

THE

Freemason's Chronicle.

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

Reports of United Grand Lodge are published with the Special Sanction of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the Most Worshipful the Grand Master of England.

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SATURDAY, 26th JANUARY 1895.

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PROFIT AND PLEASURE.

ONE noteworthy feature in connection with Freemasonry is that all its work is conducted with a view of affording both profit and pleasure to those who participate in it, and no doubt this fact alone has very much to do with the success that usually attends the efforts of our Lodge leaders in any work they may undertake in furtherance of the cause of Freemasonry.

It is no unusual thing to hear a speaker say that a good Mason must of necessity be a good man—this may almost be regarded as a natural sequence of events, the principal reason being that in all the lessons of the Craft profit and pleasure is aimed at, profit of an intellectual and moral character, be it understood, rather than that financial benefit that is usually identified with the use of the term. In all its work Freemasonry seeks to benefit its pupils by symbolical teaching, but the lessons are not of the hard, dry character of many that have to be learnt in the course of one's career through this world, all being framed so as to provide not only instruction, but also enjoyment—profit and pleasure, in fact.

We find this feature of Freemasonry strongly exemplified about this season of the year, when Brethren in various parts of the country arrange balls and other entertainments, at which departure from the ordinary routine of Lodge work is possible, and the opportunity arises of instructing outsiders in some of the features of Freemasonry, at the same time giving them the opportunity of enjoying themselves during the process. Very much that is good follows in the wake of these meetings, and we think there are few who will argue they do any harm, or are in any way out of place as a part of the Masonic work of the age.

We have lately spoken of endeavours made in this direction by Brethren who have associated the name of Freemasonry with efforts on behalf of the aged and distressed in their midst, and as we then said instances of such kindly work are by no means rare; while there is the equally gratifying consideration that they are being imitated by Brethren who recognise that pleasure may be derived in causing the enjoyment of others. We appear to have by no means overrated the tendency of the Craft in this direction, for wherever we turn we find records of such entertainments, or of parties arranged for the enjoyment of the wives or children of the Craft, who, we are convinced, must derive some benefit from their association with the Order, brief though it may be. In our present issue we briefly record some of these gatherings, but there are many others that have come under our notice, for which we have no space, although we fully recognise that all are deserving of being recorded, not only out of compliment to the Brethren who arrange them, but also because of their bearing on the subject of our present remarks, and their ultimate result on the Craft, by proving to the world the benefits of its teachings.

THE PRESS AND FREEMASONRY.

THE opening of the banquet to strangers reminds me of the first and only "strike of reporters" in which I had a part. It occurred many years ago, before the present Marquis of Ripon threw over Freemasonry and the Church of England, and was received into the Church of Rome, the latter Church tabooing the Masons. The occasion was the laying of the foundation stone of Thornton Church, with Masonic honours, by the Marquis, followed by a banquet at St. George's Hall. About thirty reporters were present, mostly from distant places, Bradford being then much smaller than it is in the present day. The ceremony at the stone-laying passed off satisfactorily, and all went well up to that point.

The reporters were then informed that dinner would be provided for them in a room at St. George's Hall, Bradford, and that they would be called into the Masonic banquet when they were required. There was less competition in the press in those days than there is now. I am also bound to say that there was more independence amongst pressmen, who stood firmly on the dignity of the profession. A meeting was held after the ceremony at the stone, and it was resolved not to attend the banquet on the conditions proposed by the Masons. Every pressman—and there were several from Manchester and other district towns—"cut" the banquet, and returned from whence they came.

The Masons were very independent. They could not conceive that the pressmen dare "strike" against their imperious order. When they found that not a solitary pressman turned up at the little dinner set out in a private room at St. George's Hall, they realised their position. There were hurryings to and fro in search of a scribe, but none could be found willing to break through the compact. There were no daily papers in Bradford in those days. No mention of the banquet was made in any of the dailies next morning, and the carefully-prepared speech of Lord Ripon was confined to the Brethren. An amateur report was sent to an organ of the Craft, but nothing else was heard of the banquet, and the "gentlemen of the fourth estate" taught the Masons a lesson!

[The above paragraphs are sent us from the "Bacup Times," of last May, our correspondent suggesting they have not lost their interest by the lapse of time since their appearance. It is true matters have very much changed since the days to which the writer refers, but even now some of our Brother Masons have some very peculiar ideas as to the position of the press in regard to Freemasonry.—Ed. F.C.]

CATHOLIC OPPOSITION TO FREEMASONRY.

IN connection with the subject of Women Freemasons, to which we referred in a recent issue, and regarding the existence of whom all pretence of secrecy has been abandoned by the Masonic authorities, some curious details have been furnished by a certain Dr. George Martin, chief of the mixed Lodge of Freemasonry in Paris, concerning the various oaths in use amongst the Masonic Brotherhood. It would appear from Dr. Martin's statement to an interviewer that whereas the usual oath of a Freemason is by "The Great Architect of the Universe," meaning thereby the Almighty, and that this belief in a Supreme Being is accepted, more especially in England and America, as a fundamental clause in the constitution of the Masonic Lodges, in France the "Grand Orient" Lodges, distinguished both by their numbers and their importance, refuse to commit themselves to any recognition of a divine Power, as being an unwarrantable interference with liberty of conscience, and content themselves with swearing by their own constitutions. This solution of a difficult problem has been accepted as satisfactory by both Theists and Atheists, who, it need hardly be added, compose the

majority of the "Grand Orient" Lodges. The first Lodge to offer the full privileges of membership to the fair sex in the person of the late Mdle. Maria Deraismes is known by the candid title of "The Freethinkers of Le Pecq." These few facts should go a good way towards making it plain to English non-Catholics why it is that the Catholic Church has adopted so persistently hostile an attitude towards Freemasonry in Continental countries, while among the members of the English Lodges so little antagonism exists towards the fundamental interests of religion.—"Catholic Times."

SCOPE FOR NEW LODGES.

THE Prov. Grand Master of Cambridgeshire, present at the Installation meeting of the Scientific Lodge, spoke of the friendly rivalry which existed between Nos. 88 and 441, and said that this could not but conduce to the efficiency of the two Cambridge Lodges. Nevertheless, without desiring to impair that efficiency, he should like to see more Lodges established in the Province, and could wish that the Brethren of the Cambridge Lodges would devote some of their superfluous energy to that purpose. Cuttings from the tree could well be spared without injury to the parent tree itself, and he thought that Lodges might very well be established at such places as Ely, March and Chatteris. In doing so they would also help to increase the support which was given to the Masonic Charities. He commended the suggestion to the Brethren of the Province.

WOMEN FREEMASONS IN LONDON.

From the "Sunday Times."

[The Editor received an article, published in a Scotch paper some years ago, on the peculiar fitness of women for Freemasonry, from Mrs. Tweedale, of Milton Hall, Cambridge, who, in the letter containing the enclosure, stated that she was herself a Mason and belonged to a London Lodge. Mrs. Tweedale kindly sent us the following letter as reply to a request for further information respecting the history of mixed Lodges in London, their aims, work, &c. The members of the English mixed Lodges do not appear as yet so ready to speak publicly of their work as those of the Paris Lodges.]

To the Editor of the "Sunday Times."

MADAM,—Yours received this morning. I cannot say publicly any more than is contained in the article sent to you. The Lodge I belong to is secret, and is mixed—two members of the Cabinet being present last Equinox. That there are other Lodges to which women belong I discovered in a very simple manner. Being a Mason myself, I recognised last year in three cases (all women) that I was speaking to Masons, and I ascertained they did not belong to my Lodge. We hold our meetings in the Freemasons' Hall. I do not know why there should be any necessity for secrecy, except that the world at large might be rather shocked at females being initiated and taking steps exactly as men do, on the score of indelicacy. Lately, a celebrated Indian Officer came up for initiation, he was practically dying, and had to be supported all through the ceremony. Being very keen he was ready to take a step soon after, but the night before the ceremony fixed he died. No alteration was made, and the dead man took his step by proxy. I believe this to be unusual. Ours is a very hard-working Lodge, and the only form of hospitality is entertaining any members of a certain Paris Lodge with which we are in touch.

