



**V.W. Bro. His Honour  
Judge Frederick Adolphus Philbrick KC.**

**By Bro. Alec Hall**



## Foreword.

I have attempted to expand on the excellent work already done by W. Bro. Leonard Pitt when he produced the Philbrick Lodge History for our Centenary Celebrations in 1988. Len's book has provided a firm foundation .

I can but hope that this little booklet will help anyone who wishes to follow in our footsteps and expand this work still further. A folder of most of the source material will be left with the Lodge for the use of anyone who would care to add to this biography.

I have chosen to divide this booklet into manageable sections covering Philbrick Genealogy, his Masonic and Legal career, his hobbies and finally, Obituaries.

Alec Hall (29th April 2007)

## Acknowledgments.

W. Bro Leonard Samuel Pitt. Justice of the Peace, P.P.A.G.D.C. PZ. Born 4 October 1925. Passed to the Grand Lodge Above on the 22nd February 2005. Len was Initiated into the Philbrick Lodge on the 3rd February 1971 and installed in the Chair of King Solomon in October in 1977. At that ceremony Len invested me as his Junior Warden. He was made an Honorary member in 1989.

Michael Jacobs for his invaluable help with genealogical details.

W. Bro. John Ashby for his generous and enthusiastic assistance.

W. Bro. Sidney MacKay for providing important information and encouragement. It is from Sid that the bound commemorative volume was obtained together with many newspaper cuttings.

W Bro Brian Wright who located much information for me.

Emily Greenstreet and Andrew Tucker of the Library and Museum of Freemasonry for their invaluable support.

Hannah Baker Archives Assistant, Middle Temple.

W. Bro. Mark L Perkins Librarian & Curator, Essex Provincial Library.

W. Bro. Clifford Wyatt.

Julian Shaw, Orchid Registrar, Royal Horticultural Society.

My wife, Jenny, Keith (New Zealand), Doug (Nova Scotia) and many others to numerous to mention here, for their generous help and support

- [27] Brentwood Lodge of Mark Master Masons No 377 "Marking 100 Years of Progress" written by the late W Bro George Spendley in May 1987 and revised by him in November 2001. Published privately. Private communication from Peter Knatt
- [28] A History of One Hundred Years of the Order of the Secret Monitor by E. G. Gregory White Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler for Essex & Suffolk Vice-President of the Executive Committee
- [29] A paper by RWBro. E. G. Gregory White was given to Supreme Rulers Conclave No.123 on the 14<sup>th</sup> September 1983 gives considerable detail of this Order.
- [29A] Personal communication from Emily Greenstreet. Library and Museum.
- [30] Diamond Jubilee of the St. Andrew's Chapter, No.1817 held at the Memorial Temples, Southend on Sea on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April, 1961 Booklet provided by W. Bro. Cliff Wyatt.

### Legal Career.

- [31] Clare Rider, The Archivist *First published The Inner Temple Yearbook 1998/9*
- [32] Reference : HC 500/32 obtained from the Bury St. Edmunds Records Office. Extract from that document reproduced with permission.
- [33] SESSIONS BUNDLES: LATER SERIES - ref. Q/SBb  
FILE - MIDSUMMER SESSION 1842 - ref. Q/SBb 548 - date: 1842  
item: [no title] - ref. Q/SBb 548/48 - date: 1842  
[from Scope and Content] Draft orders: contract with Mr. Brewster for purchase of land at Dunmow for the erection of a station house to be rescinded; land for the erection of a station house at Dunmow to be purchased fronting the High Road from the late Samuel Philbrick; a station house to be provided at Bocking and land to be purchased.
- [34] There is an interesting record of a document, signed by Queen Victoria, granting permission for Frederick Adolphus Philbrick Esq., licence to plead on behalf of J. R. Nash in his trial for perjury.
- [35] Letters Additional Collection Catalogue Ref. LAdd  
A series of legal letter's - ref. LAdd/2234-2285  
FILE [no title] - ref. LAdd/3920 - date: 16 Feb. 1892  
[from Scope and Content] As LAdd/3918 to F.A. Philbrick with an enclosure
- [36] ARCHIVE OF THE SUSSEX RIVER AUTHORITY  
Catalogue Ref. SRA  
The Commissioners of Sewers for the Lewes and Laughton Levels  
Administrative papers  
FILE - Draft case for the opinion of Mr Philbrick concerning liability for the sea defences at Mr Catt's tide mill, Bishopstone - ref. SRA6/14/32-33 - date: 1877
- [37] Essex Court of Quarter Sessions  
SESSIONS BUNDLES: LATER SERIES - ref. Q/SBb  
FILE - JANUARY SESSION 1836 - ref. Q/SBb 522 - date: 1836  
item: [no title] - ref. Q/SBb 522/17 - date: 20 February 1836  
[from Scope and Content] Draft letter to F A Philbrick [attorney?] of Colchester seeking certificate of conviction of Samuel Colleer at Colchester Easter Sessions of 1826
- [38] Concerning Frederick's father.  
FILE - SUMMER SESSION 1836 - ref. Q/SBb 524 - date: Summer 1836  
item: Letter from Frederick B. Philbrick, Town Clerk of Colchester - ref. Q/SBb 524/29 - date: 23 June 1836

### Hobbies.

- [41] Wikipedia.
- [42] Personal letters from Julian Shaw, Orchid Registrar of the Royal Horticultural Society.

## Royal Arch

1866 Exalted into United Chapter of Prudence. No. 12. M.E.Z. 1876

1873 Joined Mount Moriah Chapter. No. 143. M.E.Z. 1878. Honorary Member 1888

1873 Joined Chapter of St. James. No.2. M.E.Z. 1877

1874 Appointed Assistant Grand Sojourner.

1883 Appointed Grand Superintendent. Essex. Held office until his demise. (1910)

1884 Appointed Grand Registrar. Held office until 1898

1903 Appointed 3rd Grand Principal and retained office until 1909

## References.

### Summary

- [1] Personal communications from Michael Jacobs, Genealogist.
- [2] Hannah Baker Archives Assistant at the Middle Temple provided this information in a personal communication.
- [3] Publication name is unknown. From a paper cutting found in the Illuminated Address Book. Philbrick Lodge.
- [4] Booklet entitled "CENTURY A History of One Hundred Years of the Order of the Secret Monitor" by R.W. Bro. E.G. Gregory White the Former Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler for Essex and Suffolk.
- [5] 'An Appreciation' by Bro. C. J. R Tijou, P.A.G.D.C and dated c.1911. Newspaper cutting.
- [6] Excerpts from the London Philatelic Society magazine obituary of 1911

### Family History

- [11] Personal communications from Michael Jacobs, Genealogist.
- [12] Personal communication from W.Bro. Brian Wright. Source of photograph unknown.
- [13] Personal communication from W. Bro. Cliff Wyatt.

### Masonic Career

- [21] Biography by Sir Francis Vane 1928. In 1928, Sir Francis Vane
- [22] Bro. Heiron, author of "Ancient Freemasonry and the Old Dundee Lodge, No. 18" [1722-1920], gives a most interesting account of lodge life two hundred years ago. The paper was read by Bro. Heiron before the Manchester Association for Masonic Research in May, 1924.
- [23] Extracted from The Transactions of The Author's Lodge No. 3456, E.C. Vol 1, 1915
- [24] From AQC 98 pp 10/11/12 where the Author quotes from Bro. Sir James Stubbs's History of the Royal Alpha Lodge No. 16.
- [25] Royal Alpha members list provided in a private communication by Emily Greenstreet, and photo of Judge Philbrick portrait provided by Andrew Tucker both of the Library and Museum of Freemasonry..
- [26] A paper published in AQC Vol 108 pp81 by Bro. R. Khambatta, concerns the influence of the Prince of Wales (Edward VII) on the Craft. However, it also goes into some detail on the Grand Registrar and our Judge.

## Summary - His life in brief.

The Philbrick Lodge Minutes show that Lord Brooke, Earl of Warwick carried out the Consecration of the Lodge in 1888 and Judge F. A. Philbrick installed the first Master in the Chair of the Philbrick Lodge No.2255. The Lodge was named in honour of the Judge.

Few men can claim to have excelled in even one activity. Judge Frederick Adolphus Philbrick excelled in three or even four activities during his life time and left his mark on each and every one. A remarkable man!

