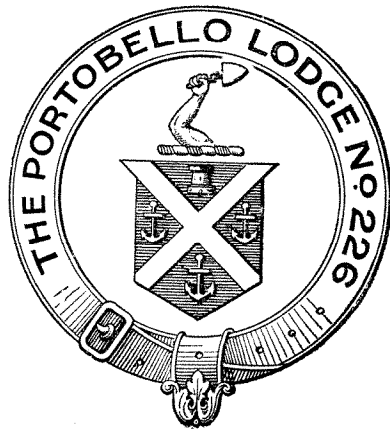


HISTORY



1808 — 1958

“The moving finger writes and having writ moves on.”

Thus past history is recorded. Such history was not written by any one person but was depicted by the lives and actions of those who passing across the book of life have made history.

With this thought in mind the History of The Portobello Lodge 226 from the year 1808 to the present era of 1958 is presented.

During this period many beloved brethren whose love of the craft, and zeal for the institution whether as humble members of our Fraternity or holding high office have made this history.

The Lodge would, however, acknowledge with gratitude the work of the late Brother D. Lowe Turnbull, P.M., for his efforts in gathering together the earlier history and to the present sub-committee, Brothers David D. Blackhall, Peter Ramsay, George A. Dudgeon, Henry M. Stewart, Past Masters of the Lodge, whose energies have been devoted to bringing this history up to date.



R.W.M. BRO. RICHARD IRVINE

PORTOBELLO AND ITS LODGE.

CHAPTER I.

The Founding.

A solitary sand blown waste covered with whins, broken only by the coach road which extended via. Musselburgh from Edinburgh to London. A silence disturbed only by the melancholy whaup or the screaming curlew, except when the driving North Easter pounded the yellow sands with tons of roaring waters, or when the jingling chains of the weekly coach lent a human interest to the scene. Such was the site of Portobello till in 1742 a certain George Hamilton, said to be one of Admiral Vernon's returned sailors, built a house by the side of the coach road at a spot afterwards occupied by the old town hall. The thatched cottage Hamilton called Porto Bello after the exploit in Central America of his old leader. The Frigate Whins, so the land was called, about 70 acres in extent, was sold by Lord Milton in 1762 to Baron Muir who next year feued about 40 acres of it to Wm. Jameson, the son of an Edinburgh builder, and a member of Mary's Chapel, Lodge No. 1. Bro. Jameson built Rosefield House, Adelphi Place, as a summer residence and discovered in doing so an enormous bed of clay under the sandy surface. He at once started works for making bricks and tiles, and afterwards earthenware. These operations drew workers to the spot and so the village of Portobello began to grow. Attracted by the fine seashore with its store of beautiful sand as yet unrifled by the speculative fingers of appropriative feu charter holders, and with waters still unpolluted by the horrors of town drainage tolerated nowadays by our somnolent city fathers, Edinburgh citizens visited Portobello, and it is even said that horse races were held on the sands and that George Hamilton of Portobello House (which he had now turned into an inn) offered a silver cup to be won by a horse which had not secured a prize of the value of £10 in any previous race. About the year 1800 well-to-do people in Edinburgh began to take

up feus to build private houses as summer residences. Communication with Edinburgh by stage coach cost 1/- each way, so that the population of the village consisted of workers who made their living on the spot and wealthier people who could afford 1/- for each journey to and from the Capital. In the month of June 1808, a meeting of freemasons was held to discuss the advisability of procuring a charter for a lodge in Portobello, as "owing to defective communication the Brethren had difficulty in attending their Lodges in town," and to petition Grand Lodge accordingly. A day was fixed to sign the petition and on the 6th July 1808, a "respectable number" of the Brethren attended. Wm. Jameson "who from his having raised the village to its present flourishing state is emphatically styled the Father of Portobello," was called to the chair, and the Brethren signed the petition in which the following were "named" for the five senior Office-Bearers:—

R. W. Master—JAMES L. KING.
Senr. Warden—JAMES NEWLANDS.
Junr. Warden—ALEXR. RENNIE.
Depute Master—ALEXR. DICKSON.
Substitute Master—JAMES NEWTON.

Bro. James Newlands lived at the top end of Tower Street. He was Postmaster, House Agent, Auctioneer, Banker, and he was the moving spirit among the Freemasons as well as a prominent agent in the development of Portobello. The founders of the Lodge paid a fee of 7/6, and Bros. King and Newlands were deputed to present the petition to Grand Lodge on 1st August 1808. This was done in due course and Grand Lodge authorised them by certificate to go on with meetings till a suitable date could be fixed for the Inauguration of the Lodge and the Installation of its Office-Bearers, some of whom still remained to be chosen, viz. Secretary, Treasurer, Deacons, Inner Guard and Tyler. Many of the earlier minutes are in the handwriting of Bro. Newlands and from these it is quite evident that he was the power behind the throne which carried the Lodge onwards during the first epoch of its history. The first meeting to initiate candidates was held on 4th August 1808 under certificate pending the consecration of the Lodge; the following were the first entered apprentices:—James Baxter, Builder, afterwards Provost of Portobello; James Cargil, son-in-law of Wm. Jameson, the Father of Portobello; John Napier; Wm. Muir; Charles Guthrie; David Craick and Wm. Stevenson. On the same evening Bros. John Hepburn and Wm. Muir were passed and raised. This meeting was held in a room in the house above the Black Bull Inn opposite the top of Bridge Street. After labour the Brethren adjourned to the Black Bull for harmony. Bros. John Dickson, Robt.

Nicolson, Junr., and Charles Guthrie were added to the list of Office-bearers to constitute a Committee and the Brethren were dismissed with a blessing at high twelve. Several similar meetings were held, it being permissible in those days to give all three degrees in one night. From the candidates raised to the third degree Bro. Geo. Wallace was elected Treasurer and Bro. R. S. Dickson, Secretary. A band of strolling players calling themselves "The Thespians" occupied a booth in Tower Street and gave performances during the summer months, thus it happened that the first duty which fell to the new Secretary was to read a request from the Thespians for Masonic patronage. The R.W.M. suggested that "as the actors might add to their pleasure at harmony in the future it might be wise for the Brethren to grant their request." The Brethren agreed to attend the theatre on Tuesday, 23rd August 1808. The Lodge accordingly made its first public appearance on that date, when with a band at its head it marched from the Lodge Room to the theatre to witness a performance of "The Heir-at-Law" followed by a farce "All the World's a Stage." "With singing, instrumental music and various other entertainments the performance went with great *éclat* in presence of a numerous and brilliant audience." After the performance the Brethren returned in procession by torchlight to the Lodge Room where they were dismissed with the usual blessing. The second public appearance took place the following week when the Brethren met in Kingston's Tavern, Edinburgh, previous to taking their part in a Grand Civic and Masonic Procession to lay the foundation stone of the New Gaol. After the ceremony, once more assembled in Kingston's Tavern, they enjoyed "an elegant repast" after which the Lodge was opened and a deputation received from Lodge St. Stephen headed by Bro. White, Senior Warden. The compliment was returned by Bro. Newlands being sent with a deputation of Portobello Brethren to whom the R.W.M. of St. Stephen "expressed his great happiness at the numerous and splendid manner in which Lodge Portobello had made its first public appearance in a Masonic Function" to which Bro. Newlands replied "expressive of the thanks of the Lodge of Portobello, for his attention in honouring them with a deputation, on this, their first public appearance, and of the happiness of the R.W.M. of Portobello that the first deputation sent or received by his Lodge should be that of Edinburgh St. Stephen." Several other Members of Grand Lodge, as well as individual Brethren, also visited the Lodge before closing. The first reception by the Lodge took place on 4th Oct. 1808, when deputations were received from Thistle Lodge, Edinburgh; Royal Arch, Edinburgh; New Edinburgh Kilwinning;

Caledonian, Edinburgh; and Trafalgar, Leith. Working meetings, in preparation for the great day of Consecration, 27th Oct. 1808, were held. Amongst the candidates were teachers, builders, shopkeepers, mechanics and other representatives of the village life of that time, but no ministers, town councillors, or policemen, because as yet the village had no church, no town council, no police, no water pipes nor gas pipes, no drainage scheme, nor any corporate body, except the Masonic Lodge. On the 27th Oct. 1808, Grand Lodge killed two birds with one stone, firstly by constituting Lodge Portobello and installing its Office-bearers; secondly by laying the foundation stone of the church in Melville Street, afterwards the Parish Church of Portobello. The Portobello Lodge met in the theatre booth in Tower Street, when a letter was read from Bro. A. Dickson declining to accept nomination as Depute Master on the plea of pressure of business; the R.W.M. stated that another name must be put forward at once and David Hamilton (said to be an initiate of Canongate Kilwinning) was unanimously elected. The Brethren were now joined by several Lodges from Edinburgh and walked in procession to a room specially fitted up for the ceremony, adjoining Wm. Jameson's house in Adelphi Place. Here the Substitute Grand Master, Bro. Wm. Inglis, constituted the New Lodge Portobello, and installed the Office-bearers in "due and ancient form with the greatest propriety and solemnity." The Dispensation was handed over to the R.W.M. to be used as a charter till the latter could be got ready, and the Portobello Lodge was duly proclaimed. The assembled Brethren gave three hearty cheers for "the infant Lodge" and a procession was then formed for the ceremony of laying the foundation stone of the established church, the infants leading the way via Tower Street and the Sea Beach to Melville Street. The foundation stone of the church having been laid, the Brethren, preceded by their band, adjourned to Wilson's Park where "a place had been specially fitted up for accommodating them with dinner" purveyed by Mr Moir of Musselburgh (the father of Delta) to the entire satisfaction of the Brethren. After a long programme of speeches, and vocal and instrumental music, the Brethren departed with the usual blessing at high twelve. It is worthy of notice that the Lodge formed the centre around which the leading spirits among the Portobello inhabitants were grouped. It served instead of a Town Council, Kirk Session, or Social Club, and the first competing interest was created by the establishment of the "Auld Kirk." Needless to say, the principal figure among the local laymen, and the individual who made the speech returning thanks to both masonic and clerical well-wishers was the highly esteemed personality, the Father of Portobello, Wm. Jameson.

CHAPTER II.

Early Days.

In those days Lodges were not restricted as to place of meeting nor even to one district, accordingly we find that on St. Andrew's Day, 30th November 1808, the Lodge was opened in Kingston's Tavern, Edinburgh, and Henry David Dickie, Writer to the Signet in Edinburgh, was entered Apprentice. The Lodge then joined the members of the New Edinburgh Kilwinning and walked by torchlight, preceded by a band, to Corrie's Rooms, where the Grand Lodge met with daughter Lodges to celebrate the Festival of St. Andrew. The Substitute Grand Master in his speech with reference to the daughter Lodges mentioned that it gave Grand Lodge great happiness to witness the increasing prosperity of this young Lodge and the respectable appearance of its members on all public occasions. The R.W.M. thanked the Substitute Grand Master and assured him that the Portobello Lodge would ever remain grateful for the kind assistance and support of Grand Lodge. On Thursday, 15th December 1808, was held the first stated monthly meeting of the Lodge; ever since that date the monthly meetings have been held on the third Thursday of the month. This date was chosen because no other Lodge in the Edinburgh District met on that particular evening. A deputation from New Edinburgh Kilwinning, a Lodge which had shown marked friendship towards the Portobello brethren was present, and the following were made honorary members, viz. :—R.W. Bro. Henry Shaw; W. Bro. John Grant; and Bros. Moffat, Brown and Mair.

The first election of Office-bearers since the consecration of the Lodge was held, and the following were installed on St. John's Day, 27th December 1808 :—

	<i>R.W.M.</i>	-	JAMES L. KING	Founder.
acting as	<i>P.M.</i>	-	WM. JAMESON	Founder.
	<i>D.M.</i>	-	DAVID HAMILTON	Founder.
	<i>S.M.</i>	-	WM. COCKBURN	} affiliated as E.P. and received F.C. and M.M. degrees.
	<i>S.W.</i>	-	JAMES NEWLANDS	
	<i>J.W.</i>	-	THOMAS MORTON	Initiated in Portobello L.
	<i>Secy.</i>	-	JAMES CARGIL	} Son-in-law of Wm. Jameson initiated in Portobello L.
	<i>Treas.</i>	-	GEORGE WALLACE	
	<i>S.D.</i>	-	JOHN HEPBURN	} affiliated as E.P. and received F.C. and M.M. degrees.
	<i>J.D.</i>	-	ROBT. NICOLSON	
	<i>Steward</i>	-	THOS. RITCHIE	Initiated in Portobello L.
	<i>Tyler</i>	-	DAVID CRAICK	Initiated in Portobello L.

