

THE

Freemason's Chronicle.

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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the Most Worshipful the Grand Master of England.

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GRAND LODGE ACCOMMODATION.

THE experience of Wednesday at the Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge once more brings the English Craft face to face with the necessity for enlarging its Temple. It may fairly be said that on Wednesday there were hundreds of Brethren who could not get accommodation in Grand Lodge. They had to record their votes at an overflow meeting, and put up with their disappointment as best they could, for certain it was there was not the slightest possibility of their gaining admission within the portals of Grand Lodge.

This condition of affairs must be stopped, and that too, as speedily as possible. If the Temple of Grand Lodge proved to be too small for a meeting once now and again it would not be so necessary to provide a remedy, but it may almost be said to have become the rule for so many qualified members to assemble at the Quarterly Communications as to prevent a large proportion taking part in the deliberations of the Craft, and that, after perhaps putting themselves to inconvenience and trouble in order to attend the stated meetings of Grand Lodge.

It is true the authorities do the best in their power with the accommodation that is available. They provide for overflow meetings whereat Brethren may record their votes on the particular subjects which it is fair to assume are the primary cause of these large assemblies, but is it wise to argue that the recording of one's vote is the most important attraction to the Quarterly Communications of Craft Masonry? If it is so it is only necessary to abolish the Regulation making personal attendance necessary, and substitute proxy voting, in order to at once put matters on a satisfactory basis, and this solution of the difficulty has at least the merit of being very inexpensive, while one of the principal objections to an enlargement of the existing Temple, or the provision of suitable accommodation elsewhere, is its costliness.

It is certainly wrong to allow matters to drift on as they are; indeed, there is positive danger in such a course, for it is evident that if the government of the Craft is to be left to the deliberations of those who can get a seat in Grand Lodge, it is only necessary to make provision beforehand, in order to ensure a "packed house." It would certainly be no difficulty for many districts, if they really meant business, to bring up enough qualified members of Grand Lodge to exhaust the accommodation of the Temple, and by judicious arrangement they could make sure of being the first to receive attention and secure entry. But the absurdity of the case is perhaps best illustrated by remembering that the Regulations of the Craft require personal voting,

while the accommodation provided in Grand Lodge really necessitates proxy voting, or at least "blind" advocacy of some particular idea, it being impossible to hear the arguments for or against the subject, in consequence of Grand Lodge being closed to a large proportion of its fully qualified members.

We believe the sole objection to an enlargement of the existing Temple is found in the question of expense, but surely that cannot be allowed to stand in the way of such a reform as is now imperative, if the management of affairs is to be left on the same lines as now exists; that is to say, if the Craft is to continue to enjoy its present representation. A solution of the difficulty has been suggested by curtailing the rights of Lodge Wardens; making their admission within the portals of Grand Lodge contingent on there being room in the Temple, but so radical a change in the existing Regulations of the Craft would not be tolerated for a moment, especially in view of the reason for which it would be proposed; while any suggestion to curtail the attendance of Past Masters would be equally sure of rejection if it was put to the vote of the Craft. It would therefore seem that the only course open is to enlarge the permanent quarters of Grand Lodge, so as to provide room for the large number of Brethren who now seem to make it a rule to attend the Communications of Craft Masonry.

Masonic Sonnets, No. 91.

By BRO. CHAS. F. FORSHAW, LL.D., 295 and 2417 (E.C.) Hon. Mem.
1242 (E.C.) and 24 (S.C.).

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A MASONIC PRAYER.

MAKE thou our hearts Oh Architect Divine
To bow submissive to Thy gracious will;
Lead Thou our steps by Thine own Mystic Sign—
To Thy blest mansion built on Zion's hill.
Strengthen our minds when weakness fain would sway,
Our eyes direct towards The Greatest Light,
So that our feet may never swerve nor stray
From paths that please Thy never-erring sight.
Teach us that Unity can never fail
To render earth a little Heaven below,
That Love is mighty and will still prevail,
And prove a shield when worldly tempests blow.
Fill us with Faith so that we cling to Thee
Through weal, through woe, until Eternity!

Winder House, Bradford,
6th June 1894.

The new Lodge to be held at Hoddesdon, under the title of the Charles Edward Keyser, will be consecrated by Bro. Edward Letchworth G. Sec. on the 24th inst.

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We are compelled to hold over several important items for want of space, amongst other matters a report of the Old Masonians.

UNITED GRAND LODGE.

THE Quarterly Communication was held on Wednesday, in the Temple, Freemasons' Hall, when the Earl of Mount-Edgumbe Deputy Grand Master presided. Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., acted as Deputy Grand Master, and Bro. Sir Hedworth Williamson as Past Grand Master. The Wardens chairs were occupied by Bros. Akers Douglas and the Rev. R. J. Simpson. The attendance of Brethren was very large.

After the opening of Grand Lodge and the reading and confirmation of the minutes of the previous meetings the election of members of the Board of General Purposes took place. Scrutineers of the ballot were appointed. Intense interest was manifested in the election, and before the opening of Grand Lodge canvassing for votes was strongly persevered in. There was no contest for the Colonial Board or for the Committee of Management of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and the nominated Brethren, of whom we gave a list in our last, were declared elected.

The Grand Secretary added that the Prince of Wales had named Sir G. D. Harris as Chairman of the Colonial Board, and Brothers Philbrick, Q.C., and J. H. Matthews as members. Brother John Smith was re-elected Auditor of Grand Lodge accounts, on the motion of Bro. J. S. Cumberland.

Nominated by the Prince of Wales on the Benevolent Institution's Committee of Management were Bros. the Grand Secretary, Dr. Hogg, T. B. Purchas, F. Mead, A. C. Spaul, J. Brett, T. W. Whitmarsh, S. Vallentine, S. V. Abraham and C. J. R. Tijou.

The Brethren confirmed the recommendations of the Board of Benevolence, on the motion of Bro. Robert Grey, seconded by Bro. James Brett.

On the motion of Bro. Thomas Fenn, seconded by Bro. Dr. F. Ernest Pocock, Grand Lodge adopted the Report of the Board of General Purposes, first of all erasing the twelve Colonial Lodges of which we gave a list last week and which had failed to make returns for many years.

Bro. Thomas Fenn next brought up the recommendation that the offer of Bro. John Lane, the author of "Masonic Records," of the copyright of the second edition of that work to Grand Lodge be accepted. Bro. Fenn endorsed the opinion of the Board that the work was invaluable, and ought to be in possession of Grand Lodge. He added the Brethren ought to be much indebted to Bro. Lane for the offer, as the preparation of the work, a copy of which was now in Grand Lodge, had cost him a great deal of labour, and it contained statistics of a very valuable description. He moved that Bro. Lane's offer be accepted.

Bro. Dr. Pocock seconded the motion, which was then put and unanimously carried.

Bro. Dr. Pocock then rose and wished to say a few words on the last paragraph of the Report, in regard to the announcement by Bro. Fenn of his desire to retire from the Presidency of the Board of General Purposes. He said Bro. Fenn had rendered great services to Masonry for a number of years, more especially during the ten years he had been President of the Board. During the three years he had himself been a member of the Board he had seen that it would be impossible to have a Brother presiding over the Board in a more masterly manner. Bro. Fenn had determined not to seek re-nomination. Dr. Pocock, speaking on behalf of himself and the other members of the Board, thought they would have to congratulate themselves if they got a Brother in Bro. Fenn's place anywhere near so capable of presiding over them.

Bro. T. C. Walls supported the statement, which was also spoken to by Bro. E. Le Feuvre in the same strain of praise.

The Earl of Mount Edgumbe said that as representative for the moment of the Grand Master of England he desired in the name of H.R.H. to express his hearty concurrence in what had been said with reference to Bro. Fenn. The Pro Grand Master also and himself, and all the Officers and Brethren of Grand Lodge assembled, re-echoed H.R.H.'s sentiment, and regretted the retirement of Bro. Fenn. They thanked him at the same time for the work he had done for Grand Lodge during the ten years he had been President of the Board.

Bro. Fenn, who was much affected, said he did not know how to thank the Brethren sufficiently for this recognition of what he had done, but they might believe him he appreciated the compliment they had paid him very deeply.

The Earl of Mount-Edgumbe announced that the Prince of Wales had appointed Bro. Richard Loveland-Loveland President of the Board of General Purposes.

Bro. Loveland-Loveland was thereupon invested, and was conducted to the seat of the Board of General Purposes in Grand Lodge.

In the absence of Bro. J. A. Farnfield, Dr. Strong moved the grant of £70 for coals during the coming winter for the old people in the almshouses at Croydon. It was seconded by Bro. T. Hastings Miller, and carried.

Bro. Richard Eve P.G.T. obtained leave to withdraw the motion, notice of which stood in his name, stating that it was not the notice that he delivered in to the General Committee of Grand Lodge; that the Committee was wrong in rejecting the motion as he sent it in, it not being scandalous, irregular, or not within the cognizance of Grand Lodge; and that he should appeal against the rejection of his motion at the September Quarterly Communication.

Grand Lodge was shortly afterwards closed in due form.

GRAND MARK LODGE.

THE Quarterly Communication was held on Tuesday at the Mark Masons' Hall. The Earl of Euston M.W. Pro Grand Master presided, and there was a large attendance, among those present being:—The Marquess of Hertford, Viscount Dungarvan, Lord Amptill, Rear Admiral Markham, Lord Skelmersdale, Baron de Ferrieres, Mr. Justice Gainsford Bruce, Colonel Money, C.B., Colonel Malet de Carteret, and Colonel Somerville Burney.

The report of the General Board was taken as read, and ordered to be received and entered on the minutes.

The Earl of Euston said there were very few remarks to be made by him on the Report, save one, which was with reference to the memorial to their late lamented Past Grand Master the Rev. G. R. Portal. The subscriptions that were raised for a memorial to him were sufficient to buy a good organ and place it in the Hall the Brethren were now assembled in, and put an inscription upon it; it was a distinct ornament, and would always bring to the minds of the Brethren the memory of one who had worked very hard and very zealously for Mark Masonry; they could only compliment the Committee who had carried out the design.

There was another remark arising out of a reference in the Report to the resignation of a Brother who had held a high office in Grand Lodge for seventeen years—Bro. Robert Berridge. Bro. Berridge had been Grand Director of Ceremonies for over seventeen years, and during his term of service had done his work well and worthily. He had been a prominent figure in Mark Masonry, but he now felt that his many duties, public and private, prevented his acting as Grand Director of Ceremonies as he would wish to do. The Brethren under such circumstances could do no less than give Bro. Berridge a hearty vote of thanks for his services. He would move that such a vote be passed, and that it be engrossed, and sent to him by the Grand Secretary. He asked them to do this because he thought that Bro. Berridge had, up to the present time, done the Degree great service. Bro. Berridge had had troubles of many sorts and kinds; he had lost his children, and he was now going out of business. Finding that travelling and absence from town would prevent him from attending to the work of Grand Lodge, he had resigned. Personally, he thanked Bro. Berridge most heartily for all he had done.

