

New Oswegatchie Lodge No. 7

Fort de la Presentation (Ogdensburg), New York
Warranted 7 May 1783, Grand Lodge of New York

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August 2009

At the ranking of the Lodges at the 3 Jun 1789 session of the Grand Lodge of New York, "Brother Malcom, seconded by Bro. Harrison, moved that No. 5 be considered as the seventh, and carried in the affirmative." This moved Hiram Lodge No. 5 to the rank of No. 7, previously held by New Oswegatchie Lodge No. 7, which had moved across the St. Lawrence River from 'Ogdensburg' (not yet founded) to Elizabethtown (later Brockville), Province of Quebec.

Lodge No. 520; English Registry; in what is now Ogdensburg, NY, was renumbered No. 429 in 1792 and 'erased' in 1813. This is the Lodge that was warranted as New Oswegatchie Lodge No. 7 by the Grand Lodge of New York on 7 May 1783.

The circumstances of the removal of New Oswegatchie Lodge No. 7 from 'Ogdensburg' to Elizabethtown came at a time when the map of the emerging North American continent was vastly 'different.' This was the period at the close of the Revolutionary War, when this Lodge found among its members, British Loyalist, who deemed it quite prudent to cross the St. Lawrence River to British held territory. At map of this period gives a larger perspective of this time:

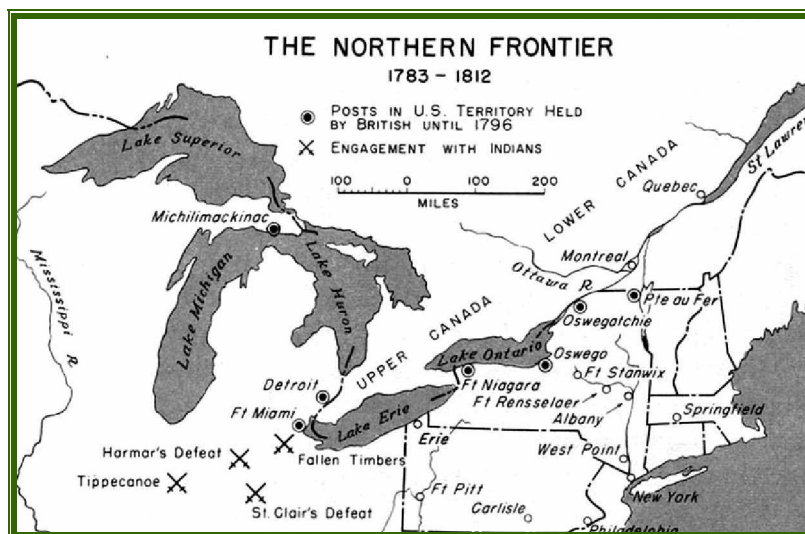


From this map it may be seen that New York's boundary was different than what one would now consider it. The area of 'Ogdensburg' was then in the Province of Quebec (a long story of its own), where it remained until 1791 until the "Constitutional Act of 1791, which divided 'Canada' into Upper and Lower Canada, a designation which could cause some confusion in that the 'Upper' and 'Lower' referred to the position of these areas relative to their appearance along the St. Lawrence River . . . Lower Canada being nearer to the mouth of the river where it joins the Atlantic Ocean and Upper Canada being nearer to where the river exited from the Great Lakes.



The jurisdiction of the Provincial Grand Lodge of New York at one time extended from New Hampshire to the (later) Northwest Territory, as may be witnessed by chartering of Zion Lodge No. 1 at Detroit in 1764 (a rather long story of its own, and the subject of another paper which may be read at our OMDHS website).

An overview of the 'Northern Frontier' at this time shows "Oswegatchie" in the contiguous area of New York State, following the Revolution, but the Fort and 'Territory' was held by the British until 1796.



On 12 June 1783, at a special meeting of the Grand Lodge of New York, held for that purpose, we have a record of the issue of the warrant. The proceedings read:

"June 12th. 1783, Grand Lodge met and opened in ample form. The Right Worshipful the Reverend William Walter in the Chair. This Grand Lodge being called for the special purpose of constituting Lodge. No. 7. to be held in His Majesty's Loyal American Regiment or elsewhere, the petitioners for that lodge presented Brother **William Fowler** to be Master, Brother **Anthony Allaire** to be Senior Warden, Brother **Caleb Fowler** to be Junior Warden, who, meeting with the approbation of the brethren, were installed and invested with their proper jewels, after which the Right Worshipful Grand Master delivered them their Warrant, By-laws and Book of Constitution, with instructions to meet on the first and third Tuesday of each calendar month. The business being finished the Grand Lodge closed."

For the present, this is all we know of this Lodge on the 'Ogdensburg' side of the St. Lawrence River. Unfortunately, the records of the early records of New Oswegatchie Lodge No. 7 from 1783 to 1787 have not been found and are presently considered lost. The Lodge apparently reorganized at Elizabethtown and we are fortunate to have their Lodge Minutes from 10 Oct 1787 through 13 Sep 1791, covering 54 meetings and 24 members (see the last page of this present work for a listing).

At the first meeting in Elizabethtown, the minutes of the Lodge record:

"Tuesday, October 10th, 1787. New Oswegatchie Lodge Assembled at the house of Ensign Thos. Sherwood, in Elizabethtown, and opened in due form at 6 o'clock P.M.

"Present. **John Jones**, Esq., Master, **Ensign William Buell**, Sen. Warden, Brother **Caleb Closson**, as Jun. Warden, **Ensign David Breakenridge**, acting Sec'y, Brother **George Campbell**, acting Tyler, **Capt. Samuel Wright**, **Ensign Thomas Sherwood**, Brother Jeremiah McArthur, Visitor.

"Capt. James Breakenridge, by petition proposed himself as a Candidate; was balloted for, and two negatives appeared against him, Lieut. Alex. Campbell, proposed himself a Candidate by petition, was balloted for, and unanimously accepted. At 10 o'clock, business being completed, the Lodge was closed in due form."

It is not necessarily safe to 'assume' that all of Brothers at this first meeting were prior members, and Brothers William Fowler, Anthony Allaire and Caleb Fowler were conspicuously not present at the above 'first meeting' in 1787. But, somehow, they retained the name and number of the old warrant and the minute book retained the old style of "New Oswegatchie Lodge No. 7 until 1791.

We are left with nothing of the early Lodge (1783-1787), but may ascertain something of its work and character from those who subsequently met under its style in the following pages.

"The history of freemasonry in Canada, from its introduction in 1749," by John Ross Robertson, page 279.

http://books.google.com/books?id=sxprqtvjLF0C&pg=PA235&lpg=PA235&dq=%22zion+lodge+no.+1%22&source=bl&ots=8UMH7eA9ly&sig=lqDI68jx9D6PB89njxsWrgq0aM&hl=en&ei=RjhfSu3dFo7CMP-l-b8C&sa=X&oi=book_result&ct=result&resnum=7

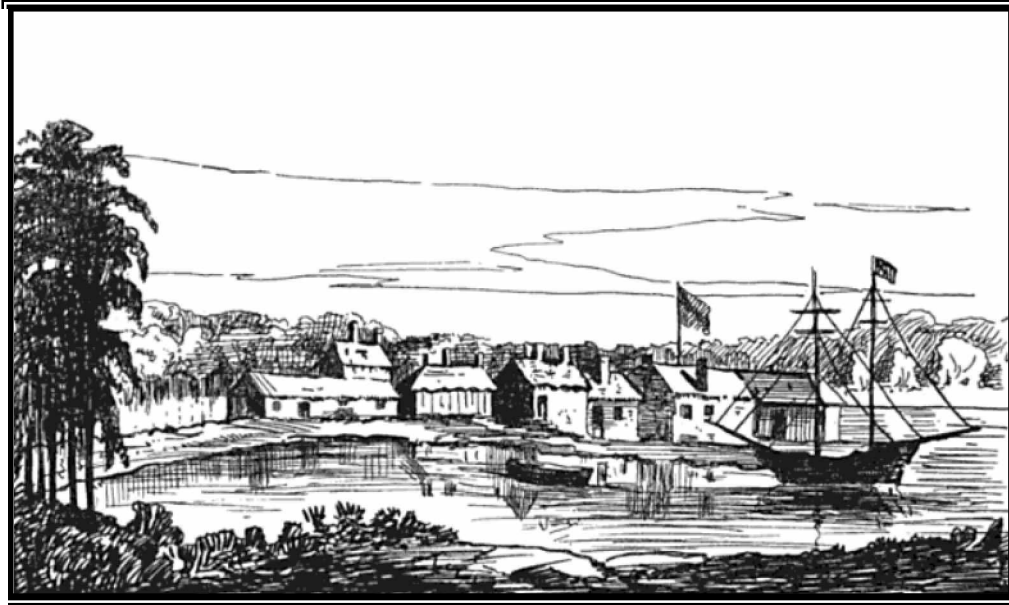
CHAPTER XVII.

NEW OSWEGATCHIE. LODGE, No. 7, N. Y., AND No. 7, P. R. Q., No. 520, E. R., 1786-91.
A LODGE WITH AN AMERICAN AND CANADIAN HISTORY.

There is a halo of interest surrounding the history of early Craft work. The discovery of old records bearing the handwriting of the sturdy sons of Britain, who turned their reaping hooks into bayonets, and, armed with the old flint lock musket, marched shoulder to shoulder in defence of their adopted land, is especially entertaining. Amongst the earliest of these records are the minutes of the "New Oswegatchie" lodge, which met at Elizabethtown, in the county of Leeds, in 1787. The minutes preserved are the first writings of the kind we have of any Craft lodge work in what was then the province of Quebec, but which by the act of the imperial parliament in 1791, was divided into Upper and Lower Canada.

This lodge was of American origin, and was **warranted as No. 7 by the Grand Lodge of New York on the 7th May, 1783**. The claim is maintained that the lodge met in the American Fort Oswegatchie on the south side of the St. Lawrence. Another statement is that the lodge worked under a dispensation obtained from Ogdensburg in New York State. This latter deliverance was made by Bro. Adiel Sherwood. The probability is, however, that the warrant was issued by the Grand Lodge of New York.

The name Oswegatchie—or Choucgatchie—is supposed to be a corruption of the Huron word meaning "Blackwater." Fort Oswegatchie is associated with the early struggles of the United States and Canada. The fort, which has long since gone to ruin, was originally built by the French in the immediate vicinity of Ogdensburg, in St. Lawrence county, New York, on the banks of the River Oswegatchie, which runs adjacent to the modern town of Ogdensburg. The fort was known, in 1740, as Fort Oswegatchie, but is also called, on old French maps, **La Presentation**, and La Gallette. It was occupied by the French during the Seven Years' War, but was captured by the British in 1760, when they were en route down the St. Lawrence to attack Montreal.



View of Oswegatchie on the River St. Lawrence – July 1765

The above view of Oswegatchie on the River St. Lawrence, dated July, 1765, is taken from the original drawing which the writer found in the British Museum in 1895. It is believed to be the earliest picture of Ogdensburg known.

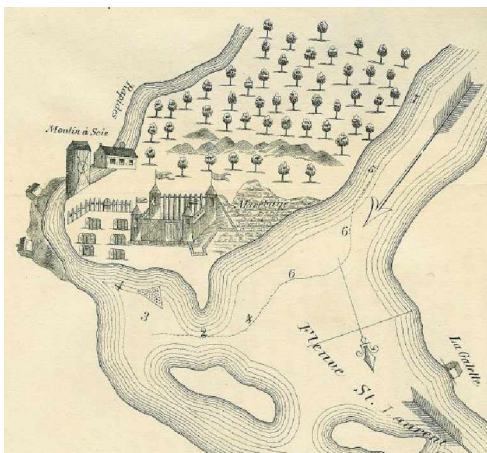
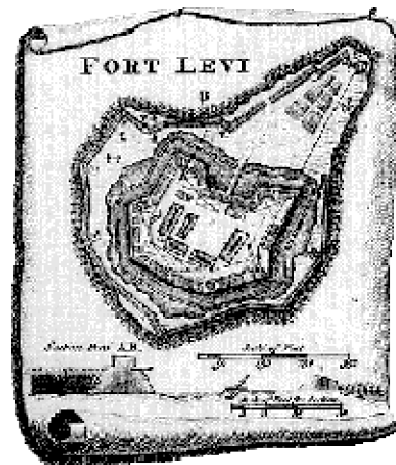
Among the English troops, which, after the fall of Quebec, in 1759, made an attack under General Amherst on the French posts on the St. Lawrence, one of which was La Presentation, afterwards Oswegatchie, were the 44th regiment, and five companies of the 80th. These regiments had field lodges, but not in the case of the 44th, till 1784, and, in that of the 80th, many years after.

The fort finally fell into the hands of the English, after a severe engagement. Lieut.-Col. Massey, with his grenadier regiment, took possession of the fort, the garrison was sent to New York, and the post named by General Amherst, Fort William Augustus.

Fort La Presentation, Fort Oswegatchie, Fort Levis and Fort William Augustus

http://dmna.state.ny.us/forts/fortsE_L/levisFort.htm

Fort Levis: 1759, Isle Royal (Chimney Island), St. Lawrence River, downstream from the present city of Ogdensburg. Determining that Fort Presentation was not strong enough to defend the St. Lawrence River the French constructed Fort Levis on Isle Royal (Chimney Island) three miles downstream. Named for their commander, Major General Francois Gaston de Levis, it was a four bastioned square, built of wood. Destroyed in three days of bombardment in 1760 by General Jeffery Amherst it surrendered 25 Aug 1760. Rebuilt as Fort William Augustus, named in honor of the Duke of Cumberland. Known today as Chimney Island, it was reduced to six acres in 1957 for the construction of the St. Lawrence Seaway, situated east of the Seaway Skyway Bridge between Ogdenburg and Johnstown, in Ontario, Canada.



http://dmna.state.ny.us/forts/fortSM_P/presentationFortLa.htm

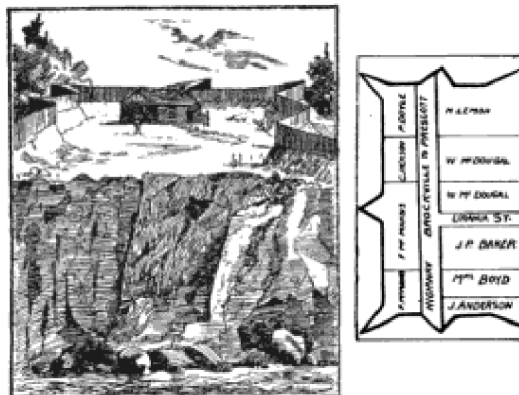
Fort La Presentation: A fortified French mission also called Oswegatchie (now Ogdensburg) in 1749 above the rapids on the St Lawrence River at the mouth of the Oswegatchie River, on Lighthouse Point. Started as a small stone house and a small fort of pickets with one bastion/house, that was burned in a fall 1749 raid. By 1751 a new palisaded fort, 70 feet square, flanked by four bastions was built. The fort also had a wide moat and entrenchment, and an interior parapet. Captured in 1760 it was renamed **Fort Oswegatchie** and occupied until their evacuation in 1796.

The town of Ogdensburg and its suburbs are rich in historic memories of the old French and revolutionary wars, and a sail on the dark waters of the Oswegatchie recalls the marvelous stories of Putnam, and the gallantry of the defenders of the old battlement.

Directly opposite Ogdensburg is the Canadian town of Prescott, and east of Prescott is the township of Augusta, in the county of Grenville, in which was situated a district known as New Oswegatchie, a section of country that was for years a home and stronghold of Masonry.

Near the present village of Maitland, in 1758, defensive works were erected by the French, and because of the conveniences of timber a shipyard was established. The original French fort, with its pickets was in existence in 1785. It contained about six acres, and was star-shaped. About forty years ago a small portion of the earth works was visible. When Upper Canada was divided into townships, the fort was found to occupy lot 29 of the first concession of the township of Augusta, county of Grenville.

