

FREEMASONRY IN LONDON. - The first Masonic lodge, of which there are any records, was held at John Siddall's (of Siddall's mill), May 12, 1829. The name of the lodge was Mount Moriah, No. 773, English Register, or No. 20, Provincial Grand Lodge Register. The exact date of charter is not known, but it must have been about 1820. The first minute reads:- "The minutes of the last regular meeting were read and approved, when it was resolved that Arthur Nevill receive an honorable discharge (demit) from this lodge; also resolved, that the brethren be summoned to attend at our lodge room, on the 24th of June, on special business, at the hour of one o'clock." The officers of this date were:- John Siddall, W. M.; S. L. Sumner, S. W.; J. Canfield, J.W.; T. Putnam, treasurer; J. Putnam, secretary, and D. Cutter, S. D. On June 24th, 1829, J. Putnam presided, with E. Hartwell, secretary. The minutes from this date, until Dec. 22, are so badly torn that they cannot be read. The officers elected in December, 1829, were:- G. Merrick, W. M.; S. L. Sumner, S. W.; W. Putnam, J.W.; James Canfield, treasurer; E. Hartwell, Secretary; Abel Sumner, S. D.; Thomas Putnam, J.D.; John Siddall and Levi Merrick, stewards, and Abraham Kilbourn, tyler. At a meeting, Jan. 5, 1836, J. D. Flanagan was voted eight shillings for nightly refreshments.

This lodge must have been something like a regimental one, as it travelled from one place to another. May 14, 1830, it was held at Swartz's, and again on the 29th at Joshua S. Odell's, at the Village of the Forks, when the following officers were installed:- Samuel L. Sumner, William Putnam, Joshua Putnam, James Canfield and E. Hartwell. June 1, 1831, an extra lodge was held in London, with the same officers. There are no minutes from this date until Dec. 9, 1834, when a meeting was held at E. Hartwell's for the purpose of electing officers for the ensuing six months, which resulted as follows:- William Putnam, W. M.; William Niles, S. W.; G. Merrick, J. W.; E. Hartwell, secretary; Silas E. Curtis, treasurer; Abel Sunn, S. D.; Samuel L. Sumner, J.D.; John Putnam and J. B. Flanagan, masters of ceremonies; Levi Merrick and Thomas Putnam, stewards; Dudley Merrill, tyler. A committee was then struck to find a room in London to hold meetings, and they reported in favor of one at John O'Neil's, Ridout street, where Josiah Blackburn's residence now is. In that room John O'Neil was made a mason, Jan. 13, 1835, and on the same day Allan Cameron received a degree. At a meeting, February 10, Thomas Moore and John Brown were initiated; and in the visitors' list are to be found these names:- King, Mackenzie, Bartlett, Hewitt, Curtis, Williams, and Parkinson. At this time the tyler was paid two shillings and sixpence per meeting. On April 7, 1835; John O'Neil receipted to Cornish for £1 11s. 3d, for refreshments. In June, 1835, the brethren marched to St. Paul's, and, returning, installed Joshua Putnam, master, and Ira Schofield, marshal. In December, G. Merrick was elected master and James Farley, secretary. April 26, 1836, the motion of allowing the landlord to hold office was voted down, after John O'Neil had been elected to the master's chair. This caused some trouble, as no records can be found from this date until August 29, 1845.

A meeting was held August 29, 1845, at Balkwill's Inn, when the following named officers were present:- Gardiner Merrick, W. M.; Joshua Putnam, P.M.; William Niles, S. W.; William B. Lee, J. W.; James Farley, secretary; John Brown, treasurer; David Doty, S. D.; Thomas Putnam, J. D.; Levi Merrick, tyler; and the following brethren:- Henry Sumner, Philo Bennett, William A. Sumner, John Siddall, Silas E. Curtis, Samuel L. Sumner, Ebenezer Hartwell, Duncan Mackenzie James Parkinson, Andrew McCormick, John T. Travers, James Daniel, Jacob Leclar, Dudley Merrill, E. Gregory, E. Dunscombe.

On September 9, 1845, a committee was appointed to wait on St. John's Lodge, 209, in order to enter into friendly and fraternal feelings with that lodge. It consisted of John Siddall, William Niles, David Doty and Philo Bennett. In December, Joshua Putnam and the other officers were installed by the brethren of Lodge 209. In June, 1846, James Daniel was master, with John Norval, secretary. The last meeting of this took place on the 22nd of July, 1846, when several brethren kindly consented to form a delegation to meet the Provincial Grand Lodge, at Toronto, on the 4th of August. The charter was surrendered, and the majority of the members joined St. John's Lodge, 209.

ST. JOHN'S, 209(a).- This is the oldest lodge existing in London, and is to-day the strongest in the city. In the early part of 1841, Samuel Peters, J. H. Joyce, William Gunn, James Farley, A. S. Armstrong, George Code, and F. Cleverly, who were made Masons in Lodge No. 83, belonging to Her Majesty's 83rd Infantry, then stationed here, (it is usual for British Regiments to have charters the same number as the regiment, which they carry with them) made application to the Grand Lodge of Ireland for a warrant, the same to be styled St. John's, No. 209, I. R. Although the warrant was issued Oct. 4, 1841, it was not received in London until Oct. 2, 1842. In the meantime a dispensation, under which the first meeting was held, was secured. It took place in January, 1842, in rooms at Balkwill's Inn, corner of King and Talbot street. The 83rd Regiment moved to Toronto, and the warrant was sent by the secretary of the Grand Lodge of Ireland to Alexander Barker, master of Lodge No. 83, as it was the lodge to which the applicants belong. He, accompanied by Thomas

Dillon, of the same lodge, arrived in London, Oct. 2, 1842, and on the 3rd, opened the lodge and installed the following officers in the order of rank:- Samuel Peters, J. H. Joyce, William Gunn, James Farley, A. S. Armstrong, George Code and F. Cleverly. After installation, the following applicants were initiated: - Thomas Fraser, Thomas Kerr, John Balkwill and J. H. L. Askin. The first fine imposed was that of sixpence sterling upon the treasurer, for being absent from meetings. The same officers were re-elected for 1843. Mr. Cornish, in the early part of the year, offered a free grant of a lot of land on which to build a Masonic Hall; but lack of funds prevented its acceptance. The master for 1844 was Hugh Falconer.