Here we have a judicious blending of four experienced masons who acquired knowledge of ritual and procedure in their mother Lodges, together with eight young masons, all eager to learn, representing the more or less raw material of the new Lodge of Portobello. As a result of their labours we find among the early initiates the founders of several well known local families such as Wm. Grubb, Joiner ; Wm. Douglas, Joiner (head of the firm of Douglas & Smart), afterwards Provost of Portobello ; Thos. Dodds and George Wood, Builders ; Anthony H. Wilson, Purser of H.M.S. *Devastation* ; Wm. Buchanan, shortly afterwards Lodge Secretary ; Wm. Hind, Millwright ; and somewhat later Thomas Rathbone and the future Bailie Kedzlie. How few of the present generation know that Portobello was actually a seaport, and that the harbour was situated close to the mouth of the Frigate Burn to the north of the place where the shop of Bro. Andrew Linn now stands. The harbour was not a very spacious one, but it could hold two sloops at one time, cargoes consisted chiefly of fireclay, bricks, pottery, rock salt, glass ware and coal. Several ship masters and mates appeared among the candidates as well as representatives of the navy from the government ships in Leith. Bro. Peter Notcha, Quebec Lodge, Canada, was made an honorary member in February 1809, and at the same time Aboyne Military Lodge paid the first of many visits. As the year wore on we find workmen from the potteries, a sprinkling of tradesmen such as shoemakers and builders, one Robert Fry, a pipe manufacturer, three ship masters, Andrew Tully, Robert Mather, and Busch Silvius (the last mentioned a Dane), and Robert Murray, Writer. The anniversary of the Lodge, as per date on Charter, 1st Aug. 1809, was celebrated by the brethren. Bro. John Dickson, W.S., in an eloquent speech specially thanked the R.W.M., Bro. J. L. King, and the S.W., Bro. James Newlands, for their great services to the Lodge.

The brethren now set themselves to the task of being worthily represented at the Jubilee of King George the Third, and a band of musicians was specially engaged to do honour to the occasion. In connection with this we find procedure that would not be tolerated nowadays, certain members of the band, namely, John Gordon, James M'Donald, Dan Sutherland, and John Clark were made apprentice masons in return for their services. This manner of obtaining admission to Masonry was not confined to Portobello Lodge, nor such type of candidate to musicians, for we find in the minutes of several Lodges, on referring to the early part of the nineteenth century, that certain individuals were admitted free of charge in return for services as Lodge stewards, or tylers, or purveyors. On 25th October 1809 the band paraded Portobello village

at 7 a.m. awakening the villagers to the fact that this was indeed the great day of the Royal Jubilee. The brethren met at 8 a.m. and, headed by the band, marched to the Naval Yard, Leith, where they joined forces with Grand Lodge. The Earl of Moira acted as Grand Master, supported by the Earl of Buchan and the Earl of Rosslyn. The Lord Provost, supported by the Earl of Morton and Sir Patrick Murray, with the Town Council, and representatives of all the public bodies met at the Assembly Rooms, Leith, and joined in the great procession, which also included 60 seamen from the Egeria sloop of war and many military and naval officers. The Earl of Moira performed the ceremony in due form, and laid the foundation stone of King George the Third Bastion, "a military work for the security of the extensive commerce of the Port of Leith." The last part of the inscription on the plate runs:—"To George Third, just entering the 50th year of his reign, which God prolong, the citizens of Edinburgh in the second year of the provostship of Wm. Coulter, Esq., rejoicing with thanksgiving erected this monument, 25th October 1809."

Speeches were made by the Earl of Moira, the Lord Provost, and others, after which the Grand Procession was once more formed and marched, each section behind its own band, back to the Assembly Rooms. The brethren were then dismissed and the Portobello Lodge returned to the village in time for dinner and a grand harmony meeting. The band once more led the Lodge the following month to Niddrie Street to attend the consecration of the premises of the Grand Lodge of Scotland by the Earl of Moira on 21st November 1809. About this time also regulations for a Friendly Society to be formed among the brethren of the Lodge were agreed to. Chairman, Bro. David Hamilton; Treasurer, Bro. Wm Kedzlie; Keykeepers, Bros James Thomson and David Craick; Bro. Will Cookson voluntarily offered to act as Clerk to the Society free of charge and his offer was accepted. "This Society must keep separate minutes of its own but be connected as closely with the Lodge as the bye-laws of the Lodge and the rules of said society permit." This society had a very moderate success and like others connected with Edinburgh Lodges soon fell into abeyance. *Finance.*—With the conclusion of the reign of R.W. Bro. James L. King on St. John's Day 1809, a glance at the financial standing of the Lodge reveals interesting details. The Treasurer, Bro. Geo. Wallace was appointed to office immediately after being made a master mason. He is consequently at sea in some of his terms, thus he speaks in his accounts of an affiliate as an initiate, and an initiate as an entering apprentice; when this is made clear his accounts and balance sheet speak for themselves. We find that five founders paid £1, 1s. 0d. each as a subscription, but singularly enough Bro. W. Jameson's name does not appear as a

subscriber though he received the compliment of being included in the list of Office-bearers as acting Past Master. Test fees do not appear on the debtor side of the account, but collections for expenses are mentioned. For entering an apprentice the usual charge was £1, 2s. 0d., for passing and raising, 12s. 6d., Tyler's fee 1s., and for all three degrees £1, 15s. 6d. Brethren were also permitted to pay so much to account, and this noxious habit caused considerable loss to the Lodge. Expenditure included charges for bread, coals and candles subscribed for at each meeting by the brethren present. Other items are Lodge Jewels, £6, 5s. 0d., two quires of paper, 5s., account for gilding, £2, 3s. 0d., twelve aprons for Office-bearers, £1, music at processions, £2, 16s. 0d., an arch was purchased for £1, 10s. 0d., carriage of same from Edinburgh, 7s. 6d., velvet cushions and deacons' sashes, £1, 15s. 7d.

Total money received to 27th Dec. 1809	-	£74	12	9
Total expenditure - - - - -	-	£71	10	6
		<hr/>		
Balance - - - - -	-	£3	2	3

Including Grand Lodge charge of 4s. 6d. for a diploma we find the average fee in Edinburgh Lodges about that date to be £2 for full admission into Masonry, so that Portobello Lodge maintained a status of payment equal to its city neighbours and continued to do so during the first century of its existence by raising its fee whenever its contemporaries did likewise; not till recent years did it lag behind in this respect. In 1810 three Danish skippers who sailed their ships across the North Sea to Portobello Harbour were initiated in the Lodge, and shortly afterwards we come across the first instance of a son proposing his father for initiation:—John Dickman, Jr., proposed John Dickman, Sr. As both were jewellers and expert watchmakers, and recently established in Portobello, we conclude that they were combining business with their thirst for masonic knowledge. The names of several shipwrights appear among the intrants from which we infer that repairs to shipping and even the building of small vessels were possible at the harbour. On St. John's Day 1811, Bro. James Newlands consented to take the chair, and at once exercised a wholesome influence over the Lodge. He was a good ritualist, a sound thinker, and capable of making quite a good speech on occasion; at the St. Andrew's Day banquet of 1812 he addressed the Acting Grand Master, Viscount Duncan thus:—"That while the nations around were groaning under the most abject tyranny, or struggling for life and liberty against the usurpation of a great military despotism, it was only in this our happy island that the craft could assemble under the patronage of the great and good, and

could enjoy the most distinguished of their privileges in associating with the Counsellors of our Sovereign and the most eminent of our fellow subjects." Portobello Lodge was singularly happy in those days in having candidates representative of all classes of the community, thus we find on one evening the initiates were the Rev. John Johnston, Robt. Cargill, W.S., accompanied by Wm. Walker, tinsmith, and Alex. Gray, gardener. The tinsmith paid no cash but contributed candlesticks and japanned service trays for his fees; a certain Mr Moffat, jeweller, from whom a silver seal for the Lodge was ordered, did not come up to expectation with his work and therefore was turned down and the order went elsewhere.

The First Flitting.—The rent of the Black Bull premises, £16 per annum was thought to be excessive, so in 1813 the Lodge moved to a room belonging to Mrs Newlands at the top of Tower Street, the rent to be £4, 10s. per annum, but Mrs Newlands to have the right to let the room to other parties when not required by the Lodge for masonic purposes.

The first regular reception was held on 17th June 1813, and deputations were headed by Alex. Deuchars, R.W.M., Mary's Chapel, No. 1; Alex. Bruce, R.W.M., Canongate and Leith; W. A. Paterson, R.W.M., Edinburgh St. Andrew; and Bro. Simpson, Treasurer, Royal Thistle: (the first mentioned is well known in connection with the Religious and Military Order of the Temple, and the contention as to whether non-masons should be allowed to join that body), all four were made honorary members. The pernicious system of making masons in return for trade service still continued, for we read that on 23rd June 1813, Wm. Shaw and Charles Luthman, printers, were entered, passed and raised in return for printing Lodge billets. On St. Andrew's Day of the same year the Lodge was opened in Ferguson's Tavern, Edinburgh, and James Scrimgeor, Wm. Norrie and M. Dufrange were entered apprentices after which the Lodge took part in the Grand Lodge banquet; John Peacock, a singer, was entered, passed and raised in return for his services, while two farmers accompanied him and paid their entrance fee. *The First Funeral Lodge* was held on 16th December 1813 to mourn the passing of the "Father of Portobello." Wm. Jameson was made a mason when only 17 years of age by the influence of his father (himself a member of Mary's Chapel). In 1768 the Incorporation of Mary's Chapel elected him one of their Deacons, an honour to which he was three times re-elected; during the same period he was for two successive years Deacon Convener of the incorporated Trades of Edinburgh. He was also for 34 years a member of Edinburgh Town Council, and his professional skill was frequently of great benefit to his fellow citizens in beautifying the town and its buildings.

After retiring from public life in Edinburgh, Bro. Jameson spent his time in founding, building and extending Portobello, as well as in pushing forward his brick and tile works and operations at the harbour, so that he well earned the title of "the Father of Portobello." He is said to have been 64 years a mason, which makes him at least 81 years of age at his death.

CHAPTER III.

Bro James Newlands retired from the chair on St. John's Day 1813 and received a silver cup from a grateful Lodge, his successor Thomas Morton and all the other elected office-bearers were initiates of the young Portobello Lodge. The new R.W.M. was not satisfied with the financial state of the Lodge, 18 Members were in arrears for sums varying from 12s. to £1, 16s. 6d., on 21st January 1814 it was resolved that if they did not pay up at once they would be summoned before a Justice of the Peace, also that brethren late for Committee or Lodge must pay a fine of 3d., if absent altogether a fine of 6d., sickness or pressure of business to be the only excuse accepted. The stupid practice of admitting Members free still continued. We read that when Robert Garnock, a supervisor of excise, was entered on 15th March 1814, no less than 8 bandsmen from Piershill Baracks were entered free in return for their services at harmony, and their bandmaster, Bro. Geo. Crulman, was "assumed" a member; in addition, two printers were admitted to membership as a *quid pro quo* for printing billets, etc. For this state of matters Grand Lodge itself was greatly to blame, because the officials did not demand a yearly adjustment of accounts with daughter Lodges, viz. :—they did not square accounts with Portobello Lodge till 1812 when 64 intrants were paid for, nor again till 1815 when the number was 68, thus between August 1808 and 1815 exactly 132 masons had been initiated: a punch bowl was presented to the Lodge which the R.W.M. kept and produced on "suitable" occasions. Under date 18th September 1815, we find this entry "in recognition of Bro. Robt. Dall having been instrumental in bringing several members to this Lodge, it is unanimously resolved to initiate his son in the apprentice degree, free of charge," *fait accompli* the same evening. Though in debt new clothing had to be got and a band hired to permit the Lodge to attend in state, the ceremony of laying the foundation stone of the Regent's Bridge and the new Gaol. On this occasion, Grand Lodge opened and closed in the High Church. To close the proceedings, Portobello Lodge

headed by the band, marched back to their Lodge room where an elegant dinner was provided at a cost of 3s. per head for those who had ordered it. The rest stayed outside till the feast was over when deputations were received. On 26th November 1815, James Tait, R.N., and Robert Kerr, Surgeon, were initiated and paid their fees, but John Copland, potter, and Geo. Robertson, joiner, were admitted free of charge on promising to serve as Stewards for one year. The Prince Regent ordered Thursday, 18th January 1816 to be held as "Thanksgiving Day to celebrate the unparalleled success of the British Arms in the late glorious contest for the liberty of Europe." The Lodge celebrated the occasion that night at its monthly meeting by adding the following distinguished brethren to its list of honorary members:—The Rt. Hon. Lord Elibank, Lord Lieutenant of Peeblesshire, Bro. Colin MtKenzie of Kilcoy, Capt. Allan M'Lean, in addition to the Heads of Deputations from St. Stephen, Trafalgar and Defensive Band. 1816 saw the Lodge arrears amount to £49, 15s.; yet some embellishment of the Lodge room was thought necessary, accordingly new canopies for Master and Wardens were got, a new table for the Master, and covers for the Lodge tables. It was now the turn of the 42nd regimental band to play themselves into membership although the regiment had a Lodge of its own, called St. Andrew. This Lodge sent a deputation to visit the Portobello brethren, and charmed their hosts with a concert both instrumental and vocal. Harmony now became a feature, special rules were made and tickets sold by the Treasurer. The harmony ticket was a composite charge and included light, biscuits, with either two bottles of ale or one bottle of toddy. The military musicians were supposed to play a certain number of times to work out their initiation fee, each harmony evening being reckoned as equal to 5s. Notwithstanding the new rule, money continued to be lost at every meeting, the shortage varying from 11s. 5d. to £1, 13s. 11½d., and on St. John's Day 1816 the extras amounted to over £6. At last the Committee resolved "that to avoid arrears accumulating, as has been the case, all intrants in future shall deposit their fees before being initiated." This year also, the Festival of St. Andrew was so largely attended that two halls were necessary: Sir John Marjoribanks, M.W.G.M., supported by the Earl of Fife and Admiral Sir Philip Durham presided in the Grand Hall, while eight Lodges revelled in the small hall presided over by Bro. James Marshall, R.W.M., Portobello Lodge. The eight outcast Lodges sent in a protest but nothing came of it, the eclipse of the Greater Lights did not prevent a very fine evening being spent in the smaller hall. On St. John's Day, Lord Elibank was "assumed" Past Master instead of Thomas Morton, and a communication was read from Grand Lodge, that Portobello Lodge was