Viscount Dungarvan seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

On the motion of Bro. Loveland-Loveland, seconded by Bro. Major C. W. Carrell, the Report of the General Board was adopted.

The Prince of Wales was then declared re-installed

as Grand Master, and was proclaimed by Bro. Major Carrell.

The Earl of Euston, having announced that the Prince of Wales had again done him the honour to appoint him Pro Grand Master, Bro. Major Carrell proclaimed him, and his lordship received the salute of his rank.

Viscount Dungarvan was re-appointed, proclaimed and saluted as Deputy Grand Master.

The other appointments were:—

Lord Skelmersdale	-	-	S. Warden
Justice Gainsford Bruce	-	-	J. Warden
Hamon Le Strange	-	-	M. O.
Alfred Cooper	-	-	S. O.
Rev. J. H. Gray	-	-	Chaplains
Rev. Thomas Macdougall	-	-	
Robert Turtle Pigott, D.C.L.	-	-	Treasurer
Frank Richardson	-	-	Registrar
R. Loveland-Loveland	-	-	Pres. Gen. Board
C. F. Matier	-	-	Secretary
R. Wayman	-	-	S. D.
Rowland G. Knowles	-	-	
Simpson	-	-	J. D.
Gadbury	-	-	
C. H. Driver	-	-	Sup. Works
Brig. Surg. J. Balfour Cockburn	-	-	D. C.
Eugene Monteunis	-	-	
White	-	-	Swd. Br.
Major Probyn	-	-	Std. Br.
H. G. Holdworth	-	-	
W. H. Kempster	-	-	Organist
Frederick Bevan	-	-	
Richard Glasspool	-	-	I. G.
W. C. Ferris	-	-	A. I. G.
E. J. Mills	-	-	Tyler.

Rev. W. Trevor Parkins D.P.G.M.M. Warwickshire then rose, all the Warwickshire Brethren present rising with him, and said he had to present to the Grand Lodge, in the name of the Province of Warwickshire, the portrait of the Marquess of Hertford, Past Pro Grand Master and Provincial Grand Master of Warwickshire Mark Masons, which now adorned the walls of Grand Mark Lodge. In Warwickshire they had the satisfaction to be ruled over by one of the best Provincial Grand Masters; the more they knew of him the more they honoured him and the more greatly they respected him. He was deeply engraven on their hearts, and they trusted he would live long to attend Grand Lodge and see his own portrait.

The Earl of Euston in accepting the portrait on behalf of Grand Lodge, said he should not be expressing the unanimous feeling of every Mark Mason present if he did not say they gave their very warm and hearty thanks to the Brethren of Warwickshire for the handsome present they have made to Grand Lodge in the portrait of the Marquess of Hertford Past Pro Grand Master—a portrait most like him in every way, and most suitable to be placed in the Hall, because when he was Pro Grand Master the Hall was dedicated to Mark Masonry. During his year of office as Pro Grand Master he neglected nothing to bring about the completion of the Hall, and acted in every way to establish that harmony and love which should always be carried out among Freemasons. When they had a Pro Grand Master ruling over them as he ruled for three years, keeping up a feeling of content and harmony amongst the Brethren, they could look back to that position with reverence and love, and on his portrait with feelings of appreciation. They most heartily thanked the Brethren of Warwickshire for giving them such a portrait to adorn the walls, and trusted his lordship would live many years to come and look at it.

The Marquess of Hertford, in reply, felt it would very ill become him to sit still and take no notice of the extraordinary kindness that had just been exhibited towards him, in the first place by Brethren from his own Province of Warwickshire whom he was so glad to see there. He thanked them most cordially and heartily for the very great honour they have bestowed upon him. Next he had to thank the Pro Grand Master and all the Brethren, for the very high honour they had done him in allowing the portrait to be placed in the Hall, an honour of which any Mark Mason must always be proud. He could not feel he had in any way deserved the far too kind words of his Deputy, Bro. Trevor Parkins, and the Pro Grand Master, but hoped the Brethren would believe he endeavoured during his term

of office to do his best, and he sincerely trusted that he might continue to be able to help Mark Masonry for many years to come.

After some other business Grand Lodge was closed in ample form, and the grand Festival followed at Freemasons' Tavern, the Earl of Euston presiding.

After the usual Loyal toasts, Col. A. B. Cook proposed the M.W. the Pro Grand Master, and the M.W. Past Grand Masters, to which toast the Earl of Euston responded, and thanked all the Grand Officers for the support given by them to Mark Masonry.

The Marquess of Hertford proposed the Grand Officers. He stated Mark Masonry was making great progress. He was very pleased to see the Senior Grand Warden's chair occupied by Lord Skelmersdale, of whom it was enough to say that he was the son of the Earl of Lathom.

Lord Skelmersdale responded. He was told that it was some years since his father occupied the same chair as he then did. He hoped it was not an unreasonable wish on the son's part that he might try to emulate his father.

Mr. Justice Bruce proposed the Mark Benevolent Fund.

Bro. C. F. Matier Grand Secretary responded, and stated that the next Festival of the Fund would be held on the 11th July; that the Earl of Yarborough Provincial Grand Master for Lincolnshire would preside, and that at present there were 131 Stewards. Before the Festival he hoped that number would be largely added to, and that the announcement of subscriptions would not be less than on any previous similar occasion.

Brother Robert Tennent P.M. No. 10 (Irish C.) responded to the toast of the Visitors, and Bro. A. Stewart Brown President of the Board to that of the Stewards.

A beautiful selection of music was ably performed by Bros. Frederick Bevan, James A. Brown, Edward Dalzell, Turle Lee, and Egbert Roberts.

At a large and representative meeting of the Essex Provincial Grand Lodge, held at the Cups Hotel, Colchester, on the 24th ult., it was unanimously resolved that the name of Bro. Claude E. Egerton-Green W.M. of the Colne Lodge, No. 2477, should be submitted for the post of Provincial Grand Treasurer at the ensuing meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge.—
"Essex County Chronicle."

Mr. H. L. Barrett, St. Albans Road, Watford, says a local contemporary, possesses an artistic curiosity, a reproduction of a charcoal drawing done by Mr. T. B. Hardy, the well-known artist, in sixteen minutes. The original was 72 inches by 38, and is a view of the Tower of London and the Thames. It was drawn at a gathering of the Savage Club, entirely from memory, and was purchased on the spot by Mr. W. S. Penley, of "Charley's Aunt" fame, the artist presenting the cheque (£20) to the funds of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls.

The Earl of Dartmouth was installed Grand Master of Staffordshire on the 5th inst. We shall give a report of the proceedings next week.

"A SPRIG OF ACACIA."

SEVERAL members of the Olive Union Lodge, No. 1304, attended the funeral of the late Brother Stephen Pinches, which took place at Horncastle, on the 22nd ult.

THE remains of the late Alderman Moss, an ex-mayor of Ilkeston, were interred in that town on the 30th ult., a number of the Masonic Brethren of the deceased being present.

THE death is announced of Bro. William Joll, J.P., of Devonport, who was a staunch supporter of Freemasonry, and in other ways won the esteem of his neighbours.

SOUTH WALES (EASTERN DIVISION).

A PROVINCIAL Grand Chapter was opened on Thursday of last week, at the Masonic Hall, Woking Street, Cardiff, by Companion Marmaduke Tennant Grand Superintendent.

After the usual business the Officers for the ensuing year were invested.

The consecration of the Marmaduke Tennant Chapter attached to the Tennant Lodge followed, the Consecrating Officer being the Grand Superintendent, assisted by other Officers of the Province.

After the Consecration, the Companions adjourned to banquet.

WEST YORKSHIRE.

A CONVOCATION of this Provincial Grand Chapter was held in the Masonic Hall, Great George Street, Leeds, on Wednesday, 23rd ult., by invitation of Excelsior Chapter, No. 1042, under the presidency of Comp. Henry Smith P.Z. 302 Past Grand Principal Soj. of England Prov. G. H., who acted as Provincial Grand Superintendent.

There was a large attendance of other Provincial Officers and Principals of Chapters, while apologies were received from many who were unable to attend.

Provincial Grand Chapter was opened in form, and the Acting Grand Superintendent and the Grand H. and J. were saluted.

The Roll of Chapters and of Present and Past Prov. G. Officers was called.

The Minutes of the Grand Convocation, held at Wakefield, on Friday, 24th November 1893, were confirmed.

The Acting Grand Superintendent then delivered the following address:—

Companions—I am sure you will be greatly disappointed to find that our Grand Superintendent is unable to be present with us this afternoon. For some little time he has not been progressing satisfactorily, and he has been ordered for change of air to the mild atmosphere of Leamington. He desires me to convey to you his expression of regret. He has given careful consideration to the list of Companions selected for office for the current year, and confidently trusts that the appointments will give general satisfaction. I am also commissioned to offer Companion Tew's compliments and thanks to the retiring Officers. Whilst on this subject I may state that Grand Chapter, on the 3rd May 1893, made an increase of six Provincial Officers to Provinces having thirty Chapters and upwards, viz.:—one Deputy G. Registrar, one Deputy G. Sword Bearer, two Assistant G. Standard Bearers, and two Assistant G. Directors of Ceremonies.

On the 4th November last, rule 73 of the Royal Arch Regulations was rescinded. The new rule makes it legal to exalt a Master Mason four weeks after his raising, and it is hoped that this relaxation will tend to increase the number of exaltations—an effect we all earnestly desire.

I may state for your information that we commenced the year 1893 with 1257 subscribing members, and at its close our numbers were 1298, being an increase of 41. We had 95 new members, an increase of 6; Resignations were 38, against 42 in 1892, a decrease of 4; Deaths 31, against 26, an increase of 5; Exclusions 16, against 10, an increase of 6; and 56 Companions were in arrear, being a decrease of 6. This we may consider fairly satisfactory. Our income has slightly increased, as our Treasurer will shortly tell you, and I will not therefore enlarge upon the balance sheet.

You will have seen the notice of motion for a grant to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys in support of our Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Jackson, who will preside at the 96th Annual Festival at Brighton, on Wednesday, the 27th June. It was contemplated to select the Crystal Palace as the place of meeting, but the day fixed being the second day of the Handel Festival, it was considered that the crowded state of the building would greatly interfere with the comfort of the ladies and Brethren; whilst the caterers might be unable to supply our needs satisfactorily. Ladies and Brethren

dining together necessitates a very large hall, much larger than any in London,—it was therefore finally decided to go to the Pavilion, Brighton, where many Masonic Festivals have been previously held with great success. I may state that the cost of the Railway Company's conveyance is covered by the Steward's fee. I am pleased to report that 70 out of 76 Lodges have contributed to this Festival, as well as the following Chapters:—Charity, 302, Bradford; Sincerity, 600, Bradford; St. John's, 827, Dewsbury; Marquess of Ripon, 837, Ripon; Harrogate and Claro, 1001, Harrogate. I hope that the other Chapters will see their way to follow this generous example.