Mr. Hamel died in February. His apron, sash, mark and brooch, were sold in the lodge to the highest bidder, and the amount of seven shillings and sixpence was handed to his widow. March 21, the remains of James Rivers were interred, the fife and drum band of the 23rd Regiment being in attendance. June 24th, an imposing turnout took place. The members assembled in force, and, marshalled by Wm. Niles, marched to the court-house where divine service was performed by the Rev. B. Cronyn. The brethren afterwards reformed and proceeded to St. Paul's Churchyard, where they assisted in the ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of the present brick edifice, Samuel Peters wielding the trowel on that interesting occasion. On the 13th of August, Thompson Wilson offered the lodge a lot on Talbot street for a Masonic Hall; but it was never taken advantage of. On September 22, Sir A. N. McNab, Provincial Scottish Grand Master, was created an honorary member of St. John's, No. 209.

In October, this year, the great fire occurred, during which the lodge-room was partially destroyed, and the meetings were held temporarily at Probart's hotel. On December 10, the old lodge-room was refitted, and business resumed there. Joshua Putnam was master in 1845. Mr. Gidley, the secretary, was suspended for bad behaviour, but, apologizing, was restored. On February 26, Mr. Cleverly was buried, attended by the military fife and drum band. In the evening Mr. Gordon was presented with a silver cup for his services as secretary the preceding year. June 24, was, as usual, celebrated by attending divine service at the new Scotch church, Rev. B. Cronyn preaching. The procession was headed by the band of the 81st Regiment, then stationed here. Hugh Falconer was master in 1846, and A. S. Abbott, treasurer.

On April 16, several jewels were missing, and a committee appointed to make inquiries into the matter. On St. John's Day, the brethren marched to church, headed by the band of the 82nd Regiment, where a sermon was preached by Rev. B. Cronyn. A. S. Abbott was master in 1847. October 23, the brethren assisted the Directors in breaking ground on the Great Western Railway. James Daniel was master in 1848. February 8, the lodge remitted the treasurer's dues (William Gordon), on account of losses sustained by him in endorsing notes for Probart. Gaudy was buried, February 27. H. B. Hewitt was master in 1849. On January 9, a new lodge-room was secured at Lewis's Hotel, and in the following April, a committee was appointed to rent and furnish a suitable place of meeting in the Robinson Hall (corner of Dundas and Ridout streets), for which purpose the sum of £51 10s. was set apart from the funds of the lodge. The new hall was first occupied on May 15. On June 25, the foundation-stone of the Union School was laid with Masonic ceremonies. The brethren marched in procession to the grounds, headed by the fife and drum band of the 20th Regiment, stationed here. The speakers on the occasion were, Simeon Morrill, Judge John Wilson, and Mr. Magill. James Daniel presented the lodge with a Bible, on November 27. In return for the gift, the lodge ordered a portrait of the donor to be taken, and placed in a frame on the altar.

The installation of the officers was held on December 27, and, in celebration of this day, a grand ball was given. James Daniel was master in 1850-1, and on April 23 he was presented by the lodge with an address complimenting him upon his zeal and efficiency. On June 22, the suicide of Mr. Matthews took place; in consequence of which the usual semi-annual St. John's Day celebration was omitted. The funeral was held on the 24th, the fife and drum band of the 23rd Regiment performing.

A change was made in the election of officers, in which it was decided to hold them semi-annually in 1851. On March 11, a notice was given by Mr. Moore that the Grand Lodge of Ireland be requested to withdraw the warrant of 209, with a view to affiliation with the Grand Lodge of Canada. The motion was eventually dropped. On June 24, William Moore was installed Master. In the morning, the brethren proceeded to Port Stanley and installed the officers of Middlesex Lodge, No. 211. On the 27th of December, J. M. Bennett was installed master for the first half of 1852. On June 24, 1852, J. F. Rolfe was installed master. On July 13, the lodge met at eight a.m., and proceeded to St. Thomas in stages, with the band of the volunteer artillery in the lead,

to assist Middlesex Lodge, No. 211, in laying the foundation-stone of the Elgin County buildings. In the cavity were deposited, along with the roll, the names of the brethren of 209.

On September 13, the first presentation of a Past Master's jewel was made to Mr. Daniel. The brethren, or at least those thirsting for office, again made an attempt to break away, and on November 9, Thompson Wilson presented, for recommendation by the lodge, a petition to the Grand Lodge of England for a charter for a new lodge, to be named "St. George's", with the following officers named, viz.:- Thompson Wilson, W.M.; A. C. Stone, S.W.; D. Sterling, J.W. The required recommendation was granted. On November 12, a motion was brought up to secure a site for a Masonic Hall. The proposed sites were, the spot where R. Mountjoy's fruit store now stands, and that of the Harris property; but as they were without funds, and the lottery system in its infancy, it fell through. On December 27, James Daniel was installed master for 1853. On March 2, W. J. Harper and J. Burgess, being about to leave for Australia, were entertained at supper, and presented with an address by the lodge. On June 24, James Daniel was installed master for the latter part of 1853, and re-elected in 1854.

