

WALLER RODWELL WRIGHT

Wright was born an East Anglian, son of a businessman. His birthplace was at Bury St. Edmunds in the County of Suffolk in 1775. He was educated at the King Edward VI's school in Bury St. Edmunds, and was admitted to Trinity College, Cambridge, during 1791. He read civil law, but for reasons unknown he did not graduate. After leaving Cambridge he was admitted to Lincoln's Inn on 23 November 1793 and was called to the Bar on 7 February 1800. He followed his father into Masonry and he was initiated in the Royal Edwin Lodge on 30 August 1794. Eventually he became Provincial Grand Master.

Wright left England for Malta late in 1814. On 3 December 1814 he was appointed one of the members of the Supreme Council of Justice. On December 14 he became the King's Assessor to consult and assist the government on legal matters, a post created for him which carried a salary of £800 rising to £1200 per annum, plus a yearly calesse allowance of £86. On 25 October 1817 he was appointed one of the General Magistrates. He succeeded Sir Giuseppe Borg Olivier as President of the High Court of Appeal on 1 January 1819 at a yearly salary of £1500.

He died in Malta, of an aneurism, on 20 April 1826 still quite young, and was buried at the Msida Bastion Cemetery. He was the author of the *Horae Ionicae*, a work of excellent classical taste, and of other poems of great merit.

(Biographical note compiled by Dr Albert Ganado B.A., LL.D., M.O.M.)