

THE

Freemason's Chronicle.

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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THE BOYS SCHOOL CENTENARY.

THE final meeting of the Board of Stewards of the Centenary Festival of this Institution, which took place on the 10th June last, will be held on Tuesday next, 20th inst., at four o'clock, at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen Street, London, when the Auditors' report with statement of accounts will be submitted, and the work of the Stewards brought to a finish.

This meeting, the date of which, we understand, has been fixed for some time past, is looked forward to with considerable interest throughout the Craft, as it will afford the opportunity of, in a measure, reviewing the action of the Quarterly Court of the Institution, in granting a gratuity of one thousand guineas to the Secretary as a special recognition of his services in connection with the Centenary Festival, and which action has called forth very strong expressions of disapproval on all sides. If there is a balance of a thousand guineas on the Fees account the Stewards had better give it to the Secretary in place of the sum voted from the general Funds of the Institution, on the understanding that the latter amount is to be refunded; if there is not so large a balance we see nothing for it but to wait for the tempest which may be expected to break over the Masonic Charity world when the minutes of the meeting at which the money was voted come up for confirmation in January next.

WEST LANCASHIRE.

THE Prince of Wales Most Worshipful Grand Master of England has appointed the Earl of Lathom Provincial G. Master for Lancashire (Western Division), in succession to his father the late Earl. We tender our hearty congratulations to the new chief of this important Masonic Province, and feel convinced the present Lord Lathom's appointment will be hailed with delight by the Brethren over whom he is called to preside, as well as by Masons throughout the country, who will desire to honour so worthy a son of a worthy father.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

A MEETING of the Provincial Grand Lodge was held on Thursday, 8th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Goldsmith Street, Nottingham, especial interest attaching to the proceedings by reason of the fact that it was the first occasion upon which the Duke of Portland had presided since his appointment to the office of Prov. Grand Master, in succession to the late Duke of St. Albans. There was a large and representative gathering of members of the Craft from all parts of the Province.

After the formal opening of the Lodge, the Provincial Grand Master said that before proceeding with the business of the meeting it was his painful duty to refer to the great loss the Craft had sustained in the death of the Pro Grand Master Lord Lathom, one of the brightest ornaments of Freemasonry. This duty was the sadder for him to perform because he was well acquainted with the deceased nobleman, and for many years was privileged to enjoy his friendship.

He was associated with him in all Court functions, which he so greatly adorned, and certainly he spared no trouble or pains to bring them to a successful issue. Together they passed through the two Jubilees of her Majesty the Queen. When in his position of Lord Chamberlain a vast amount of work fell upon him. This work he most conscientiously performed, and in all ways showed himself a devoted servant of his Sovereign. Courteous, quiet, genial-hearted, and dignified, it would be difficult to find a man more upright in life than he was, or one whose memory they could hold in higher esteem. As a Freemason he filled the highest offices, and was devoted to the welfare of the Craft. He worked with all his might and main to forward its interests, and it would, indeed, be difficult to fill his place. He should like, on behalf of the Masons now assembled, and on his own, to tell his family that they deeply regretted the great and irreparable loss which they had sustained, that they sympathised with them in their sorrow, and assured them that Lord Lathom's memory would long be revered and held in the highest respect, both as a man and as a Freemason, throughout the Province of Nottingham. His Grace concluded by moving the following resolution, which was carried unanimously:—

That this Provincial Grand Lodge tenders its most respectful sympathy and condolence to Bro. Lord Skelmersdale, and other members of the family, and records upon its minutes our appreciation of the valuable services our late Brother has rendered to our Order, and the great loss we have sustained by his death.

The Provincial Grand Officers for the ensuing year were then appointed.

After the reception of the reports, and the transaction of other business, the Provincial Grand Master said he had to congratulate the Province upon the reports which had been received of the prosperity of Freemasonry in Nottinghamshire. It was gratifying to find that the funds of the Provincial Grand Lodge were in credit, as well as those of the Benevolence and Educational branches. He understood that these latter had not been long established; consequently they were not large in amount, but he had no doubt that as Freemasonry prospered the funds would soon be materially increased. He would remind the Brethren, however, that Freemasonry did not consist entirely of financial gifts. The watchword of the Order was "Charity," and each day ought to be marked with a white stone of a good deed done. In every relation of life, towards each other, towards their relatives, towards their friends, towards neighbours, and towards strangers, let them practice charity, not only in almsgiving enjoined by their Order, but that more precious charity which thinketh no evil, speaketh no evil—charity in thought, charity in word, and charity in deed. Let them do this and the world would see how dearly Masons loved each other and their fellow-men, and they would be leading that true Masonic life which was but darkly shadowed forth by the emblems and secrets of their Order; for beautiful as they were, they were as nothing when compared with the bright and warm reality of Freemasonry.

Subsequently the Provincial Grand Master announced that he had made arrangements in connection with the Masonic ball, to be held in the Albert Hall, Nottingham, on 5th January, for special trains to convey Brethren to and from Retford, Worksop, Mansfield, and Sutton-in-Ashfield.

A ball, under the auspices of the Cambrian Lodge, was held at Neath on the 9th inst., the company numbering one hundred and fifty.

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The Brethren of Farnborough and district recently gave a ball on behalf of the funds of the Farnborough Fire Brigade.

ROYAL ARCH.

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CORNWALL.

THE Provincial Grand Chapter annual meeting was held under the banner of the Rose of Sharon Chapter, No. 1006, in the Chapter Rooms, at Redruth, on Tuesday, 13th inst.

Sir Charles Graves-Sawle presided in the place of the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, who was unable to be present, and he made feeling reference to the death of the late Comp. E. D. Anderton Prov. G. Scribe E., and to Lord Lathom, to the relatives of whom it was ordered that votes of sympathy should be sent.

The calling of the roll of Chapters showed that every one in the county was represented, the attendance being beyond expectation.

The financial statement, and the report of the Provincial Grand Scribe E. Bernard F. Edyvean P.G. Sword Bearer Eng., were received.

The following Officers were appointed :

Comp. Sir C. Graves-Sawle	-	-	-	H.
Gilbert Pearce	-	-	-	J.
B. F. Edyvean	-	-	-	Scribe E.
E. M. Milford	-	-	-	Scribe N.
Venning	-	-	-	Treasurer
Osborne	-	-	-	Principal Sojourner
Chilcott	-	-	-	Assistant Sojourner
Sampson	-	-	-	2nd Assistant Sojourner
G. S. Bray	-	-	-	Registrar
F. W. Dabb	-	-	-	Sword Bearer
Tresidder	-	-	-	Standard Bearer
Rowlings	-	-	-	Assistant Scribe E.
White	-	-	-	Assistant Dir. of Cers.
Trethewey	-	-	-	Organist.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE Grand Superintendent of Gloucestershire the Right Hon. Sir Michael E. Hicks Beach, Bart., M.P. presided on the 9th inst., at a meeting of the Provincial Grand Chapter held at the Masonic Hall, Cheltenham.

The Chapter was in mourning, and very sympathetic reference was made from the chair to the sad circumstances under which Lord Lathom's death occurred, and to the loss which Masonry had sustained.

After receiving the Treasurer's report and transacting routine business, the following Officers of the Province were appointed for the ensuing year :

Comp. R. V. Vassar-Smith	-	-	-	H.
James David	-	-	-	J.
James B. Winterbotham	-	-	-	Scribe E.
George Pike	-	-	-	Scribe N.
James Bruton	-	-	-	Treasurer
E. L. Baylis	-	-	-	Registrar
R. J. Weston	-	-	-	Principal Sojourner
F. Hannam-Clark	-	-	-	1st Assist. Sojourner
Alfred Baker	-	-	-	2nd Assist. Sojourner
T. Robins	-	-	-	Sword Bearer
H. J. Brewer	-	-	-	Standard Bearer
Conway Jones	-	-	-	Director of Ceremonies
J. A. Matthews	-	-	-	Organist
Llewellyn Evans	-	-	-	Assistant Scribe E.

Prov. G. Chapter having been closed in due form, the Companions dined together in the banqueting room, under the Provincial Grand Superintendent's presidency. In the course of the proceedings, the Chairman mentioned the fact that since the formation of Prov. G. Chapter, sixteen years ago, he had not missed a single one of its meetings. He had had some other engagements during that time, and the fact that he could say what he now said showed, he thought, how much he valued the relaxation of these meetings with his Brethren in Gloucestershire. Speaking of Lord Lathom, he bore eloquent testimony to his character as a man and a Mason, recalling the fact that they had been boys together at Eton, and that their friendship had thus been life-long in its duration.

In reference to the same subject, the Rev. Comp. Martyn mentioned as an interesting fact that he, Lord Lathom, and their Grand Superintendent had been admitted as Masons at three successive meetings in the same Lodge, and that fraternal friendship had been continuous and unbroken throughout the years that had elapsed until Lord Lathom's death.

One other remark by the Grand Superintendent will have an interest for local Masons. While speaking of the position which Cheltenham deservedly held in the Province, he suggested that the time had come when, if that position

was to be supported, an effort should be made to increase the accommodation which their meeting place offered, and make it adequate for such gatherings as that at which he had that day presided.

