

1809  
CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

*Resolved*, That this Lodge being acquainted with the persons whose names are affixed to the said petition, and knowing them to be Master Masons, do most cordially unite in recommending them to the Grand Lodge, being fully sensible that the benefit of Masonry requires a compliance with their petition."

Unfortunately the names of the Brethren appearing on that petition are not given. At present we only feel certain that W. Brother Esek Cowen must have been of that number. No record is known to be in existence showing that the application was ever presented to the Grand Lodge.

Sylvester's History of Saratoga County says: "It was in Palmertown and its neighborhood that Dr. John H. Steele, Judge Esek Cowen and other distinguished professional men first opened their offices and began their practice. It was in that same neighborhood that one of *our* most distinguished brethren, Edgar T. Brackett, first opened his mouth and began his practice. Knowing the Brother as well as I do, I have no doubt the neighbors thought it the echo of a Mohawk Warrior's victorious war-whoop given at the battle between the English and the French, which took place some 150 years earlier within sight of his birthplace. After the Revolution, and early in the present century, Palmertown was regarded as a more eligible place of settlement for business and professional men than Saratoga Springs.

1909  
RISING SUN LODGE, No. 103, F. & A. M.

The members of the original Lodge were, as is uniformly the case, the active, progressive and intelligent men of the section. Dr. John H. Steele, one of those to whom the Dispensation was granted, became very eminent in his profession after moving to Saratoga Springs and for the first ten years of its official life, was *its* honored President. It is to him that the honor and credit for the beautiful shade-trees, which make the Village of Saratoga Springs so noted, should be, and is generally given. During his Presidency he caused Broadway to be lined with elms; a number of the old monarchs still survive, but are beginning to show the ravages of time and are gradually being renewed. The Lodge was transferred to this Village in 1821; almost as soon as the Town was created, and five years before the Village of Saratoga Springs was officially organized. Its removal, however, was not finally approved by the Grand Lodge, until June 15, 1824. Many of the active young men in the northern part of the County, a large percentage of whom were of course Masons, had, in the meantime, settled in Saratoga Springs, no doubt attracted by the business opportunities created by the summer tourists, who began flocking to the springs for the medicinal use of the valuable waters.