

The Ancient Palatine Lodge No 97

Bro Thomas Hardy

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Thomas Hardy.

THE G.O.M. OF PALATINE LODGE. INSTALLING MASTER. ON THURSDAY. SON.

Bro Thomas Hardy, Woolton Draper was initiated on May 12th, and Passed & Raised on May 30th 1796. During his long membership of 60 years [1796 - 1855] he filled every Office in the Lodge, and also progressed through the various Offices of Bro. G.L. attaining the rank of Bro. S.G.W. For about 30 years he regularly officiated as the Installing Master, concerning which the Minutes speak in the highest praise, and describing his Orations on 'The Origin of Freemasonry' as 'Beautiful', his rendering of the various Charges as 'pathetically given', and his Lectures as always being intently listened to. On the union of the Grand Lodges under the Title of The United S.L. of England in 1813, he took a prominent part in instructing the Brethren in the Province in the New Mode of Degree Working [vide pp.] As a mark of esteem the Lodge instructed an eminent artist, Bro. Jefferson, to paint the Portrait of Bro Hardy on Dec. 27. 1820. In 1838 he had the pleasure of Installing his son, William H. Hardy, as W.M. in succession to Bro Sir Cuthbert Sharp, a position he retained until his death in the early part of 1840. Six years before this sad event, he was Presented.

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with a Gold Snuff Box, now a jealously guarded Lodge treasure, and a source of anxiety to our W.M.s. This being one of the most important events in our History I append the Minutes in extenso:—

BANQUET IN HONOUR OF Bro T. Hardy

At the Festival held on Dec. 29. 1834, in the Lodge Room at Kay's Hotel, the W.M. Sir Cuthbert Sharp was supported by a large number of Brethren including The Right Honourable The Earl of Durham, D.G.M., R.W. Com. G.M.

To avoid repetition his Biography continued in section 'Speeches and Addresses' Pages 230 to 240

