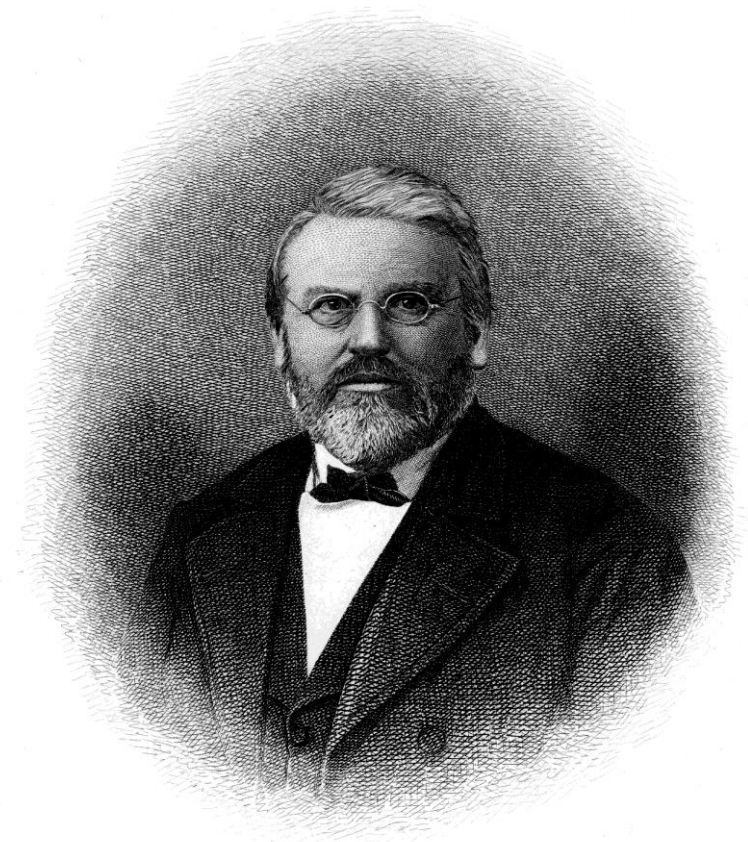


Edward Payson Burnham

Key Contributor to town of Saco,
Saco Lodge and Saco & Biddeford Savings

Why Edward Burnham

- First came across his name in a portfolio profiling the 75 most important people in Masonry.
 - Portrait Gallery of Prominent Freemasons Throughout the United States, John C. Yorston and Company, Masonic Publishers, 1892, Part 21, pp. 162-163.