The house, represented in the centre of the accompanying sketch, was the French officers' quarters, and was the only one left when the place fell into decay and ruin. **R. W. Bro. Ziba M. Phillips** had a house on this site in 1820. It was a tradition among the early settlers that the French had buried money within the grounds of the fort, but although numberless relics of the days of the war have been discovered there, no money was ever found. The sketch shows the beach along the lake shore. The gates of the fort had been removed twenty years before the sketch was made. The small plan shows the property-holders on the present site.



VIEW OF FORT OSWEGATCHIE, CANADA, 1785, AND PLAN OF THE SITE, 1897.

The lodge certainly gained its title from either the river on the north side of the St. Lawrence, the creek near Maitland, or the section of country on the south side of the river. A correct presentation of the old and new Oswegatchie is necessary in order to locate the origin and seat of this old lodge, the records of which, having lain in darkness for a hundred years, have been brought into the sunlight in the endeavor to piece together the bits of Craft history which years of search and research have produced for the edification of the modern Mason.

In 1889 the minute book of New Oswegatchie lodge was discovered in the county of Leeds. The records are in an excellent state of preservation, kept in a manner which would reflect credit upon the modern lodges of this country. The old minute book is a curiosity in its way. It contains a couple of hundred leaves of stout hand-made paper, an almost square book, about 6 in. x 5 in., with a stiff parchment cover, well bound, and none the worse for its century of existence. From the day the first minutes were penned this old book travelled with the secretary from place to place and from house to house, wherever the brethren found it convenient and profitable to meet together for "the making of Masons." The handwriting gives evidence that the pedagogue was not abroad when the secretary made his pot-hooks and early scrawls at the village school. The roll contains the names of many who were prominent in the defence of Canada during the war of 1812-15, and nearly every member of the lodge was a United Empire Loyalist.

For the information of the reader who may not be informed as to early Canadian history, it may be stated, that after the struggle between the revolted colonists and Britain closed in 1782, a treaty of peace was signed, giving the United States its independence. But before the close of the war, and after the treaty of peace, no fewer than ten thousand persons, who had fought for the unity of the Empire, and against the separation of the thirteen States, rather than live under a foreign flag removed to Canada. Life had been made uncomfortable for them in the States. Their property was confiscated, and they were practically driven out of their homes. These were the United Empire Loyalists, and the British government assigned land to them and to their children in different parts of Canada. In Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island extensive settlements were made, and also on the northern side of Lake Ontario in Upper Canada.

Sir John Johnson, son of Sir William Johnson, was one of the most loyal men. He had gathered together a regiment of about 800 of his friends from the Johnson estates on the Mohawk River. This regiment was the "Royal Greens," as it was popularly called, but in military phrase the "84th Royal New York." The regiment had been stationed on Lake Champlain. The wives and children of the soldiers having to leave the States, had journeyed from the settlements on the Mohawk River, so as to be with their husbands and fathers.

In the autumn of 1783 the refugees reached Sorel, and in 1784 ascended the St. Lawrence. Part of the first battalion located in the townships of Cornwall, Osnaburgh, Williamsburgh and Matilda, in the county of Durham, and the remainder of the detachment of the Johnson regiment, known as "Jessup's corps" settled in June, 1784, on what was afterwards Edwardsburgh, Augusta, and Elizabethtown.

The accompanying picture is by Lieut. James Peachey, a military officer. The scene is on the banks of the St. Lawrence, below Prescott. The drawing of this picture was made on the spot, 6th June, 1784, and it was copied in water colors in 1785. The original is in the possession of Mr. Lawrence Heydon, Toronto, who has kindly permitted a reproduction of it for this work. The Hon. Judge Pringle, of Cornwall, who is a member of the Craft, writes in connection with the location of Johnstown, that it

"was intended for the district town of the old district of Lunenburg and the plot for it was a few miles east of Prescott, where a building for a court house and jail was erected, which I remember seeing in 1833. Cornwall became the district town early in the century and Johnstown never developed even into a village."

The lodge met regularly in what was afterwards the township of Augusta, county of Grenville, Upper Canada, then known as the New Oswegatchie district. The minutes are recorded from 10th October, 1787, until the 13th September, 1791.

The title page of the minutes tells us that there are therein contained "Records of the Proceedings of the New Oswegatchie Lodge, No. Seven."

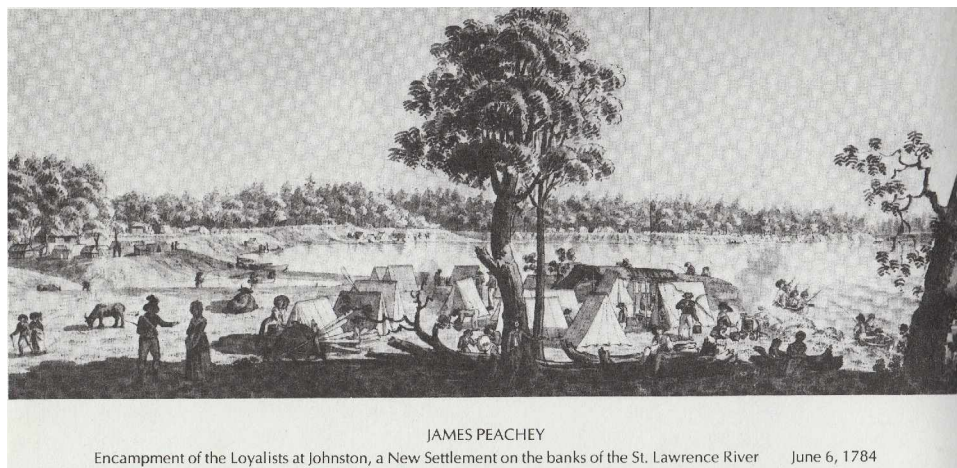
On the 7th May, 1783, a warrant, No. 7. was issued to "a lodge in His Majesty's Loyal American Regiment," by the Grand Lodge of New York. The jurisdiction of this American Grand Lodge was adjacent to what is now Canada.

In the "History of the Craft in New York," by Barker, Vol. I., page. li, at the meeting of the Grand Lodge, held on the 7th May, 1783, the minutes read,

"Read a petition for forming and holding a lodge in His Majesty's Loyal American Regiment, which, being recommended by Lodge, No. 210, was unanimously granted."

And on the 12th June, 1783, at a special meeting of the Grand Lodge of New York, held for that purpose, we have a record of the issue of the warrant. The proceedings read:

"June 12th. 1783, Grand Lodge met and opened in ample form. The Right Worshipful the Reverend William Walter in the Chair. This Grand Lodge being called for the special purpose of constituting Lodge. No. 7. to be held in His Majesty's Loyal American Regiment or elsewhere, the petitioners for that lodge presented Brother **William Fowler** to be Master, Brother **Anthony Allaire** to be Senior Warden, Brother **Caleb Fowler** to be Junior Warden, who, meeting with the approbation of the brethren, were installed and invested with their proper jewels, after which the Right Worshipful Grand Master delivered them their Warrant, By-laws and Book of Constitution, with instructions to meet on the first and third Tuesday of each calendar month. The business being finished the Grand Lodge closed."



In the same volume are the proceedings of the Grand Lodge, dated "New York, June 3rd, 1789." "The Right Worshipful Brother Peter McDougall, J.G.W., in the chair," that the representatives of lodges No. 2, 210, 169, 8, 5, Holland, and No. 4 were present. At a meeting of Grand Lodge, on 4th March, 1789, it was resolved that a committee consider the status of the several lodges and meet

"For the purpose of settling the rank of the respective lodges in this city, and that they make report of their proceedings to the next Grand Lodge." (Barker, N.Y.. p. 79.)

This committee reported at the meeting of Grand Lodge, on June 3rd, 1789, and from this report it appears that the representatives of Nos. 212, 2, 169, 5, 4, 210 and 8, with a representative from Holland lodge, were present at its deliberations. The report was read to Grand Lodge. In it is a resolution reading

"Brother Malcom, seconded by Bro. Harrison, moved that No. 5 be considered as the seventh, and carried in the affirmative." (Barker, p. 84.)

This is the first reference to No. 7 in the proceedings of New York since the meeting of 12th June, 1783, and the fact of the omission of all reference to its work is collateral evidence that it was the New Oswegatchie lodge, and was working in a part of the jurisdiction remote from the centre. The facilities for communication in those days were imperfect, which may account for no report of the lodge in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of New York. There is no record of Hiram lodge, "No. 5," under its changed number until the meeting of Grand Lodge, December 1st. 1790, when among the lodges represented is "No. 7."

Then at the proceedings of the Grand Stewards' lodge, on March 16th, 1791, the representatives of "Hiram lodge. No. 7." were in attendance, and again at the Grand Stewards' lodge, on May 25th, 1791, "Lodge No. 7." (Barker, pp. 112-3).

In a copy of the constitution of the Grand Lodge of New York for 1819 is a

"list of lodges whose warrants have become extinct and conformable to a resolution of the Grand Lodge of 4th June. 5819, cannot be revived"

The following line is under the date of 1783:

"No. 7, Royal Amer. Regt. Travelling warrant, June 12."

This corresponds with the date of the constitution of the lodge in 1783. In 1809 there was another lodge at Ogdensburg, entered in the list of New York, as

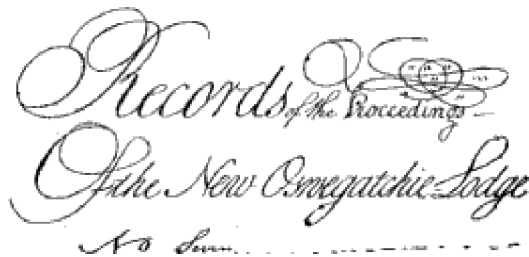
Title.	Town.	County	Date of Warrant
No. 186,	St. Lawrence.	Oswegatchie	St. Lawrence. Sept. 6. 1809.

This No. 186 was, of course, a new lodge, and had no connection with the No. 7 of 1783.

McClenachan in his "History of Freemasonry in the State of New York," page 434, says:

"as little is known of the doings and history of this lodge as that of Fort William Henry, nor is it likely that aught of moment occurred to disturb its peaceful repose until its final sleep as no record appears of the return of its warrant."

The American historian wrote in 1886, but in 1889 the "peaceful repose" was disturbed, by reason of which we are enabled to give many of the records of the brethren who assembled for Craft work in Canada over a century ago.



FACSIMILE OF THE TITLE PAGE OF MINUTE BOOK OF NEW OSWEGATCHIE LODGE No. Seven.

It has been proved that the New Oswegatchie lodge was duly warranted as No. 7, N. Y., that it must have worked at Ogdensburg from the date of its warranting **until 1787, when it was transferred to the north side of the St. Lawrence river**, probably by some of its members in the loyal American regiment, who settled in that part of Canada. It is well, however, to trace its history from 1787. In his Records, Lane gives "New Oswegatchie, Canada," with 1786 as the date of its warrant, **with the No. 520 until 1792, when it became No. 429.** The warrant was **erased from the English list in 1813.**

Considerable research gives clearly the connection of this lodge with Canada. It must have met under the original American warrant in the "Loyal American Regiment" at Fort Oswegatchie, which in 1787 was in the possession of the British. The minute book, which has been preserved, does not contain the records of any meetings of the lodge prior to 1787, so that **the earlier records from 1783-86 must have been lost**, perhaps in the archives of some of the old lodges in the State of New York. In 1787 the lodge was transferred to Canada. The statement in Lane's Records assuredly came from information received from the Provincial Grand Lodge at Quebec. The first record of the lodge on the official list of Quebec is in a return sent 23rd October, 1787, to the Grand Lodge of England (Moderns). It reads:

"List of Lodges constituted by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada and holding under the Grand Lodge of England, whereof His Royal Highness, the Duke of Cumberland is Grand Master, revised and reduced to regular numerical succession."

In another memorandum by the Grand Secretary of England of the same date is noted "John Jones, Prov. G. Sec. for Canada, in letter 24 Oct., 1787, mentd the following lodges which were not registered." He then gives the name of seven, including '520, New Oswegatchie."

These entries almost prove that the original warrant was renewed at Quebec, or given up to Quebec, and a new warrant issued.

Further evidence that the lodge was a military one is furnished by a letter to Mr. Adiel Sherwood, son of Bro. Thomas Sherwood, to Dr. Canniff, of Toronto, which is quoted later on.

In February, 1789, at a regular meeting of the lodge the minutes state, "proceeded to make a return to the Grand Lodge from July to December 27th, 1788." This is the first allusion to a Grand Lodge, which must have been that at Quebec.

At the meeting of 9th February, 1790, another entry of importance occurs. It was

"voted that Br. Secretary make a return of the proceedings and forward it, together with all arrears due to the Grand Lodge, as also a letter requesting to be numbered on the warrant of Establishment for this Lodge."

This minute refers to the Grand Lodge at Quebec. The request to be numbered is not intelligible, unless it meant that the lodge **desired to have the original notation of No. 7 changed to its proper number on the register of the Provincial Grand Lodge.** Against this, however, is the fact that in an official list of the provincial lodges, dated 1787, **New Oswegatchie is No. 14, and in another list it is given as No. 520 on the register of the Grand Lodge of England.** The minute book of the lodge concludes with the record of the meeting of 13th September, 1791.

There was quite a number of half-pay British officers in the lodge. They knew that the lodge was of American origin, and consequently made application to the Grand Lodge of England (Moderns) for a new warrant, which was issued in 1786. **The local**

number of the lodge, Bro. Adiel Sherwood stated, was "No. 2," and was styled "Harmony lodge." The first thirty-five pages of the minute book are devoted to the records of New Oswegatchie, but on the thirty-sixth page is a memo, of an account of "Harmony Masonic Lodge, Dr. 1839 to Bro. Wm. W. Howard for expenses of sd. lodge and clearances from Farmersville, £8 15 0." This village was in the township of Yonge, county of Leeds. It is said that the lodge was continued here, and was eventually broken up through the introduction of political feeling.

In the same book are the minutes of lodge No. 13, in the county of Leeds, on the register of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Upper Canada under R. W. Bro. William Jarvis. The first minutes were those of a meeting held in Elizabethtown, a township in the county of Leeds, **at the house of Thomas Sherwood.** Elizabethtown was named after Elizabeth, one of the fifteen children of George III. The members of the Sherwood family were enthusiastic Masons. At the conclusion of the revolutionary war, in 1783, the first settlers in Upper Canada, and especially the counties of Leeds and Grenville, were ex-soldiers of the provincial military regiments, which, under Major Jessup, of "The Royal Rangers," and Major Rogers, of "Rogers' Rangers," had been stationed at the frontier post of St. John's, twenty-seven miles from Montreal, on the south side of the River St. Lawrence. About June of 1784, these settlers came up, and located on the banks of the St. Lawrence, a short distance west of the provincial line, and along the shores of the Bay of Quinte.

Thomas Sherwood, at whose house the first meeting, of which we have record, was held, was the first settler in the county of Leeds. His house was on lot No. 1, in the first concession of Elizabethtown, and was built in June of 1784. He was one of a family of **three brothers, Seth, Thomas, and Adiel Sherwood.** Thomas was a native of old Stratford, Connecticut, and was born in 1745. He emigrated to the State of New York, and located on a farm five miles north of Fort Edward, a short distance from the spot where Burgoyne surrendered. At the beginning of the American revolution, Thomas Sherwood remained loyal to Britain, made his way to St. John's, Lower Canada, where he was employed by the military authorities in secret work, going into the United States to enlist men for the service of George III.

The Sherwood family, in 1779, removed from the States to St John's, and Thomas Sherwood received a commission as a subaltern in Major Jessup's corps. Both his brothers entered the revolutionary army as officers. Thomas Sherwood was made captain of the first provincial regiment raised in Leeds, and received the first commission issued to a magistrate in that county. At that early period, magistrates were legally qualified to perform the marriage ceremony, and Bro. Sherwood probably united in the holy bonds more individuals than even the regularly licensed clergyman.

