

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, 30th MAY 1896.

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UNITED GRAND LODGE.

IT is fair to predict that next Wednesday's meeting of Grand Lodge will witness another outburst of enthusiastic loyalty towards the Grand Master, whose beneficent reign having extended beyond the twenty-first year justly calls for some public recognition at the hands of members of the Craft.

The Prince of Wales won the approval of his Masonic subjects when, at the recent Grand Festival, he appointed twenty-one Brethren to past rank in commemoration of his Masonic majority, and it is reasonable to suppose that those in high positions beneath him—whether they be Provincial or District Grand Masters—should desire to mark in their own sphere the event that has given so much satisfaction among the members of English Freemasonry. We are quite sure Grand Lodge will approve of the suggestion submitted for their consideration by the Grand Master, that Provincial and District Grand Masters should appoint a number of their Brethren to past rank, the only point on which any disagreement seems possible being as to the number of special honours to be allowed to each.

We know there are objections to the multiplication of Grand, Provincial or District Grand Officers, but on such an occasion as it is now sought to honour no complaint would be made if a more liberal bestowal of the purple were permitted than is suggested by our chief. One appointment to every ten Lodges will doubtless be hailed with satisfaction, but one to every five, or even one to every three, would be none too many in view of the great enthusiasm at all times manifested towards the Grand Master of England, and the special event now intended to be commemorated.

The report of the Board of General Purposes affords ample food for reflection. First we have an emphatic ruling as to Life membership, confirmatory of the decision arrived at in 1873, and the rule on this point is so explicit that we imagine that the St. George's Lodge—and others who are perhaps equally guilty—will now have no excuse for a continuance of the irregularity referred to. Then the attention of Masters is directed to the necessity of providing every initiate with a copy of the Book of Constitutions, which duty is faithfully observed in many of our Lodges, and as regularly disregarded in others.

The notification by the Board of the failure in health of two of the Clerks in the Grand Secretary's office will ensure a feeling of sympathy and regret from all who have had occasion to visit the official quarters of Grand Lodge, and more particularly from those who have a personal acquaintance with Brothers Lee and Green, the Brethren referred to. Of course officials in the positions occupied by the clerks of Grand Lodge are expected to be courteous in their bearing towards those who may have occasion to require their services, but we venture the assertion that all who have had business at Grand Lodge have received more than this from the officials of the Craft, and thus it is with greater regret one hears of the removal of one or other of the clerks; but the

regret is lessened when we consider that in this case the Brethren leave us because, having grown old in the service, they are considered worthy of such a retiring pension as shall enable them to spend their remaining days in peace and comfort. The proposed pensions will be willingly granted, and the universal wish will be that Brothers Lee and Green may live for many years yet to enjoy the ease their long and faithful service has entitled them to.

There is one item, however, in which the Board of General Purposes appears to have erred in this matter. Surely there was no need to explain to the Craft that the work hitherto performed by Brothers Lee and Green at salaries amounting to £615, can be performed for the next few years at least, by Junior clerks at less than one-third the remuneration. The slur thus cast may be unintentional, but it is none the less manifest, and, moreover, the course proposed would not be possible but for the loyalty of others in the office already acquainted with the work. We cannot believe the Craft wants to be told it will lose nothing by being generous, if the proposed pensions are to be regarded as particularly generous, by sanctioning the retirement of officials who have done their duty for a period of twenty-three years.

The Notice of Motion standing in the name of Bro. J. A. Farnfield, to give £70 for the purpose of providing the inmates of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution at Croydon with coal for the winter is a usual annual grant, but that submitted by Bro. C. E. Keyser, asking Grand Lodge to give five hundred guineas in support of the Grand Master's chairmanship on behalf of Guy's Hospital is a special item—none the less deserving on that account. The object is a worthy one, and we hope the Craft will be unanimous in making the grant.

ST. SAMPSON LODGE.

A CEREMONY of a most imposing character took place on Friday, 22nd inst., at the Masonic Temple, Le Marchant Street, Guernsey, when the new Lodge, the St. Sampson, No. 2598, was solemnly consecrated, in the presence of about 120 Brethren, by Dr. J. B. Cockburn, M.D., Provincial Grand Master of Guernsey and Alderney.

Amongst those who were present were Bros. R. Berridge P.G.D., Dr. J. Le Cronier D.P.G.M. Jersey, J. C. Barrette P.G.D. Jersey, Dr. Maxwell Le Cronier P.J.G.D. Jersey, Arthur W. Godfray Sec. 877, C. G. Vatier S.D. 877, A. Woodiwiss P.P.S.G.W. Derbyshire, J. P. Dorman P.M. 1764 P.S.G.W. Norths and Hunts, Clifford Probyn P.M. 18, G. Powell P.M. 142, besides a great number of Worshipful Masters and Past Masters of Lodges of the island.

The work was admirably conducted by the Provincial Grand Master and his Officers. The music during the consecration was splendidly led by a small choir under the direction of Bro. T. Barnes P.G.O., who had set the anthem commencing "Behold how good and joyful a thing it is for Brethren to dwell together in unity," to very pretty music, the solo part being artistically sung by Bro. L. Doras. The other portions of the music were also sung to arrangements by Bro. Barnes.

The patriarchal benediction by the Provincial Grand Master closed the interesting ceremony. It should be mentioned that for the instruction of the Brethren the Provincial Grand Master explained that the Most Worshipful Grand Master the Prince of Wales reserved for himself the right of dedicating new Lodges

under the Grand Lodge of England, but that, owing to the multiplicity of his engagements, and the number of new Lodges which were being formed, it was impossible for him to attend but to a very small portion of them, hence he delegated Provincial Grand Officers to act in his capacity. The Provincial Grand Master proceeded to say that, acting under direct authority from the Prince of Wales, he was permitted to consecrate the new St. Sampson Lodge. It gave him pleasure to think that this was the first Lodge consecrated since the establishment of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Guernsey and Alderney, and, moreover, a Lodge removed from the Town parish. Yet he informed his listeners that this was not the first time a Lodge would be held out of the parish, as during the earlier part of the century a Military Lodge had been held at the Vale Castle, although working under the Irish Constitution. The Provincial Grand Master also congratulated the W.M.-Designate of St. Sampson Lodge upon the very large number of influential and distinguished Brethren who had gathered to grace the consecration ceremony.

The consecration having been concluded, the Lodge business was commenced, the first portion of which was to instal Bro. Wm. Stranger P.M. 1809 as Worshipful Master, which ceremony was performed in an impressive manner by Bro. C. F. Matier P.G.S.B.

The W.M. invested his Officers as follow:—Bro. T. R. Ogier S.W., A. H. Terry J.W., J. Stranger Treas., G. A. Eastland S.D., D. F. Ogier J.D., Brouard Tyler.

The addresses to the Officers and the Brethren were given in a most able manner by Bro. Matier.

The Founders of the Lodge include Bros. J. Stranger, T. Ogier, Terry, Merrall, Bird, D. Ogier, Crumpton, and Eastland.

The W.M. closed his Lodge, which was adjourned until the third Thursday in June, the future meetings to be held at the Commercial Hall, St. Sampson's.—“Guernsey Mail.”

GUERNSEY AND ALDERNEY.

THE annual meeting was held on Friday, 22nd inst., at the Masonic Temple, Guernsey, under the presidency of Brigade-Surgeon J. B. Cockburn, M.P., Provincial Grand Master, who was supported by his deputy Brother E. C. Ozanne, and a large number of other Brethren, most of whom had been present at the consecration of the St. Sampson Lodge.

Provincial Grand Lodge having been opened, and the minutes confirmed, the Auditors' report was read and adopted, Brother T. C. Royle, one of the Auditors, congratulating the Provincial Master on the very satisfactory balance in hand.

Bro. J. T. Lainé Provincial Grand Treasurer was proposed for re-election by Bro. T. J. Mitchell in eulogistic terms, and was re-appointed amid applause.

Bro. H. Merrall W.M. 1809, and Bro. C. T. Cooke W.M. 243, were unanimously elected Auditors for 1896-97.

The Provincial Grand Master then proceeded to invest his Officers, as follow:

Bro. F. Clarke	-	-	-	Registrar
J. T. Laine	-	-	-	Treasurer
R. M. Smythson	-	-	-	Secretary
J. Hume Spry	-	-	-	Senior Deacon
J. Stranger	-	-	-	Junior Deacon
G. F. Peek	-	-	-	Superintendent of Works
H. Wilkins	-	-	-	Director of Ceremonies
J. B. Nickolls	-	-	-	Assistant Dir of Cers.
C. T. O. Cooke	-	-	-	Sword Bearer
Captain A. H. Terry	-	-	-	Standard Bearers
Major Hearn	-	-	-	
T. G. Barnes	-	-	-	Organist
R. B. Rowcliffe	-	-	-	Pursuivant
T. R. Ogier	-	-	-	Assistant Pursuivant
H. L. Doras	-	-	-	Stewards
A. W. de Jausserand	-	-	-	
G. Richards	-	-	-	
R. Martin	-	-	-	
H. M. Bichard	-	-	-	Tyler.
E. Biddiscombe	-	-	-	

Major F. C. Græme and Major Quayle-Jones would have been invested as Prov. Wardens only that their military duties prevented their crossing over to Guernsey for the purpose. Their chairs were occupied for the rest of the evening by Bro. C. W. Carrell P.P.S.G.W. and Bro. Thomas Cohu P.P.J.G.W. Bro. Rev. T. Jesse Prov.G.Chap. was also absent.

During the course of the investiture the Provincial Grand Master thanked the Rev. S. Stitt for having officiated as Chaplain, not only for the Provincial Grand Lodge, but also at the consecration of the St. Sampson Lodge.

There being no other business, Provincial Grand Lodge was closed in due form.

A banquet was afterwards held in connection with the new St. Sampson and the Provincial Grand Lodges, at Gardner's Royal, which was attended by a large number of Brethren. During the course of the evening the usual toasts were proposed and heartily responded to.

STAFFORDSHIRE.

AS we stated last week, in our short report of this Provincial Grand Lodge, the Prov.G.Master delivered an address, which he commenced by observing that the thanks of all were due to the Hanley Brethren for the admirable preparations which had been made for the reception of the P.G. Lodge. The large attendance testified that the efforts of the Hanley Brethren were appreciated. This large gathering afforded an opportunity of what in commercial circles might be termed taking stock. Speaking generally, he thought their stock-taking this year was as satisfactory as ever, if not even more so, and he congratulated them upon the position which Freemasonry occupied in the Province. It had been his desire to visit every Lodge in the Province, but he had not been able to do anything like what he had hoped to do, and he was afraid there had been some amount of disappointment in consequence. He explained that his time was very considerably taken up by his various public engagements, and said if at any moment they should feel dissatisfied with their relative positions and they wished to have someone to preside over them who could devote more time to the business, the remedy was in their hands. If, on the other hand, it was their wish that he should continue to occupy the position of P.G.M., as long as he had the support of the Freemasons of Staffordshire he would do the best he could for them. He thought they might congratulate themselves on the financial position of the Province. As regarded charity, a debt of gratitude was due to those who had been responsible for the management of the Charitable Association. The A fund was in aid of the Royal Charities; the B fund for local purposes connected with Masonry. There was a substantial balance under each head. In connection with the B fund, there was to be a pic-nic in Trentham Park. The responses so far received had exceeded the most sanguine expectations, and he hoped they would have such a successful gathering that the charity stewards would be made to rejoice. With respect to the bed in the Orphan Asylum which they were about to endow, he thought the administration of that should be left with the Staffordshire Masonic Charitable Association. He found that one of the duties of a P.G.M. was to make arrangements for the erasure of an unruly Lodge and the dismissal of an unworthy Brother. He had not had occasion to do anything of the kind, and he trusted he never should have. So far from that being the case, they had to welcome among them another Lodge—Lewisham, Smethwick—which had been consecrated since the last annual meeting. He wished every prosperity to that Lodge. There had been an increase of thirty-seven Masons in the Province during the year. He hoped that increase would be continued. They had lost by death some who had been true and good Brethren amongst them. But let them bear in mind the fact that the life of a good Mason was never wasted, that the edifice reared on the foundations of the principles of the fraternity, “Brotherly love, relief, and truth,” stood as a testimony to the work he had done and would remain as an example to the younger Masons who were anxious to follow in his footsteps. Let them ever remember that charity was the foundation of their Institution; that it was “doubly blessed—it blesseth him that gives as well as him who receives.” Civilisation and Freemasonry, like twin sisters, always walked hand in hand. In every civilised country, in every age, men, realising the great truths of liberty, equality, fraternity—men of all ranks, all professions, occupations, and creeds, had joined together in the interest of a great Brotherhood. In every quarter of the globe Lodges were continually being opened for the promotion of Freemasonry, which tended to make its members of one heart and one mind, bound together by the indissoluble tie of truth and love.

The business of the Lodge was suspended in order that the Brethren might attend divine service at St. Mark's Church, Shelton. The volume of the Sacred Law was carried by four lewises in going to church, and four others in returning from the service.