now entitled to use the number 226 instead of 293. In spite of fines and double fines arrears still mount, printers and fiddlers still get in free, and after a while the fiddlers receive toddy and pies gratis. On 16th March 1820, the Treasurer, Bro. George Wallace was presented with a silver snuff box as a token of esteem and respect and in consideration of his services. In this year also the R.W.M. and his Depute had to appear before Thomas Macmillan of Shorthope, J.P., with a list of Lodge members to make declaration that they met as Freemasons and had no designs against Church and State. On St. John's night 1820 Geo. Wallace, Junr., was made a freemason in his father's house after which the brethren formed a torchlight procession to the east end of the village and back to Tower Street. P.M. Brother James Newlands came back to the chair in 1821, and during this tenure of office made Bro. Lunn of St. John Le Sieur No. 307, holding of the Grand Lodge of Paris, an honorary member; he also took a deputation to the consecration of Lodge Celtic, and led his Lodge clad in new regalia with braw silver chains to the Calton Hill on 27th August 1822 to witness the laying of the foundation stone of the National Monument. On that occasion Lodge Dunbar Castle were led by so picturesque a piper of the Clan Mackenzie that His Majesty King George IV. gave an order for a full length portrait of him. Another object of interest was the Tyler of the Stirling Lodge, a little man who carried a huge two-handed sword as long as himself, this sword was found on the field of Bannockburn and carefully preserved by the Stirling brethren. By the way £27, 1s. 6d. was the amount of the Lodge bill for band and braws. A kilted deputation from Lodge Celtic visited Portobello in March 1823. The military bandsmen having played often enough to square their initiation fees, we now find them under a new contract, the leader to receive 2s. 6d. per night and the others 2s. per night, a minimum of three players being guaranteed. *Poaching*.—Complaint was lodged against Defensive Band whose R.W.M. and deputation, after visiting Portobello Lodge and leaving at High Twelve, entered the house of Mr R. Forsyth in Portobello and there, between the hours of 2 and 3 a.m. initiated the said Mr Forsyth into Freemasonry and entered him apprentice. "In consideration of the irregular manner in which the said Mr Forsyth was made we resolve, that should Mr Forsyth present himself for admission into this Lodge room, he shall be refused admission until it shall be substantiated that he has been re-entered in a regular manner." Before the close of 1829 this nocturnal aspirant for masonry presented himself for affiliation; after giving ample satisfaction that he had been regularly initiated, and on paying the necessary fees he was admitted to membership in Portobello Lodge. More and more Edinburgh people were settling now

in Portobello, self-contained houses were being built along the sea front and in some of the streets leading down to the front, consequently we find besides purely local initiates such as Charles Anderson, surgeon ; Duncan Wilkie, flesher ; Thomas Hepburn, smith ; also Adam Thomson, M.D. ; David Thomas Drummond, and Capt. Wm. Sibbald, Royal Scots :— affiliates were H. D. Thielcke, Capt. Anderson of Winterfield, residing in Hamilton Lodge, Mowbray Stenhouse, of St. David's Lodge, and Lieut. Henry P. Steel, R.N. The last named had the temerity to contest the chair although only a few days affiliated to the Lodge. Wm. Vallange, M.D., an honorary member, on payment of 7s. 6d. was declared a full member of the Lodge and forthwith elected Chaplain.

St. John's Day 1829 witnessed a revolution in the Lodge and most of the old office-bearers were cleared out, the new list showed strong city influence :—

<i>R.W.M.</i>	-	H. D. THIELCKE.	<i>Treas.</i>	-	SAM RATHBONE.
<i>I.P.M.</i>	-	ROBERT SMALL.	<i>Secy.</i>	-	GEO. BERTRAM.
<i>D.M.</i>	-	JAMES NEWLANDS.	<i>S.D.</i>	-	WILLIAM DICKENSON.
<i>S.M.</i>	-	MOWBRAY STENHOUSE.	<i>J.D.</i>	-	THOMAS SMITH.
<i>S.W.</i>	-	CHARLES ANDERSON.	<i>Stewards</i>	-	BROS. BANKS and MOFFAT.
<i>J.W.</i>	-	JOHN HOWDEN.	<i>Tyler</i>	-	ALEX. GRAY.

Among the initiates were Wm. Rathbone, Surgeon ; W. H. Kirby, Medical Student ; John Ford and Wm. Bailey, Glass Manufacturers ; and Wm. Dugald Turner, Commander, s.s. *United Kingdom*.

CHAPTER IV.

During the years 1831-32-33-34 few meetings were held and only seven intrants were admitted. The Lodge took part in the celebrations connected with the new Reform Bill in 1832, and also in 1835 joined in the celebration of the Centenary of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Scotland. An enquiry into the state of the Lodge funds was made on 15th January 1838. It was found that the Treasurer's Books had not been made up since 1829 when, owing to illness, Bro. Goodall resigned and left a credit balance of £5, 8s. 10d. His successor, Bro. Sam Rathbone, held the office till 1833, became embarrassed in his affairs and shortly afterwards left the district ; though repeatedly called upon to produce his accounts he failed to do so. It was also discovered that no rent had been paid for the Lodge room since Martinmas 1828, *i.e.* nine and a half years' rent at £5 per annum amounted to £47, 10s. Bro. Newlands agreed to

accept half the amount if paid before Whitsunday 1839, and a new bargain was struck for a future annual rent of £3, 10s. 0d. Needless to say the money was never recovered. The chief cause for the decline of Portobello Masonry during those years is due to the fact that new interests had arisen to claim the attention of the community. Portobello, erected into a Parliamentary Burgh was now periodically in the throes of Town Council elections. Prior to 1833 the Lodge afforded the principal social meeting ground for the grandees of the village, but now that the village had become a borough with a share in the election of a Member of Parliament for Leith, Portobello and Musselburgh, not to mention a brand new Town Council to manage the affairs of Portobello, attention was distracted from masonry for a time and directed to the struggle for office in the municipal cockpit. No astonishment need be felt at this state of affairs when we discover that the new Town Council of Portobello consisting of nine members, included eight Freemasons, all members of Portobello Lodge, and most of the eight were or had been office-bearers in it. What with roads to make, water to bring in, policemen to handle, offices to secure or build, and a Town Clerk to elect, no wonder Freemasonry languished for a time, that only eleven intrants were recorded in six years and that six years' arrears of dues to Grand Lodge had to be paid on 3rd May 1838. To clear off the Lodge debt a grand oratorio and concert was held by the Lodge in the Roman Catholic Chapel in presence of the Lord Provost of Edinburgh, the Grand Master Mason and other distinguished patrons. The result was hailed as a grand musical success, but a dismal financial failure, viz.—Expenditure, £74, 7s. 1d, Receipts, £56, 5s. 6d., Deficit, £18, 1s. 7d. Too many illustrious guests received free tickets. On 23rd May 1839 the brethren of Portobello took part in laying the foundation stone of the Mariners' Church, Leith, and of the Sir Walter Scott Monument on 15th August 1840. At this time Lodge Mary's Chapel No. 1 set a much needed example of restricting hospitality to one deputation night per Lodge per annum. The third Thursday in April was assigned to Portobello Lodge as its annual deputation night.

The years 1840-41-42 (commonly known as the hungry forties) were years of stagnation when the Lodge met only once a year. Bro. James Newlands who had been in failing health for some time, died during this period. The meetings were held in Storrie's Inn, Bath Street. Storrie himself was made a mason for 5s. 6d. on condition that he serve the Lodge as Steward for three years in lieu of fees. Matters were brought to a head on 10th June 1843 when Charles Spence, S.S.C., agent for Mrs Newlands, widow of the late Past Master James Newlands, made a claim for arrears of rent for the Lodge room at the top of Tower Street. As the

Lodge had no funds to meet the claim, the books, paraphernalia, and furniture of the Lodge were seized by Mr Spence and proceedings commenced against the R.W.M. and Office-bearers. Mr John Robertson was instructed to defend the action. The debt does not seem to have been paid, and the books were not restored to a Lodge representative, Bro. Alex. Scott, till July 1851, nor the Charter till 27th December 1882. Meetings were said to have been held now and then, but no proper record exists till 27th December 1849 when Bro. Archd. Marshall was elected R.W.M. and on 14th November 1850 Alex. Scott, the ultimate restorer of the lost Minutes, was made a mason. Bro. Marshall put some spirit into his work as Master and was presented with a silver snuff box. Among his initiates were David Craig, Paper Maker, Portobello and Newbattle; Michael Hutton, Manager, Paper Mill, Portobello; George Paton, Boiler-make, Joppa; James Bell, Manager, Chemical Works, Magdalene Bridge; James Bertram, Millwright, Leith Walk; Andrew Banks, Western Bank Agent, Portobello; James Stewart, Bootmaker, High Street; Donald M'Donald, "a sober respectable man," was also made a mason to act as Tyler in lieu of paying fees. The Lodge lawyer, John Robertson, S.S.C. and his friend, Charles Huntingdon Boyle, were entered, passed and raised to liquidate the legal debt due to Mr Robertson, and for which he held two of the Lodge minute books as security. Wm. Bell, Superintendent of Police; James Gray, Coach Proprietor; Thomas Wilson, Station Master; James Haldane Dunlop and Thomas Scott, of Ridpath Brown & Co., were also initiated by Arch. Marshall. His successor, R.W.M. Wm. Fraser, continued the good work by bringing in more representative townsmen of Portobello, such as James Stevens, Merchant, High Street; John Wilkie, Flesher; Wm. M'Vey, Watchmaker; Rodk. M'Donald, Licensed Grocer; David Johnston, Joiner; Bailie Kedzlie; Wm. Knox, Stationmaster and David Tough, Excise Officer, Leith. Before leaving Portobello to live in Dalkeith, R.W.M. Fraser presented the handsome silver mounted snuff horn to the Lodge. 1856 was *Tavern Year*. The Lodge met once in Cheshow's Hotel, three times in M'Callum's Hotel, and three times in Lowe's Tavern. St. John's Day 1857 saw the election of a well known set of townsmen to office and confirmed the upward tendency of Lodge affairs.

<i>R.W.M.</i>	- -	ALEX. SCOTT.	<i>Treas.</i>	- -	ANDW. BANKS.
<i>I.P.M.</i>	- -	DAVID CRAIG.	<i>Secy.</i>	- -	WM. M'VEY.
<i>D.M.</i>	- -	JOHN TOUGH, SENR.	<i>Chaplain</i>	- -	ROBT. M'KINLEY.
<i>S.M.</i>	- -	HENRY SCOTT.	<i>S.D.</i>	- -	WM. SHAW.
<i>S.W.</i>	- -	PETER HEPBURN.	<i>J.D.</i>	- -	JOHN TOUGH, JR.
<i>J.W.</i>	- -	JAMES WAGGETT.	<i>Steward</i>	- -	ADAM FULTON.
			<i>Tyler</i>	- -	DONALD M'DONALD.

R.W.M. Alex. Scott was nothing if not enthusiastic. He inaugurated his reign by presenting a sword, then he set himself to rope in all the principal shopkeepers and tradesmen in the town :—Saddlers, Corn Merchants, Organ Builders, Ironmongers, Drapers, Commercial Travellers, Bankers and even Archd. Hodge, the well know searcher of records, did not escape his glamour. He also found time to lead a deputation of his Lodge to the portrait gallery of Holyrood Palace, thence to march with the Duke of Atholl to lay the foundation stone of the Grand Lodge premises in George Street. Then came the Jubilee of Portobello Lodge on 4th August 1858 which was celebrated in the school room, Wellington Street. Programme :—Band, Procession, Dinner, Deputations and Oration by Alex. Scott, R.W.M. In 1860 Alexander, the Intrepid, led a trip to Stirling to assist at the laying of the foundation stone of the Wallace Monument by the Duke of Atholl. Our ancient brother's existence was so strenuous that on St. John's night 1861, a successor could not be found among the members of the Lodge, so Provost Wm. Hunter of Lodge Journeymen Masons, No. 8, was affiliated, nominated, elected and installed as R.W.M., all on the same night. Past Master Alex. Scott was then presented with a gold jewel, set with brilliants, and a silver cup for his long and valuable services to the Lodge. The Lodge inventory at this date included 12 silver jewels for office-bearers, one mahogany ballot box, one gilt pillar, a three-light candlestick, two silver plated three-light candlesticks, one three-light branch extra, 16 wooden toddy ladles, 17 half gill measures, 20 tumblers, 24 glasses, one large silver seal and one silver mounted snuff horn. Among the candidates were the following well known townsmen—Peter Pringle, Thomas Wood, Bottle Manufacturer; Andrew Wilson, Builder, Tranent; Wm. Kirkwood, Smith, Duddingston Mills; John M'Kenzie and John Haig. In 1862 the Duke of Atholl laid the foundation stone of the old town hall of Portobello and honoured P.M. Alex. Scott by asking him to officiate as Director of Ceremonies.