Yours faithfully,

VIOLET TWEEDALE.

Milton Hall, Cambs.

JOINING FEES.

A WRITER in the "Indian Freemason" says:—"We put the financial side of the question out of sight altogether, as the loss to Lodge funds would not in any case be very great. Moreover, this argument regarding the decrease or increase of funds hardly comes within the pale of true Freemasonry. I will at once admit that it is very often hard upon Brethren in this country, with constant changes of station, to be called upon to pay joining fees; but it is impossible, in a society constituted as Freemasonry is, to expect to have our established customs altered for the sake of a very small portion of our community. On the other hand, would this abolition of joining fees be the boon that it is claimed to be? Is it not a good thing to have some check upon the growth of Lodges? Is it desirable, for a few months to have a large influx of joining members, who it is known will only remain, as such, for a limited period? On the contrary, I think it is most undesirable. The Treasurer and Secretary of a Lodge have quite enough to do nowadays, without having their work increased, which it would be, without doubt, if greater facilities were given to Brethren to join Lodges; and with Brethren being perhaps members of three or four Lodges in a District at the same time, a very false idea of the state of the District, as judged from its returns, would be gained.

No; Freemasonry is a Conservative Institution, and I do not think Lodges would for one moment, as a body, desire to increase their rolls by the addition of members who would, at the best, be only birds of passage. Moreover, the class of men described by Bro. Ward in his article, as such desirable additions to a Lodge, "Men who would take an *active*, instead of a *dormant* interest in the work," (whatever a dormant interest may be), "Men who would contribute to the funds of the Lodge," "Men who would be willing to give their mite to the local Masonic charities," &c., would surely not be deterred from joining a Lodge by a small joining fee? I think not, and I would almost go further and say that men who would be prevented from joining a Lodge on account of its joining fee, would, as a rule, be men that the Lodge could well do without. The joining fee does, no doubt, in some instances press heavily upon Brethren, who are sojourning for short periods in stations other than their own; but surely the remedy for this may be found in more constant visiting. Are not visiting Brethren always received with open arms by a Lodge? Is not this an opportunity of practising Masonic hospitality in the truest sense of the word?

There may be a certain amount of modesty about visiting a Lodge more than once or twice, but at least this is not warranted by the welcome that is extended to visiting Brethren. On the contrary, the more visiting Brethren there are, the better is a Lodge pleased, for the right of Brethren to visit as often as possible is fully recognised by the Constitutions, in Article 152, with one limitation only. Brethren, as a rule, do not care to visit a Lodge unless they are asked. But, if utter strangers in a place, they cannot expect to be asked unless they make themselves known. I look upon the presence of visitors in Lodge as one of the greatest privileges a Lodge possesses, and think that if visiting were encouraged to the fullest possible extent, far greater good would ensue to Freemasonry as an institution than by the abolition of joining—or for the matter of that of any other—fees.

CENTENARY: ST. JOHN'S LODGE, LISBURN (I.C.).

THE centenary was celebrated by the Officers and Members dining together in the Assembly Rooms, Lisburn, when several Visitors were present.

An original poem on the centenary of the Lodge, from the pen of Bro. Joseph Hope, was read, and it was much admired. The evening was one of the pleasantest ever spent under the auspices of the Lodge.

Some of our Scottish friends, referring to the holding of a Lodge of Instruction in that country, speak of it as quite a rarity. The meeting was under the auspices of the Dramatic Lodge, the Master of which, Bro. De Banzie delivered an excellent educational lecture on the various points of Masonry, in the course of which he gave it as his opinion that a Lodge of Instruction was absolutely necessary for any Mason who desired to advance in the mysteries and the beauties of the Craft. He desired that they would all give him their assistance in the matter. He wished every member to have a practical acquaintance with the various duties of the different Offices. To know merely the signs and grips was to know only the husks and shells of Masonry, although a man could not be called a thorough Mason unless he could at once give these without the slightest hesitation when necessary.

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We have several times pointed out that Deacons, whilst traversing the Lodge in discharge of their duties, need not salute the chair. The wands entrusted to these Officers are tokens to denote their right to be exempt from this duty. Please note, Bros. Deacons.—"Masonry."

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The Worshipful Master and Brethren of St. John's Lodge, No. 1736, Halifax, gave a ball for the children and friends of the Brethren connected with the Lodge, in the Masonic Hall, on Wednesday, 16th inst.

"A SPRIG OF ACACIA."

THE funeral of Bro. G. A. Oldham, who died on Monday, 14th inst., after a long illness, took place at Colchester on Friday. Bro. Oldham, who was a member of the United Lodge, 697, was much respected, and practically the whole of the business premises in his district were closed at the hour fixed for the funeral.

ROYAL ARCH.

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CONSECRATION: EDWARD ALBERT CHAPTER.

A MEETING of the Provincial Grand Chapter of Lincolnshire was held at Sutton Bridge on the 15th, for the purpose of consecrating the Edward Albert Chapter. A large number of Principals and Past Principals of the several Chapters in the Province were in attendance. After the ceremony of installation of Principals, the election and investment of Officers was proceeded with.

FAITH AND UNANIMITY CHAPTER, No. 417.

THE annual festival took place at Dorchester on the 16th, when Comp. E. W. Young P.P.G.S.N. was installed as First Principal. The installation of Comp. Huxtable as H. was postponed owing to his absence; and Comp. J. S. Stroud P.Z. was placed in the chair of J.

In the evening a banquet was held at the Masonic Hall, at which a goodly number of Companions, with several Visitors, were present.

MILITARY JUBILEE CHAPTER, No. 2195.

THE installation of Principals took place at the Freemasons' Hall, Dover, on Thursday, 17th inst., the following Companions being installed for the ensuing year:—Quartermaster-Sergeant H. G. Drake Z., Colonel W. Keily Westropp H., Sergeant-Major W. A. Barron J. The installing Officers were Companions Major General Cuming P.G.J. and outgoing Z., J. D. Terson, and Surg.-Lieut.-Colonel J. Powell Z. 199.

The usual banquet followed, being excellently catered by Bro. E. M. Birch, of the Falcon Hotel. The Loyal and Arch toasts were submitted during the evening, and heartily received. The musical Companions rendered good service.

SUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF LODGE WORK.

THE most important matter that has come under the notice of our Sydney reporters during the past month, is the allocation of work amongst junior officers, and even Brethren from the floor of the Lodge. This, too, in the M.M. degree, wherein the recital of the T.H.—an arduous work—was recently excellently rendered by a young Brother who has not yet been honoured with an office. There is no doubt in our minds, and we have arrived at the conclusion as the consensus of opinion held by our staff, whose opportunities of learning are admittedly great, that Worshipful Masters in pursuing this course are forming the allegiance of members to their local Lodges in a strong mould, and one that tends to destroy that apathy which makes the average active membership in the mother colony a matter of three short years. To increase this average should be the aim of every Mason who feels that in this limited time all the beauties and sublime conceptions of our Craft cannot even be perceived, much less realised, and by a participation in the active work of the Lodge. This consummation is nearer achievement than would be the case if Brethren merely listened from the floor. What is requisite is a stimulus, so that Brethren will not only hear, but mark, learn, and inwardly digest what they hear, for when they are called upon once to do work, we find that they are eager to do more, and anticipating further commands from the Worshipful Master, they set themselves strenuously to learn as far as their capacity lies, so that when asked can they do so-and-so, they will be able to give an affirmative answer. The younger Brethren too are desirous of emulating the services rendered by eminent Past Masters, and to maintain the traditions of their Lodge they are put upon their mettle, with the result that they do their best, and afford the Brethren an opportunity of discriminating as to how they will employ their suffrages at the annual meetings. The practice therefore moderately indulged in is good for the Craft, the Lodge, and the Junior Brethren.—“Masonry.”