The service was conducted by the Rev. E. D. Boothman P.G.C. rector, and the Rev. Brisco Brown P.G.C., the musical arrangements being conducted by the P.G.O. Bro. W. Edwards, A.R.C.O. The preacher was the Rev. O. M. Holden P.G.C. who took for his text the 21st verse of the second chapter of St. John, “But He spoke of the temple of his body.”

When the business of P.G. Lodge was resumed it was announced that the collection at the church amounted to £16 7s 6d. It was stated that considering they were under great obligation to the Staffordshire Artillery Corps, the first idea was to give them some portion of the offertory, but the Officers of Artillery, wishful to recognise the Earl of Dartmouth as the representative of our Sovereign, placed the hall at the disposal of the P.G. Lodge without fee or reward. They suggested, however, that if there was any money to spare something should be given to the Hanley Nursing Society. It was therefore decided that £3 3s should be given to the Hanley Nursing Society, £3 3s to the Chaplain in aid of Hatherton

Church, and the balance to Bro. Boothman towards his church restoration fund.

Bro. Boothman acknowledged the gift to his fund, adding that he was proud to know that that was the second time since he had been rector that the P.G. Lodge had attended his church.

On the motion of Brother Newham, seconded by Brother Bodenham, it was decided to increase the allowance to the Provincial Grand Stewards from £20 to £30.

Bro. Col. Bindley proposed a vote of thanks to Col. Strick and the officers of the Artillery Volunteers for their kindness in placing their headquarters at the service of the P.G. Lodge. The officers had been so kind that they had even altered their drill to meet the necessities of preparing the place. One of the officers, Brother Capt. A. B. Jones, had laboured indefatigably in making the preparations. Bro. Piercy seconded the proposition and it was carried unanimously.

The Earl of Dartmouth, reverting to the question of the endowment in connection with the Wolverhampton Orphanage, suggested that the Committee of the Staffordshire Masonic Charitable Association should be requested to draw up a scheme which the various Lodges would have an opportunity of considering, so that they could get at the wishes of the Province. This was approved.

The sum of ten guineas was voted to the Boys Scholarship Fund.

An invitation was received from Handsworth for the P.G. Lodge to meet under the banner of St. James's Lodge in 1898, the year following the meeting at Lichfield.

On the proposition of Col. Bindley, seconded by the P.S.W., a vote of thanks was tendered to the three Lodges at Hanley for their exertions to make the meeting successful, and promote the comfort of members. A vote of thanks was also accorded to the clergy who had officiated at the church. P.G. Lodge was then closed.

The Brethren proceeded to the Victoria Hall, where a banquet was provided, and was attended by upwards of 350 members of the Craft.

After dinner, the Earl of Dartmouth proceeded to propose the usual toasts.

Bro. Bailey Grand Treasurer responded for the Grand Officers, observing that he loved his Province, and he prized his appointment as Grand Treasurer, because it had brought to Staffordshire an honour which was great.

Bro. Greatbatch, in proposing the health of the P.G.M., said they welcomed the Earl of Dartmouth as the vicegerent of the Sovereign, and head of the Masons of Staffordshire. They would understand that anyone in the position of the Earl of Dartmouth would have innumerable duties to attend to, so that he could not be amongst the Masonic fraternity so often as he desired to be. But seeing the many duties he had to look after the Masons would be sorry to put another burthen on his shoulders. He had had a deal of correspondence with the P.G.M., and he never knew him to miss a post without replying to a letter. The Masons of Staffordshire never made a better appointment than when they made the Earl of Dartmouth Provincial Grand Master. The toast was drunk with full honours.

The Earl of Dartmouth said he was deeply grateful to Bro. Greatbatch for what he had said and to all present for the way the toast had been received. All he could ask of them was "Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice." He assured them he deeply realised the responsibilities of the position he occupied, and he only regretted that he could not find more time to devote to the duties of the office. But he took it from what had passed that day, that they would act on the suggestion he had given, and that when they were to separate they would take the initiative. Bro. Greatbatch had told them that he (the Earl of Dartmouth) never allowed a post to pass without replying to a letter. He always answered letters as soon as he possibly could. There was an interesting paragraph published some time ago giving two different systems of distinguished men in dealing with letters. Lord Dufferin attributed much of his success to answering every letter in half-an-hour. Some might be answered at once. The sooner a person answered them the sooner he got rid of the less important ones, and the better would he be enabled to deal with the more important ones. Another distinguished person said he took a simpler method of dealing with letters; he never answered letters, because he found that in course of time they answered themselves. That was not a system which he would advise anyone to follow. It was a great saving of time and trouble to reply to letters as soon as they could. In his visits through the Province he had visited seven Lodges. He should like to take that opportunity of saying that he had derived pleasure from his visits in every instance. He had been P.G.M. three years, and had met with nothing to find fault with.

After a brief interval the Earl of Dartmouth proposed the health of Col. Bindley D.P.G. Master, and the Officers of P.G. Lodge present and past.

Col. Bindley, who was very heartily applauded, responded, expressing his belief that they would soon be able to complete the orphan scheme, which would not be interfered with by the Staffordshire Masonic Charitable Association gathering at Trentham. He mentioned as illustrating the importance of the orphanage proposal that last October there were five orphans of Masons admitted to the Institution at Wolverhampton. He had been received with great loyalty and kindness in every part of the Province.

Bro. Pepper proposed the toast of the Staffordshire Masonic Charitable Association, and Bro. Bodenham, in responding, said although he was not now one of the Officers of the Association he yielded to none in the interest which he took in it. During the twenty-five years the Association had been in existence they had sent £11,000 to the Royal Masonic Institutions, and in local charities they had spent something like £600. He spoke of the importance of making an effort to extend the usefulness of the Association locally. It was a testimonial to the Association that since the re-organisation of the Boys School the Association had had a voice on the Board of Management. He hoped the Trentham gathering would be successful, and that it would not interfere with the Wolverhampton Orphan scheme, which was quite in harmony with the objects of the Association. He hoped he should meet them all at Trentham on the 16th July.—"Staffordshire Advertiser."

A COLONY FOR EPILEPTICS.

WITH all the pomp and ceremony of Masonic ritual and regalia, Lord Addington Provincial Grand Master of Buckinghamshire on Tuesday laid the foundation-stone of a new home for women at the Colony for Epileptics, Chalfont St. Peter. The colony, which is managed by the National Society for the employment of Epileptics, owes its existence to the munificence of Bro. J. Passmore Edwards, who not only purchased the site, a farm of 135 acres in one of the most healthy and picturesque parts of the county of Buckinghamshire, but has also built a home for thirty-six men, contributed £2,500 to the erection of this, the first home for women, and has promised in addition to be responsible for a home for children. The house begun on Tuesday under such auspicious circumstances will give accommodation for some thirty-five women, so that when this portion of the scheme is completed there will be about seventy colonists in residence.

There was a large attendance of Masonic Brethren at the function, and the proceedings were witnessed by a number of interested spectators. The members of the Craft marched in procession to the ground, and the stone was fixed in position by Lord Addington with workmanlike precision. Corn, wine, and oil, emblematical of plenty, joy, and peace, were poured on the stone, after which the plans and tools were presented, and Lord Addington declared the stone well and truly laid.

Mr. E. Montefiore Micholls, Chairman of the Executive Committee, in explaining the objects and progress of the colony, said it was inaugurated in August 1894, with eighteen inmates, but the new home, formally opened by the Duke of Devonshire on 26th November last, brought the total accommodation up to thirty-six. The inmates did all the work of the farm, all the joinery and bootmaking, and they were much better for regular employment. The new home for women was quite an experiment, and was based upon the result of experience of similar institutions at Maghull, near Liverpool, and at Bielefeld, in Germany, where the system was most beneficial and successful. They hoped before long to establish a dairy and jam factory, but before that was done they must have a laundry for the women to work in, and the Committee earnestly appealed for funds for the laundry and a medical officer's residence. At the present time there was absolutely no provision in this country for epileptic children, but Mr. Passmore Edwards had promised to build a home for boys and a home for girls. The support of royalty had been secured, the Duke of York having consented to become the Patron of the Society. In conclusion Mr. Micholls presented a lovely bouquet of flowers to Mrs. Passmore Edwards, and moved a vote of thanks to Lord Addington and to Mr. Passmore Edwards.

In seconding, Dr. Buzzard said the medical staff were perfectly satisfied with the practical results obtained at the colony, and he emphasised the need of a house for a resident doctor. The vote was carried by acclamation, and briefly acknowledged.

Among those present were the Archdeacon of London, General Moberley, Dr. and Mrs. Buzzard, Miss Burdon Sanderson, Dr. and Mrs. Ferrier, Mr. and Mrs. Pearman, Colonel Montefiore, Dr. Shuttleworth, Dr. Outterson Wood, Sir Samuel Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Roget, Mr. and Mrs. J. Ruston, Mr. F. D. Mocatta, and Mr. W. E. Chapman, who superintended the Masonic arrangements.—"Daily Chronicle."

UNITED GRAND LODGE.

THE following is the Agenda of Business to be transacted in Grand Lodge, at the Quarterly Communication on Wednesday next, 3rd June, at six for seven p.m.

1. The Minutes of the Quarterly Communication of the 6th March for confirmation.

2. The Minutes of the Grand Festival of the 29th April for confirmation.

3. Communication from the Most Worshipful Grand Master:—

It having been represented to the M.W. Grand Master that some Provincial and District Grand Masters are desirous of commemorating the twenty-first anniversary of the installation of His Royal Highness as M.W. Grand Master, by conferring Past Provincial or District Grand Rank on Brethren in their Provinces and Districts, and that Article 87 of the Book of Constitutions would have to be specially suspended by Grand Lodge before any such appointments could be legally made,

His Royal Highness the M.W. Grand Master now submits the matter for the consideration of Grand Lodge, with the suggestion that if it be thought proper to sanction the suspension of the Law, the number of appointments authorised should not exceed one for every ten Lodges in the Province or District, with one additional if the broken number exceeds five.

4. The Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master will propose:—

That this Grand Lodge desires to record its gratitude to the Great Architect of the Universe that the twenty-first anniversary of the installation of His Royal Highness the Grand Master has been attained, to the great advantage of the Craft in general and the happiness of the Brethren in particular, and this Grand Lodge earnestly prays, that by the protecting blessing of the Most High, His Royal Highness may continue to be the wise and enlightened ruler of English Freemasonry for many years to come.

5. Appointment and investiture of President of the Board of General Purposes.

6. Election of Members of the Board of General Purposes.

7. Election of Grand Lodge Auditor.

8. Election of Members for the Committee of Management of the "Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons," the following being nominated by Bro. A. R. Trew P.M. 1662 P.P.G.D. Suffolk: T. I. Bird P.M. 1567, C. A. Cottebrune P.M. 733, R. D. Cummings P.M. 2168, Lieut.-Col. Durrant P.M. 569, A. H. Hickman P.M. 228, Charles Kempton P.M. 1287, William H. Hubbert P.M. 1625, W. B. Fendick P.M. 1321, F. H. B. Riddle P.M. 1723, C. V. Burgess W.M. 2024.

9. Report of the Board of Benevolence for the last quarter, in which are recommendations for the following Grants, viz.:—

A Brother of the Southwark Lodge, No. 879, London	...	...	£75	0	0
A Brother of the Hertford Lodge, No. 403, Hertford	...	...	50	0	0
The Widow of a Brother of the St. Kew Lodge, No. 1222, Weston super-Mare	...	...	50	0	0
The Widow of a Brother of the Great City Lodge, No. 1426, London	...	...	75	0	0

10. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

To the United Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England.

The Board beg to report that it recently came to its knowledge that the St. George's Lodge, No. 112, Exeter, had for many years been in the habit of returning as subscribing members, Brethren whose subscriptions had been commuted by the acceptance of a consideration in gross, a practice which had been declared illegal by the Board of General Purposes and reported to Grand Lodge at the Quarterly Communication on the 4th June 1873. The Board, after a full consideration of the circumstances, has informed the Lodge that all such members must in future pay the annual subscription fixed by the By-Laws of the Lodge in order to entitle them to the privileges of Membership.

The Board have further to report that the last edition of the Book of Constitutions being exhausted, it has ordered a reprint, with such alterations and additions as have been sanctioned by Grand Lodge.

The attention of the Board has been directed to what is understood to be a not uncommon custom for Masters of Lodges to omit to hand over to Initiates, copies of the Book of Constitutions; an omission which is frequently pleaded as excuse for the total disregard of some of the most important and essential rules and regulations governing the Craft.

The Board cannot too strongly insist on the duty of every Master of a Lodge to satisfy himself that all Initiates are put in possession of copies of the Book of Constitutions, by the rules of which every member of the Craft is bound.

The Board have to report the unfortunate failure in health of two of the Senior Clerks, and, after the fullest consideration, have arrived at the conclusion to recommend the retirement of Bros. Lee and Green, who for the past twenty-three years have faithfully fulfilled their duties, but whose state of health precludes the hope that they will be able in the future to carry out efficiently the work they were formerly able to accomplish.