S. P. Ayers was master in 1855. This was a year of considerable importance to St. John's Lodge. On April 10, the question of throwing off allegiance to the Grand Lodge of Ireland, and affiliating with the Grand Lodge of Canada, came up for discussion, when it was resolved that it was expedient to take the necessary steps towards that object. During the evening the sum of £25 was granted from the lodge funds to the English Patriotic Fund. On May 8, the masters and wardens were appointed delegates to attend a convention at Hamilton, to consider the question of affiliation-A. S. Abbott dissenting. There was not election on this occasion. On October 9, another delegation from 209, in relation to the affiliation of the lodge with the Lodge of Canada, was appointed, consisting of Messrs. Daniel, Moffat and Abbott, to attend an adjourned convention at Hamilton on the following day. The result was that, at the next regular communication, October 13, it was moved that Messrs. Daniel, Moore and Scatcherd be a committee to draft a resolution to the Lodge of Ireland, to the effect that St. John's Lodge, 209, had ceased to work under its jurisdiction. On the 27th it was further resolved that a necessity existed for the formation of an independent Lodge of Canada, 209 pledging itself, as a lodge, to maintain the same; also, that the Grand Lodge of Ireland be requested to permit the Irish warrant to remain in the lodge.

The Lodge of Canada granted the lodge a charter bearing the date of November 26, 1855, and registered as St. John's, No. 14, afterwards No. 20. On December 27, James Moffat was installed master for 1856. About this time the present Law Librarian Simmons became a member. This and the two following years were seasons of trouble and discord. On the 22nd of April, Kilwinning Lodge was granted the use of 209 lodge-room to meet in. Shortly after this period a spirit of antagonism exhibited itself among mal contents in the lodge and sister lodges working under the Lodge of Canada, some wanting to join No. 14, and others to remain as they were. Immediately after this, everything relating to the lodge appeared in a state of chaos, on account of the new St. John's Lodge officer having taken all books in connection with 209.

There are no records from July 8, 1856, to May 13, 1859. Any meetings that were held were informal. The loyal members, however, retained their old Irish warrant, and continued to work under it as 209. On May 13, 1859, the installation of officers, which should have taken place in the previous December, was held, and Edward Garrett was chosen master. For some time previously the Grand Lodge of Canada refused to recognize St. John's, 209, as a lodge, simply because it preferred to work under the Lodge of Ireland. The second installation in this year took place on November 16, with Edward Garrett as master. On the same date the lodge forwarded two years' dues to the Lodge of Ireland, and the initiation fee was temporarily fixed at \$12. On June 20, 1860, the lodge moved its quarters to the new hall in the Albion buildings, Richmond street, on which evening Edward Garrett was again installed master. On September 26, the secretary was instructed, by a vote of the lodge, to apply to St. John's, No. 20, for the records of 209, or copies of the same, held in its possession. On December 27, Richard Irvine was installed master for 1861.

The lodge now began to show signs of prosperity. On the 24th of June, George Taylor was installed master, and a dinner was given at Dulmage's Hotel. On July 10, a deputation from 209, appointed to visit the Grand Lodge of Canada, then in session at London, reported that they had been refused admittance. Mr. Tully, the representative of the Irish lodge, promised to visit 209 and explain, but failing to do so, a vote of censure was passed upon him by the lodge and, on November 28th, a resolution was passed to communicate with Representative Tully, and request him to take immediate steps towards demanding a recognition

of 209 by the sister lodges in London. At the same meeting, a letter was read from the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Ireland, guaranteeing to sustain the rights and privileges of 209 as long as any of its members desired to remain under its jurisdiction. Edward Garrett was installed master, 1862. April 2, a proclamation was submitted, issued by the Grand Lodge of Canada, forbidding Masonic intercourse by the Canadian lodges with 209. On June 24, Francis Evans Cornish was installed master. On July 16, a letter was received from the Grand Secretary, announcing that in view of the action of the Grand Lodge of Canada, in forbidding intercourse with 209, it had instructed its representative Tully, to withdraw from the Grand Lodge of Canada. This action proved, to a certain extent, effectual in bringing matters to an issue, for on November 20, a letter was read from Tully, announcing that the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, had revoked all edicts and decisions passed by said Grand Lodge, against 209, and had declared it entitled to full and free recognition by the Grand Lodge of Canada, and all her subordinate lodges. Francis Evans Cornish was master for 1863. The war was continued this year on the part of No. 20, with unrelenting vigor. On the 18th of March, Mr. Jacobs reported that he was refused admission to No. 20, because he was a member of 209. After this, a more conciliatory tone was evinced by the opposing lodges, and efforts suggested by them to come to terms. To this end, therefore, on April 2, 209 appointed a committee to meet similar committees from Kilwinning and St. John's, 20, to discuss the question.

On June 24, an address was sent to the Duke of Leinster, congratulating him upon attaining the election of Grand Master of Ireland for the fifteenth time. On June 24, Francis Cornish was installed, and banqueted at the Francis Hotel. On December 28, Thomas Winnett was installed master for 1864, and presented Mr. Cornish with a pastmaster's jewel. The other city lodges still treated 209 as clandestine Masons. All the troubles was simply this: St. John's, 209, desired to pursue their labors under the Irish warrant, and the other lodges wished to prevent it; and, as they could not, hence this treatment. On Feb. 3, Mr. Morrison was charged by Mr. Balkwill with exposing the grips and signs of the order in a public tavern. He was found guilty of the charges, and expelled. On March 2, a communication was received from St. John's, 20, to this effect, that if 209 would withdraw all claims to the jewels and furniture in the possession of 20, that lodge would surrender to 209 all books, papers, and other documents originally the property of said lodge: this was not acted upon. On April 27, it was reported to the lodge that the warrant had been stolen from the hall, and a committee was appointed to unravel the mystery. In the meantime, it was decided that a new warrant should be applied for from the Grand Lodge of Ireland. The committee could find no trace of the stolen warrant.

On May 18, a proposition was submitted to the lodge from the joint committees of St. George's, Kilwinning and St. John's, 20, offering a warrant from the Grand Lodge of Canada, free of charge. The offer was treated with contempt. On July 6, a new duplicate warrant to replace the stolen one was received from Ireland. Thomas Winnett was installed master in June. On August 17, word was received that the Grand Lodge of Canada, at its recent session, refused to take action upon Mr. Tully's representations respecting the Canadian lodges. December 27, Richard Wigmore was installed master for 1865, and in June following, S. W. Abbott. W. S. Smith was installed master for 1866, and W. T. Fairbrother was installed for the second half-year. Small-pox being prevalent, the usual dinner was dispensed with. On December 27, James O'Connor was installed master for 1867.