We have met to-day for the first time under the banner of Excelsior Chapter, No. 1042. This Chapter was consecrated as recently as the 28th January 1886, the ceremony being very ably performed by our excellent Companion Charles Letch Mason. Our esteemed friend Dr. Smyth was its first Principal. It has continued to progress; and, with a roll of 40 members, is now, in point of fact, one of the numerically largest Chapters in West Yorkshire. We are greatly indebted to Companion Thomas Thorp and the Members of the Chapter, for their arrangements and entertainment on this our 11th Provincial visit to the good city of Leeds.

Comp. Rand Prov. Grand Treasurer presented his Balance Sheet, and stated that the balance in the Bank to the credit of Prov. G. Chapter had increased by about £14, and now stood at £224 6s 9d. He moved that it be adopted and entered on the minutes; this was seconded by Companion Steward Provincial Grand Registrar, and carried.

Comp. Fox Chairman of the Charity Committee, pursuant to notice, proposed: That the sum of £52 10s be granted to further endow the Grand Superintendent's chair in the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and in support of the Chairmanship of the Right Hon. William Lawies Jackson, M.P., who will preside at the 96th Festival, to be held at the Pavilion, Brighton, on Wednesday, the 27th June; he also stated that the chair of Grand Superintendent being already a Vice-President's, this grant would bring double votes (10) in perpetuity.

The motion was seconded by Comp. Smithson Past Chairman, and carried.

The Treasurer, in very felicitous terms proposed that Comp. Henry Cowbrough P.Z. 1042 be elected as his successor.

Companion William Bingham, in seconding the proposition, said how much gratified the Companions of the Excelsior Chapter would feel if the proposition received the approval of the Provincial Grand Chapter, and spoke as to Companion Cowbrough's qualifications for the position. The resolution was carried with acclamation.

The Acting Grand Superintendent then appointed and invested the following Grand Officers for the ensuing year.

Henry Smith P.Z. 302	-	H.
Col. J. E. Bingham 296	-	J.
Herbert G. E. Green 154	-	Scribe E.
José Rickard 304	-	Scribe N.
Henry Cowbrough 1042 (elected)	-	Treasurer
Major G. Bolton 154	-	Registrar
George H. Robinson 275	-	Deputy Registrar
Alfred Verity 208	-	Principal Sojourner
H. Blackburn 827	-	First Assist. Soj.
John Hunt 139	-	Second Assist. Soj.
H. Samuel Goodyear 495	-	Sword Bearer
Wm. Harrison 265	-	Deputy Sword Bearer
Wm. David Shoebridge 448	-	Standard Bearer
Charles Newsome 254	-	Assist. Std. Bearers
William Oddy 387	-	
Thos. Uttley 307	-	Dir. of Ceremonies
Wm. Metcalf 600	-	Assist. Dir. of Cers.
Walter Critchley, J.P., 1214	-	
Thos. Lawrence 1001	-	Organist
Samuel Jacob 837	-	Assist. Scribe E.
Frederick Simpson 1019	-	Stewards
Joe Booth Whiteley 290	-	
John Dyson 306	-	
John Cass, J.P., 302	-	
William Murphy 275	-	Janitor.
Thos. Chester 904	-	

It was proposed by Companion Major Bolton Prov. G. Registrar, seconded by Comp. John Barker P.Z. 258 P.P.G.D. of C., and resolved: That a most hearty vote of thanks be accorded to Companion Thomas Thorp

and Companions of Excelsior Chapter, 1042, for their kind invitation, and for the excellent arrangements they had made for the comfort of the Prov. G. Chapter.

Companion Thorp briefly acknowledged the vote, and said they were exceedingly gratified to see such a large muster.

There being no invitation given for the November meeting Prov. G. Chapter was closed.

LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE Provincial Grand Lodge was held at Bourne, on Thursday of last week, under the banner of the Hereward Lodge. The Provincial Grand Master Bro. William Henry Smyth, D.L., presided. There was a good attendance.

The Hereward Lodge had made elaborate preparations for the reception of their Brethren, on this, the first visit of the Provincial Grand Lodge to Bourne.

The roll of Lodges having been called, the financial statement of the Provincial Treasurer (Brother C. M. Nesbitt 712) was read, as well as other reports. The reports generally were satisfactory, both as regarded the charitable work of the Province, and the numerical strength of the subscribing members, these last having been increased by eighteen during the year.

Bro. Nesbitt was re-elected Provincial Treasurer.

BERKS AND OXON.

ON the 25th ult., the annual Grand Lodge of Mark Masons for the Province of Berks and Oxon was held in the University Masonic Hall, at Oxford, under the presidency of the Right Hon. Viscount Valentia Provincial Grand Master, who was supported by the Deputy Bro. John Tomkins, of Abingdon, and other Brethren holding high office in the Mark degree.

The Provincial Officers for the ensuing year were appointed and invested, and at the close of the business a banquet was served at the Randolph Hotel.

The Provincial Grand Lodge proceedings were preceded by the Installation of the newly-elected W.M. of the University Mark Lodge, and by the courtesy of the Brethren of this Lodge the Visitors were provided with light refreshments.

THE DEAN OF YORK IN HULL.

BY the kindness and courtesy of the Worshipful Master and Officers of the recently-consecrated Humber Installed Masters Lodge, No. 2494, the Brethren of all the Hull Lodges were invited to attend for the purpose of hearing a Masonic lecture by the Very Rev. the Dean of York (Bro. Arthur P. Purey-Cust, D.D.) entitled "A Retrospect, Circumspect, and Prospect of Freemasonry."

There was a crowded attendance, amongst those present being Bros. M. C. Peck Past Grand Std. Br. of England, W. Tesseyman P.P.G. Supt. of Works S.W., G. L. Shackles P.P.G. Reg. J.W., Colonel H. Fawcett Pudsey Prov. G.S.D. Chaplain, John Bilson P.M. S.D., Thomson Foley J.D., A. E. Kessen P.M. Org., A. King P.P.G.D. I.G., J. R. Ansdell P.P.G.D.C. D.C., T. B. Redfern A.P.G. Sec. Sec.

The Worshipful Master, in introducing the Dean of York, referred to the eminent position Dr. Purey-Cust had attained in the Craft, being a Past Grand Chaplain of England, and Past Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Berkshire and Buckinghamshire. He was certain the lecture would be productive of great benefit to the members present, to whom he felt indebted for their presence in such large numbers.

The Very Rev. Dean then delivered his lecture on the varied phases of the Masonic character, and was listened to with marked attention.

On the motion of the J.W., seconded by the S.W., supported by Colonel Pudsey and R. R. Hawley P.M., a hearty vote of thanks was tendered to the worthy Dean, and he was subsequently elected an honorary member of the Lodge.

CHURCH SERVICE.

A SPECIAL Masonic service was held on the 27th ult. in St Paul's Church, Gilford, under the auspices of Gilford Loyal Masonic Lodge, No. 145 (I.C.), the preacher being Rev. Dr. Murphy, rector of S. George's, Belfast, who preached from Matthew xviii., 10: "Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, That in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven."

Having enlarged upon his subject, the preacher, in conclusion, said, whatever adverse criticism might be brought against the Craft to which they and he had the honour to belong, it could not be said that they did not recognise those words of their Lord; the importance of child life. He had come there that afternoon to plead with them on behalf of their orphans; on behalf of the Masonic schools in Dublin. There was a Girls School and a Boys School, and to those of them who knew anything of the workings of that Institution he need hardly say that orphans were admissible from all parts of Ireland, and he believed he was right in stating that a large proportion of the orphans in the schools came from the North of Ireland. He had in his hand a report of the schools for the past year, and he regretted to say that there had been during the year a serious falling off in the subscriptions with regard to the Girls school. Perhaps some of them might ask, "Was there not a great bazaar in 1892, which brought in the large sum of £21,000 of clear profit, and how then are you so badly off for funds?" Well, he might tell them that that money—the proceeds of the bazaar—went to a special fund—a fund for enlarging the school building and for giving some help to the girls when they were leaving the school, the rule being that a girl must leave at sixteen years of age. He hoped their subscriptions to both schools would amount to more than they did in the past year.—"Belfast News-Letter."

It is rumoured as amongst the certainties that two new Lodges will shortly be consecrated in the West Lancashire Division.

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M.W.G.M.

THE 96th ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL

WILL BE HELD AT THE

ROYAL PAVILION, BRIGHTON,
ON WEDNESDAY, 27TH JUNE 1894,

UNDER THE DISTINGUISHED PRESIDENCY OF THE

Rt. Hon. W. LAWIES JACKSON, M.P.,

R.W. Prov. Grand Master of West Yorkshire, Vice-President
of the Institution.

Full particulars of the arrangements as to special trains, &c.,
may be obtained at the office.

Dinner Tickets (inclusive of First Class Return Fares from
London), for Ladies, 21s; and Brethren 25s.

By Order,

J. MORRISON McLEOD,

Hon. Secretary to the Board of Stewards.

6 Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.

1st June 1894.

The services of Ladies and Brethren as Stewards representing
Lodges or Provinces on this important occasion are earnestly
solicited, and will be gratefully acknowledged.

LONDON, CHATHAM, & DOVER RAILWAY.

SHORTEST and MOST DIRECT ROUTE to RAMSGATE,
MARGATE, Broadstairs, Westgate-on-Sea, Birchington-on-
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	A	B	Sat. only.
	a.m.	a.m.	p.m.
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Leave Holborn Viaduct ...	9 40	10 2	2 0
Leave St. Paul's	9 42	10 5	2 3

A To Herne Bay, Westgate, Margate, Broadstairs, and Ramsgate.

B To Whitstable and Birchington.

FARES: To Birchington, Westgate, Margate, Broadstairs, and
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same or following day, by any Train except the Granville Express,
by which Excess Fares will be charged; and those issued on Friday
or Saturday are available on the following Monday.

CHEAP TRIP EVERY SUNDAY, commencing 3rd JUNE,
to RAMSGATE, MARGATE, BROADSTAIRS, HERNE
BAY, BIRCHINGTON, and WHITSTABLE, and back the same
evening. Leave Holborn Viaduct, St. Paul's, and Victoria Stations
at 8.0 a.m. Fares for the double journey, Third class, 4s.; First
class, 8s.

A CHEAP EXCURSION every MONDAY from LONDON to
the SEASIDE, will leave Holborn Viaduct at 8.25 a.m.,
Victoria 8.30, St. Paul's (City Station, Queen Victoria Street)
8.28 a.m., for the Kent Coast Seaside places. Fares there and back
(third class), to Whitstable and Herne Bay, 3s.; to Margate,
Broadstairs, and Ramsgate, 4s. Returning from Ramsgate at
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at 8.30 p.m., and Whitstable at 8.39 p.m.

The tickets are available to return on the day of issue only, and
by the train named. No luggage allowed. Children under 12
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Music for Masonic Meetings, Consecrations, Installations and
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CHEAP Excursions will be run from London (Euston), Broad
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On Friday night, 15th June.