His Honour Judge Frederick Adolphus Philbrick was born on the 20th June 1835 and Baptised at Lion Walk Meeting-House, Colchester, on the 6th August 1835 He died on the 25<sup>th</sup> December 1910. His father was Frederick Blomfield Philbrick (Born 7 Oct 1810, birthplace given as Saint Mary At The Wall, Colchester) and his mother was Judith née Sheldrake. [1]

The photograph of his signed portrait on the front cover is in the possession of the Philbrick Lodge. A portrait of the Judge, painted by Mr. Frank Daniell of Colchester, hangs at Great Queen Street. It is a sad portrait of our Judge painted at the end of his life when he was quite unwell. See inside back cover.

### Family History

The Judge's father, Frederick Blomfield Philbrick, was a solicitor and the Town Clerk of Colchester.

Our Judge was one of nine children. His brother Henry was most probably a Solicitor as was his father and grandfather.

Judge F.A. Philbrick had two sons by his first wife, Charlotte Beadel and three daughters by his second wife Jemima Cockburn. The youngest son Earnest was a Freemason and was also present at a Conclave of Mourning in memory of his father.

### Masonic Career.

Initiated into Old Dundee Lodge. No. 18. In 1864 and W. Master 1871. Resigned 1876.

A press obituary in 1911 states "The Philbrick Lodge No.2255, meeting at Chingford and established in 1888 and the Philbrick Chapter, No. 1,662, meeting at the Great Eastern Hotel, London, were named after the late Judge." [3]

The Judge was appointed Grand Registrar of England in 1884 until the appointment of Mr. John Strachan in 1898. He received the preferment of a Past Grand Warden of England in 1898 in which year he retired from the Deputy Provincial Grand Mastership, a post he had occupied for close on 20 years .

The high regard for him can be judged by the beautiful leather bound commemorative book



given to him by the Province of Essex when he retired as Deputy Provincial Grand Master. This book carries the Philbrick motif on the front cover and it is reasonable to assume that the Lodge did the leather cover and binding. It is currently held by the Philbrick Lodge. The first page of this book is reproduced to the left.

The first Festival of the Order [Secret Monitor] was held at the Hotel Victoria,

Northumberland Avenue, London, S.W. on July 15, 1887. It was also the inauguration meeting of Alfred Meadows Conclave No. 1, which having worked without a warrant until the following November was then issued with its warrant. [4]

The first Constitutions of the Order were drafted by Judge Philbrick and adopted at the first meeting of Grand Council in 1887.

Searching the Lodge Returns to the Clerk of the Peace at Chelmsford (required under the Geo.III Seditious Oaths Act.) we find that the returns for the 5th February 1895 show that F. A. Philbrick was second in the list of members for two Lodges. Three Friends and the Lodge of Goodfellowship No. 276 which met at the White Hart Hotel, Chelmsford. Unfortunately, the Secretary in 1895 has recorded his second name as Arthur.

The first member listed for these two Lodges is The Right Honourable the Earl of Warwick. It may be speculated that Philbrick and Warwick were well acquainted through Province, the Mark and Secret Monitor degrees, and both were Honorary members of both Lodges.

An insight into our Judge's character is given by this anecdote. [5]

*"I happened to be staying in Bournemouth at Christmas four years ago, and was gratified to find how much Bro. Philbrick was appreciated by the Craft. I called to see him, and found that he was about visiting the Hengist Lodge in that town, and he assured me that the Brethren would give me a cordial welcome if I would accompany him : but I felt some hesitation, as I had no Masonic clothing with me. He said he could provide me with the collar and apron of Grand Registrar, whereupon, on my remarking that I was not entitled to wear such, he said he would grant me absolution even in the face of that " High Court " the Board of General Purposes. Needless to say we had a very enjoyable evening with the Brethren of the Lodge, many of whom I recognised later at his funeral."*

A touch of humour?

## Appendix.

### Highlights of Judge Philbrick's Masonic Career.

1864 Initiated into the Old Dundee Lodge.

1870 Joined Grand Masters Lodge No.1. Resigned

1870 Joined Lodge of Good fellowship. No.276

1871 Joined Lodge of Antiquity. No.2. Deputy W.M. 1877. Resigned 1886

1871 Joined Angel Lodge. No.51. Resigned 1899

1872 Joined Middlesex Lodge. No. 143. Resigned 1887

1873 Appointed Junior Grand Deacon.

1875 Founder Member St Peter's Westminster Lodge. No 1537. Honorary Member 1876

1879 Appointed D.P.G.M. Essex. Resigned 1899

1883 Joined Royal Alpha Lodge. No. 16

1883 Joined Hope Lodge. No.433. Honorary Member 1898

1884 Founder Member University of London Lodge. No.2033. Installed as it's first W.M. Honorary Member 1891

1884 Appointed Grand Registrar. Held appointment until 1897

1887 Founder of the Brentwood Mark lodge No 377 [26]

1887 Member of and wrote Constitution of Secret Monitor.

1888 Consecration of Philbrick Lodge. No.2255.

1889 The Order of the Scarlet Cord. [28]

1898. Presentation at Brentwood of a valedictory address to His Honour Judge Philbrick, Q.C., on his resignation from the post of Deputy Provincial Grand Master.

1898 Appointed P.J.G.W.

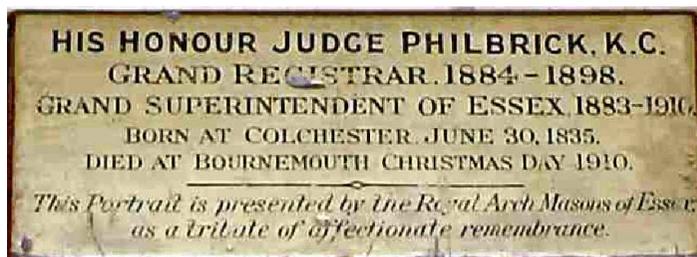
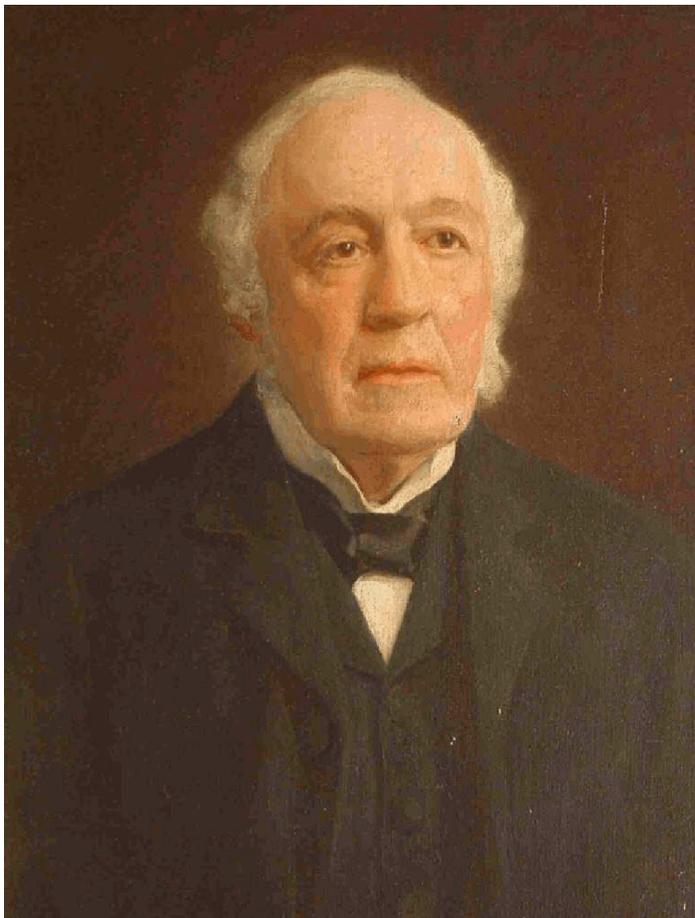
1901 Consecration of St. Andrews Chapter No.1817.

## Finally.

An entry for 1913 in the Essex Freemason's Handbook states "The portrait of the late Judge Philbrick, painted by Mr. Frank Daniell of Colchester, and presented by the Royal Arch Masons of Essex to Freemasons' Hall in London as a Memorial to the eminent services rendered to the Order by His Honour as Grand Superintendent for 27 years. The portrait was unveiled at Freemasons' Hall by Col. Sir T. Courtenay Warner Bart., CB, M.P., G. Supt."