The salary Bro. Lee is now receiving is £330, and the Board recommend the grant to him on retirement of a pension of £220, being at the rate of two-thirds of that amount.

Bro. Green's salary at present is £285, and the Board recommend the grant to him on his retirement of a pension of £195, being at the same rate. The combined salaries of Brothers Lee and Green amount to £615, and the proposed pensions would be £415. The Board are of opinion that for the next few years, at least, it will be possible to provide for the efficient working of the office by the appointment of Junior Clerks, whose combined salaries would amount to somewhat less than the difference between the salaries paid and the pensions proposed to be granted.

The Board desire to express its satisfaction at the manner in which Bro. Palmer (the Grand Secretary's personal clerk) and Bro. Cook discharge their several duties, which are of a very varied and responsible character. Both these clerks exhibit considerable ability and intelligence, coupled with most commendable industry and zeal. The Board feels itself perfectly justified in recommending that Bro. Palmer's salary be increased from £120 by annual

increments of £10, as from 1st January last, to £150; and that of Bro. Cook be increased in like manner to £130.

The Board also submit a Statement of the Grand Lodge Accounts at the last meeting of the Finance Committee, held on Friday, the 15th day of May instant, showing a balance in the Bank of England (Law Courts Branch) of £9,705 11s 9d, and in the hands of the Grand Secretary for petty Cash £100, and for Servants' Wages £100.

(Signed) RICHARD LOVELAND LOVELAND,

President,

Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.,

19th May 1896.

This being the last Meeting of the present Board, it was resolved unanimously,

"That the Members of the Board of General Purposes desire to place on record their high appreciation of the skill, ability, and courtesy displayed by the President, Bro. R. Loveland Loveland, in presiding over their deliberations during the past year.

W. A. SCURRAH,

Vice-President,

19th May 1896.

The Board have to report that the following Presentations have been made to the Library and Museum since the last Meeting of Grand Lodge, all of which have been accepted with thanks:—

TITLE OR OBJECT. BY WHOM PRESENTED.

Ahiman Rezon, 1895.—Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.	
Three Irish Masonic Certificates.—Albert Lucking P.G.P.	
Two Old Masonic Aprons (Foreign).—Col. Geo. Lambert P.G.S.B.	
An Old Masonic Jewel.—Lewis Lazarus P.M. No. 188.	
Records of the Lodge of Fortitude, No. 281.—H. Longman P.P.G.S.Wks.	
A Collection of Anthems.—Neville Green P.M. No. 1962.	
An Old Masonic Tobacco Box.—John Turner P.M. No. 779.	
An Irish Past Master's Jewel.—H. Kemp J.W. No. 862.	
Masonic Fiction Exploded.—Jacob Norton, Boston, U.S.A.	
The General Ahiman Rezon, &c.—M. C. Gossett P.M. No. 66.	
History of Freemasonry on the Coast of Coromandel.—Rev. C. H. Malden P.M., &c.	
Alphabetical List of Members of Old Lodges.—W. H. Rylands P.A.G.D.C.	
Mahogany Cross with Masonic Emblems.—James Terry P.G.S.B.	
Le Parfait Tailleux, &c. (MS. with hand-painted Illustrations, &c.).—Rowland Plumbe G.S.Wks.	
Two Jewels of the National Masonic Veterans' Association.—F. F. Schnitger P.M., &c.	
A Souvenir of Lafayette.—William Michie, Cincinnati.	
Photograph of Warrants of No. 311.—The W.M. of the South Saxon Lodge.	
Six Masonic Prints.—Tyson Crawford, No. 256.	

11. The Annual Report of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons, dated 15th May 1896, will be laid before Grand Lodge.

12. NOTICES OF MOTION.

1. By Bro. John Albert Farnfield P.Assist. G.D.C.

That the sum of £70 be given from the Fund of General Purposes; that the money be placed in the hands of the Secretary of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons, to supply the inmates of the Institution at Croydon with coals during the winter season.

2. By Bro. Charles E. Keyser P.G.D.

That the sum of Five Hundred Guineas be contributed from the funds of Grand Lodge in aid of the special effort now being made under the Chairmanship of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Most Worshipful Grand Master, on behalf of Guy's Hospital, with the object of re-endowing and permanently improving the financial condition of that noble Institution.

List of Brethren nominated for the Board of General Purposes:

aArthur G. Sandberg, M.D., P.M.	...	...	3
aEbenezer Charles Mulvey P.M.	...	...	179
Frederick Augustus Powell P.M.	...	...	457
aAlexander Stewart Brown P.M.	...	...	708
aJohn Joseph Thomas P.M.	...	...	753
Joseph Harrison W.M.	...	...	810
aArthur Williams P.M.	...	...	834
cWilliam Farquharson Lamonby P.M.	...	...	962
John Robertson Reep P.M.	...	...	1260
William Cleghorn P.M.	...	...	1287
aWilliam Barnes Fendick P.M.	...	...	1321
Jas. Whittaker Burgess P.M.	...	...	1325
aWilliam James Mason P.M.	...	...	1328
aJames Stephens P.M.	...	...	1425
aRichard Philip James Laundry P.M.	...	...	1681
Chas. Pulman P.M.	...	...	1712
Major Chas. Edgeworth Gubbins W.M.	...	...	1724
Frederick Buxton P.M.	...	...	1891
Chas. Jas. Wilkinson-Pimbury P.M.	...	...	1997
John Leach Barrett W.M.	...	...	2369
aArthur Blenkarn P.M.	...	...	2381
aJames Willing jun. P.M.	...	...	2455

Note.—a—Brethren who have already served on the Board,

c—Past Master of a Colonial Lodge.

List of Lodges for which Warrants have been granted by the M.W. Grand Master since the last Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge.

No. 2603.—The London County Council Lodge, London.
2604.—The Moore Lodge, Bangalore, Southern India.
2605.—The Wyreside Lodge, Garstang.
2606.—The Fforest Lodge, Treharris, South Wales.

No. 2607.—The Prosperity Lodge, Johannesburg, South African Republic.
 2608.—The Headingly Lodge, Leeds.
 2609.—The Travellers Lodge, Chester.
 2610.—The Beresford Peirse Lodge, Bedale.
 2611.—The London School Board Lodge, London.
 2612.—The Navy Lodge, London.
 2613.—The Amity Lodge, Charters Towers, Queensland.
 2614.—The Household Brigade Lodge, London.
 2615.—The Zodiac Lodge, London.

MARK GRAND LODGE.

THE regular Quarterly meeting of Grand Lodge will be held in Mark Masons' Hall, Great Queen Street, W.C., on Tuesday next, 2nd June, at 5 for 6 p.m. The Grand Festival will be held in Freemasons' Tavern, at 7 o'clock, under the presidency of the Pro Grand Master. The following is the Agenda of the business:

1. Read and, if approved, confirm Minutes of Quarterly Communication of 3rd March 1896.

2. REPORT OF THE GENERAL BOARD.

During the three months ending 31st March 1896, there have been issued:—Mark Certificates, 517; total number registered, 35,502.

Warrants for New Lodges, four, viz.:—

- 494 St. Pancras, Holloway.
- 495 Keystone, Barrackpore, Bengal.
- 496 Zuriel, Naraungunge, Bengal.
- 497 Sir John Edge, Cawnpore, Bengal.

Royal Ark Mariner Certificates, 133; total number registered, 4,880.

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales M.W. Grand Master has been pleased to appoint His Excellency the Lord Sandhurst, Governor of Bombay, to be R.W. District Grand Master for Bombay, in the place of R.W. Bro. the Hon. Mr. Justice H. J. Parsons, who has ruled over the District during the last ten years with the greatest advantage to the Mark Degree, and to whom the thanks of Grand Lodge are due on his retirement from active office.

H.R.H. the Grand Master has been pleased to appoint the R.W. Bro. the Viscount Dungarvan Deputy Grand Master, to be Provincial Grand Master for Kent, in succession to the late R.W. Bro. the Rev. Thomas Robinson.

His Royal Highness has been pleased to appoint the W. Bro. John Owen Marsh Deputy Provincial Grand Master in Charge, to be Provincial Grand Master for Monmouth, in succession to the late R.W. Bro. Captain S. G. Homfray.

His Royal Highness has been pleased to re-appoint for a further term of three years:—

Rt. Hon. the Earl of Radnor as Provincial Grand Master for Wiltshire.

Most Hon. the Marquess of Hertford as Provincial Grand Master for Warwickshire.

H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, K.G., &c., &c., &c., as Provincial Grand Master for Sussex.

V.W. Bro. C. H. Driver P.G.Ov., having retired from the office of Grand Inspector of Works, in which position his professional services have always been at the command of the Board and of Grand Lodge, His Royal Highness the Grand Master has been pleased to confer on him the rank and dignity of a Past Grand Warden.

The Board recommend that the Kirby Lodge, No. 285, who has neglected to comply with the requirements of the Book of Constitutions, Article 150, and who has, in consequence thereof been summoned to appear in Grand Lodge to show cause and has not replied, should be erased.

The Honorary President of the Board of Festival Stewards of 1895, having reported to the Board that a Brother who had been appointed Grand Steward had refused to pay his proportion of the deficit of the Festival in June 1895, the Board have no option but to recommend the Most Worshipful Grand Master to cancel the appointment, and to rule that the Brother is not entitled to assume the rank or wear the clothing of a Past Grand Steward.

The Board have to report, with great regret, the death of their old and valued colleague V.W. Brother Jabez Church P.G.Overseer a member since 1891.

FUND OF BENEVOLENCE.

The Board have the pleasure to announce that the twenty-eighth Annual Festival will be held on Wednesday, 8th of July. R.W. Bro. Charles Letch Mason Provincial Grand Master for West Yorkshire has most kindly consented to preside, and the Grand Secretary will be happy to receive the names of Ladies and Brethren willing to act as Stewards.

The following cases have been relieved:

Mrs. E. P., Widow of a Brother of Lodge No. 111 ...	£10
Mrs. M. H., Widow of a Brother of Lodge No. 226 ...	£15
Bro. R. H. S., Lodge No. 351	£10
Bro. R. S., Lodge No. 126	£5
Bro. G. F. C., Lodge No. 92 and 317	£5

and the Board recommend to Grand Lodge,

£25 to Bro. C. J. W., Lodge No. 266.

R. LOVELAND LOVELAND President.

FRANK RICHARDSON, Vice-President.

C. FITZGERALD MATIER, Grand Sec.

7th May 1896.

At the conclusion of the ordinary business, the following resolution was passed:—"That the cordial thanks of the members of the General Board be and are hereby tendered to their President V.W. Bro. R. Loveland Loveland, for the very able and courteous manner in which he has presided over the meetings of the Board during the past year."

CHARLES BELTON, Acting Vice-President.

3. A Motion will be made that the Report be taken as read.
4. A Motion will be made that the Report be received and entered on the Minutes.
5. Recommendations arising out of the Report:—
 - (A) That the Kirby Lodge, No. 285, be erased.
 - (B) Fund of Benevolence—Grant recommended:—
 £25 to Bro. C. J. W., Amherst Lodge, No. 266.
6. A Motion will be proposed that the Report be adopted.
7. Installation of the M.W.G.M.
8. Appointment and Investiture of Grand Officers.
9. Nomination by the M.W.G.M. of Six Members to serve on the General Board.
10. Election, by Grand Lodge, of Five Members to serve on the General Board, the following five being the only ones nominated: Richard Clowes P.G. Overseer, A. Stewart Brown G.J.D., Frederick West Dep. Prov. G.M. Surrey, T. P. Dorman G.I.G., Frederick Cleeves P.G.Std.B., of whom the first three are present Members of the Board.

Criterion Theatre.—It is always interesting to see Mr. Charles Wyndham in a new character, and in "Rosemary," the new play by Messrs. Louis N. Parker and Murray Carson, he presents us with an entirely fresh impersonation. The authors could not, however, take him out altogether from the line in which he has made his mark, and hence we first see him in his old role of the gay, light-hearted butterfly; but later as a nonagenarian, still light-hearted and gay, though with a touch of sadness as he remembers old friends. The plot is simplicity itself. A runaway couple break down outside Sir Jasper Thorndyke's park; he comes to their assistance, and incontinently falls in love with the lady, until rescued by an old friend, who points out his folly. The girl gives him a leaf from her diary, and a sprig of rosemary, and thus they part. Fifty years later old Sir Jasper finds himself alone in the world, and the accidental discovery of the paper brings to his remembrance the little episode of his life previously narrated. This scene is acted almost entirely by Mr. Wyndham; it is a perfect study of cheerful old age, with its affecting reminiscences, and adds yet another portrait to his extensive gallery. As the period of the story opens at the time of the Queen's coronation, the costumes are those of 1837, and Miss Mary Moore presents a pretty picture as the love-sick girl in her quaint dresses and ringlets. Her sweetheart, William Westwood, is capitally played by Mr. Kenneth Douglas, and Mr. J. H. Barnes is excellent as the kindly adviser, Professor Jogram. The humorous element is sustained by Mr. Alfred Bishop, who admirably represents an old choleric naval captain; by Miss Carlotta Addison, as his wife; by Miss Annie Hughes, as an old-time domestic; and by Mr. James Welch, as a post boy.