To Lancaster, Morecambe, Carnforth, Carlisle, and the English
Lake District, returning on Monday, 18th June, or Thursday,
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To Birmingham, Liverpool, Manchester, North and South
Wales, Blackpool, Birkenhead, Chester, Blackburn, Bolton, South-
port, Wigan, Preston, Crewe, Whitechurch, Shrewsbury, Wellington,
Stafford, Macclesfield, Leek, Harecastle, Hanley, Longton, Ash-
bourne, Uttoxeter, Stoke, Stone, Ashton, Halifax, Oldham, Runcorn,
Stalybridge, Stockport, Warrington, Burton, Derby, Leicester,
Nuneaton, Rugby, Coventry, Kenilworth, Leamington, Dudley,
Walsall, Wednesbury, Wolverhampton, Oswestry, Newtown, Llan-
idloes, Dolgelly, Barmouth, Aberystwyth, Towyn, Portmadoc, etc.,
etc., returning Monday, 18th June, or Thursday, 21st June.

For times, fares and full particulars see small bills, which can
be obtained at the Company's Stations and Town Parcels Receiving
Offices.

FRED. HARRISON, General Manager.

London, June 1894.

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A Weekly Record of Masonic Intelligence.

—:o:—

Published every Saturday, Price 3d.

—:o:—

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Mr. J. HOOD-WILLIAMS, 33 Kingston Road North, Buckland,
Portsmouth.

GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.

SPECIAL FAST EXCURSIONS will leave **PADDINGTON STATION** on Saturdays, 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th June, as under:—

7-55 a.m. for Weston-Super-Mare, Bridgwater, Taunton, Minehead, Barnstaple, Ilfracombe, Tiverton, Exeter, Dawlish, Teignmouth, Torquay, Dartmouth, Plymouth, Tavistock, Bodmin, Newquay, Truro, Falmouth, St. Ives, Penzance, &c., for 3, 10, or 17 days.

12-35 p.m. for Swindon, Chippenham, Bradford-on-Avon, Bath, Bristol, Clevedon, Trowbridge, Frome, Wells, Yeovil, Weymouth, &c., for 3, 10, or 17 days, and to Guernsey and Jersey, to return as per pamphlets.

Tickets and pamphlets can be obtained at the Company's Stations, and at the usual Receiving Offices.

HY. LAMBERT, General Manager.

HOTELS, ETC.

—:o:—

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relations, or purchased from unskilled shopmen.

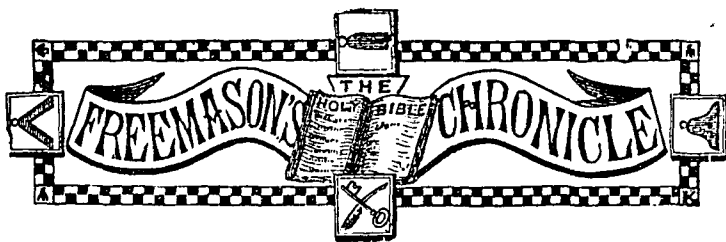
The Family Doctor, 2nd May 1891, says:—"Mr. Bluett is an authority upon the eyesight, and the advice he gives is most valuable, and cannot be too highly estimated."

The Whitehall Review, 2nd July 1892, says:—"Sight to the Blind would not be an exaggerated claim if preferred by Mr. F. Bluett, the well-known Specialist as an Ophthalmic Optician."

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SATURDAY, 9TH JUNE 1894.

Royal Masonic Institution for Girls.

THE Lord Mayor, who was accompanied by the Lady Mayoress, Mr. Alderman and Sheriff Moore, and Mr. Alderman and Sheriff Dimsdale, paid a state visit on Saturday to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, at Battersea.

His Lordship was received by Sir John Monckton, with whom were the following members of the House Committee: Bros. Edward Letchworth, J. H. Matthews, Frank Richardson, A. C. Spaul, Colonel J. Peters, and H. A. Hunt. The visitors included Bros. Admiral Markham, F. Coles, A. H. Bevan, W. Morley, Bywater, W. E. Stanton, E. St. Clair, T. Hastings Miller, C.C., &c.

After inspecting the children, who were drawn up in line in the grounds of the Institution, says the "City Press," the civic party proceeded to the Alexandra Centenary Hall, where the girls went through their calisthenic exercises and marching evolutions under the direction of the head governess, Miss Davis.

The children looked very neat and tidy in their dark blue frocks and white aprons, while the precision with which they accomplished the intricacies of the exercises would have done credit to those of much more advanced years. In fact, as Bro. Alderman and Sheriff Dimsdale afterwards laughingly remarked, in complimenting the girls upon their performance, neither the regular army nor the volunteers were to be compared with them.

Following the musical drill came singing and instrumental music, after which the Lord Mayor briefly addressed the children. His Lordship expressed himself as much gratified by what he had seen and heard. The delightful entertainment which they had provided had, he said, given the Lady Mayoress and himself very great pleasure. He urged upon them the necessity of paying careful attention to their studies while they had the opportunity. They must feel, he was sure, a very deep debt of gratitude to the members of the Committee and those who were placed in charge of them, who, as long as they behaved well, would continue to exhibit towards them the kindness which they had shown in the past.

Bro. Alderman and Sheriff Dimsdale next said a few words. It was the first occasion, he remarked, that he had been amongst them, but he had for a long time been connected with a kindred institution, the London Orphan Asylum. He was glad to see from their recent successes in the Oxford Local and College of Preceptors Examinations that they could do well in other directions besides that in which they had given so excellent a performance that afternoon. It gave him great pleasure to be present, and he wished them every blessing and happiness which God could bestow upon them.

Bro. Alderman and Sheriff Moore followed with a few earnest words, in which he referred to the practical nature of the education which the children were receiving and which was designated, he declared, to suit the requirements of the sphere of life to which by the providence of God they would soon be called.

A vote of thanks was, on the motion of Bro. Frank Richardson, unanimously accorded to the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, and the proceedings terminated.

THE Y.M.C.A. JUBILEE.

THE body of the Casket presented with the Freedom of the City of London to Sir G. Williams on the 4th, was made of oak, part of the roof of the old Guildhall, and bears in the centre the badge of the Young Men's Christian Association in gold and enamel, the dates 1844 and 1894 appearing on either side, whilst at the corners are four groups, emblematical of Europe, Asia, Africa, and America, in modelled 18 ct. gold. Along the top is a band with flowing ornament in renaissance style, in the centre of which appears a small medallion, bearing the monogram G.W. in diamonds on a purple ground, and a scroll with "Founder" underneath. The base of the casket is formed of 18 ct. gold resting on a stand of silver gilt, hall marked, bearing in the centre the full Arms of the Corporation in proper heraldic colours, standing on four cornucopia, indicative of prosperity both of the City and the Association. The cover of the casket is of oak, having at bottom a broad band of gold with ornamental corners, on which are seen the Rose, Shamrock and Thistle in combination. The cover is ornamented with a number of leaves, and bears the crest and motto of Sir George Williams in modelled gold and enamel. The casket was designed and manufactured by Bro. George Kenning.

Olympia.—The directors of this popular place of amusement recently added considerably to the attractions of the justly denominated "stupendous" entertainment of "Constantinople," by a very fine panoramic view of the city, painted by Mr. W. Tilbin. The spectator is supposed to be standing on the Genoese Tower of Galata, which commands the finest view of the Golden Horn and Scraglio Point, and the artist has caught the glorious eastern sunset in its fullest splendour. There are also the admirably contrived tableaux representing some of the most popular stories from the "Arabian Nights," and the Moorish Harem. A caique, propelled by a Turkish boatman, takes one a trip through the harbour, to the subterranean wonder known as the Hall of the Thousand Columns. In order to provide a pleasant promenade for the summer afternoons and evenings, the gardens have been beautifully laid out and are now resplendent with flowers. At intervals are small alcoves where may be heard the strains of the Turkish Minstrels, the Roumelian Gipsies, and the Imperial Hungarian Band, so that after the visitors are satisfied with the gorgeous spectacle, or the busy streets and bazaars, they may enjoy their refreshments amid the beauties of nature. It is satisfactory to record that the extra sights are all free, the price of admission covering all charges. From the directors' point of view the result is equally satisfactory, as the chairman, Mr. John Hart, promises a dividend at midsummer. This proves that the public fully appreciate the efforts made by the enterprising management for their amusement.

CORRESPONDENCE.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our Correspondents.

All Letters must bear the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

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LADIES AND FREEMASONRY.

To the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I have read with interest and somewhat of amusement, the various articles appearing lately in your issues respecting the association of Ladies with the Craft, and I gather from the same that the startling news of Women in Masonry emanates from America, which must be taken with a certain grain of salt, especially when we are informed that it is an effusion from a woman politician named Mary E. Lease, who doubtless is boasting of an assumed knowledge in Masonry for political purposes.

It may possibly be that Lodges for Women exist on the Continent, and in an American edition of the Ritual of Freemasonry, there is mention of a degree called "The Heroine of Jericho," which is conferred exclusively upon R.A. Masons, their wives and widows; hence it is sometimes called the Ladies' degree, convened for that purpose at the house of some R.A. Mason, and the female candidates are not allowed to be qualified by their husbands, but this degree declares that the "Heroine of Jericho" was a harlot, and the Editor states that he never heard of the degree prior to the abduction of that traitor, William Morgan. It was supposed to be got up by those concerned in his death, so that they could revenge themselves, and evade the laws of the country.

The "Daily Telegraph" says it is one of the most cheering signs of the times, the sympathetic attitude now adopted towards Ladies by Freemasonry, and quotes the legend of the lady who hid herself in an eight day clock. This of course refers to the history of the Honourable Mrs. Aldworth, the only Lady Freemason, who was supposed to have found herself by accident in an adjoining chamber to a Lodge, and owing to some structural alterations in the wall, was enabled to witness a ceremony which nearly cost her life; as an alternative, she was initiated into the mysteries which she had witnessed. She lived to be looked upon as a beloved and venerated member of the Order until her death.

I think that the Earl of Haddington Past Grand Master Freemason of Scotland, at the opening of a Bazaar in Edinburgh, sufficiently explained to the ladies present the fundamental principles of Freemasonry, finishing by saying that no man who acted up to the vows and obligations could possibly be a bad citizen, a bad husband, or a bad father.

I am quite in accord with the closing paragraph of your leading article of the 14th of April last, that the opening of the door to Ladies is so strictly opposed to the general wishes of members of the Craft as to render its adoption virtually impossible. I notice that many Lodges (although not all) have their Ladies' Soirees, Balls and Picnics; surely this should suffice without participation of the mysteries. Man is supposed to be the stronger sex, yet we all know that making a man a Freemason does not alter his disposition or natural born tendencies; he is still the same man for good or evil. I will certainly admit that the ritual of Freemasonry tends to make a man a better man, and make him feel more in touch with his Creator, but withal, has the Church of God no fallen sheep, and can it be said of the roll call of Freemasons that none have fallen from lofty pinnacles,—not even those who have been clothed with robes of purity emblematical of the High Priests of the Most High? I leave your readers to judge for themselves. Again,—has no Freemason retired from the Order owing to dishonour cast upon him by a Brother in Freemasonry? This question takes the fate of the former. History revealeth not that the penalties of the solemn obligations in Freemasonry have ever been carried out on their violation, save and except in the abduction of William Morgan; or if there is any truth in the writings of Continental Freemasonry, yet such is the tendency to secrecy, that it may have been misapplied, and the expansion of charity so great that a fallen Brother's misdeeds may have been hidden from punishment, and posing under the Apron as exemplified in the Masonic Sonnet:—

"Emblem of Innocence and Purity!

