

THE

Freemason's Chronicle.

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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

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24th year of issue.

SATURDAY, 1st OCTOBER 1898.

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VISITING OUR CHARITIES.

A FORTNIGHT back we reported a visit of some Irish Provincial Brethren to the Boys and Girls Masonic Charities of their Jurisdiction, and we felt at the time that the idea—in itself a novelty so far as our experience went—was an excellent one, and that it might advantageously be copied in this country, in connection with the two Educational Institutions of English Freemasonry.

It will be remembered that in the report we gave it was stated on very good authority that the system of Provincial visits—of which this was one—was inaugurated a year or so ago, and had been found to be of incalculable efficacy in bringing home to members of the Order scattered throughout the country the scope of the working of the Schools, and the admirable results flowing from their teaching. We can well believe the truth of this verdict, and see no reason why like satisfactory results should not follow the adoption of similar practices in this country. Why then, may we ask, should not something of this sort be attempted in connection with the English Masonic Schools?

It may be urged there are very few members of English Lodges but are acquainted with the work being done by the Boys School at Wood Green and the sister Institution at Battersea. Much has been said in regard to them in almost every Lodge in the country, and the good work is being energetically pushed on day by day throughout the year, but "seeing is believing," and no matter how zealous a speaker may be it is impossible that he can paint a picture which shall be nearly so impressive—even though he be gifted with the most fluent and convincing of language—as that provided by an actual visit and inspection of the work being carried on.

It appears that some two hundred and fifty ladies and Brethren from the Masonic Province of Down took part in this excursion, and from what we know of the Irish Schools, coupled with our personal knowledge of the similar Institutions in this country, it is fair to say there was not one of that large party but went home interested in the work, and determined to do everything in their power to further it and extend it as far as possible. In no other way, we venture to urge, could such admirable results be achieved, and again we may ask, is it not possible for us here in England to profit by the work of our Irish Brethren and copy their example in this respect? In these days of cheap special trains for large parties the expense should be a matter of no serious moment, and, viewed in connection with the possible results, would hardly deserve more than a passing thought. We do not wish to deprive the Secretaries of their special duty of making known the splendid work and the many claims of the Schools, what we here suggest would be rather of a supplementary nature, and, we believe, would lead to most beneficial results.

CHESHIRE.

THE annual meeting of this Provincial Grand Lodge was held on Wednesday, 28th ult., at the Literary Institute, Altrincham.

Earl Egerton of Tatton Provincial Grand Master presided, and amongst a large number of present and past Provincial Officers on the dais were His Honour Sir Horatio Lloyd D.P.G.M., and the Hon. Alan de Tatton Egerton, M.P., P.P.G.W. There were upwards of 500 members of the Order present.

The roll of Lodges was called, and it appeared that all were represented.

The minutes of the last annual meeting and of special meetings held within the year were confirmed, and on the motion of Bro. Colonel Dean, seconded by Bro. H. Jackson, the annual reports of the Committee of Benevolence in relation to the Provincial Fund of Benevolence the Cheshire Masonic Benevolent Institution, and the Cheshire Educational Masonic Institution, were approved and adopted as part of the proceedings of the Provincial Grand Lodge.

The accounts of the Provincial Grand Treasurer Bro. H. Holloway were agreed to on the motion of Bro. Colonel Dean, seconded by Bro. F. Broadsmith, and the thanks of the Province were tendered to Bro. Holloway and the Auditors, on the motion of Bro. Sir Horatio Lloyd, seconded by Bro. the Hon. Alan Egerton, M.P.

Bro. Holloway having briefly replied, Bro. G. Ibeson, one of the Auditors, reported that the accounts of the Province were accurately kept, and that everything was found in perfect order.

The Provincial Grand Master, in his address, said the large attendance was not to be wondered at, seeing that Masonry was flourishing in Cheshire, and that their numbers were increasing year by year. During the past twelve months three new Lodges had been consecrated. Cheshire now possessed fifty-two Lodges, with 2,466 subscribing members, an increase of ninety-six on the preceding year. They had not only reason to be satisfied with the work of their own Committee of Benevolence, but they could also look back with great satisfaction upon the splendid contribution which that Province had made to the fund initiated by their Grand Master the Prince of Wales in connection with the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. He had the pleasure of supporting His Royal Highness at the Annual Festival of that Institution, and he thought that those who were not Freemasons must have been struck on that occasion with the extraordinary power of combination exhibited by their body in furtherance of a charitable object, seeing that they raised at that Festival the large sum of £134,000. Of that amount Cheshire contributed £3,000. The Province had also done a great deal in educational work. It might be said that as education was now so largely taken up by the State, that support would not be so much required in the future as it had been in the past, and that therefore it might be necessary for them to look out for some new channel into which Masonic Benevolence might be directed. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales was deeply interested in the support of the hospitals—those of London in particular—and there was no doubt that that was a work of charity and benevolence which might fitly be associated with Freemasonry. They had done so much for charity during the past year that he did not think the present a suitable time for launching a scheme or suggesting a subscription, but it was a matter worthy the consideration of members of the Masonic body as to whether they could not also show their sympathy with suffering and with those who were in distress, by extending aid to the hospitals.

The meeting then proceeded to the election of a Provincial Grand Treasurer, and on the motion of Bro. F.

R. B. Lindsell, seconded by Bro. F. Broadsmith, and supported by Bro. J. T. Goulding, Bro. J. W. Byrom, Stamford Lodge, No. 1045, Altrincham, was unanimously elected to that office.

The following Brethren were appointed Auditors, viz.: Bros. G. Ibeson, J. H. Bellyse, J. Armstrong, J. Cookson, and T. W. Markland.

The Provincial Grand Master invested his Officers for the ensuing year, as follow:—

Bro. J. E. Perrin	-	-	-	Senior Warden
Ernest Brassey	-	-	-	Junior Warden
Rev. C. Hylton Stewart	-	-	-	} Chaplains
Rev. C. R. Nunn	-	-	-	
W. Byrom	-	-	-	Treasurer
F. Bettley Cooke	-	-	-	Registrar
R. Newhouse (re-appointed)	-	-	-	Secretary
E. G. Parker	-	-	-	} Senior Deacons
W. Walmsley	-	-	-	
Joseph Roby	-	-	-	} Junior Deacons
J. B. Harrison	-	-	-	
W. Whyte M'Leod	-	-	-	Superintendent of Works
H. Gordon Small	-	-	-	Director of Ceremonies
J. White	-	-	-	Deputy Dir. of Cers.
E. B. Gadden	-	-	-	} Assistant Dirs. of Cers.
J. Davenport	-	-	-	
John Nicholson	-	-	-	} Sword Bearer
William Dale	-	-	-	
W. Hampshire	-	-	-	} Standard Bearers
G. Proudman	-	-	-	
T. Brown	-	-	-	Assistant Secretary
James Parker	-	-	-	Organist
John Taylor	-	-	-	Pursuivant
Stanley Robinson	-	-	-	Assistant Pursuivant
J. M'Ewen	-	-	-	} Stewards
J. Ferguson	-	-	-	
Alderman H. Mainwaring	-	-	-	
W. S. Coppock	-	-	-	
William Slack	-	-	-	
M. H. Wells	-	-	-	} Tyler.
Alfred Huxley	-	-	-	

A vote of thanks was passed to the Rev. W. M. B. Leutener, rector of St. George's, Altrincham, who had placed his church at the disposal of the Provincial Grand Lodge for the purposes of a Masonic service, on the motion of Sir H. Lloyd, seconded by Bro. J. Clayton.

An invitation was received from the Brethren at Hoyleake to hold the next annual meeting at that place, but the Provincial Grand Master announced that he had arranged that the meeting should be held at Chester.

Before the Lodge was closed, a collection was taken in aid of the Masonic Charities, which realised upwards of £17.

Subsequently the Brethren went in procession, headed by a band, to St. George's Church, where a sermon was preached by the Rev. C. R. Nunn Provincial Grand Chaplain. In the evening there was a banquet at the Town Hall, under the presidency of the Provincial Grand Master.

DURHAM.

ON the afternoon of the 27th ult. the annual meeting of this Provincial Grand Lodge was held at the Witham Testimonial Hall, Barnard Castle, this being the first time the Provincial Grand Lodge has held its annual meeting at that place. There was a large gathering, about 300 Provincial Officers and Masters and Officers of Lodges attending.

Sir Hedworth Williamson, Bart., Provincial Grand Master presided, and Lord Barnard P.P.G.S.W. was the acting Deputy Provincial Grand Master.

Bro. John F. Wilson Prov. Grand Treasurer read the financial statement for the past year, which showed a balance in the National Provincial Bank, Newcastle-on-Tyne, of £354. The report was adopted.

Bro. C. S. Lane P.P.G.S.W. presented the report of the Benevolent Fund Committee, in which it was recommended that the sum of 200 guineas be subscribed to the Durham Masonic Benevolent Festival Fund, thirty guineas to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and twenty guineas each to the Royal Masonic Girls School and the Royal Masonic Boys School.

Bro. Richard Luck P.P.G.S.W. said it was hoped that such a good foundation having been laid for the Durham Masonic Hudson Benevolent Fund last year that by a Festival to be held next year this charity fund of the Province would be placed in a substantial position.

Sir Hedworth Williamson expressed his approval of the proposal, and trusted that the example of Bro. R. Hudson Prov.G. Secretary, in devoting the sum to the foundation of this fund, which was last year subscribed in recognition of his long and faithful services to the Province, would lead to

a most successful result, and place the Provincial Educational and Benevolent Funds upon a firm and substantial footing.

The roll of Lodges having been called, the Provincial Grand Master, in addressing the Lodge, thanked the W.M. and Officers of the Barnard Lodge for the ample accommodation they had made for their reception. He also thanked the Brethren who had come from long distances for their attendance. After referring to the losses the Craft had sustained by death during the past year, he made reference to the regret which all felt at the severe accident which had befallen H.R.H. the Prince of Wales Grand Master of England, and recognised the fortitude of His Royal Highness during the time he had been laid aside from his public duties. He also made feeling reference to the recent accident to the Rev. Canon Tristram, D.D., Deputy Prov.G.M., and to the loss sustained by the Earl of Lathom in the lamented death from accident of the Countess of Lathom. The Prov.G.M. also referred to the number of Brethren in the Province—a total of 3,092, a steady increase for the year. He also was pleased at the presence of Lord Barnard, who was near to the chair, and would, in time, he hoped, occupy it. He trusted that Masonry in the Province of Durham would continue to prosper.

Bro. R. Hudson Prov.G.Sec. read the acknowledgment of the address of condolence sent to Lord Lathom, and it was agreed, on the motion of Lord Barnard, seconded by the Hon. Victor Williamson, that Lord Lathom's reply be entered on the minutes.

Bro. Robert Stewart P.M. of the Borough Lodge, Gateshead, was elected to the office of Treasurer of the Province, and Bros. W. J. Heppell and W. J. Jobson were elected as Auditors. The Provincial Grand Master announced, in reply to an invitation from the Gateshead Lodges, conveyed by Bro. Holzapfel W.M. 49, that in all probability the next annual meeting would be held at Gateshead.