The principal difficulty experienced by the Lodge at this time was to find a proper meeting place. The brethren were tired of "taverns," the new Town Hall was tried but found unsuitable, the Crown Hotel drove them forth with the threat to charge 3s. per meeting. The Commercial Hotel gave them accommodation for some time till a police episode caused trouble. Bro. Chalmers I. Paton had a younger brother (not a mason) who frequented the Commercial Hotel and who was in the habit of staying there after the closing hour to the annoyance of his home circle, and in spite of warnings by Bro. Paton to the hotelkeeper. This culminated one Thursday evening in a complaint by Bro. Paton to the police who raided the hotel after closing time and discovered young Paton and several

members of Portobello Lodge still on the premises. The masons had no right to be there, as their meeting had finished and dispersed before closing time, consequently fines had to be paid. This led to an acrimonious discussion and correspondence between Secretary R. P. Stevenson and Bro. Paton, reflections were made regarding Bro. Paton's conduct and these were entered in the Lodge Minute book. This action produced a threat of legal proceedings and a complaint to Grand Lodge on the part of Bro. Paton. Grand Lodge ruled that Bro. Paton was in the right and entitled to an apology. Rather than consent to expunge all references to Bro. Paton from the Lodge minutes, wholesale resignations from office ensued. Bro. George Smith was then elected R.W.M. ; James Bell, C.E., Depute Master ; John A. Roberts, S.M., etc. Among other initiates of this period appear Geo. M'Kinlay, John Henderson, Clydesdale Bank ; Henry B. Higgins, Bookseller ; James Craig, Banker (son of the Provost) ; James Bell's two sons, James and Robert, and another civil engineer James White ; Thomas Roger, Alex. M'Intosh and Archd. Henderson, Builders ; Robert Pitcairn, Barrister ; Robert Logan, Painter ; Peter Crookshanks, Farmer, all the way from Strathspey, and several other Portobello business men. The Mark Degree was worked for the first time in Portobello Lodge by a deputation from Lodge Celtic on 18th November 1873 when the R.W.M. of Portobello, eight office-bearers and four brethren of the Lodge received the degree. Before the end of the year, Joseph Strafford, Bottlemaker, and Adam Noble, Tailor and Clothier, were entered apprentices.

CHAPTER V.

In December 1873 the Lodge moved to the Royal Hotel, and for three years good progress was made, the landlord, Thomas Turnbull, was initiated and the N.B. Railway became more closely associated with the Lodge. We find among the initiates James Borthwick, Engineer ; J. Lindfield, General Inspector, N.B.R. ; James Dewar, Passenger Agent ; Wm. Paton, Stationmaster ; P. D. Sinclair, Chief Telegraph Department, N.B.R., and several local tradesmen. In 1876 Wm. Kyles, the well known local photographer was made R.W.M., but resigned in three months for some mysterious reason not to be found in the minute books. Nothing was done, and masonry became derelict in Portobello. The Lodge was roused from its lethargy in 1880 when nine members of other Lodges affiliated to Portobello, all of whom took an active part in working Lodge

226, viz. :—Wm. Hutton, No. 8 ; Thomas Pringle, P.M., 429 ; Thomas Pearson, P.M., 5 ; Wm. Hay (Grand Architect), 48 ; Wm. Hills, 405 ; James Robbie, 160 ; J. M. Thomson, 36 ; Geo. Johnstone, 10 ; Thomas Murray, 1 ; and Hugh Henry Christian, York Lodge. These men put fresh life into the Lodge and the following well known names appear in the list of candidates :—Theodore Alexander, Tailor ; Alex. Clark, Builder ; Alex. Brand, Baker ; David Rutherford, Engineer ; John Flinn, Agent, Royal Bank ; Richard Philip Smith, Edinburgh ; A. H. Anderson, and Robert Hay Muir. In 1882 Alan Mackenzie affiliated and soon afterwards took a leading part in the Lodge. Prior to 1881 the Inner and Outer Guards of the Lodge were regarded as serving brothers and received fees from all Intrans, this practice was now discontinued, the Inner Guard was paid £1 per annum and the Outer Guard £1, 10s. for all services rendered. John Adams from No. 145 affiliated to become Outer Guard, while Peter M'Gill had been entered, passed and raised in return for services as Inner Guard for three years. Though the fees to the Guards were abolished, tips to the Outer Guard were continued to be given till the emoluments were increased to four guineas. In this year also Wm. Hutton on behalf of his father Alex. Hutton, presented to the Lodge wardens' batons mounted with silver, made from oak grown in the Boroughmuir Forest, and used in the building of the house of Mary of Guise, erected in 1580, but now demolished. The Grand Lodge functions attended by deputations from Portobello during the preceding twenty years were,—Funeral Lodge to mourn the Duke of Atholl ; Laying of Foundation Stone of Craiglockhart Poorhouse ; Laying Foundation Stone of New Royal Infirmary in Edinburgh by the Prince of Wales, and various St. Andrew's Day celebrations.

For many years Freemasonry in Scotland had been living a thriftless hand to mouth existence, content to go on from day to day, making no provision for the future. Wiser counsel now prevailed, and in the task of consolidating Grand Lodge finance, and building up a fund worthy of Scottish Benevolence, Alan Mackenzie, who occupied the chair of Canon-gate Kilwinning and afterwards that of Portobello Lodge nobly played his part. Elected Chairman of the Grand Lodge Finance Committee he brought his training as a banker and his well known business acumen to bear on Grand Lodge financial problems, and to him the masonic fraternity owes deeply felt gratitude as the instigator and pioneer of its present financial prosperity. The first Grand Lodge grant to Portobello was made in 1882 when a cheque for £4 was sent for the benefit of the widow of James Kirkwood, Tyler. Donald Macdonald who had served the Lodge as Tyler for a period of 25 years received a subscription collected

from the members of the Lodge, and a grant of £8 from Grand Lodge. At a great deputation night on 19th March 1885 the R.W.M., Bro. James Robbie, expressed the hope that Portobello Lodge might soon have a hall of its own. On 17th December 1885 occurred the first official inspection by the Metropolitan Visitation Committee headed by James Crichton, convener, accompanied by Hugh Munro, Alan Mackenzie, Albert Apthorpe, Alex. Hay, Wm. Barry, and D. Murray Lyon, Grand Secretary. The Visitation Committee recommended the Lodge to secure more suitable premises. Bro. H. Forsyth presented a silver mounted mallet with inscription. The Lodge Committee considered the recommendation of the Grand Lodge Visitation Committee and came to the conclusion that the only way out of the difficulty of securing suitable premises was to build a Lodge for themselves. In 1888 John Borthwick, junior, James Hepburn, Alex. Stuart, Barrister, and Wm. Hobkirk Laidlaw, Ironmonger, appeared among the entered apprentices. The room in the Royal Hotel was extended and the Lodge paid a rent of £3 for permission to use it as a Lodge room. The R.W.M., Bro. Wm. Hills, died in office and was buried on 26th December 1888. In 1889 the Initiation Fee was raised to £2, 10s., the Lodge contributed £5 to Grand Lodge Annuity Fund and for the second time the Mark Degree was worked by a team from other Lodges with Bro. Alan Mackenzie as R.W. Mark Master. On St. John's Day 1889, Bro. Mackenzie was elected and installed R.W.M. of Portobello Lodge. With the advent of Bro. Alan Mackenzie as Master, a period of great Masonic activity ensued. A very successful conversazione was held which enabled the Lodge to donate £6 to Grand Lodge Annuity Fund from which fund Bro. Flockhart received an annuity of £10. A great many candidates now flowed in, amongst whom we note J. Baptie, Coalmaster; J. F. Stevenson, D. B. Lamb, Auctioneer and Valuator; Wm. Logan, R. S. Mayer, J. G. Blyth, Finlay Macgillivray, Alex. Hunter, John Shepherd, senr. and Alexr. Halkett, several of whom became office-bearers and staunch supporters of the Lodge. In 1890, Grand Lodge held a great bazaar to which the daughter Lodges gave all the help in their power. A letter of thanks was received by Portobello Lodge in these terms:—
 “ I take the earliest opportunity that lies in my power to thank the ladies and gentlemen who have combined with you Freemasons holding of the Grand Lodge of Scotland for the untiring zeal, kindness and liberality which have made the Grand Masonic Bazaar so great a triumph. (Signed) Archd. Campbell.” Mrs Alexr. Clark and her assistants were specially thanked for making the Portobello Lodge Stall so great a success. In 1891 a writing case was presented to Bro. Alan Mackenzie in acknowledgment of his great services to the Lodge. Wm. Milne and Robt. Henderson

(Waldie & Co.) were initiated. George Innes, Stationmaster, and Archd. Taylor (Christie's, London) affiliated and a new masonic carpet was presented by the new R.W.M. Bro. J. S. Horne.

On St. John's Day 1891 occurred the restoration to the Lodge of the silver mounted snuff horn (with appendages) which had originally been presented by Bro. Henry Urquhart in 1814. It remained in the Lodge till 1843 when, along with other Lodge property, it was sequestrated by Mrs Newlands for arrears of rent due to her by the Lodge. In the year 1858, her son, Wm. Newlands, presented the snuff horn and silver seal to Bro. Alex. Scott, then R.W.M., who now in 1891 restores them with the hope that they may be carefully preserved. For the third time in the history of the Lodge the Mark Degree was worked by Bro. J. T. Murray from Edinburgh, who brought his own office-bearers with him. Annuities of £10 each were granted to the widows of Bros. Kirkwood and James Borthwick.

Desire to remain a Metropolitan Lodge.—On 26th January 1893 the Lodge by a majority agreed to petition Grand Lodge against being placed in the province of Midlothian then being formed, declined to nominate any Brother for the office of Provincial Grand Master as the Portobello brethren had no interest in the province and took no steps in its formation and desire to remain a metropolitan Lodge. J. O. Fraser, Lodge Celtic, affiliated, and in April 1893 we find the names of James Smart (afterwards City Assessor), Henry Smart, Elias Suding, Fred L. R. Lee, W. A. Purves, Wm. Douglas, S.S.C., John Henry Minchin, David Vass, all well known business men, and shortly afterwards Harry Hills, J. L. Jenkins and Richard H. Harrison. The last mentioned received all three degrees in one night. A Committee was appointed to take steps with a view to building a Lodge for Portobello. The Committee consisted of Alan Mackenzie, John Borthwick, jun., George Innes, J. O. Fraser, Wm. Douglas, R. E. Wallace-James and the Secretary. The Lodge presented a medal to the Portobello Ladies' Golf Club, a wise precaution in view of the coming bazaar. On 23rd July a special Masonic Service was held in Portobello Parish Church, the Rev. John Glasse, M.A. (afterwards D.D.) of Old Greyfriars' Church, and R.W.M. of St. David, No. 36, preached the sermon, Bro. C. Bradley presided at the organ, and Bro. John Borthwick, jun., conducted the choir. The collection amounted to £20, 6s. 0d. The preacher and organist were made honorary affiliates. On St. John's Day 1893, John Borthwick, jun., was elected to the chair of the Lodge and brought with him all the enthusiastic appreciation of good work that made his name so well known in musical circles. Next month the M.W. Grand