The sixth Masonic ball for the purpose of aiding the funds of that deserving institution, the West Ham Hospital, was held at the Town Hall, Stratford, on Thursday, 10th inst. Members of the Craft rallied strongly in support of the sacred cause of charity, and the sixth ball is to be classed among the preceding ones as a success, and one of which the West Ham Abbey Lodge has every reason to be proud. Among those contributing were the Duke of Westminster, £5 5s; Sir W. N. Abdy, £5 5s; Bros. Cama, £5 5s; T. C. Holford, £5 5s; G. Hay, £5 5s; J. Pavitt, £2 2s, and J. V. Rockley, £1 1s.

A very enjoyable dance took place at the Bath Saloon, Torquay, on the 15th, under the auspices of the St. John's 328, Jordan 1402, and Torbay 1358 Lodges. There was a very good

attendance, which would have been much larger but for the lamented death of Capt. Jarman, who was a P.M. of the Torbay Lodge. Many Paignton Masons felt some diffidence in attending in consequence of the very limited period between his death and the ball. The dance was arranged by a committee, of which Bro. J. Chapman Prov.G.D. was Chairman.

On Tuesday, 15th inst., the annual ball of the Amphibious Lodge was the occasion of a fashionable gathering at the Freemasons Hall, Cleckheaton, on the whole the most successful of its kind for many years. The following day there was the customary children's tea and ball, which also was a great success.

There was an average attendance at the eighth annual ball in aid of the Mark Benevolent Fund at the Masonic Hall, Plymouth, on the 16th, and an enjoyable evening was spent.

A Master under the Victorian Constitution called his Lodge off for a week's refreshment. It is needless to say, remarks “Masonry,” this was to evade a law relative to the installation, which could not be conveniently gone through on the night in question. We should like to know how such an action would be regarded from a legal point of view.

We are desired to remind our readers that the Citadel Lodge of Instruction, No. 1897 continues to meet at the Farleigh Hotel, Amhurst Road, Stoke Newington (near West Hackney Church) every Friday evening, at 8 o'clock, under the Preceptorship of Bros. O. J. Von Holtorp P.M. 1897 P.G.D.C. Middlesex, and F. Dunstan P.M. 1326.

The Evening Star Lodge of Instruction, No. 1719, is held at the Rutland Hotel, Perry Hill, Catford, S.E., at 8 p.m. every Saturday (up to the end of April), under the Preceptorship of Bro. James Speller W.M. 1677 P.M. 2256 Prov.G.D. Essex, with Bro. R. F. Stanford as Secretary.

PANTOMIME SEASON.

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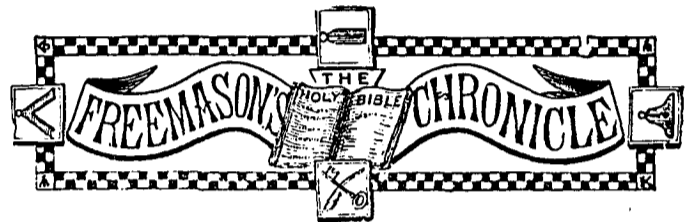
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SATURDAY, 26TH JANUARY 1895.

HANTS. EDUCATIONAL AND BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

THE festival of this Institution was held at the Masonic Hall, Southampton, on Tuesday, 15th inst., under the presidency of Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., who was attended by the Deputy Prov. Grand Master Bro. J. E. Le Feuvre, J.P., and several other Officers of the Province, together with members of the various Lodges in the district.

In proposing success to the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Masonic Educational and Benevolent Institution, the Provincial Grand Master congratulated the Province upon the success attained by the Institution, and eulogised the services of the Hon. Sec. Bro. G. F. Lancaster. He trusted the Institution would go on and prosper.

Bro. G. F. Lancaster then read the list of contributions collected by the Festival Stewards, and in returning thanks for the toast, incidentally mentioned that during the few years the Institution had been working, eighteen children had been elected to receive the benefits, two of whom had been passed to the central schools in London, and fifteen remained in the care of the Institution at an average cost per head for education, &c., of about £12 per annum. There stood to the credit of the Institution £2,000 invested, and a respectable balance in the bank. He heartily thanked the Stewards who had so kindly assisted on this occasion, and succeeded in making up such a grand total as that which he had announced. He was especially grateful to Bro. R. Boughton-Smith, who had done the lion's share of the work in making the necessary arrangements at Southampton, and on the whole he felt that the result of the Festival was such that the Province might be congratulated upon.—"Portsmouth Times."

My third and last visitation to a Twelfth Night celebration took me to the Royal Masonic School for Girls at Battersea Rise. Here a large number of friends and ex-pupils had assembled to participate and assist in the varied entertainments given (annually I heard) to the holiday children. This, compared with my other experiences, was "higher class" altogether; the handsome and very spacious Alexandra Hall, the well-dressed and pretty-looking young ones, and the whole surroundings, were calculated to warm the heart and stir the blood of even an elderly anchorite. Excellent ventriloquism by Mr. Le Hay and Corney-cum-Grano singing by Mr. Barnard, followed by other amusing details, evoked the warmest enthusiasm of old and young alike; and the bright and agile dancing that followed, and the cracker laden supper that wound up this most delightful evening, again sent me home full of the sincere and deep-seated reflection that, whatever may be the shortcomings of the time present as compared with the days of my youth, disregard of the pleasure and happiness of the little ones is not among them.—"An Old Lady," in the "World."

REPORTS OF MEETINGS.

We shall be pleased to receive particulars of Masonic meetings for insertion in our columns, and where desired will endeavour to send a representative to report Lodge or other proceedings.

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CRAFT: METROPOLITAN.

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GRAND MASTER'S LODGE, No. 1.

THIS Lodge held its annual meeting at Freemasons' Tavern, on Monday, when Major General Frederick Gadsden W.M. presided.

The Lodge voted ten guineas to the Masonic Benevolent Institution, five guineas to the Girls School, and five guineas to the Boys School. General Gadsden installed Bro. Thomas Poultny Griffin as Worshipful Master. The others who received collars of Office were Bros. Joseph Rock, Richard Creed, Ralph Gooding, M.D., Charles Belton, E. W. Stillwell, T. Dinwiddy, Bradshaw Brown, E. M. Morriss, A. P. Youle, H. L. de Montmorency; and Goddard and his son Tylers of the Lodge.

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LODGE OF SINCERITY, No. 174.

THE one-hundred and twenty-seventh anniversary of this Lodge was celebrated on the 16th inst., at the Guildhall Tavern, Gresham Street, E.C., on which occasion Bro. William Maxwell Butcher Prov. Grand Sup. of Works Essex was installed as Master. The ceremony was capitolly carried out by the retiring Master Bro. W. E. Norman, who was subsequently presented with the Past Master's jewel of the Lodge.

The following Officers were invested by Bro. Butcher to assist him during his year of office:—William Harvey S.W., J. J. Mustart J.W., Charles Lacey P.M. Treasurer, C. H. Webb P.M. Secretary, Joseph Bailey S.D., G. A. W. Griffiths J.D., W. J. Darby I.G., G. T. H. Seddon P.M. Organist, W. J. Jones Asst. Organist, R. W. Dunham D.C., H. S. Sambrook Steward, James Very Tyler.

The Brethren dined together at the termination of the proceedings, after which an excellent musical programme was provided by Brother William J. Derby.

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MANCHESTER LODGE, No. 179.

THE annual installation festival of this ancient Lodge took place on Thursday, 17th inst., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C., when a goodly muster of the members and other Brethren assembled to take part in the interesting ceremony.

Bro. J. R. Hughes W.M. opened the Lodge at five o'clock, and was supported by his Officers, several Past Masters and the following Visitors: Bros. G. Lucas 1558, E. F. Shoebridge 157, Jas. Roll 4t1, W. Andrew 2214, A. Schwerze 435, W. Acton 145, H. C. Pope 1410, A. C. Woolsey 228, H. E. Cherry 1260, A. Cherry 1507, C. Ratcliff 1381, D. Bear 169, T. Richards 2353, Orlton Cooper 211, E. Cole 1257, Wm. Cambden 2295, Geo. P. Channing 1987, E. Mojon 1017, W. Wilkinson 167, Alf. Cook 1366, E. Simmons 861, W. G. Baker 179.

