

(Text extracted from original 1930 Dedication brochure)

PROVINCE of ESSEX.

DEDICATION

of

THE TEMPLE,

FREEMASONS' HALL, CHELMSFORD,

by

R.W. Bro. Brig.-Gen. R. BEALE COLVIN, C.B., T.D., P.G.D.,

LORD LIEUTENANT OF ESSEX.

R.W. PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER.

TUESDAY, 4th NOVEMBER, 1930

Explanatory Notes.

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FOR many years the need of a permanent and suitable home for Masons in Chelmsford has been felt, and in 1922 a definite step was taken by the establishment of a Masonic Hall Fund by the Lodge of Good Fellowship No 276, a Reserve Fund having previously been inaugurated by Springfield Lodge, No. 3183. Owing to the difficulty of finance it was for some years found impossible to launch a satisfactory scheme, but in 1929, the General Purposes Committees of the two Lodges were called together to consider a proposal for the erection of a Temple in Rainsford Road, Chelmsford

Such proposal was discussed by Members of the Lodges meeting in the town and the Scheme was approved before the end of the year.

A Company was formed to carry out the Scheme and the building completed by October 1930.

The Structure has been erected from plans prepared by Bro, A. E. Wiseman, A.R.I.B.A., at a cost of approximately £3,500 and is entirely self-contained, the accommodation consisting of the Temple, 44ft. by 35ft designed solely for the purposes of Freemasonry and with seating capacity for 130 to 150, Entrance Hall and Ante-room, a large Committee or Crush Room divisible by a sliding partition, also ample Cloak room accommodation. Access to the Banqueting Room in the County Hotel is by a covered way.

The Hall, Ante-room and Committee Rooms are decorated in the Tudor style.

The decoration of the Temple is modern in feeling, all unnecessary moulding and decorative effects being omitted.

Reliance has been placed on the use of the Square, and the general effect has been obtained from the texture and the colour of the walls and ceiling, the coloured central dome, the eighteen pilaster panels, carrying Masonic emblems and the use of hidden lighting.

A pleasing feature of the Temple is the beautiful positive Organ placed in the South-East Corner. This is the gift of W. Bro. Stamp W. Wortley, the Chairman of Directors, and prime mover of the scheme.

The Temple seating consists of Benches specially designed and executed in oak, and arranged in tiers.

By reason of the substantial amounts of the Masonic Hall Fund, and Reserves of the Lodges of Good Fellowship No. 276, and Springfield No. 3183 respectively and the keen and ready support of the Brethren, the Directors are pleased to be able to announce that the capital required for the Building (as distinct from furnishing) is assured. Several Brethren have individually kindly presented items of furniture, and the Directors hope that others may follow their good example.

The Ceremony of Dedication

WILL BE PERFORMED BY

R.W. Bro. Brig. Gen. R. BEALE COLVIN, C.B., T.D., P.G.D.,

LORD LIEUTENANT OF ESSEX.

R. W. Provincial Grand Master.

ASSISTED BY

W. Bro. Dr. J. H. SALTER, J.P., D.L, P.O.D.,

Deputy Provincial Grand Master.

V.W. Bro. Sir HARRY GOSCHEN, Bart., K.B.E., P.G. Treas.

Assistant Provincial Grand Master.

W. Bro. COL. H. W. BURTON, M.P., PROV.S.G.W. as S.W.

W. Bro. F. J. JACKSON, J.P., PROV.J.G.W. ... as J.W.

W. Bro. REV. A. W. M. WEATHERLY, M.A.,
PROV.G.CHAP. ... as Chaplains.

Bro, REV. J. J. WHITEHOUSE, M.A.,
PROV.G.CHAP. ... as Chaplains.

W. Bro. HERBERT J. GOODWIN, P.A.G.D.C.,
P.P.G.W., PROV.G.SEC. ... as Secretary.

W. Bro. W. J. SLIPPER, P.A.G.D.C., PROV.G.D.C. as Dir. Of Cers.

W. Bro. A. STOKES, PROV. DEP.G.D.C, as Assist. Dir. Of Cers

W. Bro. W. C. HARRISON, PROV.G.SW.B. as Sword Bearer

W. Bro. O. S. LOCKE, PROV.J.G.D. ... as I.G.

Bro. F. J. SLADE, PROV.G.TYLER ... as Tyler.