There is no trace of the initiation of Thomas, but his brothers, **Seth and Adiel, were initiated in Master's lodge, which was warranted 5th March, 1768, at Albany, N. Y. The lodge opened for work on 4th April, 1768, and in 1776 the brothers, Seth and Adiel, were duly initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry.**

Adiel Sherwood was one of the leading men of the Johnstown district, and filled the positions of colonel in the first regiment of Leeds, military paymaster, treasurer, and finally sheriff of the district. We hear of his Masonic connection at a much later date. In alluding, however, to the first Craft lodge, Adiel Sherwood writes to Dr. Canniff, of Toronto, the author of "The Settlement of Upper Canada." as follows:

"The first Lodge of Freemasons that I am aware of, was held in the township of Elizabethtown, near Brockville. I am unable to give the precise date. The members consisted principally of half-pay officers, who were located along the bank of the St. Lawrence. I understood that they met under a travelling warrant. It was some years after the settlement of the Province that the regular organization of the fraternity took place. I believe it was accomplished by Mr. Jarvis, who came out as Secretary of the Province, and acted under the appointment of the Duke of Sussex, then Grand Master. Mr. Jarvis assuming the duties of Provincial Grand Master, and issuing the necessary warrants."

(Signed) " Adiel Sherwood."

Adiel Sherwood [b. ca 1779] refers in this letter to the lodge of which his father was a member. Young Adiel, for he was only a boy of eight years of age in 1787, had, up to the time of his death an excellent memory, and his statement as to the lodge meeting is borne out by the MSS. extant. **He was born at Fort Edward, New York, on the 16th May, 1779.** was brought to St. John's, in Lower Canada, while at his mother's breast, and, at five years of age, removed to the banks of the St. Lawrence, saw the first tree cut down in the united counties of Leeds and Grenville, and the first hill of corn and potatoes planted. In 1800 he was a member of the Craft, and **lodge No. 13,** under the Jarvis regime, met at his house. In writing Bro. Sherwood speaks of the lodge as working under "a travelling warrant." This is further confirmation that the warrant alluded to was that of New Oswegatchie, for it met at different places in Elizabethtown and Augusta. There is no evidence in the MSS. of meetings earlier than 1787. If the meeting had been for organization, some reference would have been made to the fact. The minutes, which are also reproduced in facsimile, read:

"Tuesday, October 10th, 1787. New Oswegatchie Lodge Assembled at the house of Ensign Thos. Sherwood, in Elizabethtown, and opened in due form at 6 o'clock P.M.

"Present. **John Jones**, Esq., Master, **Ensign William Buell**, Sen. Warden, Brother **Caleb Closson**, as Jun. Warden, **Ensign David Breakenridge**, acting Secre'y, Brother **George Campbell**, acting Tyler, **Capt. Samuel Wright**, **Ensign Thomas Sherwood**, Brother Jeremiah McArthur, Visitor.

"Capt. James Breakenridge, by petition proposed himself as a Candidate; was balloted for, and two negatives appeared against him, Lieut. Alex. Campbell, proposed himself a Candidate by petition, was balloted for, and unanimously accepted. At 10 o'clock, business being completed, the Lodge was closed in due form."

The names of those present at this meeting include many of the early settlers of Leeds, viz.: **Capt. John Jones**, concession 2, lot 10-11, north part 1-2, 100 acres, Elizabethtown, patented March 26th, 1798. **Bro. Jones, who was W. M.,** came originally from Maine, and was a captain in Rogers' Rangers. Being of dark complexion, he was called "Mahogany Jones." He was persecuted by the Whigs, tied with a rope, dragged through the water, thrust into Boston jail, escaped, and arrived at Quebec in 1780. Among his feats was the capture of his old enemy the American general, Cushing.

"**Ensign William Buell.**" The Buell family settled originally on the town plot of Brockville. The town in those days was known as the village of Elizabethtown, and, in 1784, landings were frequently made at Buell's Bay, by western-bound emigrants, but, owing to the rocky nature of the land where Brockville now stands, no location of a permanent character appears to have been made until the arrival of Wm. Buell, Sr., or rather **Bro. Wm. Buell, the S. W. of New Oswegatchie**. The entire site was called "Williamstown, in the township of Elizabethtown."

Ensign Buell was of English descent, but was born in Connecticut, on 5th October, 1751. When the war broke out he was on the loyal side, left the States, found his way to Montreal, where he received an ensign's commission in the King's Rangers. He was the bearer of important despatches from Canada to New York, and was present at the surrender of Burgoyne.

In consequence of the quarrelsome nature of some of the settlers, the site of Brockville was called "Snarlingtown," the first house in which was erected by Bro. Buell, and the first tavern by Adiel Sherwood. The place, however, increased in importance, and assumed the name of the village of Elizabethtown, and, at a later period (1811), an attempt was made by the Buell family to change it to Williamstown. The Buell and Jones families of that day were not friendly, but General Brock settled the name by styling it "Brockville."

<http://brockville0old0photograph0archive.wordpress.com/a-short-history-of-brockville-ontarios-first-incorporated-town/> Brockville was first founded in the spring of 1785 with the arrival at this location of former ensign, **William Buell**, a 33 year old veteran of the British-American War of 1776-1783, who received a land grant as an United Empire Loyalist, for his service in the one of the British militia units. William Buell had sold a number of town lots to new arrivals and was able to lay out a town plan by 1802. Soon there were a number of stone buildings erected here, using stone from local quarries. The new settlement may have been known as "**Buell's Bay**" by some in those early days.

A new town plan was published in 1811 which showed 26 buildings and a growing population. By that time the government was using the official name of "**Elizabethtown**" to refer to this village. The village of Elizabethtown was renamed "**Brockville**" in the summer of 1812 in honour of **General Isaac Brock**, who was the military and political leader in the first year of the War of 1812-14, until tragically killed on October 1812 at the **Battle of Queenston Heights**.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Buell

William Buell, b. 5 Oct 1751; d. 8 Aug 1832, was a miller and political figure in Upper Canada. He was born in Hebron, CT. His father attempted to remain neutral during the American Revolution and was persecuted as a result. His son chose to side with the British and moved to Montreal at the beginning of the war. He served as assistant quartermaster in General John Burgoyne's army. After the surrender at Saratoga, he joined the King's Rangers of Robert Rogers.

In 1784, he settled in Elizabeth Township then part of western Quebec near what was to become Brockville. He set up a mill in the area. In 1788, he was appointed justice of the peace in the Lunenburg District and in the Midland District in 1796. In 1800, he was elected to the 3rd Parliament of Upper Canada for Leeds. He opened the first school in Brockville in his own home and donated land for the courthouse and several churches. He helped his son, William Jr., buy the *Brockville Recorder*; his son also represented Leeds in the Legislative Assembly.

He died of cholera in Brockville in 1832 during an epidemic.

"History of the Buell family in England . . . and in America," by Albert Welles, 1881. page 266.

http://books.google.com/books?id=ma4aAAAYAAJ&pg=PA35&pgq=PA35&dq=%22ensign+william+buell%22&source=bl&ots=M7fv_kvb2B&sig=LqgMVbifaA5K80hsrZfLn-07hh8&hl=en&ei=yq9ySv_BBY7QM7bqkbEM&sa=X&oi=book_result&ct=result&resnum=4#v=onepage&q=%22ensign%20william%20buell%22&f=false

WILLIAM BUELL, of Maryborough, CT., Elizabethtown and Brockville, Canada West, first child of Timothy Buell, of the two first-named places, first child of Timothy Buell, of Lebanon and Marlborough, CT, third child of William Buell, of Killingworth and Lebanon, CT, seventh child of Samuel Buell, of Windsor and Killingworth, CT, first child of William Buell, of Chesterton, Huntingdonshire, England; Dorchester, MA, and Windsor, CT, was born at Marlborough, CT, A. D. 1751. He removed with his father about 1781 to Elizabethtown, Canada West, and about 1790 to Brockville, Canada West, where he became land-holder, farmer, Military Justice, etc., and died in 1834, aged 83 years.

"William Buell came into Canada early after the commencement of the Revolutionary War, and attained a situation as Ensign in the Army, and was afterwards promoted to a Lieutenancy, in which situation he served about seven years, and was engaged with most of the movements connected with the war, and was acting as Assistant Quarter-Master in Burgoyne's army which surrendered at Saratoga.

"At the close of the war he was allowed half-pay, and after a short residence in Lower Canada went to the upper Province, where he located the lands which now form the centre portion of the flourishing town of Brockville. He long held the situation of a Justice of the Peace, and for four years represented the county in which he resided, in the Provincial Legislature. He died in Brockville, on the land which he reclaimed from a wilderness, in 1834, aged 83 years.

"He left sons, William, Andrew Norton, and Joseph Peters. He also was father of another son who died at the age of 19, named Timothy. His daughters were Sabrina, Anne, Phoebe and Martha."

He was married (probably) at Windsor, Vt., about 1775, to Martha Norton, daughter of Andrew Norton, or Naughton, of Windsor, Vt.

Their children, born at Elizabethtown, were:

L **William Buell (Jr.)**, born at Elizabethtown, Canada West, about 1776. William Buell has three times been elected to represent his native country in the Provincial Parliament, although he does not do so at the present time, 1846; holds the honorary situations of Justice of the Peace and Lieutenant-Colonel of Militia.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Buell_Jr.

William Buell (Jr.), b. 28 Feb 1792; d. 29 Apr 1862, was a journalist and political figure in Upper Canada.

He was born in Elizabethtown (later Brockville) in 1792, the son of William Buell. He fought at the Battle of Crysler's Farm during the War of 1812. He operated a book store in Brockville and also served as editor of the *Brockville Recorder* from 1823 to 1849. The paper expressed his reform-oriented political views and also helped promote the development of the town by campaigning for improvements to transportation links. His brother Andrew Norton also contributed material to the newspaper and supported William in his political career.

He was elected to the Legislative Assembly of Upper Canada as a Reform candidate in 1828 and again in 1830. In the next series of elections, violence at the polls by Ogle Robert Gowan's Orangemen resulted in the election results being declared invalid. Buell was eventually elected in 1836. However, Gowan and the Conservatives prevailed in the following election. During the Upper Canada Rebellion (called the 'Patriot's War' in the U.S.), Buell served with the local militia. He was appointed justice of the peace in the Johnstown District in 1840. In 1848, he helped elect his nephew William Buell Richards in Leeds. In 1849, he sold the newspaper and retired to his farm. He served as Brockville mayor in 1856 and 1857. He died in Brockville in 1862. His son Jacob Dockstader Buell served in the House of Commons and also served as mayor of Brockville.

He married, 2 Nov 1817 at Elizabethtown, [Mary Angelica Storey](#), b. 1 Mar 1799, Brockville, Canada; d. 22 May 1823.

Children:

- | | |
|--|-----------------|
| 1. William Oscar Buell , | b. 9 Aug 1818, |
| 2. Martha Mary Buell , | b. 20 Nov 1820, |
| 3. Col. Elisha Buell , | b. 7 May 1823. |

Children of William (Sr.), continued:

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| II. Andrew Norton Buell, | b. ca 1778. a Barrister and Attorney and Treasurer of the District of Johnstown; also a Captain in the Militia. |
| III. Joseph Peters Buell, | b. ca 1780. proprietor of valuable lands, mills, &c., and served as a Subaltern Officer of Militia. |
| IV. Timothy Buell, | b. ca 1782; died at Elizabethtown about 1800. |
| V. Anne Buell, | b. ca 1785; married and died, leaving one son and two daughters. |
| VI. Sabrina Buell, | b. ca 1787; was living in 1846. Had one son. |
| VII. Phoebe Buell, | b. ca 1790; had three sons; two of them were barristers and one a student; and two daughters. |
| VIII. Martha Buell, | b. ca 1795; died leaving no children. |

William Buell's 1816 Map of Brockville

<http://dmgrant.wordpress.com/2008/10/23/william-buell%E2%80%99s-1816-map-of-brockville/>

Plan of the Village of Brockville being part of the property of William Buell Esq. Situated in front of a part of his lands, and laid out in lots according to this plan into Town Lots, of which the following have been disposed of prior to the delineation of this plan, and marked with the initials of the purchasers names. Those unmarked are the property of William Buell Esq., The whole accurately laid down by a scale of 100 feet to an 1/2 inch, taken from actual survey by Andrew N. Buell.

Brockville, September 25th 1816.

This is one of the earliest maps of the Village of Brockville and shows many of the early details upon which the later Town, and then the City of Brockville have been superimposed. The War of 1812-15 has just been over for a short time. The area around the first Court House shows the wartime accommodations for soldiers, with barracks, cook house, and hospital still in place.

The waterfront shows the original shoreline characterized by "Oak Point" on the left, a natural landmark known by Indians and French voyageurs. Here, where we stand, is the small bay and beach where landings were common. This is the origin of the possible early name of the settlement, "Buell's Bay."

William Buell (1751-1832), a disbanded Ensign in the Loyalist regiment, the "King's Rangers," arrived here in 1785 and took up his Crown Grant of land. He took advantage of the situation, and developed his land into a town site for the settlers who arrived in subsequent years. From this location northward runs the present Apple Street, which was opened through the middle of Buell's early apple orchard.



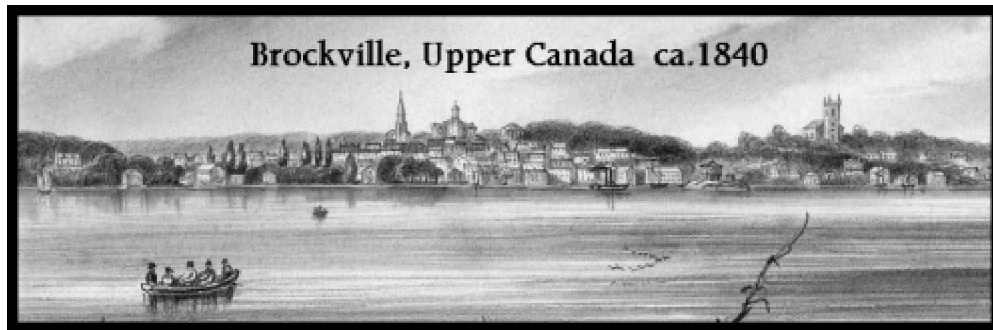
Plan and Survey of Brookville, in the Township of Elizabethtown, founded by William Buell, Esq. Proprietor of the right of said Town Plot.



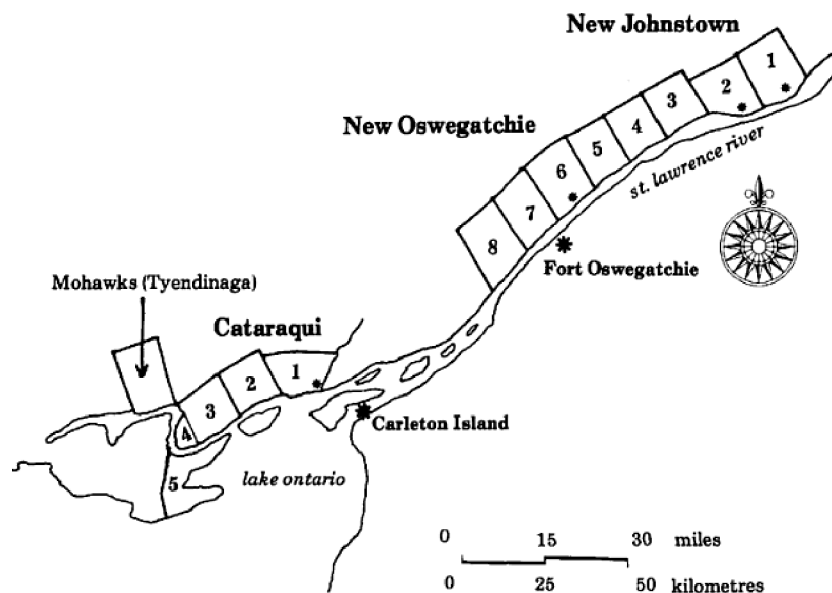
credit: The Buell Family

Reference to initials and abbreviations on the map:

P.C. – Presbyterian Church	H.S. – Hiram Spafford	A.K. – Archibald Kincaid
C.H. – Court House	S.B. – Sabina Buell	C.C. – Cesar Congo
A.S. – Adiel Sherwood	A.P. – Andrew Prevost	
S.F. – Sabina Flynn	W.C. – Hon. William Campbell	B.Y. – Barrack Yard
E.H. – Elnathan Hubbell	C.D. – Charles Dunham	H. – Hospital
A&W M. – Alexander & William Morris	A.Sm. – Anna Smyth	c. – Cook House
W.B j. – William Buell Junior	S.R. – Stephen Richards	b. – Barracks
R.E. – Roderick Easton	N&D – Northrop & Dean	m. – Meadow
B.F. – Billa Flint	A&D McD. – Alex'r & Donald McDonell	O'd – Orchard
L.P.S. – Levius P. Sherwood	J. McD. – John McDonell	o. p. – Oak Point
S.C. – Stephen Cromwell	S.S. – Stephen Skinner	R.Isl. – Refuge Island
P.W. – Parker Webster	A.C. – Allan Curtis	
C.J. – Charles Jones	R.S. – Ruben Sherwood	



Loyalist Townships along the St. Lawrence and Bay of Quinte 1784



Eight townships were laid out beside the upper St. Lawrence. The lower five were the New Johnstown settlement, the upper three New Oswegatchie. The first five around the Bay of Quinte were the Cataraqui settlement. When they were named, #1 beside the St. Lawrence was Charlottenburgh, #2 Cornwall, #3 Osnabruck, #4 Williamsburgh, #5 Matilda, #6 Edwardsburgh, #7 Augusta, #8 Elizabethtown. Of the Bay of Quinte townships, #1 was Kingston, #2 Ernestown, #3 Fredericksburgh, #4 Adolphustown, #5 Marysburgh. Also shown are the first three townsites, Kingston (#1 Cataraqui), Johnstown (#6 New Oswegatchie), New Johnstown (#2 New Johnstown).