After the minutes had been read and confirmed, the chair was taken by Bro. James Kew P.M., and Bro. C. Roselli being a candidate for the sublime degree, answered the usual Fellow Craft questions, and being proved proficient, was subsequently raised as a Master Mason and invested with the badge of his rank.

Bro. Thomas Simpkins having been elected as W.M. for the ensuing year, was then presented by Bro. E. C. Mulvey P.P.G.S.B. Surrey (who kindly acted as D.C. throughout the ceremony) and signified his assent to the ancient charges and regulations. The Brethren then retired, and a board of installed Masters was formed, Bros. J. Ellwood being S.W., Bro. Cain J.W., when Brother Simpkins was placed in the chair by Brother Kew, with the usual ceremony.

Upon the return of the Brethren to the Lodge the new Master was duly proclaimed and saluted, and then proceeded to appoint and invest his Officers. They were Bros. J. R. Hughes I.P.M., R. P. Angel S.W., J. Watts J.W., W. Dickson P.M. Treasurer, James Kew P.M. Secretary, F. J. Eedle S.D., E. J. Robinson J.D., J. Carey I.G., C. P. Ware Assist. Secretary, W. A. Tanner D.C., W. Fitch A.D.C., E. Stratford Musical Director, R. Whiting P.M. Tyler.

Bro. Kew then delivered the customary addresses which, together with the previous ceremonies, were rendered in a masterly manner, and greatly to the appreciation of those present.

The ballot was next taken and proved unanimous in favour of Messrs. Arthur Moore and Edward Henry Watts, and those gentlemen being in attendance were duly initiated into the mysteries and privileges of the Craft by Bro. Simpkins, who proved his proficiency for his post by the highly creditable manner in which he performed the ceremony.

A handsome Past Master's jewel was presented to Bro. J. R. Hughes for his services to the Lodge during his year of office, and this was gracefully acknowledged. It was decided that a "Ladies Night" should be given, and the next meeting of the Lodge in February was deemed the most fitting occasion. Bro. Simpkins having received the congratulations of the Visitors, the Lodge was closed, and the Brethren adjourned to the banquet room.

The usual Loyal toasts were duly honoured, after which Bro. Hughes proposed the health of the W.M., and said that he had risen up steadily through the various offices to the chair, and the manner in which he had performed the work that evening proved that he would maintain the reputation of the Lodge.

Bro. Simpkins replied in modest terms, saying that his installation was a red letter day in his life. While thanking the Brethren for the honour they had conferred upon him he promised to do all in his power to keep up the prestige of the Lodge and assist the Masonic charities. He intended to go up as a Steward at the next festival of the Girls School and would be glad to receive the assistance of the Brethren.

In proposing the toast of the Initiates the W.M. said the Lodge had that evening made two good Masons, who would doubtless prove a credit to the Craft, and narrated the following anecdote. Seven years ago, when going to the Lodge, he met his friend Arthur Moore and asked him why he was not a Freemason? Mr. Moore laughingly replied "Well, I will be, when you are Worshipful Master." And now it had come to pass, and he had taken advantage of the earliest opportunity to welcome his friend in the Lodge.

Bro. Moore suitably returned thanks and said with reference to the Master's story that when he first came into the Lodge he almost wished that it might have been seven years to come before he joined the Brotherhood, but now he was sorry that it had not occurred seven years ago.

Bro. E. H. Watts also briefly acknowledged the compliment.

In responding for the Installing Master Bro. James Kew regretted the absence of Bro. W. Hopekirk the senior P.M. and "Father of the Lodge," who would have undertaken the duty, but he had much pleasure to instal Bro. Simpkins, and if the Brethren thought that the work had been performed satisfactorily he was amply repaid for any trouble he had taken.

Bros. Cook, Cooper, Cole, Shoebridge, and others replied to the toast of the Visitors.

The Past Masters were then honoured, Bro. John Ellwood remarking that they were always ready to assist the W.M. for the time being, as was shown by the willingness of P.M. Kew that evening.

Bro. E. C. Mulvey thought it was a great honour to be a Past Master of so ancient a Lodge as the Manchester, but did not consider his duties were finished after he had passed the chair. He was now M.E.Z. of the Manchester Chapter, and was most pleased to announce that no less than eight Brethren would become Companions at the next convocation, also that two visitors had requested to be allowed to join.

The Officers of the Lodge having received recognition, the Tyler's toast, given impressively by Bro. Whiting, brought the proceedings to a happy termination.

During the evening some capital songs and recitations were given by Bros. Loder, Baker, Stephens, Tanner, Angel and Williams, and notice must be taken of the exceedingly handsome programmes, which were greatly admired.

Bro. Thomas Simpkins, the new W.M. of the Manchester Lodge, was born in September 1856, at Bow, London, and was initiated into the mysteries and privileges of the Craft in the Manchester Lodge in 1888. He has worked up through the various Offices, and is highly esteemed by the members. He also belongs to the Manchester Chapter, in which he holds rank as P.S.

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ST. MICHAEL'S LODGE, No. 211.

AT the last ordinary meeting of this old Lodge, Bro. George Cockrell S.W. was unanimously elected Worshipful Master for the ensuing year, and the installation will take place at the Albion, Aldersgate Street, E.C., on the 12th prox., when the Lodge will celebrate its Centenary.

In order to mark the event in a special manner, Bro. Cockrell announced his intention of going up as a Steward for the next Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, to be held in May, and having many promises of assistance he hoped to take up as many guineas as the St. Michael's Lodge had years. In order to help the W.M.-elect in so commendable an undertaking, Bro. Alfred Green P.M. Treasurer proposed, and Bro. Wm. Radcliffe P.M. seconded that the sum of ten guineas be granted from the funds of the Lodge to head Bro. Cockrell's list. This proposition was carried unanimously.

A Past Master's jewel of the usual value was voted to the retiring Master, Bro. W. J. Dyer, in recognition of his services to the Lodge during the past year.

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BROMLEY ST. LEONARD'S LODGE, No. 1805.

THE installation meeting was held on Tuesday, 15th inst., at the Bromley Vestry Hall, Bro. G. E. Warn the W.M. presiding.

The preliminary Lodge business included the initiation of Mr. C. A. Wood and Mr. W. T. New, and this having been accomplished in excellent form by the W.M., Bro. J. Bailey P.M. took the chair, and installed Bro. W. T. Potts.

In happy terms the new Master presented Bro. Warn with a tasteful P.M.'s jewel, and he, in acknowledging the compliment, expressed the sincere pleasure it gave him, and added the hope that he might live many years to wear it in the Lodge.

Other business was disposed of, and the company adjourned to the Holborn Restaurant, where a banquet was provided, nearly 120 taking seats in the fine Venetian Chamber.

Brother Tijou, in the capacity of a Past Grand Officer, replied to the third toast.

The I.P.M. followed with the toast of the Worshipful Master, which was enthusiastically honoured.

Bro. Potts, in replying, spoke with gratification of the strength and position of the Lodge, and declared that it would be his endeavour to maintain the position, as he had made arrangements which he trusted (health permitting) would preclude him from being absent on any occasion during the year, while his desire would be to emulate the work of the past rulers.

The W.M., in proposing the Installing Master, said he was proud to have been placed in charge of the Lodge by his warmest friend, whose enthusiasm for Freemasonry led him to take great trouble to place himself at its service, with the result that the members would feel that the ceremony of that evening could not have been performed better.

Bro. Bailey, in responding, expressed the pleasure it had been to him to place his dear friend in the chair, and took the opportunity of recurring to some reminiscences of the working of the Lodge, which were well received says the "East London Observer."

The toast of the Visitors, of whom there were upwards of fifty present, was acknowledged by several members of that body, and was followed by the toast of the Masonic Charities, given by the W.M., coupled with the name of Bro. Tijou, which brought that Brother again to his feet, with ready words to speak for the Benevolent Institutions of Freemasonry.

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DUKE OF FIFE LODGE No. 2345.

THE thirty-ninth regular meeting was held at the Alexandra Hotel, Clapham Common, on Wednesday, 16th inst., Brother A. Harvey Worshipful Master.