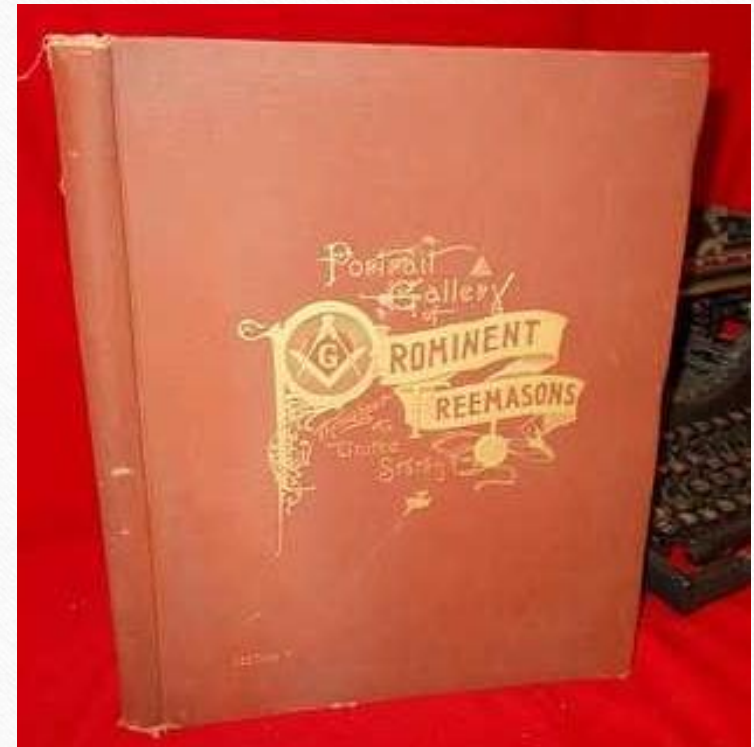
Engraved by H. L. G. 1892

Edward T. Burnham 33°

P. G. M. of G. L. of Maine, P. R. E. G. Com. of K. T. of Maine,
Active Mem. Sup. Council 33° A. A. S. Rite Nor. Juris. U. S. A.

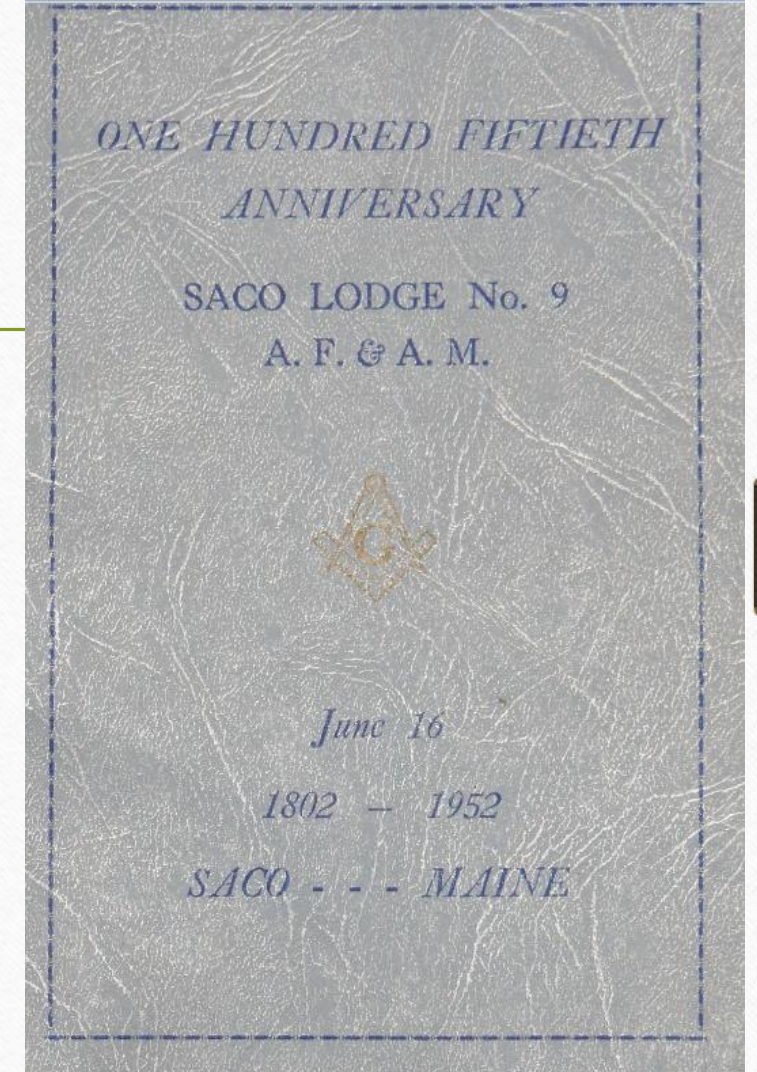
Portrait Gallery

- Obvious names:
 - George Washington
 - Benjamin Franklin
- Two were from Maine
 - Josiah Drummond
 - Edward Burnham



Edward Burnham

- 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)



Who was Edward Burnham?



Edward Burnham

- 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.”