The number of meetings held this year averaged four per month. On June 24, A. S. Abbott was installed master. On December 27, David Buckler was installed master for 1868. On June 17, James O'Connor was charged with conspiring with other members to compel young members to sign a document calculated to subvert the government of the Grand Lodge of Ireland. On June 24, David Buckler was again master. Under the difficulties in which 209 labored at this period, and for some time before, the Grand Lodge of Ireland did everything to restore harmony, and instructed its representative, Tully, to lend his best efforts to attain this object: 209 received no satisfaction from Tully; and, it was reported, that he was working for the interests of the Grand Lodge of Canada. Everything that was possible to be done to outrage 209 was done by the malcontents. The lodge collars, aprons, jewels, and other property were stolen, the windows broken, and other indignities offered. Still, 209 remained solid; although, on one occasion, it was necessary to get tin jewels and tin swords for the tyler. David Buckler was master in 1869. On June 16, it having been ascertained who were the guilty parties concerned in abstracting lodge property, a call was made upon Messrs. Ferguson, Morden, Thomas Powell, Fletcher and John Gray, to return the articles. On July 21, Andrew McCormick was installed master.

S. W. Abbott was master for 1870, and re-elected in June of that year. On May 18, the lodge contributed a sum of \$50 in aid of the Masonic Boys' Orphan School, Dublin. On October 19, the lodge made another grant of \$50 towards the Female Orphans' School, at Dublin. On December 21, Thomas Peel was installed master for 1881; and June 21, a grant of £2 was sent in aid of the lifeboat service on the Irish coast. On December 20, John Shopland was installed master for 1872. This year opened with bright prospects. On April 17, a motion was submitted to the lodge, "That, in order to restore harmony among the brethren, application be made to the Grand Lodge of Canada for a charter, provision being made that 209 retain its number and be permitted to continue its present ancient Irish work." On June 19, the new warrant was received; but, no guarantee accompanying it that the lodge would be allowed to proceed in its present work, it was ordered to remain in statu quo until such guarantee was forwarded. On July 17, John Shopland was installed master. The guarantee referred to had by this time been received, of which the following is a copy:-

"Special permission granted, with warrant, to St. John's, 209(a), G.R.C.
"To all whom it may concern:-

"This is to certify that St. John's, 209, I. R., meeting at London, Province of Ontario, having affiliated itself with this Grand Lodge, authority is hereby given to Master, Wardens and Brothers of said Lodge to continue their work as heretofore.

"Given under our hand and seal of Grand Lodge this 9th day of July, 1872.

"By command,

"Thos. B. Harris, Grand Secretary."

The report was adopted, and the lodge, from that date, has worked under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Canada, in harmony with other lodges. After installation, A. S. Abbott was presented with an address and a service of plate, for distinguished services said to have been rendered the lodge. On December 27, James O'Connor was installed for 1873, being the first installation under the new warrant. The ceremony was performed in concert with the other lodges, in their hall, Buckley's buildings, Richmond street. The lodge now returned to its old form of annual elections in December. The bitter feeling existing between the two St. John's lodges was not yet healed, for, on April 16, Mr. Hawthorn reported that he had been refused admission to No. 20. On motion, the Grand Lodge of Ireland was ordered to be communicated with, asking it to return the original warrant of 209, cancelled, that it might be retained and hung up in the lodge-room as a reminder of days gone by. On October 15, the committee on lodge accommodation reported that terms had been made whereby 209(a) might occupy the fall in which the other lodges met, in the Huron & Erie buildings, Richmond street. On December 17, Duncan McPhail was installed master for 1874. On February 18, the terms of agreement between the lodges for occupying the new hall by 209(a) were signed, and, on August 19, the first meeting was held there.

On December 27, Thomas H. Tracy was installed master for 1875, and re-elected for 1876. On November 11, 1875, a new organ was purchased at a cost of \$250. On February 10, Mr. Burnett was presented with a past-master's jewel. On December 27, Wm. Hawthorn was installed master for 1877. Benjamin W. Greer was installed master for 1878. On February 9, Thomas Haskett was buried with Masonic honors. March 14, the lodge presented W. Hawthorn with a past-master's jewel, and on May 9, D. McPhail was made the recipient of a jewel. On June 20, the brethren attended the funeral of Wm. Taylor, and November 27, the remains of Mr. Rapley were interred with the usual rites. A. J. B. Macdonald was installed master for 1879. On this occasion a past master's jewel was presented to Mr. Greer. On June 8, the funeral of W. S. Smith took place. On December 21, L. Hessel was buried with the usual honors. On December 24, William H. Rooks was installed master for 1880. On January 8, the lodge presented A. J. B. Macdonald with a past-master's jewel. August 12, a grant of \$50 was made by the lodge towards expenses incurred in the celebration of laying the foundation-stone of the Masonic Temple.

Henry C. Owens was installed master for 1881. On February 10, Mr. Rooks was presented with the customary jewel. On November 24, resolutions of condolence to the secretary were passed by the lodge, engrossed and framed, on the death of his two sons, one of whom was drowned in the Victoria disaster on May 24 of that year. J. S. Dewar was installed master for 1882, and they met for the first time in the Masonic Temple. On January 12, Mr. Owens was presented with a past-master's jewel. William J. Johnstone was installed master for 1883. On January 11, Mr. Dewar was presented with an address and a past-master's jewel. On April 12, the secretary was instructed to communicate with the Grand Secretary and prefer a claim upon St. John's, No. 20, for the jewels and

records of 209, which No. 20 held in its possession and refused to give up. On the 10th was the funeral of James O'Brien, of Dorchester. In July, of this year, the Grand Lodge was held at Ottawa, and J. S. Dewar, of this lodge, was elected junior warden. On August 9, notice was received from the Grand Secretary notifying the lodge that No. 20 had been ordered to produce and hand over to 209 a certified copy of its old records. On the same evening, one of the old sets of jewels belonging to 209, while working under the Irish register, and found among the effects of Mr. McMullen, deceased, were presented to the lodge by Mr. Baxter. These jewels were purchased in 1846, and abstracted from the lodge-room during the troubles of that period. The jewels are now in a case in the Masonic library.