The Provincial Grand Master then appointed and invested the following as his Officers for the ensuing year:—

Bro. Rev. Canon Tristram, D.D.	-	-	-	Deputy
Cecil F. De Pledue	-	-	-	Senior Warden
William Waldy	-	-	-	Junior Warden
Rev. F. D. Brookes	-	-	-	} Chaplains
Rev. R. E. Parr	-	-	-	
Robert Stewart	-	-	-	Treasurer
Thomas Metcalfe	-	-	-	Registrar
R. Hudson	-	-	-	Secretary
E. D. Waldron	-	-	-	} Senior Deacons
Thomas McCarthy	-	-	-	
Abraham Jobling	-	-	-	} Junior Deacons
Adam Dodds	-	-	-	
G. J. Walton	-	-	-	Superintendent of Works
C. T. Johnson	-	-	-	Director of Ceremonies
George C. Askew	-	-	-	Deputy Dir. of Cers.
John Lidster	-	-	-	Assist. Dir. of Cers.
John Taylor	-	-	-	Sword Bearer
E. Lautebach	-	-	-	} Standard Bearers
Geo. T. Hyden	-	-	-	
John T. Ross	-	-	-	Organist
John Joel	-	-	-	Assistant Secretary
James Lee	-	-	-	Pursuivant
Richard Jack	-	-	-	Assistant Pursuivant
Robert Teasdale	-	-	-	} Stewards
Thomas Rutherford	-	-	-	
James Willan	-	-	-	
William Hunter	-	-	-	
Geo. J. Clarkson	-	-	-	
James Bell	-	-	-	} Tyler.
Thomas Grieve	-	-	-	

A GRAND MASTER'S ADIEU.

THE Grand Master of Tasmania the Hon. C. E. Davies, M.L.C., on the eve of his departure for Tasmania entertained at a farewell dinner on Thursday evening, at Freemasons' Tavern, representatives of the various Orders and Degrees of Freemasonry by whom he had been hospitably received during his stay in England. Among those present on the occasion were the Earl of Euston Pro Grand Master of the Grand Mark Lodge, Thomas Fenn Past Grand Warden Representative of Tasmania at the Grand Lodge of England, R. Loveland-Loveland, Q.C., President of the Board of General Purposes, John Strachan, Q.C., Grand Registrar, Colonel and Sheriff Clifford Probyn Grand Treasurer, Edward Letchworth Grand Secretary, Frank Richardson P.G.D. Representative of South Australia, Captain Hearn Grand Sword Bearer, C. Fitzgerald Matier Grand Mark Secretary, and Bro. Kelso King Past Grand Master of New South Wales Mark Masons.

An enjoyable evening was spent, says the "Daily Chronicle," and the kindest and best wishes of all present were offered to Bro. Davies.

ROYAL ARCH.

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NORTH WALES.

ON Tuesday, 20th ult., the Provincial Grand Chapter was held at Portmadoc. Special interest attached to the proceedings by reason of the installation as Provincial Grand Superintendent of Companion John Ernest Greaves, Lord Lieutenant of Carnarvonshire, in succession to Colonel the Hon. W. E. Sackville West, who, upon ceasing to reside in North Wales, resigned all the Offices which he filled in the Province.

Comp. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., Third Grand Principal of England was the Installing Officer, to whom, at the close of the ceremony, a cordial vote of thanks was tendered on the motion of Comp. W. Jones-Morris, seconded by Comp. Cornelius Davies.

The new Provincial Grand Superintendent appointed his Officers as follow :

Comp. Col. C. H. Rees	-	-	-	H.
Samuel Griffith	-	-	-	J.
J. G. Tuxford	-	-	-	Scribe E.
Edward Roberts	-	-	-	Scribe N.
R. Owen	-	-	-	Registrar
A. T. Benbow	-	-	-	Principal Sojourner
A. Bromwich	-	-	-	Assistant Sojourner
Caradoc Rowland	-	-	-	2nd Assistant Sojourner
James Porter	-	-	-	Sword Bearer
G. H. Ellis	-	-	-	Standard Bearer
E. W. Kirby	-	-	-	Director of Ceremonies
W. Lloyd Griffiths	-	-	-	Assistant Dir. of Cers.
J. Jones-Morris	-	-	-	Organist
J. H. Carey	-	-	-	Assistant Scribe E.
J. W. Fendick	-	-	-	Janitor.

It was resolved to hold the next annual Provincial Grand Chapter at Newtown. The banquet was held in the evening at the Commercial Hotel.

So strong is the resemblance between the two incoming Sheriffs of the City of London that at their inauguration breakfast at Salters' Hall the point could not fail to attract the attention of the various speakers, says the "Daily Telegraph." Brothers Alderman Alliston and Lieutenant-Colonel Clifford Probyn are not only alike in personal appearance, but are equally gifted as public speakers—the one classical and polished in his style, the other impetuous and vigorous. Various descriptions were applied to them—the Cheeryble Brothers, Romulus and Remus, and "The Heavenly Twins." The occasion also acquired exceptional interest from the fact that one of the Sheriffs' Chaplains—Bro. the Rev. Professor Shuttleworth—introduced a new form of grace, which embodied the spirit of the proceedings: "For good life, for good health, for good company, and for good fellowship, may the Lord make us truly thankful."

On Wednesday, at the Guildhall, the Lord Mayor presided over a Court of Aldermen, to which the Sheriffs-elect of the City were introduced with the usual formalities, says the "Daily Telegraph." A procession was then formed from the Aldermen's Court Room to the hustings in Guildhall, where a Court of the Outer Chamber was held. "Frederick Pratt Alliston, Esquire, Alderman and Cordwainer," and "Lieut.-Col. Clifford Probyn, Citizen and Pattern Maker," were then formally called on by the Common Crier to "come forward and take upon themselves the office of Sheriff of London." This done in dumb show, the Town Clerk, who was almost inaudible, owing to a severe attack of hoarseness, then administered the long and old-fashioned declarations, and these having been made and signed, the new Sheriffs were invested with their violet gowns and chains of office.

Some people regard trading on Masonry as perfectly legitimate, although it is true that many of them will add, as an aside, that it has to be done in a quiet sort of way, while many others make no secret of their desire to get all the advantage they deem possible out of their association with the Craft. A well intentioned rebuke was administered to those who are of this opinion, by a contemporary, a few weeks back, when attention was drawn to a new Limited Liability Company which proposed, among other matters, to fit up a Masonic Temple in order to cater for the banquets given by Lodges. Noticing this, the "Investors Review" said: "As these Lodges are known to be wealthy, we

should feel disposed to leave the new issue of shares to them"—very good advice, we consider, and applicable wherever trading on Masonry is offered as a bait.

Civic and other friends of Bro. Colonel and Sheriff-elect Probyn met in the old Council Chamber at the Guildhall on Tuesday, to present him with his shrieval chain and badge of office. Mr. H. S. Foster, M.P., Master of the Patten-Makers' Company presided. The chain is a handsome one, embellished in heraldic colours, and bears the arms of the several livery guilds with which the recipient is associated. There are in addition the arms of the City and Liberty of Westminster, St. Martin's Parish, the London County Council, and the Treasurer of the Grand Lodge of Freemasons of England. A portrait painting of Colonel Probyn, from the brush of M. Seymour Lucas, R.A., will be presented at a future date.

The Freemasons of France are supporting justice in the country, as the following shows:—At the annual general meeting of Freemasons, held on Monday morning, in Paris, a resolution was unanimously adopted congratulating the Brisson Cabinet on its attitude in the Dreyfus affair, and promising to support it in defending the great principles of the Revolution and proclaiming the equality of all citizens before the law, without exception being made on account of race or religion.—Ex.

The installation meeting of the Eccentric Lodge, No. 2488, will be held at the Café Royal, Regent Street, W., on Friday next, 7th inst., when Bro. Lionel Wormser Harris will be installed as Master for the ensuing year by his predecessor Bro. Singleton Hooper. Judging from the popularity of Bro. Harris there is sure to be a good muster of members and visitors. A report of the proceedings will appear in due course.

The weekly meetings of the Bromley St. Leonard Lodge of Instruction will be resumed on Wednesday next, 5th inst., at the Bow Bells, Bow Road, E., at 8 o'clock, on which occasion Bro. J. De Casseres Preceptor will take the chair. Brethren are particularly requested to attend.

The Royal Jubilee Lodge of Instruction resumed its weekly meetings on Wednesday, at the Crown, Lambeth Road, S.E., where future gatherings will be held each Wednesday evening during the winter months.

The Hornsey Chapter of Improvement, No. 890, meets every Friday evening, at 8 p.m., at the Prince of Wales Hotel, Eastbourne Terrace, Bishop's Road, Paddington. Companions are invited to attend.

Bro. W. H. Graveley will deliver a lecture on "The Ternary character of Freemasonry," at Newby Place, Poplar, E., on Thursday next.

"A SPRIG OF ACACIA."

IT is with deep regret we have to announce the death of Brother Albert Reed, at the age of 31, a highly esteemed member of the City of Westminster Lodge, No. 1563. The funeral of our Brother took place on Thursday, at Kensal Green, in the presence of a large gathering of sorrowing friends. In deference to an expressed wish the funeral was a private one, the arrangements being in the hands of Mr. J. A. Leuty, Undertaker, of 312 Harrow Road, W. The coffin, which was of polished oak and bore the inscription: ALBERT REED, Died 24th September 1898, in his 31st year, was almost hidden by numerous floral wreaths, conspicuous amongst which were those from the young widow, relatives, friends, Masonic Brethren and the City of Westminster Lodge. We deeply sympathise with Mrs. Reed in her bereavement.

ON Friday, 23rd ult., at Etchilhampton, near Devizes, there was a large attendance of Brethren and agriculturists at the funeral of Bro. Benjamin White Crees, who died on the previous Monday at the age of 57, after a painful illness. Bro. Crees was a native of Witham Friary, and his family is a well-known one in Somersetshire. He had been at the Manor Farm, Etchilhampton, for a quarter of a century.

HEREFORDSHIRE CHARITY ASSOCIATION.

THE twenty-first annual meeting of the members of this useful Association was held at the Green Dragon Hotel, Hereford, on Monday, 26th ult. The chair was taken by Bro. Wm. Earle P.P.S.G.W. President, and the other members of the Association present were Messrs. H. C. Beddoe, Thos. Smith, W. W. Robinson, and J. C. Vaughan.

The following report and statement of accounts were read and adopted:—

Your Committee have the pleasure of submitting their report for the year 1897, and have again to thank Bro. T. Godwin Chance P.M. 120 for 200 copies of the report for 1896.

At last year's meeting the ballot for votes resulted in nine Life Subscriptions, which were obtained by Brothers Sir J. R. Bailey, Bart., W. C. Gethen, A. R. Green, W. Hampton, W. R. Walker, T. Smith, Eastnor Lodge, Edward Bellow, G. W. Starr, of whom the first seven elected to take Boys School votes, and the two latter Girls School and Benevolent Institution votes respectively.

Since the formation of the Association, in August 1878, it has remitted the following sums to the Masonic Institutions, viz.:

	£	s.	d.
To the Boys School	456	15	0
" " Girls School	288	15	0
" " R.M.B. Institution:—			
Male Fund	162	15	0
Female Fund	147	0	0
	£1,055	5	0

An average of nearly £53 a year.