Ballot was taken for Mr. Fitch, as a candidate, after which he was impressively initiated into the mysteries of the Order.

After all business had been ended the members adjourned to the festive board, where the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were received with enthusiasm.

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HAMPSTEAD LODGE, No. 2408.

THE installation meeting of this young and very successful Lodge was held on Tuesday, 15th inst., at the Vestry Hall, Haverstock Hill, Bro. T. Sansome Preston Worshipful Master.

Bro. C. S. Preston was raised to the degree of a Master Mason, the

long and impressive ceremony being ably worked by the W.M. and by Bro. G. Haynes Secretary.

A new candidate, Mr. Alexander Selfe Marsh was then initiated by Bro. N. Hanhart I.P.M.

The Master-elect Bro. N. J. West was presented for installation, and the ceremony was worked by Bro. T. Sansome Preston and Bro. N. Hanhart.

Among the business transacted was the presentation by the Lodge to Bro. T. S. Preston of a Past Master's jewel; the grant of five guineas to the North London Hospital for Consumption; and of ten guineas to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, to be placed on the list of Brother T. S. Preston, who is to represent the Lodge as Steward at the next Anniversary Festival of the Institution.

The Lodge was closed, and the Brethren adjourned to dine in the small hall, when an excellent menu was provided.

The feeling was general, says the "Hampstead Express," that under the Mastership of Bro. West the Lodge would continue the successful career on which it has entered since its consecration in October 1891.

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PROVINCIAL.

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MEDINA LODGE, No. 35.

THERE was a large muster of members and many visiting Brethren from Newport, East Cowes, Winchester, &c., on Thursday, 10th inst., on the occasion of the installation of Bro. George Fellows sen. S.W. as Worshipful Master for the ensuing year. The first part of the ceremony was performed by the retiring W.M. Bro. G. Cottell, and the concluding portion by Bro. Faulkner P.P.G.W.

After business, a banquet was served at the Gloster Hotel, in the excellent style for which the host, Brother G. Mursell has a well-earned reputation. Prominent among the decorations of the table was a handsome three-branch banquet lamp, recently presented to Bro. Mursell by an American gentleman and his friend, "as a token of their high regard" for the kindness and attention shown them during a long illness the former had been prostrated with immediately on arrival at the Hotel.

In connection with the toast in honour of the I.P.M., the W.M. presented that Officer with a Past Master's jewel, in recognition of the appreciation by the Lodge of his services during the past year.

The Masonic Charities was submitted by Bro. H. C. Damant P.M. and acknowledged by Bro. Mursell P.P.G.S.D., the amount of £10 10s., including the contents of the charity box and a liberal contribution from the Tyler, being collected at the table. It was announced amid approving cheers that the sum collected would be devoted to the purchase of a vote for one of the leading Masonic Charities, to be vested in the Tyler's office.

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PROBITY LODGE, No. 61.

ON Monday, 7th inst., the annual meeting was held at the Masonic Hall, Halifax, when Bro. Alfred Binns was installed Worshipful Master for the year, the ceremony being performed by Bro. G. Buckley.

Afterwards, the annual banquet was held, being admirably catered for by Mr. and Mrs. Hine.

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LOVE AND HONOUR LODGE, No. 75.

THE annual meeting was held on the 14th, the attendance being large. Brother Aaron Smith was installed Worshipful Master for the ensuing year.

Several visiting members were present, and after the ceremony a banquet was held at the Royal Hotel, an admirable repast being served.

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LODGE OF FREEDOM, No. 77.

THE usual monthly meeting was held at the New Falcon Hotel, Gravesend, last Monday, under the presidency of Bro. Thomas Nettleingham W.M., who was supported by Bros. J. A. Whitfield S.W., R. C. Fowle J.W., G. T. King P.M., R. J. Beamish P.M., Thos. Deane P.M., J. C. Biggs P.M. Sec., W. H. Hedger P.M., Rev. A. Jackson Chaplain, W. Gunn, G. Masters, John Solomon, F. W. Martin, Joseph Davis, and the following Visitors:—C. R. Gramshaw, Erasmus Wilson; J. Black, Adams; W. Richmond, Temperance in the East; T. Baynes, Lullingstone; J. Baldock, St. John's; W. Ingman, Sympathy; and H. Martin, South Africa.

The Lodge having been opened and the minutes confirmed, Brothers Mackenzie Drysdale of the Eastes Lodge, No. 1959, and A. Knight Prescott, Surgeon-Colonel, P.M. and P.P.G.S.D. of Hants., were accepted as Joining Members.

Mr. Loftus Frederick Linton Bridgland, being a candidate for Freemasonry, was approved and duly initiated into the mysteries and privileges of the Craft by Bro. Nettleingham, the Ancient Charge being subsequently delivered by Bro. R. J. Beamish.

The business of the evening being ended, the Brethren adjourned to the dining hall, where an excellent dinner was served by Bro. John Simpson, after which a pleasant social evening was spent.

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SCIENTIFIC LODGE, No. 88.

THE 141st installation meeting of this Lodge, which was consecrated in 1754, was held at the Lion Hotel, Cambridge, on Monday, 14th inst. There was a full average attendance, amongst those present being the Prov. Grand Master of Cambridgeshire Bro. Colonel Caldwell, and visiting Brethren from many Provinces. In the early proceedings Bro. C. H. Banham took the chair, but he afterwards vacated that position in favour of Bro. B. Chennel P.M. of Newmarket, who, in the most efficient manner, proceeded to instal as W.M. Bro. J. L. Rutter.

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SUN LODGE, No. 106.

THE annual installation took place at Exmouth on the 14th inst., when Bro. H. Mann ably installed his successor Bro. F. Hayne.

A Past Master's jewel was voted to the retiring W.M. for his valuable work during the past year. The banquet was afterwards held at the Beacon Hotel.

MOUNT SINAI LODGE, No. 121.

THIS Lodge celebrated the Festival of St. John on the 16th, when Bro. Percy T. Chirgwin S.W. was installed W.M. by Bro. J. H. Rowe, assisted by Bro. Trevithick (Hayle). The Brethren afterwards held the annual banquet at the Western Hotel.

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UNION LODGE, No. 127.

THE installation took place on Wednesday, 16th inst., at the King's Head Hotel, Margate, when Bro. E. Crosoer was re-installed. There was a very large attendance of Brethren, among them being Bros. Emmerson, J. Terry, and twenty-one Past Masters of this and other Lodges. The ceremony was performed by Bro. H. Price, of the Domatic Lodge.

The banquet was subsequently held, when the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were given, interspersed with songs.

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FORTITUDE LODGE, No. 131.

THE annual meeting was held at the Masonic Rooms, Old Bridge Street, Truro, on Tuesday, 8th inst., for the purpose of installing the S.W. Bro. E. Benney as W.M. for the ensuing year.

The accounts showed that the Lodge was financially in a highly satisfactory state, there being a balance to its credit of £114.

At the close of the Lodge business the Brethren adjourned to the Royal Hotel, where the banquet was held.

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LODGE OF ANTIQUITY, No. 146.

THE Brethren celebrated the Festival of St. John at the Masonic Hall, Bolton, on Wednesday, 9th inst., when a large number of Provincial and Past Provincial Officers were in attendance, as well as many visiting Brethren from other Lodges in surrounding Provinces.

A presentation was made to the retiring Worshipful Master, consisting of a valuable solid silver tea service and silver salver, bearing the following inscription:

Presented (with a solid silver tea service)

by the Brethren of his Lodge to

BRO. THOMAS HAMER,

Worshipful Master of Lodge Antiquity, 146, in token of esteem, and to commemorate the birth of his daughter, Kathleen, during his year of office as Worshipful Master.

Bolton, 9th January 1895.

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ALBANY LODGE, No. 151.

BRO. W. L. GEORGE S.W. was on Monday, 14th inst., installed as Worshipful Master at the Masonic Hall, Newport, Isle of Wight, the ceremony being ably carried out by Bro. C. T. Allée the senior Past Master of the Lodge, who had filled the chair for the second time during the preceding year.