MESSRS. CASSELL AND COMPANY have in preparation a new "Illustrated guide to London," which will be fully illustrated, and published at 6d.

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3, 8, 10, 15 or 17 days in North Wales.

WEEKLY EXCURSIONS TO SHREWSBURY, ABERYSTWYTH, BARMOUTH, RHYL, LLANDUDNO, &c.

8-5 a.m. for Shrewsbury, Welshpool, Aberystwyth, Llangollen, Corwen, Bala, Blaenau, Festiniog, Dolgelly, Barmouth, Rhyl, Llandudno, Bettws-y-coed, Carnarvon, Llanberis (for Snowdon), &c.

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

12-35 p.m. for Swindon, Chippenham, Bath, Bristol, Clevedon, Trowbridge, Frome, Wells, Yeovil, Weymouth (for the Channel Islands), &c., for 3, 10 or 17 days.

A FORTNIGHT IN IRELAND.

Thursdays, 4th and 18th June. At 10-45 a.m. for Cork.

Fridays, 5th and 19th June. At 6-10 p.m. for Waterford, Dungarvan, Clonmel, Tipperary, Limerick, Tralee, Kilkenny, &c.

Tuesday, 16th June and Friday, 26th June. At 4-45 p.m. for Belfast, Armagh, Enniskillen, Larne, Giant's Causeway, &c.

Thursday, 18th June. At 6-10 p.m. for Killarney.

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SATURDAY, 30TH MAY 1896.

Thursday next, 4th June, is the last day by which Petitions, with a view to the October Election of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, must reach the office of that Institution, at Freemasons' Hall.

As announced in our last issue the Annual Athletic Sports of the Boys School will be held on Saturday, 13th June, at Kempton Park. Particulars of special train arrangements, together with tickets, may be had from Bro. McLeod Secretary of the Institution, at the offices, or from members of the Board of Management.

Bro. R. D. Cummings P.M. and Sec. of the Derby Allcroft Lodge has made arrangements for an entertainment (Instrumental and Musical) to be given to the Boys, at Wood Green, on Friday, 12th June, under the direction of Brothers Short and Bradford of the same Lodge. We understand that last year's very successful entertainment will be improved upon, if possible, and we should advise our readers to make an early application for tickets of admission, the number of which is very necessarily limited.

Cheshire Masonry is advancing, remarks the "Liverpool Mercury," and at an early period there will probably be added another Lodge to the roll of those at present in existence. New Brighton, which is rapidly increasing in popularity and population, has up to the present time had no place in the Masonic world; but steps are being taken towards the formation of a new Lodge at that delightful watering place, and there is a probability that the first Master will be a Brother who is prominently identified with the Masonic world, as he has been with municipal matters for a series of years.

REPORTS OF MEETINGS.

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CRAFT: METROPOLITAN.

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EUPHRATES LODGE, No. 212.

THERE was a large and influential meeting of the Euphrates Lodge, No. 212, at the Holborn Restaurant, on Wednesday, amongst those present being Bro. William Evans W.M., J. Medcalf S.W., W. McLean P.M. acting J.W., J. West P.M. S.D., F. Simmons P.M. J.D., W. H. Swinnell I.G., Recknell P.M. Treasurer, Th. Ruston P.M. Sec., T. Edmonds P.M. Tyler, James F. Haskins P.G. Organist Herts P.P.G. Org. Essex, J. Carter P.M., J. Day P.M., J. Halsey P.M., C. Outler P.M., J. L. Bell, G. W. Evans, G. Grace, W. Hare, J. Smith, W. Jarrett, J. Knight, A. Miller, H. Winter, R. McLean, R. Jarrant, H. W. Case, and several others. Amongst the visitors were Bro. C. Cordingly, John Bower, J. T. Bennett, J. Wynman (FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE), &c.

The Lodge was opened in due form and the minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. Mr. Sidney Cent was initiated into the mysteries of ancient Freemasonry, after which the W.M. opened the Lodge in the second degree, and Bro. John R. Knight was promoted as Fellow Craft. The Lodge was further advanced, and Bro. John L. Bell was raised to the sublime degree of M.M. All the ceremonies were most impressively given by the W.M., to the great satisfaction of the Brethren.

After hearty good wishes from the members and visitors, the Lodge was closed and the Brethren adjourned to meet their lady friends, and partake of one of the excellent banquets which the Holborn Restaurant is so famous for. Great praise is due to Bro. Hamp, the manager, under whose personal supervision the repast was served.

The W.M. welcomed the guests, who numbered about eighty, and, after the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts, gave the sentiment of the evening—the ladies—which toast was duly acknowledged on their behalf, the speaker saying the ladies were only too pleased to meet their Masonic Brethren, and hoped to do so again in the future.

The health of the W.M. was proposed, and in a most suitable manner responded to; the health of the Visitors being afterwards pledged.

The most excellent musical arrangements were under the direction of Bro. James F. Haskins, Ph.D., who was supported by Miss Benson Gilbert, Miss Hermoine Hamilton, Miss Heloise Aldana, Miss Cecilia Haskins, Mr. Charles Darville, and Mr. W. E. Dadley.

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KENSINGTON LODGE, No. 1767.

THE Brethren met at their Lodge Room at the Royal Palace Hotel, on Saturday, 16th inst., under the presidency of Bro. J. B. Neville W.M.

Bros. Taylor, Davis and Pettit were raised, Bros. Glyn and Saunders passed, and Mr. Jas. J. Rayner Green and Mr. William Nelder balloted for, accepted and initiated.

Bro. Turner was unanimously elected Worshipful Master and Bro. Barker Treasurer.

The Audit Committee having been appointed, the Brethren adjourned to dinner, when the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were honoured.

The retiring W.M., in congratulating Bro. Turner on his accession to the chair, wished him a most successful year of office, and plenty of work. Bros. Read, Neville, Hill, Leo, Fowler, and Wiggins severally responded to the various toasts allocated to them, as also the Initiates, who expressed their great pleasure and satisfaction at the ceremony they had had the pleasure of witnessing.

During the evening Bro. Beale announced the result of the annual ball recently held, as realising a balance of £14 14s 5d in favour of the Lodge, and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded him.

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ALLIANCE LODGE, No. 1827.

THE regular meeting was held at the Guildhall Tavern, Gresham Street, on the 13th inst., the business including the initiation of Mr. Fitch, son of Bro. E. F. Fitch P.M., C.C.

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DUKE OF ALBANY LODGE, No. 1963.

THE annual installation was held at the Surrey Masonic Hall, on Thursday, 21st inst., and a large number of Brethren were present, including Bros. P. Nairne P.G.D., R. E. H. Goffin P.P.G.D.C. Surrey, A. Harvey P.M., E. Beaven P.M., G. M. E. Hamilton P.M., W. H. Jeffreys P.M., R. J. Voisey P.M., S. G. Bonner P.M., J. A. Randall P.M., W. T. Pink P.M., R. C. Davis P.M., J. White P.M., Charlie Woods W.M. 2345, V. T. Murche P.M., J. W. Folkard P.M. Sec. 2345, J. Bate, A. Golding, Wadley, G. Collar, Phillips, &c.

Bro. Donaldson installed Bro. C. James as W.M., and the Officers were invested, the ceremony being very impressively given.

A sum was voted towards the Girls School list of Bro. C. J. Chase.

The Auditors' report was satisfactory, showing a balance on the right side.

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JOHN CARPENTER LODGE, No. 1997.

THE installation meeting was held at the Albion Tavern, on Friday, 8th inst., when Brother J. Barthram Taylor was installed as Worshipful Master by Bro. George Inskipp. The Officers appointed were Bros. F. P. Baxter P.M. S.W., Keith J.W., Alfred Inskipp S.D., M. Garbutt J.D., J. P. Schroder I.G.

As a remembrance of his year of office, the outgoing Master Brother George Inskipp presented the Lodge with a handsome Masonic carpet. The Brethren afterwards dined together.

The silver loving cup recently given to the Lodge by the Treasurer Bro. C. W. C. Hutton P.G.D. was used for the first time, says the "City Press."

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DUKE OF FIFE LODGE, No. 2345.

A REGULAR meeting was held at the Alexandra Hotel, Clapham, on Wednesday, 20th inst., when there were present Brothers Charlie Woods W.M., John Langdon I.P.M., A. Harvey P.M., E. Beaven P.M., T.

Morris J.W., R. Steele P.M. Treas., J. W. Folkard P.M. Sec., A. Robertson S.D., G. F. Winny J.D., Hy. Mitchell I.G., W. W. Westley P.M. D.C., C. W. Shannaw, C. Harsey, C. J. Fitch Stds., Patrick P.M. Tyler, Taylor, F. W. Sinclair, Beckwith, W. Stracey, and F. Gregory.

Visitors: Bros. W. H. Kidson D.C. 2395, H. W. Phillips 1329, and J. Shuttle 1329.

The ballot was taken for, and proved unanimously in favour of, Bro. T. Gregory as candidate.

Bro. W. W. Westley took the chair, and very impressively raised Bro. Beckwith.

The W.M. resumed the chair, passed Bro. Sinclair, and initiated Mr. Gregory.

Two candidates for initiation, and a joining member were proposed.

The Brethren afterwards dined under the presidency of the W.M.

After dinner the W.M. proposed the Queen and the Craft, "The Queen, God bless her: the Craft, God preserve it."

In proposing the M.W.G.M. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the W.M. pointed out what had been done by their Grand Master, "The Master, he is a good one, and his worthiness doth challenge much respect."

In proposing the Grand Officers, the W.M. said he had recently attended the Grand Festival, under the M.W. Pro G.M., and seen the D.G.M. Earl Amherst, and the other Grand Officers invested, and noted the particular honour that had been conferred upon "working" Masons. Their Past Grand Officers included two members of the Lodge, who were highly respected in the Craft: "Most potent, grave, and reverend signiors, our very noble and approved Masters."

Bro. John Langdon I.P.M. proposed the W.M., in felicitous terms, commending his work in the Lodge and for the Lodge, and expressing a wish that good luck might befriend him.

Bro. Charlie Woods W.M. thanked the Brethren, promised earnest attention to duty, and concluded with "I vow, my reign shall be so easy to the subject, that every man shall be his Prince himself."

The W.M. proposed the Initiate, and said Freemasonry demanded perfection from a man in his life and actions. True, nothing was perfect in this world, but they desired good men and true, who could not fail to be better men if they were true Masons. He welcomed Bro. Gregory, with "Our hearts of Brother's love do receive you in all kind love, good thought, and reverence."

Bro. Gregory suitably responded.

The W.M. proposed the Visitors, pointing out that hospitality was a virtue to be cultivated. They welcomed their visitors, trusting they had spent a pleasant time and would not regret their visit.

Bro. Phillips thanked the Brethren for kindness to him. He had appreciated the work, and learnt something that evening which would not be forgotten. Their hospitality was such that he hoped this would not be the last time that he partook of the same.

In proposing the Past Masters of the Lodge, the W.M. referred particularly to each one's work, and eulogised the exemplary work done by Bro. Westley that evening.

Bros. Westley P.M. D.C. and Langdon I.P.M. responded.

The W.M. proposed the Treasurer and Secretary, and Bros. Steele and Folkard replied.

The Officers were described as capable and willing—"What we can do we'll do, to do you service."

Brothers Morris J.W., Robertson S.D., Winny J.D., Mitchell I.G., Shannaw, Harsey and Fitch Stewards responded.

The harmony of the evening had been greatly enhanced by capital singing by Brothers Wilfred Stracey, Langdon, Phillips, Harvey, and Shannaw. Through the kindness of Brother T. Morris, Mr. Boase also attended and delighted the Brethren with his songs. Bro. G. F. Winny J.D. presided most ably at the piano, as well as at the organ in the Lodge.

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INSTRUCTION.

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ROBERT BURNS LODGE, No. 25.

THIS well known and flourishing Lodge of Instruction held its weekly meeting at the popular Frascati, Oxford Street, W., on Tuesday, when the chair was occupied by Bro. H. Kobelt, he being assisted by Bros. Thos. Kelley S.W., M. McVey J.W., Albert Pettit S.D., J. L. Henson J.D., H. Raphael I.G., J. Sillitoe Secretary, J. Blundall P.M. Treasurer, E. C. Mulvey P.M. Preceptor, Percy Day, J. Ellis, Thos. Phillips, C. Bonham, C. G. Ridgway, E. G. Cooper, John Morgan, J. Wynman (FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE), and others.

There was a good amount of Masonic work transacted. The W.M. rehearsed the ceremony of initiation, Bro. C. Bonham candidate. Lodge was called off and on, when the W.M. opened the Lodge in the second degree and rehearsed the ceremony, with Bro. C. G. Ridgway as candidate. Both degrees were carried through in a most able and impressive manner.