Your Committee regret having to report that, as Bro. T. G. Chance, the recently-appointed Honorary Secretary of the Association, is about removing to London, they and the Province generally must to a large extent lose the valuable aid of a kind and able Brother, who was much devoted to Freemasonry and especially to the claims of Masonic Charity.

In conclusion your Committee again beg to add that, as the Province of Herefordshire through its successful candidates has so largely received from the funds of the Masonic Charities, it ought certainly to subscribe more to the funds of the several Institutions than it has hitherto done.

The Treasurer's cash account for 1897 is presented herewith.

W. EARLE P.P.S.G.W. President.

Hereford, September 1898.

Cash Account for the year ending 31st December 1897.

SUBSCRIPTION ACCOUNT.

	£	s.	d.
Receipts.			
To Members' Subscriptions	53	11	0
Payments.			
By Due to Secretary, as per last Account	1	1	0
" Secretary of Boys School	42	0	0
" " of Girls School	5	5	0
" " R.M.B. Institution	5	5	0
	£53	11	0

MANAGEMENT ACCOUNT.

To eight Entrance fees	1	0	0
By Stationery, Postages, &c.	0	7	6
Balance carried forward	0	12	6

Audited and found correct this 23rd September 1898.

T. SMITH
THOS. BLINKHORN } Auditors.

The ballot for votes was then taken, and resulted in the following Life Subscriptions to the Masonic Institutions, viz.: Bros. H. H. Parry, J. C. Vaughan, H. Morgan, W. Parlyby, and the Palladian Lodge.

The Committee for the ensuing year was then appointed as follow: Bros. J. Marchant President, H. C. Beddoe Treasurer, W. W. Robinson Secretary; for the Palladian Lodge H. H. Parry, for the Virtruvian Lodge T. Matthews, for the Royal Edward Lodge E. Bellow, for the Eastnor Lodge H. Morgan, for the Arrow Lodge F. Parker; Bros. T. Smith, and T. Blinkhorn Auditors.

A cordial vote of thanks to the Chairman Bro. Earle, and Bro. T. G. Chance Secretary, brought the proceedings to a close.

PRESENTATIONS AT LEWES.

TWO interesting ceremonies were performed on Wednesday evening, 21st ult., at the Freemasons' Hall, Lewes, at the conclusion of ordinary business at the meeting of the South Saxon Lodge. Bro. Alderman T. R. White P.M. in appropriate and graceful terms first made a presentation to Bro. W. Wright, Piltdown, Uckfield, who is shortly leaving Sussex to take up his residence at Southampton. In making the presentation, he alluded to the services rendered to the Lodge by Bro. Wright,

and to his distinguished position in the Provincial Grand Lodge. As a mark of the esteem in which he was held by the Brethren of the South Saxon and Pelham Lodges, he presented him, amid hearty applause, with a silver cigar case, cigarette case, and match box, enclosed in a handsome morocco case, and he also handed him a handsome gold brooch for Mrs. Wright. The gifts were acknowledged in appropriate and feeling terms.

Bro. S. Starnes, who had acted as Organist to the Lodge for thirty-five years, and who retired a few months ago, was presented with an Organist's jewel, as a mark of respect for his long services.

AGAINST CALLING OFF.

IT is a little singular that a Lodge should want to call off during the summer, when in reality there is no more comfortable place at the command of nine-tenths of our Brethren than a well arranged hall intelligently handled. Of course if you dare not leave a door open for fear that some detective might sneak in and get to be a mason at sight, and then give away our secrets, or are afraid to leave a window open for fear that some mischievous, tale-bearing woman might see that we make some kind of a sign—no two alike perhaps—it would be well to go out and sit in the park or take a trip on the water every real hot night and let the Lodge take care of itself.

The Brother who never goes to Lodge except to watch the treasury or hunt trouble would do much better to stay away at all times, as his presence is a menace to harmony, and sometimes annoys good men who go to the Lodge to enjoy a visit with congenial friends, where there is no danger of intrusion. There are few more comfortable places in which to spend an evening than in a Masonic Lodge room, in the control of Brethren who know their duties as Masons, and attend to them like men who are not afraid that their best friends may be robbers in disguise, seeking, every minute, to take some mean advantage of the innocent Brother, or trying to wreck the Lodge for some ulterior purpose. A poor man may not be able to furnish comfortable quarters for his family, but the Masonic Lodge ought to meet in a place that will leave no unpleasant impression on any unreasonable Brother. Meet in good halls and summer weather will have no terrors.—Missouri "Freemason."

THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT AS FIREMAN.

OUR Royal Brother the Duke of Connaught, who occupies a probably unique position in Freemasonry, as Past Grand Master of England, Provincial Grand Master of Sussex, and District Grand Master of Bombay, has, says the "Westminster Gazette," the reputation of being "a first-class fighting man." And if it is true that you can best tell a man's character off duty, the following story, which a correspondent sends us from Aldershot, should go some way to prove that the Duke does not leave his first-class fighting qualities behind him when he takes off his uniform. Writes our correspondent: "I was walking from Farnborough on the road to Aldershot last Wednesday afternoon, when I noticed smoke and flames arising from a copse by the side of the road. The fire broke out with extraordinary suddenness, for the moment before I had noticed nothing. But it spread with amazing rapidity, and if the copse and the shrubbing by the roadside were to be saved there was no time to lose. With the exception of two labourers who were hurrying towards the spot there was no one about. Here was a pretty state of affairs, for not a drop of rain had fallen for months, and the undergrowth was crackling fiercely. At that instant a figure in a light check suit on a bicycle appeared in sight. I was just running to the shrubbery to see what I could do when he jumped off his machine, and, leaving it by the side of the road, called to the labourers, who were now beating the fire with their shovels, to cut him a branch from a fir tree to fight the flames with. I asked him if I could assist in any way.

"Why, certainly," he said. "Take a branch and follow my example." He was already in the hottest part, beating the crackling underbush with the bough, and stamping the flames out with his feet. The smoke was blinding, and showers of sparks shot up. A few minutes more, and in spite of our efforts, the fire had caught a big fir tree.

"You tackle that fir tree," I shouted. "I'll stick to the fire on the ground."

"All right," he cried cheerily, and went at it with a will. But I had no idea at the time that I was ordering the Duke of Connaught about. But still, even if I had known, it was no time to be H.R.H.-ing him.

"Well, we got the flames under at last. But a precious sight we looked. The Duke's light suit was light no longer. It was as grimy as his face. But he rode off on his bicycle with a gay heart.

"Who's the party?" said I, when he had gone.

"Why, didn't yer know that's the Duke?" said one of the labourers.

"Passing down the road a few minutes later I saw a patrol approaching. The shrubbery was in a hollow not far from the camp, and I began to think that a big general like the Duke might have had half an army at his service to put that fire out if he had ridden on a short distance to the camp."—Daily Telegraph.

Marriage.

WITHERBY-PIERPPOINT.—On the 27th ult., at the Church of St. Jude, Peckham, by the Rev. Cyrus Steel, M.A., Edward James Witherby, son of the late Augustus Witherby, of Peckham, to Edith Bossie, daughter of Bro. Robert Pierpoint, of London Bridge.

LODGE MEETINGS NEXT WEEK.

Fuller 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.

25 Robert Burns, Freemasons'-hall
69 Unity, Inns of Court Hotel
72 Royal Jubilee, Anderton's
144 St. Luke, Anderton's
188 Joppa, Freemasons' Tavern
1625 Tredegar, London Tavern
1669 Royal Leopold, Camberwell
1853 Caxton, Freemasons'-hall
2020 St. Botolph, Albion
2098 Harlesden, Harlesden
2242 Tyssen-Amhurst, Stoke Newing.

53 Royal Sussex, Bath
107 Philanthropic, Lynn
113 Unanimity, Preston
119 Sun, Sq. & Compass, Whiteh'v'n
135 Perpetual Friendship, B'water
154 Unanimity, Wakefield
156 Harmony, Plymouth
199 Peace and Harmony, Dover
251 Loyal, Barnstaple
328 St. John, Torquay
331 Phoenix Ho. & Prudence, Truro
338 Vitruvian, Ross
395 Guy, Leamington
422 Yarborough, Gainsboro'
428 Sincerity, Northwich
431 St. George, N. Shields
441 Three Grand Principles, C'b'dge
482 St. James, Handsworth
529 Semper Fidelis, Worcester
622 St. Cuthberga, Wimborne
694 Oakley, Basingstoke
827 St. John, Dewsbury
839 Rl. Gloucestershire, Gloucester
850 St. Oswald, Ashbourne
928 Friendship, Petersfield
959 Prince of Wales, Ipswich
977 Fowey, Fowey
1045 Stamford, Altrincham
1050 Gundolph, Rochester
1051 Rowley, Lancaster
1070 Starkie, Southport
1071 Zetland, Saltash
1077 Wilton, Blackley
1124 St. Oswald, Oswestry
1180 Forward, Birmingham
1211 Goderich, Leeds
1239 Wentworth, Sheffield
1254 Semper Fidelis, Exeter
1264 Neptune, Liverpool
1399 Marlborough, Woodstock
1434 Nottinghamshire, Nottingham
1452 St. Margaret, Lowestoft
1477 Sir Watkin, Mold
1573 Carodoc, Swansea
1748 Castlemartin, Pembroke
1954 Molesworth, Wadebridge
2039 Londonderry, Sunderland
2166 Cotchele, Calstock
2240 Arrow, Kington
2322 East Lanc. Cent'ion, M'chester.
2373 Hardwick, Chesterfield
2497 Carville, Wallsend-on-Tyne
2520 P. of Wales, Newcastle-on-Tyne
2525 Thurston, Coniston
2533 Fitzwilliam, Peterborough
2586 St. Nicholas, Scarborough

Tuesday.

9 Albion, Freemasons'-hall
101 Temple, Ship and Turtle
172 Old Concord, F.M.H.
217 Stability, Anderton's
765 St. James, Southwark
1257 Grosvenor, Freemasons'-hall
1259 Duke of Edinburgh, Eastern Htl
1381 Kennington, Kennington Park
1397 Anerley, Anerley
1472 Henley, North Woolwich
1803 Cornhill, Piccadilly
2032 Richmond, Richmond
2033 U. N. Counties, Inns of Crt. Htl
2150 Tivoli, Frascati
2190 Savage Club, Freemasons'-hall
2469 Hortus, Freemasons'-hall
47 Newstead, Nottingham
52 Union, Norwich
70 St. John, Plymouth
103 Beauford, Bristol
120 Palladian, Hereford
124 Marquis of Granby, Durham
158 Adam, Sheerness
209 Etonian, Windsor
226 Benevolence, Littleboro'
252 Harmonic, Dudley

265 Royal Yorkshire, Keighley
293 King Friends, Nantwich
315 Royal York, Brighton
340 Alfred, Oxford
364 Cambrian, Neath
378 Loyal Welsh, Pembroke Dock
386 Unity, Wareham
393 St. David, Berwick
421 Loyal of Industry, S'thamolton
448 St. James, Halifax
457 Loyal Monmouth, Monmouth
493 Royal Lebanon, Gloucester
506 Mundy Grove, Shipley Gate
510 St. Martin, Liskeard
558 Temple, Folkestone
615 St. John & St. Paul, Erith
660 Camalodunum, New Malton
673 St. John, Liverpool
685 Northumberland, N'castle-on-T.
702 Sherborne, Stroud
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
1072 Aberystwith, Aberystwith
1096 Lord Warden, Walmer
1134 Newall, Manchester
1197 Nyanza, Ilminster
1222 Saint Kew, Weston-super-Mare
1244 Marwood, Redcar
1282 Ancholme, Brigg
1309 Acacia, Hampton Court
1336 Square & Compasses, Wrexham
1367 Beaminster Manor, Beam'ster.
1488 St. Eleth, Alnwich
1509 Madoc, Portmadoc
1726 Gordon, Bognor
1780 Albert Edward, Southampton
1785 St. Petroc, Padstow
1807 Loyal Wye, Builth
1908 Cholmondeley, Frodsham
1970 Hadrian, South Shields
1981 Arnold, East Molesey
2129 Dorothy Vernon, Bakewell
2133 Swan of Avon, Stratford-on-Avon
2136 St. Michael, Bishops Stortford
2154 Joshua Nunn, Halstead
2260 Ridley, Newcastle-on-Tyne
2290 Fairfield, Fairfield
2490 Amphill, Amphill
2561 West Essex, Buckhurst Hill

Wednesday.