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Ref: [24a]



## Legal Career.

"... Judge Frederick Adolphus Philbrick. was born in 1835, the eldest son of Frederick Blomfield Philbrick of Colchester, Attorney-at-law and was educated at London University. He was admitted to the Society on 19th April 1858 and was subsequently called on 6th June 1860, made a Bencher on 30th January 1877, Lent Reader 1887. According to the Middle Temple Bench Book he was made Recorder of Colchester in 1870, until his death on the 25th December 1910, however it says that he became a Q.C. in 1874 and a Justice of the County Court (Dorset) in 1895." [2]

A distinguished Legal Career.

## Hobbies.

Judge Frederick Philbrick was a keen and much respected Philatelist . This article indicate his importance.[6]

### "DEATH OF JUDGE PHILBRICK.

*With the deepest regret we have to record the death of His Honour Judge Frederick Adolphus Philbrick, K. C., which took place at Colchester on Dec. 25, at the age of seventy-five. This sad news will be received throughout the entire philatelic world with the most profound sorrow and appreciation of the great services rendered to philately by Judge Philbrick.*

*The sad intimation of his death having only reached us on the point of publication, we are compelled to defer until our next issue a full appreciation of the important role played by Judge Philbrick in British philately. As the first Vice President and second President of the London Philatelic Society, and as the acknowledged leader of the pursuit for many years in this country, Judge Philbrick's name will always be honoured and remembered as one of the greatest in the history of philately. - London Philatelist.*

Judge Philbrick was also a well known Orchid Grower. Unfortunately for us, his Orchid career was undertaken using an assumed name.

## Judge Philbrick's Genealogy. [11]

Samuel Philbrick was Judge Philbrick's Grandfather and lived with his wife Mary nee Blomfield in Colchester. They were married c.1796 and there is some evidence that Samuel was a Solicitor.

Samuel and Mary had three daughters (possibly 4) and six sons. One of the children had the very unusual name of Mira Billa. ( Male or female? Mira is the name of an important star.) Nine children was not unusual in that period but it may indicate that Samuel was comparatively affluent since it would seem that most, if not all, of his children survived to maturity.

The Judge's father was Frederick Blomfield Philbrick (Born 7 Oct 1810, birthplace given as Saint Mary At The Wall, Colchester) and his mother was Judith nee Sheldrake about whom nothing is known. Frederick Blomfield was a Solicitor, Attorney at Law and Town Clerk of Colchester.

Frederick Blomfield and Judith produced five children with our Frederick Adolphus being the eldest born on the 30th June 1835 in Colchester. It was in that year, as an aside, that Colchester Castle was closed as a Jail and Charles Dickens visited Colchester as a young Newspaper reporter.

Henrietta Philbrick, sister of our Judge, remained unmarried but gave considerable support to her brother in his Masonic work. Would you suspect her to be a formidable Lady? [12]

Frederick Adolphus was educated at London University and admitted to the Law society on 19th April 1858 and was subsequently called on 6th June 1860, made a Bencher on 30th January 1877, Lent Reader 1887. According to the Middle Temple Bench Book he was made Recorder of Colchester in 1870, until his death on the 25th December 1910

The Census of 1851 shows Frederick Adolphus living with his mother and father at 23, Head Street, Colchester with his two brothers and sister Henrietta. Our man, at 15 years of age, is listed as a 'scholar'.

The 1861 Census has our Philbrick living with his father, Frederick B. (Attorney and Solicitor) and mother Judith (from Suffolk, Hadleigh.) at 174, Lambells (?) St. Botolph, Colchester. In the household were Frederick, Edgerton, Henrietta, Horace and Henry plus one servant.



**THE LATE MISS PHILBRICK**  
Who took a keen interest in Essex Masonic affairs,  
Died 2nd November, 1921.  
She was Sister of the late Judge Philbrick, K.C.,  
27 years Grand Superintendent of Essex.

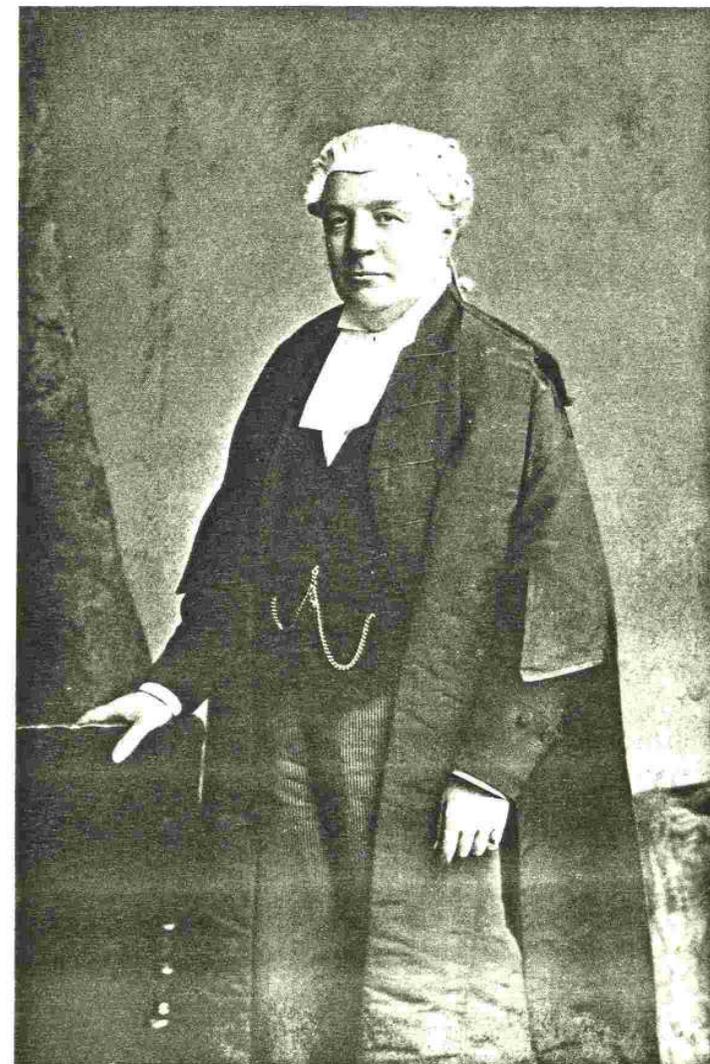


Photo H. J. Whitlock]

[11 New Street, Birmingham

**His Honour Judge Philbrick, K.C.**

*Judicial Bench, but it was not to be just then. Later on he was offered and accepted the County Court Judgeship of Circuit 55, comprising Bournemouth, Somersetshire, and Dorsetshire, and after a short residence at Taunton took up his abode at Bournemouth. I have seen many instances of his kindly humour in court, and call to mind two occasions interesting to the Craft. One was, when the publisher of a certain Masonic work, whose energetic canvasser had obtained many subscribers amongst the Brethren in east London, found that some of them who did not appreciate the Masonic merits of that noted book failed to keep up their instalments, for which they were legally liable. A relative of mine, then a young W.M., was instructed to take the necessary proceedings to enforce payment, and in opening his case fully explained to Judge Philbrick the nature of his claim, and put in evidence a copy, of the work, which the Judge carefully examined and remarked upon to the advocate, and of which (from a legal point of view) they both appeared to be absolutely ignorant. This notwithstanding that the Judge had taken part in the ceremony of initiating the solicitor into our Craft, a ceremony which was performed by me a few years previously. On another occasion when I was engaged upon my duties in Court, and sitting immediately below the Judge, he remarked to me in a whisper, "Look at that fool." On turning my head, I perceived a witness, in answer to every question, bending forward and apparently giving a certain sign, which drew upon him the attention of every member of the Craft then in Court. Later in the day I had occasion to see this witness in my private room, and cautiously referring to his demeanour in Court, I ascertained that he was merely giving a nervous expression to his words, and was absolutely ignorant of his action. I happened to be staying in Bournemouth at Christmas four years ago, and was gratified to find how much Bro. Philbrick was appreciated by the Craft. I called to see him, and found that he was about visiting the Hengist Lodge in that town, and he assured me that the Brethren would give me a cordial welcome if I would accompany him; but I felt some hesitation, as I had no Masonic clothing with me. He said he could provide me with the collar and apron of Grand Registrar, whereupon, on my remarking that I was not entitled to wear such, he said he would grant me absolution even in the face of that "High Court" the Board of General Purposes. Needless to say we had a very enjoyable evening with the Brethren of the Lodge, many of whom I recognised later at his funeral. As Grand Superintendent of Essex, as well as Dep. Prov. G.M. of that Province, he was universally beloved, and his passing away will be deeply regretted, but by none of us more than by those associated with him in the Secret Monitor. The last time we met was at a Benevolent meeting of that Order, when, as his Deputy, I was conducting a ceremony, and he, coming in unexpectedly, sat by my side, and subsequently in company of three or four old friends we spent a very pleasant hour over a grill. I was deeply grieved last week to hear that he had been taken from us so suddenly, and in the company of Bros. Railing, Spratling, and Tipper, had the melancholy gratification of seeing him laid to rest in Bournemouth Cemetery, on Friday, 30th ult. The funeral was attended by Bro. Railing Prov. G. Sec. and Scribe E. Essex, representing the Earl of Warwick and the Prov. Grand Lodge and Chapter; Bro. C. J. R. Tijou P.A.G.D.C. Eng., Bro. Spratling P.G.S.B. Eng., and Bro. H. Tipper P.G.P. Eng. on behalf of the Order of the Secret Monitor; also many local members of the Craft. The legal profession was represented by Bro. Tijou, as High Bailiff of Bow, and many of the Registrars and Officers of the Courts in Bro. Philbrick's circuit Wreaths were sent from the Grand Lodge of England, Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter of Essex, the Order of the Secret Monitor, the Earl of Warwick, the local Lodges, and many others.*

