

**M.: Ill.: Bro. H.R.H. The Duke of Kent, K.G., 33°
GRAND PATRON**



AS FROM - ST. JAMES'S PALACE
LONDON SW1A 1BQ

December 2020

The Supreme Council for England and Wales received its Warrant of Constitution from the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the United States of America on 26th October 1845. This year has marked the 175th anniversary of that auspicious occasion and, in celebration of achieving this milestone in our history, I write to offer my warmest good wishes to every member of the Ancient and Accepted Rite within this jurisdiction.

The intervening 175 years have not been without their difficulties and, following a long period of stability, the Order—like all freemasonry—now faces significant challenges in responding to the current global Coronavirus pandemic. I have been most impressed by the spirited, practical and generous response shown by so many of you this year: providing personal protective equipment, fundraising for urgently needed support and ensuring that you keep in touch with your brethren and their families. This is an opportunity for us all to reflect on why we are freemasons and what we can do, individually and collectively, for the good of society.

You will be aware that the Ancient and Accepted Rite has remained suspended within England and Wales for most of the year and I was saddened not to be able to attend the planned celebration in July. I know, too, that the Members of the Supreme Council had been much looking forward to visiting every District within England and Wales this year, and many overseas, and were most disappointed to be unable to do so. However, they are working hard to protect the Order and its members at this extraordinary time and are confident that, with your help, the current challenge will be overcome.

Now, more than ever, our Order needs your continued support if it is to recover quickly from this period of suspension and I thank you most sincerely for playing your part to ensure that, in the near future, it will once again provide a fraternal welcome and a profound, uplifting masonic experience for all those who choose to join.

I send every good wish to you all for a peaceful Christmas and a happy and healthy new year.

Yours ever,



All members of the Ancient and Accepted Rite
under the Supreme Council for England & Wales
and its Districts and Chapters Overseas