MUSICAL ARRANGEMENTS

under the direction of

W. Bro. W. L. RUNNICLES, PROV.G.ORG.

Procedure of the Ceremony of Dedication.

1. At 6.0 p.m. the Brethren assemble in the Temple, with the exception of the Provincial Grand Lodge Officers, who will assemble in the adjoining Room.
2. The Lodge is opened in the Three Degrees by the Prov. G. Secretary, assisted by W. Bro. F. J. French, P.P.G.D., as S.W., W. Bro. H. P. Winstanley as J.W., and W. Bro. J. R. Meadon as I.G.
3. The Provincial Grand Master, accompanied by his officers, enters the Lodge attended by Grand Lodge Officers and having taken the Chair appoints his Officers.
4. **Opening Hymn.**

Hail , Eternal, by whose aid
All created things were made,
Heaven and earth Thy vast design,
Hear us Architect Divine.

May our work begun in Thee
Ever blest with order be
And may we when labours cease
Part in harmony and peace

By Thy glorious Majesty,
By the trust we place in Thee
By the badge and mystic sign,
Hear us, Architect Divine.

So MOTE IT BE.

5. The Provincial Grand Master and Grand Lodge Officers are saluted severally according to ancient form.
6. The Provincial Grand Master addresses the Brethren on the motive of the Meeting, and calls upon the Chaplain to give the

Opening Prayer.

7. Chant (Omnes): So mote it be.
8. The Architect will hand the plans of the completed structure to the Prov. Grand Master.

9. The Chairman of Directors requests the Provincial Grand Master to Dedicate the Temple to Masonic Purposes.
10. The Provincial Grand Master signifies his assent and calls upon the Provincial Grand Chaplain for

11. The Oration

12. Anthem.

Except the Lord build the house their labour is but lost that build it.
Except the Lord keepeth the city, the watchman waketh but in vain.

13. Dedication Prayer.

14. Chant (Omnes): So mote it be.

15. *Sanctus* - GLORY BE TO THEE, O GOD.

16. All the Brethren turn towards the East, when the Provincial Grand Master gives

The Invocation.

17. Chant (Omnes): So mote it be.

18. The Chaplain reads 2 Chronicles, chapter ii., verses 1 to 16.

19. The Lodge Board is then uncovered, and the Provincial Grand Master and Wardens carry the elements of Consecration three times round the Lodge, halting in the East at the first perambulation, at the West at the second perambulation, and in the South at the third perambulation (Solemn Music during the procession).

20. The Chaplain reads Psalm lxxii., verse 16

21. Before the first Circuit the Brethren sing—
When ones of old in Israel,
Our early Brethren wrought with toil ;
Jehovah's blessing on them fell
In showers of Corn, and Wine, and Oil.

22. The Provincial Grand Master scatters Corn, the symbol of Plenty.

23. *Musical Response*—GLORY BE TO GOD ON HIGH.

24. **The Provincial Grand Master Dedicates The Temple to Freemasonry.**

25. The Chaplain reads Nehemiah. chapter x., verse 39.

26. Before the second Circuit the Brethren sing—
When there a shrine to Him alone
They built with Worship sin to foil ;
On threshold and on Corner Stone
They poured out Corn, and Wine, and Oil.

27. The Provincial Grand Master pours Wine, the symbol of Joy and Cheerfulness.

28. *Musical Response*—GLORY BE TO GOD ON HIGH.

29. **The Provincial Grand Master Dedicates The Temple to Virtue**

30. The Chaplain reads Exodus, chapter xxx., verses 25 and 26.

31. Before the third Circuit the Brethren sing—
And we have come, fraternal bands,
With joy and pride, and prosperous spoil ;
To honour Him with voice and hands
And streams of Corn, and Wine, and Oil.