We find its votaries on every side,
Earth's greatest men have donned it oft with pride;
Time honoured badge of sweet simplicity.
Token of Virtue and Morality."

Leaving the retired Brother to chant in sorrow the Masonic Sonnet to the Most High:—

"Loud let my fervent orisons arise,
To Him who is Supreme and is Most High;
Who rules the waves, controls the wondrous skies,
And hears in Mercy when His children cry!"

When man, the stronger sex, is not infallible, and a certain percentage of Freemasons are no credit to the Craft as a Body, and tarnish the beautiful teachings of the Ritual until they retire or are disposed of, surely what could be expected if Ladies were admitted into the Order? The tax then put upon restrained constitutional weaknesses would be so great that the benefits derived from the teachings of Freemasonry might be expected to be absorbed by the spontaneous combustion of Philosophy, and every Brother who was a husband or a father might dearly regret his initiation.

Freemasonry is too solemn a Ritual to be treated lightly, and when the principles are strictly adhered to amongst men, it is a perfect boon upon earth when a man can go and pass a few pleasant hours under its canopy and in mutual accord as only man to man understand, leaving the cares of life (business and domestic) behind. He feels that he has formed a connection where respect is both given and received; and in his daily walks of life there is a moral duty within his own breast to do unto others in similar circumstances as he would wish they would do to him, and above all not to be guilty of anything that would tend to lose him the respect of his Brethren.

I have often noticed Brethren of mature age in Freemasonry, and advanced in honours, purposely refraining from attending gatherings where ladies were present, and silently drawing the curtain between their homes and their Brethren, which leads me to think that they are conversant with the frailties that I have foreshadowed, and that they enjoy all the pleasures of Freemasonry without the risk of pitfalls.

In conclusion let me admonish ladies to be content, ever remembering that it was Eve's indiscretion that reversed the Garden of Paradise.

Yours faithfully,

ROYAL ARCH.

LECTURE ON THE TALMUD.

THE Rev. Isidore Myers, B.A., recently gave an address at a gathering of East-end Freemasons at the "Rising Sun," Globe Road, on "The Talmud and Freemasonry," and was so successful in gratifying the Brethren who were present, that a committee was formed and arrangements made for a public lecture at the Bromley Vestry Hall. This took place on the 24th ult., and the hall was well filled, a number of clergymen and leading members of the Masonic body being present.

The Rev. J. Parry, the vicar of Bromley, occupied the chair, and, in introducing the lecturer, said the audience would learn that night something about a remarkable literature which had been the means of preserving the individuality and the unity of the ancient people of Israel during many centuries.

The Lecturer, without a note, held the close attention of his audience for an hour and a quarter, during which time the interest never once flagged. He spoke in perfect English, was impressive throughout, and at times movingly eloquent, in fact the lecture, throughout its descriptive, dramatic, pathetic, and humorous parts, was thoroughly enjoyed, and was received with every demonstration of applause.

Bro. Tijou, in eulogistic and humorous terms proposed a vote of thanks to the lecturer, which was seconded by the Rev. J. Greaves, who said that above all things he hated flattery, but he felt bound to say that a more lucid or a more masterly lecture he had never heard in his life.

The vote of thanks was carried with acclamation.

A similar compliment was passed to the chairman, on the motion of Mr. L. Levy, seconded by the Rev. J. F. Stern, both of whom spoke of the kindly feeling which characterised such broad minded Christians as the Rev. Mr. Parry. The Chairman gracefully acknowledged the compliment, remarking that he thoroughly enjoyed the eloquent address of the lecturer, who reminded him very much of the Bishop of Ripon and Archdeacon Farrar, and that he was confident that that evening would help to strengthen the good feeling between the Christians and their Jewish fellow citizens. In conclusion, the Chairman reminded the audience that it was the birthday of Her Majesty that day, and that, consistently with the sentiments of loyalty inculcated in the lecture in the name of the Talmud, the loyalty of all present should be manifested by singing the National Anthem. This was accordingly done, Miss Dora Da Costa playing the accompaniment as charmingly as she had played other music during the earlier part of the evening.

The committee who had the management of the lecture, and their energetic Secretary Mr. H. Harris, are to be congratulated on the success of the meeting, all the proceedings of which were of an entertaining character. As numerous applications for tickets had to be refused for this lecture, we are informed that at a future date the Rev. Bro. Myers will be invited to give another lecture at the large hall of the Bow and Bromley Institute.—"East London Observer."

HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS.

THE London, Chatham and Dover Railway Company announce that on and from the 1st of June a new morning express train at cheap fares will leave Victoria at 9.45 a.m., Holborn and St. Paul's at 9.40 a.m., running fast to Herne Bay, Westgate, Margate, Broadstairs, and Ramsgate. The Granville Express will leave at 3.25 p.m., and on Saturdays a special relief express will leave Victoria at 3.15 p.m., and Holborn 3.13 p.m., running direct from Herne Hill to Margate, and thence to Broadstairs and Ramsgate. On Monday mornings a special fast train will leave Ramsgate at 7.40 a.m. for St. Paul's, calling only at Broadstairs, Margate, and Herne Bay. To meet the increasing demands made by the traffic to Deal, the company have put on a through express, leaving Victoria at 10 a.m. and Holborn at 9.55 a.m. Passengers wishing to spend Saturday to Monday at Deal or Walmer will find a new through fast train from Holborn at 1.20 p.m., and from St. Paul's at 1.23 p.m., calling only at Faversham, Canterbury, Kearsney, and Martin Mill. This train will also convey passengers to Dover and the Kent Coast branch, and cheap Saturday to Monday tickets will be issued to the various stations. Particulars of many other Holiday trips may be had from the Company.

REPORTS OF MEETINGS.

—:0:—

METROPOLITAN.

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PANMURE LODGE, No. 720.

THE Installation meeting was held on the 21st ult., at the Balham Hotel.

The minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed. On the proposition of Bro. Gill, seconded by Bro. Nott, the report of the Audit Committee was received unanimously. A ballot was taken for Mr. Walter Woods Mulley, of the Grove Hotel, Balham, which being unanimous, he was initiated in due form; a ballot was taken for Mr. Henry John Kirvan, of Carmina Road, Balham, which also proved unanimous.

Bro. G. Mulley P.M. was then presented to Bro. Poore P.M., and by him re-installed as Master for the year. The Officers were invested. The Brethren afterwards dined together.

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FIDELITY LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, No. 3.

AT the Prince Alfred, Roman Road, Barnsbury, on the 30th ult., there were present Bros. Rendell W.M., Robinson S.W., Walters J.W., Taylor S.D., Hanes J.D., Piper I.G., Gregory Secretary, Frost, Ferguson Preceptor, Edmonds, and others.

Bro. Kessler was initiated by the W.M. in a very painstaking manner. Lodge was advanced to the third degree and the first section of the lecture was worked by the Preceptor.

Bro. Robinson S.W. was elected W.M. for the ensuing week.

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ROYAL ARCH.

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DUKE OF CORNWALL CHAPTER, No. 1839.

THE election meeting took place at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, on the 25th ult. Comp. Cox M.E.Z., Howe H., Mendelsohn J., Almond S.E., Perrins S.N., Brown P.S., Millar 1st Assist., Wright 2nd Assist., Dewsnap P.Z., Bocker, Bolton, Humphries, Schulz, Lock, Arthur, Culver and many others. Visitors:—Comp. W. M. Stiles Grand Treasurer, Mussared, W. Martin, Toley, Humphries.

After the opening of the Chapter Comp. Dewsnap assumed the chair, and exalted Bro. Richard into the Royal Arch. On Comp. Cox's resumption of the chair the annual elections took place, after which the Chapter was closed, and the Companions adjourned to the Holborn Restaurant to banquet, which in turn was followed by the customary toasts.

In proposing that of the Grand Officers the M.E.Z. expressed the great pleasure he felt in having as a Visitor their dear old friend Comp. Stiles, who had won the distinction of Grand Treasurer of Arch Masonry. Comp. Stiles was well known as a true Mason, earnest in his work, genial and courteous in his manner, and of a purely charitable nature, as was proved by the number of his Stewardships, and the fact that he was a Vice-President of all three of the Institutions. No Companion could be held in higher esteem by those who knew him than he was. His election as Grand Treasurer was a source of gratification to a large number of his friends, who would, he was sure, show every desire to honour him in his new office.

Comp. Stiles was most heartily received. He said the Grand Officers were deeply sensible of the good feeling exhibited towards them, and were ever anxious to discharge their respective duties so as to win greater regard. The kind way in which the toast of their health was received proved their efforts were appreciated. As for himself, he felt a great difficulty in expressing his feelings, for the more than kind receptions recently accorded him. It was owing to the generous support of his Companions that he held the high position of Grand Treasurer. The kind remarks of the M.E.Z. and the cordial greeting of the members had made such a deep impression on his mind that he should never forget his visit to the Duke of Cornwall Chapter.

The toast of the M.E.Z. was proposed by P.Z. Dewsnap, and was received in such a hearty manner as to appear the toast of the evening. No Principal, said Comp. Dewsnap, could have done more for their Chapter than its present ruler, who so thoroughly entered into its work, and displayed such anxiety as to its prosperity, as should ensure its progress. He was held in high esteem among the members, and his year of office promised to be a great success.

In responding, the M.E.Z. expressed the deep gratitude he felt for the remarks just made, and the reception accorded the toast. He had endeavoured to not only do his duty as Z. but also add to the unanimity of feeling among the members, and increase the spirit of emulation that existed in the Chapter. If he had been successful in his endeavours he felt he had been amply repaid for his exertions.

The M.E.Z.-elect Comp. Howe was next toasted, and he briefly acknowledged the compliment paid him. He promised to endeavour to emulate those who had gone before him.

The toast of the Exalte called forth a long response from that Companion, after which the Past Principals were toasted; they replying in brief terms.

The Janitor's toast concluded the evening, which was enlivened by an excellent musical programme, under the direction of Comp. Humphries, the singing of Bro. Walter Perrin being especially appreciated.

ST. PANCRAS CHAPTER, No. 2271.

A MEETING was held on the 31st ult., at the Midland Grand Hotel, St. Pancras. Comp. W. A. Scurrah P.P.G.S. Middlesex M.E.Z., Longman H., Irvine acting J., Jay Treas., A. Scurrah S.E., Lewis acting N., Edmonds P.S., Jacob 1st Assist., Powell 2nd Assist.

The ballot was taken for Bros. A. Coles and Jeffries of the Royal Savoy Lodge, No. 1744, and the result being unanimous in their favour they were exalted into R.A. Masonry by the M.E.Z., who performed the ceremony in excellent style, supported as he was by excellent working on the part of his Officers.