William Noble was master for 1884. On Feb. 14, a past-master's jewel was presented to Mr. J. Johnstone. The same evening the certified copies of the minutes of 209, from the year 1842 to 1854, were handed into the lodge in conformity with instruction from Grand Lodge. Alexander McDonald was installed master for 1885. In the early part of March, a very pleasant conversazione, under the auspices of the lodge, was held. A past-master's jewel was presented to Bro. Noble, March 12. April 9, an engrossed address was presented to each of the military brethren absent on duty in the North-west quelling the Riel insurrection. The brethren were Messrs. Tracy, Peters and McKenzie. On Dec. 10, the Grand Master and other Grand Officers were present to see the work exemplified. The Most Worshipful was presented with an address, beautifully engrossed, and the party were afterwards entertained at supper in the banqueting hall. The same evening Mr. Abbott presented the lodge, through Mr. Cooper, with an ancient pocket-piece, some eighty years old, formerly belonging to John McDowell, one of the old members of 209. The watch is now to be seen among the other curiosities in the cabinet library. William O'Brien was master for 1886.

On February 10, A. S. Abbott was, with due formality, made an honorary member. The lodge presented Mr. McDonald with a past-master's jewel. On May 6, the remains of George Taylor were interred with Masonic honors. On August 12, the lodge was honored by a visit from Henry Robertson, the newly elected Grand Master, on which occasion, the third degree was exemplified. On November 25, the lodge was officially visited by the D. D. G. M., of No. 3 District, R. W. Slater. A. E. Cooper was installed master for 1887. In March, of this year, they visited Strict Observance Lodge, No. 27, of Hamilton, to give an exemplification of their work. On Wednesday, November 30, Hamilton returned the visit. On the 27th of December, James Smith was installed master for 1888. So after years of trouble, 209(a) remains the strongest and most popular lodge in the city. Richard Irvine is the oldest living member of this lodge.

ST. GEORGE'S, NO. 42, A.F. & A.M., G.R.C. - This lodge verged out of 209 in the year 1852, as will be seen in the history of 209, and is, consequently, the next oldest lodge now in existence in this city. Its warrant was granted by the Grand Lodge of England through Sir A. N. McNab, then Provincial Grand Master of Canada, dated November 22, and called St. George's, 895. The following is a correct copy of the charter members:- Thompson Wilson, Ashbell Charles Stone, David Sterling, J. M. Bennett, Thomas Hasket, William Barker, Wm. Shiphin, Patrick Hennessey, and William Niles, who was a past master of Mount Moriah Lodge 773, and the founder of the village of Nilestown. The first meeting was held in Robinson Hall, December 1, 1852, when the following officers were installed, in the order of rank, by Past Masters Shepphard, Bennett and Hennessey:- Thompson Wilson, A. C. Stone, David Sterling, Parke, Hyman, W. Smith and D. Mackenzie.

On December 21, this lodge acted in conjunction with 209 at the installation of King Solomon's Lodge, Woodstock. On the 19th of January, 1853, Lieutenant Charles Carnegie, of the 20th Regiment, was initiated into the first degree, being the first in this lodge. He being only 19 years old, a special dispensation was granted by the Provincial Grand Lodge for his initiation. On June 24, the lodge went to St. Thomas to assist at the installation of a new lodge.

On September 14, the master asked the lodge to advance the amount of a Royal Arch Warrant, about to be obtained from the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of England, by a number of Royal Arch Masons belonging to this lodge, and which chapter is to be attached to St. George's Lodge. The amount was ordered to be advanced, and to be repaid as soon as the chapter was in a position to do so. About this time the members were anxious to build a hall, but not having sufficient funds, the subject was dropped, and they agreed to use the same hall as 209. On the same date, December 14, an invitation was received from St. Thomas Lodge, No. 232, to attend a ball to be held there on the 27th. On that date, Thompson Wilson was installed master for 1854. On January 11, the master ordered that if any of the officers absent themselves from the lodge without showing just cause, they pay the sum of sevenpence half-penny; but this fine was afterwards abolished. An invitation was received

from J. T. Lundy to assist at the opening of the revived Union Lodge, No. 494, Grimsby. This was accepted. The amount of work up to this time was very large. The following are some who were initiated:- Frederick Brock, Captain 23rd Regiment; Jas. Duff, lieutenant 23rd Regiment; Richard Burrows, Ethan R. Paul, Wm. Warren Street, George Macbeth, John B. Smyth, Chas. Hutchinson, M. Holmes Hammond, Edwin Heathfield, and John Kipp Brown. On the 24th of June, this lodge joined with 209 at a dinner at J. McDowell's hotel, tickets being ten shillings each. On December 27, John Harding was installed master for 1855. On June 6, the master appointed Messrs. Holmes, Hennessey and Muir to find a suitable room for the lodge. W. K. Muir was at this time connected with the Great Western Railway in this city. On June 24, they again associated with 209 at a dinner in celebration of the day. At the regular meeting, July 11, it was moved by A. G. Smyth, and seconded by Mr. Urquhart, that the delegates from St. George's Lodge to the Provincial Grand Lodge do use every lawful endeavor to support any motion that may unite all Masons in the Province of Canada under one Canadian Grand Lodge. This was carried; only a few members objecting. Strife again began to show itself a little.