The Lodge was resumed to the first, when Bro. E. C. Mulvey Preceptor proposed, Bro. C. G. Ridgway seconded, and Bro. Albert Pettit supported that Bro. Wynman, representative of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, be elected an Honorary Member of the Lodge, which was unanimously agreed to.

Bros. Cooper and Morgan were elected ordinary members of the Lodge. Bro. Mulvey proposed that a vote of thanks be recorded on the minutes for the excellent manner the W.M. Bro. H. Kobelt had fulfilled the duties of the chair for the first time, which was unanimously accepted. The W.M. briefly returned thanks.

Bro. Thos. Kelly S.W. was elected W.M. for next Tuesday's meeting, and after a few more important discussions the Lodge was closed in due form.

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ST. JOHN LODGE, No. 167.

THE regular weekly meeting was held at the Court House, Harlesden, on Thursday, Bro. Moss W.M., W. B. Neville P.M. S.W., Hussey P.M. J.W., W. Hillier P.M. Preceptor, G. Chapman S.D., Th. Parker J.D., Hagan P.M. I.G., F. S. Priest Sec., F. Ortner, Wynman, W. Tebbitt P.M., Bartlett P.M., Isaac Cohen, Stanley, Ball, &c.

The W.M. rehearsed the ceremony of initiation, Brother G. Chapman candidate, and deserves great credit for the excellence of his working. Bro. W. Hillier Preceptor worked the first and second sections of the first lecture, in his usual able manner. Bro. Neville was elected W.M. for next meeting.

It was arranged that a summer outing should take place, the same as last year, Bros. Priest, Isaac, Chapman, and Hillier being appointed as a Committee to make the necessary arrangements.

WESTBOURNE LODGE, No. 733.

At the weekly meeting, held at Bro. Butcher's, the Oliver Arms, Harrow Road, on Tuesday, Brother C. Lilly W.M., T. W. Mogford S.W., A. L. Butters J.W., R. J. Rogers P.M. Treas. S.D., C. E. Brown J.D., H. Dehane P.M. Preceptor, F. Wortham Sec., F. Beesley I.G., Dymott, C. Halston, R. Armstrong, G. Weaver, G. C. Butcher, J. Wynman.

The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Halston candidate.

At the request of the W.M. Bro. Butters assumed the chair, when Bro. Wortham was examined and entrusted, and the ceremony of passing rehearsed, he acting as candidate.

The Lodge was closed down and Bro. Lilly assumed the chair. Bro. T. W. Mogford was elected to the chair for next meeting.

It was proposed by Bro. P.M. Dehane and seconded by Bro. P.M. Rogers, that a hearty vote of thanks be entered on the minutes to Bro. Lilly, for so ably fulfilling the duties of the chair for the first time, which compliment was gracefully acknowledged.

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WHITTINGTON LODGE, No. 862.

THIS Lodge was held on Wednesday, at the Red Lion, Poppin's Court, Fleet Street, of which Bro. P. Day is the host. Bro. Pate acted as W.M., P. Day S.W., Berry J.W., Boden S.D., Clarkson J.D., Scarlett I.G., Tilt P.M. Sec., H. Kobelt acting Preceptor, E. C. Mulvey P.M. P.P.A.G.D.C. Herts P.P.G.S.B. Surrey, A. Pouncefort P.M., Wynman (FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE), &c.

The W.M. rehearsed the ceremony of initiation, Bro. Tilt P.M. Sec. candidate. We may compliment the W.M. on his perfect working of the ceremony.

Bro. Mulvey, with the assistance of the Brethren, worked the first section, Bro. Tilt the second, and Bro. Pouncefort the third section of the lecture.

Bro. Day was elected W.M. for next meeting.

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BROMLEY ST. LEONARD LODGE, No. 1805.

At the Bow Bells, Bow Road, E., on Wednesday, 27th inst., Brother A. Marks W.M., B. Pollock S.W., W. Boyce P.M. J.W., F. A. Slater S.D., N. R. Moffatt J.D., Citron I.G., De Casseres P.M. Preceptor, F. Thornton Sec., C. A. West, Oxley P.M., J. Gibbs P.M.

The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed by the W.M., Brother West candidate.

The Brethren assisted Brother P.M. Oxley to work the first, second, and third sections of the lecture.

Bro. Pollock was elected to the chair for Wednesday, 3rd June, to which date the Lodge was adjourned.

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CITADEL LODGE, No. 1897.

THE sixty-first meeting was held at Bro. Witte's, Farleigh Hotel, Amherst Road, on Friday, 22nd inst., Bro. Max Friedlander W.M., H. J. Calley S.W., T. R. Jones J.W., F. Dunstan P.M. P.A.G.D.C. Middx. Preceptor, Harry Willsmer Secretary, Bishop S.D., Rusby J.D., Schlosshauer I.G., Witte, Alderman, Matthews, Platt.

The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Alderman candidate. The ceremony of installation was rehearsed by Bro. F. Dunstan P.M. The second section of the lecture was worked by Bro. Preceptor, assisted by Bro. Geo. Clark and the Brethren.

Bro. Calley was elected W.M. for the 5th inst., the next meeting being Bro. Secretary's night.

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LODGE OF FAITH, No. 581.

THE regular meeting was held at the Gransmoor Hotel, Openshaw, on Wednesday, 20th inst., the following being present:—Bros. H. J. Harrison I.P.M., W. Jones S.W., R. Adshad J.W., Geo. H. Scott S.D., J. C. Brown Treas., J. M. Frost Sec., Past Masters Samuel Whittaker, J. W. Keighley, John Greenup, Henry B. Brown, Edward Roberts; Bros J. T. Moorhouse, Walter Taylor, W. H. Wagstaff, S. Andrew, George E. Mellor, William Nelson, Wm. B. Gleave, J. Hibbs, P. Davison.

In the unavoidable absence of the W.M. (Bro. Lever), the principal chair was occupied by Bro. H. J. Harrison I.P.M., and as there was no business of special importance to transact he brought the Lodge to an early close, the Brethren adjourning to partake of the social element. Various toasts were proposed and duly responded to, Bros. Jones, Taylor, Roberts, Moorhouse, Nelson, Gleave and Hibbs being laid under contribution for songs, sketches, &c., with the result that a pleasant evening was spent.

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UNITED LODGE, No. 697.

THE thirty-ninth anniversary festival was held at Colchester, on the 20th inst., and was one of the most successful recorded in the annals of the Lodge. Considerable interest had been evinced in the proceedings from the fact that it had been announced that Colonel Somerville Burney P.M. P.G.D.Eng., one of the Founders of the Lodge, and the sole survivor of its first Officers, had intimated his intention of being present. The gallant Colonel, however, is in a very weak state of health, and at the last moment his medical adviser forbade his travelling from Brighton, where he now resides. The only other Founders known to be living are Bro. John Mann P.M. 51 and P.P.G.Sec., now residing at Great Clacton, and Brother Thomas Moy, of Stanway Hall, Colchester. The first-named Brother is too far advanced in years to leave his house; but the Brethren were fortunate in securing the presence of Bro. Moy, to whom the most cordial reception was given.

The principal business of the evening was the installation of Bro. James G. Bryan S.W., the ceremonies appertaining to which were most admirably performed by Bro. F. J. Motum the retiring W.M., Bro. H. J. Skingley P.M. P.P.A.G.D.C. acting as D.C. with his accustomed ability. The Officers for the year were appointed and invested.

Bro. F. J. Motum said he should like to present to the Lodge some memento of his year of office, and handed to the W.M. a "broken column," expressing a hope that it would frequently be filled in the cause of charity.

The W.M., on behalf of the Lodge, heartily thanked the I.P.M. for his most useful present, which he said was much more fitted for the purpose than the very cumbersome box which had hitherto been in use.

A hearty vote of thanks was, on the motion of the W.M., passed to the I.P.M. for the able way in which he had performed the installation ceremony, which that Brother suitably acknowledged, and the W.M. was then unanimously elected to represent the Lodge on the Essex Provincial Charity Committee. The accounts presented by Bro. A. Gosling P.M. showed a good balance in hand, a grant from which was voted to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution.

The Brethren then adjourned to dinner, a splendid repast being well served by Brother Ommanney, of the George Hotel. The W.M. presided, supported by some seventy or eighty Brethren, among whom was Bro. T. J. Ralling Prov. Grand Secretary.

After the loyal toasts, the I.P.M. gave the Worshipful Master, predicting for him a successful year of office.

The W.M., in reply, said his ambition ever since he became a Mason had been to attain to the chair, and having worked upwards through the intermediate offices, he was grateful to the Brethren for having placed him in that proud position.

He then gave the toast of the visitors. Having fully expected that they would have been honoured by the presence of Col. Burney, it had been his intention to have recalled to that worthy Brother's mind something of the early history of the Lodge, and have pointed out to him the child then launched into the Masonic world was in a most successful position, and had been the means of disseminating Freemasonry all over the world. It was a great satisfaction to them that they had one of the Founders present in the person of Bro. Moy. That Brother, so far as he could learn, had never taken an active part in the working of the Lodge, but as one of those who assisted in its formation, Bro. Moy would, he was sure, be pleased to see it in so flourishing a condition.

Bro. Moy, as one of those whose names were associated with the toast, said it had given him very great pleasure to be present at the meeting in the afternoon, and the very pleasant gathering they were now enjoying; but when he accepted the kind invitation received from the Secretary he had no idea that his name would be so prominently brought forward. The W.M. had painfully reminded him that he had not taken the active part he ought to have done in Masonry. He could not help thinking that if at that time he had had the energetic guidance of their good Provincial Secretary he should now have been able to give a better account of himself in this respect. He had, however, maintained his interest in the Craft, and should continue to do so. It occurred to him that looking to the date of the formation of this Lodge, he must at that time have been a very young man, or he was getting a very old one now, and he was very thankful to be able to appear before them in such good health and spirits, to congratulate them on the present success of the Lodge, and to give them his earnest wishes for its future prosperity.

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BOSCAWEN LODGE, No. 699.

At the regular meeting, held on Monday, 25th inst., at Chacewater, Bro. R. A. F. Frizell P.P.G.W. presented the members of the Lodge, on behalf of Bro. Hocking (a newly initiated Brother) a handsomely painted apron, in oak and gold frame. The members accepted and acknowledged the gift. It was decided to hang the picture in a prominent part of the Lodge. A vote of thanks was accorded the donor.

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SYMPATHY LODGE, No. 855.

THE annual installation was held on Tuesday, 26th inst., in the Town Hall, Wotton-under-Edge, a good muster of Brethren being present. Bro. John Jotcham was installed W.M. by Bro. Frank Millman P.P.J.G.W., assisted by Bro. R. V. Vassar-Smith Dep.P.G.M. of Gloucestershire, and a P.M. of the Lodge.

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ST. JOHN LODGE, No. 1343.

THE annual installation festival of this flourishing Lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Grays, on Wednesday, 20th inst., when for the last time during his year of office Bro. Charles Westwood the W.M. presided, being assisted by his Officers and the following Brethren: A. Lucking P.G.P. Prov.G.D.C., Charles J. R. Tijou P.G.P., H. C. Borradaile P.Prov.G.Std.B., James Howell P.Prov.G.S.B., Rev. F. Haslock Prov. Grand Chaplain, F. Spencer Guy Prov.J.G.W., R. J. Beamish Prov.G.D.C. Kent, F. J. Cumine Prov.G.S., George Harlow P.M. 1613, E. B. Wilks 77, G. Gissing 1056, Chas. A. S. Harris P.M. 1599, H. Hyde J.W. 1227, G. H. Seage P.M. 781, W. J. Dingle W.M. 2068, W. Harvey W.M. 174, A. Fergusson 192, Jas. A. Whitfield W.M. 77, H. Forss W.M. 483, J. Wesley Ward 766, E. J. Bowmaker W.M. 1000, John Fergusson 1445, Joseph Hay W.M. 1622, Rd. Atkins P.M., Orilton Cooper P.M. 211, &c.

Owing to the large amount of work to be transacted the Brethren were called for the early hour of two o'clock, and soon after that time the Lodge was opened and the minutes confirmed.

The next business was to ballot for Mr. John Higgins, which, proving unanimous, that gentleman was admitted and regularly initiated into the privileges of our ancient Order. Bro. F. Hyde was passed to the degree of Fellow Craft; and Bros. J. Livewright, T. A. Capron and J. W. S. Bowton proved their proficiency as such, and were subsequently raised to the sublime degree and took their seats as Master Masons.

The Lodge was then called off for a short time, and upon the re-assembling of the Brethren Bro. F. W. Pelling W.M.-elect was introduced by Bro. P.M. Atkins, gave his assent to the ancient charges and regulations, and took the usual obligation. A board of Installed Masters was formed, when Bro. Pelling was duly installed into the chair of King Solomon, according to ancient custom, by Bro. Westwood.

The first act of the new Master was to invest his predecessor as I.P.M., which he did in a very graceful manner. Upon the re-admission of the Brethren Bro. Pelling was saluted in the various degrees. The whole of the ceremonies, including the traditional history, the full explanation of the signs, and the beautiful addresses to the Master, to the Officers and to the Brethren, were admirably given by Bro. Westwood, the Brethren heartily congratulating him upon coming so successfully through such a trying ordeal; while we doubt whether the entire ceremonies of the Craft have ever been performed on the same day by one Master.