32. The Provincial Grand Master pours Oil, the symbol of Peace and Unanimity.

33. *Musical Response*—GLORY BE TO GOD ON HIGH,

34. **The Provincial Grand Master Dedicates The Temple to Universal Benevolence.**

35. **Sanctus** ,
Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty, Heaven and Earth are
full of Thy Glory ; Glory be to Thee, O Lord Most High.

36. The Chaplain takes the Censer three times round the Lodge and halts in the East. (Solemn Music during his progress).

37. **Hymn.**

O, first and sole Foundation,
O, hidden Comer Stone,
O, heavenly Star of Morning,
O, only Perfect One ;
Descend on this Thy Temple,
And pour Thy blessings free
On us Thy Servants waiting
In hope of what shall be.

When there shall be no darkness,
No grief and no decay,
Earth's shadows all dissolving
In Heaven's eternal day
No need of Word or Token
No need of Guard or Sign
In that great World of Brothers
That home of Light Divine

There work shall be refreshment,
There parting comes no more,
That Lodge for aye stands open,
For aye untyled that door;
And in those blessed mansions,
With God upon the Throne,
Shall Brother meet with Brother,
And know as he is known.

So MOTE IT BE.

38. **Patriarchal Benediction.**

39. **Chant** (Omnes) : So mote it be.

40. The R.W. Prov. Grand Master and his Wardens will vacate their Chairs.

41. The Lodge is closed in the Three Degrees.

42. **Closing Hymn.**

Almighty Architect we pray
For blessings on our work today.
And may this temple ever prove
A home of Unity and Love

(Old Hundredth).

So MOTE IT BE.

43. The Provincial Grand Master retires from the Lodge.

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W. J. SLIPPER, P.A.G. D.C.
Prov. Grand D.C ,

HERBERT J. GOODWIN, P.A.G.D.C
Prov. Grand Sec.

Chairman :

W. Bro. STAMP W. WORTLEY, P.P.G.Regr.

Menu.

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Hors d'oeuvres.

Braised Halibut.

Cutlets and Macedoine Vegetable.

Chicken and York Ham.

Bread Sauce.

Saute' Potatoes. Brussels Sprouts.

Fruit Jellies and Cream.

Fruit Salad and Cream.

Ice Pudding.

Cheese Straws

Coffee

A SHORT PROGRAMME OF MUSIC

WILL BE RENDERED BY

W. Bro. W. S. JOHNSTONE & Bro. BERNARD CHALK

UNDER THE DIRECTION OF

Bro. C ARMSTRONG GIBBS. Mus.Doc.

Toast List

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H.M. THE KING and the Craft.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master,
H.R.H. The Duke of Connaught and Strathearn, K.G., Etc.

The Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master,
The Rt. Hon. Lord Amptill, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E.

The R.W. Deputy Grand Master,
Col. Lord Cornwallis, C.B.E.,
and the Officers of Grand Lodge, present and past.

The Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master,
Brig. General R. Beale Colvin, C.B., T.D., P.G.D.,
Lord Lieutenant of Essex.

The Deputy Provincial Grand Master,
W. Bro. Dr. J. H. Salter, J.P., D.L., P.G.D.

The Assistant Provincial Grand Master,
W. Bro. Sir Harry Goschen, Bart., K.B.E., P.G. Treas.,
and the Dedicating Officers.

The Directors of Chelmsford Masonic Hall Limited.

The Guests.

The Chelmsford Lodges

The Directors
OF
Chelmsford Masonic Hall Limited.

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W. Bro. STAMP W. WORTLEY, P.P.G. REGR. (Chairman).

W. Bro. WALTER J. SLIPPER, P.A.G.D.C., PROV.G.D.C,

W. Bro. HERBERT I. CHAPMAN, P.P.G.W.

W. Bro. FREDK. J. FRENCH, P.P.G.D.

W. Bro. J. T. BELLAMY, P.P.G.D.

W. Bro. FREDK. T. CRAMPHORN, P.P.A.G.D C.

W. Bro. ALBERT F. WHITE, P.M. 276.

W. Bro. HERBERT W. COLLIS, P.M. 3183.