King Oscar of Sweden and Norway, who will attain the age of seventy next January, has just celebrated his fifty years' jubilee as a Freemason, when deputations from all parts of Sweden and some foreign countries assembled at Stockholm to congratulate the Grand Master of the Swedish Craft. Many English Freemasons will remember King Oscar's appearance at the Girls School Centenary Festival at the Albert Hall some ten years ago, on which occasion the Prince of Wales told the assemblage that he had become a Freemason on King Oscar's advice.

The new chiefs of Norfolk appear to be devoting themselves most heartily to the work of the Province, both Bro. Hamon le Strange and his Deputy being among those present at the recent meeting of the Suffield Lodge, at North Walsham. The Provincial Grand Master himself installed the new Master, and proposed the toast of his health at the banquet subsequently held.

Bro. George R. Ceiley, A.R.C.O., Organist of the Sympathy Lodge, No. 483, has been offered and has accepted the position of Organist and Choir master of St. John's, Cambridge Gardens, Kilburn, N.W., of which church the Vicar, the Rev. Sinclair Moore, M.A., is also a member of the Craft.

Bro. Henry Sadler, Grand Tyler and Sub Librarian of England, read an interesting paper on "Tylers and Tying" before the Israel Lodge of Instruction on Sunday, and received a cordial vote of thanks for his kindness.

The first annual ball of the Officers and members of the Commercial Travellers' Lodge, No. 2631, which took place on Friday evening, 2nd inst., at the Assembly Rooms, Hardman Street, Liverpool, proved a most successful and enjoyable social function. The arrangements were made by a Committee under the control of Brother J. T. Bramley W.M. of the Lodge.

Bro. W. G. Curtis Worshipful Master, and the Brethren of the St. Hilda Lodge, are to be congratulated upon the unique success which attended the ball given under their auspices in the Town Hall, Wallingford, on Wednesday, 7th inst. Upwards of 120 responded to the invitations sent out, and kept up the dancing with gusto until four o'clock next morning.

It may be regarded as certain that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales will not be able to accept the invitation of the Masons of Virginia, to visit America next year in connection with the Washington Centennial celebrations.

"A SPRIG OF ACACIA."

EVIDENCE of the great esteem in which the late Bro. Samuel Jew, of Stonehouse, was held was manifested by the large attendance of Freemasons and others at his funeral on Saturday. The deceased was one of the oldest Freemasons in the Province of Devon, being a member of several Craft Lodges. He was also a P.M. of Lodge Fortitude, a P.P.G.T. of Devon, and held Provincial rank in the Arch and Mark. Deceased was formerly a Quartermaster-Sergeant in the Royal Marines. He retired from the service in 1865, and was not long since the recipient of a meritorious-service medal, which carried with it an annuity. He died at his residence, Stonehouse, on the 7th inst., at the age of eighty-two. We learn that about six weeks ago, when entering the Freemasons' Hall, Plymouth, to attend a Masonic Lodge, Bro. Jew tripped and fell over a step, in consequence of his failing eyesight, and was severely shaken. He remained, however, to the end of the meeting, but had to be assisted home. About a week later serious symptoms developed themselves, and he was obliged to take to his bed, where he remained up to the time of his death.

CONSECRATIONS.

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EDWARD TERRY LODGE.

“WE are all proud to have our names associated with that of Edward Terry.” Every member of the Craft, who has the pleasure of the acquaintance of this highly esteemed and beloved gentleman, must agree with this opinion of Bro. John Strachan, Q.C., Grand Registrar of England, expressed upon the occasion of the consecration of the Edward Terry Lodge, No. 2722, which took place on the 8th inst., at the Cleveland Hall, Barnes, S.W.

Bro. Edward Letchworth, F.S.A., Grand Secretary kindly undertook to perform the ceremony, and was assisted by Bros. J. Strachan as S.W., J. D. Langton P.D.G.D.C. as J.W., Rev. J. S. Brownrigg P.G.C. as Chaplain, James Hy. Matthews P.B.B. as Director of Ceremonies, and Major Thos. C. Walls P.G.S.B. as I.G.

Among those present were the twenty-five Founders, viz.: Bros. Edward Terry P.G.Treas. P.M. 29, William Hunt P.M. 172 I.P.M. 2512 2702, Maurice Roche 172, Samuel Case 40 1539, Stampa Walter Lambert P.Prov.G. Reg. Surrey P.M. 1556, John Eustace Anderson P.M. 18 255, William Thomas Peat P.Prov.G.Org. Middlesex P.M. 1656, C. T. Rotheram S.W. 907, Hugh Shirreff 704, Thomas Grylls 975, Gerald Spencer Hertslet 1656, John Spencer 823, James Hill 975, P. E. Metzner 2029, W. G. Woodward 1656, N. Courlander 975, Frederic de Groot 946, R. W. Simpson P.M. 1656, L. Goodacre 172 2192, H. J. Bond P.M. 1656, W. Wainwright 1656, R. T. Hughes 1656, W. N. Crowhurst P.Prov.G.Purs. Bucks P.M. 1894, Sidney Marler 1261, Hy. Woodham 1559.

The Lodge was opened in the three degrees, and the beautiful ceremony proceeded on the usual lines, being most impressively rendered by Bro. Letchworth.

The oration on the nature and principles of the Institution was delivered by the Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, in which he insisted upon the necessity of work, unselfishness, and the practice of religion in all ranks of life, if we desired to become fit and proper members of the Craft.

The Lodge having been Consecrated “to the Glory of God and the Royal Solomon,” was then formally constituted, and the ceremony concluded with the Patriarchal Benediction.

The musical arrangements were under the direction of Bro. Herbert Schartau P.P.G.O. Middx., who was assisted by Bros. Frank Tebbutt, and John Josey.

The next business was the installation of the Worshipful Master, and a Board of Installed Masters having been constituted, Bro. Edward Terry was regularly placed in the chair as the first ruler. Upon the return of the Brethren Brother Terry was proclaimed and saluted in the various degrees, and the Warrant of the new Lodge was entrusted to his keeping.

The following Officers were then appointed and invested: Bros. William Hunt to act as I.P.M., Stampa Walter Lambert S.W., John Eustace Anderson J.W., Richard William Simpson (elected by ballot) Treasurer, W. T. Peat Secretary, C. T. Rotheram S.D., Gerald Spencer Hertslet J.D., John Spencer I.G., Samuel Case D.C., James Hill, R. T. Hughes, W. G. Woodward, Norton Courlander, and Percy E. Metzner Stewards, and W. H. Hobbs Tyler.

The Addresses were admirably rendered by Brother Letchworth, and elicited the hearty applause of those present. A Committee of the Officers was appointed to frame the Bye-laws.

The business of the evening having terminated, the customary compliments ensued. The W.M. thanked Bro. Letchworth for so kindly coming down to perform the double ceremony, and asked his acceptance of the Lodge jewel, which had been designed for the occasion.

Brother Letchworth returned thanks for the handsome present.

By a vote of the Lodge all the Consecrating Officers were elected Honorary Members.

Brother Strachan expressed the thanks of his colleagues for the compliment, which they gladly accepted, and made use of the words quoted at the commencement of this notice.

Several candidates for initiation were proposed (among them being the Vicar of Barnes, and the son of the W.M.) and the names of many joining members were submitted for approval.

The Lodge was then closed, and the occasion terminated with a superb banquet in the large hall.

Brother Edward Terry W.M., in proposing the toast of

the M.W.G.M. said he had just received a telegram from Sandringham, “I thank the Grand Officers and Brethren for their kind and fraternal greetings—Albert Edward.” This proved the very great interest the Prince of Wales took in a Masonic function down at Barnes.

Sir John B. Monckton P.G.W. responded to the toast of the Deputy Grand Master, &c.

Bro. Terry, in proposing the Consecrating Officers, said the Brethren of the Edward Terry Lodge were particularly grateful to the Consecrating Officers for coming down to Barnes, and helping them to get up that meeting. He could only express for the Founders their thanks for the beautiful performance of the ceremony.

Bro. E. Letchworth Grand Secretary, in acknowledging the compliment, said that as the mouthpiece of the other Consecrating Officers, and for himself, he could say it had given them great pleasure to take part in the Consecration of the Edward Terry Lodge. He returned his warmest thanks for the toast proposed in such kind terms by the W.M. They were perfectly sure that under the able rule of their W.M. the Lodge would be a very great success. It was a source of regret to them that Bros. Monckton and Richardson were not able to take part in the ceremony; they were prevented by very important engagements from coming in time, but he had to thank those who stepped in their places, and discharged their duties in such an admirable manner. He was expressing the feelings of those with whom he had been that evening associated, when he said he wished the Lodge might have a very happy and successful future.