"King's men," by Mary Beacock Fryer, 1980. page 316.

http://books.google.com/books?id=VefAaDQSTTcC&pg=PA251&lpg=PA251&dq=%22Ensign+David+Breakenridge%22&source=bl&ots=0Cp2CU7E0G&sig=QBE070LOmzAY0FpHXuUH2HJeo0&hl=en&ei=YR5zStqrAsySlAej2P3cCg&sa=X&oi=book_result&ct=result&resnum=1#v=onepage&q=%22Ensign%20David%20Breakenridge%22&f=false

Another name is that of "Bro. **Caleb Clauson**." In the original minutes it is spelt "**Closson**." This brother resided at concession 1, lot 11, E. 1-2, 108 acres, patented December 1st, 1797, also concession 1, lot 33. E. 1-2, 108 acres, May 17th, 1802, and concession 3, lot 37, W. 1-2, 100 acres. May 1st, 1798, all in the township of Augusta. Bro. Clauson could not have been the regular occupant of the J. W.'s chair, for it is written "as" junior warden. In the next meeting we find that **Justus Sherwood** was the J. W.

Tuesday October 10th 1787. New Oswegatchie Lodge
 Assembled at the house of Capt. Nathaniel D. Phelps.
 And opened in due form at 6 O'Clock P.M.

Present-

John Jones Esq. Master
 Ensign Nathan Buell, Secy. Treasurer.
 Brother Josiah Phelps, as past Master.
 Ensign David Breakenridge, acting Secy.
 Brother George Campbell, acting Teller.
 Capt. Samuel Wright.
 Ensign Thomas A. Howard.
 Brother Jeremiah M. Arthur, Visitor.

Capt. James Breakenridge, by petition, proposed himself as a
 Candidate, and was elected for the next year.

Brother George Campbell proposed himself a Candidate
 by petition, was elected for the next year.
 At 10 O'Clock, the Lodge being completed, the Lodge was
 closed in due form.

Augusta, Tuesday November 13th 1787, 6 O'Clock P.M.
 Opened the Lodge in due form at the house of Brother Nathaniel D. Phelps.

Present,

The Wth John Jones Esq. Master.
 Ensign Nath. Buell, Secy. Treasurer.
 Brother Thomas A. Howard, past Master, acting Secy.
 Ensign Thos. Wright.
 Ensign Thos. Wright.

After rehearsing an ordered apprenticeship Lec-
 ture, the Lodge was closed in due form, and in harmony
 at 10 O'Clock.

FACSIMILE FIRST PAGE OF MINUTE BOOK OF NEW OSWEGATCHIE LODGE 1787.

"Ensign David Breakenridge," the acting secretary, lived in concession 1, lot 32, E. 1-2, 114 acres in Augusta, patented May 11th, 1802. His family were U. E. Loyalists, and his father, **Lieutenant James Breakenridge**, was a lieutenant in Rogers' corps. Ensign David Breakenridge afterwards received his commission as a **colonel**. He was a magistrate, militia colonel, and local elder, all in one, and performed more baptisms in the district than all the regular preachers put together. He was an ardent Tory, and of U. E. Loyalist stock. A writer, Mr. Carrol, says:

"Possessing a fair education, and a large public experience, he occupied a foremost position. As a preacher, he was caustic and severe. He would advise those who were so strenuous about the quantity of water in baptism, to make thorough work of it, and have themselves 'put to soak over night,' and those who carried their divinity in their pocket 'to put a lock and key on it, lest they should lose it.' "

<http://www.geocities.com/PicketFence/Garden/4972/breckenridge2.html>

James Breakenridge

James Breakenridge, eldest son of Jacobus and Sarah, was born on May 28, 1721 in Antrim, Ireland. He came to America at the age of six. In 1745, James married **Mary Moore**, who was born in 1724, and settled first in Ware, Massachusetts, and later, in 1761, in what is now Bennington, Vermont. There was a great dispute over the original ownership of the land - New York vs. New Hampshire. In the end, this led to the formation of the Republic of Vermont, and James Breakenridge's farm became known as the birthplace of [Vermont](#).

During the American Revolution, James spent six months in the Litchfield (Connecticut) Gaol in 1777 because of his loyalty to the King. He was not allowed to return to his home in Vermont until after the War had ended. James Breakenridge died in Bennington, Vermont on April 16, 1783. Mary Breakenridge died there on September 16, 1800. Their gravestones can be seen today in the cemetery next to the First Church in Old Bennington.

David Breakenridge - 7th child of James BREAKENRIDGE and Mary MOORE

David Breakenridge was born in 1764 in Bennington, Vermont. He was baptised at the Old First Church in Bennington on March 16, 1764. He grew up on his father's farm near Bennington. During the Revolutionary War, he was permitted to remain at his father's house under the care of the Guard. He later joined the [King's Rangers](#), better known as Rogers' Rangers, named after their commander Major James Rogers. At the end of the War, David came to Canada as a United Empire Loyalist, and settled on the west half of lot 32, on the first concession in the seigneurie of number seven. (Near Maitland, Augusta Township, Grenville County, Ontario. As part of his U. E. Officer's grants he received Crown Grants of: 200 acres on Con 6 Lot 14 and 100 acres on Con 3 Lot 4

in Oxford twp., and 114 acres on Con 1 Lot 32 Augusta twp. all patented May 17, 1802. -rcb)

There he became chairman of the District Quarter Sessions, a Colonel in the Militia and a Methodist lay preacher. He performed more baptisms in Augusta than all other local preachers put together. "Breakenridge was a United Empire Loyalist, and an ardent Tory. Possessing a fair education and a large public experience, he occupied a foremost position. As a preacher, he was caustic and severe; he would advise those who were so strenuous about the quantity of water in baptism, to make thorough work of it, and have themselves 'put to soak over night,' and those that carried their divinity in their pocket, "to put a lock and key on it, lest they should lose it"

Following the War of 1812 he and Elder Henry Ryan, a Methodist of Irish origin succeeded in forming a new body, The Canadian Wesleyan Methodist Church.

David Breakenridge was first married to **Hester Wright**, who was born on December 26, 1767 in Pownal, Vermont. She was the daughter of **Samuel Wright**, also a United Empire Loyalist, and his first wife who was probably **Sara Freelove Chilson**.

Ensign David Breakenridge and his brother Captain-Lieutenant James Breakenridge were in Quebec to act as liaison to forward recruits to Halifax. Later they were sent to join Major James Rogers at St. John's (St. Jean's), Quebec in September 1780 to recruit for his battalion.

James Breakenridge became the Captain Lieutenant of Major Rogers' own company, while David Breakenridge received the Ensigny of Henry Ruiter's Company.

Ensign David Breakenridge was stationed for a time at Crown Point on Lake Champlain to relay messages for General Allen in Vermont. On May 23, 1783, David arrived at the Loyal Blockhouse with a verbal message from Allen who still hoped to return Vermont back to the King in spite of the rumors of peace.

James Rogers' Kings Rangers Battalion, though disbanded on December 24, 1783, remained at St. John's Quebec through the winter and made preparations for the move westward in the following year. By spring all members of the battalion who had families in the colonies were granted leave to bring them out.

The Bro. **George Campbell** on the list was a member of the Campbell family, who resided with Alexander Campbell, at concession 3, lot 35, \V. 1-2, 100 acres, township of Elizabethtown, patented 4th September, 1800. Bro. Campbell was acting tyler.

Captain Samuel Wright was before the war an officer in one of the provincial corps. **Ensign Thos. Sherwood** has been alluded to in connection with **his son, the late Adiel Sherwood**.

Bro. Jeremiah McArthur was a visitor, probably from an American lodge.

Capt. James Breakenridge, the father of the acting secretary, appears to have "proposed himself a candidate by petition, was balloted for, and two negatives appeared against him." Capt. Breakenridge resided in the township of Elizabethtown. It does not state whether he was elected or rejected—probably the latter. Lieut. Alex. Campbell, who was also a resident of Elizabethtown, met with more favor.

The next meeting of the lodge was held in the house of Bro. **Justus Sherwood**. He resided in concession 5, lot 17, X. E., 1-4. 50 acres, township of Augusta, patented August 24th. 1706 This farm was near the spot where the old "blue church" was erected, Bro Sherwood was a **captain in the colonial militia**, on active service during the American war of independence. He came from the United States in 17<>0, to St. John's in the province of Quebec, where his second son, the late Justice Sherwood, of Toronto, was born. He settled in Augusta. He had another son, Bro. Samuel Sherwood, a member in 1853 of King Solomon's lodge No. 22, Toronto, and in 1854 of St. Andrew's lodge, No. 16. Toronto, and. prior to his death, in 1867, was Registrar of the City of Toronto.

[Justus, b. 7 Mar 1747 in Newtown township, Fairfield, CT, was the son of John Sherwood (son of Thomas Sherwood and Abigail Darling) and Hannah Parruck, He died in 1799 in Quebec . He married Sarah Bottum or Bothum about 1773 of Canada.]

http://bill_buchanan.tripod.com/teale/pafg35.htm#6453

"Augusta. Tuesday, November 11th, 1787. 6 o'clock I'M Opened the lodge in due form at the house of Justus Sherwood, Esq ,

"Present. The Wpfl. **John Jones. Esq., Master.** Ensign **Wm. Buell**, Senr. Warden, **Justus Sherwood.** Esq.. Junr. Warden, and acting Secty, **Ensign Thos Sherwood, Ensign Thos Smith.** After rehearsing .in entered apprentice's lecture, the lodge was closed in due form, and in Harmony at 10 o'clock "

Ensign Thomas Smith, or Smyth, was an officer in the provincial corps. There does not appear to have been a quorum present, which accounts for omission of work, and the recital of the E. A. lecture only. The minutes of the next meeting read:—

"Elizabethtown, December 11th, 1787, 6 o'clock P.M. The Lodge was opened in due form at the house of Joseph White, Esq., and proceeded, 1st. to the Initiation of **Lt. Alex. Campbell.** 2nd, Gave an entered apprentice's Lecture. 3rd, Closed the Lodge, and adjourned to 8 o'clock. 8 o'clock opened a Master's Lodge.

"Present,— The Wpfl. John Jones, Esq., Master, Br. William Buell, Senr. Warden, Br. Justus Sherwood. Junr. Warden, and acting Secty, Br. David Breakenridge, acting Tyler, Br. Thomas Sherwood, Br. George Campbell. Br. Elijah Bottum, Br. Samuel Wright. Proceeded to choose the officers of the Lodge for the ensuing year; Made choice unanimously of the Wpfl John Jones, Esqr., Master. Of Br. William Buell, Senr. Warden, Br. Justus Sherwood, Junr. Warden, Br. David Breakenridge, Secretary. Br. Elijah Bottum, Treasurer, Br. Caleb Closson, Senr. Deacon, Br. Geo. Campbell, Junr. Deacon.

"Lodge closed at 9 o'clock, and adjourned to the 27th inst., at this house to celebrate the Festival of St. John."

This meeting was held at the house of Joseph White, concession 4, lot 30, all, 200 acres, township of Augusta, patented 17th May, 1802. A new name appears in the minutes of this meeting, Bro. Elijah Bottum. He was a military man and a captain. Governor Simcoe arrived in Upper Canada in 1792, and, on his leaving Brockville for the west, the loyal provincial corps assembled at the inn

of Johnstown, and toasted success to the Governor in his mission. Capt. Bottum was one of the jolly crowd, and a report of the meeting says:

"Captain Elijah Bottum. a large portly person, having at his side a formidable, basket-hiked claymore, then addressed them in brief, military phrase, and gave one of the old war slogans."

Bro. Bottum resided on concession 1, lot 27, E. 1-2, 130 acres, township of Augusta, patented May 17th, 1802. In 1813 Bro. Bottum was one of the town and church wardens of Augusta.

[Elijah BOTTUM was born on 5 Mar 1757 in Norwich, New London, Ct, USA. He died on 6 Aug 1825. He married Mary (Molly) HURD on 5 Feb 1806 in Augusta Twp, Grenville, Ontario, Canada.]

"Elizabethtown, St. John's Day. Lodge assembled by adjournment, and opened in due form at 10 o'clock A.M. Present, Wpfl John Jones, Esq., Master, Br. Wm. Buell, Senr. Warden, Br. Justus Sherwood, Junr. Warden, and Br. David Breakenridge, Secretary, Br. Elijah Bottum, Treasurer, Br. Caleb Closson, Senr. Deacon, Br. Geo. Campbell, Junr. Deacon, Br. Thos. Sherwood, Br. Samuel Wright, Br. Alexander Campbell. Received a petition from Mr. **Bemslee Buell**, who was balloted for, and unanimously accepted. Business being completed, the lodge was closed in due form at one o'clock P.M."

No account is given in the minutes of the manner in which this Masonic festival was celebrated. The lodge opened at 10 a.m.. and closed at 1 p.m., which gave ample time for an enjoyable re-union.

"Elizabethtown, 8th Jany, 1788. An entered Prentice's Lodge opened in due form at 6 o'clock P.M. Present, the Wpfl John Jones, Esqr., Master, Br. William Buell, Senr. Warden, Br. Thos. Sherwood, acting Junr. Warden, Closson, Senr. Deacon, Br. Samuel Wright, Br. Alex. Campbell.

"Proceeded to business. Initiated Messrs **Bartholomew Carley**, and **Bemslee Buell**. Business being completed, the Lodge was closed in brotherly and Br. David Breakenridge, Secty, Br. Elijah Bottum, Treasurer, Br. Caleb harmony at 9 o'clock."

Bartholomew Carley, one of the newly initiated brethren, resided on concession 2, lot 20, E. 1-2, 100 acres, township of Augusta, patented May 17th, 1802. Bemslee Buell was a relative of the S. W., Br. Wm. Buell.

http://bill_buchanan.tripod.com/teale/pafg38.htm#6814

Bemslee Buell, b. 22 Sep 1765 Hebron, Tolland, CT; d. 22 Feb 1830 in Pittsburgh, 24 miles below Kingston, Ontario; m. 30 Aug 1788 in of Elizabethtown, Leeds, ON, Canada, Lois Sherwood, b. 1773. Fort Edwards, NY; d. 19 Jun 1849, Gates, NY; bur. Mount Hope Cemetery, Rochester, NY. Lois was the daughter of Thomas Sherwood (son of Seth Sherwood [son of Thomas Sherwood and Abigail Darling] and Sarah Pitcher) and Annah Brownson. Bemslee first married 24 Mar 1786, Phebe Mann, a cousin, by whom they one son, Timothy.