511 Zetland, Anderton's
1298 Royal Standard, Highbury
1306 St. John, Guildhall Tavern
1491 Athenaeum, Criterion
1585 Royal Commemoration, Holborn
1687 Rothersey, Frascati
2484 Second Mid. Artillery, F.M.H.
74 Athol, Birmingham
94 Phoenix, Sunderland
137 Amity, Poole
159 Brunswick, East Stonehouse
164 Perseverance, Sidmouth
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'castle-on-T.
417 Faith & Unanimity, Dorchester
429 Royal Navy, Ramsgate
611 Marches, Ludlow
645 Humphrey Chetham, M'chester
678 Earl Ellesmere, Farnworth
750 Friendship, Cleckheaton
838 Franklin, Boston
929 Waveney, Bungay
970 St. Anne, East Loce
992 St. Thomas, Manchester
1003 Prince of Wales, Jersey
1004 Athole, Douglas, Isle of Man
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
1335 Lindsey, Wigan
1354 Marquis of Lorne, Leigh
1403 West Lancashire, Ormskirk
1431 St. Alphege, Solihull
1461 Clausentum, Woolston
1478 Lougheat, Warminster
1549 Abercorn, Great Stanmore
1620 Marlborough, Liverpool
1660 Arlecdon, Frizzington
1734 Trinity, Rayleigh
1736 St. John, Halifax
1862 Stranton, West Hartlepool
1868 Unity, Oldham
2193 Queen Jubilee, Nelson
2200 Pantiles, Tunbridge Wells
2224 Fairfield, Long Eaton
2259 St. Nicholas, Thorne
2368 Alan, Alderley Edge
2382 Loyal Hay, Hay
2391 Orde-Powlett, Middlesborough
2453 Duke of York, Cardiff
2464 Longsight, Longsight
2495 Goodacre, Bootle
2556 Glyn Ebbw, Ebbw Vale
2560 Earl of Lathom, Bury

Thursday.

27 Egyptian, Anderton's
45 Strong Man, Guildhall Tav.
192 Lion & Lamb, Cannon St. Hotel
227 Ionic, Criterion
538 La Tolerance, Freemasons'-hall
742 Crystal Palace, Sydenham
1178 Perfect Ashlar, Southwark
1216 Macdonald, Camberwell
1425 Hyde Park, Paddington
1707 Eleanor, Great Eastern Hotel
1765 Trinity Col., 13, Mandeville Pl.
1772 Pimlico, Westminster
1790 Old England, Thornton Heath
1950 Southgate, Beale's, Holloway
2202 Regent Park, Frascati
2271 St. Pancras, Midland Grand Ho
2291 West Ham Abbey, Stratford
2411 Clarence & Avondale, Lyt'nst'n
2512 Fulham, Fulham
2580 Crouch End, Highgate

24 Newcastle O.T., Newcastle
31 United Industrious, Canterbury
38 Union, Chichester
41 Royal Cumberland, Bath
110 Loyal U'bian, Merluyr-fydvil
114 British Union, Ipswich
125 Lennox, Richmond, Yorks
132 Unity, Ringwood
195 Hengis, Pournemouth
215 Commerce, Haslingden
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
300 Minerva, Ashton-under-Lyne
305 Apollo, Beccles
309 Harmony, Fareham
317 Affability, Manchester
324 Moira, Stalybridge
360 Pomfret, Northampton
362 Doric, Grantham
419 St. Peter, Wolverhampton
446 Benevolent, Wells
462 Bank Terrace, Accrington
509 Tees, Stockton
531 St. Helen, Hartlepool
539 St. Matthew, Walsall
625 Devonshire, Glossop
633 Yarborough, Manchester
637 Portland, Stoke-upon-Trent
703 Clifton, Blackpool
803 St. Andrew, Biggleswade
856 Restormel, Lostwithiel
971 Trafalgar, Batley
976 Royal Clarence, Bruton
1012 Prince of Wales, Bury
1231 Savile, Elland

1284 Brent, Topsham
1304 Olive Union, Horncastle
1324 Okeover, Ripley
1379 Marquess of Ripon, Darlington
1384 Equity, Widnes
1473 Bootle, Bootle
1500 Walpole, Norwich
1504 Red Rose of Lanc'ster, Padham
1513 Friendly, Barnsley
1514 Thornhill, Huddersfield
1557 Albert Edward, Hexham
1565 Earl of Chester, Lymm
1639 Watling St., Stony Stratford
1770 Vale of White Horse, Faringdon
1829 Burrell, Brighton
1874 Lechmere V'nt'r, Balsall H'th
1899 Wellesley, Sandhurst
2043 Kendrick, Reading
2169 Osborne, East Cowes
2255 Philbrick, Chingford
2317 Bisley, Woking
2321 Acacia, Bradford
2342 Easterford, Kelvedon
2350 Corinthian, Hindley
2386 Clarence, Chester
2496 Wirral, Birkenhead

Friday.

554 Yarborough, Fenchurch Street
890 Hornsey, Anderton's
1489 Marquess of Ripon, Highbury
1627 Royal Kensington, F'masons'-h.
2076 Quator Coronati, F'masons'-h.
2458 Eton, Eton
2511 St. John at Hackney, Hackney
44 Friendship, Manchester
242 St. George, Doncaster
291 Royal Philanthropic, Highbridge
306 Alford, Leeds
375 Lambton, Durham
521 Truth, Huddersfield
574 Loy. Berkshire Hope, Newbury
601 St. John, Wellington, Salop
698 Ryde, Ryde
709 Invicta of Ashford, Ashford
751 Eastnor, Ledbury
837 De Grey and Ripon, Ripon
936 Adair, Aldeburgh
998 Welchpool, Welchpool
1009 Shakspeare, Manchester
1230 Barnard, Barnard Castle
1375 Architect, Chorlton-cum-Hardy
1405 Southwell, Nottingham
1458 Truth, Manchester
1561 Morecambe, Morecambe
1648 Prince of Wales, Bradford
1664 Gosforth, Gosforth
1754 Windsor, Penarth
1838 Tudor Rifle V'nt'rs., W'v'h'pton
1993 Wolsley, Manchester
2433 Minerva, Birkenhead
2491 White Rose of York, Sheffield
2494 Humber Installed Masters', Hull
2569 St. Trillo, Colwyn Bay

Saturday.

176 Caveat, Albion
1426 Great City, Cannon St. Hotel
1607 Loyalty, London Tavern
1612 West Middlesex, Ealing
1671 Mizpah, Albion
1685 Guelph, Leyton
1743 Perseverance, Anderton's
1839 Duke of Cornwall, F'masons'-h.
2206 Hendon, Midland Grand Hotel
2369 Cornish, Markmasons'-hall
2579 Lewisham, Lewisham
1347 Lorne, Sutton
1415 Campbell, Hampton Court
1423 Era, Twickenham
1637 Unity, Harrow Station
1755 Eldon, Portishead
1990 Hampshire of Emulat'n, L'dp't.
2006 Tilbury, Purfleet
2095 Caterham, Caterham
2147 Crays Valley, St. Mary Cray
2326 Wigan, Wigan
2359 Doric, Didsbury

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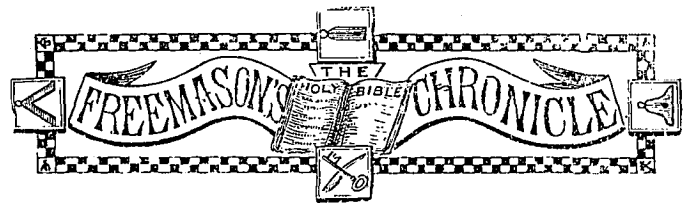
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SATURDAY, 1st OCTOBER 1898.

NEW CHAPTER AT ALDERSHOT.

TUESDAY was an important day, Masonically, for
Aldershot. In the afternoon a new Chapter, named
the Connaught, and numbered 1971, was Consecrated at the
Officers' Club House. The ceremony was attended by the
Provincial Grand Superintendent Comp. W. W. B. Beach,
M.P., with whom were the Principals and Officers of the
Provincial Grand Chapter.

After the consecration the Prov. Grand Superintendent
installed the following Principals:—Comps. Colonel John
Davis A.D.C. P.Z. as Z., Captain M. L. Hughes P.Z. as H.,
and Captain E. S. Heard P.Z. as J. Afterwards came the
investiture of Officers, and some twelve propositions for
joining members. Then the Chapter was closed.

ART IN CONNECTION WITH FREEMASONRY.

ANY suggestion on the subject of Freemasonry emanating from his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales Grand Master of England cannot be otherwise than valuable. In the course of a speech, recently made by his Royal Highness, he is reported to have said that any press article treating of Masonic matters from an Art point of view could not fail to prove interesting to those desirous of advancing the well being of the Craft. In accordance with this suggestion, we have been at some pains to gather as much information on the subject as possible, and the views herein expressed may be taken as being an epitome of the opinions of a large number of leading members of the Order in England and abroad.

