

Kivas Tully

Honorary Grand Master (1897) of the Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of Canada
and
Honorary Grand First Principal (1891) of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada



(1820-

Kivas Tully, the son of Captain John B. Tully, RN (stationed for some years at Cork, Co. Cork, Ireland) was born in Queen's County, Ireland, in 1820. It is not known where he received his schooling or his training as a civil engineer and architect.

He came to Toronto, Canada West, in 1844, at the age of 24 years, and worked in his chosen field. Some of his architectural work includes: the first Customs House in Toronto, the first Bank of Montreal at Front and Yonge Streets, sections of Osgoode Hall, the St. Catharines Town Hall and the town hall, Victoria Hall, Cobourg. At the laying of the cornerstone in St. Catharines, he attended as both the architect and as the Masonic Provincial Grand Superintendent of Works, an office he held from 1846-49. He was quite successful and became a Councillor and Alderman.

Masonic Career

In 1843 he was initiated into Ancient Union Lodge, No. 13 IC, Limerick, Co. Limerick, Ireland (Warrant issued November 22, 1732 and the Lodge was still current in 2002). He affiliated with St. Andrew's No. 16 PRCW (now No. 16 GRC) Toronto, on December 10, 1844, and Ionic Lodge, No. 18 PRCW (now No. 25 GRC) Toronto. He became WM of Ionic on December 27, 1848. He later withdrew from both St. Andrew's and Ionic because of his strong belief in the need for an independent Grand Lodge and the strong feelings of loyalty to England by those two Lodges. He affiliated with King Solomon's No. 222 IC (now No. 22 GRC), Toronto, on May 29, 1850. He was elected WM on June 13, 1850. His signature as WM appears on a letter to Dublin dated October 18, 1850, bringing to the notice of Grand Lodge the failure of the Grand Secretary to communicate with the Lodge. He was named Grand Senior Warden of the Provincial Grand Lodge on November 14, 1850. He signed as PM of King Solomon's No. 222 IC when recommending issue of a Warrant for Vaughan Lodge (No. 236 IC and now No. 54 GRC) on a Petition dated March 22, 1854. He was a founder member of Wilson Lodge, No. 48 GRC (now No. 86 GRC), Toronto and was installed as the first WM on December 28, 1857. He was elected as DDGM of Toronto District (1857-58). He was made an Honorary Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada in 1897.

Details of his involvement in Capitular Masonry are not available at the present time. He was elected as an Honorary Grand First Principal of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada in July 1891.

[Sources: (1) *Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada Seventy-fifth Birthday*, published under authority of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada for the 75th Anniversary celebrations, February 24, 1932.]