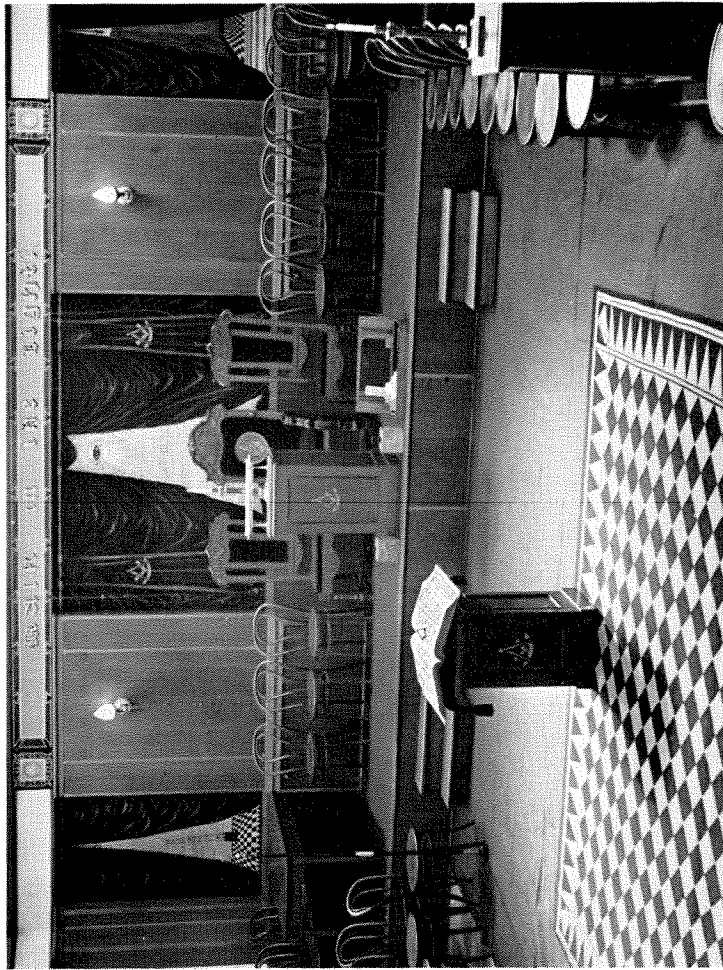
Master Mason, Sir Charles Dalrymple, Bart., paid the first formal visit by a Grand Master to the Lodge since 1839 and expressed the hope that Portobello Lodge would soon have a hall of its own instead of meeting in licensed premises. This hope was heartily reciprocated by R.W. Bro. Borthwick who made the possession of a private hall the dominant note of his harmonious labours for the good of his mother Lodge. Among Bro. Borthwick's early recruits were Alex. Ryrie, James Devlin, Wm. Johnston, John S. Rhind, James Moncur, Arthur M. Lomax, D. M. Wilson, Tom E. Waller, James Waddell, J. J. Blanche, James Begg, Wm. Herriot, Wm. Miller, A. M'Donald, Thos. Warden, and Wm. D. Carlisle. Felix Roesler of Lodge Waverley affiliated. Most of these were well known Portobello business men, but one of them, John S. Rhind, was a Sculptor, and he presented an alabaster Ionic column, wrought by himself and beautifully carved, as a token of love and loyalty to his mother Lodge. A visit was paid to the Lodge by James D. Wright, described as the original steeplejack of Scotland, who received a collection of 20s. 6d. from the brethren present in acknowledgment, no doubt, of the loftiness of his calling. The first practical step towards a permanent home was taken on 7th February 1895 when on the motion of the R.W.M., John Borthwick, jun., seconded by Bro. R. H. Muir, it was unanimously agreed to purchase the site, No. 9 Tower Street at a price not to exceed £150, feu-duty being £3. Bro. Wm. Douglas, S.S.C., volunteered to carry through the transaction on behalf of the Lodge without payment. Architects were asked to submit plans on the understanding that only the successful architect should receive payment, and ultimately Bro. P. L. Henderson of Mary's Chapel was entrusted with the work. The successful contractors were all local men, viz. :—Mason Work, John Smith & Sons; Joiner, R. & J. Scott; Plasterer, R. Dick; Slater, Geo. Mackinlay; Plumber, Wm. Hume; Glazier and Painter, Geo. Johnston; Interior Decorator, White & Sons. The architect received £40 as a fee, and the total expenses exclusive of interior decoration came to £1,031, 2s. 5d., viz. :—site, £150, building, £796, 1s. 11d., plus certain extras, furnishing £81. To meet building costs, etc., Bros. J. Borthwick, sen., J. Borthwick, jun., Adam Noble, D. B. Lamb, James Smart, and F. Macgillivray signed a bond for a cash credit of £700 from the National Bank, so that the work might be carried on without waiting for the proceeds from a bazaar which the Lodge promoted and held in November following. Recruits of an excellent class were steadily coming in immediately before the bazaar, Samuel Carmichael (the present Doyen of Edinburgh Town Council), A. B. Mowatt, Geo. Smith, Geo. Baillie, Wm. Neill, and Charles Gray, S.S.C., were entered apprentices. James Lewis Jenkins undertook the duties of Secretary for the bazaar which was

declared open by Sir Charles Dalrymple on 29th November and lasted two days. The total drawings amounted to £527, the expenses to £116, net surplus £411 which, however, after adjustment shrank to £402, 14s. 4d. To this was added £105, 13s. 0d., from the ordinary funds of the Lodge, making a total of £508, 7s. 4d. and leaving a debt of £522, 15s. 1d. The Lodge took part in the public function connected with the laying of the foundation stone of the North Bridge on 25th May 1896. The last meeting in the Royal Hotel was held on 9th September when final arrangements were made for the great day, 14th September 1896, appointed by the M.W. Grand Master Mason, Bro. Sir Charles Dalrymple, for the opening of the new hall and premises of the Portobello Lodge.

CHAPTER VI.

The M.W. Grand Master expressed his pleasure and satisfaction at taking the chief part in the ceremony of opening such a spacious and beautiful temple, the erection of which proved the enthusiasm and energy of the Lodge, and marked not only a prosperous epoch in local masonry but was also an event of interest to the Grand Lodge, and a cause for congratulation and rejoicing. Bro. D. B. Lamb then presented a beautifully carved oak chair for the Master, and on behalf of Mrs Lamb, a rich velvet cushion on which the Lodge Bible may rest. Seven R.W. Masters of Edinburgh Lodges were present and Bro. Provost Brand represented the local Town Council. The usual toasts were proposed and replied to, and the harmony of the evening was greatly enhanced by the presence of members of the Edinburgh Highland Reel and Strathspey Society, who, along with a list of excellent vocalists, rendered a pleasant musical programme. The hall and tables were nicely decorated with plants and flowers through the kindness of Bro. Tweedie. The following office-bearers took part in this joyful occasion :—

<i>R.W.M.</i>	-	-	JOHN BORTHWICK, Jun.
<i>Past Masters</i>	-	-	ALEX. SCOTT, THOS. PRINGLE and JAMES ROBBIE.
<i>D.M.</i>	-	ADAM NOBLE.	<i>Treas.</i> - DAVID VASS.
<i>S.M.</i>	-	GEO. JOHNSTONE.	<i>Chaplain</i> - D. B. LAMB.
<i>S.W.</i>	-	HARRY HILLS.	<i>S.D.</i> - R. HUNTER.
<i>J.W.</i>	-	J. L. JENKINS.	<i>J.D.</i> - J. H. MACKAIL.
<i>Secy.</i>	-	FINLAY MACGILLIVRAY.	<i>I.G.</i> - W. T. WALKER.
<i>Tyler</i>	-	-	JOHN ADAMS.



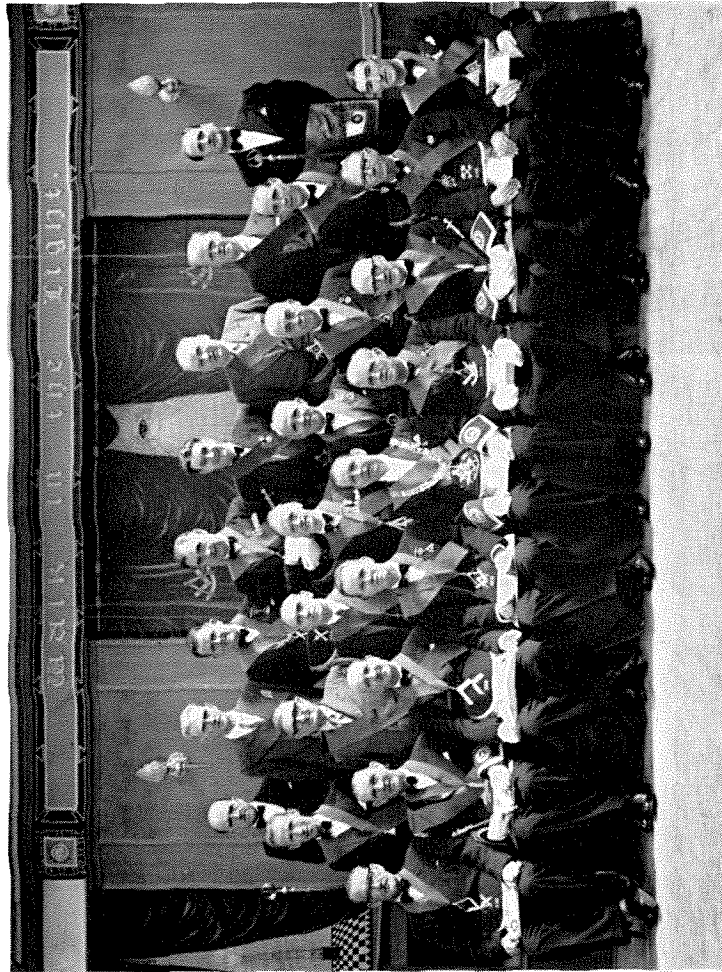
THE LODGE ROOM



SUN DIAL AND WAR MEMORIAL PLAQUE



THE R.W.M., PAST MASTERS OF THE LODGE, AND
BRO. T. D. ANDERSON, RETIRED SECRETARY



OFFICE BEARERS — 1958



PAST MASTERS BOARD



CENTENARY JEWEL

SESQUICENTENARY JEWEL

The first working meeting within the new Lodge Room was held on 24th September 1896, when Bros. Wm. Halkett and Wm. R. Aitken were passed to the degree of fellowcraft, and at the second meeting on 15th October 1896 Bro. Andrew Linn of Buchan St. John, Broxburn, No. 636, was affiliated, and witnessed P.M. Bro. Alan Mackenzie raise Bros. Gray, Halkett, Kirk, and Aitken to the sublime degree of Master Mason in his usual masterly style. The building of a hall and all the activities connected therewith can scarcely be accomplished without some friction, and signs had not been wanting that two conflicting sections were present in the Lodge. Each section was equally in earnest in striving for the good of the Lodge, but opinions varied as to the best means of accomplishing this result. The split came to an open breach at the election before St. John's Day 1896, when three names of office-bearers were put forward for the Chair. A fourth and neutral nominee in the person of the Portobello Stationmaster, Bro. Geo. Innes, ultimately was elected, receiving 33 votes to 20 votes for the late Secretary. The first duty of the R.W.M., Bro. Innes, was to admit 16 affiliates, members of city Lodges, mostly residing in Portobello, afterwards to enter Thos. Pringle, Coal Merchant; Alex. Milligan, Joiner; and James Miller, Stationer. Bro. Alex. Clark presented a mallet made from an oak beam which used to support the orchestra gallery (or fiddler's loft) in Mother Kilwinning Lodge, No. 0. The R.W.M., Bro. Innes, presented a charity collection box. The Lodge had offered a very strong objection to being ranked as a Lodge in the province of Midlothian, especially as the amalgamation of Edinburgh and Portobello had been agreed upon, but Grand Lodge insisted on Portobello joining the province, a decision which they had to accept much to the chagrin of a considerable section of the members.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Midlothian, headed by Major Robert Gordon Gilmour of Craigmillar, paid its first official visit to Portobello Lodge on 16th December 1897. The Provincial Grand Master expressed himself as highly pleased with both Lodge premises and the working of the First Degree. He made himself *persona grata* with the members who were charmed with his manly appearance and frank address, which tended to alleviate their disappointment in being, as they thought, unjustly excluded from the metropolitan area, seeing that Leith, which had not yet been amalgamated with Edinburgh, was included. Bickering at the monthly meetings still went on and a number of the best members of the Lodge gradually gave up attending. R.W. Bro. Geo. Innes left Portobello at the end of a year as Master, and was succeeded by a son of a former R.W.M., Major Hills, who had died in office. Apathy made itself felt and on the 20th October 1898 when the present writer affiliated to the

Lodge at the suggestion of the R.W.M., a quorum to open the Lodge could not be got together till 9 p.m. Shortly before this, Mark T. Simpson of Duddingston Mains and the well known and popular Andrew James Belfrage joined the Lodge, followed by the Rev. Peter Ramage, Wm. John Ford of Cook & Co., and Wm. Paterson and R. F. Duncan, Law Agents. The next R.W.M., J. L. Jenkins, reigned only one year, and during his term of office a second donation of £5 to the building fund of the Lodge was made by the R.W. Provincial Grand Master who had said nothing about these generous contributions during his visits to the Lodge.