Twenty years ago, it may be said that, almost without exception, every article used in Masonic adornment was of the most inartistic, crude, and meretricious character. Wretchedly designed, badly manufactured, and when completed much too theatrical and tawdry in effect, the appointments of most Lodges were unworthy of their object. In fact, at one time anything was considered good enough for Masonic purposes as long as it was showy, pretentious, and cheap. Hence the furniture, fittings, regalia, badges, &c., of many Lodges excited in the minds of the higher cultured a certain degree of ridicule, which prevailed until a more perfect knowledge of the correct principles of Art had become more widely diffused, and the standard of critical taste had been raised to its proper altitude. It is marvellous that in the interests of the Craft, to say nothing of the interests of Art, that such a state of things should have so long endured. To quote the remarks of a prominent member of the Craft, speaking at Leeds, in 1878:—"No surer means could ever have been adopted to bring Masonry into contempt than the introduction of tawdry ornaments into its Lodges. It is useless blaming manufacturers, it is entirely our own fault for not demanding artistic and well-made productions, and paying such prices as will ensure the delivery of high-class work." At the time when this remark was made there were many firms engaged in supplying regalia, &c., to Masonic, friendly, and other societies without distinction; but only one which actually confined its attention to the manufacture of requisites used in Masonry. This firm—that of Messrs. Spencer and Co., of 15 Great Queen Street, Holborn, W.C., still occupies this unique position, and it is generally admitted that much of the present artistic excellence of Masonic insignia, &c., as worn by the Officers and Brethren of the Craft, is largely due to their exertions, they having for nearly one hundred years steadfastly advocated by precept and example the adoption of artistic design and solid workmanship, to the exclusion of the crude and inferior. The aim of the firm—and it is the oldest manufactory of its kind the world can produce—has from the first been to secure recognition of high art as a factor in advancing the interests of Masonry. By keeping this point in view, Messrs. Spencer have succeeded in attaining the apex of distinction as manufacturers of Masonic requisites. For years they have taken a pardonable pride in the artistic excellence of their various designs, and in the solid character of the workmanship of their manufactures. They have the credit of employing, both at their works in London and in Birmingham, the best designers and workers in precious metals, and the most talented painters on enamel it is possible to procure. The specimens of enamel paintings on view at their premises in Great Queen Street are veritable triumphs of the enameller's art. The exquisite figures, landscapes, and other subjects which add so greatly to the beauty of many of the higher-priced jewels, could not possibly be surpassed. In the gold embroidery department alone over fifty young ladies are constantly engaged; and to give an idea of the degree of excellence expected by the firm from its hands, we may say that only about one in six of those applying for employment are capable of successfully accomplishing the difficult task the firm has instituted as its probationary test.

That the efforts of Messrs. Spencer and Co. to create a taste for, and to supply, high art in all branches of Masonic equipment, is appreciated by the Officers and Brethren of the Craft, is amply testified by the important works which have at various times been entrusted to them. Our readers will remember the recent Centenary of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys held at the Albert Hall, where, by-the-by, the enormous sum of £134,000 was collected for the purposes of the charity. At this function over 4,000 Stewards officiated, each being distinguished by a jewel. On the occasion of a former celebration of a somewhat similar character, the making of the jewels had been entrusted to a number of firms, but this particular centenary being one of special importance, the jewels were required to be of exceptional merit, and the work was therefore offered to public competition. It is sufficient to

say that the entire contract for the 4,000 jewels was secured by Messrs. Spencer and Co., who were also entrusted with the order for the magnificent replica in diamonds presented to the Prince of Wales, the chairman of the Festival.

As we have before intimated, his Royal Highness is particularly interested in all that concerns the artistic embellishment of Craft requisites; therefore it is not surprising that Messrs. Spencer have been entrusted with many commissions for jewels, &c., for his personal use. On glancing over their list of patrons we find the names of Lord Lathom the Pro Grand Master of England, his Grace the Duke of Portland Provincial Grand Master of Nottinghamshire, the Duke of Connaught, Lord Euston, Lord Egerton of Tatton, Lord Dungarvan, Lord Burton, Earl of Portarlington, Viscount Folkestone, Earl of Warwick, Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild, Marquis of Dalhousie, Lord Addington, Marquis of Hertford, Lord Skelmersdale, Earl of Yarborough, Duke of Devonshire, Marquis of Granby, Lord Halsbury, Sir Matthew White Ridley, Crown Prince of Denmark, &c. We note also that they are the manufacturers for the Grand Mark Lodge of England, and Great Priory. It was Messrs. Spencer and Co. who carried off, in the face of considerable competition from other firms, Masonic and otherwise, the contract for furnishing and fitting the Masonic Rooms at the Hotel Cecil, which are admitted to be the most unique and appropriately fitted in London. They also succeeded, under similar conditions, in securing the contract for the Masonic furniture at the Holborn Restaurant. For both these contracts special designs were made; indeed, the firm makes it a point to specially prepare designs for every order given them. The Navy Lodge at the Hotel Cecil, of which the Prince of Wales is perpetual Worshipful Master; the Fellowship Lodge at Frascati's, and quite a number of other prominent Lodges in various parts of the kingdom, have also been fitted up by this firm. It was to Messrs. Spencer that the design for the distinctive Star for the Founders of the special Lodge formed by the Masters of Masonic Lodges for the express purpose of signalising Jubilee Year, was entrusted. The Jewel for the Founders of the Household Brigade Lodge, No. 2614, of which his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales is also perpetual Worshipful Master, was also supplied by them. The design for this Jewel, when submitted to the M.W. Grand Master, was much commended. It comprehends in its design the badges borne by the six regiments of the Household Guards. The entire furniture of this Lodge, together with the collars and badges of office, aprons, &c., were also designed and executed by Messrs. Spencer. It may be mentioned, by-the-way, in respect to this particular Lodge, that nearly all the Brethren are members of the peerage. Amongst other of the works which have been executed by the firm we may name the entire fittings of the District Grand Lodge of Japan, the Grand Lodge of Egypt at Cairo—one of the most important Masonic centres in the East—and a host of other Lodges in the Colonies, India, Ceylon, Straits Settlements, Hong Kong and other Chinese ports, and in South Africa as far as the advanced post of Rhodesia. They had the honour of making and supplying the magnificent gold-embroidered banner presented to the Grand Lodge of Egypt by the Grand Master Idris Bey Ragheb. This beautiful specimen of art embroidery was made at an expense of close upon 100 guineas.

We have before stated that Messrs. Spencer and Co. confine themselves as regards Lodge business solely to Masonic work, but this does not necessarily mean they do not execute other work, such as Medals, Illuminated Testimonials, etc. As a matter of fact, they do considerable business in such directions. Of medals alone they have supplied an enormous number; as an instance, many thousands to various high-class and other schools. Their work is also much in demand for athletic and other clubs. In Illuminated Addresses, Testimonials, Votes of Thanks, and Condolences, the firm is capable above all other firms of turning out magnificent specimens of high-art workmanship. In this direction original design is invariably supplied, this, as we have before stated, being a noticeable feature in connection with all work undertaken by the firm.

To conclude, a visit to Messrs. Spencer's establishment in Great Queen Street is an art education in itself. The thousands of productions in Regalia, Jewels, and the various requisites of Masonic adornment, charm by their beauty and appropriateness of design, the solid character of their workmanship, and their exquisite finish. It is generally admitted that for good work the firm stands pre-eminent. It deserves its reputation, first for its long continued efforts to advance the cause of Art in connection with Masonry, and, secondly, for confining its attention solely to Masonic work, and thus not degrading it by contact with business foreign to, and, indeed, in some cases, antagonistic to its interests.—"Whitehall Review."

Royal Masonic Institution for Girls.

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Chief Patroness.—HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

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1,928 Girls have been provided with Education, Clothing, and Maintenance, the full number of Girls now receiving its benefits being 267.

The 111th Anniversary Festival will be held in May 1899 under the distinguished presidency of The Right Hon. Viscount Dungarvan, D.L., R.W. Prov.G.M. Somerset. The names of Brethren willing to act as Stewards are earnestly solicited.

Every information will be gladly given, and Subscriptions and Donations thankfully received by

F. R. W. HEDGES, Secretary, 5 FREEMASONS' HALL, LONDON, W.C.

REPORTS OF MEETINGS.

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

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METROPOLITAN : INSTRUCTION.

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WESTBOURNE LODGE, No. 733.

AS anticipated last week an exceptional good muster of Brethren assembled to support Bro. G. D. Mogford P.M. in the chair on Tuesday, when there were also present Bros. Knight P.M. S.W., Halston J.W., Dehane P.M. Preceptor, Rogers P.M. Treas., Mogford P.M. Sec., Crow S.D., Elliot J.D., Thomas I.G., Handover, Faircloth P.M., Miller W.M. 2362, Flack, Matthews, Graham, Meek, Armfield, Potter, Milner, Bodley, T. Mogford P.M., Greenfield, Healy.

The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Handover candidate. The W.M. gave the charge. The Lodge was called off and on. The ceremony of installation was rehearsed, Bro. Flack being placed in the chair by the W.M. in a perfect manner, and he afterwards gave the three addresses very impressively, which was heartily enjoyed by every Brother present. Bro. Fleck invested the Officers.

Bros. Armfield, Flack, Milner, and Bodley were accepted as members, and acknowledged the compliment.

It was proposed and carried, that a letter of condolence be sent to the widow of the late Bro. Reed, whose death occurred on Saturday, 24th ult.

A hearty vote of thanks was recorded on the minutes to Bro. Flack, for the way he had invested the Officers for the first time in this Lodge. Bro. Knight was elected to the chair for next meeting.

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HYDE PARK LODGE, No. 1425.

AT the Prince of Wales Hotel, Eastbourne Terrace, Bishop's Road, Paddington, W., on the 26th ult., Bros. W. H. Smith W.M., T. Middleweek W.M. 1793 S.W., A. Collman J.W., H. Dehane P.M. P.P.G.S.D. Essex Sec., W. H. Handover S.D., J. Chubb J.D., J. R. Beardon I.G., T. M. Lambie Steward, W. J. Ferguson W.M. 177 Dep. Preceptor, H. Foskett P.M. 1642, W. E. Jefferson, and the following Visitors :—Bros. H. Nash 1425, S. Brooks 1681, C. Ortner 1920, F. Mills 1681.

Bro. Handover, at the request of the W.M., assumed the chair, and the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Jefferson candidate. The Lodge was called off and on. Bro. Middleweek then assumed the chair, and after the usual preliminaries the Lodge was opened in the second degree and the ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Mills candidate. The Lodge was resumed to the first degree.

The following Brethren were unanimously elected members : Bros. Nash, Brooks, Ortner, and Mills, all of whom acknowledged the compliment.

Next meeting being Officers' night Bro. Middleweek was elected W.M. for the 10th October, and appointed the Officers in rotation.

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HUGH OWEN LODGE, No. 2593.

ON Friday, at the Frascati Restaurant, Oxford Street, W., Bros. J. B. Shrader W.M., Fred Aris S.W., J. Whipp J.W., H. G. Holland P.M. P.P.G.S.B. Preceptor, R. H. Nicholls P.M. Treas., H. Kobelt Sec., J. Barrett S.D., W. G. Read J.D., Sidney Smith I.G., W. B. Neville P.M., T. Melville, C. Drake, C. Ridgway, W. Bevan, J. Wynman, and others.

The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Bevan candidate. The W.M. proceeded to examine Bro. Neville for the second degree, and he was entrusted. The Lodge was opened up, and the ceremony of passing was rehearsed.

Bro. W. Neville P.M. made a strong appeal for votes for the forthcoming election for Girls, on behalf of Marguerite Knott, which deserving case was most impressively supported by Bro. R. H. Nicholls P.M., and other Brethren.

Bro. T. S. Melvill and W. G. Bevan were elected members, and Bro. Fred Aris was chosen W.M. for next meeting.

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PROVINCIAL.

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LODGE OF FAITH, No. 581.

THE regular meeting was held at the Gransmoor Hotel, Fairfield, on Wednesday, 21st ult., Bro. Robert Adshead W.M.

After the confirmation of minutes, the tracing board of the second degree was explained by Brother J. H. Smith P.M. P.D.G.S.B. Bombay, this being followed by the historical lecture of the third degree, which was delivered by Bro. Wm. Jones I.P.M.

We believe we are not anticipating matters in mentioning that a change of Lodge quarters is impending, and that it is quite possible future meetings may be held in rooms nearer to the city of Manchester, where the train and tram service will be more convenient for members of the Lodge than at present.

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LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, No. 581.