On August 22, a lodge-room was procured on the fourth story of Whitehouse's building, corner of King and Richmond streets, at a rent of £30. On September 5, the lodge attended the funeral of William B. Lee, of 209. On October 3, it was moved by J. B. Smyth, and seconded by J. K. Brown, that Mr. Harding be a delegate to the Grand Lodge, in Hamilton, on the 10th inst. This was carried, while the amendment by W. K. Muir, seconded by R. R. Grindly, that this lodge take no action relative to convention to be held in Hamilton, as they wished to remain under the Grand Lodge of England, was lost. This time things were getting in a bad state, for, at the same meeting, W. K. Muir moved, seconded by J. B. Smyth, that the master, wardens and the past-masters attend the meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge, to be held in Toronto, October 25th, and this lodge pay the expenses. The first meeting was held in the new hall November 7, when it was moved by J. K. Urquhart, seconded by Geo. Holmes, that the thanks of St. George's Lodge, No. 895, be tendered Mrs. S. W. Scobell for her valuable present to the lodge, the same being a cushion. By the minutes of this meeting, it was not allowed for any member to receive a degree unless he was able to pass a proper examination. On November 28, Mr. Muir moved, seconded by Mr. Grindly, that the thanks of this lodge be tendered to the members of St. John's, 209, for their kindness in allowing them so long the use of their room and furniture; and, that they wish to reciprocate by offering the use of St. George's Hall to said members, provided they are allowed by the Grand Master. This motion was lost.

In December John Harding was installed master for 1856. Among the members of this year are found Andrew Cleghorn, P. T. Worthington and T. W. Thomas. On March 12, the lodge was styled St. George's, No. 895, English register, and No. 35, Provincial register; for this reason, the Grand Lodge of Canada was in its infancy, and at least a dozen others were trying to get the lead, while nearly everybody was seeking office of some kind or other. On May 28, the master read to the lodge instructions sent to him by the Provincial Grand Master, which were that he was to suspend the members of St. George's Lodge who had formed Kilwinning Lodge. The Master, not wishing to be arbitrary in the matter, gave such members two months to consider their position. (The members' names will be found as the charter members of Kilwinning Lodge.) W. G. Chambers, in the heat of the debate which followed, refused to pay proper respect to the chair. He was admonished, and, upon apology, he was pardoned. On June 4, Harding was appointed by the Grand Lodge of New York as their representative. On December 17, the petition from the Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada, wherein it requested the Grand Lodge of England to give them entire independence, was read. It was moved by P. J. Dunn, seconded by John K. Brown, that the prayer of said Provincial Grand Lodge be received and adopted. Moved by H. D. Mocrhouse, seconded by T. Mackie, that this lodge request the Grand Lodge to use their best endeavors to secure the co-operation of the fraternity in Canada East, so that, if possible, it may be a Grand Lodge of Canada East and West. Both resolutions were carried, and a copy of the above sent to the Provincial Grand Secretary.

On December 27, John K. Brown was installed master for 1857. This was a year of great importance to the lodge, for in it occurred the separation from the English Grand Lodge. On January 7, a summons was read from the Provincial Grand Secretary to send delegates to a meeting of the Grand Lodge at Toronto, on the 8th. Past-master Harding was appointed; his report was never taken any notice of. On the first of April, L. S. King was appointed. The first lodge of instruction was held by the lodge, May 14, 1857. On June 17, a communication from the Provincial Grand Lodge, desiring a full attendance of representatives, was received. It was then moved by Bro. Barnard, seconded by Bro. Mackie, that, inasmuch as the memorial sent to the Grand Lodge of England by the Provincial Grand Lodge, upon the subject of complete independence, has not been even recognized, this lodge, therefore, resolves to alienate itself from the Grand

Lodge of England, with a view to an amalgamation with the Grand Lodge of Canada, as such a step is conceived to be of immense importance to the welfare of the Masons in this country. The master, with Messrs. Harding and Wilson, were asked to attend the meeting, and vote in accordance with the foregoing resolution. No notice was taken of the report brought back by these members. Again, on September 2, the master and past-master were asked to act as delegates to the Provincial Grand Lodge, to be held in Toronto, September 7; at the same time, giving them full powers to act as they saw fit, saving, that the old charter be retained by them, and returned to the lodge. These members did act as they saw fit, for they brought back a charter, styling the lodge, St. George's Lodge, No. 37(a), G.R.C. The first meeting of this lodge was held October 7, 1857. It was moved by A. G. Smyth, seconded by J. K. Brown, and carried, that this lodge receive the explanations of P. M. Harding as satisfactory, for giving up the warrant of St. George's Lodge, No. 895, E.R.

St. George's Lodge, No. 895, did not cease to exist at this date, nor for some time after, as will be seen. After ceaseless bickerings as to which lodge owned the jewels and furniture, it was settled that they belong to No. 895. Among the members who remained under the old warrant, were Thompson Wilson, Edwin Heathfield, David Sterling, F. McMullen and Thomas Francis. No meeting was held, of which there are any records, until March 24, 1858, with Thompson Wilson as master. At this meeting it was carried that the lodge meet in St. John's Lodge, No. 209, and that the initiation fee be \$40. Thompson Wilson was elected master. The following were declared members-elect, for the assistance rendered the brethren of St. George's Lodge, No. 895, in getting them together:- Past-Masters, S. P. Ayres, Thomas Francis and James Moffat; also William Pickett, Thomas Allen and T. F. McMullen. On July 26, 1858, it was moved by Mr. Heathfield, and seconded by Mr. Sterling, that the warrant of the lodge be returned to the Grand Lodge of England; moved by Mr. Sterling, and seconded by Mr. Taylor, that the furniture, etc., be sold, and the proceeds applied to the purchase of R. Morrison's Masonic Library, and it be presented to the Masonic bodies of this city. The furniture was sold to John Thompson, master of Mount Brydges Lodge, Mount Brydges; and so ended St. George's Lodge, No. 895.