In December 1900 an election for the Chair took place, 21 members were present, of these 14 voted for Bro. D. Lowe Turnbull, whom a staff appointment to the Heriot-Watt College for Monday and Wednesday evenings had prevented accepting office in his mother Lodge, No. 2 ; and 7 for Bro. Archd. Taylor. R.W. Bro. Lowe Turnbull persuaded his office-bearers to assist him to open the Lodge punctually and to leave rituals at home, he also put a stop to partisan debates in the Lodge with the result that attendance was much improved and many of the older masons turned out once more and took a fresh interest in the Lodge and its work. Lodges of instruction for young masons were held, and they were encouraged to give parts of the ritual in open Lodge when committed to memory, such as the lectures on the working tools or the other charges. The Mark Degree was also put upon a proper footing. For the first time in the history of the Lodge a set of Mark Office-bearers was chosen. Bro. A. A. Murray was invited to bring his Canongate Kilwinning Mark Team to give an exemplification of the best Mark Working and ever since that date Lodge Portobello has "advanced" its own Mark Masters. In equipping the Mark Lodge, Bros. A. A. Murray and John S. Rhind presented the Mark Stones which the latter Brother carved in his own yard, and Bro. D. Lowe Turnbull gave the Wardens' Wicket, Overseer's Squares, Mallets, and Working Plans. All three brethren were cordially thanked by the members of the Lodge, and Bro. A. A. Murray received honorary affiliation. Amongst the new members at this time appear the names of David Riddell, Geo. Ainslie, Walter H. Tittensor, James Challis, James S. Soutar, S.S.C., Paul Troussier, James M. Wilson, Hugh Good, George Welsh, Albert Smith, Friend Farrand, Wm. Gray, G. O. M'Nab, John F. Balfour, Wm. M. Mawer, L. M. Hislop, James Simpson, Alex. M'Arthur, Wm. R. Dunn and John Shepherd, Junr. An American organ and a piano were purchased thereby improving the ritualistic work in the Lodge and the harmony of the after meetings. About this time Bro. Dr. George Dickson was busy with his endeavour to improve and standardise craft works (knocks and essentials) and to put the Installed Master

Degree in a satisfactory position. Two of his most enthusiastic disciples, were the R.W.M. of 36, Bro. Adam Mackay, and the R.W.M. of 226. All three were much in demand by Lodges in and around Edinburgh to conduct the St. John's Day Installations. A funeral Lodge in memory of Past Master John Borthwick, Junr., was held. The service was deeply impressive and the music beautifully rendered by Bros. Robert Burnett and Thos. Livingstone, assisted by a male voice choir specially selected from the Geoghegan Solfeggio Club, conducted by Bro. J. Kenyon Lees. Bro. the Revd. Thomas Whyte, Minister of Canongate Parish, acted as Chaplain and an allocution was delivered by Bro. Bailie Samuel Carmichael. So deep was the impression created by this service that Lodge Canongate Kilwinning adopted the programme, soloists, choir and Chaplain for their funeral service in memory of R.W. Master James Rose Burgess, who died in office.

During this reign the M'Ivor Bowling Trophy was won by the Lodge and a special meeting of a social nature was held to welcome the Trophy and congratulate the winners, Bros. A. Morrison, Geo. Smith, Wm. Douglas and Archd. Taylor, Skip. The custom of holding a St. John's Day Dinner with a special purveyor in our own hall was also commenced at this time, on this first occasion over 60 members dined together. The Lodge had gradually been taking its place among the best of the Edinburgh Lodges and town visitors were present in ever increasing numbers. The list of office-bearers during 1902 contains the names of some of the best ritualists whom the Lodge ever produced and who earned the high appreciation and commendation of the Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Col. Gordon Gilmour (later M.W. Grand Master Mason):—

<i>R.W.M.</i>	- - -	D. LOWE TURNBULL, M.A.
<i>I.P.M.</i>	- - -	JAS. LEWIS JENKINS, Bank Acct.
<i>D.M.</i>	- - -	JOHN BORTHWICK, Sr., retired Merchant.
<i>S.M.</i>	- - -	THOMAS PRINGLE, Coal Merchant.
<i>S.W.</i>	- - -	WM. PATERSON, Lawyer.
<i>J.W.</i>	- - -	RICHD. NEILSON, Merchant.
<i>Secy.</i>	- - -	ELIAS SUDING, Clerk to Parochial Board.
<i>Treas.</i>	- - -	ROBERT SCOTT, Joiner and Builder.
<i>Chaplain</i>	- - -	Rev. P. RAMAGE, followed by J. BAINBRIDGE, Jeweller.
<i>S.D.</i>	- - -	R. F. DUNCAN, Lawyer.
<i>J.D.</i>	- - -	THOS. M'NAB, Corn Merchant.
<i>Archd.</i>	- - -	ALEX. CLARK, Builder.
<i>Bible-Bearer</i>	- - -	THOS. ALEXANDER, Clothier.
<i>Standard Bearer</i>	- - -	JOHN SHEPHERD, Merchant.
<i>Stewards</i>	- - -	GEO. WELSH and GEO. OGILVIE, N.B. Railway.
<i>Inner Guard</i>	- - -	CHAS WRIGHT, Architect.
<i>Yler</i>	- - -	JOHN WARD, Potter.

The Lodge Committee desired Bro. Turnbull to go on for a third term of office, but as the R.W.M. had taken up residence in Edinburgh, and late transport did not then exist, he declined the invitation. Ultimately Bro. Alex. Clark accepted nomination on the understanding that Bro. Turnbull would give him assistance with the ritualistic work before catching the last train home. The promise was given and kept. It may be added that Bro. Turnbull has installed all his successors in the Chair, and presided as Master at all the Mark Lodges held since he left the Chair of the Lodge. R.W.M. Bro. Alex. Clark had two very happy and prosperous years in the Chair. Though not taking personally a great share in ritualistic work, he proved a sagacious and competent Chairman when business was being discussed, and a prince of good fellows at harmony. Among his initiates were Thomas Adams, journalist (later Bailie Adams); P. B. Stevenson of Kirklands; Thomas Millar, Chemist; James Abbot, Fritz Halbritter, Wm. Waddell, Geo. S. Birrell, Chas. W. Shepherd, Wm. Gowans, Wm. White, Jr., Thos. Bruce, John Linlater, Alex. W. Milligan, Chas. R. Cormack, Dan A. Cormack and several others affiliated to the Lodge. On St. John's Day 1904, Bro. Richard Neilson was installed R.W.M. This reign is chiefly remarkable for an improved musical service arranged by Bro. Friend Farrand, and for several foreign names among the Initiates. Local candidates included James Laird. Bro. Drunsfield presented a Master's Mallet formed from an oaken bean taken during alterations from the rafters of Holyrood Palace. The mallet was shaped by Bro. Crawford of Lodge St. David, No. 36. Bro. James Lewis Jenkins, P.M., presented two framed tracing boards. Bro. James B. Neilson, installed as Master on St. John's Day 1905, had a busy time in the Chair. Besides local candidates, he swept in recruits from Niddrie, Millerhill, Musselburgh, Loanhead, and Edinburgh. Among local names we find Andrew Cavage, Andrew Henderson, Geo. Sneddon, David E. West, James S. W. Lawson, John Arnott, David Thomson, Walter N. Paton, and about 40 others. Bro. J. B. Neilson was expert as a ritualist and kept his office-bearers up to the high level set by his predecessors.

CHAPTER VII.

With the approach of the Lodge Centenary it was highly necessary to find a thoroughly satisfactory occupant for the Lodge Chair, and in choosing Bro. Daniel A. Cormack it was generally felt that a wise selection had been made. Bro. Cormack's extensive travels and wide experience enabled him to take a broad and intelligent view of any business that

might come before him, and his happy disposition and suavity of manner at once made him a general favourite. The proceedings in connection with the centenary celebrations were a great success. Bro. the Marquess of Tullibardine, then Depute Grand Master, represented Grand Lodge, supported by Bro. Sir Charles Dalrymple, P.G.M., and a numerous and influential deputation. Provincial Grand Lodge of Midlothian sent P.G.M. Bros. Col. Gordon Gilmour, D.G.M. Col. L. A. Hope, and S.G.M. John A. Forrest and others, while nineteen local Lodges were represented by their R.W.M.'s and several others by various office-bearers. A special centenary jewel was prepared by Bro. George Paul, and a replica of it presented to Bro. Lord Tullibardine. Honorary Membership was conferred on heads of deputations, thereafter the Lodge was closed, and a procession headed by the Town Band marched to the old Town Hall where a banquet took place followed by a special harmony meeting. R.W.M. Bro. Dan A. Cormack gave the usual loyal toasts. Bro. Bailie Carmichael, J.P., proposed the toast of the Imperial Forces, to which Bro. Col. Lewis A. Hope replied. Bro. the Marquess of Tullibardine, besides replying for Grand Lodge, gave the toast "Prosperity to the Portobello Lodge," to which the R.W.M. replied. In concluding Bro. Cormack regretted the absence owing to illness of P.M. Bro. D. Lowe Turnbull who had worked so hard to make the centenary proceedings a success. Bro. Charles R. Cormack gave "the City of Edinburgh," and Bro. Bailie Maxton, J.P., responded. Among other speakers were Bro. Geo. Smith and Bro. Bailie Robt. K. Inches, J.P. During the centenary year several well known business men, as well as other locals, joined the Lodge, viz. :—George Hogg, Wm. Marshall, E. Forbes, James Mussen, George Fisher, Peter Linklater, Alex. Slora, John Borthwick (*Tertius*), Fred J. Borthwick, G. G. Forrest, Wm. Hossack, Geo. F. Grossett, Dr. Frederick Campbell, Douglas Skinner, Geo. W. Thompson, etc. On 19th May 1909 the Lodge went into mourning for the space of six months as a token of respect for the memory of King Edward VII. The R.W.M. Bro. Dan A. Cormack, delivered the following oration :—" I cannot let the present memorable occasion pass without saying a few words as to the irreparable loss the country in general and Freemasonry in particular has sustained through the decease of the distinguished monarch and eminent Freemason now gone to his rest. Whether we take him in his capacity as a statesman, a diplomatist, a husband, a father, or, last and greatest of all, the friend of the poor and needy, and of those institutions which exist for their relief, the eminent personality now passed from us never has been equalled and certainly will never be surpassed. As a diplomatist and as a statesman we cannot think too highly of him, or over value the

services he rendered to this country by his intense personality, his deep and ready sympathy, all tending to consolidate the interests of this country in all quarters of the globe. I therefore venture to ask you all to join with me in an expression of the most profound grief for the loss of the splendid personality who has gone from us, and in the deepest sympathy with the Queen and Royal Family whom our Most Illustrious Patron has left to mourn his loss."

After three busy years of office Bro. Cormack retired in favour of Bro. Archd. Taylor who gained a triangular contest for the Chair. R.W.M. Bro. Archd. Taylor was strong on visitations. He probably visited more Lodges during his one year of office than any previous Master or successor, and held the largest reception, apart from the Grand Lodge functions, which the Lodge has ever had to pay for, 26 Lodges being directly represented as well as several others indirectly on the 24th February 1911. The Lodge was represented at the laying of the Foundation Stone of the new premises of Grand Lodge in George Street. The R.W.M. received the Mark Degree on 29th September 1911, and at the November meeting he read a circular from Grand Lodge which stated that every Candidate for Freemasonry must explicitly assert that he has not been refused by any other Lodge, or, if so, by what Lodge or Lodges, besides giving the usual details as to age, occupation, and residence.

This new Grand Lodge Law was broken by Bro. Taylor's successor in the chair. The aggrieved party, "The Heart of Midlothian" Lodge, took action and gained their case, only special pleading for the offender by P.M. Bro Turnbull and kindness of heart shown by R.W. Prov. Grand Master John A. Forrest saved the Lodge from the disgrace of having its Master suspended. With the advent of R.W. Bro. John Arnott next St. John's Day (1912), a more peaceful time ensued and among other candidates we find the new Master's son Robert Arnott, D. W. White, Rev. John Gordon Blair, John Ross, David Archibald, R. C. M'Nair, Alex. Robertson and Robert M'Adam. In the year 1914 the bond of £500 which had been already reduced by three payments of £100 each to £200 was now finally cleared off.

CHAPTER VIII.

In the year 1914 Bro. Wm. R. Dunn was installed as R.W.M., but owing to the War no festival was held; already Death was busy among the members, and the battle of Mons took its toll from Portobello Masons. David P. Malcolm was the first initiate for 1915, and in less than 10 complete years we find him installed as R.W.M. The death of William

Douglas S.S.C., deprived the Lodge of the legal advice always freely given by Bro. Douglas. His place on Committee was filled by the appointment of Bro. James Russell, S.S.C. The death of Bro. Henry S. Smart, who was the first Prov. Grand Director of Music in Midlothian, and who had served his Lodge many years in that capacity, was also recorded. Portobello Lodge now received its share of candidates from the new Naval Base at Rosyth, more than a dozen shipwrights (resident in the neighbourhood though working at Rosyth) were initiated. These with other comrades, "entered" in Edinburgh Lodges, were the founders of the new Lodge at Rosyth. The camp at Duddingston, the Barracks at Piershill, and the Marine Gardens provided other candidates, as well as a steady stream from Niddrie and district. The second war election gave some thought to the older element in the Lodge. In spite of his inexperience in Masonry it was deemed expedient to run Bro. R. C. M'Nair for the chair, as his age and occupation offered some guarantee of continuity. The older section gave assistance in the working, and the new Master improved steadily till in the third year of his reign he could undertake all three degrees as successfully as his predecessors and kept the good work going till peace was proclaimed. Lodges, generally, suffered greatly in membership during the four and a half years which the War lasted, but Portobello, owing to its proximity to four war camps, to the temporary residences of many Rosyth workers, to mining and munition centres, had always a plentiful supply of candidates; many of these, however, had only a short experience of home Masonry and were drafted to France or other war zones, some, alas! never to return.

