

To the M. W. Grand Master - Grand Warden & Brethren
of Ancient Free & Accepted Masons of the Commonwealth
of Massachusetts.

The Committee to whom was referred with full power
the application for the restoration of the Charter of Bethel
Lodge of Enfield, were waited upon by a Committee
of the Petitioners, consisting of Brothers J. B. Woods & Ichabod
Pope, who gave them such information as induced
your Committee to decide unanimously in favor of
the application. The Charter has accordingly been
restored. The Seven petitioners * all reside in Enfield.
There are in all sixteen members of the Lodge now
surviving. Enfield itself is a town of about
Eleven hundred inhabitants. There were, prior to
the Anti-masonic invasion, lodges in Belchertown,
five miles, in Ware, seven miles, distant. The
nearest Lodge now, * is at Palmer Depot - distant
twelve miles. There are two others - one at Northampton
one at Barn - distant eighteen & seventeen miles.

In the days of its prosperity, Bethel Lodge
built a hall, which was purchased, & is now owned,
by Brothers J. B. & Leonard Woods - two of the
Petitioners.

Nowhere were our brethren more unmercifully persecuted during the dark ages, than at Enfield. Their Lodge Room was broken open, & their jewels stolen, & divided among the thieves, as a reward for their virtuous & valorous attacks upon their peaceful & law abiding neighbors.

The records & seal were preserved; & the more bulky furniture, but little injured, now remains the property of the Lodge.

Since that time, now a quarter of a century, the Lodge Room has remained as it was left, awaiting the time when the sound of the gavel should again call order out of chaos; & the brethren to renew their peaceful labors.

The Brethren to whom the Charter has been restored, are among the more worthy & wealthy of the Town. They are full of

Masonic Zeal - rejoicing in - the restoration of a
Charter identified with their early masonic years,
that, in their old hall, in their ancient seats,
with a large & comtipe field before them,
& with the mysteries of masonry safely
deposited in their faithful breasts, they
might rebuild the Lodge of their youth,
in wisdom, strength & beauty.

"Truth, though crushed to Earth, shall
rise again".

Benj. Dean } Committee
Wm. M. Peeler } on restoration
W. C. Miller } of the Charter of
} Bethel Lodge.