

# THE GRAND LODGE OF MARYLAND

To the Brethren of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of the great state of Delaware the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Maryland bid you: Happy Two Hundredth Anniversary!

While it is true we, the Grand Lodge of Maryland, took an extra five years to actually recognize your existence as a Grand Lodge (you owed us \$124.00 in assessments) let there be no mistake we are most proud of our Brethren in Delaware and the part Maryland Masons had in the formation of your Grand Lodge. The history of Jesse Green is indeed the common link in that "indissoluble chain of sincere affection" that will tie our two Grand Lodges together for all times. While M.W. Brother Green is considered the father of Masonry in Delaware it is good to remember that not only was he raised in Fells Point Lodge here in Baltimore but served as the R.W. Junior Grand Warden in 1800 under then G.M. William



Thomas and in 1801 under G. M. Crawford. In 1802 just four years before helping to establish the Grand Lodge of Delaware he was elected to serve as R.W. Senior Grand Warden, again under G.M. Crawford.

From that point on, his efforts in establishing Masonry in Delaware are in fact legendary and well documented. It was Jesse himself who at some point reached into his own pocket and remitted the assessments that were the bone of contention for those five years. While we may chidingly suggest that Most Worshipful Grand Master Conaway is the

"Provincial Grand Master" of far eastern Maryland, let there be no mistake about the sincere affection the Grand Lodge of Maryland holds for the Brethren of Delaware.

Two Hundred years of Masonic service to the communities that comprise the jurisdiction of Delaware is indeed something to be most proud of. The Grand Lodge of Delaware has over the past two centuries established a legacy of Masonic tradition and history that is second to none in North America. Your brethren here in Maryland take great pride and honor in being able to share in some small part the heritage of Delaware Masonry and all that it stands for. May you experience continued success and may the Supreme Architect continue to shower you with His richest blessings as Delaware Masonry begins a third century of Masonic Service.

Ronald G. Bélanger  
Grand Master

Grand Lodge of A.F. &  
A.M. of Maryland