The Judge married Charlotte Beadel in September 1863 at Chelmsford. In the 1861 census, Charlotte (born circa 1841) was living with her parents in Witham, Essex. It seems to have been quite a prosperous family with several servants also listed at the same address of Broomfield Lodge, Witham. Charlotte's father, James, is listed as an auctioneer and surveyor. There is no trace of Broomfield Lodge House at the Essex Records Office two records relating to Beadel are shown below:-

*Printed report of select committee of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. Contains (inter alia) evidence of JAMES BEADEL, land surveyor, on value of Danbury Park purchased by Bishop of Rochester (pp. 163-172) 1848*

*Sketches of Farm Buildings Designed & Executed by Messrs. BEADEL Son & Chancellor Archts Chelmsford... Volume containing designs for:- Hormead Farm, Herts., 1850 Frowicke Farm, St. Osyth (pl... 1850-1862)*

Charlotte hailed from a wealthy family!

A little further investigation has led to a possible death entry for a Charlotte Philbrick. This list her birth as 1841 and her death in March 1868 in St Pancras, London. This fits in nicely with the birth of their two sons, Earnest (b 1866) and Arthur (b 1867), both born in St Pancras. Earnest became a Freemason and was present at a commemorative service when he sat next to a portrait of his father that had been placed in the adjacent chair..

It would seem quite probable that the Judge and his family lived in St. Pancras during the mid 1860's although it is also possible that, for some reason, Charlotte had her two sons at St. Pancras. The two sons, Earnest (1866) and Arthur (1887) both went to Rugby School and were in the same house.



F. A. Philbrick

apparently born in Switzerland!)

The painting to the left shows the Judge in c1864.

In 1870, following the death of Charlotte, Judge Philbrick married Jemima (Minnie) Caroline Cockburn, daughter of James Cockburn, at Marylebone (Registry Office?). Minnie and Frederick had three daughters, Madeline (1873), Evelyn (1876) and Edith (1878) and it would seem that Madeline and Edith remained unmarried.

In the 1881 Census [1], our Frederick Philbrick was a Queens Councillor and living at Oldfield Bickley Park, Bromley, Kent. He was by then a widower and living with his three daughter, Madeline, Evelyn and Edith, together with a Governess and six servants. (Two of whom were

The Census of 1881 records:-

Frederick A. Philbrick	Head	W	44	Queens Councillor (in practice)
Madeline F. E.	Dau		8	Scholar
Evelyn C.M.	Dau		7	Scholar
Edith C.C.	Dau		3	
Eliza Thelwall	Serv	W	48	Housekeeper
Amy Taylor	Gov		28	Governess
Constant Chapin.....	Serv		25	Valet (Switzerland)
Mery Chapins	Serv		27	Cook (Switzerland)
James Jane Bailey	Serv		21	Nurse
Beatrice Parkinson....	Serv		40	Housemaid
Eliza Batchelor	Serv		17	Under housemaid.

The two boys were away at boarding school and from the address and the number of servants that Frederick employed, it is reasonable to assume that he was comparatively wealthy.

In 1895, Judge F. A. Philbrick QC was appointed a County Court Judge at Dorset. His circuit, No.55, included the towns of Bournemouth, Salisbury, Dorchester, Yeovil and Poole beside other smaller places.

According to the Portland Register for 1895, Judge Philbrick's address was - Westfield House, Wimborne. It was the family home of the Druitts of Wimborne where Montague Druitt, a barrister, would have spent much time. The Judge presumably took over from the Druitt family.

Montague John Druitt was a barrister and a graduate of Winchester College. He was discovered drowned in the Thames river on December 31, 1888. He is considered by many to be the number one suspect in the Jack the Ripper case. Interestingly enough, there no evidence with which to implicate his guilt.

By 1901, Judge Philbrick had moved to, and was living at, Barwick House in the village of Barwick, Yeovil, South Somerset together with two of his daughters Madeline and Edith neither of which were married. They also had three female servants in the house plus a visitor. Madeline and Edith are listed as being born in London (St. Pancras?).

In the grounds of Barwick House was a Lodge in which lived a gardener, Mr. Gilbert 41, with his wife Francis 49, two sons and a daughter. It is not clear if the wife and children also had duties as servants to the Judge.

There is only one reference to the Judge's health [13]. In 1901 he was stricken with sciatica and unable to be present at the Consecration ceremony of St. Andrew's Chapter held on the 23rd April 1901 at Southend-on-Sea.

*attention, and which we hope to reproduce in our next issue.*

*Then, came the " Dead March in Saul," and while the solemn strains of the organ was pealing the Guarder, in long black robe, carrying an arrow, walked slowly with bowed head round the representation of the open grave. Halting at the foot of the grave he broke the arrow in twain, and threw the pieces upon the floor, as if overwhelmed in utter despair, and proceeded to complete his solemn circuit. Suddenly he [stopped] reverently laying them upon the grave in the form of a cross, slowly retired. Later the cloth that represented the grave was removed, and the bright star worked upon the carpet, which had been covered until now, gleamed forth as a sign of hope and of assurance of the happiness in the other world of the spirit of him whom all loved and honoured.*

*An excellent portrait of the late judge, draped with crape, was fixed near his empty Chair, and beside it sat his eldest son Bro. Ernest Philbrick, a silent and deeply moved spectator.*

*The Vice-Chair was occupied by Bro. J. M. Bastone, a Past Grand Treasurer of the Order, and among those present were several Craft Grand Officers, many holding high rank among Brethren of the other degrees of Freemasonry, and many others, perhaps less distinguished in rank, but no whit behind their associates; especially those belonging to his own Province, as late Grand Superintendent of Essex, in their love and veneration for their lost and admired leader.*

*The large Temple was more than filled, and the organisers of the meeting must be pleased at the general and appreciative response made to their labours. It was a rare Masonic ceremony."*

There is also 'An Appreciation' by Bro. C. J. R. Tijou P.A.D.G.C. It is not dated but was probably written in 1911. The photocopy we have is obviously from a magazine of the period. This shows Philbrick to have a very human and humourous side to his character.

#### ***An Appreciation.***

*His Honour Judge Philbrick, K.C., Recorder of Colchester;  
Past Grand Warden and Past Grand Registrar.*

*By BRO. C. J. R. TIJOU P.A.G.D.C.*

*It is approaching fifty years since I first met Bro. Philbrick, when he was quite a junior at the " Bar," having been " called" only two or three years. Even then, he specialised in one or two classes of cases, in which he afterwards became noted, and his general courtesy and genial manner made a deep impression on me.*

*At a comparatively early stage his services became to be in demand in the High Court and on the civil side of Assizes, and for a time he passed out of my official ken. A few years passed by before we met again, and then the occasion was the consecration of the Epping Lodge, by which time he had, hi our Craft, become Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Essex, and Registrar of the United Grand Lodge. Our old acquaintanceship was thus renewed, and soon after, at my request, he sat as Deputy for Judge Prentice, Q.C., in the Court to which I am attached. We, of his legal friends, anticipated that his experience and personality, coupled with the fact of his acting on several occasions as a Commissioner or Deputy Judge of the High Court, would have been recognised by his appointment to the*

## Obituaries.

London Philatelic Society obituary of 1911 has already been reproduced in the Summary section.