The election of Officers for the ensuing year followed, Comp. Longman being unanimously chosen for the office of Z., Comp. Graham for that of H., and Irvine J., the others to follow in rotation.

Comp. W.M. Stiles Grand Treasurer was elected an Honorary Member of the Chapter, which was afterwards closed in regular form.

The Companions then adjourned to the banquet, after which the usual Loyal toasts were honoured, Comp. Stiles responding on behalf of the Grand Officers, and thanking the company for their cordial reception of the toast. The members had paid him a very great compliment in electing him Honorary Member. He could but remember how closely he had been associated with them, both in Lodge and Chapter, and this mark of their kindness was very gratifying; he appreciated it very much.

Comp. Irvine, in proposing the toast of the M.E.Z., alluded to his excellent qualities, his great knowledge of Freemasonry, his steady perseverance in carrying out his duties, and his readiness in discharging any duty that would increase the comfort of the Companions or promote the welfare of the Chapter.

The M.E.Z., in returning thanks, said he had received many kindnesses at the hands of the proposer of the toast and also from the members of the Chapter. He was very pleased to hear that his endeavours to increase the reputation and welfare of the Chapter had met with the approbation of the members. The Chapter had been very fortunate in securing many true and enthusiastic new members; with such additions as they had lately had they must prosper. He thanked them for their good wishes, and was pleased to say his health had much improved since their last meeting, in fact he might say that the election of his old friend, Companion Stiles to the office of Grand Treasurer, had effected a perfect cure in his own case, and had won general approbation in other quarters.

The toast of the H. and J. having been honoured, Comp. Longman responded. He was very pleased the toast of his health had been cordially received after his election to the highest office in the Chapter. He assured the Companions he should endeavour to maintain the reputation of the Chapter, and strive to keep it in its present prominent position. He could not expect to be as successful as the present chief, but promised them he should do his best for their comfort and for the welfare of the Chapter.

Comp. Irvine J.-elect tendered his thanks. The Chapter had always had good Officers, and in electing him to the chair of J. he hoped it would not suffer. He should do his best, and as he had a strong objection to playing second fiddle to anyone—while he also believed in the old saying that there are as good fish in the sea as any that have come out of it—he should make a special effort to maintain its reputation, in fact the Companions might rely on his doing as well as any of his predecessors, if that was at all possible.

The toast of the Exaltees followed, both expressing their pleasure at being received into the R. A. degree, and their admiration of the ritual and the way in which it had been rendered.

The toast of the Masonic Charities was next proposed from the chair, the M.E.Z. asking the Companions to support his list as a Steward. The Charities should be of interest to every member of the Order, and should be the first care of every Mason.

Comp. Stephens was asked to respond, and in doing so he expressed regret that neither of the Secretaries of the Institutions was present to acknowledge the kind sentiments expressed, and the equally kind reception of the toast, as they being such masters of the subject they were enabled to make most pleasing replies to such good wishes as had been expressed; but if he did not possess their eloquence he at least was quite as earnest and was pleased to have the opportunity of pleading on behalf of the good cause. Comp. Stephens proved a worthy representative of the distinguished Companions he had referred to, and pleaded most earnestly on behalf of the Institutions, detailing the great blessings they bestowed on the aged and the orphans of Freemasonry. The large sums of money raised year by year on behalf of the Institutions were, he said, a source of pride to the members of the Order, and supplied an incentive worthy of being followed by every member. He hoped the Companions would support their M.E.Z. in his Stewardship, and thereby prove their esteem for him. The list was subsequently handed round, and a total of thirty-five guineas was subscribed.

The toast of the Visitors was acknowledged by Companions Smith 704, Lewis 1622, J. Stephens 753, and W. M. Stiles Grand Treasurer.

The toast of the Officers, and that by the Janitor brought the proceedings to a happy conclusion.

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HORNSEY CHAPTER OF IMPROVEMENT, No. 890.

AT the Prince of Wales, Bishops Road, Paddington, on Friday, 1st inst., there were present: Comp. A. C. Spaul P.G.D.C. England M.E.Z., J. Bailey I.P.Z. 1602 H., John Davies P.Z. 733 J. (Treas.), H. Dehane P.Z. S.E., J. C. Conway Z.-elect 1891 S.N., J. Cruttenden P. Soj., G. Gregory Assist Soj., W. Cleghorn P.Z. 185, C. Coleman P.Z. 753, T. C. Edmonds P.Z. 1507, W. Ferguson P.Z. 1507, E. C. Mulvey P.Z. 2246, J. J. Thomas P.Z., J. C. Tilt, E. Reed, J. Barnett, F. Chapple, C. Butler, W. E. Jameson, F. Pickett, T. Dutton, J. Cox, G. Gilbert, &c.

Comp. Mulvey acted as candidate, and was exalted into R. A. Masonry, the ritual being rehearsed in an impressive and painstaking manner, the principal Officers, by their unison of working, making the ceremony most attractive.

A vote of thanks was tendered to Companion Spaul, for his services to Royal Arch Masonry in general, and for his work that night; while votes of thanks was also passed to the acting H. and J.

In acknowledging the vote Comp. Spaul thanked those present for their kindness, and promised to attend again on some convenient occasion.

Companions are cordially invited to attend this excellent Chapter of Improvement, where they may rely on good instruction at the hands of Comp. Dehane.

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PROVINCIAL.

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LODGE OF INTEGRITY, No. 163.

THE last meeting of this popular Lodge previous to the vacation was well attended, over fifty Brethren being present, principal amongst whom were: Bros. J. M. H. Blamey W.M., T. H. Scholfield I.P.M., Alfred Hepworth S.W., Samuel Gaskill J.W., J. M. Sinclair P.M. P.P.J.G.D. Treasurer, Jos. Clemmey Secretary, H. A. Owles S.D., Fred Walmsley J.D. Past Masters: Joseph Wildgoose P.P.J.G.D., John E. Williams P.G.D.D.O., H. H. Warburton P.P.S.G.D., D. D. Macpherson, John Studd, Richard Simister, A. Hope, T. G. Sparkes, Ben Williams, J. W. Shaw 1077 and 2482. Visitors: P.Ms. Fred Hilton P.P.G.D.C., Jas. W. Abbott P.P.G.D.C., M. Thomas P.P.G.D., Wm. T. Schofield P.P.G.J.D., Fred Broadsmith P.P.G. Reg. (Cheshire), Wm. Boden W.M. 2449; Robt. K. Roberts J.D. 1012, Ernest C. Symons J.D. 1357, Walter Alcock P.M. 191, Hezekiah Sharp 54, Walter W. Brown 309, Arthur Joynson 633, John McDermid 626.

After the reading of minutes, Mr. Alfred Cresswell, Buyer, Marple, was initiated by Bro. Ben Williams P.M., the Ancient Charge being given by Bro. Gaskill J.W. This was followed by a capital rendering of the Traditional History of the Third Degree by Bro. Wildgoose P.M.

Bro. Blamey W.M. was appointed steward to represent the Lodge at the forthcoming Festival in connection with the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

At the festive board which succeeded, Bros. Owles, Thomas, Cresswell, B. Williams, Batchelder, and Dottie contributed some excellent songs and recitations, an exceedingly pleasant evening being spent.

Bro. John E. Williams P.M. was heartily congratulated upon having attained Provincial rank.

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RURAL PHILANTHROPIC LODGE, No. 291.

BRO. E. A. BURNETT S.W. has been unanimously elected Worshipful Master for the ensuing year, as successor to Bro. Tyler.

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YARBOROUGH LODGE, No. 551.

ON the 23rd ult. a number of the members enjoyed an excursion. At about 10.45 a party of sixteen left Ventnor and drove through Sandown and Brading over the downs to Down End, where a halt was made for lunch. Then the party drove on to Osborne House, an order to view having been obtained through Sir Henry Ponsonby. The visitors were kindly received by the Housekeeper, who herself conducted them over the whole of the lower part of the establishment.

After spending about an hour in the house, the party rambled over the grounds, and looked at the trees planted by the different notabilities. Then the horses were again put in the coach and the Brethren drove through to the Gloucester Hotel, Cowes. The Host of the Gloucester, Bro. Mursell, served a capital dinner, which was much enjoyed.

An hour or so after dinner having been spent in visiting friends and in conversation, the party once more mounted the coach, proceeding to Carisbrooke, where tea was partaken of. The final stage of the journey was commenced at nine o'clock, Ventnor being reached about eleven.

Bro. F. Trueman was the captain of the party, and the Secretarial duties in connection with the excursion were undertaken by Bro. F. H. Sheppard. The W.M. Brother Cole Norman was one of the party.

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UNITED LODGE, No. 697.

THE Installation meeting was held on Wednesday, the 16th ult., about fifty Brethren being present, including the Grand Secretary of the Province (Bro. T. J. Ralling). The principal business of the meeting was the installation of the Worshipful Master for the ensuing year, Bro. G. N. Watson, which ceremony was performed jointly by Bros. Thomas Rix P.M. and Sec. P.P.G.S.W.B. and Henry J. Skingley P.M. P.P.A.G.D.C. At its conclusion the Officers for the year were invested.

The Brethren afterwards dined together at the George Hotel, a capital repast being well served by the Host and Hostess, Bro. and Mrs. Mutton.

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PELHAM LODGE, No. 939.

ON the 29th ult., the members held their annual picnic. Between thirty and forty of the Brethren and their wives left

Worksop at 10 a.m. for Newstead Abbey, in coaches supplied by Bros. T. Castle and G. Phillips, an al fresco lunch being indulged in en route, and after some time had been spent in inspecting the wonders and beauties of the Abbey, the return journey was made via Mansfield, where a substantial repast was served at the Swan Hotel.

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HESKETH LODGE, No. 950.

ON Wednesday, the 16th ult., the festival of St. John and the annual Installation was celebrated at the Crown Hotel, Fleetwood, when Bro. A. Gibson S.W. was installed.

The Lodge was opened by Bro. G. P. Mulock W.M. who also performed the ceremony of installation, assisted by Bros. Hainsworth, Robertson, Faussett, Mahir, and Clarkson, in a highly satisfactory manner. The address to the W.M. and Wardens was given by Bro. J. D. Faussett P.M., and to the Brethren generally by Bro. Mulock I.P.M.

During the meeting the I.P.M. Bro. G. P. Mulock was presented by the Brethren of the Lodge with a very handsome gold Past Master's jewel, as a token of esteem and appreciation of the valuable services he had rendered during his tenure of Office. The duties of the year had been of an unusually heavy character, but Bro. Mulock had discharged them in a most efficient and thoroughly Masonic manner.

The members afterwards adjourned to the banquet, which was served by Bro. F. Duckworth in really first-class style.

The enjoyment of the gathering was materially enhanced by the vocal and elocutionary items of Bros. Reeve, Gardner, the W.M., Thompson, Greenwood, Dickinson, Robinson, Scott, Thornborough, and others.

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EGERTON LODGE, No. 1030.