Bro. John Strachan, Q.C., G. Registrar proposed the Worshipful Master. He said not long ago a minister—and ministers did not generally say that which was untrue—informed him that when Daniel was placed in the den of lions his great consolation was that he would not have to make an after-dinner speech. He (Bro. Strachan) thought that if Daniel had known that he would be entrusted with such a toast as he (Bro. Strachan) had been privileged to propose that night, he would have gone through the horrors of the lions' den. The toast was that of the Worshipful Master, one of his old friends when they were boys together, little boys, about thirty or forty years ago. In those days Bro. Terry thought he was an actor. He really did! He thought he could act! And he (Bro. Strachan) remembered the first occasion upon which he saw him, he thought it was in an oratorio, it had some singing in it, at any rate; and the next time he saw him he thought it was in “Hamlet;” it was a peculiar Hamlet, because at the end of every line he went off like a cuckoo clock tooral looral, but the more he tried, the more the people laughed at him, as he went up and down the platform. He was speaking of bygone days, when Brother Terry used to go acting. The present generation scarcely believed he had been on the stage, at any rate it had not been known in London that his friends were only desirous to know when he was coming back again. It was not always that comicality distinguished their friend. Bro. Terry had in him some of the tenderest emotions, not only in his own heart, but he had the power of touching the hearts of others. It was not by things at which people laughed that Bro. Terry was to be most thoroughly well spoken of; it was by those lovely touches of human nature which he had by his great art been enabled to give, by which he could sway great masses of men, women, and children—because he loved children, and a man who did not love children was hardly worth calling a man. But the great thing he had to find fault with in Bro. Terry was that he did not allow him to be able to say that Masonry had made a good man of him. No, because he was a good man before he was a Mason. He had spoken of Bro. Terry in his younger manhood. They were all young men. He ought to remind the Brethren of this, that all who knew Bro. Terry knew that he was a good citizen, and always had been known as a good citizen, promoting the good of his fellow-men. He had known Bro. Terry to be a good son, a good, loving, and affectionate son; an affectionate and loving husband and father; a thoroughly good friend to those who had the pleasure and honour of his friendship; and, lastly, he came to that which had endeared him still more to their hearts, a thoroughly good Mason, having begun as a good man and kept up being a good man to the end. There was not one of the list of Masonic Subscribers to Charities they looked at but when they came to the name of Edward Terry they saw it like a Railway Station denoted by lights in the shape of stars. Bro. Terry was an older Mason than he, because he was in the Lodge when he (Bro. Strachan) was initiated. He had always found Bro. Terry a good Mason in

every way; the Brethren had found him to be a good Mason, and now they had honoured him by naming a Lodge after him. Bro. Terry had honoured the Lodge by permitting his name to be given as W.M. He asked the Brethren to drink the toast, wishing him not only a genial and kindly year of office, but a long life and greater happiness as years passed by; that when the Great Architect called him to Himself, he would have the same kindly regard from them as he had now, and would have the same kindly feelings toward them.

Bro. Edward Terry said in reply to his dear old friend, Bro. John Strachan Grand Registrar of England, for his kind remarks, he did not know what he could say. He did not feel that he deserved one-tenth he had said about him. He could only say that he had the very greatest feeling for Masonry. He felt that if he was not a good man he ought to be by the teaching of Masonry—that a man to be a perfect man must be a perfect Mason, to which he did not aspire; but he would say this, that very many of his good impulses, and a few momentary impulses for good had been impressed upon him by Masonry, and of course he had to thank the greatest morality that was ever devised by human minds for it. He felt very strongly upon the point. He was somewhat of a sentimental man, as Bro. Strachan had said. He did not feel he deserved to have a Lodge named after him (No, No). He did not say that in order to draw expressions of "No, No." He felt it a great honour, but he felt with the Grand Officers, it was always an exceptional honour to a man to have a Lodge named after him. Therefore he did feel it as a very, very great compliment that he could not forget in the rest of his life, and it was in the sense of believing in that compliment that he hoped to have the pleasure of making his son a Mason at their next meeting. During the existence of the Lodge it was his sincere wish that the Lodge which had honoured him by having his name attached to it would exist and flourish very many years after he had passed away, and he hoped and thought that they would have a Lodge at Barnes, the foundation stone of which they had laid that day, which would last for many, many years. They had an exceptional body of founders, founders who had come forward in every possible way to help them, who had given things to their Lodge, who had furnished the Lodge, and yet had consented to take inferior office: at least he should not say inferior office, because every Office in the Lodge was an honour. His only difficulty was to assure the Officers of the Lodge of his impartiality. It was an invidious thing for a Master to say whom he would put forward, and whom he would not put forward. He thought he had done the right thing in the appointments he had made. The members came from various parts of Surrey, and he hoped he had been fair in his selection, and that he had not acted from any ulterior motive, but from a desire to meet all parties.

The toast of the Visitors was responded to by Bro. Gerald Maxwell W.M. Drury Lane Lodge, James Fernandez P.M. Drury Lane Lodge, T. Skewes Cox, M.P., and Bro. Pickering P.M. 29.

The toast of the Officers, which was replied to by the Senior and Junior Wardens, and others followed, and the Tyler signalled the separation of the Brethren.

The Visitors included Bros. T. Skewes Cox, M.P., P.G.S., Sir John B. Monckton P.G.W., Geo. A. Pickering P.G.S., Henry Sadler G.T., Charles B. Gadd P.M. 27, E. E. Peacock P.M. 1928, F. A. Hazzledine P.M. 2098, B. F. Stratton P.M. 49, E. S. Crick P.M. 2192, F. Bland P.M. 1672, A. Alden P.M. 2032, R. Barrett P.M. 172, Gerald Maxwell W.M. 2127, R. W. Rice P.M. 1656, G. Mead P.M. 2162, James Fernandez P.M. 2127, Eustace Anderson P.M. 49 and 715, J. Ellwood P.M. 179, Hy. Massey P.M. 1928, Geo. Elkington P.M. 2416, Orlton Cooper P.M. 211, A. Ronveur 2206, Willis J. Bull 33, Thomas Wall 1155, T. C. Johnson 2200, Arthur Colls 141, James March 1238, John Josey 1706, E. Lionel Walsh 2032, Godfrey E. P. Hertslet 1656, O. Talbot 65, T. Foster 1656, F. J. Mann 2029, A. W. Tribe 1732, Herbert Johnson 2190, R. A. Brooking 2032, E. J. Partridge 2032, Gustave Loosen 1656, John Ambrose 2032, J. Ashton 2032, Frank Hitchens jun. 58, F. O. Tubby 907, W. N. Green 1178, D. C. Latham 362, R. Messeun 2032, D. G. F. Simmons 1853, Thos. Cretney 823, C. M. Hammerton 2650, William Lowe 2264, and others.

MARISTOWE LODGE.

THE ceremony of Consecrating and constituting this new Lodge, No. 2725, to meet at the Yelverton Hotel, Yelverton, took place on 30th ult., at the Freemasons' Hall, Princess Square, Plymouth. The ceremony was performed by the Hon. Sir Stafford Northcote, Bart., C.B., M.P., Prov. Grand Master of Devonshire, assisted by Bros. G. C. Davie P.A.G.D.C. Eng. Deputy Prov. Grand Master, and many other prominent Masons of the district.

The Prov. Grand Master said before proceeding with the

business he had a resolution to submit, which he was sure would be received with unanimity and with the deepest sympathy. He moved:

That the members of this Provincial Grand Lodge of Devonshire desire to express their regret at the great loss which the nation, as well as the Craft, has sustained by the death of the Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom, G.C.B., Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master, and their sense of the eminent and distinguished services he has rendered to the Order for a long series of years. And they further desire to express their heartfelt sympathy with every member of his bereaved family.

As one who had the privilege of knowing Lord Lathom he would like to add his personal tribute to the memory of one who had rendered such distinguished services to the Craft, and in every way shed lustre upon it. The best tribute they could all bear to his memory would be to set the late Lord Lathom before them as an example in Freemasonry, and in every other relation of life.

Deputy Provincial Grand Master Davie seconded the resolution, and remarked that it seemed but yesterday that they had to pass a similar resolution on the occasion of the death of Lord Carnarvon, of whom Lord Lathom was the worthy successor.

The ceremony of consecrating Lodge Maristowe was then proceeded with in due form, and its impressiveness was enhanced by the music, which was directed by the Prov. Grand Organist Brother F. J. Shapcott, assisted by Brother Willoughby P.P.G.O., Mus. Bac. (Oxon). Solos in the anthems were sung by Bro. Pastfield, of Exeter, and Bro. Dunn, of Plymouth.

In the course of the ceremony Bro. Shorto delivered an Oration. There was no doubt, he said, of the growth of their great Institution, of which they were all so proud. It was little more than a year ago that he took a prominent part in the foundation of a new Lodge, which they were proud to know bore the name of their Provincial Grand Master. But the number of the new Lodge they consecrated now was sixty-six beyond the number of the Lodge they consecrated then, thus showing the zeal and vitality that abounded among them. What was the secret of this growth and expansion? They were often designated an ancient body, and no doubt that was true. The beginnings of the Craft went back to prehistoric times, and it was easy to believe that the Pyramids of Egypt, or the temple of Jerusalem, or their own magnificent cathedral were erected by organised bodies of men. But Freemasonry could not rest upon antiquity alone. There was a noble teaching of morality which permeated the whole system. But those beautiful lessons of a sublime morality were, happily, not exclusively Masonic. They also made a feature of charity, and their hearts were opened in the most liberal manner at the recent Centenary of the Boys School; but other bodies maintained charities, and, after all, the giving of money was often doing charity by deputy. There was no charity like personal service; and when they were admitted into Freemasonry they all professed a sincere desire to make themselves more extensively serviceable to their fellow creatures. The great band which kept them together was the three great principles of brotherly love, relief, and truth—the relief which lifted up, for that was the meaning of the word.