In the Illuminated Address book there were several newspaper and journal cuttings containing obituaries and an appreciation of the Judge. All of these are in the possession of the Philbrick Lodge.

One of the most moving of these obituaries is reproduced below from the Freemasons Chronicle dated 4<sup>th</sup> February 1911.

### *Order of the Secret Monitor.*

#### ***Conclave of Mourning In Memory of His Honour the late Judge Frederick A. Philbrick, K.C., Deputy Ruler of the Order.***

*"A very numerously attended meeting last Tuesday evening, at the Masonic Temple, Hotel Cecil, was the result of the invitation issued by the Grand Council to members of the Order and to Masons in general. This Order is unique in the country in possessing a "Ritual of Sorrow," prepared many years ago for the purpose of being used upon the occasion of the funeral of one of its members, or, as in the present case, as a memorial ceremony, conducted in an established Masonic Temple.*

*In the absence of the Earl of Warwick, Mr. Deputy Alderman Japheth Tickle, C.C., Deputy Lieutenant of London, the assistant to the late deceased Brother presided, while the rendering of the beautiful and impressive ritual was entrusted to Bro. C. J. R. Tijou Vice President of the Board of Benevolence Past Grand Guide of the Order, Bro. Arthur W. Chapman Past Grand Guide, Bro. John Barker (of Harrogate) Grand Chamberlain and President at the recent Benevolent Festival of the Order, Bro. Henry Jenkins Grand Bow Bearer and one of the best known exponents of the various rituals, Bro. Frank E. Lemon Past Grand Treasurer, Bro. Harry Tipper Past Grand Visitor, Bro. George Carter (of Leeds) Past Grand Director of Ceremonies, and Bro. W. J. Spratling Grand Recorder.*

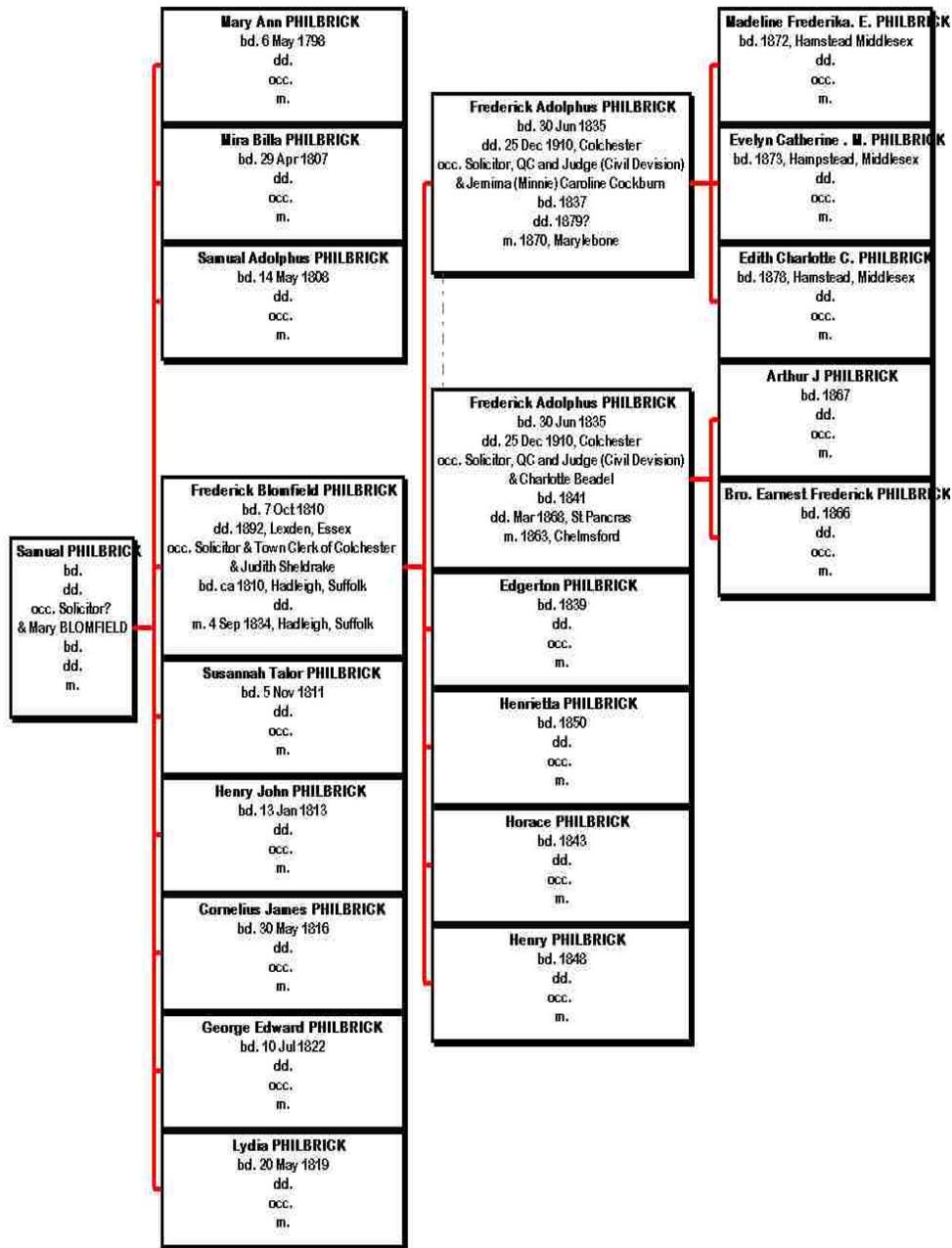
*The musical portion of the ceremony was undertaken by some members of the choir of Westminster Abbey, who, under the direction of Bro. Tipper, did ample justice to the solos and anthems, "O rest in the Lord," "Be thou faithful unto death," "Happy and blest are they," "I know that my Redeemer liveth," and "Blest are the departed."*

*The whole ceremony was solemn, impressive, and most effective, the rich voice of the leader and the tremulous voice of more than one of the assistants proving they also felt the grief which more than one silent tear among the great audience attested, and when at last the pent up feeling found a vent in singing the well-known hymn, "O what the joy and the glory must be," a deep sigh of relief was clearly recognisable.*

*The President then pronounced an eloquent Oration, to which all listened with rapt*

His Honour Judge Frederick Adolphus Philbrick died in Colchester on the 25th December 1910 at the age of 74 years.

**Many glowing tributes were paid to our Judge. An outstanding man of his time who lived respected and died regretted.**



with two brown spots.'

And another record from the same source..

This is the entry from the World Monocots checklist:

*Sophranitis* × *lilacina* (Philbrick ex H.J.Veitch) Van den Berg & M.W.Chase, *Lindleyana* 16: 110 (2001). *S. crispa* × *S. perrinii*.

SE. Brazil. 84 BZL.

\**Laelia* × *lilacina* Philbrick ex H.J.Veitch, *Man. Orchid. Pl.* 2: 89 (1887).

*Hadrolaelia* × *lilacina* (F.A.Philbrick ex H.J.Veitch) Chiron & V.P.Castro, *Richardiana* 2: 24 (2002).

It means that Philbrick first noticed this plant as a new species and coined the name *Laelia lilacina*, but did not publish it validly. So Harry Veitch took up the name and Philbrick's concept and published it in such a way as to ensure its establishment, probably by providing a description.

It is currently regarded as a natural hybrid.

Regrettable, no other information is currently available on Judge Philbrick's hobbies but when, and if, more details do become available, they will be added to the next edition to this biography.

## Hobbies

### Philately.

Judge Philbrick began collecting stamps in the 1860's by which time he was a Barrister. He is credited as being one of the first collectors and a pioneer of that hobby. He collected stamps of many countries, among them the United Kingdom, Australia, British Guiana, Mauritius, Hawaii, the United States and the Philippines.

The Judge was joint author of "Philbrick & Westoby.", a book on Postal and Telegraphic Stamps in Britain. They sold all their collections, (with the exception of the Great Britain collection which the Judge later sold in 1894,) of more than a hundred albums, to Philippe Ferrari in 1882 for £ 8000 An enormous sum of money!