Bemslee and Lois had the following children:

- F i [Nancy Buell](#)
- M ii **William Buell** was born in 1791 in of Leeds County, ON, Canada. [\[Notes\]](#)
- F iii **Caroline Buell** was born about 1794 in of Leeds County, ON, Canada. [\[Notes\]](#)
- M iv **Bemslee Buell** was born on 24 Aug 1795 in Brockville, ON, Canada. He died in May 1796. [\[Notes\]](#)
- M v **Bemslee Buell** was born on 23 Jul 1799 in Brockville, ON, Canada. He died on 13 Oct 1812. [\[Notes\]](#)
- F vi **Mercy Buell** was born in 1802 in of Leeds County, ON, Canada.
- M vii **James Buell** was born on 16 May 1807 in Brockville, ON, Canada. [\[Notes\]](#)
- M viii [Samuel P. Buell](#)
- M ix [Thomas Sherwood Buell](#)
- F x [Lois Buell](#)
- M xi **Timothy Buell** was born on 2 Mar 1811 in Brockville, ON, Canada.
- F xii [Annah Buell](#)

"Tuesday, Feb. 12th, 1788. 6 o'clock opened an Entered Apprentice's Lodge in due form. Present, The Rt. Worshipful Wm. Buell, Master Pro tem, Br. Thomas Sherwood, Sen, Br. Caleb Closson, Jun, Acting Wardens, Br. Alexr. Campbell, acting Sec'y, Br. Bemsley Buell, acting Tyler, Br. **Bartholomew Carley**. Proceeded to business. 9 o'clock closed the Lodge in due form, until the second Tuesday in March, unless in case of emergency."

"Elizabethtown. March 11th, 1788. The Lodge opened in due form on the first step of Masonry.

"Present. Br. Wm. Buell, acting Master, Br. Thos. Sherwood, and Br. Geo. Campbell, Wardens, Br. Thos. Smyth, acting Secty, Br. Elijah Bottum, Treasurer, Br. Bartw. Carley, Br. Bemslee Buell, Tyler.

"Mr. **Danl. Dunham** proposed himself by Petition as a Candidate. Was balloted for & unanimously accepted. Closed the Lodge at 9 o'clock P.M. in brotherly harmony."

Mr. Dunham "proposed himself by petition as a candidate." This was an ingenious method of dispensing with the formality of a proposal and seconder. The lodged closed in "brotherly harmony."

"April 8th, 1788. 7 o'clock P.M. opened an enteredly Prentice's Lodge in Due form. Present. The Wpfl John Jones, Esqr., Master, Br. Wm. Buell, Senr. Warden, Br. Justus Sherwood, Junr Warden, Br. D. Breakenridge, Secty, Br. Elijah Bottum, Treasurer, Br. Thos. Sherwood, Br. Caleb Clauson, Br. Alex Campbell, Br. Bemslee Buell, Br. Bar. Carley.

"S. Duralon proposed himself a Candidate by Petition, was balloted but not accepted. Daniel Dunham was then initiated. At 8 o'clock closed the Lodge upon the first step of Masonry; opened a Fellow's Craft Lodge, and passed Brothers Campbell and Bemslee Buell. and Bartw. Carley. Then closed the Lodge in due form and in harmony at 10 o'clock."

There is no trace in the county of "S Ducalon." Bro. Daniel Dunham was a native of Argyle, near Saratoga, New York. He was loyal to the core, and travelled for seven days and nights to join Burgoyne's army. The Dunhams came to Canada in 1784, in the first brigade of boats up the St. Lawrence, landing at Dunham's Bay in Augusta, where the ruins of the log shanty which they first built could be seen a few years ago.

<http://books.google.com/books?pg=PA949&lpg=PA949&dq=%22Daniel+Dunham%22+%22burgoyne%22&sig=yQyaVRm2A-me0IsnAb0o6Q1AqqQ&ei=CLdzSuXvllKktgf7mtmWCQ&ct=result&id=inYLAaAAyAAJ&ots=328AB2djFF&output=text>

CLAIM. 799. DANIEL DUNHAM, late of Kingsbury, New York. June 27.

Claimt. says. He was at the River De Chine 1783. Made up his acct. and gave it to Major Jessup in Oct. in order to be sent to England. Their Quarters were during that Winter at De Chaîne.

7 Leagues from this Place.

Is a native American. Lived in Kingsbury. In the year 1777 joined Genl. Burgoyne, but did not stay with the army. Did not return to Kingsbury, went to different places. Joined the Brit, in the year 1780, at Crown Point. Served till the war was over, part of the Time as Seargt. in Jessup's Corps. Produces his Discharge. Lives at Oswegachy.

Had 30 acres at Kingsbury, purchased of Capt. Jones. Is not certain whether in '74 or '75. Had no Witness. Gave 60 Dollars in old Currency. He cleared 4 acres & built an house.

Vals. at 30£. Is informed it is sold by the State.

Hired some Lands of a person who had taken Possession of

Vacant Lands belonging to Mr. Bayard. Took them in 1776 at a Rent of 8£ per ann.

Had a share in a saw mill in Kingsbury Common. 1-16 share. He helpt to build it. It did not cost him much, besides Labour. Cost 10£.

A Robet. Magee takes 2 horses from Kingsbury in 1777 & a Gun. 2 Cows lost since the year 1780. His Wife was sent away & his utensils & furniture were taken. They were on a Place belonging to another person, when his Wife took shelter in Argyle Township.

CAPT. JOHN JONES, Wits:

(si). Remembers Claimt. at Kingsbury. He went to the Army in 1777, but did not stay. He afterwards joined at Crown Point. Considered him as a Loyalist. Speaks favourably of his character & services.

Claimt. bought 30 acres of Land in Kingsbury of "Wits. He thinks in 1775. He was to pay 10 sh. per acre York Money. It was paid or settled in acct. in the year 1775. He had not a Deed, but Witness would have given him one at any time. Claimt. had a share in a saw mill, 1-16. Witness speaks of Claimt. having frequently assisted persons of the Loyal Party. Heard of his having lost horses & cattle, between 1777 & 1780. He lived in Argyle Township.

"The Second Tuesday in May. 1788, 6 o'clock P.M. Opened an Enteredly Prentice's Lodge in due form. Present the Wpfl John Jones, Esqr. Master. Proceeded to business. Made choice unanimously of Br. **Wm. Buell, Master** for the ensuing six months Br. Justus Sherwood. Senr. Warden. Br. Thos. Sherwood, Junr. Warden and Treasurer Br. Samuel Wright, Senr. Deacon. Dr. Thos. Smith, Junr. Deacon Brs Elijah Bottum & Caleb Clausen. Stewards. Voted the former Secty shall continue another six months. Recd. Bro. **Ziba Phillips** a member of this Lodge by unanimous consent. 10 o'clock closed the Lodge in due form and harmony"

This meeting gives the first record of an election of officers, who were chosen every six months, at the December and May meetings. The name of Bro. **Ziba Phillips** *, given in these minutes, refers to an English Craftsman, who emigrated about 1785, and to whose indefatigable zeal the fraternity is indebted for much of its success in the early days. His work will be found specially in connection with the Grand Masonic Convention of 1817-21, the Provincial Grand Lodge of 1822, and the attempted revival of 1842. Bro. Phillips and Bro. John Dean did herculean work for the Craft in later days in this section of the country. The peculiar term, an "Enteredly Prentice Lodge " will be noticed.

There is some confusion in the accounts of Ziba (Marcus) Phillips in Canada. Ziba Sr. was a member of Oswagatchie Lodge, having affiliated there in 1788. His son, also Ziba Marcus Phillips (Jr.) was also very prominent in Canadian Freemasonry. Ziba Jr. was born 16 Jul 1787 in Oswego, NY, and died 1847 in Elizabethtown, Leeds, Ontario. It is fair to 'assume' that all accounts of Ziba in this present work refer to Ziba, Sr., accept possibly a refer to him as a R.W. Bro. There is no record of Ziba Sr.'s original Lodge in which he was raised or a clear date of his death, other than, in this present work, a remark: "He had been an active Mason from the date of his initiation, and continued his interest **until within a short time of his death in 1845**, so that he may fairly be said to have spent fifty-seven years in Craft work." He was 'initiated' [actually 'affiliated'] in 1788; his year of death may have been confused with Ziba, Jr. [??]. The present account also noted that he was made Mason in England, but there is no record that he was in England; he (and his brother Elisha) was born in Oblong, Dutchess County, NY in 1761 according to the Quaker Church Records of that town.

* <http://skirret.com/library/archive/papers/misc-c/canadiangrandmasters-zibaphillips.html>

Ziba Marcus Phillips (Jr.) was born in Oswego, in New York State, the son of a United Empire Loyalist of the same name. His father fought throughout the American Revolution - upon the British side - and after that war abandoned his property in the United States and obtained a grant of land in the Township of Augusta, on the north shore of the St. Lawrence River between the towns of Prescott and Elizabethtown (re-named Brockville in 1812, after General Sir Issac Brock). He built a house close to the bank of the river, and was followed by several other U.E. Loyalists. Phillips, Senior, was a Mason, and as Sir Peregrine Maitland, Lieutenant Governor of Upper Canada, was also a Mason, the little hamlet was named Maitland.

"The second Tuesday in June, 1788, 8 o'clock P.M. Opened an end'ly Prentice's Lodge in due form. Present the Wpfl John Jones, Esq., Late Master. Br. Wm. Buell, Senr. Warden. Br. D. Breakenridge, Secty, & acting Junr. Warden. Br. Elijah Bottum, Br. Alex. Campbell, Br. B. Carley, Br. Bemslee Buell, Br. Danl Dunhem. Enstalled Br. Wm. Buell, Master. Closed the Lodge at nine o'clock in due form and brotherly harmony."

This is the first record of an installation, and also the first mention of a past master, although the term used is "late Master." Bro. Jones "enstalled" his successor. The festival of St. John the Baptist, does not seem to have been kept, as it is in this day, for installation ceremonies:

"An Enteredly Prentice's Lodge opened in due form. The second Tuesday in July, 1788, 6 o'clock, P.M. Present the Wpfl Wm. Buell, Ensn & Master. Br. Thos. Sherwood, Senr. Warden. Bro. Elijah Bottum, J. Warden, Pro tem. Bro. David Breakenridge. Secty. Bro. Caleb Clauson. Bro Bemslee Buell, Tyler. 9 o'clock closed the Lodge in due form and in harmony."

"August 12th, 1788, 6 o'clock, P.M. Lodge opened upon the first step of Masonry in due Form. Present Br. Thos. Sherwood, acting Master, Br. E. Bottum, acting Senr. Warden. Br. Caleb Clauson, acting Junr. Warden. Br. Geo. Campbell, acting Secty. Br. Bemslee Buell, Tyler. Br. John Jones, Past Master, Br. Saml Wright, Br. B. Carley, **Br. Stephen Burritt, Visitor**. 7 o'clock closed the Lodge Closed in due form; and then opened and closed a Fellow Craft's Lodge. Then opened a Master Mason's Lodge, and raised Br. Alex. Campbell, Bro. B. Carley, and Br. Bemse [Bemslee] Buell, to the sublime Degree of Master Masons. 9 o'clock closed the Lodge in due form & in harmony."

Bro. John Jones, present as a past master, and "**Bro. Stephen Burritt, Visitor**." The name of the Burritt family has been associated with the Craft from, possibly, 1790, down to 1898. The family of William and Stephen Burritt emigrated from Wales in 1600. Both brothers fought on the royalist side at the battle of Bennington, Vermont. After the engagement they found a wounded American— a Mason—on the field, whom they nursed and saved. Some time after **the Burritts** were thrown into jail at Bennington, and the soldier Craftsman whom they had befriended was their guard. He aided them to escape. Stephen came to St. John's and joined the British army. After the war he received his discharge, and as a U. E. Loyalist drew lot No. 29, 1st concession of Augusta. Bro. Stephen then went out on the Rideau on an exploring expedition, and founded Burritt's Rapids in the township of Marlborough. It was there that Col. Edmund Burritt was born, the first white child on the Rideau, December 8th. 1793.

Sept. 9th. 1788. Opened an Enteredly Prentice's Lodge in due form at 7 o'clock P.M. Present the Wpfl Wm. Buell, Master, Br. Justus Sherwood. Senr. Warden. Bros. Thos. Sherwood. Junr. Warden. Br. David Breaken ridge, Secty. Bro. John Jones. P Master. Bro Caleb Clauson. Bro. Saml Wright, Bro. Alexr. Campbell. Bro B Carley Bro. Henry Larne. Visitor. Proceeded to ballot for **Mr. Lem'l Castle**, who had proposed himself a candidate by Petition. & was unanimously accepted; after which an Entered Apprentice's Lecture was rehearsed, and the Lodge clos'd in due form at 10 o'clock in Harmony."

Mr. Henry Larne was a visitor, probably an American Mason. **Mr. Lemuel Casswell, not "Castle,"** as in the MSS., resided on concession 3, lot 29, 30, W. 1-2, E. 1-2, 200 acres, Elizabethtown, patented May 17th, 1800.

"October, 14th, 1788, 7 o'clock P.M. Opened an Enteredly Prentice's Lodge in due form. Present the Wpfl Wm. Buell, Master, Br. Justus Sherwood, Senr. Warden: Br. Thos. Sherwood, Junr. Warden, Br. John Jones, P.M., Br. David Breakenridge, Secty, Br. Elijah Bottum, Treasurer, Br. Caleb Clauson, Br. **Ziba Phillips**, Br. Bartw. Carley, Br. Daniel Dunham, Br. Alexr. Campbell, Br. Bemslee Buell, Tyler. **Br. Levi Stone** and **Br. Stephen Burritt, Visitors**. Proceeded to Business. Initiated Mr. Lem'l Castle. 2nd. read the warrant. 3rd read the by-laws. Closed the Lodge at 10 o'clock in due form and Brotherly harmony."

"The Inclemency of the Weather prevented the Lodge from being opened the Second Tuesday in November, 1788."

Bros. Levi Stone and Stephen Burritt were both present as visitors, and it is also recorded that the warrant and by-laws were read. What an amount of information could be conveyed to the Craftsmen of to-day, if but a copy of the venerable piece of parchment, containing the sign manual of the English Grand East, could be obtained. With the success which has attended present search for old MSS, the warrant under which Oswegatchie lodge opened and worked may yet be found.

"December 9th, 1788, at 6 o'clock P M , opened an Enteredly Prentice's Lodge in due form. Present the Wpfl William Buell, Master, Br. John Jones, Esqr., P.M., Br. Thos Sherwood, & Br. Elijah Bottum, Wardens, Pro tem, **Bro. Ziba Phillips. Secty. Pro tem**. Br Caleb Clauson, Steward, Br. Bartw. Carley. Br. Bemse [Bemslee] Buell. Tyler. Proceeded to choose the officers of the Lodge for the ensuing six months. Unanimously balloted in **Br. Justus Sherwood. Esqr., Master**, Br. Tho. Sherwood. Snr Warden, Br. Elijah Bottum, Junr. Warden, **Br. Ziba Phillips. Secty**, Br. Caleb Clauson. Treasurer, Br. George Camphell. Senr Deacon. Br Barthw. Carley, Junr. Deacon, Bro. Saml Wright & Br. David Breakenridge, Stewards, Br. Bemslee Buell. Tyler. Business being completed the Lodge closed in due form & in harmony (till the 27th Instant)."