When the first meeting took place, with J. K. Brown, presiding officer, John Smith was the first to receive a degree in this lodge, October 7, 1857. This lodge was charitable, for on December 2, the sum of \$5 was granted to Mr. Lee, a travelling brother in distress. On December 28, Richard Roe Grindley was installed master for 1858. The festival was celebrated in conjunction with St. John's, No. 20, and Kilwinning, No. 64. On January 20, a committee reported that Mr. Wilson, D.G.M., would agree to give St. George's Lodge, 37, the furniture, with this proviso:- "That the St. George's Lodge, 895, E.R., have the use of it twice a year while they hold the English charter." On March 3, it was moved that Mr. Wilson be compelled to give up the furniture without any conditions. Nothing would please either party. Finally this lodge had to leave the old room. They then moved to the fall occupied by St. John's Lodge, to which lodge the sincere thanks of St. George's, No. 37, were tendered, for the kind way they aided them in their trouble. On the same date, the thanks of the lodge were tendered to Kilwinning Lodge for the loan of their jewels and the many kindnesses rendered by them. At this same meeting, a resolution condemning the actions of Mr. Wilson was passed, but was expunged on the 7th of May, 1858. On March 17, a concert was given in aid of the widow of Mr. Rugemer, the sum of \$200 being realized. On April 14, the lodge attended the funeral of James Moffat, sen., of St. John's Lodge. This year J. K. Brown was appointed delegate to attend the Grand Lodge.

The festival of St. John was again celebrated in conjunction with Kilwinning and St. John's Lodges. On September 1, circulars were printed and sent to the members of the late St. George's Lodge, 895, requesting them to state whether or not they considered themselves members of this lodge.

On account of its being necessary to fill up the blanks sent from the Grand Lodge of Canada, the names were given, and now all is peace and harmony. On December 27, H. D. Moorhouse was installed master for 1859. Captain Wilson, P.D.D.G.M., acted as installing master. On this same date, the lodge presented J. K. Brown with a past-master's jewel. On March 2, the proceedings of the Grand Lodge were read to the lodge. On August 3, the secretary read a copy of a letter from the Grand Lodge of England to the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, referring to the difficulties now amicably settled, in which the Grand Lodge of Canada was recognized by the Grand Lodge of England. On September 7, a communication was received from the Grand Lodge of Canada, with notification of change of number; that in the future, the lodge should be known as St. George's Lodge, No. 42, of London, Canada West, and was so registered in the Grand Lodge of Canada. In September, this lodge assisted Kilwinning Lodge in laying the foundation-stone of St. James's Church.

On St. John's Day, D.D.G.M. Thomas Wilson, with a staff of Grand Lodge officers, dedicated the new hall in ancient form, and installed Thomas Mackie as master for 1860. At a special meeting, held April 11, the following resolution was moved by P.M. Moorhouse, seconded by Mr. Thomas Mahon, "That we, as a lodge, do hereby signify our disapprobation of the course of conduct pursued by Lodge 209, I. R., throughout, and request our master to refuse them admittance to this lodge until the views of the Grand Lodge of Canada shall officially be made known." On June 6, the master ordered that three medals be struck in commemoration of the union of Masonry in Canada, one of which was presented to R.R. Grindley as a mark of esteem.

On December 27, Thomas Mahon was installed master for 1861. A little wrangling with Kilwinning, over rents, characterized the business of the year. On December 27, P. J. Dunn was installed master for 1862. In the evening a ball was held in conjunction with the other lodges. On March 5, a communication was received from the Grand Master of Canada relative to three lodges working in an irregular and unconstitutional manner: St. George's Lodge, 643, St. Lawrence Lodge, No. 923, E.R., at the city of Montreal, and St. John's Lodge, No. 209, I.R., at the city of London; and requiring all Masons under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Canada not to give countenance to, or receive into the lodge, any person hailing from the above-named lodges. On July 2, St. George's Lodge, No. 42, received an invitation from the master of Grand River Lodge, Berlin, to assist at the ceremony of laying the corner-stone of a church on July 15. This was accepted, and the members attended. On December 3, a circular was received from the Grand Master, containing his decision in the case of St. John's Lodge 209, I. R., enjoining the brethren to cultivate and exchange friendly intercourse with such lodge and its members. On the same date, a letter of condolence was sent to the widow of William Maldin. On December 27, George Burdett was installed master for 1863. On December 29, 1862, a ball was held at the Tecumseh House, lodges No. 20 and 64 attending. The amount of work done in 1863 was very considerable, and harmony prevailed. On December 28, Francis Westlake was installed master for 1864.

On January 25, a special meeting was called by the master, in consequence of receiving an invitation from St. John's Lodge, No. 209, I.R., to attend the funeral of D. McPherson. After consulting the masters of St. John's, No. 20, and Kilwinning, 64, he decided upon calling this meeting to hear an expression of opinion from the members of the three lodges. After some discussion, they decided to attend, on April 6. M. D. Dawson, of St. John's Lodge, 20, stated, that he had been instructed to solicit the appointment of the past-masters, master and wardens of St. George's Lodge, No. 64, as a committee, to act with like committees from Kilwinning, No. 64, and St. John's, No. 20, for the purpose of trying to settle the difficulty, then existing, between St. John's Lodge, 209, I.R., and the above named lodges. The committee was appointed. On May 4, a report from the joint committee was read. This was the offering of a warrant from the Grand Lodge of Canada, to St. John's, 209, I.R., free of charge, which offer was treated with contempt, as will be seen in the history of that lodge. On October 5, a dispensation was granted by D. D. G. Master, to confer two degrees on S. Bigwood, of No. 4 Battery, R.A., in one day, on account of leaving the city. Charles S. Askin was D.D.G. Master at this time. On December 27, F. Westlake was installed master for 1865.

