



WBro. Frederick Dawson

The Prince Of Wales Lodge No.1338 EC



Dr Frederick Dawson L.R.C.P. (Edin.), M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.S.A. and L.M., Auckland, was born at Bath, Somerset, England, in 1810, and was a son of Mr. Frederick Wood Dawson, of that city.

He was educated at Bath Grammar School (founded by Edward VI.), and afterwards arrived at Auckland with his parents in 1854, on the ship "Norman Morrison."

He studied under Dr. Stratford, and practised four years as assistant at the Penrith hospital, and at Regentville private lunatic asylum, New South Wales. Then he visited London, being the first medical student from Auckland to proceed to England, and entered as a student at Westminster Hospital. He filled various positions at the hospital, and was the Chadwick Prizeman of his year, afterwards taking his diplomas at the Royal College of Surgeons.

In 1870 he returned to Auckland as medical officer of the ship "Excelsior," and commenced practice. He was appointed surgeon to the Volunteer Engineers Corps in 1871, and at the time of his death held rank as Brigade-Surgeon Lieut.-Colonel. In 1895 he was awarded the Imperial Officers Volunteer decoration.

He had been for about thirty years surgeon to the Fountain of Friendship Lodge, M.U., I.O.O.F., Auckland, and to the Auckland Fire Brigade, and was vice-president and chairman of the medical staff of the St. John Ambulance Association.

Dr. Dawson long took an active interest in St. Matthew's Church and parish as a churchwarden. He was a member of the Royal Society of New Zealand (Auckland Institute). He performed in amateur dramatics, often those in aid of various charities, including the Auckland Benevolent Asylum. He died on the 21st of October, 1900. His obituary in the Journal of the New Zealand Medical Association stated:

Dr F W E Dawson, Auckland, died on Sunday, 14th October, at his home in Symonds Street. There were few better known or more respected by all classes in Auckland than was Dr Dawson. His death, which was immediately due to septic poisoning, was not unexpected, as he had been thrown out of his trap at Avondale some three months ago, from the shock of which he had never recovered. At the time of his death Dr Dawson was chief medical officer of the Auckland District, having been raised to the rank of Brigade-Surgeon Lieutenant-Colonel when the Auckland Infantry Battalion was formed. The deepest sympathy has been expressed for Mrs Dawson and her family (two sons and two daughters), who are left to mourn their loss. Mr Frederick Dawson, the eldest son, is at present in London, where he is studying for the medical profession; and the second son is a non-commissioned officer now serving in the Fourth Contingent in Africa. Dr Dawson was accorded a full military funeral, and, being also a prominent Mason, his remains were followed to their last resting-place by a very large number of mourners. By Dr Dawson's death Auckland has most certainly lost one of her most honoured citizens.

In freemasonry he was initiated in the Prince of Wales Lodge on 6 February 1873 and rose to become Master for 1878/1879 and 1879/1890. In 1881 he was installing officer at the consecration of the Newton Lodge of Mark Master Masons No. 280.

In the then Auckland District, he was appointed DAGDC on its formation in 1877, DSGD in 1879, DJGW in 1883, DSGW in 1885, DGReg in 1887 and in 1891 was appointed Deputy District Grand Master. He also served as PresDBGP in 1881 and 1891.

In Mark Freemasonry, he rose to become District Grand Mark Master. Interestingly, in that capacity, in 1889 he was absent from the welcome to the new Governor of New Zealand, Lord Onslow (who held high rank in freemasonry and Mark freemasonry) as he was on service with the army volunteers at their annual encampment.

Sources: *he Cyclopedia of New Zealand [Auckland Provincial District] Contemporarv newspaper reports.*

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www.englishmasons1338.org.nz

The Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 1338, under the United Grand Lodge of England, was founded on the 18th day of December, 1869, and consecrated on Thursday, the 28th day of September, 1871, at the Masonic Hotel, Princes Street, Auckland, by Bro. J.J. Fitzgibbon, Past Master of the Waitemata Lodge, No. 689, E.C.