Philip Ferrari de La Renotière, Herzog von Galliera in Genua, (January 11, 1850 - May 20, 1917) was a legendary stamp collector, owner of probably the most complete worldwide collection that ever existed, or is likely to exist.[41]

He contributed to the drafting of the book on Oceania, RPSL book one Oceania as well as other works. Some of its articles are published anonymously in The Stamp Collector's Magazine in 1868, such as "Notes on the Proofs and Essays of Great Britain"

Philbrick was founder of the Philatelic Society in London (now the Royal Philatelic Society), and its President from 1878-1892.

The Obituary - Judge Frederick Philbrick - Philatelist - by the London Philatelic Society is very touching and shows the high regard he was held in by his fellow collectors. (Included in the Summary of this booklet.)

### Orchid Grower.

Regrettable there is very little evidence of his Orchid Growing activities because he seems to have practised this hobby under a pseudonym just as he did with the books he wrote on philately.

However, there are two references which indicate that as usual, he took this activity very seriously. [42]

*I have found one record of a plant exhibited to the Royal Horticultural Society's Orchid Committee by F. A. Philbrick.*

*Ref. Gard. Chron. 1884(Feb.): 219; Sander's Orch. G. 1927: 302; RHS Awards CD.*

*The plant was Odontoglossum crispum 'Aureum', awarded FCC/RHS 12 Feb 1884.  
Description: 'Flowers flushed with lemon-yellow, the sepals spotted with brown, and the lip*

## Masonic Career.

From his Initiation in 1864 into the Old Dundee Lodge until his death in 1910, Judge Frederick Adolphus Philbrick was deeply involved in Freemasonry and was a member and leading figure in many other Orders of Freemasonry.

Some of his Masonic career has been dealt with in detail but the available evidence for other events in his Masonic history still remains to be researched. A list of many highlights in his Masonic career are included in the Appendix.

Our Judge Philbrick was obviously an enthusiastic and dedicated Freemason and was willing to assist various Masonic Orders as can be demonstrated by the following.

In 1928, Sir Francis Vane wrote [21] that it was with the active sympathy of Frederick Philbrick, that he called a meeting of the English Knights of Christ at the Judges Chambers in the Temple. There was no more appropriate place than the Temple, the old Seat of the Templars. The meeting took place on the 21<sup>st</sup> December 1892 under the Chairmanship of Sir Philip Cunliffe Owen and was the first meeting of the order since it was suppressed in the fourteenth century.

Sir Francis applied to the King of Portugal, the head of this Order, to allow the English Knights to form such a body and this application was accepted.

*"Among the English Knights were many of high distinction-Sir Philip Cunliffe Owen, the Duke of Norfolk, Sir Walter de Souza, Arthur Diosy, Sir Albert Rollit, and Sir Arthur Trendall."*

Unfortunately, the Order collapsed after a few years.

It is not known if Judge Philbrick was a member of this Order but he was clearly willing to assist in 'new' undertakings.

A few of the major events in the Masonic Career of Judge Philbrick follow in chronological order.

### 1864 Initiated into the Old Dundee Lodge.

His Honour Judge Frederick Adolphus Philbrick was Initiated in the Old Dundee Lodge No.18 in 1864. Seven years later, in 1871 he was installed as Master of the Lodge but resigned in 1876.

A few words about the Old Dundee Lodge.. [22] by Bro. Heiron.

*This Lodge--one of the oldest Modern Lodges in the world, having been Constituted 1722-23--was allotted in 1753, the Number 9 on the Register of the Grand Lodge of England, which number it held right up to the Union in 1813, when in compliance with the compromise then arrived at with the Antients it had to surrender its old number and from 1814 became No. 18 which distinction it still holds in 1924.*

Bro. Heiron goes on to say :-

*Immediately following his reference to our 'Sword of State' [In the possession of the Old Dundee Lodge] Dermott proceeds to cast ridicule on another old custom [viz., that of 'Drawing the Lodge on the Floor, in chalk and charcoal'] which had been practiced by the Moderns certainly since 1726 - doubtless earlier still - and was a regular feature of the Ritual in the Dundee Lodge from 1748 to 1812. In 1764 - when Dermott wrote his remarks -*

*the tyler, on the Lodge nights when **A** candidate was made a Mason (previous to the ceremony) invariably drew the Lodge on the floor in chalk and charcoal, receiving for such work a special fee of 2s. 2d. for each making, so Dermott's statement that the tyler sometimes received "ten or twelve shillings" for thus "Drawing the Lodge" when four or more candidates were made at a time is substantially correct.*

It is surely 'magical' to speculate that the Tyler continued to 'Draw the Lodge' on that day in 1864 when the 28 year old Frederick A. Philbrick was Initiated.

The Old Dundee Lodge moved from the London Tavern, Bishopsgate to Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge, Southwark in 1876. Is this, perhaps, the reason for Philbrick's resignation in that year?

#### **1870 Joined Grand Masters Lodge No.1. Resigned**

At the amalgamation, the two Grand Lodges (Antient and Modern) took turns at the new numbering. Although Antiquity was in fact the oldest, it became No.2 whilst Grand Masters became No.1. They drew lots for the position.

#### **1870 Joined Lodge of Good fellowship. No.276**

The Judge resigned in 1874 although it is clear that he and Lord Brooke, Earl of Warwick were made Honorary members since they are shown as such on the Lodge Returns in 1895, made in accordance with the Seditious Oaths Act.:-

Members of Lodge of Good fellowship No.276 Freemasons meeting at White Hart Hotel, Chelmsford.

Brooke, The Right Honorable The Earl of Warwick & Brooke. Dunmow Landowner.  
Philbrick. Frederick Arthur. Saul Buildings, Temple. QC

(Note that the Secretary has listed Philbrick's second name as Arthur.)

The present Secretary of the Goodfellowship Lodge kindly searched their records for Judge Philbrick and the Earl of Warwick and could not find any mention of either although, as he points out, "it is difficult to follow some of the earlier records as they were all in handwritten script and difficult to decipher."

Judge Philbrick and the Earl of Warwick were also Honorary Members of Lodge True Friendship No.160 meeting at Rochford, Essex. Again, in the 1895 Returns, this entry was made:-

The Right Honourable Earl of Warwick. Easton Lodge, Dunmow. Earl of Warwick.

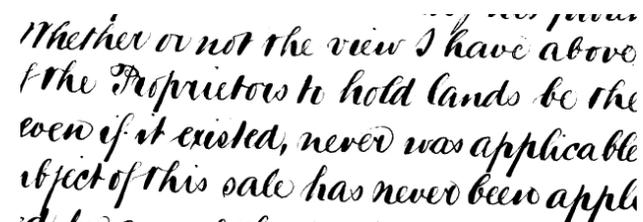
The following is a brief extract from that 'Opinion' to give the flavour of his work:-

*"Looking at all these points; & more especially at the objection which arises from the inability of the Comp<sup>y</sup> of Proprietors to hold lands; & bearing in mind the many points on which (passing by the greatest obstacle) a purchaser is entitled to be satisfied, I cannot advise him to accept such a title and risk his purchase money Should the vendors be able and willing to give the requisite evidence there would still remain the first objection : and as that can be cured only by Parliamentary interference: I presume that the Vendors will not think it worth their while to have recourse to so costly a solution of the difficulty. Fred<sup>k</sup> A Phillbrick*

*3 Epex Court Temple*

*25<sup>th</sup> September 1860"*

The 'Opinion' is in Judge Philbrick's own beautiful handwriting and the following small snippet clearly demonstrates this.



*Whether or not the view I have above  
of the Proprietors to hold lands be the  
even if it existed, never was applicable  
object of this sale has never been appli*

Other references refer to 'Grandfather' Samuel [33] giving proof that he was a Solicitor, Permission from Queen Victoria [[34], [35], [36], [37] and finally [38]. Those that follow me may be able to expand on these references.

**1874 Q. C. at the age of 38.**

**1877 Elected Bencher of his Inn on the 30<sup>th</sup> January.**

Inns of Court, the members of the governing body are known as "Masters of the Bench" or, more commonly, "benchers". In the context of the functions they perform in that capacity (but not otherwise) they will be known as, for example, "Master Smith" (whether they are male or female). This will be so even if in other contexts they use a higher title: hence, a High Court Judge who is a Master of the Bench will be known in his or her Inn as "Master Smith", in private life as Sir John Smith, and on the bench as Mr Justice Smith; likewise a law lord will be known in the inn as "Master Woolf" even if he is privately and professionally known by the peerage title of "Lord Woolf".