THE regular meeting of this Lodge was held at the Old Boar's Head Hotel, Withy Grove, Manchester, on Thursday, 8th ult., Bro. Alfred Hebden P.M. 1458 P.P.G.D.D.C. Preceptor.

The general Lodge proceedings did not occupy much time, and after they were concluded the Brethren adjourned to the large room of the Hotel, where an excellent banquet had been provided by Bro. J. Beardmore P.M. P.P.G.D.C. (host). Bro. Hebden presided, being supported by Bros. Godfrey Higham P.M. 1083 P.P.G.D.D.C., Geo. T. Lenard P.M. 1077 Treasurer, G. W. Davies P.M. 1459 Secretary, George Parker P.M. 1083 acting S.W., Geo. R. Berry 1011 acting J.W., W. Goodman P.M. 2185, W. Yeadon W.M. 1496,

Matthew Goth 581, G. Pettinger 1011, E. Sawyer 1077, A. Longworth 1083, R. V. Clayton 1083, J. J. Dean 1458, M. Pogson 1459, &c. A pleasant social evening was spent, the contributions by vocalists and reciters being well selected. Among those who, by their harmony, added to the success of the meeting were Bros. R. W. Nuttall 163, John Kenwick 1011, H. Jackson 1077, Jas. Doyle 1458, Edward Roberts P.M. 1459, T. C. Lord 1459, A. Hart 1773, Cuthbert Howard, and A. Sneider, Albany, 151, Newport, Isle of Wight.

Loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and heartily accepted, that of the Provincial Officers being responded to by Bros. Hebden and Higham. The former said he attributed his success as a Provincial Officer to the fact of his connection with the Lodge of Instruction, and the latter, in the course of some very interesting remarks, said there was one very important member of the Craft who ought to be induced to pay a visit to the Lodge; he alluded to the Provincial Grand Master of East Lancashire. The speaker said he was sure that if Col. Starkie could only be brought to recognise the immense work done by the Lodge he would certainly visit it, and his presence might be a great help in further spreading its influence.

The Secretary read apologies for non-attendance from Bros. Bee, Crocker, Horsfield, Loebel, Massie, and others.

Bro. Higham proposed the health of the Preceptor, saying he remembered Bro. Hebden from the period of his first introduction into the Lodge of Instruction, and at that time had recognised the fact that he had abilities which might be useful to them. Others noticed the same fact, and he was soon put into office, becoming Treasurer, and shortly after that Secretary, and a more zealous and energetic Officer the Lodge had never possessed. At that time the number of members was about forty, and if he made a guess he should think it now stood at 200, the increase being mainly attributable to Bro. Hebden, which fact proved that he had the interests of the Lodge at heart. The speaker reverted to the death of the late Preceptor, whose place at the annual meeting of twelve months ago he himself had filled. On that occasion he regarded Bro. Hebden as eminently suitable for the position, and he was elected at the December meeting. Many others among them might be qualified, but none were more so than their President of that evening. One great feature which he had noticed in connection with Bro. Hebden was his manner in the Lodge, which made him pre-eminently successful in dealing with the members, for he gave everyone the impression that he was having pleasure bestowed upon him, rather than that he was merely performing the ordinary duties of his Office. These latter he might tell them were arduous, but their Preceptor, from his great knowledge and practice, was ever in advance of the candidate, and soon noticed any lapses. Some time ago he seemed likely to sever his connection with the Lodge, on account of precarious health, but he was now so much recovered as to be able to give his heart and soul to their useful institution.

Bro. Hebden responded, saying he was placed in an awkward predicament in trying to respond to the toast so ably proposed by Bro. Higham, and so heartily accepted by the Brethren. When he joined the Lodge he received such kindness from all the members—some of whom had since passed away—that he thought it only right for him to do what he could in return. He had never had a wrong word with any one from that period up to the present, and he hoped he would be in harmonious touch with them for many years to come. At present he was only on probation, for he had not yet completed his first year of office as Preceptor. He should be glad at all times to help anyone who applied to him, and would regret if anything happened to cause him to sever his connection with them.

Bro. George Parker P.M. proposed the health of the Secretary, saying he believed they had now a good successor to Bro. Hebden in the position, and commending him for the regularity with which he had sent out the Lodge summonses.

Bro. Davies Secretary replied, thanking Bro. Parker for his remarks. He had only been in the office six months, having accepted it out of respect alone for the worthy Preceptor and Bro. Higham, and from the nature of the work he wondered how he could possibly have found time to perform it. Indeed, it might ultimately be necessary to appoint an assistant, but in the meantime, he himself would do all he could. The speaker, after enumerating the various positions he held or had passed through in Freemasonry, and which occupied a great portion of his time, gave some interesting statistics about the Lodge, which proved that an increase in membership was taking place. He also referred to one of their number who had satisfactorily attempted nearly every portion of Craft work as a preparatory training for his own Lodge.

Bro. John Westall S.W. 1083 proposed the health of the Treasurer Bro. Geo. T. Lenard P.M. They had been informed that evening that they had a Preceptor second to none in the Province, and others had also been spoken well of, but there was still another Officer required—one who could look after their finances—and that was the Treasurer. The speaker referred to Bro. Lenard in very flattering terms, and added that he performed his work in a quiet and respectable manner which commended him to everybody. He had been the means of introducing many members into their midst, and really had the institution at heart.

Bro. Lenard replied, thanking Bro. Westall, and acknowledging at the same time that he had certainly introduced many members into the Lodge, for, finding they wanted instruction, he thought it was his bounden duty to get them to join. In recurring to the many benefits derived from the Lodge of Instruction, he said that the practice there took off the newness and awkwardness, and fitted members for the right performance of the various duties when called upon in their own Craft Lodge. In concluding a capital speech he promised to assist both Preceptor and Secretary when required.

Bro. Hebden, in proposing Bro. Higham's health, said that the latter claimed this to be the largest recognised Lodge of Instruction in connection with Freemasonry, and a challenge to this effect had been thrown out, but not yet answered. Whatever credit was due to the workers of later years, the fact must not be forgotten that to Bro. Higham, the father of the Lodge, they were indebted for bravely surmounting all its initial difficulties. They were glad to see him looking so well, and hoped for his continued good health.

Bro. Higham said he heartily thanked Bro. Hebden for the flattering words he had uttered, and the Brethren generally for the manner in which they had endorsed them. He would be compelled to revert to the past; it was one of the privileges of an old man that he could be retrogressive. Before the close of the present year he would have been a member of the Lodge of Instruction thirty-one years. He spoke of its early struggles, and of his own appointment as Preceptor, in which office he had continued for twelve years. His motive for taking so great an interest in the Lodge was one of gratitude, for had it not been for the help and instruction received there, his promotion to the principal chair in his own Craft Lodge would have been considerably retarded. He might inform them that the best Past Masters in the Townley Parker Lodge, to which he referred, were those who had been connected with the Lodge of Instruction. He took to himself the credit of having inaugurated these annual gatherings, and he was proud of the fact that they

had become so successful. Being number one on the books of the Lodge he promised that while he lived no one else should occupy the position. He was connected with many other institutions, but could assure his auditors that he had no greater love for any above that he entertained towards Lodge of Instruction No. 581.

Other toasts followed.

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HINDPOOL LODGE, No. 1225.

THE installation meeting was held on Tuesday afternoon, 20th ult., in the Masonic Hall, Abbey Road, Barrow.

Bro. John Harrison J.W. Master-elect was installed in the chair of K.S. by the outgoing Master Bro. Plato Harrison.

The Worshipful Master presented a very chaste gold Past Master's jewel to Bro. Plato Harrison, to mark the appreciation of the Brethren of the manner in which he had conducted the business of the Lodge during his year of office.

The Brethren afterwards adjourned to the Criterion Restaurant, Cornwallis Street, where one of the best Masonic banquets ever held in Barrow took place.

During the evening it was proposed by Bro. Dr. Thomas, seconded by Bro. Dr. Settle, and supported by Bro. W. P. Bell W.M. 1021, Bro. G. Bush W.M. 1390, and Bro. M. W. Worrall P.M., &c., that the Secretary forward letters of sympathy to Bro. E. C. Caton P.M., and Bro. Jon Shaw, regretting that serious illness prevented them from being present.

The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were honoured.

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ROYAL ALBERT EDWARD LODGE, No. 1362.

ABOUT five and twenty members of this Lodge, which has this year a popular W.M. in Bro. T. H. Roberts, of Covertside, spent a very pleasant afternoon together on Wednesday. They met at Laker's Hotel, Redhill, whence they started, between two and three o'clock, upon a delightful drive, the route taken being Blethingley, Godstone, &c.

In the evening the party sat down to "a little dinner at Laker's," which, it is needless to observe, everybody thoroughly enjoyed. The post prandial proceedings were not prolonged after ten o'clock, but they were rendered very delightful by a trio of excellent vocalists and musicians whom Bro. Roberts had invited from London.

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CONCORD LODGE, No. 1534.

THE members of this Lodge were entertained by Bro. J. R. Fletcher, J.P., at a garden party at Heaton Park, on Saturday afternoon, 3rd ult. On the arrival of each Brother and his lady they were received and welcomed by Bro. and Mrs. Fletcher, who had stationed themselves at a beautiful spot midway between "the hall" and the temple-like observatory which stood on the highest point in the park.

After the reception, the party wandered up the hill to "the temple,"

where refreshments were partaken of and thoroughly enjoyed. Some of the friends then took a walk through the private pleasure gardens of the park, while others preferred to promenade the grounds within hearing of the music of the Besses o' th' Barn Prize Brass Band, and an exceptionally fine band of hand bell ringers.

The host and hostess were personally thanked many times by individual members for the afternoon's splendid enjoyment, and at the following regular meeting of the Lodge, held on the 15th ult., Bro. H. B. Fawcett W.M. moved a vote of thanks to Bro. Fletcher, which was unanimously passed and heartily endorsed by the Brethren present.

We may state that we received a very kind invitation to this function, but a temporary illness prevented our being present, and we are indebted to Bro. Jas. D. Ramage for the above particulars.

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DRAMATIC LODGE, No. 1609.

IN Liverpool Masonic circles one of the most interesting events of the year is the installation of the W.M. of the Dramatic Lodge. The function took place on the 27th ult. The retiring Master was Bro. Harry Round, who had twice occupied the Master's chair in the Dramatic Lodge, and once in the Apollo Lodge. He had the pleasure of installing as his successor, which he did with most impressive effect, Bro. Eustace Baxter, who had very efficiently filled all the subordinate Offices. Bro. Baxter was presented by Bros. W. W. Sandbrook P.P.G.D. and Joseph Bell P.P.G.D. There was a large attendance of representatives of the Provincial Grand Lodge, and of Past Masters and present Masters of local Lodges.

When the business of the Lodge had come to an end, the members and visiting Brethren dined together. After the repast, which was excellently served under the supervision of Bro. Capper, the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and heartily received.

In the course of the proceedings, Bro. Harry Round was the recipient of a handsome Past Master's jewel and a massive gold albert chain, and also accepted, on behalf of Mrs. Round, a beautiful table centrepiece in silver, with silver side ornaments of Masonic pattern.