The W.M. appointed his Officers for the year: William Ayres S.W., J. Weymouth J.W., Rev. F. Haslock Chaplain, James Howell P.M. Treasurer, H. C. Borradaile P.M. Secretary, Charles Cobham P.M. Assistant Secretary, G. H. Silverwood, M.A., LL.B., S.D., Charles Asplin J.D., G. Bird I.G., R.

Atkins P.M. D.C., J. G. Wingrove Organist, Robert Matthews Asst. Organist, Robert Walker and H. H. Slater Stewards, and Geo. Martin Tyler.

As stated in our report of the last meeting the Lodge had voted to Bro. Westwood a jewel of double the usual value, together with a Past Master's collar and jewel. This handsome presentation was made in open Lodge by the W.M., with a speech as complimentary as the occasion deserved. He trusted that Bro. Westwood would long be spared to be with them, and give the Lodge the assistance of his experience.

Bro. Westwood briefly returned thanks, reserving his further remarks till after dinner.

The report of the Audit Committee was received and adopted, the balance, in spite of many heavy expenses during the year, being highly satisfactory. Bro. James Howell P.M. was re-elected as Charity Representative of the Lodge.

The visiting Brethren having offered their congratulations to the W.M., the Lodge was closed in perfect harmony, and the Brethren adjourned to the banquet hall, where a very recherché repast was served by Brother R. Cunningham.

Upon its termination the customary Loyal and Masonic toasts were given by the W.M., Bro. C. J. R. Tijou responding for the Grand Officers, and Bro. F. Spencer Guy for the Provincial Grand Lodge.

In highly complimentary terms Bro. Westwood proposed the health of the Worshipful Master. He stated he and Bro. Pelling were raised together in the Lodge, and they had since steadily up through the various Offices, though it had been his good fortune to reach the chair first. Bro. Pelling had the cause of Freemasonry at heart, and would always be ready to give assistance to the Brethren. He was a true and worthy Mason, who would uphold the traditions of the Lodge.

The W.M., who on rising to reply was received with loud applause, thanked the Brethren for their kind and flattering reception. He was indeed proud to be W.M. of the Lodge, and he hoped, with the assistance of the Past Masters and Brethren, to be able to carry on the duties to their satisfaction and his own credit.

The Master then proceeded to propose the Installing Master. Brother Westwood had enjoyed a most brilliant year of office, having initiated the largest number of candidates admitted in any one year in the Lodge; he had the honour of entertaining the Provincial Grand Master, and had received Provincial honours; he had also arranged the first Masonic Ball held in connection with the Lodge; had worked hard for the Lodge of Instruction, and had started the Benevolent Fund, which had enabled him to take a large amount to the Masonic Charities; and, finally, he had left the Lodge in a grand financial position. Such a record was something to be proud of, and all the Brethren knew he had deserved it.

Bro. Westwood, in response, agreed that from a Masonic point of view he had had a glorious reign, but modestly attributed his success to the great assistance he had received from the Lodge. He had looked forward to the pleasure of installing Bro. Pelling, and was glad that he had performed the ceremony to their satisfaction. He had been honoured far in excess of his services by the handsome present they had given him that evening, and he felt he could not sufficiently thank them; so long as he lived he would always be ready to render what assistance he could. He specially thanked the Officers, particularly Bro. Borradaile, for their kindness to him, as without them he could have done but little.

Bros. Harlow, Harris and Cumine returned thanks for the visitors.

Bro. Higgins responded to the Initiate's toast; and the Officers of the Lodge having been complimented, the Tyler made his appearance and brought the Festival to a happy conclusion.

During the evening an agreeable programme of music was provided by Bro. J. G. Wingrove, the artistes being Madame Marie Malia, Miss Lucie Johnstone and Bros. J. F. Horncastle, Henry J. Andrew, Joseph Hay and Roland Henry.

Bro. Frederick William Pelling, the new W.M. of this Lodge, was born in 1851, at Brentwood, Essex, and was initiated into Freemasonry in the St. John Lodge, No. 1343, in May 1890. He has filled the various offices of the Lodge, working his way steadily up. He takes great interest in the Lodge of Instruction, at Grays, and is at the present time its Secretary.

It is hoped that during his year of office a Royal Arch Chapter will be established in connection with the Lodge, though he is not as yet a Companion of the Order. Like most of the St. John Brethren, he is an ardent supporter of the Masonic Charities, and took up a considerable sum at the recent Girls School Festival.

BALDWIN LODGE, No. 1398.

AT the Castle, Dalton, on Wednesday, 20th inst., there was a very large attendance of members, together with several visitors from Barrow, Millom, and Ulverston. After the meeting an adjournment was made to the George and Dragon Inn, where some thirty sat down to an excellent supper, provided in first class style by the hostess, Mrs. Hind. The W.M. Brother Deason presided, Bro. Whiteside P.M. occupying the vice-chair.

HOPE LODGE, No. 2153.

THE installation meeting was held on Wednesday, 20th inst., at the India Arms Hotel, Gosport, when Bro. G. D. Birch was installed as W.M., the ceremony being performed by Bro. Nash W.M. of the past year.

BRENTWOOD LODGE (INSTRUCTION), No. 2255.

THIS Lodge of Instruction (acting under the sanction of the Philbrick Lodge, No. 2255) closed the season of 1895-96 by holding the annual banquet at the Lion and Lamb Hotel, Brentwood, on the 21st inst., under the presidency of Bro. W. T. Humphreys Prov.S.G.W.

A capital repast was served in first-class style by host Bro. J. Hill, after which the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were submitted and responded to. Songs were contributed by Bros. Woods, Roscoe, White, Edwards, and Armour, and Bros. Edwards and White acted as accompanists. The membership has increased to twenty-four.

QUEEN VICTORIA LODGE, No. 2584.

THE regular meeting was held at the Conservative Club, Cheetham, Manchester, on Tuesday, 19th inst., Bro. Councillor Saml. I. Mills W.M. There was a good attendance of members and visitors alike to witness the passing of Bro. Benjamin Brook, B.A., and the raising of Bro. Edmund

Arthur Windridge Wragg. The first ceremony was undertaken by the W.M., and the latter by Bro. Chas Wm. Godby, acting I.P.M. and Treasurer.

At the festive board which followed, the work performed by the above Officers was referred to by several Brethren in the highest terms. The various toasts and speeches were varied by songs, recitations, &c.

MARK MASONRY.

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DOVE VALLEY LODGE, No. 353.

ON Monday, 18th inst., the annual installation meeting was held at the Town Hall, Ashbourn, when Bro. W. H. Smedley was installed W.M. by Bros. R. Beardmore and W. H. Tutt.

Amongst the visitors was the Grand Master of Derbyshire Brother A. Woodiwiss.

After the ceremony a banquet was held at the Green Man Hotel, where a sumptuous repast was provided by Mrs. Wallis. The usual Mark toasts were proposed and cordially honoured.

Bro. John Taylor, J.P., F.C.S., &c., who is to be invested as Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies at the meeting of Grand Mark Lodge next week, is a Past Master of the Jordan Mark Lodge, No. 319 (Torquay), and P.Prov.G.Treasurer of Devon. Bro. Taylor has taken great interest in the Mark Benevolent Fund, and doubtless his having served many Stewardships for that excellent charity, and having qualified as a vice-president has, in some measure, led to his rapid advancement, says the "Western Mercury." He is also a member of the Grand Masters' Mark Lodge of Instruction, and connected with many of the higher degrees, as well as Prov. Grand Scribe N. for Devon in Royal Arch Masonry. His investment will make the third Mark Grand Officer in Torquay, Bros. W. J. Hughan Past Grand Warden and Jno. Lane Past Grand Overseer being the other two.

The duties of the minor Officers are not arduous, but they are essential to the successful working of the Lodge.—"Tribune."

MASONRY IN THE DARK COUNTRIES.

THE only country in Europe in which Freemasonry is not allowed to exist, besides Austria proper, is "Darkest" Russia. It was suppressed in 1820, and in 1822 the Czar issued a ukase forbidding the Lodges to reopen at any future time. The loyal Freemasons, in submission to authority, obeyed without a murmur. The ukase is still in force at the present day, and what is the result? Discontent and unrest pervade the vast Empire; intolerance, religious hatred and relentless persecution disgrace the Government; plots and conspiracies follow each other in rapid succession; a bigoted and fanatic Emperor trembles on his throne, in constant dread of assassination, and the whole country resembles a huge rumbling volcano, which by a sudden eruption threatens with devastation the neighbouring nations. At this very time, while preparations are being made for the coronation of the Czar, an ironclad car is also built for him to travel in. Such is the wretched condition of this vast Empire, which extinguished the light of Masonry, and with it all its blessings of harmony and happiness.

How different the condition of the country would be if the noble teachings of Masonry had enlarged the Czar's narrow mind and made him a protector, instead of an opponent, of the Craft; if his subjects, high and low, instead of conspiring to kill him, were bound to him by the bonds of Brotherly love, and an indissoluble chain of affection. A look over the entire globe will demonstrate the beauty as well as the utility of Masonry. In Spain, also, Masonry is frowned upon, and its inhabitants are densely ignorant and priest-ridden. Wherever Masonry flourishes there also the highest grade of civilisation exists, Masonry bringing with it enlightenment and enlarged views. And in those countries where Masonry is prohibited the dark and narrow prejudices of another age still exist, even in these, the closing years of the nineteenth century.—"New York Tribune."

THE Great Western Railway Company have issued a nicely illustrated pamphlet, containing lists of Farmhouses, Seaside and Country Lodgings, Hotels, and Boarding Houses in the districts served by the Great Western line, including Jersey and Guernsey. The pamphlet shows the accommodation obtainable, and the features of interest in the various localities, and will be found exceedingly useful to Tourists. Copies can be obtained free on personal application at the Company's London Receiving Offices, and at Paddington Station and the principal Stations throughout the Line. The Company's Divisional Superintendents at Paddington, Reading, Bristol, Exeter, Plymouth, Penzance, Swansea, Llanelly, Cardiff, Pontypool Road, Hereford, Worcester, Birmingham, and Chester will forward pamphlets on receipt of twopenny to defray postage, and copies can be obtained at Messrs. Smith and Son's bookstalls at the Stations on the Great Western Railway, at the price of one penny each. The pamphlet is published by Messrs. Walter Hill and Co., of 67 and 69 Southampton Row, London, W.C.

EVER A SEEKER OF TRUTH.

An address at the installation of Officers of Winslow Lewis Lodge, No. 125, at Osseo, Minnesota, by Judge George D. Emery Past Master of Khurum Lodge, No. 112, of Minneapolis, Minnesota.

THE present season is always fraught with deep interest to the Masonic Craft. Like the commencement-time to the schoolboy, it is the period of examination in our Masonic progress and the bestowal of the rewards of faithful labour. Throughout the Masonic world this season is devoted to the performance of those duties which we have seen to-night so impressively discharged, and which are of such deep significance and importance to the Craft.

While in the Christian world the Christmas season typifies the advent of the Light of Israel, the same season brings to the Masonic fraternity with each recurring year an event of great interest in the selection and installation of a new Master as representing the source of Masonic light.

As the Master and Wardens are selected for their skill and proficiency in the mystic art, and as they possess wisdom to properly order and direct the work, so will the Craft progress in knowledge and influence and in like proportion will success crown their labours. Yet not by the plans and design of the Master only—perfect though they may be—nor by the force of his wisdom alone, can the Temple upon which we labour be raised and beautified. The plans are to be wrought out by the patient hand of labour; each individual Craftsman must apply the lessons of wisdom to the accomplishment of his allotted task. Forest and mountain must yield their treasures of wood and stone; ocean and desert must be passed and repassed; weeks must lengthen into months, and these into years, all filled with unremitting care and toil, ere the sculptor's chisel shall give forth the finished statue, the polished walls of the completed Temple shall reflect the splendour of the rising morn, or its burnished pinnacles be bathed in the sunset's crimson. Unless the Craft labour faithfully the Master's wisdom is in vain. How necessary it is, then, that we, whose hands must wield the implements of toil, do each perform with fidelity and care his allotted portion!

To those who have not passed between the brazen columns, crossed our checkered pavement, nor climbed the steps that lead into our mystic sanctum, Masonry is a weird and mysterious problem. While modern progress and enlightenment have swept away the skepticism and suspicion which once surrounded our institution, established its dignity and influence, and accorded it high place among the social organisations of the world, yet its veil has not been rent nor its mysteries penetrated, and it still presents a fascinating theme for speculation and wonderment to the uninitiated. To such it is my purpose to declare to-night some of those secrets which they would otherwise only learn by long and arduous—yea, even dangerous—pursuit, through the medium of the rites and ceremonies of a Masonic Lodge.

Of course I shall assume that all my hearers are either Masons or the relatives and near friends of Masons, and hence of right entitled to know what we as Masons teach and practice.