THE visit of Her Most Gracious Majesty to Manchester and Salford, on the 21st ult., caused that day to be observed as a general holiday, not only in Cottonopolis itself, but in the towns and villages for many miles around. Stockport, of course, was no exception to the rule, and the regular meeting of the Egerton Lodge, due on the above date, was therefore postponed until the 22nd, the following amongst others being present:—Bros. Dr. H. Wilson W.M., G. B. Goodfellow S.W., Henry Smith P.M. P.P.G.D. Treas. acting J.W., Thos. Knott I.P.M. Sec., Jas. W. Abbott P.M. P.P.G.D.C. D.C., Wm. A. Vaughan P.M. acting S.D., Edward Roberts P.M. (FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE), H. G. Fisher, T. B. Brooks. Visitors:—Bros. Wm. H. Peak P.M. 993 P.P.G.D.C., W. W. Hitching 2363.

After the confirmation of minutes, Brother Thomas Burnley Brooks was entrusted, and the Lodge being advanced, he was raised to the sublime degree by Bro. Wilson W.M., the working tools being presented and explained by Bro. Goodfellow S.W.

At the festive board which followed, Bro. Thos. Knott I.P.M., who presided in the enforced absence of the W.M. (the latter having been called away professionally), proposed the health of the Queen, and reverted in especial terms to her recent visit. He dilated upon the sincere pleasure which she had afforded to hundreds of thousands of her loyal subjects, and the vast amount of enthusiasm which she had evoked, but regretted to have noticed that for a lady in her position, who was so well cared for, and whose welfare was of importance to everybody, she looked far from well. If he was right in his surmise, he hoped for her speedy recovery, and confidently called upon the Brethren to join him in an expression of this sentiment. The toast was most heartily honoured.

Bro. Knott also proposed the health of the newly-raised Brother, saying that he had had the honour of proposing him in the first instance, and judging from what he had seen he felt sure that he would make a conscientious Mason. He had already shown a fair sample of what he was made of, and no doubt as time progressed he would, with a love for his work, develop into a fair Officer of the Lodge. He would await that period with pleasure and with confidence.

Bro. Brooks responded, saying that he thanked the Brethren very much for the way in which they had accepted the toast of his health. Bro. Knott had told them that he had been the means of proposing him as a member of the Lodge, and there was an old saying that the father generally looked well after his own child; still this hardly justified Bro. Knott in speaking so enthusiastically of him. He would endeavour to do full justice to the remarks uttered with regard to himself, and if happily called upon to fill any office, or to perform any duty, he would place his services at their disposal.

Bro. Smith P.M. &c. proposed the health of the Visitors, to which Bros. Hitching and Peak responded.

The former said that without desiring to utter an empty compliment, he must heartily congratulate the Egerton Lodge upon the way in which the ceremony had been performed. If that was a sample of what they could do, then he considered they were capable of performing some very excellent work indeed.

Bro. Peak emphasized these remarks, and said that he had derived no little pleasure from his visit that evening.

Songs, recitations, etc., were given by Bros. Smith, Goodfellow and Roberts.

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TOWNLEY PARKER LODGE, No. 1083.

THIS is another of the Manchester Lodges which may justly rank as popular, and which, even in spite of a miserably wet night like that of the 30th ult., could claim a good attendance of members. Two ceremonies were announced on the summons, which were duly performed, the Worshipful Master passing Bros. Richard Gatenby jun., and Joseph Holland.

Amongst those present at the Lodge, and festive board which followed, were Bros. Councillor William Birkbeck W.M., Robert Lingard S.W., J. Chalmers J.W., James Simister Secretary, J. H. Fitzsimmons J.D., E. Edmondson Org., George Parker I.P.M., G. Higham P.M. P.P.G.D.D.C., R. Armitage P.M., Jos. Selby P.M., H. Tunnaley P.M., and J. Goldsmith P.M. Visitors: Bros. Wm. Loose W.M. 645, W. D. Holbrook 1375.

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PENTANGLE LODGE, No. 1174.

THE Annual Festival was held on Tuesday, 22nd ult., at the Sun Hotel, Chatham. This Lodge is known as one of the very few Service Lodges, its membership being composed chiefly of the officers of the navy and army. Its Charter of Constitution dates from 1867, since which it has exhibited a roll of distinguished members connected with the two services and the civil service. The new Master of the Lodge is Major E. B. Stephens, Royal Marines, who was installed as Worshipful Master by Bro. F. W. H. Penfold the Immediate Past Master, in a very able manner.

The new Worshipful Master having been inducted to the chair of King Solomon with the accustomed solemn rites appointed his Officers.

The business of the Lodge being terminated, the Brethren, under the presidency of the W.M. partook of the annual banquet, which was excellently served by Bro. Spurrier, when the usual Masonic toasts, &c., were honoured. During dinner a portion of the Royal Engineer band played an admirable selection of music.

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LODGE OF TRUTH, No. 1458.

WE are glad to see this Lodge continues to make steady and satisfactory progress, and that the meeting held at the Wheat Sheaf, Manchester, on Saturday last, was quite as successful as many of its predecessors which have been reported in our columns. In the first instance Mr. Chas. V. Bretherton, who had been balloted for upon the last Lodge night, now presented himself for Initiation, and the ceremony was performed by Bro. Hamlet Lowe Burgess W.M., who was assisted by Bro. Alfred Hebden P.M. P.P.G.D.D.C. D. of Cers. This was followed by the passing of Bro. Edward Jackson by Bro. T. H. Hall P.M. Secretary. Bro. W. H. Worsley J.W. presented and explained the working tools in each degree.

The whole of the work was done in that characteristically excellent manner which we have referred to upon many previous occasions.

Before the Lodge was closed, the name of another candidate for Initiation was handed in, and as there is other work of this description still in hand, it was announced that it would be necessary to hold an Emergency Meeting on Saturday, the 30th inst.

The usual festive board followed, when Loyal and Masonic toasts were submitted.

Amongst those present we noticed Bros. E. M. Shepherd S.W., Robert Caldwell P.M. P.P.G.S.B., Buckley Carr P.M., Davies P.M., A. B. Taylor, Cooper, Dean, Muller, Parkin, Hellewell, and Hogg. Visitor: Bro. W. J. Melling P.M. 986 and 2185.

The annual picnic in connection with the Lodge will be held on Saturday, 14th July, the place selected being Windermere.

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PRUDENCE LODGE, No. 1550.

AT a meeting held at the Freemasons' Hall, Plymouth, on Saturday evening, Bro. E. Budge W.M. presiding, Bro. H. T. Robins, of Yealmpton, the Senior Warden, was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year. Bro. Robins, who is a comparatively young Mason, has made such progress in the Art that he has reached the Master's chair within about five years of his having joined the Order. He is exceedingly popular among the Brethren, and was heartily congratulated on Saturday night on the position to which he has attained. Bros. C. Philp as Treasurer, J. G. Kevern as Representative of the Lodge on the Committee of Petitions, C. Mutton as Charity Steward, and W. H. Phillips as Tyler, were all unanimously re-elected, and thanked for their past services.

It was decided to hold the usual summer outing, and a Committee was appointed to make the necessary arrangements.

After the Lodge had been closed the Brethren adjourned to the dining room, where they partook of refreshments, and in the course of the proceedings Bro. Budge took occasion to thank the Officers of the Lodge for the valuable assistance they had given him during his year of office, whereby his duties had been made both light and pleasant. He especially thanked Bro. S. Jew, a venerable Freemason, who had just reached his seventy-eighth year, and who, although not a member of the Lodge, had regularly attended its meetings, and assisted him in discharging the duties of Chaplain. Bro. Jew's enthusiasm for Freemasonry was an example to all younger Masons, and he hoped they would have the pleasure of seeing him with them for many years to come.

Bro. Jew, whose health was very cordially drunk, feelingly acknowledged the toast, remarking that he was a member of seven Lodges, the meetings of which he regularly attended, and that Freemasonry was his very existence.

The health of the W.M., proposed by Bro. Robins, was drunk with much enthusiasm, and Bro. Budge was congratulated on the manner in which he had discharged the duties of Worshipful Master.

The installation of Bro. Robins will take place on 7th July, when it is expected there will be a very large attendance of Brethren.

ELLIOT LODGE, No. 1567.

THE regular meeting was held on Saturday, 2nd inst., at the Railway Hotel, Feltham, under the presidency of Bro. J. Mason W.M., who was supported by W. Booker S.W., J. Nichols J.W., Pearson P.M. Treas., J. Bird P.M. Sec., Carpenter S.D., Sawworth J.D., Dillon I.G., Wildore D.C. There were also present Bros. Bevis, Taylor, Bird, Pearson and Brown Past Masters; Bros. Longdown, Tomblin, Cook, Weedon, Calley, Randle, Arkel, Pardoe, &c., together with the following Visitors: A Chapman 834, Webster 704, Kemp 1733, &c.

Bro. H. J. Calley was regularly prepared and afterwards passed to the second degree, the ability of Bro. John Mason as an exponent of Masonic ritual adding much to the impressiveness and general excellence of the work.

An adjournment was subsequently made to dinner, which was excellent both in quality and quantity, and reflected the highest credit on Bro. Harris, the host of the Hotel. The W.M. presided, and under his genial guidance a very happy evening was spent, some excellent singing by the Brethren adding to the general enjoyment.

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ST. GILES LODGE, No. 1587.

THE festival of St. John was celebrated at the Savings Bank, Cheadle, on Tuesday, the 22nd ult., among those present being Lieutenant-Colonel A. J. Bindley D.P.G.M. Staffordshire and S.G.D. of England, Major G. W. Walker Prov. G. Sec., M. Barker President Staffordshire Masonic Charitable Association. Bro. T. B. Cull P.M. P.P.G.P. was installed Worshipful Master of the Lodge for the second time, the ceremony of installation being performed by Bro. E. Welsh P.M. P.P.G.S.

After the ceremony the Brethren adjourned to the Wheat Sheaf Hotel, where they partook of an excellent repast provided by Mrs. Hammond, the hostess, after which the usual toasts were honoured.

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CARADOC LODGE, No. 1674.

ON Monday, 21st ult., the members opened their new premises in Market Street, Rhyl. The room occupies the second storey in the Rhyl and County Club. It is admirably adapted for its present purposes, and has been beautifully decorated for the Masonic home at Rhyl. At the opening Bro. Jno. Duncan Miller W.M. presided, and was well supported by members and visitors.

A banquet was afterwards held at the Westminster Hotel, to celebrate the event, when the usual Masonic and other toasts were given and responded to.

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MEDWAY LODGE, No. 1678.

THE Installation meeting took place on Tuesday, 22nd ult., at Tonbridge, when Bro. A. A. T. Avar was installed as W.M. by Bro. Millidge the I.P.M., to whom a valuable jewel was presented in recognition of his services during the past year.

Bro. Abrey was elected charity representative, and the new Officers were invested.

The customary banquet subsequently followed at the Rose and Crown Hotel.

JOAN OF ARC.