There was a large attendance of members and a number of Visiting Brethren, the Medina and Osborne Lodges being particularly well represented.

In the course of the proceedings which followed the principal ceremony, Bro. Allée was presented by the W.M. with a Past Master's jewel, in recognition of valuable services during a long Masonic career and in particular during his second tenure of the chair.

In the evening a banquet was served in the Lodge banqueting room, Messrs. Whittington and Harvey catering excellently. The Worshipful Master presided, and proposed the leading Masonic toasts.

The Masonic Charities had an ably advocate in Bro. Mursell, a most zealous worker in the cause, the response being in the hands of Brother Brannon P.M. Lodge representative on the Provincial Committee. It was announced that the amount collected at the table would be devoted to the nursing fund.

Bro. Hudson P.P.G.W. Sussex, responding as a Visitor, added an expression of his appreciation of the numerous offers to him of support in the approaching election of Grand Treasurer of England.

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EAST MEDINA LODGE, No. 175.

BROTHER GUSTAV MULLINS was installed as W.M. on Wednesday, 16th inst., by Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., Prov. Grand Master of Hants. and the Isle of Wight, who attended with his Officers for the purpose. Amongst the large gathering were General the Hon. S. Calthorpe P.G.W. of England, and Bro. M. Maybrick Grand Organist of England. The Brethren dined together at the Pier Hotel.

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ANCIENT UNION LODGE, No. 203.

THE anniversary of this Lodge, whose history dates back for 120 years, was celebrated on the 17th inst., in the Masonic Hall, Hope Street, Liverpool. There were about seventy members and visitors in attendance. In the unavoidable absence of the retiring Master, Bro. J. Worthington officiated, and very efficiently installed Bro. F. F. Fisher.

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ROYAL LODGE OF FAITH AND FRIENDSHIP, No. 270.

THE installation festival took place at the Lodge Room, Berkeley Arms Hotel, Berkeley, on Monday, 14th inst. Bro. R. P. Sumner P.G.S. installed Bro. A. E. Griffiths.

Owing to the unpropitious state of the weather, the visiting Brethren were not so numerous as usual.

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TRUE AND FAITHFUL LODGE, No. 318.

ON Friday, 11th inst., at Helston, Bro. A. E. Ratcliffe was installed W.M. by Bro. C. Dudley.

The Brethren adjourned to the Angel Hotel, where Bro. Blackwell had prepared an elegant banquet. A very enjoyable evening was spent. Glee songs, and recitations were given.

BROTHERLY LOVE LODGE, No. 329.

THE annual meeting was held at the Masonic Hall, Yeovil, on Wednesday, 9th inst., when Bro. F. W. Gaylard was installed W.M. for the ensuing year. The ceremony was ably performed by the Deputy Prov.G.M. of Somerset Bro. R. C. Else P.G.D. The Brethren afterwards adjourned to a banquet, provided by Bro. Box, of the Three Choughs Hotel.

SOCRATES LODGE, No. 373.

THE annual installation took place on Tuesday, 8th inst., in the Manchester Room, Huntingdon, when there was a numerous assemblage of Brethren. The Lodge is the oldest but one in the Province, it having been established in 1823, and the antique furniture of the Lodge Room is very interesting. An addition was made to it upon this occasion in the shape of a beautiful and massive device which was suspended in the centre of the room, and was the gift of Bro. Walker. The Worshipful Master-Elect Bro. the Rev. G. H. Frewer, M.A., of Fenstanton, was duly installed by Bro. H. T. Smith P.M. P.P.S.G.W., assisted by Bro. Conney P.M. P.P.G.St.B.

Bro. R. Ayres, who was for eighteen years one of the Tylers of this Lodge, retired at the end of last year on account of advancing years and infirmity. A beautifully illuminated address was prepared and signed by the Brethren, and will be forwarded to Bro. Ayres. After the Lodge the Brethren adjourned to the banquet room, where a repast was well served by Bro. John Goodliff. The usual Masonic toasts were given and responded to, and the proceedings were interspersed with music.

SUTHERLAND LODGE, No. 451.

THE installation took place on Wednesday, 16th inst., at the Town Hall, Burslem. The chair was taken by Bro. W. T. Norris W.M. Bro. F. J. Jones was installed, and appointed his Officers.

Afterwards the usual banquet was held at the Leopard Hotel.

HUNDRED OF ELLOE LODGE, No. 469.

THE Brethren celebrated the Festival of St. John on Thursday, 10th inst., when they had their annual Installation Banquet at the Masonic Hall, Spalding. The gathering was one of the largest during recent years.

Bro. E. W. Gooch was installed Worshipful Master, in succession to Bro. J. E. West.

BENEVOLENCE LODGE, No. 489.

THE festival was held on Thursday, 17th inst., at Bideford, when Bro. E. Rouse was installed, and invested his Officers.

The banquet was subsequently held at the New Inn Hotel.

PEACE AND HARMONY LODGE, No. 496.

ON Tuesday, 8th inst., this Lodge celebrated its fiftieth annual meeting and installation, when Bro. Samuel Williams, recently of the town, who a few months ago removed to Manchester, was impressively installed W.M. by Bro. Hugh P.M. in the presence of a strong Board of Masters.

The usual votes to charities were passed, and, in addition, ten guineas was voted to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls.

The fiftieth annual banquet was held at Lukes's White Hart Hotel, the company numbering over fifty.

Bro. Edmund Carlyon gave a toast embracing the Prince of Wales, Earl of Lathom, Earl of Mount-Edgcumbe, and Officers of the Grand Lodge, and coupled with it the name of Bro. Sir Charles Graves-Sawle, Bart., D.P.G.M.

Sir Chas. Sawle, in reply, said he was an honorary member of Grand Lodge, the office of Past Junior Warden having been conferred on him on the occasion of the Queen's Jubilee. Alluding to the Prince of Wales's recent visit to Russia, he said as Englishmen they were much indebted to H.R.H. for the way in which he behaved, putting England on the best terms with one of the most powerful Empires in the world.

The W.M. was proposed in an effective speech by Bro. C. H. Whetter I.P.M., who said Bro. Williams was well known and highly esteemed, and in every way worthy of the position he now held. He had left Cornwall, and during the short time he had been away, such was the respect entertained towards him, that he had been elected a Patron of a grand Masonic hall to be given at Liverpool, in aid of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution. That was not only an honour to himself, but also to Lodge Peace and Harmony.

Bro. Williams said he was proud of the honour conferred on him that day, and was sorry he should be prevented attending all the meetings of the Lodge during the ensuing twelve months.

LOYAL BERKSHIRE LODGE OF HOPE, No. 574.

THE installation of Bro. J. S. Liddle, Mus. Bac., as Worshipful Master took place on Friday, 4th inst., at the Temperance Hall, Newbury. There was a large and distinguished number of Brethren present. The ceremony was performed by Bro. J. N. Day I.P.M. who, at the close of the Lodge, was presented with a P.M.'s jewel in recognition of the services he had rendered.

After the Lodge was closed the Brethren assembled at the Council Chamber, where the annual banquet took place.

HARMONY LODGE, No. 580.

THE installation took place in the Lodge Room at the Wheat Sheaf Hotel, Ormskirk, on Wednesday, 9th inst. There was a large attendance of members, and a goodly company of visitors.

After the usual preliminary business, Bro. Buchanan Spittal was installed W.M., the installation ceremony being impressively performed by Bro. P.M. Bolton P.G.S.

The Brethren subsequently dined together, the new W.M. presiding, and the usual Masonic and other toasts were duly appreciated. In the course of the evening the I.P.M. Bro. Riding was presented with a beautiful jewel in token of his efforts in the interests of the Lodge during the twelve months.

DRUIDS LODGE OF LOVE AND LIBERALITY, No. 589.

THE annual festival of St. John was held at Redruth on the 14th inst., when Bro. H. Downing was installed W.M. by Bro. George S. Bray P.M., on behalf of the W.M. the Rev. W. R. Erskine.