Edward Burnham

- Born – Kennebunk on December 3, 1827
- Father – Reverend Owen Burnham
- Mother – Elizabeth Smith Burnham
- Grandfather – Seth Burnham

Seth Burnham

- Seth Burnham, Grand Father, born in Arundel in 1760
- Raised in Saco Lodge in 1803
- 1813 Seth Helped organize York Lodge
- Master in 1814 to 1817
- Died in 1846 at age of 86

Reverend Owen Burnham

- Owen Burnham, father, born in Arundel
- Raised in 1824 in York Lodge, Kennebunk
- Pastor of Congregational Church in Kennebunk and at Brighton Academy
- Owen Burnham Dies in June of 1836 in North Bridgton

Edward Burnham

- Went to Bridgton Academy where his father preached
- Father died in June of 1836 and began to work for his uncle for 4 years
- Studied law under William Sewall Esq and Hon. Edward Bourne
- Admitted to the Bar in April 1849
- In 1851 Deputy Collector of Customs in Kennebunk for two years 1853
- Moved to Saco upon being elected Secretary and Treasurer of Saco Biddeford Savings Institution
- Elected Secretary & Treasurer of Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Saco, now a member company of Berkshire Hathaway since 1987

Edward Burnham

- Married Mary Ann Osborn on September 5, 1854
- Resigned from Saco Biddeford & Mutual Fire Insurance in 1885 and moved out of town
- 1888 returned to Saco, and was elected President of Saco Biddeford Savings
- 1897 his wife, Mary died
- Intended to write a history of the area, never completed
- 1901 Resigned as President of Saco Biddeford and moved to Somersworth, NH to be with relatives
- Died May 12, 1902 and is buried in Hope Cemetery, Kennebunk

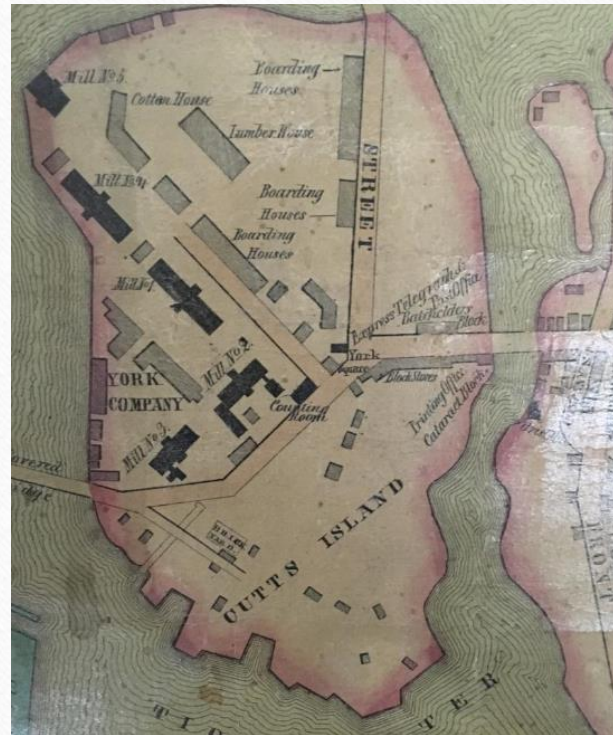
The Politician

- Mayor of Saco – 1872 & 1873
- Alderman for 5 Years

Edward Burnham – Historian

- He was also deeply interested in historical and genealogical matters; Member of other groups
- New England Historical and Genealogical Society in Boston
- Webster Historical Society of Boston
- Maine Historical Society
- Sons of the American Revolution

Masonic Career Background Information



Timeline of Saco Lodge Early Years

- Founded in 1802
- First Closing in 1811, turned Charter in
- Reopened in 1816
- Went dormant in 1832, restarted in 1846, meeting on Saco Island at Batchelder's Block
- Fire destroyed this hall and its contents on September 2, 1854.