"December 27th, 1788, at 12 o'clock the Lodge assembled to commemorate the Festival of St. John, the Evangelist, and opened on the first step of Masonry. Proceeded to business. Install'd Br. Justus Sherwood as Master for the ensuing six months. Br. Thos. Sherwood. & Bro. Elijah Bottum, Wardens, Br. Caleb Clauson. Treasurer. Br. B. Buell, Tyler, Br. Thos. Smyth. Secty, Br. B. Carley. Deacon. Br David Breakenridge, Steward. the above officers were install'd for the ensuing six months The other members present

were Br. John Jones, Br **Ziba Phillips**. Mr. Wm. Buell, Past Masters. Br. Lem'l Caswell, Br. Danl Dunham, Br Peter Loop. & Bro. Henry Larnie, Visitors The Brethren walked in procession to Mr. Henry Cross's, where a sermon was read by Secry Smyth, suitable to the occasion, and an oration delivered by the Rt Wpfl Justus Sherwood, Esqr: Then returned in form to the Lodge Room, where after proper refreshments the Lodge was closed in due form & harmony"

This is the record of the second election of officers. **Bro. Ziba Phillips**, who had been elected secretary on 9th December, had declined to act, and Bro. Thos. Smyth was, therefore, installed into that office. **Bro. [Ziba] Phillips had been made a Mason in England [sic] before emigrating to Canada, and was a P. M., but of what lodge is not known.** [He had previously been an "Indian trader" in Oswego, NY ca 1792.]

<http://heritageregistry.net/html/pages/grpf10592.html>

Ziba Marcus PHILLIPS, Ensign, U.E.L., b. 17 Nov 1761 Oblong, Dutchess, NY; d. aft Aug 1817 in Kingston, Ontario
Father: [John PHILLIPS, U.E.L., Sergeant](#) Mother: [Ann BURDIN](#)
Spouses: [Sarah NETTLETON, U.E.](#); [Mary GRAHAM](#)

m1 ca 1784 Oswego, NY, Uhrania BURRITT, U.E., b. 13 Feb 1767 Arlington, Bennington, VT; d. ca 1805 in Kingston, Ontario
Father: [Daniel BURRITT, U.E.L.](#) Mother: [Sarah COLLINS](#)

Children

- 01 William PHILLIPS, b. ca 1785 Kingston, Ontario; m. [Sarah WILTSEA, U.E.](#)
- 02 **Ziba Marcus PHILLIPS, Jr., Dr.**, b. 16 Jul 1787 Oswego, NY; d. 1847 Elizabethtown, Leeds, Ontario; m. [Sarah NETTLETON](#)
- 03 Sarah Louisa PHILLIPS, b. 1792 Oswego, NY; d. aft 1881 Elizabethtown, Brockville, Ontario; m. [Reuben LANDON, U.E.](#)
- 04 Elizabeth D. PHILLIPS, b. 1795 Oswego, NY; d. 24 Nov 1880 Fitzroy Harbour, Carleton, Ontario; m. [John LANDON, War of 1812](#)
- 05 James PHILLIPS, Reformer, DCB, Plaque, b. 1800 New Brunswick; d. 13 Nov 1838 **Battle of Windmill Point**, near Prescott, Upper Canada; m. [Salome Susannah BROWN](#)
- 06 Stephen Burritt PHILLIPS, b. 1803 New Brunswick; d. 7 May 1876 Augusta, Leeds & Grenville, Ontario; m. [Rebecca FLOOD](#)
- 07 Uhrania PHILLIPS, b. 1805 Augusta, Leeds & Grenville, Ontario; d. aft 1851 Elmsley North, Lanark, Ontario; m. [William GILMORE](#)

m2 ca 1805 Wolford, Johnstown, Ontario, Sarah NETTLETON, U.E. (2), b. 1786 Wolford, Johnstown, Ontario; d. there aft 1815.
Children by Sarah, all born in Wolford, Johnstown, Ontario:

- 01 Edmund N. PHILLIPS, b. 1806; m. Mary ____.
- 02 Lurinda PHILLIPS, b. 1808
- 03 Jehial Hurd PHILLIPS, b. 1809; d. aft 1851 Augusta, Grenville, Ontario; m. [Elizabeth Rachel AYER](#)

m3. 11 Oct 1818 in Kingston, Ontario, Mary GRAHAM, b. ca 1799 in Ireland; no children.

This is the earliest record of celebrating the festival of St. John the Evangelist in this part of Canada. Henry Cross lived on concession 6, lot 33, 200 acres, township of Augusta, patented April 14th, 1798, and he had land on concession 1, lot 25, W., 1-2, Augusta, patented 14th April, 1798. He probably kept a public house, or owned a public hall. The location of this land may lead to the discovery of the spot on which St. John's day was first celebrated in central Canada.

Jany.13th. 1789, an Enteredly Prentice's Lodge opened in due form at 7 o'clock P.M. Present the Wpfl Justus Sherwood, Esqr., Master, Br. Thos. Sherwood, Senr. Warden, Br. Caleb Clauson, Treasurer & acting Junr. Warden, Br. Geo. Campbell & Br. Carley, Deacons, Br. Bemslee Buell, Tyler, Brothers John Jones and Wm. Buell, Past Masters, Br. Sam'l Wright, Br. Danl Dunham, Br. Leml Caswell, Br. Peter Loop, Junr., Visitor, & acting Secretary. Proceeded to business Read a petition of Joshua Smadas, who was balloted for, not accepted. A petition of **Henry Cross** was read, he was balloted for and accepted. Then the Wpfl. Master Called from labor to Refreshment for the space of half an hour, which time being elapsed, Call'd to order, and Closed the Lodge in due form & harmony."

Bro. Peter Loop, a visitor, kindly acted as secretary. Mr. Henry Cross, at whose house St. John's day had been celebrated, was accepted as a member of the lodge.

"Second Tuesday in February, 1789, 7 o'clock P.M. An Enteredly Prentice's Lodge in due form was opened. Present the Wpfl J. Sherwood, Esqr., Master. Br. Thos. Sherwood. Senr. Warden, Br. Caleb Clauson, Treasurer, & acting Junr. Warden. Br. B. Carley, Br. Bemslee Buell, Tyler, Bro. Danl Dunham, Br. Peter Loop. Junr Visitor, & acting Secty. Br. James Jordan, visitor. Proceeded to make a return to the Grand Lodge from July to December 27th, 1788. Read a petition of Jonathan Fulford, which on account of the thinness of the Lodge was referred to the next regular Lodge night. 10 o'clock closed the Lodge in due form."

The "thinness of the lodge" was probably due to the weather, for February in the old days before the forest was cleared, was a month which sent the thermometer down many degrees. The second paragraph is the first allusion to the governing body. There are no records of this return.

"Tuesday, 10th March, 1789. 7 o'clock P.M. Opened an Enteredly Prentice's Lodge in due form. Present, Br. Thos. Sherwood, acting Master, Br. Elijah Bottum, acting Senr. Warden, Br. Caleb Clauson, acting Junr. Warden, Br. David Breakenridge, acting Secty, Bro. Alexr. Campbell, Br. **Ziba Phillips**, Br. Barthw Carley, Br. Danl Dunham, Br. Lem'l Caswell, Br. Bemslee Buell, Br. E. Merwin, Visitor. Proceeded to business. Read the Petition of Jon'n Fulford. balloted for, not accepted. Read the petition of Benoni Wiltse balloted for and not accepted. Closed the Lodge in due form and in harmony at 10 o'clock, until the second Tuesday in the ensuing month."

Mr. Fulford was not accepted, although he was of a highly respected family, nor was Benoni Wiltse. Benoni Wiltse was the first settler in the township of the rear of Yonge, county of Leeds.

Opposite the residence of the Wiltse's is the remains of an antique causeway, that was built long before white men settled in the vicinity, and of which making the Indians could give no definite information.

"April 14111, 1789, 7 o'clock P.M. Opened an Enteredly Prentice's Lodge in due form. Present, the Wpfl. Thos. Sherwood, acting Master, Br. Elijah Bottum, & Bro. **Z. Phillips**, acting Wardens, the Wpflul John Jones, Esqr., Past Master, Bro. Caleb Clauson, Treasurer, Br. Alexr. Campbell, Bro. Barthw. Carley, Tyler Pro tem, Br. Geo. Campbell, Br. E. Mervin, and Br. Jas. Jordan, Visitors, Bro. Peter Loop, Junr. Visitor, & acting Secty. Proceeded to business. A Resignation of Br. David Breakenridge was handed up to the chair, and ordered to be read by the Secty, and was postponed until a future Lodge. There was also read a petition from Mr. Francis Scott, signifying his desire to become a Mason, referred till the next Lodge night. Business being completed the Lodge closed at 10 o'clock in due form & harmony."

Bro. Mervin and Bro. Jordan are entered as visitors. The frequency of visitors at meetings shows that there were other Craft lodges at work in this section of Canada.

"May 12th, 1789. 7 o'clock P.M. Opened an Enteredly Prentice's Lodge in due form. Proceeded to business. Present, The Wpfl. Justus Sherwood, Esqr., Master. Br. Thos. Sherwood, Senr. Warden, Br. William Buell, acting Junr. Warden, Br. John Jones, Past Master, Br. Danl Dunham, Br. Barthw Carley, Br. Bemslee Buell, Tyler. A petition of Mr. **Francis Scott** was read, balloted for, and accepted. Received at the same time a petition from Mr. **Asa Starkweather**, who was balloted for and accepted."

Asa Starkweather was a relative of Bro. **John Starkweather**, who about 1800 made for Rawdon lodge, of York, Royal Arch furniture, which was afterwards used in No. 16, a record of which is in its minutes.

"June 9th, 1789. to o'clock P.M. opened an Enteredly Prentice Lodge. Present, the Wpfl. Justus Sherwood, Esqr., Master. Brother Thomas Sherwood, Senr. Warden, Br. E. Bottum, Junr. Warden, Brothers John Jones and **Ziba Phillips**, Past Masters, Br. Caleb Clauson. Treasurer, Br Barthol'w Carley. Junr. Deacon, Br. Bem'e Buell, Tyler, Br. David Breakenridge, Br. Saml. Wright, Br. Danl. Dunham, Br. Lenil. Caswell, Br. Alex. Campbell, Brothers **Stephen Burritt**. Lem'l. Bottum, Peter Loop. Junr. Acting Sec'y, Visitors. Mr. **John White** was proposed by Br-. Sen'r as a Candidate for Masonry, was balloted for & accepted. Then proceeded to ballot for the Officers for the ensuing six months—made choice of Br. Thomas Sherwood, Esqr., Master, Br. Elijah Bottum. Senr. Warden, Br. Caleb Clauson, Junr. Warden, Brother Justus Sherwood, Secty, Br. Alex. Campbell. Treasurer. Business being completed—Closed the Lodge in due form & in brotherly harmony at 10 o'clock."

"Wednesday, 24th June, 1789. St. John's Day. An Enteredly Prentice's Lodge opened in due Form at 10 o'clock. A.M. Present, the Wpfl Thomas Sherwood. Esqr., Master. Br Elijah Bottum & Br Caleb Clauson. Wardens. Brs. John Jones. Esqr. & **Ziba Phillips**, Past M.. Br. Alexr. Campbell, Treasurer. Br Bemslee Buell, Tyler, Br. Geo. Campbell. Senr. Deacon. Br. David Breakenridge. Br Danl Dunham. Br. Marsh. Visitor. Br. Starkweather. Secty, Pro tem. Officers not Install'd by the Non-attendance of the Late Master Justus Sherwood, Esqr. 5 o'clock Lodge closed in due form."

These two last minutes contain the record of the third election and a meeting for installation, which, however, did not take place on account of the absence of W. Bro. Justus Sherwood.

"Tuesday, 7 o'clock P.M. 14th July, 1789. An Enteredly Prentices Lodge opened in due Form & proceeded to business. Present, the Wpfl Thomas Sherwood, Esqr., Master, Br. John Jones and Br. **Ziba Phillips**, Past Masters, Br. Bottum, Senr. Warden, Br. Alexr. Campbell, acting Junr. Warden, Br. Bemslee Buell, Tyler, Br. Barthw. Carley, Br. Starkweather, Secty, Pro. tem, Br. Jordan, Visitor Initiated Mr. John White. Then closed the Lodge in due form."

The meeting does not contain any account of the installation, which possibly took place on St. John's day.

"Tuesday. 7 o'clock P.M. August 11th, 1789. An Enteredly Prentice's Lodge opened in due form. Present, the Wpfl. Thomas Sherwood, Esqr., Master, Br. Elijah Bottum, Senr. Warden, Br. Wm. Buell, Past Master, acting Junr. Warden, Br. **Ziba Phillips**, Past Master, Br. B. Carley, Junr. Deacon, Br. Starkweather, acting Secty, Br. John White, acting Tyler, Br. James Jordan, and Br. Henry Larne, attending on business. Visitors. Half past 7 o'clock closed the Enteredly Prentice's Lodge and opened the Fellow Craft's, and Past [Passed] Brothers Asa Starkweather & John White to the second degree of Masonry. 10 o'clock all the business being completed, closed the Lodge upon the second step of Masonry in due form and brotherly harmony until the second Tuesday in September Next."

The postscript is often the most important part of a letter. It is certainly the most interesting part of these minutes:

N.B. Before the above Lodge. August 11th, 1789, was closed, it was unanimously ordered that Br. Geo. Campbell should stand suspended till he shall appear and give satisfactory reasons for his non-attention this evening, pay his arrears due to this Lodge, and answer to the complaints brought against him by Brs. Ziba Phillips, James Jordan & Usury Larne."

The brethren at this meeting determined to discipline Bro. George Campbell for non-attendance and non-payment of dues, and for non-fulfillment of his financial obligations. In these days lodges discharged the functions of a court for the settlement of business disputes. This primitive custom has fallen into a state of "innocuous desuetude," to the great relief of lodges, for they would have to meet oftener than once a month if they proposed to adhere to this one of the ancient landmarks, and attempt the work so faithfully performed by many of our brethren who occupy seats in courts established to deal with the question of mine and thine.

One scarcely can realize in these days of modern enlightenment the position of brethren who were called upon not only to practice the art and uphold the principles of Masonry, but also to play the part of jury, advocate, and judge, giving a just deliverance on what they had well and truly tried.

The following minute is of decided interest, and reveals a state of business morality which is commendable, in that all brethren must keep close to the lines of their obligation.

"Tuesday. 8th Sepr.. 1789, 7 O' Clock P.M. An Enteredly Prentices Lodge opened in due form. Present, the Wpfl. Thomas Sherwood, Esqr.. Master, Brs. John Jones. Justus Sherwood, **Z. Phillips**, past-masters, Br. Elijah Bottum. Senr. & Br. Caleb Clauson, Junr. Warden, Br. Alex. Campbell. Treasurer. Br. Saml. Wright. Br. Barthol'w. Carley. Br. Geo. Campbell Br Bemslee Buell. Tyler. Br. Danl Dunham. Br. Asa Starkweather. Br. John White. The Fellow Crafts and prentices being desired to withdraw, a Master Mason's Lodge was opened, and Br. George Campbell was called before them, having made a satisfactory acknowledgment for not attending Last Lodge Night, agreeable to the summons sent him, he was Called upon to answer the Complaints brought against him by Brothers Ziba Phillips. James Jordan & Henry Larne. Br. Phillips then rose and Declared to the Lodge that he was satisfied with Br. Campbell, and desired to withdraw his complaint, which was permitted. Br. Jordan, (a visiting Brother) was called, and alleged that Br. Geo. Campbell did clandestinely dispose of a note of £12 5s, belonging to him the said Jordan, without his knowledge. Br. Campbell confesses he did take the note, but by Jordan's consent to keep for him, and did dispose of it without his knowledge; which he acknowledges was wrong, but that he did afterwards pay Jordan to his satisfaction Br. Jordan says that Br. Campbell has paid him, but since the complaint was made, and that now he is fully satisfied with Br. Campbell and considers him as a brother mason and an honest man. Br. Larne, being called, says Br Campbell owed him for hay, which was to be paid in flour, at four dollars per hundred weight, which he has not done. Therefore on examining the above charges, the Lodge is unanimously of opinion, that Br. Campbell has not behaved with that rectitude and honesty, which becomes a man professing Masonry; and hereby order that he shall pay Br. Larne 7/6, which is his just due, and that he shall clear up the aspersions which Larne says he cast on him to Wiltse, and pay up his arrears due to this Lodge immediately, after which he shall stand suspended six months from this Lodge, commencing this night. At the expiration of this term, if it appears that he has reformed from the slippery actions which he has been guilty of, he will be permitted to resume his seat as a member in this lodge; 9 o'clock closed the Master Mason's Lodge. Initiated Mr. Francis Scott; closed the Lodge in due form at 10 o'clock. Justus Sherwood, Secretary."

