

Grand Lodge of Delaware". (Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania Vol. II, pp. 216-217 September 15, 1806). The Grand Lodge of Delaware constituted itself on June 6, 1806 in a carbon copy of the actions taken by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania twenty years before. (The details of this process are well discussed in Charles E. Green's 'History of the MW Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Delaware' (Wilmington: William N. Cann, Inc. 1956)).

The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and the Grand Lodge of Delaware finally settled their differences and the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania recognized the Grand Lodge of Delaware A.F. & A.M. on December 16, 1811: "...Resolved that the R.W. Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania do recognize the Grand Lodge of Delaware, and do agree to open a mutual and friendly intercourse with the said Grand Lodge, and to preserve and strengthen the same by every Act of Good Offices and Brotherly Love" (proceedings Vol. iii pp.133-134). So it has been, and so mote it be!

The following are accounts of the Pennsylvania lodges in Delaware, excerpted and paraphrased from the records of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania:

Lodge No. 5 at Cantwell's Bridge, New Castle County, Delaware.

Warrant granted St. John's day, June 24, 1765 for a lodge to be held at Cantwell's Bridge, New Castle County, Delaware, about twenty-two miles southwest of what is

now Wilmington. Surrendered and renewed December 27, 1787. Surrendered January 30, 1816 to join the Grand Lodge of Delaware. The location of this lodge was significant because as early as the year 1731, permission had been granted to one Richard Cantwell to erect a tall bridge to carry the post road over the Appoquinimink Creek. The hamlet "Cantwell's Bridge" became a port for the shipment of grain and was renamed "Odessa" after the great Russian grain port on the Black Sea. The Warrant was the first to be granted by the provincial Grand Lodge "Ancients" of Pennsylvania for a lodge to be held beyond the bounds of the Province. On December 18, 1815, the lodge was granted permission to withdraw from the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania to join the Grand Lodge of Delaware.

The following three lodges were in the thick of the controversy between the nascent Grand Lodge of Delaware and its mother, the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania:

Lodge No. 14, Christiana Ferry, New Castle County, Delaware.

Warrant granted December 27, 1769. Surrendered and renewed January 22, 1789. "Surrendered and renewed" refers to the fact that the original Warrants had been granted by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. When the independent Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania was constituted, subordinate lodge warrants were returned and new ones issued. On the Delaware, between the Brandywine and Christiana Creeks, Christiana

Ferry was one of the oldest Swedish settlements on the Delaware River and is now the city of Wilmington. During the Revolution, meetings were irregular and the records of the Lodge covering that period were either lost or destroyed. The Warrant was vacated September 15, 1806 for "un-Masonic proceedings" (the formation of the 'pretended' Grand Lodge of Delaware), as were those of the following lodges: No 33, New Castle and at Christiana Bridge, Delaware, one year at one place, and the ensuing year at the other. Warrant granted April 3, 1781. Surrendered and renewed March 1, 1790.

To complete the historical record, these are the other Delaware Lodges warranted by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, but which went dark before the Grand Lodge of Delaware was formed June 6, 1806:

No. 18 Dover, Kent County, Delaware.

Date of Warrant August 26, 1775; surrendered and renewed 1787. Not known when this lodge ceased.

No. 44 Duck Creek Cross Roads, Delaware.

Warrant granted June 20, 1785. Constituted June 24, 1785. Surrendered and renewed September 6, 1790. Ceased ca. 1791 (Duck Creek is now Smyrna).

No. 63 Lewis Town, Delaware.

Warrant granted May 28, 1794. Constituted June 24, 1794. Vacated April 7, 1806 because of non-payment of dues.