



# The Operative Mason Lodge of Dundee No. 47

## PRINCE OF WALES'S MARRIAGE DAY 1863

At Dundee 6<sup>th</sup> March 1863

At a meeting of the brethren of the Operative Lodge held in the Lodge Hall.

R.W.M. presiding

The Lodge having been duly opened The R.W. Depute Master proposed and the Treasurer seconded Mr William Mudie, Baker, Constitution Road as a fit candidate for initiation as a Freemason and admission as a member of the Lodge . The brethren present having unanimously assented he was regularly entered an apprentice Freemason and the Lodge was then closed.

Signed – John Geekie Jun

At Dundee 10<sup>th</sup> March 1863 being the marriage day of Their Royal Highnesses, Albert Edward, Prince of Wales and Alexandra, Princess of Denmark.

The magistrates and town council of Dundee having in common with those of all the towns in the Kingdom resolved to show by every means in their power their loyalty and gratification of a union entered into with the hearty approbation and good wishes of all classes of the community, determined to celebrate the day by a procession of the public bodies of the town, by illuminations, a display of fireworks, and other tokens of rejoicing, they accordingly appointed committees to carry these arrangements into effect, R.W.M. Geekie of the Lodge being appointed convenor of the procession committee while Past Masters Kay and Fairweather took active parts in the illuminations and other decorations. The Masonic bodies having been invited to take a part in the procession made active and successful exertions to make a creditable appearance.

At 11 a.m. the volunteer rifles and artillery paraded in the Barrack Park and having fired a Royal Salute marched to the High School and were dismissed.

At 12 o'clock noon the great centre of attraction was the Mid Quay where the various bodies composing the procession assembled at that hour, the crowds were kept back by barricades and two divisions of mounted carters, the utmost order being maintained. The procession having been marshalled by Major Alison of the Volunteer Rifles and Donald Mackay esquire , Superintendent of Police, left the Royal Arch at 1 p.m., precisely in the following order.



Marshall, mounted  
1<sup>st</sup> Division Mounted Carters  
The Thistle Band  
Pupils attending the Schools  
Teachers  
The Lochee Band  
The Lochee Weavers Lodge  
The Plasterers



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The Tailors  
 St Crispin's Lodge  
 The Bakers  
 The Union Royal Arch Chapter  
 The Dundee Band

The Masonic Lodges in the following order

No.	Names of Lodge	Attending
317	Camperdown	40
254	Caledonian	?
225	Forfar & Kincardine	60
158	Thistle Operative	45
78	St David's	20
49	Ancient	70
47	Operative	90

The Hilltown Band  
 The Sailors  
 The Royal Naval Volunteers  
 The Seamen's Fraternity  
 The Circus Band  
 The Three United Trades  
 The Nine Incorporated Trades  
 The Guildry  
 Band of the Dundee Rifle Volunteers  
 The Provost, Magistrates and Town Council  
 The carriage bearing  
 The commemorative trees to be planted in the Baxter Park  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Division Mounted Carters  
 Marshall, mounted

The procession proceeded by Dock Street, Union Street, Nethergate, Perth Road, St Peter Street, Hawkhill, Overgate, High Street, Reform Street, Panmure Street, King Street, Princes Street &c to the north gate of the Baxter Park. On the van of the procession arriving there a halt took place and open order was taken through which the Provost, Magistrates and Town Council preceded by the Volunteer Band and accompanied by the Master of each Masonic Lodge and a representative from each body proceeded to the Park, where immediately to the north of the Pavilion, Provost Parker, amid the cheers of those assembled, planted two lime trees in commemoration of the day. The procession then returned in inverted order, by way of Albert Street, Princes Street, King Street, St Andrew's Street, Trades Lane, Dock Street and Castle Street to the High Street where Provost Parker thanked the members of the procession for their attendance and the citizens for their orderly behaviour, three hearty cheers having been given for the young couple and three for Provost Parker the procession broke up. The brethren of the Operative Lodge adjourned to their own hall and partook of some refreshments, and, after showing their loyalty to their Queen, drank in enthusiastic style (drank) long life, health and happiness to the Prince and Princess of Wales

The procession had an imposing appearance many beautiful flags and banners and other paraphernalia were displayed. Floral arches were erected on its route, one at Rose Angle,



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another at Westfield Place, Perth Road, and others at Castle Street, Princes Street and else where, the whole town was gaily decorated with flags and evergreens, the spire of St Paul's Episcopal church having been ascended by means of a kite it was connected by strings of flags with the old steeple and the spires of the Town House, Free St Paul's Church and St Andrew's Church. In the evening the Town House, Royal Exchange, Old Steeple, Trades Hall, Custom House, Royal Arch, Post Office and all the other public buildings were brilliantly and tastefully illuminated and a display of fireworks took place at the Magdalene Green from which too might be seen bonfires on the hills in Perth and Fife Shires, numerous social meetings took place, and the poor were not forgotten. The rejoicings were general throughout the British Dominions.

The Operative Lodge made an excellent turn out at the procession, and was specially complimented by the local press, while R.W.M. Geekie received great credit for his successful exertions as convenor of the Procession Committee.

The Lodge in Dundee resolved to forward an address of congratulation to Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria on this happy occasion, it was presented through Past Master Sir John Ogilvie of this Lodge, M.P. for the Burgh, and annexed is a copy of it and the reply intimating its gracious reception.

### UNTO THE QUEEN'S MOST GRACIOUS MAJESTY

May it please your Majesty.

We your Majesty's loyal and faithful subjects, The Right Worshipful Masters and Wardens and Brethren of the Lodges in Dundee of the order of St John's Masonry, desire humbly to approach your Majesty with the expression of our earnest and heartfelt congratulation on the marriage of your son, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales.

We desire at the same time to express to your Majesty the deep sense of gratitude which we in common with all the people of these Realms, entertain for the large amount of constitutional freedom, and the many other blessings we enjoy under your Majesty's Benign rule.

We would earnestly but humbly implore the Great Architect of the Universe, in whom our trust is placed, that your Majesty may long be spared in all happiness and prosperity to reign over your wide spread dominions, and that His Divine and everlasting blessing may rest upon you.

Subscribed in name of the Lodges in Dundee of St John's Masonry.

(signed) John Geekie, Jun.

R.W.M., Operative Lodge No. 47.