After the Provincial Grand Lodge was closed the first meeting of the Maristowe Lodge was opened, and Bro. R. R. Rodd was installed the first W.M. by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master.

The following are the Founders and first Officers of the new Lodge:—Bros. R. Robinson Rodd P.M. 105 W.M., Thomas George Taylor acting I.P.M., J. J. Blagden S.W., E. Marriette J.W., Charles Edward Cottier Sec., William Edward Corbett S.D., Robert Toop J.D., Walter Foot I.G., Edward Arthur D.C., Arthur Debnam A.D.C., John Atwill Senior Steward, William Henry Westlake Junior Steward, William Henry Treasurer, James Clift.

The first banquet of the Lodge was afterwards held at the Club, the W.M. Bro. R. R. Rodd presiding. For the toast of the Grand Lodge Bro. Sandeman responded. He incidentally remarked that he had been a Freemason fifty-one years, and feelingly alluded to the loss Grand Lodge had sustained by the death of Lord Lathom.

The Prov. Grand Master Sir Stafford Northcote, in response to his health, which was proposed by the W.M., said he could assure them his interest in Freemasonry was genuine and sincere, and it was a great pleasure to him to come to any part of Devonshire, and not least to the Three Towns, where he always received so kindly a welcome, to do anything in his power to promote the interests of the Craft. He was especially glad to assist in the formation of a new Lodge, which by its geographical position ought to enable

many Brethren to attend Lodge more frequently. Since he had had the honour of being their Provincial Grand Master Freemasonry in Devonshire had advanced by leaps and bounds. He congratulated the new Lodge on securing as their first recruit the son of their excellent friend and neighbour Sir Massey Lopes. He was quite certain Mr. Lopes would be encouraged to pursue his studies in the Craft, in which he trusted he might eventually attain a high position. He had been asked whether a possible change in his connection with the county would have the effect of separating him from Devonshire Freemasonry. All he could say was that so far as he could tell at present, although it was impossible for him absolutely to forecast the future, he knew no reason why, so long as they were pleased to continue their confidence in him, their relations should not remain on the same footing.

Bro. Blagden S.W. proposed the Consecrating and Installing Officers, for whom the Deputy Provincial Grand Master responded.

The Prov. Grand Master himself proposed the health of the new W.M., and, in reply, Bro. Rodd returned thanks for his election, and for the kindness shown to the new Lodge, which, being in a growing district, he believed would prosper.

Bro. Deas Pr.G.J.W. gave the Officers of the Lodge, for which the two Wardens and Bro. Cottier responded.

Bro. Marriette proposed the Visitors, with which was coupled the names of the Prov. Grand Senior Warden and Bro. E. S. Lancaster.—“Western Morning News.”

The Consecration of the Edward Terry Lodge provided material for some Masonic illustrations in Saturday's "Daily Graphic," which, taken as a whole, did the artist considerable credit. We do not remember, however, seeing our worthy Grand Secretary look quite so fierce as he is depicted on this occasion. The "back view" of him delivering the Charge to the Lodge is in much better style, quite characteristic, in fact.

We are sorry to have to record that Bro. Geo. Pankhurst has met with a serious accident, at his place of residence, the Windsor Castle Hotel, Hammersmith. On Saturday, 10th inst., Bro. Pankhurst detected an escape of gas in a sitting room upstairs, and unfortunately struck a match to discover from where it came, with the result that a terrible explosion took place, blowing out several windows and injuring Bro. Pankhurst so dreadfully that he was at once taken in a cab to the West London Hospital, where he was placed in a ward and his injuries attended to.

A "record" was claimed by the Worshipful Master of the St. Matthew Lodge, No. 1447, Barton-on-Humber, on the occasion of his installation last month. He said that the fact of his being the third member of his family who had occupied the position of W.M. within ten years was unique—whether it is so or not is a matter we cannot decide, but it is most certainly a very unusual occurrence.

GRAND LODGE OF SCOTLAND.

THE Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Scotland was held in the Freemasons' Hall, Edinburgh, on the 1st instant.

At the business meeting the chair was taken by Sir Charles Dalrymple of Newhailes, Bart., M.P., Past Grand Master. The new office bearers were elected, and those who were present were installed with the usual solemnities.

After the business meeting Grand Lodge adjourned to the Great Hall, for the celebration of the Festival of St. Andrew. There they were joined by other members and by deputations from the daughter Lodges. There were over 260 Brethren present, being the largest gathering for the past quarter of a century. The chair was occupied by the Grand Master Lord Saltoun.

After dinner the Lord Provost of Edinburgh proposed the Grand Lodge of Scotland, coupled with the health of the Grand Master.

Lord Saltoun, in replying, said that the year just ended had indeed been the record year in respect of the prosperity that had attended Grand Lodge affairs. There had been enrolled as entrants 7,068, as compared with 6,579 in the year 1897, and 6,078 in 1891, then the highest point reached in all previous years. What an advance since 1832, when in that year 661 was the number of

entrants! Now they had thousands, for hundreds then. The income of Grand Lodge had been £7,060, as against £6,951 in the previous year—an increase of £109. The grants from the Benevolent Fund amounted to £586, and the annuities to £1,150. Since the formation of the Annuity Fund in 1889 the sum of £10,000 had been paid in annuities. Seventeen charters had been issued during the year. The General Fund amounted to £16,266, the Benevolent Fund to £7,350, and the Annuity Fund to £26,036—making a grand total for the three Funds of £49,653, exclusive of the heritable and movable property, which was valued at £23,900. Including the heritable and movable property, Grand Lodge assets came to the princely sum of £73,553. What a contrast to the state of affairs in 1877, when Grand Lodge was saddled with a debt of some £20,000! It had fallen to him to have had the honour to preside in Grand Lodge in the year in which it had attained an unprecedented prosperity. But to Grand Committee and its Finance Committee must be attributed much of the success that had in the past twenty years attended the administration of the business of Grand Lodge; and the Visitation Committee had wrought a wonderful improvement upon Lodges in the Metropolitan District. Scottish Masonry was making rapid strides in the colonies of Queensland and Western Australia, and among our countrymen in South Africa. During the year three new Lodges had been erected in Queensland, in the Transvaal one, in Western Australia four, and they had erected a Lodge in the Republic of Colombia. Altogether, Scottish Freemasonry at home, in India, in the colonies, and in foreign parts was at present in a highly prosperous condition. It was no exaggeration to say that in this year 1898 there were upwards of one hundred thousand Masons hailing from Lodges under the Scottish Constitution. The Grand Master expressed regret that Lord Kitchener, Baron of Khartoum, had been unable to accept his invitation to be present; but he heartily commended his scheme for the foundation of a College in memory of Gordon, and asked that every Master of a Lodge should bring the matter before the members, and that every Provincial Grand Master should do so; and he said he would ask the Grand Lodge to amplify that fund, and trusted they would be able to send the Sirdar such a sum as would make the Scottish race prominent in the effort to maintain the memory of their great comrade Gordon.

Other toasts followed.

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CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR EXCURSIONS
FROM EUSTON, BROAD STREET, KENSINGTON (ADDISON ROAD),
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On 23rd December.

To Dublin, Cork, Killarney, Limerick, Thurles, Bray, Greystones, Ovoca, Wicklow, Galway, Sligo, Westport, Greenore, Belfast, Londonderry, Portrush, Armagh, Bundoran, Enniskillen, Warrenpoint, Ardglass, Downpatrick, Newcastle (co. Down), Dundalk, Newry, and other places in Ireland. To return within 16 days.

On 23rd December (Evening).

To Carlisle, Moffat, Dumfries, Newton Stewart, Stranraer, Wigtown, Whithorn, Castle Douglas, Kirkcudbright, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Greenock, Gourock, Dumbarton, Balloch, Aberdeen, Ballater, Montrose, Brechin, Forfar, Perth, Dundee, Dunkeld, Arbroath, Callander, Crieff, Oban, Fort William, Stirling, Inverness, Elgin, Keith, Nairn, and other places in Scotland. For 4, 5, 8, and 16 days.

On 24th December (Evening).

To Birmingham, Coventry, Leamington, Kenilworth, Warwick, Wolverhampton, Walsall, Dudley, Dudley Port, Wednesbury, Bangor, Carnarvon, Conway, Llandudno Junction, Colwyn Bay, Rhyl, Chester, Birkenhead, Hereford, Leominster, Ludlow, Llandrindod, Llangammarch, Llanwrtyd, Builth, Shrewsbury, Swansea, Abergavenny, Dowlais, Merthyr, Oswestry, Aberystwyth, Borth, Aberdovey, Barmouth, Dolgelly, Rugby, Nuneaton, Leicester, Tamworth, Lichfield, Stafford, Crewe, Macclesfield, Stoke, Ashton, Manchester, Oldham, Stalybridge, Stockport, Liverpool, Warrington, Wigan, Preston, Lancaster, Carnforth, Windermere, the English Lake District, the Furness Line, &c., returning 26th and 27th December.

