eighteenth Masonic District
for the
Grand Lodge of Maine, A. F. & A. M.
and
Secretary of Saco Lodge No. 9

Illustrious Brother Chester B. Emerson 33° Honorary of Cleveland, Ohio

On Sunday, June 15, 1952 the brethren and guests will have the honor and pleasure of hearing illustrious Brother Emerson at the afternoon Church Service.



Brother Emerson will be remembered by many as the Pastor of the First Parish Church in Saco where he served from 1909 to 1913. Between 1913 and 1933 he was Pastor of the North Woodward Avenue Congregational Church in Detroit, and from that time until his retirement last June 17, 1951 was Dean of the Episcopal Cathedral in Cleveland. He is now Dean Emeritus. For the past ten summers he has served at St. Anne's in Kennebunkport.

Brother Emerson began his Masonic career by joining Saco Lodge No. 9 where he was raised to the Degree of a Master Mason on June 1, 1910 and has remained an active member ever since. Il ereceived all of the remaining Masonic work in Detroit, and in 1932 became an Honorary Member of the Supreme Council of Sovereign Grand Inspectors General of the Thirty-third and Last Degree of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction.

In 1930 he was appointed Grand Prelate of the Grand Encampment of the Knights Templar U. S. A. and with the exception of the period from 1931 to 1934 has been re-appointed at each succeeding Triennial.



OFFICERS OF SACO LODGE No. 9, A. F. & A. M.

Front Row, Left to Right: Norman A. Wilcox, S. W.; Wor. George D. Love, Master; Arthur Collins, J. W. Second Row: Wor. Thos. M. Cunningham, Chaplain; Ralph C. Lamb, J. D.; Lester W. Pray, S. S.; Wor. Harry S. Nielson, Treasurer; Rt. Wor. Edgar H. Pellerin, Secretary
Back Row: Wendell M. Drown, Tyler; Bragdon M. Hanson, J. S.; Lawrence E. Rowe, S. D.; William G. Young, Marshal Not present M. Calman Savage, Organist

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Wor. George D. Love was Initiated on October 2, 1935, Passed to the Degree of a Fellowcraft on November 15, 1935 and Raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason on December 17, 1935.

He died on April 28, 1992.

Tuesday at a Portland hospital after a long illness.

He was born in Toledo, Ohio, a son of Dr. George Rusk and Helen Deering Love. He spent most of his life in Saco. He attended Thornton Academy, Exeter Academy, Worcester Academy and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Technology.

Mr. Love was a textile design engineer for 25 years at the Saco-Lowell Shops in Biddeford. After leaving Saco-Lowell, he was employed for 14 years at Southworth Machine in Portland, where he designed hydraulic lift tables. One of Mr. Love's designs was used at the Portland International Ferry terminal.

In 1959, the State Department sent him on a trade mission to Poland. As a textile machine expert, he advised his counterparts in rebuilding their manufacturing base. Several Polish citizens secretly gave Mr. Love personal messages which he delivered to relatives living in the United States.

He was a past master of the Saco Masonic Lodge, member of the Kora Temple Shrine, Lewiston, served as chairman of the Saco Zoning Appeals Board, and for several years served on the Thornton Academy's board of trustees.

He was a member of the United Church of Christ, Biddeford, where he served on the business committee. As part of the church's 150th anniversary celebration, he designed and built a float-size model of the church.

He had a wide variety of interests reflecting his engineering skills, love of aviation and space, and combined his meticulous attention to detail and handcrafting skills to create gas-driven model airplanes and model ships.

As an amateur astronomer, he designed and built his own 6-inch reflecting telescope, hand-grinding the primary lens. An accomplished photographer, he helped found the Biddeford-Saco Camera Club. Many of his photographs were of astronomical events taken through telescopes. In his later years, he became interested in model shipbuilding and built a replica of Charles Darwin's HMS Beagle.

Surviving are his wife, Rebecca Kennard Love; two daughters, Cynthia Estes of Delmar, N.Y., and Deborah Olstad of San Diego, Calif.; a son, Mark of Portland; and five grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

Past Masters

First Period 1802 to Grand Lodge of Maine Formation

Bro. Jeremiah Hill 1802, 1803, 1804, 1805, 1806, 1809, 1810

Joseph Leland 1807

Daniel Granger 1808, 1811, 1816, 1817, 1818, 1819

1820 to Closure

Edward Moulton 1820, 1821

George Thatcher, Jr. 1822

John Spring 1824

John Chadwick 1825, 1826

Charles Hayes 1827 Seth Fairfield 1828

Josiah Beard 1828, 1829

Thomas Tufts, DDGM 1830, 1831, 1832, 1846

From Re-establishment to 1870

Frederick D. Edgerly 1847, 1848, 1849, 1850, 1851, 1852

Elijah Smith 1853, 1854

Timothy J. Murray, DDGM 1855 Edward P. Burnham, PGM 1856

William Hobson 1857, 1866, 1867

Mark Prime 1858

Andrew Hobson, Jr. 1859, 1860

Joseph Milliken 1861, 1862, 1863

Israel Hobson 1864

Nathaniel Scammon 1865, 1873

Moses J. Haines 1868

William G. Davis 1869, 1870

From 1870 to 1952

Enoch Lowell 1871, 1872 George F. Owen 1874, 1875 Stephen G. Dorman 1876, 1877 Winfield S. Dennett 1878, 1879

Charles T. Reynolds 1880, 1881, 1882

Isaac E. Stover 1883, 1884, 1885, 1887

Ambrose P. Rose 1886

Augustus A. Cole 1888, 1889, 1890

Henry C. Winkley 1891, 1892 Harry C. Quinbey 1893, 1894 Abram T. Lord 1895, 1896 Fred B. Wiggin 1897, 1898

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Philip C. Tapley	1899, 1900, 1901, 1902
(Centennial Celebration)	
Joseph E. Cole	1903
George H. Dyer	1904
Lawrence E. Willard	1905
John W. Shaw	1906
John G. Smith	1907
(Masonic Building Dedication)	
Frederick P. Graves	1908
John P. Deering	1909
Ernest R. Woodbury	1910
Clarence E. Thompson	1911
Harry S. Sawyer	1912, 1913
Fred J. Morrison	1914
William H. Stackpole	1915, 1916
Howard A. Whitten	1917, 1918
Myron E. Savage D.D.G.M.	1919
Thomas Hooper, D.D.G.M.	1920, 1921
Melville R. Gordan	1922
Archibald F. Houston	1923
Robert Mowatt, Jr.	1924 (Died in Office)
Rufus Doe	1925 `
Joseph Stirling	1926, 1927
Edgar Pellerin, D.D.G.M.	1928
Lionel Cartwright	1929
William H. Deering	1930
Edward Johnson, D.D.G.M.	1931
Neil Dow, D.D.G.M.	1932
Clyfton Hewes	1933
Edward Cloudman	1934
Harry Neilson	1935
Fred E. Clark, D.D.G.M.	1936
Robert Davis	1937
L. Earle Hutchinson	1938
Louis A. Patriquin	1939
Charles S. Towle	1940
Arthur T. Dickson	1941
H. Thompson Stackpole	1944
Charles E. Clark	1945
Lawrence N. Emerson	1946
Philip Graves	1947
Clement Taylor	1948
Arthur Warren	1949
Harry Burnham	1950
Thomas Cunningham	1951
George Love	1952
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Saco Lodge History 1802 - 1952