On February 23, P. J. Dunn was buried by this lodge, as he had requested the Masons to do so, the priest having refused to perform any burial service. On March 1, it was moved by Herman Waterman, seconded by Mr. Ellis, that the members of St. George's Lodge wear mourning for the space of one month, as a token of respect for the deceased. On May 3, this lodge, in conjunction with Kilwinning Lodge, purchased a burial lot in St. Paul's cemetery. On the 24th of May, this lodge assisted at the laying of the corner-stone of the Presbyterian Church, at St. Thomas. On June 7, an invitation was received from Easter Star Lodge to attend a picnic at Port Stanley on June 28. At the same meeting, at the request of the Master of King Solomon's Lodge, Toronto, Mr. Smith was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason. On December 27, H. Waterman was installed for 1866. December 27, Thomas Mahon was installed master for 1867, and a ball was held at Tecumseh House in commemoration of the day. On April 3, the lodge attended the funeral of Mr. Taylor. On August 7, a vote of thanks was tendered to Herman Waterman for the very efficient manner in which he had represented this lodge at Grand Lodge, and had paid his own expenses.

On December 27, Thomas Beattie was installed master for 1868. On January 1, St. John's Lodge, 20, was granted one-third share in the Masonic burial lot in St. Paul's cemetery. On April 1, the sum of \$200 was granted toward an entertainment for the Grand Lodge. On the 15th of July, the lodge attended the funeral of W. Griffith. The amount for charity that was expended this year was very great. On December 28, by consent of masters of the several lodges, a general lodge was opened in St. John's, No. 20, by Jas. Moffat, for the installation of officers-elect for the ensuing year. G. Burdett was master

of St. George's Lodge, No. 42, for 1869. During this year great efforts were made for the building of a Masonic Asylum, but they proved fruitless. On December 27, Wm. Skinner was installed by P. D. D. G. M., F. Westlake, as master for 1873. At the regular meeting, March 2, P. M. Baron de Camin, of Industry Lodge, No. 86, London, England, gave a short lecture, which was well received. On October 5, the master appointed Messrs. Burdett, Arnold and Balkwill to act with committees from the other lodges to procure a new lodge-room. On December 7, the committee reported having secured a room over the new building of the Huron & Erie Savings Society, at an annual rent of \$125.

On December 27, Isaac Waterman was installed master for 1871. On January 5, occurred the funeral of Mr. Hill. On July 1, this lodge laid the foundation-stone of the Charing Cross Hotel. On September 6, Messrs. Smith, Skinner and Vinney, were appointed by the master to confer with the committees of the sister lodges, for the purpose of dedicating the new Masonic Hall - the sum of \$50 was granted by the lodge to assist in defraying expenses of said dedication. On December 27, a joint meeting of the lodges was held for the purpose of installation, and John Balkwill was installed master for 1872. On January 3, the lodge was called for the purpose of attending the funeral of D. McKinney, of St. John's Lodge, No. 82, Paris. On June 30, the brethren attended the funeral of Thomas R. Westcott, and on July 2, that of N. Watson. The membership of the lodge increased very materially during this year. On December 27, by consent of the masters of the several lodges, a lodge was opened for the purpose of installing the officers elect, with F. Westlake presiding. W. F. Green was installed master for 1873. The first meeting was held in the new hall, on January 8; William Moore (land agent) was the first to receive a degree in this hall. On December 29, William Thornton was installed master for 1874. On May 6, the officers presented the lodge with a silver water pitcher and goblets. William Watson was buried by this lodge on the 26th of October. On December 27, the lodge attended divine service at St. Paul's - the sermon being preached by G. M. Innes, Grand Chaplain. William Green was installed master for the year 1875.

On the 19th of May, there was some trouble about the formation of a lodge styled Eden Lodge, which was organized at that time; also a motion, that the Grand Lodge grant Corinthian, 330, a charter. December 27, William Fleming was installed master for 1876. February 2, William Green was presented with a jewel and an address. A seditious Grand Lodge was formed at this time, consisting of members of the several city lodges. The members were ordered by the Grand Master to hold no intercourse with them, also requested the master of this lodge to confer degrees on members of Eden Lodge who so desired. December 27, H. E. Nelles was installed master for 1877; Dr. Sutton, installing officer. A. S. Murray was master in 1878 and J. C. Bennett was installed for 1879. This installation was performed in Corinthian lodge-room, R. W. Bro. Cascaden, installing officer. February 5, past-master's jewels were presented to Messrs. Murray and Nelles. On June 4, it was moved, that this lodge assist the committee appointed by Grand Lodge, viz., Messrs. Moffat, Lewis, Birrell, and Hungerford, to heal the members of the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario, by starting a new lodge, to be called Union. On the 19th of December, the lodge attended the funeral of J. M. Bennett. Andrew Ellis was installed master for 1880. James Priddis was master in 1881; Mr. Hungerford being installing officer. On April 6, the commutation of dues was carried. On June 1, a letter of condolence was sent to Mr. Skinner, on account of the loss of his daughter in the Victoria disaster. Same date the sum of twenty-five dollars was ordered to be sent to the Mayor (John Campbell), to assist the distressed. On December 2, George Angus was installed master for 1882. On February 1, the lodge presented P. M. James Priddis with a past-master's jewel, and on September 6, the first meeting of the lodge was held in the new Masonic Temple.

On November 12, they attended the funeral of Adam C. Johnston. No business was done this year. On December 27, Thos. H. Brunton was installed master for 1883. On January 27, George Angus was presented with a past-master's jewel. On March 7, J. Gauld and J. Sargent received the first degree in this hall. On the 27th of December, Thomas J. Burgess, M. D., was installed master for 1884. On December 29, Thomas Millman was installed for 1885. On the 31st of January, the lodge attended the funeral of James Heron. On the 3rd of July, they attended the funeral of Lewis Olmstead. On the 29th of July, they attended the funeral of John Oliver. On October 17, they attended the funeral of John Watson. On December 28, Andrew Dale was installed master for 1886. On December 27, Wilbur R. Vining was installed master for 1887. On March 13, they attended the funeral of James Donnelly. On the 27th of December, H. Bapty was installed master for 1888.