First, then, to be a Mason one must be a man. Nay, mothers, wives, sisters, sweethearts, you need not grieve at this requirement; it is of inestimable benefit to you. Not a man in sex only do we require, but a man in all that the term implies, and bearing that good repute before the world which marks an upright life. And the better the man the better Mason will he become, and the better, higher, nobler and more worthy and true will he be as father, husband, son and lover. In building our moral and Masonic edifice we reject those materials which we find upon inspection to be unworthy and unsound, and seek to employ only the good and unblemished materials.

Next, the candidate for Masonic light must come to us of his own volition, prepared in his heart to renounce all that may tend to impair his faculties or debase the dignity of his profession; inspired by a pure motive in the pursuit of knowledge and possessed of a worthy desire to subdue his evil passions and to improve in his social and moral intercourse with the world about him. To such the door is never closed.

Being found worthy of our fellowship, the candidate must carefully divest himself of those vices and superfluities which offend the moral senses, distort the intellect and mar the character, and must be purified by sincere repentance and faith to receive the sublime lessons of morality and virtue. Self examination is to him a paramount duty. Only he who has learned to know himself may presume to scan his fellow. Being thus prepared, the seeker after Masonic light is taught the first great duty of men and Masons in a manner so impressive as never to be forgotten. He learns that no man should ever enter upon any great and important undertaking without first approaching, in prayerful humility, the throne of divine grace. Behold him kneeling in the midst of his assembled Brethren, seeking from the true source the light of duty and happiness. Mother, where better could you wish your son? Wife, what influence do you fear from the performance of this duty by him to whom you have given the treasures of your love? Maiden, are you less willing to trust and honour the lover whose head was just now bowed with reverence at the Masonic altar? The world's heroes have been prayerful men. At the battle of Bannockburn, just before the onset, at the sound of the bagpipe the Highlanders knelt in prayer. The English king, mistaking the action, cried to those about him: "See, the rebels kneel to implore our pardon." But a Northman standing near him replied, as he reverently bared his head: "Sire, they kneel to a higher power. Those men will die or conquer where they kneel."

Thus prepared and purified, the Neophyte is ready to receive those instructions whereby to erect his moral and Masonic edifice. In order that

the lessons about to be imparted to him may not be distorted and their influence counteracted by the enemies of Masonry, their benefits impaired, their force lessened, and that he may retain them in common with his Brethren in their pristine purity, he is pledged to reveal them to none, save in the course of duty and in the tiled recesses of a Masonic Lodge. He is then clothed with the apron of an Apprentice and taught its significance, and is invested with the working tools of his degree and their uses explained to him. How beautiful may the humblest implements become when glorified with intellectual significance and employed in a holy and ennobling cause! Behold the twenty-four inch gauge or common rule, the simplest tool of the operative Craftsman, employed by him in measuring and laying out his work. With us it serves a higher and more noble purpose. The Mason is taught to use it in dividing his time—that brief interval between yesterday and to-morrow—in such measure as shall allow him equal opportunities for the service of God and his distressed Brethren, for his usual vocations and for the rest and refreshment necessary to his existence. The common gavel in the hands of the workman is little calculated to excite admiration or stimulate thought. With harsh voice and ceaseless persistence it rings upon chisel and stone, knocking off here and there a protuberance, squaring an edge or a corner, or leveling a rough surface, till the stone is fitted for the builder's use. But here we are taught to use it emblematically in divesting our minds and consciences of corroding influences and vices of life, thereby fitting our bodies as living stones for that spiritual temple whose builder and maker is God. Having learned these lessons, the Apprentice, clothed with the emblem of innocence, stands before his Master and Brethren a just and upright man and Mason, upon the threshold of his Masonic life. Ah! could the sublime lesson of that moment but be impressed upon his mind, be brought home in all its significance to his inmost heart, how pregnant it would be with good to him and to those about him! "A just and upright man and Mason, charged ever to walk and act as such!" A clean record, a conscience void of offence toward God and man, no duty to perform but the practice of virtue and honour, and to sustain by precept and example the exalted character he has assumed, what a sublime and important epoch in his life does the moment present! Who of us to-night—could we but turn back the hands upon the dial of time to the first hour of our temporal existence—bearing with us the ripened experience of the years—but would profit by the mistakes of the past and strive ever to keep the record as clean and spotless as that emblematic apron, our lives as free from stain and sin as when first we stood as just and upright souls, fresh from the hand of God?

Thus I have briefly sketched to you some of the secrets of the first degree, which we guard so jealously and which are now placed in your possession in the confident hope that you may profit by their consideration. When you have learned to apply them to your daily life, and to employ them in the purifying of your moral being, you are fitted to receive further instruction and I will invite you further into our mysteries.

Freemasonry is a descendant of ancient days. No man knoweth its origin, and no pen hath traced its early history. No land can claim its birth. As you have no doubt surmised, it is a system of moral philosophy, veiled in allegory and taught by symbols; a simple code of practical conduct between man and man, which strictly followed will make its votaries wiser, better and consequently happier. As in the earlier stages of our race learning and erudition were the objects of suspicion and fear, and those who possessed them were too often subjected to hatred and persecution, man learned to conceal knowledge beneath the mask of allegory and fable and to surround the most sublime truths with the veil of mystery and speculation. Little by little the great truths of life were revealed to the inquiring mind; step by step the heights of knowledge were gained. So in Masonry, which is but a type of the world, the candidate advances by progressive stages, mastering the successive steps in their order, until he achieves the completion of his Masonic education and begins indeed the great labour of his life.

Being purified and bound by every consideration of propriety to observe secrecy, practice morality and subdue his passions to the government of virtue and wisdom, the desire of knowledge is a sufficient incentive to lead him in new fields of thought. From a bearer of burdens he now becomes a skilled workman in the quarries and in the temple. He receives the rough stones from the hands of the inferior Craftsman and completes their exterior, perfects their lines and fits them to their places in the rising wall, the arch, the transept, and the tower, as the temple assumes day by day its destined proportions. To enable him to do this he must possess that skill acquired by long practice and the intelligence to follow the designs laid down for him by the Master upon the trestle board. In the second stage the Fellow Craft is taught the use of the plumb, square, and level, and how by their proper application to do his part in the building of the moral temple—a Mason's complete life. He can now earn and is entitled to receive wages as a skilled Craftsman, and at length penetrates to that mysterious middle chamber wherein are stored the sacred vessels of the temple, and beholds "that wonderful hieroglyphic light which none but Craftsmen ever saw," and in the truths there revealed he is furnished fresh incentive to new and more perfect labour.

By the aid of the plumb the operative workman erects his wall or column to a true perpendicular; by the level he properly lays horizontal beams and surfaces, with due relation to the axis of the earth, and by the square he perfects and adapts his work in strict accordance with the rules and plans of the Master. The Speculative Fellow Craft is taught to regulate his conduct towards God and man by the true plumb-line of rectitude, following that rule which the Master set in the midst of his people Israel: "Whosoever ye

would that men should do unto you, do ye even so unto them." Thus each man's own inner conscience is made the governor of his actions—the plumb whereby his character is set. By the square of equity, whose twin arms are morality and truth, he is taught to square each thought, word and action of his daily life, perfecting each stone ere it is set for ever in the Masonry of the past. By the level he is admonished that he is travelling onward upon the level of time to that city whose gates swing never onward to the returning soul, whose mighty currents have no refluxing tides.

Having served a proper time and obtained by his fidelity the esteem and recognition of his Master, the Craftsman may with confidence apply for further instruction and knock at the sanctum sanctorum or inner chamber of the Masonic Temple. If his work is found upon inspection suitable and he is himself worthy of advancement, he will not be denied. He becomes a Master Mason, and here he assumes new and important duties, and correspondingly his labours and obligations to himself and his Brethren increase. Heretofore he has had a guide and mentor, and was only required to follow within given lines and upon approved designs all ready to his hand, now he becomes himself both the designer and artificer of the work—a leader of his less informed Brethren. He may follow in the beaten track of his predecessors, or he may blaze out new paths in the wilderness of life, where other feet must follow, and erect designs to be wrought out by other hands yet unborn when he shall long have been forgotten. It behoves him, then, to look well to the precepts and teachings of the past, and to study with care the lessons furnished by the experience of others, that he lead not his Brethren astray and destroy the work he is employed to beautify.

Once set, the keystone of the arch may not be moved. If it be untrue or unsound, the added weight of the completed structure shall crush the arch and tumble the impending fabric in hapless ruin. His every act must pass beneath the scrutiny of the All-Seeing Eye, and every purpose be tested by the perfect square of virtue. He now learns that the truth of which he is in pursuit is still above and beyond him; that there is yet another gate through which he must pass ere the full attainment of his desires—the gate of immortality. For it is the real lesson of Masonry always to be a seeker after truth, yet never to quite attain it. The soil is carefully prepared, the seed is planted and nourished and tended, but it must receive the quickening breath of the Grand Master, and shall bloom only in the gardens of eternity. As the labour, so the reward. Of tares men do not gather grapes, nor figs of thistles. The Mason has learned that to be perfect in all the knowledge and duties of a Craftsman is to be greater than a king; and to excel in the practice of every commendable virtue, to perform well the numerous duties of his profession, is to mould a character worthy of all honour and emulation. Every Mason owes to the Craft the duty to do his best in whatsoever state of life he may be called, and he who fails to do his whole duty and to exert himself to the full measure of his powers merits less reward and dies a debtor to his fellows. Like the servants in the parable, the greater the talents the more shall be required of their possessor.

You who never were before have now been initiated into some of the mysteries of Freemasonry. As an institution it cannot fail to wield a refining and beneficial influence upon society. It promotes good will among men, circumscribes the baser passions, inculcates morality, and commands the practice of charity. Should any of you desire further and more specific instructions in these mysteries, you are respectfully referred to that path which all have trod who have gone behind the veil of the temple, and while you must come of your own volition and with worthy motives, you are to remember that ancient legend: "Ask and ye shall receive; seek and ye shall find; knock and it shall be opened unto you."

And now, Brethren, let me congratulate you upon the favourable auspices under which you begin another Masonic year. With a flourishing Lodge, united by the closest ties of personal and fraternal regard, surrounded by all that exalts and embellishes modern life, you possess a power for good which is beyond estimate, and which I trust will be employed wisely in the upbuilding of your community. It is not all of our duty to attend with regularity the sessions of the Lodge; but every day, every hour, in every walk of life, the true Mason is "on duty." Remember we are building not for an age, but for eternity.

And now let us crown the cup of memory with the laurel of affection, and pledge a deep and loving health to Winslow Lewis Lodge, No. 125—the home of true Masonic manhood—the Altar of Faith—the abiding place of charity and the temple of brotherly love!

"So mote it be."—"Voice of Masonry."

We are all liable to mistakes, and some of the errors of the press make very funny reading. This is the case in connection with a Lodge report in a country paper where, instead of being described as an "ordinary" meeting the announcement gives it as an "orderly" one, seeming to imply that Freemasons' meetings are usually disorderly. However, we feel the doings of the Craft are too well known in this country to leave any doubt in the mind of an ordinary reader as to the intention of the reporter.

"A SPRIG OF ACACIA."

THE remains of Bro. John Pickstock were interred on the 16th, amid many marks of respect. The Lodge of Economy, No. 76, of which deceased was W.M. quite recently, was well represented, the W.M., several Past Masters, and other Brethren attending.

We congratulate Bro. Walter Roche Plaford P.M. 1608 on the happy event that occurred on Monday, when he was presented with a daughter, and are pleased to know that mother and child are progressing most favourably.

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Women are ambitious of becoming Freemasons, that is the latest report of their forwardness; but anxiety is expressed, lest acquiescence in their desires may produce discord in the ranks of the male Freemasons. The Craft is still one which should be able to hold its own, but such has been the thought of men in many cases where women have stormed the stronghold of professions. Freemasonry claims to be "a beautiful system of morality, veiled in allegory, and illustrated by symbols," and it may be this precise definition which attracts female aspirants, and there really should be no attempt to keep them outside when they are strenuously knocking at the door. Woman has been found fit to lead in many ways, as the Primrose League officials have proved, and why should they not be capable of holding high Mason rank? If women are to be permitted to enter this great social service Craft, surely they must also have the ban of silence removed, and be permitted to speak—if not, it would be for their own unbearable disappointment.—"Court Journal."

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The Theatres, &c.