On 30th December (Evening).

To Carlisle, Moffat, Dumfries, Newton Stewart, Stranraer, Wigtown, Whithorn, Castle Douglas, Kirkcudbright, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Greenock, Gourock, Dumbarton, Balloch, Aberdeen, Ballater, Montrose, Brechin, Forfar, Perth, Dundee, Dunkeld, Arbroath, Callander, Crieff, Oban, Fort William, Stirling, Inverness, Elgin, Keith, Nairn, and other places in Scotland. For 4, 8, and 16 days.

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

FRED HARRISON, General Manager.

London, December 1898.

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FROM ST. PANCRAS AND CITY STATIONS.

(1). TO SCOTLAND.

Fridays, 23rd and 30th December, to Edinburgh, Glasgow, and all Parts of Scotland, available for return up to 16 days.

(2). TO THE PROVINCES.

Saturday Night, 24th December, to Nottingham, Birmingham, and principal towns in the Midland Counties, Matlock, Buxton, Southport, Liverpool, Manchester, Blackburn, and other Lancashire towns; Leeds, Bradford, Windermere, Barrow-in-Furness, and the Lake District, York, Hull, Scarborough, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and the North Eastern District, for 3 or 4 days.

Also on

Christmas Day, 25th December (Saturday midnight) to Nottingham, Manchester, Liverpool, Sheffield, Leeds, Bradford, &c., returning on 26th December.

(3). TO IRELAND.

There will also be Cheap Excursions to Dublin, Belfast, Londonderry, Portrush, &c. (For particulars see bills).

(4). TO SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.

Cheap Day and Week-end Excursion Tickets will be issued to Southend-on-Sea, as announced in Special Bills.

CHEAP WEEK-END, &c., TICKETS.

Cheap Week-end Tickets will be issued on Fridays, 23rd and 30th December, and Saturdays, 24th and 31st December, from London (St. Pancras) and other Midland Stations to the Principal Holiday and Health Resorts. Winter Tourist Tickets have now been arranged to numerous tourist resorts.

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Excursion Trains will be run from Leicester, Nottingham, Birmingham, Derby, Manchester, Liverpool, Sheffield, Leeds, Bradford, and other principal towns to Edinburgh, Glasgow, and all parts of Scotland for the Christmas and New Year Holidays. Numerous other cheap excursions have been arranged from the chief Midland Stations, particulars of which may be had on application.

GEO. H. TURNER, General Manager.

Derby, December 1898.

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ON 17th December, and during the week preceding Christmas day, Cheap Third Class Return Tickets available on 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th or 25th December, and for return 26th December to 30th December inclusive, will be issued from Paddington, Clapham Junction, Victoria (L.C. & D. Rly.), Kensington (Addison Road), Hammersmith, &c., to Bath, BRISTOL, Taunton, Barnstaple, ILFRACOMBE, EXETER, TORQUAY, PLYMOUTH, Falmouth, Penzance, YEOVIL, DORCHESTER, WEYMOUTH, &c.; and on 22nd, 23rd and 24th December only, to GUERNSEY and JERSEY (fare 25s), to return within 14 days.

ADDITIONAL TRAINS will leave PADDINGTON STATION as under:

SATURDAY, 24th December, 7.5 p.m. for Bath, BRISTOL, EXETER, PLYMOUTH, Penzance, &c.

12.20 night, for Reading, Swindon, GLOUCESTER, Cheltenham, Newport, CARDIFF, Swansea, &c.

CHRISTMAS DAY.—5.30 a.m., as on week-days, as far as EXETER and SWANSEA, with connections to Trowbridge, Frome, YEOVIL, Bridport, Dorchester, WEYMOUTH, Oxford, Banbury, Leamington, BIRMINGHAM, Worcester, Malvern, Kidderminster, WOLVERHAMPTON, &c.

EXCURSIONS will leave PADDINGTON STATION as under:

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22nd DECEMBER.—To CORK and KILLARNEY.

23rd DECEMBER.—To WATERFORD, Clonmel, LIMERICK, Tralee, Kilkenny, KILLARNEY, BELFAST, Armagh, Giant's Causeway, &c.

24th DECEMBER NIGHT.—To Chipping Norton, Evesham, WORCESTER, Malvern, HEREFORD, OXFORD, Banbury, Leamington, Warwick, BIRMINGHAM, Wolverhampton, Shrewsbury, CHESTER, Birkenhead, LIVERPOOL, &c., for 2 or 3 days; to BATH and BRISTOL, for 2 or 3 days; to Cirencester, Stroud, Stonehouse, GLOUCESTER, Cheltenham, Newport, CARDIFF, &c., for 3 days; and to Swansea, Llanelly, Llandovery, Carmarthen, Tenby, NEW MILFORD, &c., for 2 or 3 days.

For times of trains, fares, and full particulars of alterations in ordinary train arrangements, see pamphlets and bills, which can be obtained at the Company's Stations and usual Receiving Offices.

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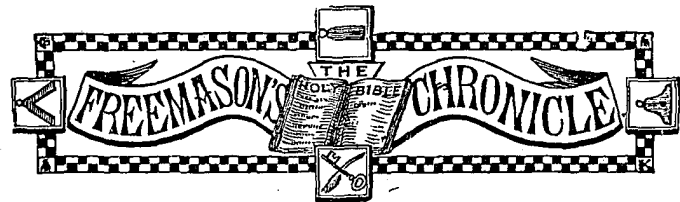
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SATURDAY, 17TH DECEMBER 1898.

WEST LANCASHIRE CHARITY.

ON Friday evening, 9th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Hope Street, Liverpool, meetings were held of the various Committees charged with the arrangements for the forthcoming Festival and Ball in aid of the funds of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution, which has done so much for the education, maintenance, and advancement in life of the children of deceased Freemasons. Bro. W. B. Sweetman P.P.G.D. presided over a meeting of the General Committee in the absence, through illness, of the chairman Bro. Smithson P.P.S.G.W.; who sent a telegram of apology for non-attendance.

The Honorary Secretary Bro. A. Shawfield reported that he had already received the names of 110 patrons, and nearly 100 Stewards for the ball, which takes place on the 18th January next, at St. George's Hall, in consequence of the Town Hall being still in the hands of the painters and decorators.

On the recommendation of the Refreshment Committee it was resolved to entrust the catering to Bro. W. J. Holmes, Church Street, and in conformity with the recommendation of the Music Committee Bro. G. Eyton was commissioned to supply the band, as in previous years.

Bros. G. Harradon P.P.G.D., and E. R. Latham Prov. G. Treasurer, were again appointed the Masters of Ceremonies. The Festival and Ball will be held under the Craft banner of the Skelmersdale Lodge, No. 1380; the Arch auspices of the Chapter of Friendship, No. 241; and the banner of the West Lancashire Mark Lodge, No. 68, permission being obtained in the meantime for the Masonic visitors to wear the clothing and insignia of the various Orders to which they belong.

NEW HALL AT CAMBORNE.

WEDNESDAY, 30th ult., was a red-letter day in the history of Camborne Freemasonry, for on that day members of the Mount Edgcumbe Lodge, No. 2544, supported by visiting Brethren from all parts of the county, gathered to witness the ceremony of laying a corner and two memorial stones of the new Masonic Hall now being erected for the local Lodge in Cross Street, Camborne.

The frontage of the Hall in course of erection is thirty-seven feet, and depth forty-one feet. There will be two floors. On the ground floor provision is made for a spacious entrance hall, vestibule, supper room—twenty-eight feet by twenty-four feet—kitchen, stewards' room, and general offices. Upon the first floor will be the Lodge Room, forty feet by twenty-four feet, with an ante-room twenty-one feet by twelve feet. The entrance will be under a bold archway. The classic front of the building is to be relieved with pilasters and moulded cornices. Along the top of the structure will be placed balustrading and moulded pediment. Against all the interior walls will be fixed dados of pitch pine, of which the doors and staircase will also be formed. The ceiling of the Lodge Room will be canopied and moulded, and in all the apartments care has been taken to assure thorough lighting and ventilation. The building will cost about £850. Mr. Sampson Hill, of Redruth, is the architect, and Messrs. Frank Mitchell (Cowan) and Barbary (Camborne) are the contractors.

The members assembled at the Masonic Hall, Fore Street, at half-past eleven, and Lodge having been opened the necessary instructions were given, after which there was an adjournment. A procession was then formed, and, preceded by the Camborne Town Band, a move was made to the site of the new Hall.

The corner stone, suitably inscribed, was laid by Bro. P. C. Colville Smith P.Prov.G.S.W.

The two memorial stones are in front of the building. These bear the inscription "Laid by W. Bro. B. F. Edyvean A.G.D.C. Eng. 30th Nov. 1898," and "Laid by W. Bro. P. Colville Smith P.P.G.S.W. Corn. 30th Nov. 1898."

Subsequently Bro. Colville Smith, delivering an official address, said the building was being erected to the glory of the Most High, and for the comfort and convenience of the present and future members of Mount Edgcumbe Lodge; and they trusted on the foundations laid that day a superstructure would be built, perfect in all its parts and honourable to the builder. As on all occasions it was their duty to invoke the blessings of the Great Architect of the Universe, he called upon them to unite with the Chaplain in an address to the throne of grace. The Chaplain then gave the closing benediction, after which the national anthem was rendered. The procession was then reformed and a move was made to the existing Masonic Hall, where the business of the day was proceeded with.