The musical programme was deserving of the highest praise, the Brethren who contributed to it being H. Pringle, A. Winckworth, Signor Salvi, Frank Wood, Thomas Shaw, T. Barlow, George Barton, F. Owens, J. Higginbottom, A. Weber, Eaton Batty, S. Kirkham, and Ben Roberts. Bro. Josef Cantor P.P.G.O. and Bro. A. E. Workman P.P.G.O. played the accompaniments and otherwise did their best to ensure the success of the musical portion of the proceedings at the installation and subsequently.

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ECCLESBURNE LODGE, No. 2425.

THE anniversary was held on Monday, 19th ult., when Bro. Arthur William Allen, Assistant Accountant of the Midland Railway Company, was installed, the ceremony being performed in the Boys' School room, Duffield, by Bro. T. Cox, assisted by the outgoing Master Bro. W. B. A. Tempest, and Bro. E. J. H. Hoskyns.

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Full details, with plan of the Steamer, from the Secretary, 5 Endsleigh Gardens, London, N.W.

ROYAL ARCH.

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UNION CHAPTER, No. 268.

THE ordinary meeting was held at the Queen's Arms Hotel, George Street, Ashton-under-Lyne, on Tuesday evening, 6th ult.

There were present, Companions G. W. Davies P.Z., Walter Newton P.Z. as H., H. Holland J., A. W. Siddall P.Z. Treasurer, Ernest Moss P.Z. Scribe E., J. Hulley P.Z., J. White P.Z., A. Shaw P.Z., A. Adams, and others.

After the reading and confirmation of minutes, the Officers for the ensuing year were elected as follow:—Comps. A. B. Wilkinson Z., H. Holland H., J. Bromiley J., A. W. Siddall Treas., E. Moss S.E., G. H. Griffiths S.N., Boden P.S., Rowley 1st A.S., Adams 2nd A.S. Comp. Neale was re-elected Janitor.

DERBY CHAPTER, No. 1055.

THE regular meeting was held at Chester Bank, Prestwich, on Thursday, 22nd ult., Comp. W. B. Midgley Z.

After the reading and confirmation of minutes, the following Officers were installed and invested by Comp. Jno. Marshall P.P.G.P.S. : Comps. F. W. Maxwell Z., Wm. Connor H., Dr. F. Stephenson J.

The investiture of the undermentioned Officers also took place, viz. : Comps. Jno. W. Thompson P.P.G.D.C. S.E., D. McCarthy S.N., H. B. Fawcett P.S., R. Hothersall P.P.G.A.D.C. Treasurer, after which the Companions sat down to supper, a pleasant evening being spent.

SHURMUR CHAPTER, No. 2374.

THE annual festival of this excellent Chapter was held on Thursday, 22nd ult., at the Royal Forest Hotel, Chingford, when the three Principals Comps. Ben Johnson Z., William Gower H., and S. C. Kaufman J., attended and opened the Chapter in due form. The Companions were then admitted, when the minutes of the last regular convocation, as well as those of the emergency meeting on the 1st September, were read and their correctness confirmed.

The M.E.Z. then vacated the chair in favour of Comp. William Shurmur P.G. Standard Bearer of England, who had kindly undertaken to perform the installation of the new Principals. A conclave of Installed Principals was thereupon assembled, when Comp. Charles H. Bestow J.-elect was presented by Comp. Graveley and was regularly inducted into the third chair. Comp. S. C. Kaufman was promoted into the chair of H., and Comp. Wm. Gower was installed as First Principal.

All the ceremonies were perfectly rendered by Comp. Shurmur.

Upon the re-admission of the Companions, an address to the Chapter, which is now very rarely heard, was delivered by Comp. W. H. Graveley.

There were three candidates for exaltation, but, owing to various causes, they were unable to be present.

The following Companions were appointed as Officers for the year : Jas. Clark S.E., Percy Trickett S.N., Nathaniel Fortescue P.Z. Treasurer, E. P. Pointer P.S., M. Bleick 1st Assist., John Hamilton 2nd Assist., J. F. Haskins P.P.G.O. of Essex and Herts Organist, W. F. Legg D.C., W. H. Graveley, J. C. Francis, and W. L. Beaumont Stewards, and John Ives Janitor.

The M.E.Z. subsequently presented Comp. Ben Johnson with the P.Z.'s jewel that had been voted to him by the Chapter. He referred in highly complimentary terms to the services rendered by Comp. Johnson during his occupation of the first Principal's chair, and said it afforded him the greatest possible pleasure in being the medium through whom the presentation was made.

Comp. Johnson, who appeared greatly moved at this mark of appreciation, briefly returned thanks for the handsome present.

Comp. Ben Johnson was far more ready with a speech when he proposed a cordial vote of thanks to Comp. William Shurmur for his services as Installing Principal. Comp. Shurmur was not only the Father of the Chapter, but was endeared to them and thousands of others by his genial pleasant manner and his wonderful knowledge of Masonic ritual. He was quite sure all present would agree with him that their best thanks were due to Companion Shurmur for the truly admirable manner in which the installation of the three Principals had been conducted. The proposition was seconded by Companion Bestow, and, needless to say, was carried unanimously.

Comp. Shurmur, in acknowledging the compliment, said he highly appreciated the good feeling of the Companions. He could assure them it was a true labour of love to place three such good Masons in the respective chairs, and he hoped he might long be spared to render such pleasant services to the Chapter.

Comp. Beaumont presented the Auditors' report, which was adopted and ordered to be entered on the minutes.

The Companions having tendered their congratulations, the Chapter was closed with due ceremony, and adjourned till January next.

The company afterwards dined together, and subsequently enjoyed an excellent musical programme arranged by Comp. Haskins, in which Brother Kelson Trueman, Mr. Ben Johnson jun., Miss Haskins, and Madame Bearfield took part.

In addition to those already mentioned there were present Comps. Hy. Osborne, Thomas Welham, F. Inch, J. J. Lowman, N. E. Temple, W. Fortescue, D. H. McGowan P.Z., James Speller P.Z., and the following Visitors : J. J. Briginshaw P.Z. 2256, H. E. Herman P.Z. 1293, and Orlton Cooper H. 483.

The Provincial Grand Chapter of Lincolnshire was held on Thursday, at Grantham.

The members of the Domestic Chapter of Improvement—of which Comps. William Cleghorn P.Z. and Charles Kimpton P.Z. are the Preceptors—have arranged to dine together at the St. James' Hall Restaurant, Piccadilly, on Wednesday, 12th instant, at 7 o'clock. Application for tickets to be made to Comp. William Radcliffe P.Z., 142 Camden Road, London, N.W.

ANNUAL SUPPER OF CLARENCE AND AVONDALE LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, No. 2411.

THIS interesting event took place on Tuesday, at Bro. E. Greenwood's, the Masonic Hall, Leytonstone, when members of the Lodge and their Masonic friends assembled in strong force to celebrate the opening night of the season and participate in the Instruction Lodge banquet.

The Lodge was presided over by Bro. S. Fennell W.M. of the Mother Lodge, who was supported by Bros. Jennings S.W., Smyth J.W., T. Box Sec., Basil Stewart I.G.

The Lodge being formed, the minutes of last meeting were confirmed, and Bro. Jennings was elected W.M. for the next meeting. No other Masonic work being considered necessary the Lodge was closed, and the Brethren adjourned to the beautiful banqueting room, where an excellent dinner was provided under the personal supervision of Bro. Greenwood the host.

The chair was here admirably filled by the popular Preceptor Bro. Basil Stewart, prominent among his supporters being the W.M. of the Mother Lodge Bro. S. Fennell, Bro. Box Secretary, and Bro. Sidney Vernon Assistant Secretary, the whole attendance numbering between sixty and seventy.

At the conclusion of the repast the Chairman gave the usual Loyal toasts, and then submitted that of prosperity to the Clarence and Avondale Lodge of Instruction, coupling with it the health of the Secretaries of the Lodge Bros. Box and Sidney Vernon, both of whom he spoke of as hard working members, ever ready to do everything in their power to make the Instruction Lodge prosperous. Their Lodge enjoyed the best of accommodation, while it would not be possible to find a more obliging host than Bro. Greenwood, and under such conditions he hoped the Brethren would regularly attend the Lodge, where they would gain knowledge and experience alike. He felt the secret of Masonic success lay in regularly attending Lodges of Instruction.

Bro. Box replied, thanking the Chairman for his very kind remarks. He preferred to work for the Lodge, however, rather than to make speeches, and therefore he hoped they would excuse him from saying more than that he should be pleased to perform any work in his power for the welfare of the Lodge.

Bro. Vernon said he also would sooner work for the members than make speeches. He was very pleased to see that their annual supper had proved so great a success, and he hoped that most of those present would make a point of regularly attending the meetings of the Lodge.

Bro. John West P.M. in most eloquent terms proposed the health of the Chairman. It was all very well for Bro. Basil Stewart to propose success to the Lodge of Instruction, but what would it be without its worthy Preceptor, who was one of the very best workers in the cause of Freemasonry? Bro. Stewart did everything in his power to make the Lodge more and more prosperous, and they all knew it would be a very difficult matter to find a better Preceptor than he. The toast was most heartily honoured.

Bro. Stewart replied. He felt very happy to see so many there that evening, and hoped all would attend on many future occasions. He assured the members that he would do his utmost to instruct the Brethren to the best of his ability.

The Chairman next proposed prosperity to the neighbouring Lodges of Instruction whose Preceptors he had much pleasure in seeing present that evening. These were Bro. Ben Da Costa, of the Israel Lodge of Instruction, one of the oldest in their midst; Bro. L. A. Da Costa, of the Friars; Bro. Bebrouth, of the Merchant Navy; and Bro. Bromhead, of the Earl of Warwick. All of them were hard-working members of the Fraternity, who were delighted to impart any knowledge they possessed for the benefit of their fellow members of the Craft.

The four Preceptors named having made suitable response, Bro. Henry Harris Secretary of the Israel Lodge of Instruction was called upon. He said it was such re-unions as the present that made them proud of being Freemasons. Probably there were very few among them that night who recollected the immense part Freemasons played in the preventing of General Boulanger becoming Dictator of France, and at the present moment it was very significant that the Freemasons of France had sent to M. Brisson, the Premier, a hearty vote of congratulation upon his manly and courageous efforts to render justice and legality in the revision of the infamous trial which had degraded France and dragged her into the slough of despond. One felt proud in being associated with those who had ever been found in the forefront of liberty and progress. He was delighted to meet them that night. The meeting was a magnificent object lesson of the amity and concord existing between members of the Craft. When they conjured with the magic name of Stewart it was impossible to find any wanting wherever their services were required. He had ever put self-abnegation before himself as a great Masonic virtue, and they had a splendid example that night in the Brothers Da Costa, who travelled express from Newmarket to grace the assembly. He hoped he should be pardoned for trespassing upon their time and patience, and begged them to accept every assurance of his hearty appreciation of the way they had honoured his toast.

A compliment was paid to Bros. Box and Vernon, for the perfect arrangements they had made for the meeting. The Chairman felt they must have worked very hard to get everything in such perfect order. Bro. Sidney Vernon, as a Professor of Music, was quite at home in the musical department, and thus it was they had to especially thank him in that direction, while their acknowledgments were also due to Bros. Daniel, J. Hinderwill, A. Mead, Frank Martin, Fisher, Barnes, Alfred Sidney, Gratton, and others, who had added to the harmony of the evening.