EVERY party and shade of opinion in France seems resolved to put in its claim for a share in Joan of Arc, and to celebrate a Joan of Arc Festival of its own. It appears that several Freemasons Lodges have expressed some indignation at the "expropriation" of the national French heroine by the Pope and his French bishops. Hence upon Wednesday, which is the anniversary of the burning of Joan at the stake on 30th May 1431, in the presence of the Bishop of Beauvais, the authorities of the Inquisition, and a crowd of approving ecclesiastics, they intend to perform a kind of service of "expiation" of a very different character to that in the expiatory church on Montmartre. The members of these Lodges will march in procession to the Place de Pyramides, and deposit a wreath and a dedicatory inscription at the foot of the statue of the Maid of Domremy. The inscription has already been composed, and runs as follows:—

"A Jeanne d'Arc,
Hérétique et relapse,
Abandonnée de la Royauté,
Brûlée par l'Eglise."

("To Joan of Arc, relapsed Heretic, abandoned by Royalty, burnt by the Church.")

The sting of the inscription lies in its truth. But we imagine that some attempt will be made to hinder the proposed counter-demonstration.—"Echo," 29th May.

The Directors of Spiers and Pond, Limited, notify that the Transfer Books will be closed from the 18th inst. to the 30th inst., both inclusive, for the purpose of preparing the Interest Warrants, on the 5 per cent. First Mortgage Debentures, the 5 per cent. "A" Mortgage Debenture Stock, and the 5 per cent. "B" Debenture Stock, the 5 per cent. Debenture Stock, and the 4 per cent. "C" Debenture Stock of the Company. The Warrants will be posted on the evening of the 30th inst.

EGYPTIAN MASONIC PRINCIPLES.

THE By-Laws of Phœnicia Lodge at Beyrouth, Syria, a copy of which in Arabic and a translation into English were recently presented to the Acacia Club, by Bro. John C. Smith, are herewith submitted to point to the universality of Masonic principles:

1. Worship and honour God, the Creator and Ruler of mankind.
2. Love your neighbour.
3. Avoid wrong-doing.
4. Always do right.
5. Heed not the people's idle gossip.
6. Follow the principles of the religion and respect that of others, as all men are equal in the eye of God, the true worship of whom is the practice of good deeds.
7. Do right through the love of doing it.
8. Always keep your character pure and worthy to appear before God, the Ruler of Mankind.
9. Love the righteous and virtuous, pity the miserable, avoid the wicked, and hate no one.
10. Avoid long conversations with people of rank; be wise with your comrades, true to your friends, humble to those that are under you and piteous to the poor.
11. Flatter not your Brother, because flattery is treachery.
12. Do not let your Brother corrupt your character by his words of praise.
13. Follow always the voice of your conscience.
14. Be a father to the poor and needy lest your hard-heartedness provoketh imprecations.
15. Be generous and helpful to the stranger, and pay full honour to his person.
16. Avoid quarrels and blasphemy, and incline always to the truth.
17. Always respect the ladies, treat them kindly, and prefer death to dishonouring them.
18. If God grants you a child, offer Him your thanks, and tremble with the heaviness of your charge.
19. Be a good example to him.
20. Make him fear you till the age of 10, love you till 20, and respect you till death.
21. That means: You must instruct him till his 10th year, be as a father till his 20th year, and a friend till death.

22. Teach him the true principles.
23. Make him indebted to you for the right way you showed to him.
24. Make him a righteous before you make him an energetic man.
25. If you feel ashamed of your situation, you are proud.
26. It is not the situation which makes a man respected, but his deeds therein.
27. Read and understand these teachings; go and do likewise and always think before acting.
28. Let your deeds be profitable to your Brothers and to yourself.
29. Be contented in all places and under all circumstances.
30. Rejoice in the right and repent of your sins.
31. Suffer without complaint all miseries and troubles.
32. Condemn not the action of others as insignificant.
33. Neither rebuke nor exalt anyone, because God, the Creator and Instigator of Hearts, is alone able to know the responsibility of His creature.
34. Respect the ruler of the country where you live, because he allowed you to live on his land.
35. Respect the government and its laws, and enter not into a conspiracy against it, but give it aid in time of need.
36. Avoid disputing in religion and political matters, so as to keep the links of humanity unbroken.
37. Help your Brother and prefer him to others in all your dealings, as long as he is true and righteous to you and others.
38. Keep your heart clean with your Brothers' families.
39. Keep your Brothers' secret as you would your own.
40. Be excellent and you shall be an example to the people because of your righteous actions.—“Keystone.”

The acting Grand Master for the Province of Berkshire (Bro. J. T. Morland) has fixed Tuesday, the 26th instant, for the annual Provincial Grand Lodge, which will be held at Reading, under the auspices of the St. Hilda Lodge.

BOOKBINDING in all its branches. Price list on application. Morgan, Fleet Works, Bulwer Road, New Barnet.

NEXT WEEK.

Monday.

- 1305 St. Marylebone, Criterion
 37 Anchor and Hope, Bolton
 40 Derwent, Hastings
 68 Royal Clarence, Bristol
 75 Love and Honour, Falmouth
 104 St. John, Stockport
 105 Fortitude, Plymouth
 106 Sun, Exmouth
 151 Albany, Newport, Isle of Wight
 189 Sincerity, East Stonehouse
 237 Indefatigable, Swansea
 240 St. Hilda, South Shields
 296 Royal Brunswick, Sheffield
 297 Witham, Lincoln
 303 Benevolent, Teignmouth
 314 Peace and Unity, Preston
 330 One and All, Bodmin
 339 Unanimity, Penrith
 1221 Defence, Leeds
 1373 St. Hubert, Andover
 1408 Stamford and Warrington, Stalybridge
 1436 Castle, Sandgate
 1449 Royal Military, Canterbury
 1474 Israel, Birmingham
 1496 Trafford, Moss Side
 1592 Abbey, Bury St. Edmunds
 1611 Eboracum, York
 1618 Handyside, Saltburn-by-Sea
 1656 Wolsey, Hampton Court
 1730 Urmston, Urmston
 1792 Tudor, Harborne
 1802 Vernon, East Retford
 1885 Torridge, Gt. Torrington
 1948 Hardman, Rawtenstall
 1952 High Peak, Chapel-en-le-Frith
 1966 Fidelity and Sincerity, Wellington
 2034 Masefield, Moseley
 2144 De Tatton, Altrincham
 2185 Ardwick, Ardwick
 2197 Spencer Walpole Temperance, Douglas
 2237 Earl of Leicester, Wells
 2376 Carnarvon, Layland
 2457 St. Annes, St. Annes-on-Sea

Tuesday.

- 80 St. John, Sunderland
 131 Fortitude, Truro
 184 United Benevolence, New Brompton
 241 Merchants, Liverpool
 272 Harmony, Boston
 319 New Forest, Lymington
 371 Perseverance, Maryport
 1220 Solway, Aspatria
 1250 Gilbert Grenall, Warrington

- 1267 Kenlis, Egremont
 1402 Jordan, Torquay
 1476 Blackpool, Blackpool
 1528 Fort, Newquay
 1713 Wilbraham, Walton-on-the-Hill
 1837 Lullingstone, Wilmington
 1847 Ebrington, Stonehouse
 2099 Ethelbert, Herne Bay
 2104 Whitwell, Stockton-on-Tees
 2134 Wilberforce, Hull
 2222 Frederick West, East Molesey
 2324 Horwich, Horwich
 2360 Victoria, Southport
 2487 St. Michael, Stone

Wednesday.

- 1629 United, Freemasons-hall
 2470 Telegraph Cable, Ship and Turtle
 13 Union Waterloo, Plumstead
 84 Doyle's Lodge of Fellowship, Guernsey
 125 Prince Edwin, Hythe
 146 Antiquity, Bolton
 187 Royal Sussex of Hospitality, Bristol
 204 Caledonian, Manchester
 225 St. Luke, Ipswich
 244 Yarborough, Jersey
 250 Minerva, Hull
 274 Tranquillity, Newchurch
 277 Friendship, Oldham
 281 Fortitude, Lancaster
 288 Harmony, Todmorden
 323 Concord, Stockport
 1209 Lewises, Ramsgate
 1242 Tynwald, Douglas
 1248 Denison, Scarborough
 1331 Aldershot Camp, Aldershot
 1342 Walker, Newcastle-on-Tyne
 1356 Toxteth, Liverpool
 1398 Baldwin, Dalton-in-Furness
 1400 Curwen, Workington
 1547 Liverpool, Liverpool
 1582 Llanidloes, Llanidloes
 1588 Prince Leopold, Stretford
 1643 Perseverance, Hebburn-on-Tyne
 1692 Hervey, Bromley, Kent
 1798 Zion, Manchester
 1848 Ferrum, Middlesborough
 1855 St. Maurice, Plympton
 1879 Lord Warkworth, Amble
 1932 Whitworth, Spennymoor
 2046 Robinson, Maidstone
 2156 Arthur Sullivan, Manchester
 2294 Wavertree, Wavertree
 2389 Avondale, Middlewich
 2404 Lord C. Beresford, Chatham
 2423 St. Mark, Connaught Quay
 2450 Loxfield, Uckfield
 2483 Hadrian, Westham

Thursday.

- 2397 Columbia, Criterion, Piccadilly
 2417 Bolingbroke, M.H., Clapham Junction
 35 Medina, Cowes
 97 Palatine, Sunderland
 130 Royal Gloucester, Southampton
 139 Britannia, Sheffield
 333 Royal Preston, Preston
 344 Faith, Radcliffe
 369 Limestone Rock, Clitheroe
 381 Harmony and Industry, Darwen
 1204 Royd, Malvern
 1213 Bridgewater, Eccles
 1273 St. Michael, Sittingbourne
 1387 Chorlton, Chorlton-cum-Hardy
 1416 Falcon, Thirsk
 1495 Arkwright, Matlock Bath
 1583 Corbet, Towyn
 1697 Hospitality, Waterfoot
 1750 Coleridge, Clevedon
 1863 Priory, Tynemouth
 1915 Graystone, Whitstable
 1992 Tennant, Cardiff
 2016 Shalden, Alton
 2038 Portcullis, Langport
 2109 Prince Edward, Heaton Moor
 2234 Onslow, Guildford
 2262 Dagmar, Wraysbury
 2278 Kingswood, Broxbourne
 2285 Eden, Workington
 2343 Sir William Harpur, Bedford
 2420 Ferdinand de Rothschild, Waddesdon
 2449 Duke of York, Manchester

Friday.

- 2157 St. Mark's College, Holborn
 152 Virtue, Manchester
 271 Royal Clarence, Brighton
 318 True and Faithful, Helston
 347 Noah's Ark, Tipton
 1224 Stour Valley, Sudbury
 1232 Hereward, Bourn
 1311 Zetland, Leeds
 1773 Albert Victor, Pendleton
 2063 St. Osyth Priory, Clacton-on-Sea
 2078 St. Lawrence, Scunthorpe
 2231 Talbot, Stretford
 2447 Palatine, Manchester

Saturday.

- 149 Peace, Meltham
 1641 Crichton, Camberwell
 308 Prince George, Todmorden
 336 Benevolence, Marple
 370 St. George, Chertsey
 1871 Gostling Murray, Hounslow