NEW TEMPLE AT CHIPPING NORTON.

THE New Masonic Temple in the Over Norton Road was formally consecrated, with full Masonic honours, on Monday, 28th ult., by the Prov. Grand Master of Oxfordshire the Earl of Jersey, assisted by the Deputy Prov. Grand Master and the Officers of the Provincial Lodge. The new building is in a somewhat out-of-the-way part of the town, and unfortunately the site, which is naturally low, has not been raised, so that its architectural symmetry or proportions hardly impress the beholder. For the purpose, however, for which it has been designed, the new Temple will admirably fulfil all that is required of it. It is built in the Renaissance style, and its exterior will scarcely explain the purpose for which it has been erected; but one has only to make the most cursory examination of the interior to discover how admirably it has been adapted to the purposes of Freemasonry. From Lodge Room to the offices, everything seems to have been done to answer the purpose for which the building has been erected, and few towns or cities in the Provinces possess a building so suited in every respect to the requirements of the Craft as Chipping Norton is now fortunate enough to own. Mr. A. J. Rowley, architect, of Oxford, is the architect of the new Hall, which has been built to his designs by Mr. A. Groves, builder, Chipping Norton. The total cost of the building is about £1,200.

The formal consecration of the Temple took place on Monday, when there was a large gathering of the Brethren of the Province to witness and participate in the ceremony.

After the Brethren had signed the Tyler's book they proceeded to take up their places in the Lodge Room. The ceremony commenced with a procession, which was headed by the Officers of the Bowyer Lodge, who proceeded to take their appointed places in the Lodge. The Worshipful Master and Past Masters of the Bowyer Lodge followed, bearing the corn, wine and oil to be used in the ceremony. Then came the Officers

of the Provincial Grand Lodge, the Prov. G. Chaplain and Prov. Grand Secretary preceding the Deputy and Provincial Grand Master.

A prayer by the Chaplain of the Lodge Bro. Phillips was followed by the singing of the Masonic dedication hymn, to the tune of Melcombe.

The Lodge Secretary Bro. W. Warne then read the minutes, and formally asked the Prov.G.M. to dedicate the building. The first portion of the dedication prayer was offered by the Provincial Grand Chaplain Bro. Blockley, followed by the invocation and responses.

The Provincial Grand Master, followed by his Deputy and Wardens, then proceeded around the Lodge, solemn music being played by the Prov. Grand Organist Bro. Day. Corn was scattered over the Lodge in the east by the Prov.G.M. as an emblem of plenty, and the building was dedicated to Freemasonry. The responses having been made, the procession a second time proceeded around the Lodge, and halted in the west, when wine was poured out by the Prov.G.M., and the building was dedicated to virtue. The responses having again been given, the procession moved a third time around the Lodge, and halted in the south, when oil was poured out, and the building was dedicated to universal benevolence. The responses having again been made, the Prov. Grand Chaplain read II Levit. xiii. The Chaplain having offered the concluding portion of the dedication prayer, the Prov. Grand Master solemnly dedicated the building to Freemasonry, virtue, and universal benevolence. The oration was given by the Prov. Grand Chaplain, after which the Prov. Grand Master and Wardens vacated their chairs, which were taken by the Officers of the Lodge, and the regular business was proceeded with. This having been completed the Lodge was closed in the usual form, with prayer, and the singing of a hymn.

The banquet was served in the dining hall of the new Temple. The W.M. of the Bowyer Lodge presided, and was supported by the Prov. Grand Master and his Officers, and the Officers of the Bowyer Lodge.

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Telegrams receive immediate attention.

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Drury Lane.—Boxing Day, Forty Thieves.
Her Majesty's.—8-15, The Musketeers. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 2-15.
Haymarket.—8-10, A Golden Wedding. 9, The Manceuvres of Jane. Matinée, Saturday, 2-15.
Adelphi.—Boxing Day, Dick Whittington.
Criterion.—8-10, The Jest. Matinée, Saturday, 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.—8-15, La Poupée. Matinée, Saturday, 2-30.
Gaiety.—8-15, A Runaway Girl. Matinée, Saturday, 2.
Strand.—8-15, An Empty Stocking. 9, What happened to Jones. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 3.
Vaudeville.—8, A bad penny. 9, On and Off. Matinée, Wednesday, 3.
St. James's.—8-30, The Elder Miss Blossom. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 2-30.
Globe.—8, The Three Musketeers. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 2-30.
Comedy.—8-15, Milord Sir Smith. Matinée, Saturday, 2-30.
Garrick.—22nd December, The Three Musketeers.
Shaftesbury.—8, The Belle of New York. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.
Terry's.—8, The Lady Bookie. 8-45, The Brixton Burglary. Matinée, Saturday, 3.
Lyric.—8-15, Little Miss Nobody. Matinée, Thursday and Saturday, 2-30.
Duke of York's.—8, Red Roses. 8-45, The Adventure of Lady Ursula. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 2-30.
Opera Comique.—22nd December, Alice in Wonderland.
Grand.—Boxing Day, Babes in the Wood.
Parkhurst.—24th December, Aladdin.
Queen's Opera House, Crouch End.—24th December, Cinderella.
Alexandra.—Boxing Day, Cinderella.
Dalston.—24th December, Aladdin.
Alhambra.—8, Variety Entertainment. La Belle Otero. Jack Ashore, &c.
Empire.—7-50, Variety Entertainment. New Ballet Alaska, &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.

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.

- 1 Grand Masters, F.T.
- 8 British, Freemasons'-hall
- 21 Emulation, Albion
- 185 Tranquility, Guildhall Tavern
- 862 Whittington, Freemasons'-hall
- 1537 St. Peter, Westminster, Crtrn.
- 1694 Imperial, Westminster
- 1728 Temple Bar, Anderton's
- 2545 Iris, Rainbow Tav., Fleet St.
- 37 Anchor and Hope, Bolton
- 77 Freedom, Gravesend
- 148 Lights, Warrington
- 236 York, York
- 248 True Love & Unity, Brixham
- 312 Lion, Whitby
- 359 Peace & Harmony, South'pton
- 377 Hope & Charity, Kidderminster
- 424 Borough, Gateshead
- 455 Perseverance, Ketering
- 466 Merit, Stamford Baron
- 872 Lewis, Whitehaven
- 925 Bedford, Birmingham
- 949 Williamson, Monkwearmouth
- 936 Hesketh, Croston
- 1030 Egerton, Heaton Norris
- 1113 Anglesea, Manai Bridge
- 1141 Mid-Sussex, Horsham
- 1146 De Moulham, Swanage
- 1170 St. George, Manchester
- 1199 Ariculture, Yatton
- 1208 Corinthian, Dover
- 1255 Dundas, Plymouth
- 1337 Anchor, Northallerton
- 1443 Salem, Dawlish
- 1502 Israel, Liverpool
- 1631 St. Andrew, Gorleston
- 1674 Carodoc, Rhyl
- 1814 Worsley, Worsley
- 1833 St. Keyna, Keynsham
- 1909 Carnarvon, Nottingham
- 2069 Prudence, Leeds
- 2074 St. Clare, Landport
- 2081 Golden Fleece, Leicester
- 2086 Dacre, Stevenage
- 2114 Prudence, Liverpool
- 2208 Horsa, Bournemouth
- 2289 Blundellsands, Great Crosby
- 2295 Scarisbrick, Southport
- 2327 St. Oswin, North Shields
- 2349 West Lanc. Century, Blackpool
- 2425 Ecclesburne, Duffield
- 2482 Duchess of York, Manchester
- 2557 Temperance, Newcastle-on-T.

Tuesday.

- Board of General Purposes, F.M.H. at 5.
- 30 United Mariner, Guildhall Tav.
- 73 Mount Lebanon, Southwark
- 95 Eastern Star, Ship and Turtle
- 162 Cadogan, Freemasons'-hall
- 1339 Stockwell, Camberwell
- 1695 New Finsbury Park, Via. H'tl.
- 2021 Queen Westm'ster, Holb'n R'st.
- 2022 Haven, Ealing
- 2233 Old Westminster, Café Royal
- 47 Newstead, Nottingham
- 213 Perseverance, Norwich
- 223 Charity, Plymouth
- 366 St. David, Milford
- 384 St. David, Bangor
- 402 Royal Sussex, Nottingham
- 414 Union, Reading
- 418 Menturia, Hanley
- 432 Abbey, Nuneaton
- 468 Light, Birmingham
- 476 St. Peter, Carmarthen
- 551 Yarborough, Ventnor
- 560 Vernon, Stourport
- 660 Camalodunum, New Malton
- 667 Alliance, Liverpool
- 681 Scarsdale, Chesterfield
- 697 United, Colchester
- 814 Parrett and Axe, Crewkern
- 830 Endeavour, Dukinfield
- 958 St. Aubin, Jersey
- 960 Bute, Cardiff
- 990 Neyland, Neyland
- 1006 Tregullow, St. Day
- 1046 St. Andrew, Farnham
- 1075 St. Maughold, Ramsey, I. of M.
- 1089 De Shurland, Sheerness
- 1096 Lord Warden, Walmer
- 1225 Hindpool, Barrow-in-Furness

- 1276 Warren, Seacombe
- 1410 S. Peter & S. Paul, N'p't Pagnell
- 1424 Brownrigg of Unity, Old B'pton
- 1427 Percy, Newcastle-on-Tyne
- 1551 Charity, Birmingham
- 1570 Prince Arthur, Liverpool
- 1621 Castle, Bridgnorth
- 1764 Eleanor Cross, Northampton
- 1787 Grenville, Buckingham
- 1893 Lumley, Skegness
- 1894 Hershel, Slough
- 1903 Pr. Ed. Saxe Weimar, P'tam'th.
- 1941 St. Augustine, Rugeley
- 2001 Narberth, Narberth
- 2146 Surbiton, Surbiton
- 2155 Makerfield, Newton-le-Willows
- 2316 Princes, Liverpool
- 2360 Victoria, Southport
- 2407 Hicks-Beach, Stroud
- 2536 Staines, Staines
- 2572 Tyldesley, Tyldesley

Wednesday.