We were sorry to have to leave, but the time for the last train compelled us to put an end to a most pleasant evening, spent amongst a very jolly company.

We may remind our readers that the Clarence and Avondale Lodge of Instruction meets every Tuesday, at 8 p.m., at Bro. Greenwood's fine Masonic Hall, Leytonstone.

THE NEW PENNY MAGAZINE is the title of Messrs. Cassell and Company's new weekly periodical, of which the first number is to appear on the 19th inst. It will provide a greater amount of reading matter and illustrations than has been hitherto given for a penny in any magazine. Each issue is to contain sixty-four large pages, fully illustrated.

Referring to the numerous articles written on listing Bicycles at nett cash prices, it may interest our readers to know that the Lozier Manufacturing Company adopted that system in 1891, when they built their first safety, and since entering the European market with Cleverlands, in 1895, they have seen no reason for changing their policy.

"ONCE A MASON ALWAYS A MASON."

LET me, Brethren, ask you to concentrate your ideas on one of the leading legal Masonic maxims, viz.: "Once a Mason, always a Mason." The idea should always shine as a bright "Morning Star" in our Masonic life, and is nowhere more strongly emphasised than in the Ancient Charges adopted at the revival of Freemasonry in 1721. I would bespeak during the next year a perusal of these Charges by every member present. You will find a range of subjects dealing with every position we can occupy as individuals or citizens. They constitute the chief part of the fundamental law of the Fraternity, and embody a digest of the belief, customs and usages which Masons had theretofore adopted for their guidance. They relate to God and Religion, to the State and duties of a citizen, to the Lodge, to the duties of its Officers and members, to the proper working of the Craft, to the behaviour of the Brethren not only in the Lodge room, but outside, to their behaviour within the family circle, and the duties they owe to those who seek assistance. The morality inculcated has as its basis a religious conception, and the benefits to be derived are intellectual and social, but not of a pecuniary character. While the Order is benevolent in its operation, yet it differs from other benevolent societies in having no pecuniary benefits. We should not, therefore, let the commendable success of mutual pecuniary benefit societies weaken our faith in the usefulness of our Order. With every creed or distinctive benevolent society there is a certain amount of difference of opinion incident to, and inseparable from, distinct institutions with different systems of government and aims. Masonry serves the useful purpose of showing that no such antagonism can exist; and affords a constant object lesson of the healing balm of an ever-present platform for mutual sympathy and co-operation between men of diverse opinions. The Mason who is thoroughly imbued with the feeling "Once a Mason, always a Mason," will require no metallic symbol to show to the world that he is a member of our Order, but will exhibit the truest of all symbols, an upright, personal character, commanding the respect and esteem of his fellow-men. In this spirit we can truly speak of the perpetual jurisdiction of Freemasonry over our consciences, and be supported, and strengthened in the faith we profess, by an ever present Guardian Angel. This ideal will be the true "Mark" for speculative Freemasons, and like their operative Brother Masons of ancient time, each man will be able to make known his work to his Overseer, his companions and himself.—Thomas Robinson, Manitoba, in the "American Tyler."

ENTERTAINMENT NOTES.

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Her Majesty's Theatre.—Miss Olga Nethersole must be congratulated upon her charming production of the romantic play in four acts, by Messrs. Louis N. Parker and Murray Carson, entitled "The Termagant." This title does not convey an idea of the plot, which reads like a story from the Decameron, and though the action of the play takes place in the Gardens of the Palace of Moya, in Spain, at the period of 1493, the imagination instinctively transfers the scene to the Fiesole Gardens above Florence. Beatrix, the proud Princess of Moya, who says she will be no man's mate, is vanquished by ever-conquering love in the person of Don Roderigo, an adventurous sailor and companion of Columbus. Unfortunately the authors have discarded "the happy ending," and the charming comedy terminates in a dire tragedy, Roderigo being assassinated by a jealous rival, while Beatrix poisons herself on his dead body. Still this seems the only termination for the intense and sudden passion that takes possession of both at first sight; we feel that so fierce a flame must be extinguished. The burden of the play naturally rests upon these two characters, which are presented by Miss Olga Nethersole and Mr. Murray Carson with excellent effect. The sudden love of each is admirably depicted, and the scene at the Well, in the second act, is a delightful example of poetic fancy. Miss Nethersole is hardly the "boisterous turbulent woman," being more of a spoilt and pampered beauty, but there is no gain-saying her rendering of the woman forced to acknowledge her master, and to love almost in spite of herself. Mr. Carson realises the gallant Roderigo to perfection, his manly bearing and impassioned speech carrying all before him. Three other couples, though weak and poor beside the first, are brightly sustained by Misses Hope Dudley, Eva Williams, and Esmé Beringer, and Messrs. H. Revelle, J. C. Beresford and V. Sternroyd. The deceitful Garcia, who dupes Felipa in order to pay his court to Beatrix, is powerfully presented by Mr. W. L. Abingdon, his poor victim being pathetically portrayed by Miss Grace Warner. The only humorous character is that of Neco, the servant of Roderigo, whose quaint sayings, as repeated by Mr. Harry Paulton, cause much amusement. The play is beautifully mounted, the scenery by Mr. Walter Hann, and the costumes by Mr. Percy Anderson, being worthy of the handsome theatre. The overture and incidental music, which includes a delightful glee for female voices in the last act, have been specially composed by Mr. Frederick Corder. In fact everything that thought can conceive or money furnish has been provided by Miss Nethersole to secure public appreciation of the piece, and this we are sure will not be withheld.

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Criterion Theatre.—Bro. Charles Wyndham and Miss Mary Moore made their re-appearance, after their holiday, on Wednesday, in Mr. H. A. Jones's delightful comedy "The Liars." We do not know that we can add anything to our former notice of the piece, save that frequent repetition has naturally brought out in greater relief the details of the deeply interesting

characters; and that the entire company working so well together the comedy is presented in the most perfect manner possible. As a picture of modern manners the comedy is most enjoyable, and should be seen by all who appreciate refined humour and witty dialogue. As Bro. Wyndham has still another novelty for early production the piece will only be played for a few weeks longer.

A NATIONAL PLAYGROUND.

THE fact that nature has been very lavish in gifts which tend to make the east coast watering places so suitable as public playgrounds accounts to a great extent for their popularity among holiday makers, but there is yet another prominent factor—the facilities provided by the Great Eastern Railway Company, for the accommodation of passengers desiring to visit the coast towns of Norfolk, Suffolk and Essex. Without these facilities it would have been impossible for the different sea-side towns to have become so widely known and extensively patronised as they are, and without these facilities many a tired Londoner would have remained ignorant of the enjoyable health giving resorts within his reach on the east coast of England, and have thereby failed to take advantage of the gifts of nature so bountifully provided in the district.

Tracing the coast line from the north of Norfolk to the mouth of the Thames, at Southend, it will surprise many to find the large number of prosperous towns, nearly all of which owe their prosperity—in many cases even their existence—to the large number of visitors who rush each summer from the metropolis, to enjoy a few days relaxation on the coast; and such being the case it must be apparent that very much of their future success depends on the provision that is made to enable patrons to reach their doors in an expeditious and economical manner.

Starting in the direction we have just mentioned we may point to Cromer, as providing one of the most striking illustrations possible of the recent growth of a holiday resort under the fostering care of railway enterprise. Comparatively unknown a very few years back, the town and surrounding neighbourhood is now one of the most popular around our coasts, and promises to grow far beyond the most sanguine of expectations, especially if the fine train service inaugurated by the Great Eastern Railway is maintained, and extended so as to keep pace with what will doubtless be the ever increasing needs of the locality. The special expresses between London and Cromer, which accomplish a distance of 130 miles without a stop, have become famous throughout the country, while their popularity is proved by the way in which they are patronised, and the efforts that are being made in other directions to follow on lines similar to those adopted in connection with this service. In association herewith we may specially refer to the little work—the "annotated time table of the Cromer Express"—recently issued by the Great Eastern Company, and which is an interesting addition to this section of modern literature. It not only affords pleasant reading, but is a handy little pamphlet, particularly interesting to anyone who may intend to visit "Poppyland," even at this late season of the year, when the country is indeed delightful; or at some later opportunity, when the time comes round for another summer holiday.

Coming further south we may point to Clacton-on-Sea as another instance of great success following an energetic railway policy, and there are in addition many other coast towns served by the Great Eastern system that give equal promise of prospering under their enterprising policy. As we said at the outset the east coast towns have to thank nature for their attractions, but it is to the Great Eastern Railway Company they must primarily look for the full development of the advantages thus lavishly bestowed upon them.

The Theatres, &c.

Drury Lane.—7.45, The Great Ruby. Matinée, Saturday, 1.45.
Lyceum.—8.15, Macbeth.
Her Majesty's.—8.15, The Termagant. Matinée, Wednesday, 2.15.
Haymarket.—8.30, The Little Minister. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.
Adelphi.—8, The Gipsy Earl.
Criterion.—8.20, The Liars. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.
Vaudeville.—8.20, Her Royal Highness. Matinée, Wednesday, 2.30.
Daly's.—8.15, A Greek Slave. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.
Savoy.—8.20, The Sorcerer, and Trial by Jury. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.
Prince of Wales's.—8, The Royal Star. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.
Gaiety.—8.15, A Runaway Girl. Matinée, Saturday, 2.
Strand.—8.20, Jerry and a sunbeam. 9, What happened to Jones. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 3.
St. James's.—8.30, The Elder Miss Blossom. Matinée, Wednesday, 2.30.
Globe.—8, Hogmanay. 8.45, Tommy Dodd. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 3.
Avenue.—8, Constancy. 8.30, Lord and Lady Algy. Matinée, Wednesday, 3.
Garrick.—8.15, The Secret of the Keep. 9, Teresa. Matinée, Saturday, 3.
Terry's.—8, Meadow Sweet. 8.45, Our Boys. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 3.
Shaftesbury.—8, The Belle of New York. Matinée, Wednesday, 2.
Lyric.—8.15, Little Miss Nobody. Matinée, Thursday, 2.30.
Duke of York's.—8.15, The Dandy Fifth. Matinée, Wednesday, 2.30.
Comedy.—8.10, The Topsy Turvy Hotel. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.
Royalty.—8.15, The Land of Nod.
Grand.—Next week, Carl Rosa Opera Company.
Parkhurst.—Next week, Nicandra.
Queen's Opera House, Crouch End.—Next Week, The Geisha.
Alexandra.—Next week, The J.P.
Dalston.—Next week, The Sorrows of Satan.
Alhambra.—8, Variety Entertainment. Jack Ashore, &c.
Empire.—7.50, Variety Entertainment. "The Press" Ballet, &c.
Palace.—7.45, Variety Entertainment. New American Biograph, &c.
London Pavilion.—8, Variety Entertainment.
Tivoli.—7.30, Variety Entertainment. Saturday, 2.15 also.
Royal.—7.30, Variety Company. Saturday, 2.30 also.
Egyptian Hall.—3 and 8, Mr. J. N. Maskelyne's entertainment.
Crystal Palace.—Varied attractions daily. Thursdays, Fireworks.
Alexandra Palace.—Open Daily. Constant Amusements. Balloon Ascents. Fireworks, &c., &c.
Royal Aquarium.—Open 10 a.m., close 11.30 p.m. Constant Amusement,