The Treasurer's report, read by Bro. W. J. Trythall P.M., showed receipts £176 13s 3d, and expenditure £176 4s 5d, leaving a slightly favourable balance; but during the year the Lodge purchased fifteen shares in the Masonic Hall Company. The balance in hand last year was £56 19s 8d, this year £57 8s 4d. Subsequently the Brethren dined together in the Masonic Hall.

COTTESWOLD LODGE, No. 592.

THE annual festival was held on the 16th inst., at the King's Head Hotel, Cirencester, when Bro. W. J. Jefferies was installed W.M., in succession to Bro. F. T. E. Boulton. The usual banquet followed. There was a large gathering of members and visitors.

WILTSHIRE LODGE OF FIDELITY, No. 663.

THE installation meeting was held at the Masonic Hall, Devizes, on Tuesday, 15th inst., when there was a good attendance both of members of the Lodge and Visitors, amongst the latter being Bros. W. J. Mann P.M. 632 P.S.G.W. Wilts., W. S. Bambridge P.M. 1533 P.P.J.G.W. Wilts., Jno. McNaught Davis P.M. 1661, Jno. Butterworth S.W. 355 and A. J. G. Stancombe S.D. 632.

The outgoing W.M. Bro. F. G. Billingham opened the Lodge, and after the usual preliminaries his successor the S.W. Bro. Frank R. Reynolds was installed by the D.P.G.M. of Wilts. Bro. C. N. P. Phipps, the whole of the ceremony being conducted in an excellent manner.

The newly-installed W.M. appointed and invested the Officers of the Lodge for the ensuing year as follows:—Bros. F. G. Billingham I.P.M., F. Wyatt S.W., H. H. Baker J.W., Rev. W. Humphrys Chaplain, F. S. Hancock P.M. Treas., T. C. Hopkins P.M. Sec., W. J. Baldwin S.D., J. Hunt J.D., H. Howse P.M. D.C., W. H. Bush P.M. Org., S. W. Taylor I.G., F. Rendell and D. Owen Stwds., and C. R. Barnes Tyler.

After the Lodge was closed the Brethren adjourned to the annual banquet at the Bear Hotel, which was served in an admirable manner by Bro. Reynolds, and to which Bro. Simon Watson Taylor had, as usual, sent a supply of venison.

ALLIANCE LODGE, No. 667.

THE anniversary of this Lodge was celebrated at the Masonic Hall, Hope Street, Liverpool, on the 15th, when Bro. Richard Alma Parkin was installed as Master. The ceremony was very efficiently performed by Bro. G. S. Willings P.P.G.D., in the presence of about 120 members and Visitors.

An interesting feature of the proceedings was the presentation to the Lodge by the newly-installed Master of an exceedingly handsome banner, which was designed by Bro. Parkin himself.

At the banquet which followed, the I.P.M. Bro. Charles Colenso was presented with a Past Master's jewel, and Bro. Thomas Mason, on retiring from the office of Treasurer after four years service, was also the recipient of a jewel.

SCARSDALE LODGE, No. 681.

THE annual meeting was held in the Masonic Hall, Chesterfield, on Wednesday, 9th inst., under severe climatic conditions, but otherwise auspicious circumstances. The retiring W.M. Bro. Wilde is deservedly respected among a very wide circle of friends and acquaintances, which his connection with the Sheepbridge Coal and Iron Company and his unflinching urbanity have gained for him, and he is succeeded as Master of the Lodge by a worthy successor in the person of Bro. Edmund Taylor, of Dunstan Grange, who is closely identified with the Derbyshire Silkstone Company.

The ceremony of installation was most impressively performed by the retiring W.M., who was assisted in the ceremony by Bros. Biggin and Plowright.

The banquet took place at the Angel Hotel.

ROYAL BRUNSWICK LODGE, No. 732.

THE annual installation was held at the Royal Pavilion, Brighton, on the 10th. The Lodge was opened by the W.M. Bro. W. A. Field, and there was a large attendance of Brethren, the visitors including several members of Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodge, and many of the W.Ms. of Lodges in the Sussex Province.

The chief business was the installation of Brother Thomas Billing P.P.J.G.W. P.M. 271 as W.M. for the ensuing year. The ceremony was admirably performed by the retiring W.M., who was presented with a Past Master's gold jewel in appreciation of the able manner in which he had carried out the duties of his office during the past year.

Bro. W. A. Field, in proposing the toast of the Worshipful Master, said Bro. Billing had been a member of the Royal Brunswick Lodge for many years, and had also rendered excellent Masonic service in the Royal Clarence Lodge. In the latter, after filling the office of W.M. for one year, he had been re-elected as W.M. during the year that the Lodge celebrated its centenary, and the admirable manner in which he occupied the chair would be long remembered by all Freemasons in the Province, and in the south of England. To know Bro. Billing was to love him, and if he spoke till midnight he could tell one half only of his many kindly acts. Bro. Billing was, in fact, a model Freemason—exemplary in conduct, courteous in manner, steady and firm in principle, and easy of address.

Bro. Billing said he had been a member of the Craft for fifteen years, and his first love was the Royal Clarence Lodge. He expressed his pleasure in seeing so many Past Masters of that Lodge present, and thanked the Brethren of the Royal Brunswick Lodge for the honour they had conferred upon him in electing him their W.M.

HAULEY LODGE, No. 797.

ON Monday, 14th inst., Bro. J. B. Knox S.W. was installed as W.M. by Bro. Chapple P.M.

The past year has been one of the most successful in connection with

the Lodge, no less than eighteen candidates having been initiated. The outgoing Master Bro. Wilton is to be presented at the next meeting with a P.M. Jewel in recognition of the way in which he has carried out his duties during the year.

The usual banquet was afterwards held at Bro. Whittle's Commercial Hotel, about sixty attending.

Bro. Wilton proposed the health of the W.M. who was, he said, in every way fitted to hold that position.

Bro. Knox, replying, said he felt proud of his election, especially as he was a seafaring man. Although he should often be away, he felt sure that with such an able body of Past Masters the work would be well carried out.

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LODGE OF REPOSE, No. 802.

THE anniversary was celebrated at the Masonic Hall, Gower Street, Derby, on Thursday, 17th inst., when Bro. Henry Slater was installed as W.M. for the ensuing year, the ceremony being performed by Bros. R. Slater and J. Ryley.

The annual banquet was served, and during the evening Bro. A. Brown was presented with a Past Master's jewel in recognition of his services to the Lodge during the past year.

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RESTORMEL LODGE, No. 856.

THE annual installation took place on Thursday, 3rd inst., at Lostwithiel, in the presence of a goodly number of Brethren of the Lodge, also several Visitors.

Bro. C. Haddy the W.M.-elect was ably and most impressively installed by Bro. J. Doney P.M. P.P.G.A.D.C., assisted by a strong board of Installed Masters.

Bro. J. Bassett was appointed Steward of the C.M.A. and B. Fund, and Bro. E. R. Brown Steward of the Charity Association.

The Treasurer's report showed the Lodge in a good financial position.

The business being concluded, the Brethren adjourned to Bro. J. Rowe's Monmouth Inn, where an excellent dinner was served. The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to.

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PELHAM LODGE, No. 939.

THE annual festival was held at the Masonic Hall, Worksop, on Thursday, 17th inst., when Bro. C. Nicholson was installed W.M. by Bro. the Rev. W. F. Boot P.M. P.P.G.C. Bro. Lieut.-Col. William Newton Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Nottinghamshire was present at the ceremony, and also attended the banquet held subsequently at Bro. T. Knight's Station Hotel.

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ST. PETER LODGE, No. 1024.

THERE was a full muster at the meeting at the Masonic Hall in the ruins of St. Peter's Church, Maldon, on Wednesday, 9th inst., Bro. F. W. Bright in the chair, when Bros. Whittle and Parrott were passed to the second degree. After Lodge the Brethren adjourned to the King's Head Hotel, where covers were laid for thirty-five, the occasion being the successful resuscitation, after a lapse of some twelve years, of what used formerly to be the annual widgeon supper. The widgeon, which were in fine condition, were presented by the W.M., to whose exertions this resuscitation of a good old custom was due, and they were excellently served by the hostess Mrs. White.

