

Thursday last, being St. John's Day, Patron of the Most Antient, and Rt. Worshipful Society of F R E E M A S O N S; they met about Eleven o' the Clock, at the Yellow Lion in Warbroughs-street, where there appear'd above a 100 Gentlemen. After some time spent, in putting on their Aprons, White Gloves, and other parts of the *Distinguishing* Dress of that Worshipful Order, they proceeded over Essex-Bridge to the Strand, and from thence to the King's Inns, in the following Order. The Officers of the Order in Hackney-Coaches (it being a very Rainy Day) the 12 Stewards in 9 Coaches, each having a *Mystical White Wand* in his Hand, the *Grand Master* in a fine Chariot. The *Grand Wardens*; the *Masters* and *Wardens* of the Six Lodges of Gentlemen F R E E M A S O N S, who are under the Jurisdiction of the *Grand Master*, the *Private Brothers*, all in Coaches; they made a very fine Appearance, most of them having new Cloaths proper for the solemn Occasion: When they came to the Inns, they marched up to the Great Hall, marshaled in the following Order. The Officers of the Order, two and two; the twelve Stewards, two and two, all uncovered; ——— R ——— Esq; who officiated as *Mason King at Arms*; the *Grand Master* alone, cover'd; the *Grand Wardens*, the *Masters* and *Wardens* of the several Lodges, each *Master* walking alone, and followed by his two *Wardens*; the *Private Brothers* two and two, all uncovered: After marching round the Walls



of the Great Hall, with many important Ceremonies, the *Grand Lodge*, composed of the *Grand Master*, *Deputy Grand Master*, (who was absent) *Grand Wardens*, and the *Masters* and *Wardens* of all the *Lodges*, retired to the Room prepared for them, where after performing the *Mystical Ceremonies* of the *Grand Lodge* which are held so sacred, that they must not be discover'd to a *Private Brother*; they proceeded to the Election of a new *Grand Master*, &c. As soon as it was known that the *Grand Lodge* was ready to appear, the *Officers* of the Order, the *Stewards*, and *Mason King at Arms*, dress'd in a proper Manner, carrying upon a *Velvet Cushion*, a little *Gold Trowel* with a *Black Ribbon*, attended at the Door, and marched in Order before the *Grand Wardens*, &c. to the upper End of the Great Hall, where stood the *Mystical Table*, made of a *Form* to represent two *Masons Squares* joined, and the *Proxy* of the *Senior Grand Warden* acquainted the Society, that the *Grand Lodge* had chosen the *Rt Hon. Earl of R O S S*, *Grand Master* for the Year ensuing, and *Sir Thomas Pendergrass*, and *Mark Morgan Esq*, *Grand Wardens*; and that the *Grand Master* had appointed the *Hon. Humphrey Buttler Esq*, *Deputy Grand Master*. At the naming of each of these, the Society gave their *Approbation*, by three *Huzzas*, then the *Officers* of the Order, &c. went to the *Grand Lodge Room*, and conducted this new *Grand Master* in great State to the Head of the *Mystical Table*, and *Mason King at Arms* hung the *Gold Trowel* by the *Black Ribbon* about his Neck.



Immediately the *Grand Master* made them an Elegant Speech, "Expressing how sensible he was of the Great Honour done him, and promising to discharge the great and important Trusts reposed in him, with becoming Fidelity, &c. And concluded, With an Apology for the shortness of his Speech, because Dinner was ready, and believed they were Hungry." There were three large Tables at the lower End of the Hall, of common Form, for the Private Brothers; for the *Grand Lodge* only sat at the *Mystical Table*. They had 120 Dishes of Meat, and were attended by 25 Drawer, admitted Free Mason for this solemn Occasion. After the Entertainment they all went to the Play, with their Aprons, &c. the private Brothers sat in the Pit, but the *Grand Master*, Deputy *Grand Master*, and *Grand Wardens*, in the *Governments Box*, at the Conclusion of the Play, Mr. Griffith the Player, who is a Brother, sung the Free Mason's Apprentices Song, the *Grand Master* and the whole Brotherhood joining in the Chorus. The Brothers of one Lodge wore fine Badges painted full of Crosses and Squares, with this Motto, *Spes mea in Deo est*. Which was no doubt very significant, for the Master of it wore a Yellow Jacket, and Blue Britches,

St. John being likewise the Parron of the Taylors, they Marched in great Order to St. John's Church, and afterwards to the Walkes Head, where they had a splendid Entertainment.