A Pipe Organ was purchased for the Lodge and introduced on 29th August 1917. Among local initiates were James M. Maxton, Alastair M'Nair, Ebenezer Forbes, Robert H. Watson, Geo. B. Smith, Charles L. Sutherland, Geo. Fairley, and the Rev. James Ray. Bro. Lieut.-Colonel Thomson received the D.S.O., and was the first of several members to earn that distinction.

Just as the town of Portobello after amalgamation with Edinburgh gradually lost its old individuality and became merged into the Eastern Division of the City, so now we find the Lodge, owing to a vote on the question of initiation fees, in danger of being submerged by city candidates. The proposal was made to raise the fee from £5, 5s. to £7, 7s.; this was defeated by a small majority, and subsequent attempts were even less successful. The result was that candidates poured in from Edinburgh and Leith, even Musselburgh contributed a quota. Edinburgh Lodges which levied a fee of seven, eight, ten or twelve guineas had, therefore, some ground for complaint. Nor was this state of matters

popular among the older members of Portobello Lodge, many of whom ceased attendance and felt aggrieved that their personal friends in Portobello were joining Edinburgh Lodges.

In 1919, during the reign of R.W. Bro. Dick, a solemn service was held in memory of the Brethren of the Lodge who were killed in the War and to inaugurate the War Memorial Tablet. In this connection a special vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Lemon for his artistic work on the Brass Tablet which he presented. Inter-Lodge visitations to work the Third Degree were exchanged with Lodge Minto, Lochgelly, and others.

There followed Bros. George W. Thomson, John Thomson, Wm. Stein and David P. Malcolm all of whom did excellent work in the Master's Chair and kept the ritual service up to the high standard associated with the Lodge. A special word of thanks is due to Bro. Stein for his interest in the social aspect of the Lodge and for his generosity in providing prizes for Bowling and Golf. Bro. Fred. J. Borthwick, for many years Director of Music, as R.W.M. had the distinction of initiating his own son John Borthwick. Not many Masons could have had, like young "Jackie," so masonic a family history. His great grandfather John Borthwick *Primus* was a Depute Master, his grandfather John Borthwick *Secundus* was R.W.M. 1894-96, his uncle John Borthwick *Tertius* was musical Director and his father who also held that office graduated as R.W.M.

Bro. Alex. Slora, R.W.M., was a tried and faithful servant to the Lodge; a canny Aberdonian not given to wasting words he wielded the mallet with sound judgment. The accommodation, ample for the needs of 1896, was found to be too limited and endeavours were made to find means to extend the premises to the best advantage. The scheme which found the most support was to build a twin hall alongside the Lodge building to be used as a Harmony Hall.

The successful culmination of this scheme was reached by Bro. Slora's successor, Bro. Wm. Hossack. It was during his reign that the new hall was brought into use in which the Annual General Meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Midlothian was held on the 17th January 1931. On this occasion R.W.M. Bro. W. Hossack presented to the R.W. Provincial Grand Master Bro. Wm. S. Malloch, Four Batons for the Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Director of Ceremonies and Marshal. These batons were made of teak from a portion of the original flooring of the Forth Bridge. Bro. Malloch in his reply thanked the Lodge for this original and valued presentation.

Bro. Hossack himself a splendid ritualist maintained a very high standard in the execution of the various degrees and ultimately attained the high office of Substitute Provincial Grand Master.

CHAPTER IX.

The realms of sport can never be ignored, many members of our fraternity being active participants, so an enthusiastic welcome was given to members of Edinburgh's famous Heart of Midlothian Football Club. These Brethren, members of the Lodge bearing that distinguished name Heart of Mid Lothian, paid a visit to Portobello Lodge which at this time had in the Chair as R.W.M. Bro. W. Lyon, a keen follower of sport, and a well known Bowler. It was no surprise therefore to learn of the success of the Lodge Bowlers in winning the M'Ivor Trophy in his reign 1932-33.

Proficiency in the ritual work has always held an important place in any Master's administration and in this respect Bro. James Thomson who succeeded Bro. Lyon as R.W.M. for 1934-35 continued to apply his energies in upholding the tradition of which the Portobello Lodge is justly proud. The roll of Honorary Members was at this time enhanced by the addition of Bro. Dr. King Gillies, P.M., Lodge Canongate, Kilwinning No. 2, who ultimately held the office of Grand Secretary.

It is inevitable that Lodges suffer great loss as the elder brethren pass on to the Grand Lodge above and in the year 1935 this Lodge received a sad blow in the death of Bro. James Lewis Jenkins, P.M. This well known brother had been from his initiation an untiring member of great value to his Lodge.

The privilege of being the youngest Master of the Lodge up to this time fell upon Bro. John White who took the chair for the year 1936-37. Bro. J. White's name was eventually closely associated with the working of Mark Degrees which during the past 30 years had been conferred by Bro. D. L. Turnbull, P.M., now laid aside by illness. It was a grievous loss to this Lodge when the succeeding Master Bro. W. L. M'Craw sadly announced to the brethren during the meeting of 7th April 1939, the death of this Past Master.

The year is 1940. The Master Bro. David D. Blackhall. History in the making. Let the following extract from the minute book recording a committee meeting on the 24th day of October 1940 tell its own story :

“ At this stage an Air Raid warning was sounded and it was agreed to adjourn the meeting to the following evening.” Truly the dark days of war with all its pending horrors were again upon us and how great was that darkness. Sad hearts heard the intimation of the death of Bro. W. L. Seaton, Skipper, R.N.V.R., the first of our own members to make the supreme sacrifice.

In consequence of wartime conditions now prevailing, meetings were altered to take place on Saturdays at 3 p.m.; the first meeting being that of 16th September 1940. However, by January 1941, the meetings reverted back to Thursdays.

The work of Freemasonry goes on and notwithstanding the many extra duties laid on the shoulders of brethren in all walks of life the Lodge rejoiced in an historic occasion when the 6th March 1941, the Lord Provost of the City of Edinburgh, Bro. Sir Henry Steele, accepted from the hands of the R.W.M., Honorary Membership of the Portobello Lodge.

The exigencies of this period shortened the reign of the next Master Bro. A. H. Mitchell, who was called up for military service. Despite the conditions of war which limited Brethren's time and activities the continued attendance of members under the genial and kindly administration of Bro. Peter Ramsay, who was installed in 1941, was most encouraging. An appeal for support to the Grand Lodge War Distress Fund found a ready response and a contribution of £50 was sent to this fund.

A happier feature of those conditions was the privilege of receiving and entertaining a number of Brethren from Lodges overseas who found themselves in this country as members of the Allied Services. The R.W.M. did much to encourage these visits and still corresponds with several who are now back in their own country.

This aspect of masonic activity was ably continued by the succeeding R.W.M., Bro. John Maxton, who, as a Portobello resident, was widely known throughout the district. Many masons will recall his tremendous energy and thoughtfulness in overcoming the difficulties of those who were members of H.M. Forces by re-arranging times of meeting. Lodge Byelaws were now amended to permit two Regular Meetings instead of one per month and this is still in force. Under his administration the Lodge raised another contribution of £140 to the Grand Lodge War Distress Fund.

The year 1944 showed continued progress under R.W.M., Bro. Alexander Younie, and during his reign, in the month of October, the Tyler, Bro. John Fyfe, was presented with a jewel to mark his 40 years as a mason.

At this time the dark clouds of warfare seemed to be receding, giving way to the prospect of peace throughout the world, a prospect which became a joyous reality and on the 24th May 1945, the R.W.M., Bro. Charles Mabon, joined with his brethren in a thanksgiving service to the G.A.U. rejoicing in the Allied Victory. The cessation of hostilities was an

historic event which called for a celebration, and Bro. Mabon with his office-bearers lost no time in demonstrating that sentiment with a Victory Dance in the Lodge Rooms.

The continued future prosperity of the Portobello Lodge was the aim of the Master Bro. D. B. M'Kinlay, who, taking over the reign of office in 1946, encouraged our younger brethren to come forward and take part in the ritual work of the Lodge. In his reign the Lodge was honoured by the appointment of the Almoner, Bro. Alex. Slora, P.M., to Grand Steward of the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

By this time brethren were returning from the Forces to resume their civilian life, reuniting with the brethren in their attendance at the meetings, thus, in 1947, when Bro. Henry Dick took over the ever increasing responsibilities of R.W.M. the membership was growing fast. Taking advantage of the peaceful conditions in which Freemasonry could once more enjoy and appreciate its many activities, the Master arranged for a Church Service to be held in Portobello Old Parish Church. On Sunday, 11th May 1947, the brethren, with strong support from Provincial and Metropolitan Lodges, marched in Masonic Procession along the High Street, witnessed by a large turn out of Portobello residents.

In the realms of sporting activities the renewed strength of Portobello Lodge was now apparent, the Lodge Bowling Members having won the Provincial Grand Lodge Jubilee Trophy. There was an enthusiastic Meeting on 6th November 1947, when the Trophy, a stone wrought Sun Dial, donated by the Substitute Provincial Grand Master, Bro. James Allan, was unveiled by him in the presence of the Provincial Grand Master, Bro. A. B. Forrest and the brethren.

A new generation was now developing, younger brethren taking responsibilities of office at an earlier age carrying out these duties with zeal and enthusiastic efficiency. Leading this new age was the succeeding R.W.M., Bro. G. A. Dudgeon, who set a fine example in his own distinctive style. It was typical of this Master's thoughtful administration when on the evening of 11th March, he sprung a surprise on the brethren of the Lodge when he introduced three office-bearers whose combined service aggregated 100 years. They were Bros. John Fyfe, Tyler for 43 years; Thomas D. Anderson, Secretary for 30 years; and Bro. Simon A. F. Faed, Treasurer for 27 years. Bro. Dr. Douglas L. G. Radford, R.W. Grand Master Substitute, who that evening had received Honorary Membership of the Lodge, complimented these three brethren for the work they had done for Freemasonry.

Long service in our masonic craft has always been a subject of admiration, and to younger members an incentive to inspire them in their masonic career. It is therefore no surprise to read in the minutes that an enthusiastic response came from the brethren when on Thursday, 9th December, the Provincial Grand Master, Bro. A. B. Forrest, congratulated Bro. Albert Innes on completing 50 years membership of the Lodge. The Provincial Grand Master also made special mention of the services given by the Tyler Bro. John Fyfe, and regretted Bro. Fyfe's absence as he had intended to present him with his Diploma as Grand Lodge Honorary Tyler.

Portobello will always be proud of such records.

December 1948 saw the Provincial Grand Master Bro. A. B. Forrest instal Bro. Dudgeon's successor Bro. Henry M. Stewart in the chair of King Solomon. This Brother who affiliated to the Portobello Lodge in 1943 had in the short space of six years reached the high office of Right Worshipful Master and his reign continued to feature the high degree of efficiency associated with this Lodge. A keen student of the V.S.L. it was under his direction a Lodge of Sorrow for departed brethren was held on the evening of 29th September 1949. The Lodge, sombrely dressed, took part in this service of Remembrance for those Past Masters who had passed to the Grand Lodge above. Bros. D. Lowe Turnbull, A. M'Arthur, F. J. Borthwick and J. Arnott.

For many this was the first service of such a nature as no other had taken place in the Lodge for nearly 40 years.

The closing meeting of Bro. Stewart's reign was marked by the presentation to Bro. Albert Innes of the jewel of his office as Marshal on the completion of his 50 years masonic service. It is an arresting thought to realise that Bro. Innes had during his masonic lifetime witnessed nearly one-third of the Lodge's history.

The individuality of brethren is characteristic of their disposition and all Lodges respond to the qualities displayed by the respective Masters. In Bro. James Reid the Lodge possessed a brother of ready wit and humour. As Right Worshipful Master this brother, without departing from the solemnity of the ceremonial of the Lodge, by his ready and cheerful response brought an added pleasure to the brethren. Eager to visit Lodges he was largely responsible for the introduction to Portobello of Lodge Ruchill, No. 1436, Glasgow. The frequent interchange of visits between the two Lodges became a regular feature and another link in our masonic chain of friendship was thus forged. These and other visitations during his term provided many entertaining evenings at harmony.

CHAPTER X.

There was still much of masonic interest taking place such as the visit paid to the Lodge by Bro. J. M. Milligan, a Past Master of Lodge Queens Edinburgh Rifles whose mother Lodge was No. 226 and who had completed his 50 years as a mason. Bro. M'Nair, P.M., Director of Ceremonies in No. 226 for over 20 years receiving congratulations on having conferred on him the Honorary Office of Grand Marshal. On another occasion the brethren witnessed the presentation to the Portobello Lodge of an Almoner's Jewel of Office by Bro. Dr. Douglas L. G. Radford, who duly invested Bro. Slora, P.M., with the Jewel.

In this world of change nothing which comes stays, and nothing which goes is lost, so does this apply in Freemasonry. *Long accustomed* as we are to see our brethren in their usual place, doing their accustomed work for the craft, the time comes when familiar faces are no longer seen in our midst.