**1887 Lent Reader.**

This title of considerable antiquity as indicated by the following reference:  
“ Sir William Coningsby was educated at Eton and King's College, Cambridge, becoming a Fellow of that college. He was Lent reader at the Inner Temple in 1519, Treasurer of the same Inn, 1525-6, Reader again in 1526 and one of the Governors of the Inner Temple in 1533-4 and 1538-9. He was one of the Commissioners appointed to hear causes in Chancery in relief of Cardinal Wolsey, in 1526"

At the Inns of Court, the Reader was a Senior Barrister who gave a series of Lectures to Students.

**1895 Appointed County Court Judge.**

Portland Year Book for 1905, ten years after his appointment, gives the following information.

*“COUNTY COURT*

*Judge: His Honour Judge Philbrick, K.C. residence: Westfield House, Wimborne Registrar and High Bailiff. Mr George Andrews, Clenary, Spa Road, Radipole.*

*Registrar's Clerk: Mr C. Gefeall*

*Courts: Monthly, second or third Friday and Saturday in the month, at the Guildhall, Weymouth County Court Office 69, St. Thomas Street, Weymouth “*

Although Judge Philbrick was qualified to act in Criminal cases, his main activities were in Civil matters.

There are some interesting entries in the UK Archive Network which give some inkling of the work the Judge was involved in. References to these documents are included for the use of anyone seeking further information.

The Philbrick Lodge does have a photo copy of one of these documents in its possession, obtained from the Suffolk Records Office at Bury St. Edmunds. It deals with Councils “Opinion on title” in a dispute involving the Stour Navigation and Dalton [32] The Solicitor dealing with the dispute was F. B. Philbrick, the Judges father!

Philbrick F.A. Lambs Buildings, Temple. Q.C.

The current Secretary, Bro. John Smoothy, of the Lodge of True Friendship No.160, has searched their records but, unfortunately, the Minute books for the period in question are missing. However, that Lodge has published a splendid history of the Lodge and a short introductory passage from the Lodge history is shown below.

*“The story starts in the early years of the reign of King George III. In 1766, the year of the inception of this Lodge, the population of London was about 700,000. At the end of the Minorities, opposite the Tower of London, was the tavern known as the Crown and Thistle where the Lodge first met. We know that four Brethren of Strong Man Lodge No. 45 were responsible for founding this Lodge. Their names are on our warrant, dated 1766, and this has been verified by W.Bros. Derrick Smoothy and Norman Cottis in the Grand Lodge Library. We were sixth of the Lodges in the U.K. at the time.”*

The history is an exceptionally good ‘read’.



You will have noticed the address given by the Earl of Warwick as Easton Lodge, Dunmow, Essex.

According to the Illustrated London News, dated Feb 6 1847, Easton Lodge (also known as Warwick House) was destroyed by fire but at least the West Wing was rebuilt and the beautiful gardens are now open to visitors.

**1871 Joined Lodge of Antiquity. No.2. Deputy W.M. 1877. Resigned 1886**

The Lodge of Antiquity met at the “Goose and Gridiron” (1717-1729), whither it must have migrated from Masons' Hall, and was the " first old Lodge," though it did not assume its present name until 1770. In 1813, at the Act of Union, the premier place was by lot assigned to No. 1 of the " Atholl " Lodges, and the Lodge of Antiquity obtained its present numerical distinction No. 2. (H.R.H. Prince Leopold. Duke of Albany. Permanent Master).[23] met at "The Goose and Gridiron”

**1879 Appointed D.P.G.M. Essex. Resigned 1898**

**1883 Joined Royal Alpha Lodge. No. 16**

A word about the Royal Alpha Lodge may be of some interest.[24]  
One of the four constituent Lodges of the Royal Alpha Lodge No. 16 was the Well-Disposed Lodge, founded in 1730, which met at the White Bear Inn in King Street, Golden Square. This Lodge removed to Waltham Abbey in Essex.

When the Duke of Sussex became Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England in

1813, he decided to have a private Lodge, under his own control, for his household and for distinguished men selected and mostly proposed by himself. He chose the almost dormant Well-Disposed Lodge for this purpose and in 1814 he transferred it from Waltham Abbey to Kensington and re-named it the Alpha Lodge when I took the number 43. The Duke of Sussex became its permanent Master.

In 1823, eleven members of Alpha No. 43 took over the United Lodge of Iconic and Prudence to become the Alpha Lodge No. 16. The next year, the Royal Lodge united with it and the Royal Alpha Lodge No.16 came into being.

Since 1843 this Lodge has been a pillar of the United Grand Lodge and all its members must be approved by the Grand Master. The Grand Secretary is always the Secretary and the Grand Tyler the Tyler. The Grand Registrar, President of the Board of General Purposes and the Grand Director of Ceremonies have usually been members and this, of course, is why Judge Philbrick was a member. He was Grand Registrar of the United Grand Lodge of England from 1884 until 1897.

Among Judge Philbrick's contemporaries in the Royal Alpha Lodge were:-

Earl of Limerick  
H.R.H. Prince Leopold  
H.R.H. The Duke of Connaught.  
Lord Carrington.  
H.R.H. Albert, Prince of Wales.

And many more. [25]

#### **1884 Appointed Grand Registrar. Held appointment until 1897**

The office of Grand Registrar of England is a most important and powerful appointment. Quoting from a paper given by Bro. R. Khambatta [26]

#### **Chancellor**

*An interesting proposition was raised by Bro. Thomas Fenn, President of the Board of General Purposes, said to be on 'behalf of the Grand Master' at the Communication of Grand Lodge on 7 September 1892. Lord Lathom had recently taken over as Pro Grand Master and Lord Mount Edgcumbe, who had succeeded Lord Lathom as Deputy Grand Master, was in the Chair and somewhat unsure, as the proceedings show. The resolution had four parts:*

- a) *to create a new office of Grand Chancellor*
- b) *this office to rank immediately after the Grand Wardens*
- c) *whose duties shall be those at present assigned to the Grand Registrar*
- d) *to create four additional Grand Deacons and a Deputy Grand Sword Bearer.*

*Bro. Richard Eve, PG Treasurer, objected and asked whether there was a need for such an office. He moved an amendment to do away with the words creating this office.*

*Bro. Fenn replied that there would still be a Grand Registrar who 'would be a Deputy and would do whatever duties he was called upon to perform'.*

*The amendment was put to the vote and carried.*

## **Legal Career.**

Judge Philbrick was born in Colchester and educated at the grammar school there. He later gained a place at London University where he obtained a B.A. degree.

At 18 years of age he was recognised as a distinguished student of law and in his early days he assisted in the preparation of the 'Nisi prius Reports' [ *Nisi Prius Latin, Unless before*. A court of *nisi prius* is a court that tries questions of fact before one judge and, in some cases, a jury.] and subsequently turned the experience, thus acquired, to good account as a Member of the Council of Law Reporting.

He enjoyed a large practice at the Bar chiefly in compensation cases and was concerned in the litigation that arose out of the construction of the Thames Embankment. He also practised at the Parliamentary Bar and before the Railway Commission. 1884 he was appointed Senior Counsel to the Post Office on the South East Circuit and was for many years examiner in the Common Law to the University of London and examiner to the Surveyors Institute. On several occasions he acted as Chief Commissioner of Assize,

In 1895 he was appointed a County Court Judge. His Circuit - No.55 included Bournemouth, Salisbury, Dorchester, Yeovil and Poole.

It was widely held that whether his decision was adverse, or not, no one left his Court feeling that their case had not been carefully heard and well considered.

Interesting dates in his professional life:-

#### **1857 Awarded Cliffords Inn Prize.**

*Clifford's Inn may have disappeared as an educational establishment in the seventeenth century and as an association at the beginning of this century, but it leaves behind it a legacy, or rather several legacies: the £77,000 assigned to legal education on the dissolution of the society in 1903; the Clifford's Inn prize offered by the Law Society; the Clifford's Inn room at the Victoria and Albert Museum; and the insight into the life and activities of the society which is offered by the newly rediscovered archives. Next time you pass by the church of St. Dunstan-in-the-West, pause to view the gatehouse which bears its name and spare a thought for its past members, from the illustrious John Selden to the accident prone 'hermit of Clifford's Inn'. [31]*

#### **1858 Entered Middle Temple on the 19<sup>th</sup> April 1858.**

#### **1860 Called to the Bar on 6<sup>th</sup> June.**

#### **1870 Appointed Recorder of Colchester and held office until his demise.**

From a booklet produced for the Diamond Jubilee [30]

Eventually the prayer for the Charter was granted on February 6th, 1901 and on St. George's Day, Tuesday the 23rd April, 1901 the Consecration of St. Andrew's Chapter took place at the Cambridge Hotel, Shoeburyness.