Four dollars per hundred weight was not an unreasonable price, the more especially as it was a matter of trade and barter, not a cash transaction. Bro. Campbell, however, had to pay the penalty, but had another chance for Masonic life when he had "reformed from the slippery actions which he had been guilty of."

The meeting of Tuesday 8th September, 1789, was an important one for Bro. George Campbell, and, if the procedure was unique, it answered every purpose. It was a shorter method of disposing of the complaint than bringing it before one of the primitive courts of those days.

"October 13th, 1789. Tuesday Evening, 7 o'clock P.M. Opened an Enteredly Prentice's Lodge in due form. Present, the Wpfl Justus Sherwood. Esq., acting Master, Br. John Jones. Past Master, Br. Alexr. Campbell, acting Senr. Warden, Br. Thos. Smith, acting Junr. Warden, Br. **Ziba Phillips**, Past Master and acting Tyler, Br. Starkweather, acting Secretary. A letter from Br George Campbell, directed to the Wpfl Master, was read publicly in the open Lodge, recommending Mr. Samuel Wilson as a candidate Deferred acting thereupon till next Lodge Night. Mr. James Morns having made application to be admitted as a visiting member, the Lodge deputed Brs Thos Sherwood. Esqr., Ziba Phillips, & Thos. Smyth to confer with the said Morris, enquire into his character, and make a report to the lodge. 9 o'clock closed the Lodge in due form & harmony"

Nature had evidently made a man who would not be disheartened by adversity, for Bro. Campbell must have written this letter after being disciplined by suspension. However, his recommendation was effective, for on the 8th December Mr. Wilson was accepted and initiated

"November 16th, 1789. Thursday Evening, 7 o'clock. P M. opened an Enteredly Prentice's Lodge in due form. Present, the Wptul Thos. Sherwood, Esqr., Master, Br. Elijah Bottum, Senr. and Br. Caleb Clauson, Junr. Warden, Br. Wm. Buell, Past Master, Br. Alexr. Campbell, Br. B. Carley, Br. L. Caswell, Br. Francis Scott, Br. David Breakenridge, acting Secretary. The Enteredly Prentices being desired to withdraw, a Master Mason's Lodge was opened, and Br. Starkweather was raised to the Sublime Degree. Then the Lodge was closed in due form & harmony."

"Decemr. 8th, 1789, Tuesday Evening, 7 o'clock P.M. Opened an Enteredly Prentice Lodge in due Form. Present the Wpful. Thos. Sherwood, Esqr., Master, Br. Elijah Bottum, Senr. and Br. Caleb Clauson, Junr. Warden, Br. Ziba Phillips, Past Master, Bro. Thos. Smyth, Br. Asa Starkweather, Secty. pro tem, Br. Carley, Br. Francis Scott, Br. Jno. White, acting Tyler. Proceeded to business—Balloted for Mr. **Saml. Wilson**, who was unanimously accepted and initiated. Then proceeded to the Election of officers for the ensuing six months. Made choice of Br. **Elijah Bottum, Master**, Br. Caleb Clauson, J., Senr. and Br. Thomas Smyth, Junr. Warden, Bro. Alex. Campbell, first steward, Bro. Starkweather, Secretary and 2nd Steward, Bro. Carley, Treasurer, and Sen. Deacon, Bro. Samuel Wright, Jun. Deacon, Bro. B. Buell, Tyler. Then Made choice of Bros. John Jones, Thos. Sherwood, Elijah Bottum, Ziba Phillips, and Asa Starkweather as a committee to revise the bylaws. As the Festival of St. John will happen on Sunday this Instant Dec. voted that the celebration of the same be deferred till the ensuing Monday; and that Bro. Justus Sherwood shall read a sermon on the occasion; and that Bro. Phillips and Starkweather shall deliver an oration, and Bro. Phillips give a charge to the Lodge on the subject of Masonry, At 10 o'clock closed the Lodge in due form & in Harmony."

Sincerity is one of the first elements of religion, and there need be no doubt that the ceremonial laid down by the lodge for the festival day of the Craft was dictated by the purest and best of thoughts, so that the Sunday service, with its sermon, its oration and charge upon the principles of Masonry, must have been made the doorstep of an entrance into a very temple of wisdom, in the esteem of the Craftsmen of Elizabethtown.

A copy of these old by-laws have not been preserved. The bylaws of all the old lodges were, however, modelled on those of subordinate lodges of the Grand Lodge of England, with such amendments as were deemed necessary by the Canadian brethren. Some of these emendations in other lodges were singular. The brethren of a century ago did not veil their language in allegory, but in framing by-laws for the lodges undertook to look after, not only the mental, but the physical welfare of the members.

"December 22nd., 1789, at 10 o'clock A.M. Opened an Entered Prentice's Lodge in due form. Present the late presiding officers, by whom the newly elected officers were regularly installed, and are as follows, viz.: Br. Elijah Bottum, Master, Br. Caleb Clauson, Senr. and Br. Thos. Smyth, Junr. Warden, Br. John Jones, Esq., Br. Thos. Sherwood, Esq., and Br. Ziba Phillips, Past Masters, Br. B. Carley, Treasurer & Senr. Deacon, Br. Alex. Campbell, first Steward, Br. Asa Starkweather, Secretary & 2nd Steward, Br. B.

Buell, Tyler, Br. John White, Br. F. Scott, Br. Peter Freel, Br. Samuel Wilson, Br. Daniel Dunham. Badness of the weather and deficiency of clothing prevented the appointed procession. A. S.

"At 12 o'clock, the Wpful Master called from Labor to Refreshment, at which time Br. Philips delivered a charge to the Lodge, after which the correction of the by-laws was read and duly confirmed. At 6 o'clock closed the Lodge in due form and in harmony."

"Tuesday, 12th of January, 1790. 7 o'clock P.M., opened an enteredly Prentice's Lodge in due form. Present, Wpful Elijah Bottum, Master. Br. John Jones, Br. Ziba Phillips, Br. Wm. Buell, Esquires, Past Masters, Br. Thos. Sherwood, Br. Caleb Closson, Senr. and Br. Alex. Campbell, acting Junr. Warden, Br. B. Carley, Treasurer, Br. Starkweather, Secty. Br. John White, Br. Leml. Caswell, Br. S. Wilson, Br. B. Buell, Tyler, Br. Francis Scott, Br. Saml. Flagan, Visitor. Proceeded to business. Voted that Brs Leml. Caswell, Saml. Wright, Thos. Smyth, & Francis Scott, shall be excused from attending the Lodge oftener than once a quarter. Also the by-laws were again considered, and duly ratified and confirmed. Br. Thomas Sherwood gave an Enteredly Prentice's Lecture. 10 o'clock closed the Lodge in due form."

Non-attendance at the lodge was, in the early days, inexcusable. Therefore, when brethren neglected their duties they were summoned, and, when through business or length of distance from the lodge they were unable to attend, they had to be excused in due and proper form.

"Tuesday, 9th Feb.. 1790. 7 o'clock P.M. Opened an Enteredly Prentice's Lodge in due form. Present, Br. Thos. Sherwood, Past Master, acting Master. Br. John Jones, Esq., and Br. Ziba Phillips, Past Masters. Br. Caleb Closson, Senr and Br. John White, acting Jun Warden. Br. Asa Starkweather. Secty, Br. Saml. Flagon, Visitor. Voted that Bro. Secty. Make a return of the proceedings and forward it, together with all arrears due to the Grand Lodge, as also a letter requesting to be numbered upon the Warrant of Establishment for this Lodge. 10 o'clock, being completed, the Lodge was closed in due form and harmony."

This reference to the Grand Lodge at Quebec has already been alluded to.

"Tuesday, 9th of March. 1790. 7 o'clock, P.M.. opened an Enteredly Prentice's Lodge in due form. Present the Wpful Thos. Sherwood, Esqr., Past Master, acting Master, Br. C. Clauson, Senr. Warden, Br. B. Carley, Treas. & acting Junr. Warden. Br. John Jones, Br. Jus. Sherwood. Br Wm Buell. Br. Ziba Phillips. Past Masters. Br. Alexr. Campbell. First Steward. Br. Asa Starkweather, Secty, & Second Steward, Br. Jno. White, Br. Francis Scott. Proceeded to business. Half Past 7 o'clock, the Worshipful Master called from labor to refreshment for the space of half an hour, at the expiration of which term he called to order. Then the Enteredly Prentices and Fellow Crafts withdrew, and a Master Mason's Lodge was opened. Raised Br Jno. White to the sublime degree. 10 o'clock closed the Lodge in due form and brotherly Harmony."

"Tuesday. 13th of April. 1790, 7 o'clock P.M. An Enteredly Prentice's Lodge opened in due form. Present, Wpful Elijah Bottum, Master, Br. Caleb Closson, Senr. and Br. Thos. Smyth, Jun. Warden, Br. John Jones. Br Ziba Phillips, Br. Thos. Sherwood. Past Masters. Br. Carley, Treas., Br. Starkweather, Secty, Br. A. Campbell. 1st Steward, Br. John White, Br. Danl Dunham. Br. **S. Burritt**, Visitor. Proceeded to business. Br. Geo. Campbell having neglected to comply with the order of the Lodge as recorded 8th of Sept. last, the Lodge have agreed to give him two months longer from this night to render his excuse for not attending to-night, as also his reason for not complying with the said order. The sense of the Lodge being taken whether Bro. T. Freel can, with propriety, be considered a member of the Lodge. Voted that he is not. Voted that Br Lemuel Caswell be exempted from fines until the expiration of the present quarter on account of illness, Br. Samuel Wright having sent a sufficient excuse for non-attendance the three last Lodge nights. Br. Thos. Smyth having given in his resignation, prays a discharge from the Lodge. Voted that it be granted, on condition of his paying his arrearages due to the Lodge. 10 o'clock Lodge closed in Due form & Harmony."

Bro. Campbell had neglected to keep faith and carry out the direction of the lodge on the 8th September, and the brethren generously gave him further time to discharge his liability. Bro. Freel's name had been held over, and the resignation of Bro. Smyth is the first record we have of a withdrawal from the lodge being granted.

"Tuesday evening, 7 o'clock, 11th of May, 1790. An Enteredly Apprentice's Lodge opened in due form. Present, the Rt. Wpful Elijah Bottum, Master, Br. Caleb Clauson, Senr. Warden, Br. Barth. Carley, Junr. Warden & Treas., Br. Alexr. Campbell, Br. Jno. White. Br. Fran. Scott. Br. Bem. Buell, Tyler, Br. John Jones. Esqr., Br. Ziba Phillips, Br. Thos. Sherwood. Esqr., Br. Wm. Buell. Esqr. Proceeded to business. Balloted for **Wm. Samson** and accepted. Voted that Br. Samuel Wright be summoned to attend the duties of the Lodge next Lodge night; also that Br. David Breakenridge be again summoned to attend to the duties of the next Lodge night, inasmuch as the summons designed for him the last Lodge night did not come into his hands sufficiently seasonable for him to attend. Voted also that Br. Justus Sherwood be summoned to attend the duties of the Lodge next regular Lodge Night. 10 o'clock Lodge closed in due form and in harmony."

Even a past master, one of the active members of the lodge, failing to attend to his duties, was summoned.

"Tuesday, 7 o'clock P.M. 8th of June, 1790. An Enteredly Apprentice's Lodge opened in due form. Present, the Wpful Elijah Bottum. Master. Br. Caleb Clauson. Senr., and Br. B. Carley, act. Junr. Warden. Br Thos. Sherwood, Br. Ziba Phillips, Br. John Jones. P.M.'s. Proceeded to business Choice of officers for the ensuing six months, as follows, viz.: Br. Thos Sherwood, Esq., Master, Br. Alexr. Campbell, Senr., & Bro. John White. Junr. Warden. Br. Asa Starkweather, Secty., & Treas. Voted that Br. George Campbell shall have six months from this night to pay his arrears, and comply with the decree as recorded on his trial this 8th of Sept. last. 10 o'clock Lodge closed in due form and in Harmony."

The lodge was in a liberal frame of mind at this meeting, for we find that it granted Bro. Geo. Campbell six months to pay his arrears.

"Thursday, June 24th, 1790, 10 o'clock A.M. The Brethren assemble to celebrate the anniversary of St. John Baptist. Opened an Entered Apprentice's Lodge in due form. Present—Br. Caleb Clauson. acting Master. Br. Thos. Sherwood. P.M., acting Senr. Warden. Br. Barthw. Carley. acting Junr. Warden. Br. Asa Starkweather. Secty. Br. Alexr. Campbell. Br John White, Br. Lemuel Caswell. Br. Daniel Dunham. Br. Samuel Sherwood. Visitor. Illness having prevented the late Worshipful Master from attending the

new elected officers were not installed. A petition of **Wm. Warn** was read. Proceeded to ballot and unanimously accepted. 7 o'clock P.M. the Lodge closed in due form and in Brotherly Harmony."

"July 13th. 1790. Tuesday evening. 7 o'clock. An Entered Apprentice's Lodge opened in due form. Present. Rt. Wpfl Elijah Bottum. Master. Br. B. Carley. Senr.. and Br. Jno. White, acting Junr. Warden. Br. Ziba Phillips, Br. Thos. Sherwood. Esqr., Br. Wm. Buell. Esqr.. P.M.'s. Br. Alex. Campbell. Treas., Br. Asa Starkweather. Secty, Br. Bemsley Buell. Tyler. Br. Caleb Clauson. Proceeded to business. When the Rt. Wpfl Thos. Sherwood was installed in ample form, and invested with the Ensigns of his office for the ensuing six months. He was then pleased to appoint and invest with the badge of their respective offices, viz: Br. Alexr. Campbell, Senr. & Br. John White, Junr. Warden, Br. Asa Starkweather, Secty & Treas , Br. Barliw Carley, Tyler. Br. Samuel Wright, 1st and Br. Daniel Dunham, 2nd Steward Voted that in consequence of Br. David Breakenridge's application to withdraw from this Lodge he be discharged therefrom. 2nd. voted that Br. Ziba Phillips, Thos. Sherwood, Elijah Bottum. C. Clauson. and Asa Starkweather be a committee to revise the by-laws. Proceeded to the initiation of Mr. William Warn. 10 o'clock closed the Lodge in due form and harmony."

The insignia of office in the pioneer lodges consisted of silver jewels, simple in design, attached to a collar of blue ribbon. In some of the lodges, when the brethren were unable to afford the expense of such jewels, block-tin was substituted, and answered every purpose. Instances of this kind, however, were rare.

"Tuesday. 7 o'clock P.M. 10th August. 1790. Opened an entered Apprentice's Lodge in due form. Present the Wpfl Thos. Sherwood. Esq., Master Br. Caleb Clauson, acting Senr, and Br. John White. Junr. Warden, Br. John Jones, Esq., Br. Ziba Phillips. Br. Elijah Bottum. Past Masters. Br. Bem. Buell. acting Treas. & Secty, Br. Francis Scott, Br. Barthw. Carley, Tyler. Proceeded to business, when the Wpfl Master gave an entered Apprentice's Lecture. The necessary business of the evening being over the Lodge was closed at 9 o'clock in Brotherly harmony."

It is refreshing to read of the regularity with which the W. M.'s of the old lodges delivered lectures to the brethren when business or work failed to fill up the time.

"Tuesday, 14th of Sept., 1790, 7 o'clock. P.M. Opened an Entered Apprentice's Lodge in due form. Present. Br. Wm. Buell. P.M., acting Master. Br. Jno. White, and Br. B. Carley. Wardens. Br Wm. Warn, acting Tyler. Proceeded to business, and closed the Lodge at 9 o'clock in Harmony."

"October 12th. 1790, 7 o'clock on Tuesday. P.M. An Entered Apprentice's Lodge opened in due form. Present. The Rt. Wpfl Thomas Sherwood, Esqr., Master. Br. Caleb Clauson, acting Senr and Br. Alexr Campbell, acting Junr. Warden. Bro. Elijah Bottum, P.M. Br. B. Carley. Tyler. Br. W m. Warn, acting Secty, Br. Saml. Wright, Br. Bem. Buell. Br. D Dunham. Br. Daniel Breakenridge, Visitor. Proceeded to business. The Rt Wpfl Master gave a lecture on the First Step of Masonry Lodge closed at 9 o'clock In Brotherly Harmony."