- Board of Benevolence, F.M.H., 5.
- 174 Sincerity, Guildhall Tavern
- 969 Maybury, Lincoln-Inn's-Fields
- 1349 Friars, Ship and Turtle
- 1382 Corinthian, Cubitt Town
- 1507 Metropolitan, Anderton's
- 1571 Leopold, Southwark
- 1673 Welcome, Holborn Viaduct H'tl.
- 2272 Rye, Peckham
- 2345 Duke of Fife, Clapham Common
- 2361 Cricklewood, Frascati

- 20 Rl. Kent Antiquity, Chatham
- 86 Loyalty, Prescot
- 121 Mount Sinai, Penzance
- 127 Union, Margate
- 137 Amity, Poole
- 175 East Medina, Ryde
- 178 Antiquity, Wigan
- 200 Old Globe, Scarborough
- 210 Duke of Athol, Denton
- 221 St. John, Bolton
- 243 Loyalty, Guernsey
- 246 Royal Union, Cheltenham
- 258 Amphibious, Heckmondwike
- 261 Unanimity & Sincerity, Taunton
- 285 Love & Honour, Shepton Mallet
- 311 South Saxon, Lewes
- 320 Loyalty, Mottram
- 325 St. John, Salford
- 329 Brotherly Love, Yeovil
- 341 Wellington, Rye
- 342 Royal Sussex, Landport
- 368 Samaritan, Sandbach
- 376 Perfect Friendship, Ipswich
- 380 Integrity, Morley
- 451 Sutherland, Burslem
- 464 Cambrian, Haverfordwest
- 537 Zetland, Birkenhead
- 580 Harmony, Ormskirk
- 581 Faith, Openshaw
- 592 Cotteswold, Cirencester
- 610 Colston, Bristol
- 662 Dartmouth, West Bromwich
- 68 Isca, Newport, Mon.
- 726 Staffordshire Knot, Stafford
- 818 Philanthropic, Abergavenny
- 823 Everton, Liverpool
- 874 Holmesdale, Tunbridge Wells
- 910 St. Oswald, Pontefract
- 934 Merit, Whitefield
- 938 Grosvenor, Birmingham
- 950 Hesketh, Fleetwood
- 962 Sun and Sector, Workington
- 972 St. Augustine, Canterbury
- 1019 Sincerity, Wakefield
- 1040 Sykes, Driffield
- 1086 Walton, Liverpool
- 1114 Joppa, Fakenham
- 1129 St. Chad, Rochdale
- 1136 Carew, Torpoint
- 1161 De Grey & Ripon, Manchester
- 1179 Rutland, Ilkeston
- 1193 Doric, Wymondham
- 1212 Elms, Stoke Damerel
- 1246 Holte, Aston, Warwicks
- 1265 Vale of Catmos, Oakham
- 1294 St. Alban, Grimsby
- 1301 Brighthouse, Brighthouse
- 1323 Talbot, Swansea
- 1334 Norman, Durham
- 1353 Duke of Lancaster, Lancaster
- 1363 Tyndall, Chipping Sodbury
- 1493 Robin Hood, Eastwood

- 1511 Alexandra, Hornsey
- 1634 Starkie, Ramsbottom
- 1663 Hartismere, Eye
- 1774 Mellor, Ashton-under-Lyne
- 1783 Albert Edward, Huddersfield
- 1842 St. Leonard, St. Leonard's
- 1988 Mawddach, Barmouth
- 2050 St. Trinians, Douglas, I. of M.
- 2135 Constance, Consett
- 2153 Hope, Gosport
- 2203 Farnborough & N.C., Farnboro'
- 2258 West. Dist. U.S., E. Stonehouse
- 2283 Euston, St. Neots
- 2355 Chantrey, Dore
- 2434 Anderida, Eastbourne
- 2475 Border, Blackwater
- 2514 City, Liverpool
- 2587 Radnor, Folkestone

Thursday.

- House Committee, Girls School, 4-30.
- 51 Angel, Colchester
- 71 Unity, Lowestoft
- 78 Imperial George, Middleton
- 116 Royal Lancashire, Colne
- 202 Friendship, Devonport
- 208 Three Gd. Principles, Dewsbury
- 275 Harmony, Huddersfield
- 276 Good Fellowship, Chelmsford
- 283 Amity, Haslingden
- 318 True and Faithful, Helston
- 332 Virtue and Silence, Hadleigh
- 337 Candour, Uppermill
- 346 United Brethren, Blackburn
- 348 St. John, Bolton
- 594 Downshire, Liverpool
- 630 St. Cuthbert, Howden
- 710 Pleiades, Totnes
- 787 Beareper, Belper
- 935 Harmony, Salford
- 1130 Rutland, Melton Mowbray

- 1163 Emulation, Birmingham
- 1164 Eliot, St. Germans
- 1345 Victoria, Eccles
- 1392 Egerton, Bury
- 1418 Fraternity, Stockton-on-Tees
- 1505 Emulation, Liverpool
- 1626 Hotspur, Newcastle-on-Tyne
- 1705 Prince of Wales, Gosport
- 1817 St. Andrew, Shoburness
- 1971 Ald'shot, Army & Navy, A'shot.
- 2017 Duke of Portland, Nottingham
- 2028 Granite, Narborough
- 2091 Castleberg, Settle
- 2101 Bramston Beach, Godalming
- 2131 Brownlow, Ellesmere
- 2195 Military Jubilee, Dover
- 2214 Josiah Wedgewood, Etruria
- 2215 Anfield, Anfield
- 2263 St. Leonards, Sheffield
- 2335 Cycling and Athletic, Liverpool
- 2387 Manchester Dramatic, M'chester
- 2462 Clarence, West Hartlepool
- 2474 Hatherton, Walsall

Friday.

- Board of Management, Boys School, 2-30.
- 426 Shakespeare, Spilsby
- 445 Fidelity, Towcester
- 516 Phoenix, Stowmarket
- 566 St. Germain, Selby
- 712 Lindsey, Louth
- 951 Prince of Wales, Stow on'Wold
- 1224 Stour Valley, Sudbury
- 1232 Hereward, Bourn
- 1712 St. John, Newcastle-on-Tyne
- 2371 Felix, Felixstowe

Saturday.

- 149 Peace, Meltham
- 308 Prince George, Eastwood
- 336 Benevolence, Marple

We are compelled to hold over several reports and items of news, in consequence of the pressure on our space.

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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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CRAFT: METROPOLITAN.

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GALLERY LODGE, No. 1928.

THE annual meeting of this famous "Press" Lodge was held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, on Saturday night, when Bro. E. A. Peachey was installed as Worshipful Master, by his predecessor Bro. S. James, to whom a Past Master's jewel was presented.

Another presentation was an illuminated address and a travelling bag, given to Bro. W. T. Perkins the retiring Secretary, after five years service.

There were a large number of distinguished Brethren present at the banquet held after the close of the Lodge business.

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INSTRUCTION.

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RANELAGH LODGE, No. 834.

ON Friday, 9th inst., at the Six Bells Hotel, Hammersmith, Bros. W. Hillier P.M. W.M., J. Knight S.W., W. W. Williams P.M. J.W., W. Hinds P.M. Treas., F. Craggs P.M. Sec., Arthur Williams P.M. 834 2090 Preceptor, M. Speigel P.M. S.D., R. Reid J.D., H. J. Cousins I.G., Past Masters R. H. Williams P.P.G.J.D. Middx., E. Fox, W. Hide, W. Copelstone, J. H. Cumming; also Bros. K. M. Ross, H. Bone, J. Worth, W. T. Ridgway, J. Lewin, S. J. Parker, E. Wilkins, with several others, numbering in all over forty.

This being section night the Lodge was opened in due form, and the working was at once commenced, the first Lecture being worked by Bros. E. Fox, S. J. Parker, W. T. Ridgway, R. H. Williams, W. J. Copelstone, W. W. Williams, and R. Reid.