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TRIUMPH LODGE, No. 1061.

ON Thursday, 10th inst., the installation of the new W.M. took place at the Market Hotel, Lytham, when there was a considerable attendance. The W.M.-elect was Bro. J. Lomax, who last year was S.W., and the installing officer Bro. Somner Fisher, the retiring W.M.

The annual banquet afterwards took place at the Market Hotel.

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BARNARD LODGE, No. 1230.

ON Friday, 4th inst., a very large assemblage of Brethren gathered in the Masonic Hall, Barnard Castle, on the occasion of the unfurling of a new Lodge banner, the gift of the W.M. Bro. Dr. A. G. Sevier.

Among the distinguished Visitors upon the occasion was the Right Hon. Lord Barnard Provincial Senior Grand Warden, R. Hudson P.G.S.B. England Provincial Grand Secretary, and many others.

The Lodge having been opened, the W.M., in presenting the banner, referred to the fact of its being needed to make the Lodge equipment complete, and to mark the conclusion of his year of office he presented this banner to the Barnard Lodge, around which the Brethren might rally in the present and for ages to come.

Bro. Hudson Prov.G.Sec. then addressed the Brethren, and in a very eloquent manner showed the uses of banners in all ages. The children of Israel, in their wanderings through the wilderness, marched under their respective banners, chief of which was the Lion of Judah. The Egyptians, Romans, and other nations in ancient—the Crusaders in more modern—and in later years all civilised communities held their banners in high estimation and reverence. At Northallerton the English, under the banners of York, Ripon, and Durham, fought the Battle of the Standard in 1138, while in the Crimea, India, and on Majuba Hill British soldiers laid down their lives for the preservation of their banner. Bro. Hudson trusted that the presentation of this banner would be a red letter day in the history of the Barnard Lodge. The banner was then duly unfurled with Masonic honours.

Bro. Rev. Hartley Jennings P.P.G.C. S.W. offered up a special prayer for the dedication of the banner.

Bro. R. C. M. Cooke P.P.G.S.D. proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to Bro. Sevier for his valuable gift, which was seconded by Bro. B. S. Beckwith P.P.G.St.B. and carried unanimously.

The W.M. responded, and a vote of thanks was also passed to Bro. R. Hudson P.G.S. for his interesting address.

In replying, Bro. Hudson said the Provincial Brethren had great pleasure in attending and having Lord Barnard at their head to represent Provincial Grand Lodge on that occasion.

At a later stage Bro. Dr. Mitchell, in proposing the toast of the P.G.M. (Sir Hedworth Williamson, Bart.), coupled the name of Lord Barnard

Prov.S.G.W. with the toast, and stated that Lord Barnard was in every way most excellently qualified for the position which he occupied in the Province.

Lord Barnard, in responding for the Officers of Provincial Grand Lodge, said he felt altogether inadequate to represent the high honour they had done him. He was glad they shared with him the feelings he entertained towards their Provincial Master. He felt sure he expressed the opinion of all the Officers at the very great satisfaction with which they had seen the W.M. (Bro. Dr. Sevier) present that beautiful banner to the Lodge. It was a very great pleasure to him to be present on such an auspicious occasion in a Lodge bearing the name he himself bore.

The Rev. Hartley Jennings P.P.G.C. proposed the health of Bro. R. Hudson P.G.S., who was the right man in the right place as the Secretary of the Province of Durham.

Bro. R. Hudson responded, and gave the health of the W.M., and the proceedings afterwards terminated.

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ALBERT EDWARD LODGE, No. 1783.

ON Wednesday, 9th inst., at the Freemasons' Hall, Fitzwilliam Street, Huddersfield, this Lodge held its installation meeting. The choice of W.M. had fallen upon the Rev. J. Dunbar, vicar of Rashcliffe. The ceremony was impressively performed by P.M. John Shoesmith, in the presence of eighty Brethren, including visitors from distant and local Lodges.

The multifarious proceedings having been concluded, the occasion was improved by the presentation of a large photograph portrait, in gilt frame, of P.M. Shoesmith, which will be placed side by side with other Masonic celebrities in the Lodge Room. His career and usefulness as a Mason was fully and freely dilated upon, and altogether the proceedings were highly interesting. The presentation was entrusted to I.P.M. Joseph Pogson.

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DUKE OF YORK LODGE, No. 2449.

THE regular meeting was held at the Palatine Hotel, Hunt's Bank, Manchester, on Thursday, 10th inst., the following being present:—

Bros. William Boden W.M., Wm. T. Schofield I.P.M. P.P.G.D., Thos. T. Hardicker J.W., Jas. Andrew P.M. P.P.S.G.D. Treas., Clement Jno. Hall Sec., Robt. Meggitt S.D., John Kinsey J.D., Geo. A. Bowden I.G., Oates Rushton D.C., T. H. Stott, Henry B. Rudolph, and A. G. Bryce Stewards, B. Hopkinson P.M., Thos. D. Lightfoot, Jas. Roberts, Samuel Kew, J. B. Marshall, J. T. Whittle, R. Chiswell, John Fairbairn, Edward Roberts P.M. (FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE).

Visitors:—Bros. Wm. John Herring W.M. 815, Wm. Morecroft S.W. 1313, G. H. Russell S.S. 2482, J. W. Towers 281, T. W. Child 615, E. T. Ashworth 1166, J. W. Heap 1219.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, a ballot was taken for Mr. Arthur Rutcliffe, Manufacturer, &c., Hulme, and Mr. Rowland Henry Whatham, Merchant, Southport. Being successful they were initiated, the former by the W.M. and the latter by Bro. Schofield P.M. Bro. Hardicker J.W. presented and explained the Working Tools, and also delivered the Antient Charge to the candidates.

A ballot was afterwards taken for Bro. J. W. Heap (Strangeways Lodge, No. 1219), who was desirous of becoming a joining member. This was also successful.

Grand Lodge certificates were presented to Bros. Rudolph, Chiswell, Fairbairn and Kew.

At the festive board which followed, Loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and suitably honoured, the initiates and the newly-joined member being also greeted, and the toasts of their health responded to.

Bros. Herring and Russell, who subsequently spoke on behalf of the Visitors, reverted in highly complimentary terms to the manner in which the ceremonies had been performed.

Songs, &c. were rendered by various Brethren, a very pleasant evening being passed.

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INSTRUCTION.

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CITADEL LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, No. 1897.

ON the 18th inst., at the Farleigh Hotel, Amhurst Road, Stoke Newington, Bro. D. J. Witte W.M., J. Abrahams S.W., M. Siegenberg J.W., T. I. Bird Treas., Harry Willsmer Sec., Ives P.M. S.D., Jackson J.D., Mason I.G., F. Dunstan Preceptor and Bros. Robinson (Organist), Platt, Ditchman, A. Wyatt, Watts, Davison P.M., Rev. W. B. Robinson (Chaplain), Baxter, Skipper, Cole and Shipman.

The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Ditchman acting as candidate. Bro. Shipman answered the questions leading to the second degree and retired. The Lodge was opened in the second and third degrees, and the ceremony of raising was most impressively worked, Bro. Platt acting as candidate.

Bro. J. Abrahams was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded Bro. Witte for his excellent rendering of the ceremonies for the first time in the Citadel Lodge of Instruction.

HOTELS, ETC.

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EALING—Feathers Hotel.

EASTBOURNE—Pier Hotel, Cavendish Place. View of Sea and Pier.
A. TAYLOR, Proprietor.

EAST MOLESEY—Castle Hotel, Hampton Court Station. Specimen
Menus, with Tariff, on application. JOHN MAYO, Proprietor.

H AVERFORDWEST—Queen's Family and Commercial Hotel.
BEN. M. DAVIES, Proprietor.

RICHMOND—Station Hotel, adjoins Railway Station. Every accom-
modation for Large or Small Parties.

SANDWICH—BELL Family and Commercial Hotel. Good Stabling.
J. J. FILMER, Proprietor.

COWES (WEST)—Gloucester and Globe Hotels.
G. A. MURSELL, Proprietor.