Timeline of the early years of Grand Lodge

1820 Founding of Grand
Lodge of Maine

1826 Morgan
Affair and Rise of
Anti-Masonic
Party

1832 to 1846 Most
Lodges Become
Dormant or Close

1842 No Lodges
attended Grand
Lodge Session

Early Years of Grand Lodge

1846 Saco Lodge
Reopened

Lodges
became
active again

New
Constitution
formed

Founding
fathers
passing away

Edward Burnham and Grand Lodge

- 1852 Edward Burnham Raised in York Lodge
- 1855 First Mentioned in Grand Lodge Proceedings

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.

- 1856 Edward Burnham Master of Saco Lodge
- Appointed Grand Junior Deacon in 1856

Edward Burnham and Grand Lodge

- Appointed DDGM in 1860
- Elected SGW in 1872 to 1874
- Deputy Grand Master 1875 & 1876
- **Grand Master in 1877 & 1878**
- **Board of Trustees Charitable Foundation from 1870 to 1900**
- **Served in Grand Lodge for nearly 50 years 1856 to 1901**



Edward Burnham –Masonic Organizations

- He received the Order of High Priesthood in 1860
- He was a member of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters since 1856 and founding member of Maine Council in Saco.
- He was also a member of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar starting in 1857, became Grand Commander in 1881 and 1882. He was a delegate to the Grand Encampment in 1859 at Chicago and 1880 in Detroit.
- He received the various grades of the Scottish Rite at Portland, Maine. May 7, 1857,
- In May 1858, and was created a Sovereign Grand Inspector General 33°

Grand Lodge Memorial

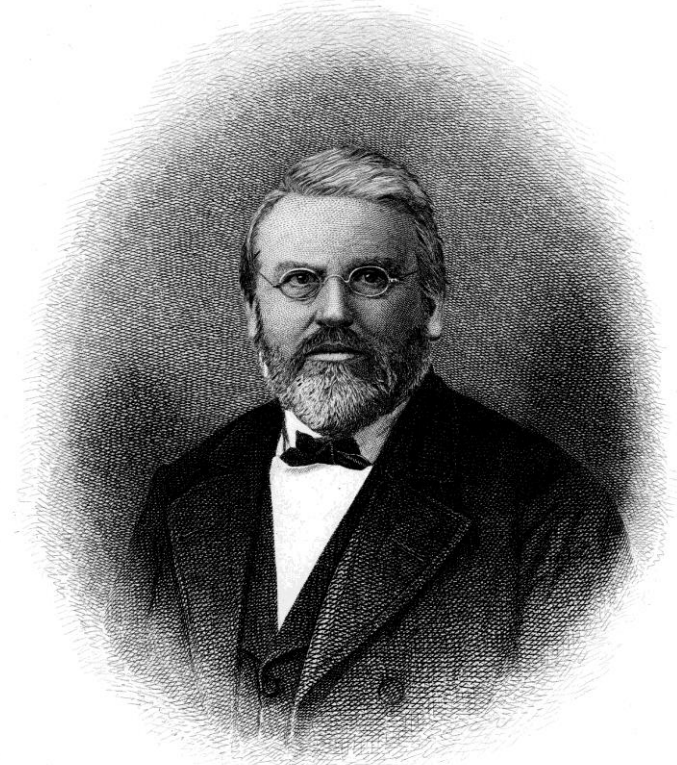
- Begins by saying: We remember that at the last communication of this Grand Lodge one was absent who had not been absent before during a long course of years. Past Grand Master BURNHAM was not here. We remember also that at the last Proceedings of the May, session of that communication, upon the motion of Past Grand Master Josiah DRUMMOND we stood up, unanimously desiring to send some friendly word to the brother that was ill.
- 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.

Grand Lodge Memorial

- 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

Edward P. Burnham

- Conclusions



Engraved by H. J. G. S.

Edward P. Burnham 33°

P. G. M. of G. L. of Maine, P. R. E. G. Com. of K. T. of Maine,
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