—:o:—

Covent Garden.—Italian Opera.
Drury Lane.—Jo. (Last night.)
Lyceum.—8, Shades of Night. 8:45, For the Crown. (Last night.) On Wednesday, Magda.
Globe.—8, The Journey's End. 9, Charley's Aunt. Matinée, Saturday, 8.
Prince of Wales's.—7:45, A Woman's Caprice. 8:15, John Jenkins at Biarritz. Matinée, Saturday, 2:30.
Gaiety.—8, The Shop Girl. (Last night.)
Avenue.—8, Two of a trade. 9:30, The New Barmaid. Matinée, Saturday, Haymarket.—Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, 8:30, Trilby. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, 8:15, Henry IV. Matinée, 2:15.
Duke of York's.—8, The Gay Parisienne. Matinée, Saturday, 2:30.
Lyric.—8:15, The Sign of the Cross. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 2:30.
Savoy.—7:40, After All. 8:20, The Grand Duke, or the Statutory Duel. Matinée, Saturday, 2:30.
Adelphi.—8, One of the best. Matinée, Saturday, 2.
Comedy.—8, The Guinea Stamp. 9, A Mother of Three. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 3.
St. James's.—8, The Prisoner of Zenda. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.
Princess's.—8, The Span of Life.
Shakespeare.—8:15, A Matchmaker.
Daly's.—8, The Gheisha; A story of a Tea-House. Matinée, Saturday, 2:30.
Garrick.—8, The Rogue's Comedy. (Last night.)
Vaudeville.—8:15, Papa's wife. 9, A night out. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 3.
Criterion.—8:25, Rosemary. Matinée, Saturday, 2:30.
Strand.—8, The muff of the regiment. 9, Josiah's Dream; or the Woman of the Future.
Court.—On Monday, 8:45, Mam'zelle Nitouche.
Alhambra.—7:50, Variety Entertainment. Two Grand Ballets. 9:10, Blue Beard. 10, The Animatographe. 11, Lochinvar.
Empire.—7:45, Variety Entertainment. 8:5, New Ballet Divertissement, La Danse. 9:45, Cinematographe. 10:20, Second edition of Ballet Faust. The Cinematographe, every afternoon, 3, 4, and 5 o'clock.
Palace.—7:45, Variety Entertainment, Tableaux Vivants, &c. Matinée, Saturday, 2:15.
Royal.—7:30, Variety Company. Saturday, 2:30.
Oxford.—7:30, Variety Entertainment. Matinée, Saturday, 2:30.
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The London.—Grand Variety Entertainment.
Mohawk Minstrels.—(Agricultural Hall).—Daily.
Egyptian Hall.—3 and 8, Mr. Maskelyne's Magical Entertainment.
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NEXT WEEK.

Further particulars as to place of meeting of the undermentioned Lodges are given in the Freemasons' Calendar and Pocket Book (published by Grand Lodge, for the benefit of the Charity Fund).

Monday.

16 Royal Alpha, Metropole
1319 Asaph, Freemasons'-hall
2098 Harlesden, Harlesden
113 Unanimity, Preston
119 Sun, Sq. & Compass, Whiteh'v'n
154 Unanimity, Wakefield
156 Harmony, Plymouth
199 Peace and Harmony, Dover
251 Loyal, Barnstaple
328 St. John, Torquay
351 Phoenix Ho. & Prudence, Truro
395 Guy, Leamington
422 Yarborough, Gainsboro'
431 St. George, N. Shields
478 Churchill, Oxford
482 St. James, Handsworth
622 St. Cuthberga, Wimborne
827 St. John, Dewsbury
850 St. Oswald, Ashbourne
928 Friendship, Peterfield
959 Prince of Wales, Ipswich
977 Fowey, Fowey
1045 Stamford, Altrincham
1051 Rowley, Lancaster
1071 Zetland, Saltash
1077 Wilton, Blackley
1180 Forward, Birmingham
1211 Goderich, Leeds
1239 Wentworth, Sheffield
1254 Semper Fidelis, Exeter
1264 Neptune, Liverpool
1452 St. Margaret, Lowestoft
1578 Merlin, Pontypridd
1748 Castlemartin, Pembroke
1954 Molesworth, Wadebridge
2041 West Kent Volunteer, Plums'd.
2166 Cotchele, Calstock
2373 Hardwick, Chesterfield
2497 Carville, Wallsend-on-Tyne
2520 P. of Wales, Newcastle-on-Tyne
2533 Fitzwilliam, Peterborough
2586 St. Nicholas, Scarborough

Tuesday.

Colonial Board, F.M.H., at 4
Mark Grand Lodge, 5 for 6; Grand
Festival, 7
171 Amity, Ship and Turtle
120 U. N. Counties, Inns of Cr. Htl
2190 Savage Club, Freemasons'-hall
2524 Train Bands, Finsbury Barr'ks.
70 St. John, Plymouth
103 Beauford, Bristol
124 Marquis of Granby, Durham
158 Adam, Sheerness
252 Harmonic, Dudley
265 Royal Yorkshire, Keighley
340 Alfred, Oxford
364 Cambrian, Neath
393 St. David, Berwick
421 Loyal of Industry, S'holmton
510 St. Martin, Liskeard
558 Temple, Folkestone
615 St. John & St. Paul, Erith
660 Camalodunum, New Malton
673 St. John, Liverpool
734 Londesborough, Bridlington
794 Warden, Sutton Coldfield
804 Carnarvon, Havant
847 Fortesque, Honiton
948 St. Barnabas, Linslade
960 Bute, Cardiff
974 Pentalpha, Bradford
995 Furness, Ulverston
1002 Skiddaw, Cockermouth
1096 Lord Warden, Walmer
1222 Saint Kew, Weston-super-Mare
1244 Marwood, Redcar
1310 Harrow, Harrow
1509 Madoc, Portmadoc
1726 Gordon, Bognor
1780 Albert Edward, Southampton
1785 St. Petroc, Padstow
1807 Loyal Wye, Builth
1970 Hadrian, South Shields
1981 Arnold, East Molesey
2129 Dorothy Vernon, Bakewell
2133 Swan of Avon, Stratford-on-Avon
2260 Ridley, Newcastle-on-Tyne
2290 Fairfield, Fairfield
2490 Ampthill, Ampthill
2561 West Essex, Buckhurst Hill

Wednesday.

Grand Lodge, 6 for 7.
74 Athol, Birmingham
94 Phoenix, Sunderland
137 Amity, Pools

159 Brunswick, East Stonehouse
168 Mariner, Guernsey
279 St. John, Leicester
282 Bedford, Tavistock
287 Unanimity, Stockport
298 Harmony, Rochdale
326 Moira of Honour, Bristol
327 St. John, Wigton
406 N'thern Counties, N'castls-on-T.
417 Faith & Unanimity, Dorchester
429 Royal Navy, Ramsgate
471 Silurian, Newport, Mon.
645 Humphrey Chetham, M'chester
678 Earl Ellesmere, Farnworth
838 Franklin, Boston
970 St. Anne, East Looe
992 St. Thomas, Manchester
1003 Prince of Wales, Jersey
1010 Kingston, Hull
1013 Royal Victoria, Liverpool
1063 Malling Abbey, West Malling
1085 Hartington, Derby
1167 Alnwick, Alnwick
1205 Methem, E. Stonehouse
1206 Cinque Ports, Sandwich
1274 Earl Durham, Chester-le-Street
1333 Athelstan, Atherstone
1364 Earl of Zetland, Guildhall Tav.
1431 St. Alphege, Solihull
1461 Clausentum, Woolston
1532 Bective, Carlisle
1620 Marlborough, Liverpool
1660 Arlecdon, Frizzington
1736 St. John, Halifax
1862 Stranton, West Hartlepool
2034 Masefield, Moseley
2193 Queen Jubilee, Nelson
2368 Alan, Alderley Edge
2382 Loyal Hay, Hay
2391 Orde-Powlett, Middlesborough
2464 Longsight, Longsight
2556 Glyn Ebbw, Ebbw Vale

Thursday.

10 W'minster & Keystone, F.M.H.
192 Lion & Lamb, Cannon St. Hotel
742 Crystal Palace, Sydenham
1155 Excelsior, Upper Norwood
1178 Perfect Ashlar, Southwark
1361 United Service, Café Royal
1790 Old England, Thornton Heath
1950 Southgate, Beale's, Holloway
2202 Regent Park, Frascati
2271 St. Pancras, Midland Grand Ho
2411 Clarence & Avondale, Lyt'nst'n
2580 Crouch End, Highgate
24 Newcastle O.T., Newcastle
31 United Industrious, Canterbury
38 Union, Chichester
110 Loyal O'brian, Merthyr-Tydvil
114 British Union, Ipswich
123 Lennox, Richmond, Yorks
195 Hengist, Pournemouth
219 Prudence, Todmorden
249 Mariner, Liverpool
254 Trinity, Coventry
266 Naphtali, Heywood
269 Fidelity, Blackburn
289 Fidelity, Leeds
294 Constitutional, Beverley
295 Combermere Union, Macclesfield
305 Apollo, Beccles
309 Harmony, Fareham
317 Affability, Manchester
419 St. Peter, Wolverhampton
462 Bank Terrace, Accrington
509 Tees, Stockton
531 St. Helen, Hartlepool
539 St. Matthew, Walsall
637 Portland, Stoke-upon-Trent
703 Clifton, Blackpool
792 Peilham Pillar, Grimsby
856 Restormel, Lostwithiel
913 Pattison, Plumstead
1231 Savile, Eiland
1284 Brent, Topsham
1324 Okeover, Ripley
1379 Marquess of Ripon, Darlington
1384 Equity, Widnes
1500 Walpole, Norwich
1504 Red Rose of Lanc'ster, Padiham
1513 Friendly, Barnsley
1557 Albert Edward, Hexham
1565 Earl of Chester, Lymm
1829 Burrell, Brighton
1899 Wellesley, Sandhurst
2159 Osborne, East Cowes
2255 Philbrick, Chingford
2317 Bisley, Woking
2331 Ravenscroft, Barnet
2342 Easterford, Kelvedon
2350 Corinthian, Hindley
2496 Wirral, Birkenhead

Friday.

1275 Star, Greenwich
1489 Marquess of Ripon, Highbury

2511 St. John at Hackney, Hackney
44 Friendship, Manchester
242 St. George, Doncaster
291 Royal Philanthropic, Highbridge
306 Alfred, Leeds
521 Truth, Huddersfield
837 De Grey and Ripon, Ripon
936 Adair, Aldeburgh
998 Welchpool, Welchpool
1009 Shakspeare, Manchester
1230 Barnard, Barnard Castle
1375 Architect, Chorlton-cum-Hardy
1561 Morecambe, Morecambe
1648 Prince of Wales, Bradford
1664 Gosforth, Gosforth
1754 Windsor, Penarth
1838 Tudor Rifle Vnt'rs., W'v'h'pton
1993 Wolsley, Manchester
2433 Minerva, Birkenhead

2491 White Rose of York, Sheffield
2494 Humber Installed Masters', Hull

Saturday.

1622 Rose, Camberwell
1223 Amherst, Riverhead
1365 Clapton, Great Eastern Hotel
1458 Truth, Manchester
1460 Thames Valley, Hampton Ct.
1550 Prudence, Plymouth
1567 Elliot, Feltham
1929 Mozart, Croydon
2054 Wilson Iles, Rickmansworth
2148 Walsingham, Wilmington
2205 Pegasus, Gravesend
2442 St. Clement, Leigh
2473 Molesey, East Molesey
2541 St. Andrew, Avonmouth

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.

With full Masonic and civil honours the memorial stone of the New North Bridge, Edinburgh, was laid on Monday by Lord Provost McDonald, who, in performing the ceremony, referred to the history of the old bridge and the expansion of the city, which had necessitated a new and wider structure. The company thereafter adjourned to the Music Hall, where luncheon was served. About 2,000 Brethren assembled and took part in the ceremony, congregating from as far north as Dingwall, and representing about 120 Lodges.

COMMENCING with the June part, "Cassell's Family Magazine" will provide Burglary Insurance for its readers, free of charge. The same number will contain the first instalment of a new serial story by Mr. Max Pemberton, entitled "A Puritan's Wife," illustrated by Mr. Sidney Paget.

We understand that in the People's edition of "Cassell's Natural History," about to be issued in weekly parts, a series of new full-page plates will be given. These will be prepared from photographs of animals which are being specially taken (under the direction of a Fellow of the Society) at the Zoological Gardens, London, including the latest arrivals.

The Emperor of Germany and the Czar of Russia have each accepted a copy of Mr. R. Kearton's recent work on "British Birds' nests," illustrated from photographs taken direct from nature by C. Kearton. So great has been the demand for the work, that Messrs. Cassell and Company have already reprinted it.

A CHEAP edition of "In a conning tower; or, How I took 'H.M.S. Majestic' into action," by Mr. H. O. Arnold-Forster, M.P., is about to be issued by Messrs. Cassell and Company. This popular story of modern ironclad warfare has already passed through many editions in its more expensive form, and translations have appeared in French, Spanish, and Italian. It is furnished with original illustrations by Mr. W. H. Overend, and the cheap edition will contain a new preface by its author.

In writing to Messrs. Cassell and Company in reference to the reproduction of his picture, "Drawing lots for the Guelph succession at Celle, A.D. 1592," in "Royal Academy pictures," Mr. Eyre Crowe, A.R.A., says: "It is pleasant to see his work turned out so flatteringly, yet so truthfully." Sir John Millais' noted picture, "A Forerunner," is being reproduced as a special plate, and will appear as the frontispiece to the complete volume of "Royal Academy pictures," which will be issued in a few days.

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