To the new Master Bro. John Archibald fell the unhappy duty of accepting the resignation through illness of the Treasurer Bro. Simon Faed, who had served in this capacity for 30 years; a record unequalled in the annals of this Lodge. It was deeply regretted when the Lodge eventually learned of his death in 1952.

Old and valued servants of our Fraternity were being called by the G.A.U., leaving sadness in the hearts of the brethren. On the evening of 3rd May 1951, a short commemoration service was held in tribute to the late Bro. Slora, P.M., for many years Lodge Almoner. Taking the chair in 1928 his life was closely associated with his love for the craft.

The 20th September brought the intimation of the death of Bro. A. B. Forrest, Past Provincial Grand Master, Midlothian, a brother loved and revered throughout the province. Also recorded was the passing of Bro. W. R. Dunn, P.M., and Bro. John Fyfe, late Tyler of the Lodge.

What finer epitaph can there be than that given in the V.S.L.—
"They rest from their labours but their works do follow them."

National sorrows as well as National rejoicings are always echoed within our craft, so we find Freemasonry sharing in both aspects of national importance during the reign of the two succeeding masters. In the month of February 1952, while R.W.M. Bro. James Drysdale was in the chair, the whole world was shocked by the news of the death of H.M. King George VI. Remembering H.M.'s close association with the craft, Masonry went into mourning, sharing our sorrow with the whole nation. From now on the loyal toast would be Her Majesty the Queen, and in the happier atmosphere of rejoicings we find Bro. George Gray as the R.W.M.

for the Coronation year of 1953. Among the varied activities of celebration, the final event was a grand Coronation Ball held in the Portobello Town Hall.

Both these Masters had in their characteristics many qualities in common. Bro. James Drysdale was blessed by nature with a deep resonant voice which was used to full advantage in the Temple, and in entertaining his brethren at harmony. He developed a deep and lasting interest in the masonic advancement of younger brethren and was responsible for the inauguration of instruction classes. This important feature of masonry soon showed results and many junior office-bearers came from its ranks.

The minutes record a Lodge of Sorrow in this Master's reign for the following Past Masters, W. R. Dunn, W. F. Dick, A. Slora, W. Stein and other departed brethren.

In Bro. George Gray, the Lodge had a Master whose genial personality was displayed in work and in Harmony. Ever willing to serve the craft, he will long be remembered for his kindly disposition and his outstanding ability to entertain the brethren. It was a tragic loss to the craft when he passed away in 1956.

Inevitably the minds of the brethren were directing their thoughts to the future as they contemplated the approach of an historic year for the Portobello Lodge. The year of 1958 when the Lodge would celebrate its sesquicentenary. Recognising the importance of this event the Master, Bro. R. Stein, during his reign made preparations for future planning. In having Bro. R. Stein as Master, the Lodge saw a son following in his father's footsteps as this brother was the son of Bro. W. Stein, R.W.M. in 1924.

During this period there were many and varied events of interest of which probably the most unusual and entertaining was in November 1954 when the last Electric Tram ran from Portobello. Civic and Masonic interest combined to allow the Portobello Lodge to hire this last tram. Selling the seats at 2/6d. per member, the whole proceeds went to the deserving cause of the Church of Scotland Orphanage Fund.

A reminder of the last war came to the forefront when additional names were added to the War Memorial Plaque, and a rededication of the memorial took place on 11th November 1954. On that same evening the Past Masters' Roll was unveiled by Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master Bro. James Allan.

Realising the importance of the forthcoming celebrations for the 150th year anniversary, the brethren appointed the Master Bro. Stein as the permanent chairman of the anniversary committee.

The work of preparation for this historic event was expanded in the reign of the following Master, Bro. R. Anderson, who served in the chair for two years 1955-1956. Many sub-committees were formed to deal with the varied phases of the preparations.

Brethren are never slow to recognise outstanding Masonic service so it was with mixed feeling of appreciation and sorrow when on the 3rd May 1955 the Lodge made a presentation to Bro. T. D. Anderson who had retired from the office of Secretary which he had held for 37 years. September 11th brought the intimation of the death of an outstanding personality in Bro. Albert Innes, who had been Depute Master in 1942 and again from 1951 onward. He was initiated on the 16th November 1899.

One of the problems facing General Committee was that of finance, all brethren realising that funds must be gathered to enable the celebrations to be carried through. Working with tremendous energy, one of the sub-committees devoted its time to the arduous task of running successive prize draws, and altogether the fund for the Sesquicentenary events reached a total of approximately £1,600.

Much had to be done in time for October 1958, one important feature being the redecoration of the Temple. The estimated cost of £600 included repairs and re-wiring of the electrical system. On the evening of 22nd November 1956 the general committee of the Lodge after much deliberation drew up the following programme of events for the Sesquicentenary year of 1958.

Saturday, 16th August—A Children's Outing to Dalkeith.

Sunday, 12th October—Church Service in Portobello Old and Regent Street Parish Church.

Thursday, 16th October—Commemoration Meeting in the Temple, followed by Dinner in Portobello Town Hall.

Friday, 24th October—Anniversary Ball.

And on a date to be fixed an Entertainment for Old Age Pensioners.

In addition to these events the committee agreed to have the Ancient Charter of the Lodge copied, the copy to be exposed to view where Brethren could see and read the same.

Recalling to mind that our brethren in the year 1908 had commemorated the centenary by striking a Jewel, the Committee recommended that a Jewel should be made to mark the Sesquicentenary of 1958.

CHAPTER XI.

Into this atmosphere of activity and preparation the year 1957 brought to the Master's Chair, Bro. R. D. Hogg, who as a local business man was widely known throughout Portobello. Despite the many extra duties in which all were involved, the Master, together with his Past Masters, and office-bearers, was ever mindful of the traditions of the Lodge in its high standard of efficient working. Many interesting meetings and enjoyable harmonies were witnessed by brethren and visitors. Deputations from and visitations to other Lodges proved a source of pleasure and enjoyment to the members.

In this reign interest in the forthcoming celebration was growing fast with all committees and sub-committees working assiduously, and when in December 1957 the Portobello Lodge installed the new office-bearers for the momentous year of 1958, the responsibilities of taking over the exacting duties of R.W.M. fell upon the shoulders of a comparatively young man Bro. Richard Irvine.

To carry out these duties required a Master with outstanding qualities and in the choice of Brother Irvine the Portobello Lodge was particularly fortunate. Born in Portobello, and living within its precincts made him a familiar and well loved Brother. Behind his quiet and unassuming bearing, there is an intense love of the craft, which is characterised by his calm and firm resolve to make the Sesquicentenary Celebration a momentous event in the long and varied history of the Portobello Lodge.

Under his guidance all work was most carefully organised and directed to this objective.

It was very gratifying when the neighbouring Lodge of Trafalgar 223 requested Bro. Irvine to accept Honorary Membership. This distinction was most significant as this sister Lodge was likewise in the midst of celebrating a similar event having received their Charter from Grand Lodge in February 1808. The Master of Trafalgar Lodge, Bro. James Swanson, no stranger to Portobello, had previously established very friendly relationships with the Brethren of 226.

To both Lodges already closely allied by their mutual connections with the sea the Sesquicentenary events have consolidated the bond of fellowship and brotherhood between them.

Continued progress had been made with the final preparations for the near approach of 150th year celebrations and by this time the Temple had been completely redecorated to the complete satisfaction and admiration of Brethren and visitors alike. The walls, now converted into

imitation stone work combined with artistic motif and embellished with plaques containing the Portobello coat of arms and Masonic Emblems, were blended into the original design of the east wall.

This unique and artistic painting of the east wall depicting our Masonic Emblems within the folds of parting curtains painted in the Lodge colour of Blue, was first done nearly 40 years ago by Bro. R. Wishart, a Master Painter in Portobello. His love of the craft found expression in the painting of this original and most masterly design. Covering the entire east wall of the Temple the delicate and distinctive painting is an outstanding feature of craftsmanship and is surely unequalled. Beautiful in its conception and execution it is fitting that during these 40 years the only person permitted to retouch this outstanding work of art has been the master craftsman himself Bro. R. Wishart under whose care the entire Lodge was redecorated.

The building of a spiritual edifice is a bond between Church and Craft linking the material life with the Divine teachings of the V.S.L.

In past centuries the erection of church buildings owed much to the operative side of our craft symbolised in latter times by the laying of foundation stones.

This important aspect of the close connection between Church and Freemasonry has always been of paramount importance and this relationship is featured in the following extract from the earlier part of the Lodge's history.

“ On 27th October 1808 Grand Lodge killed two birds with one stone firstly by constituting Lodge Portobello and installing its Office-bearers, secondly by laying the foundation stone of the church in Melville Street afterwards the Parish Church of Portobello.”

To commemorate the close connection with this Church now known as the Portobello Old and Regent Street Parish Church the general committee of the Portobello Lodge placed before the brethren a suggestion that the Lodge present to this Church a suitable gift to mark the Sesquicentenary of both. It was eventually ascertained that a set of collection salvers suitably inscribed would be warmly accepted by the members of the congregation. Arrangements were made to present the salvers during the morning service on Sunday, 5th October, and by mutual agreement, the first use of them was to take place at the Lodge Service which had been arranged for Sunday, 12th October, as part of the Sesquicentenary events.

On this day the R.W.M. Bro. R. Irvine and brethren of the Portobello Lodge, No. 226 on the Roll of the Grand Lodge of Scotland together with visiting brethren from many other Lodges in both Provincial and Metropolitan areas will seek Divine Blessing on this important occasion and thank the G.A.U. for His guidance throughout the long history of this ancient and honourable Brotherhood.

Thus from the humble beginnings in 1808 when the wind swept beach of Portobello and its small band of inhabitants had little to offer in amenities, to the year of 1958, there have been in the history of the Portobello Lodge, many frustrations, tears and disappointments. Overcoming the difficulties and obstacles of those far off days, the Lodge has progressed and prospered, never neglecting the duties they owe to God, to their neighbours and to themselves, ever remembering with reverence the foundations laid by our brethren in those early years, whose wisdom and foresight have been the rock on which the present has been built.

OFFICE BEARERS 1958.

<i>Right Worshipful Master</i>	- - -	Bro. RICHARD IRVINE
<i>Immediate Past Master</i>	- - -	Bro. ROBERT D. HOGG
<i>Depute Master</i>	- - - - -	Bro. GEORGE A. DUDGEON, P.M.
<i>Substitute Master</i>	- - - - -	Bro. ALECK G. FLOCKART
<i>Senior Warden</i>	- - - - -	Bro. JOHN M. JAMESON
<i>Junior Warden</i>	- - - - -	Bro. CHARLES WILSON
<i>Secretary</i>	- - - - -	Bro. WILLIAM TURNBULL
<i>Treasurer</i>	- - - - -	Bro. JOHN M. WATSON
<i>Almoner</i>	- - - - -	Bro. HENRY M. STEWART, P.M.
<i>Chaplain</i>	- - - - -	Bro. JAMES REID, P.M.
<i>Senior Deacon</i>	- - - - -	Bro. JAMES CLARK
<i>Junior Deacon</i>	- - - - -	Bro. THOMAS RAMSAY
<i>Director of Ceremonies</i>	- - -	Bro. ROBERT STEIN, P.M.
<i>Architect</i>	- - - - -	Bro. GEORGE H. JEFFREY, JUN.
<i>Jeweller</i>	- - - - -	Bro. JAMES DRYSDALE, P.M.
<i>Bible-Bearer</i>	- - - - -	Bro. RICHARD A. BARWICK
<i>Bard</i>	- - - - -	Bro. JOHN B. RODGER
<i>Sword-Bearer</i>	- - - - -	Bro. THOMAS M'CALL MILLAR
<i>Standard-Bearer</i>	- - - - -	Bro. CHAS. MILTON ROBERTSON
<i>Director of Music</i>	- - - - -	Bro. THOMAS HOUSTON
<i>Organist</i>	- - - - -	Bro. WILLIAM D. RAMSAY
<i>Piper</i>	- - - - -	Bro. CHARLES ANDERSON
<i>Marshal</i>	- - - - -	Bro. ROBERT ANDERSON, P.M.
<i>Inner Guard</i>	- - - - -	Bro. HENRY F. LINDSAY
<i>Senior Steward</i>	- - - - -	Bro. GEORGE H. JEFFREY, SEN.
<i>Tyler</i>	- - - - -	Bro. THOMAS ROBERTSON

ASSISTANT STEWARDS

Bros. D. R. WRIGHT, JOHN WISHART, GEORGE W. CRUICKSHANKS,
THOMAS LAING, JAMES HERKES, THOMAS SWINTON, JAMES BISSET,
WILLIAM H. MILLAR

MEMBERS OF GENERAL COMMITTEE

Bros. D. R. WRIGHT, G. H. JEFFREY, JUN., W. D. HUNTER

MEMBERS OF ENQUIRY COMMITTEE

Bros. R. ANDERSON, P.M.; J. DRYSDALE, P.M.; D. R. WRIGHT,
W. D. HUNTER