"Tuesday. Nov. 9th, 1790, 7 o'clock P M Opened an Entered Apprentice's Lodge in due form. Present, the Rt. Wpfl Thomas Sherwood. Esq.. Master, Br. Alex. Campbell. Senr, and Br John White. Junr. W , Br Asa Starkweather, Secty, and Treas., Bro. Barth Carley. Tyler. Br. Ziba Philips, Br. Wm. Buell. Esq., P.M.'s, Br. David McFall. Visitor Proceeded to business,. when the Wpfl Master gave an Apprentice's lecture The Lodge closed at 9 o'clock in Peace and Unanimity. "

"Nov. 30th, 1790, Tuesday, 4 o'clock P M Lodge of Emergency opened upon the third step of Masonry. Present, the Rt Wpfl Thomas Sherwood, Esq, Master, Br John White, act. Senr. Br Bem Buell, Act Jun Warden, Br. John Jones, Esqr., Br. Z. Phillips, Br Justus Sherwood. Esqr. Br Wm. Buell, Esqr., P.M.'s, Br. Asa Starkweather. Sectv and Treas, Br Barth. Carley, Tyler. Br. Peter Freel, Visitor Proceeded to business, which being ended the Lodge was closed in due form at 10 o'clock in harmony"

"Tuesday. 14th of December. 1790, at 7 o'clock PM Opened on Entered Apprentice's Lodge in ample form. Present, the Rt Wpfl Thos Sherwood, Esq.. Master, Br Alexr Campbell, Senr. Br John White. Junr Warden, Br. Z. Phillips, Br. Eli. Bottum, Br. Wm. Buell, Esqr., P.M.'s, Br. Caleb Clausen, Br. Samuel Wright, Br. Bemsley Buell, Br. William Warn, Br. Barth. Carley, Tyler, Br. David Breakenridge, Visitor. Proceeded to business. Br. Wm. Buell and Br. Samuel Wright made verbal application to be discharged from this Lodge, upon which the sense of the Lodge was taken, and their requests granted. Proceeded to initiate Mr. Wm. Samson, then to election of officers for the ensuing six months. Whereupon Br. **Ziba Phillips** was unanimously made choice of for **Master**, Br. Caleb Clausen. Senr. Warden, and Br. John White, Junr. Warden, Br. Asa Starkweather, Secty. and Treas., Br. Bemsley Buell, Sen. Deacon, and 1st Steward, Br. Barthw. Carley. Junr. Deacon & 2nd Steward, & Wm. Warn, Tyler. Voted that Br. Ziba Phillips, John Jones, Alexr. Campbell, Elijah Bottum, & Asa Starkweather shall be a committee to revise the by-laws and examine the Treasurer's accounts. 10 o'clock the Lodge closed in due form and in perfect Harmony."

" Verbal application " was frequently made by those withdrawing from the old lodges. No form of demit or discharge seems to have been given. The certificate gave the character of the brother, and, in some cases, the lodge on the rejection of a brother for affiliation would endorse his certificate in language which could not be misunderstood.

"Monday, **Dec. 27th, 1790.** St. John Evangelist Day. 11 o'clock A.M. opened an Entered Apprentice's Lodge in due form. Present the Wpfl Thomas Sherwood, Esq., Master. Br. Caleb Clauson, acting Senr. Br. John White, Junr. W., Br. Z. Phillips, Br. Wm. Buell. Visitor. Br. E. Bottum. P.M.'s, Br. Asa Starkweather, Secty. and Treas., Br. Wm. Warn, Tyler, Br. Barth. Carley, Br. Bem. Buell, Br. Daniel Dunham, Br. David Breakenridge. visitor. The officers, according to the late appointment, were regularly installed, and each took his place in due form. Half after one o'clock the Rt. Wpfl. Master called from Labor to Refreshment to continue till the brethren shall have taken dinner. Half after two called from Refreshment to Labor, at which time the Wpfl. Master gave an oration to the Lodge and Br. Secty. administered a charge. Closed the Lodge at 7 o'clock P.M. in peace and Harmony."

This was the first lodge in Upper Canada in which R. W. Bro. Ziba M. Phillips (Sr.) was elected as W. M. He had been an active Mason from the date of his initiation, and continued his interest **until within a short time of his death in 1845**, so that he may fairly be said to have spent fifty-seven years in Craft work. [i.e. since 1788]

"Tuesday, Jan. 11th, A.D. 1791. 6 o'clock P.M. An Entered Apprentice's Lodge opened in due form. Present, The **Wpful. Ziba Phillips, Master**, Br. Caleb Clauson, Senr. and Br. John White, Junr. Warden, Br. Thos. Sherwood, Esq., Br. E. Bottum, Br. Alex. Campbell, Br. Bem. Buell, Br. Barth. Carley, Br. Wm. Warn, Tyler, Br. Daniel Dunham, Br. Wm. Samson, Br. Peter Freel, Visitor. Proceeded to business, which being ended the Lodge was closed at 9 o'clock in Harmony."

"February 8th, 1791, 6 o'clock on Tuesday P.M. Opened an Entered Apprentice's Lodge in due form. Present, the Rt. Wpful. Ziba Phillips, Master, Br. Clauson, Senr., Br. White, Junr. Warden, Br. Thos. Sherwood, Esqr., P.M., Br. Alexr. Campbell, acting Treas., Br. Wm. Warn, acting Secty, Br. Barth. Carley, acting Tyler, Br. Bemsley Buell. Proceeded to business, and opened a Lodge upon the second step of Masonry, and proceeded to pass Br. Warn to the second degree of a Mason, after which the Wpful. Master gave a Craft's Lecture, and closed the Lodge at 9 o'clock in Peace and Unanimity."

"Tuesday, March 8th, 1791. The brethren assembled, but by the indisposition of the new elected Treasurer, the Lodge was not opened."

"April 12th, 1791, Tuesday 6 o'clock P.M. Opened an Entered Apprentice's Lodge in due form. Present, The Rt. Wpful Ziba Phillips, Master, Br. Caleb Clauson, Senr, Br. John White, Junr. Warden, Thos. Sherwood, P.M., Br. Wm. Warn, Secty, Br. Alex. Campbell, Treas., Barth. Carley, Tyler, Br. Dunham, Wm. Samson. Proceeded to business, when the Wpful Master appointed Br. Warn to give an Entered Apprentice's Lecture, which, being concluded, was ordered that those brethren who have withdrawn from this body be desired to pay their arrears within three months or rejoin the Lodge. After which the Lodge in Harmony was closed."

The order that brethren must either pay up arrears, in cases of those who had withdrawn, or rejoin the lodge, is rather a novel procedure. The value of connection with the lodge is shown in many of the old records. Affiliation was appreciated, and those who withdrew could not expect to be looked upon with favor if they did not act honorably.

"Tuesday, May 10th, 7 o'clock P.M., 1791- An Entered Apprentice's Lodge opened in due form. Present, the Rt. Wpful Br. Thos. Sherwood, P.M., acting Master, Br. C. Clauson, Senr., Br. John White, Junr. Warden, Br. A. Campbell, Treas., Br. B. Carley, Tyler. Proceeded to business, and the Lodge closed at 9 o'clock in Peace and Harmony."

"June 14th, 1791, 6 o'clock P.M. Opened an Entered Apprentice's Lodge in due form. Present, the Rt. Wpful Ziba Phillips, Master, Br Caleb Clauson, Senr., Br. John White, Junr. Warden, Br. Thos. Sherwood, Esqr., Br. E. Bottum, P.M.'s, Br. Barth. Carley, Tyler, Br. D. Dunham, Nathaniel Hilliier. Visitor. Proceeded to business. Closed this Lodge. Opened and closed a Fellow Craft's Lodge. Opened a Master Mason's Lodge, and raised Bro Warn to the sublime degree, after which it was closed. Then opened an Entered Apprentice's Lodge, and Proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing six months, when unanimously was re-elected Ziba Phillips, Master. Caleb Clauson. Senr. Warden, and Barth. Carley. Junr Warden, Will Warn. Secty. Alex. Campbell, Treas, D. Dunham, Tyler, Bemsley Buell, Senr Deacon and Steward, and John White, Jun. Deacon and Steward. Granted Br. Justus Sherwood, Esq., and Will. Warn the liberty off not attending oftner than once in three months. Choose Brs. Thos. Sherwood, Esqr., Alex Campbell, and Barth. Carley, a committee to revise the by laws before the Festival of St. John, on Friday, the 24th of this inst. Lodge closed in due form and harmony."

"The liberty of not attending" for a period was a custom that prevailed in the pioneer lodges. Regular attendance was an essential that obtained in many lodges prior to 1800. As the lodges increased in membership the rule did not seem to be so rigidly enforced, and since 1845 is not specially noted in the minutes of any lodge.

"June 24th, 1791, 10 o'clock A.M. The brethren assembled to celebrate the Festival of St. John B. P., and opened an Entered Apprentice Lodge in ample form. Present, the Rt. Wpful Ziba Phillips. Master, Br. Barth Carley, acting Senr, Br. John White, Junr. Warden. Br. Thos. Sherwood and Elijah Bottum, Past Masters. William Warn. Sectv, Alex Campbell, Treas., Br. D. Dunham, Tyler, Br. Buell. Br. Nathaniel Hilliier, Visitors. Br Bemsley Buell, in absence of Br Clauson was installed pro tem. The officers were all regularly installed and congratulated according to form. Br. **Nathaniel Hilliier** made Verbal Application to be admitted a member. Upon which the sense of the Lodge was taken, and he unanimously **accepted**. In ample form the Lodge was closed And Harmony as I suppose "

While "verbal application" to withdraw from a lodge was and is proper procedure, such procedure "to be admitted a member" is an innovation now apparently introduced for the first time into this lodge. It was, however, successful, for the "sense of the Lodge was taken, and he (was) unanimously accepted." The secretary was doubtful as to the proper amount of harmony with which to credit the lodge, so he tempered his closing minute by poetically expressing his mental reservation as follows: "In ample form the Lodge was closed And Harmony as I suppose."

"Tuesday, July 15th, 1791, 6 o'clock P.M. Apprentice Lodge opened in due form. Thos. Sherwood, Esq., P.M., acting Master, Br. Caleb Clauson, Sen. and Br. Carley, Jun. Warden, Br. Nathan Hilliier, D. Dunham, Tyler, John White, acting Secty, Francis Scott. Br. George Campbell, attending according to summons. Rejoined the Lodge, opened a Fellow Craft's Lodge, and passed D. Dunham to the second step of Masonry. 9 o'clock Lodge closed in due form."

"August 9th, 1791, P.M. 6 o'clock. Opened an Entered Apprentice's Lodge in due form. Present, The Rt. Wpful Ziba Phillips, Master, Br. B. Carley, Senr., Br. Buell, Junr. acting Warden, Wm. Warn, Secty, Br. D. Dunham, Tyler, Br. N. Hilliier, Br. G. Campbell. Br. Thos. Smyth, attending according to summons. Proceeded to business, when the sense of the Lodge was taken whether Br. Smyth shall again pay his arrears, after inspection it evidently appearing he once had paid them, voted that he shall not. Voted that a committee of three be chosen to examine Bro. Starkweather's behaviour in leaving this lodge in so abrupt a manner. Brethren chosen, Thos. Sherwood, Alex. Campbell, and Bem. Buell, and to make their report by the next Lodge night. Granted B. G. Campbell liberty of absence two Lodge nights in quarter. Closed the Lodge in ample form."

Bro. Starkweather was not present at the last meeting, so that his withdrawal must have been on this night, when the committee was appointed to investigate and report upon his unsociability and want of courtesy to the brethren. Granting leave of absence meant that the customary fine would not be imposed on any member who could not be present at the regular meeting of the lodge.

"August 10th, 1791, Wednesday, 4 o'clock P.M. Lodge of Emergency called by B. Francis Scott, opened in due form on the second step of Masonry. Present, Ziba Phillips, Master, Br. Thos. Sherwood, P.M., acting Junr. Warden, Br. Carley, Senr. Warden, P.T.. Will. Buell. visitor, acting Tyler, N. Hilliier, Francis Scott, Thos. Smith, and Peter Freel, Visitors. Proceeded to business, and passed Br. Scott to the second step in Masonry. Closed the Lodge in peace and Harmony."

"Sept. 13th, 1791, 7 o'clock, P.M. Opened an Entered Apprentice's Lodge in due form. Present, the Rt. Wp'ful Ziba Phillips, Master. Br. Caleb Clauson, Senr. Warden, Br. Barth. Carley, Junr. Warden, Br. Alexr. Campbell. Treas., Br. John Sherwood. Br. Elijah Bottum. Past Master. Br. B. Buell, Br. G. Campbell, acting Secty. Br. N. Hilliier. Br. Wm. Samson, Acting Tyler. Proceeded to business in consequence of Br. Samuel Wright's not attending on the summons sent him by the Secty, the sense of the Lodge being taken, the Lodge have considered and give him to the next Lodge night. 10 o'clock closed the Lodge in due form and Harmony."

A local history of Sussex lodge, Brockville, states that the warrant of New Oswegatchie was cancelled in 1790, and that a new warrant was issued for "**Harmony lodge, No. 2.**" This statement does not seem to be borne out by the facts presented. New Oswegatchie met until September of 1791, and the last records certainly contain no hint of a discontinuance of the work. It is probable that the lodge continued to meet as Harmony, No. 2. until the advent of the Jarvis warrants in 1794, and then became No. 13 of the county of Leeds on the register of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Upper Canada under R. W. Bro. Wm. Jarvis. As has already been stated **the minutes of No. 13, from 1799, are contained in the same minute book as those of No. 7,** and the cash account of "Harmony lodge." The history of No. 13 is given with those of the first Provincial Grand Lodge of Upper Canada.

The following is a list of the members of New Oswegatchie lodge:

Bottum, Elijah;	Caswell. Lemuel;	McArthur. Jeremiah;	Smith, Thomas;
Brackenridge, David;	Clausen (Closson), Caleb;	Phillips. Ziba (Sr.);	Starkweather, Asa;
Buell, Bemsley;	Cross. Henry;	Samson. William;	Warn. William.
Buell, William;	Dunham. Daniel;	Scott. Francis;	White. John;
Campbell. George;	Hillyer, Nathaniel;	Sherwood. Justus;	Wilson, Samuel;
Carley. Bartholomew;	Jones. John;	Sherwood. Thomas;	Wright, Samuel;

The following is a list of the [54] meetings of the New Oswegatchie lodge, from 1787 until 1791, all of which, with the exception of that held at Augusta on the 13th November, 1787, were held in the lodge room at Elizabethtown.

10th October, 1787;	9th December, 1788;	8th December. 1789;	14th December. 1790;
13th November. 1787;	27th December, 1788;	22nd December. 1789.	27th December. 1790;
11th December. 1787;	13th January. 1789;	12th January, 1790:	11th January, 1791:
27th December, 1787;	11th February, 1789;	9th February, 1790;	8th February, 1791;
8th January. 1788;	10th March, 1789;	9th March, 1790:	8th March, 1791;
12th February, 1788;	14th April, 1789;	13th April. 1790;	12th April, 1791;
11th March, 1788;	12th May. 1789;	11th May, 1790;	10th May, 1791;
8th April, 1788;	9th June. 1789;	8th June, 1790;	14th June, 1791;
8th May. 1788;	24th June, 1789;	24th June, 1790:	24th June. 1791;
8th June. 1788:	14th July, 1789;	13th July, 1790:	15th July. 1791;
8th July. 1788;	11th August, 1789;	10th August, 1790;	10th August, 1791:
12th August. 1788;	8th September, 1789;	12th October, 1790;	13th September, 1791.
9th September, 1788;	13th October, 1789;	9th November. 1790;	
14th October, 1788;	10th November, 1789;	30th November, 1790;	

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