The Consecration Ceremony was to have been performed by E.Comp. His Honour Judge Philbrick, M.E., Grand Superintendent in and over the Province of Essex, but unfortunately he was stricken with sciatica and was unable to be present

#### Other Orders.

The Judge was deeply involved in Royal Arch, Mark and several other orders of Freemasonry. (See appendix for a list of his Royal Arch Chapters.)



At the St. Giles Centre in Colchester, there is a wonderful display of the Jewels belonging to Judge Philbrick which are now in the care of the Angel Lodge. There are 41 Jewels including the Philbrick Lodge Founders Jewel which is the sixth from the left in the top row. Our thanks to the Angel Lodge and Bro. Antony Keniry in particular for their permission to photograph these Jewels and for the considerable assistance provided.



At the Communication of 7 December 1892 the resolution was brought again before Grand Lodge, omitting the office of Grand Chancellor and creating the office of 'Deputy Grand Registrar, to rank immediately after the Grand Registrar', which was adopted unanimously.

It is of interest that for once the Grand Registrar, Bro. Philbrick, who was normally very vocal, was silent. It is also relevant that though his term as President, Board of General Purposes may have been ending after ten years in the office, Bro. Fenn was not re-appointed. One could sense the absence of Lord Carnarvon's steadying hand.

#### Grand Registrars and Presidents of the Board of General Purposes

There were but two effective Grand Registrars during the Grand Mastership of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales:

1862-1883 His Honour Judge Sir Aeneas J. McIntyre

1884-1897 His Honour Judge Frederick A. Philbrick

#### 1887 Founder of the Brentwood Mark Lodge No 377 [27]

One of the Founders of the Brentwood Mark lodge No 377, which was consecrated on 12 May 1887 at the White Hart Hotel Brentwood, was Judge F A Philbrick QC. He was a member of Bon Accord Mark Lodge TI and at the time was Past Grand Registrar and Provincial Senior Grand Warden ( East Anglia) in the Mark degree. He was to be the first Master of the lodge. The history tells me that Judge Philbrick was Deputy PGM of the Craft Province of Essex from 1879 to 1898 and Grand Superintendent of the Provincial Grand Chapter of Essex from 1883 to 1910. He was advanced into Mark Masonry as a member of Bon Accord Lodge T I on 16 Feb 1870 was appointed Prov SGW for East Anglia in 1887 and became PG Reg in the same year.

#### 1887 Member of Secret Monitor.

Judge Philbrick was clearly a very active member of this Order as can be seen from the following report. [28]

The first Festival of the Order [Secret Monitor] was held at the Hotel Victoria, Northumberland Avenue, London, S.W. on July 15, 1887. It was also the inauguration meeting of Alfred Meadows Conclave No. 1, which having worked without a warrant until the following November was then issued with its warrant.

At the meeting of No. 1 Conclave, no less than thirty new members were admitted, including Lord Halsbury, P.G.W. Craft, a renowned scholar, Lord Chancellor of England (who, it is recorded, "left the woolsack to attend the meeting"); the Rt.Hon. the Earl of Warwick, Dep.G.M. of the Craft; Sir Francis Burdett, Prov.G.M., Middlesex Craft; Sir Morel' Mackenzie, a distinguished laryngologist; Rear-Admiral R. C. Mayne, C.B., M.P.; Sir J. Monckton, P.G.W. Craft; and many other high-ranking Freemasons.

On the same day (July 15) University of London Conclave No.2 was founded, with His Honour Judge F. A. Philbrick as first S.R.... its warrant was dated September 15, 1887.

The first Constitutions of the Order, drafted by Judge Philbrick and adopted at the first meeting of Grand Council in 1887.

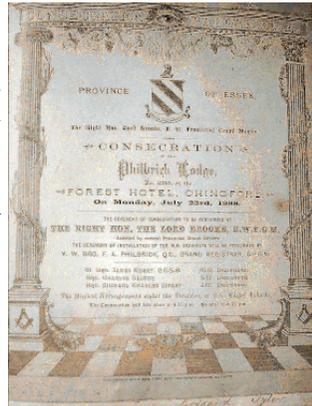
**1888 Consecration of Philbrick Lodge. No.2255. .**

To the right is a partial copy of the Summons for the Consecration meeting which took place at the Forest Hotel, Chingford on Monday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1888.

The Ceremony of Consecration was performed by Lord Brooke, Earl of Warwick, R.W.P.G.M. assisted by several Provincial Grand Officers.

The Ceremony of Installation of the W.M. Designate was performed by the V.W. Bro. F. A. Philbrick, QC., Grand Registrar, D.P.G.M

W. Bro. James Terry P.G.S.B.	W.M. Designate
Bro. Charles Salter	S.W. Designate
Bro. Michael Charles Meaby	J.W. Designate.



The Consecration took place at 4.15 pm with a Banquet at 6.30

**1889 The Order of the Scarlet Cord. [29]**

Judge Philbrick was a founder and creator of this side order of Secret Monitor.

This Order, also known as 'The Royal Order of the Scarlet Cord', 'The Royal Order of the Knights of the Scarlet Cord' and 'The Royal Order of the Masonic Knights of the Scarlet Cord', was claimed to have been in existence in 1773 in Amsterdam and came to this country in 1898, two years after the formation of 'Secret Monitor'

The Right Worshipful Judge Philbrick felt that since every other Masonic Degree had one or more appendant Orders, Secret Monitor should have one too.

The Order, as conceived by Judge Philbrick, worked well until 1914 when it became dormant but was revived in 1919 after the war. It ceased in 1929.

**1897 Consecration of the Philbrick Chapter no 1662 [29A]**

*The Philbrick Chapter No.1662 was consecrated on the 2nd July 1897 at the Great Eastern Hotel, with the Chapter then being attached to the Beaconsfield Lodge of the same number.*

*According to the Chapter's centenary history:*

*"Philbrick Lodge was founded in 1888 and in 1893 decided to petition for a Chapter. It appears to have been opposed by the then Secretary of the R.M.B.I. and the idea was abandoned. When in 1896, Beaconsfield Lodge decided to go forward, they used the name "Philbrick" with His Honour's approval. This caused a quick reaction by Philbrick Lodge who decided to re-petition. Judge Philbrick then wrote in no uncertain terms that he opposed any new Chapter in Essex as there were too many already. He alone would decide which Chapter should bear his name and fully supported a new London Chapter to be so named, attached to the Beaconsfield Lodge." .....*

**1898. Presentation at Brentwood of a valedictory address to His Honour Judge**

**Philbrick, Q.C., on his resignation from the post of Deputy Provincial Grand Master.** Judge Philbrick was presented with a leather bound volume containing the following beautiful illuminated pages. This volume is now in the possession of the Philbrick Lodge.

**Transcript.**

**Essex Provincial Grand Lodge**

To his Honour  
Judge Philbrick QC  
PGW

At the Annual General Meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge held at Brentwood on Tuesday 26th July 1898 the following Resolution was unanimously passed

This Provincial Grand Lodge has heard with much regret that His Honour Judge Philbrick Q.C. PGW has resigned the position of Deputy Provincial Grand Master which he has held with much distinguished ability for the past seventeen years.

The Brethren desire to place on record their deep sense of the obligation they are under to Very Worshipful Brother Philbrick for his devotion to the best interests of the Craft, and they earnestly hope that he will ever retain happy recollections of his official connection with the Provincial Grand Lodge of Essex.

They take this opportunity of heartily congratulation VW Bro Philbrick upon his recent elevation by HRH the Prince of Wales MWGM to the rank of Past Grand Warden in recognition of his eminent services to the Craft as Grand Registrar from 1884 to 1898

Signed on behalf of the Brethren  
Warwick P.G.M

Thos Ralling PADGDC Provincial Grand Secretary.

**1898 Appointed P.J.G.W.**

**1901 Consecration of St. Andrews Chapter No.1817.**