The correct and prompt manner in which the answers were given reflected great credit on the Brethren, and showed the immense amount of attention that had been bestowed on the Lodge of Instruction by the worthy Preceptor Bro. Arthur Williams. We can safely state that the Lodge stands in the foremost rank of efficiency of any Lodges of Instruction in the western district of London. The W.M. was congratulated on the extremely careful manner in which he put the questions, and after hearty good wishes had been given and received the Lodge was closed. Doubtless every Brother who was present congratulated himself on having spent a most instructive and profitable evening.

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CHISWICK LODGE, No. 2012.

ON Saturday, 10th inst., at the Windsor Castle Hotel, Hammersmith, Bros. S. W. Keene P.M. W.M., P. Cronin S.W., K. M. Ross J.W., F. Craggs P.M. Treas., R. Josey P.M. Sec., Arthur Williams P.M. 834 2090 Preceptor, R. Reid S.D., J. H. Cumming P.M. J.D., E. Wilkins I.G., Past Masters M. Spiegel, W. Hide, E. Fox, W. Hillier; Bros. J. R. Francis, W. Herring, W. Handover, W. T. Ridgway, and several others.

The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Francis acting as candidate. The W.M. then vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Francis W.M.-elect of the Albion Lodge, No. 9, who opened the Lodge in the second degree, after Bro. Hillier had answered the necessary questions and had been entrusted. The ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Hillier acting as candidate. Bro. Francis was congratulated on his faultless working, and he doubtless will be a great acquisition as W.M. in the Albion Lodge. Bro. Keene resumed the chair, and opened the Lodge in the third degree, afterwards resuming to the first.

A vote of thanks was ordered to be recorded on the minutes to Brother Keene, on his occupying the W.M.'s chair at this Lodge of Instruction for the first time.

Bro. Cronin W.M. of the Hemming Lodge was elected to fill the chair at the next meeting.

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PROVINCIAL.

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LODGE OF TRUTH, No. 1458.

THE annual meeting and Festival of St. John was held at the Mitre Hotel, Cathedral Gates, Manchester, on Saturday, 3rd instant, Bro. Thos. Pollitt Cooper W.M., the principal business being that of installing Bro. A. B. Taylor S.W. into the chair of K.S.

A board of Installed Masters was formed as follows:—Bros. R. Caldwell P.P.G.S.B. Installing Master, Buckley Carr P.P.G.D.C. S.W., Thos. Henry Hall J.W., Edward Roberts 1459 I.G., and Alfred Hebden P.P.G.D.D.C. Deacon. The candidate was duly presented, and having promised adherence to the ancient Constitutional rules, as recited by Bro. G. P. Taylor P.M. Secretary, the ceremony of installation was performed by Bro. Caldwell, assisted by Past Masters T. P. Taylor, Thos. Henry Hall, Buckley Carr, A. Hebden, Geo. T. Lenard, and G. P. Taylor, the latter explaining the working tools of each degree. With such a galaxy of efficient Officers it goes without saying that the ceremony was admirably performed.

Subjoined is a list of Officers for the ensuing year: L. Hirsch S.W., H. Hellewell J.W., J. Pearce Treasurer, G. P. Taylor P.M. Secretary, J. Day S.D., W. Dewhurst J.D., A. Hebden P.M. P.P.D.G.D.C. D.C. James Holmes Moss Organist, R. Stephenson I.G., O. Whittaker, J. Doyle, M. W. Southern Stewards.

Bro. W. J. Herring P.M. was re-elected Charity Representative.

A very excellent banquet followed these proceedings, to which upwards of forty members and visitors sat down. Loyal and Masonic toasts were

agreeably varied by the efforts of a musical trio, and also by Bros. James Doyle and J. H. Moss Organist, the latter contributing a solo on the zither entitled "Heimweh."

The toast of the Provincial Officers was responded to by Bros. Hebden and Carr, both of whom paid fitting tribute to the memory of the late Lord Lathom. His death was a loss felt not only in Masonic circles, but by the peasantry of his district, and even by the world, and it would be a long time before his place could be filled, for he was one beloved by the throne. They were among those who could mourn with those who mourned, and they could deeply regret the position in which the family were placed at the present time.

Bro. Cooper I.P.M. proposed the health of the Worshipful Master, saying that the toast stood out as one of the most important of the evening. He had vacated the chair as Master, and had now taken his place among those who had performed their work, but he hoped the sweet memories of his term of office would mingle with his life for many years. There were many responsibilities connected with the position of W.M., but there were many pleasures also, and he hoped that Bro. Taylor would have not only a happy year, but also a successful one.

Bro. Taylor W.M. responded, saying that he appreciated all the kind words uttered of him. He had attained the chair of K.S., and although he might not fulfil its various duties quite as satisfactorily as some of his predecessors had done, yet it would not be for the want of trying. He sincerely hoped that at the end of twelve months of office he might have satisfied all the requirements of his Brethren.

Bro. Hirsch S.W. proposed the health of the I.P.M. and of the Past Masters of the Lodge, saying that the Brethren loved Bro. Cooper, for he had done all that was possible in their interest, and he hoped the G.A.O.T.U. would spare him for many years to come, and grant him health and strength.

Bro. Hebden added a few words to the effect that the members of the Lodge having already presented Bro. Cooper with a Past Master's jewel, had, by way of commemorating his two years of servitude, added an extra bar to the jewel in question. It was an unusual thing for a principal Officer to serve for two years in succession, and he asked himself the question whether such a circumstance was likely to occur again in the Truth Lodge. Speaking of Bro. Cooper's work he said it had been excellently well performed, indeed during the twenty years of his own connection with the Lodge no one had done more for its prosperity than had the retiring Master.

Bro. Cooper I.P.M. responded, saying it was his proud duty and pleasure to reply, not only on his own behalf, but on behalf of the other Past Masters, and he thanked the previous speakers for their kindly references. He was too much overcome to adequately express all that he felt and thought, but he promised to be a loyal and trusty member of the Truth Lodge. Alluding to the work of Bro. Lenard P.M. he said it was something which could not be excelled in the kingdom for painstaking accuracy. The remaining Past Masters who had assisted in the ceremony of that day were also to be very highly commended, and he was sure they had created a good impression.

Bro. Carr proposed the health of the Visitors, according to them a hearty welcome. In reverting to the ceremony of installation he said it had been performed that afternoon by one of the oldest working Masons in East Lancashire, and one who was a yeoman in the Craft. He hoped the visitors had fully appreciated the work, and he cordially invited them to renew their acquaintance with the Lodge. In looking over the list of names, he regretted not seeing that of their worthy host, because he might have expressed to him their entire satisfaction with the catering, and also their thanks for the trouble which he had taken on their behalf in making such excellent arrangements. He never saw any gathering which seemed so entirely happy as theirs did that day, and probably it was due to the splendidly appointed rooms and general comfort of the surroundings.

Bros. J. W. Siddell P.M. 1993 Prov. G.A.D.C., H. W. Massingham W.M. 1161, and H. Powell Jones P.M. 1957 P.P.G.S.B. (the host, who had recently entered the room) responded, the latter saying he thanked Bro. Carr for his eulogy of him. If the Brethren of the Truth Lodge were satisfied he himself was gratified, and he promised to do his best for this or for any other Lodge which might in the future be located at the Mitre Hotel.

Bro. Lenard P.M. proposed the health of the Installing Master, coupling with it the name of Bro. Hebden. As had been previously stated, Brother Caldwell had done yeoman service not only in this, but in other Lodges where he had ungrudgingly rendered eminent assistance.

Bro. Hebden, in response, spoke very flatteringly of Bro. Caldwell, and said he was sorry that he was absent, but he had been obliged to retire through illness. Many of the Brethren would remember the time when he was sent for from Lodges far and near to perform the ceremony of installation. A great change had, however, arisen within the last few years, and retiring Masters were now called upon and expected to do this duty to their successors. This he attributed to the increased popularity of Freemasonry. On his own behalf, and on behalf of Bro. Caldwell, he thanked them for the enthusiastic manner in which their names had been received. Other toasts followed.

Among the numerous visitors we noticed Bros. A. Hall W.M. 1011, F. G. Curtis W.M. 1593, F. Thomas I.P.M. 2359, J. Scarratt P.M. 477, Henry B. Brown P.M. 581, J. Horsefield P.M. 1077, J. Grimshaw J.W. 1147, L. Kaufmann 1797, W. Hughes 2447, &c.

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ASHBURY LODGE, No. 1459.

THE annual meeting and Festival of St. John was held at the Justice Birch Hotel, Hyde Road, Manchester, on Thursday, 17th ult., when the Lodge was opened by the W.M. Bro. J. Townley Trotter at 10.30 a.m., for the purpose of initiating four candidates, after which an adjournment took place until 3 p.m., when the W.M.-elect Bro. A. E. Burgess was installed into the chair of K.S. by Bro. Trotter, assisted by Past Masters Bee P.P.G.A.D.C., Geo. W. Davies, S. C. Richardson, Righton, and Jee.

The following Brethren were invested as Officers: Bros. H. E. Massie S.W., I. Hurlow J.W., W. H. Beastow P.M. Treasurer, Geo. Robinson Sec., Watson S.D., Phillips J.D., Barber I.G., Pogson, Wilkinson, and Cooper Stewards. Bro. G. W. Davies P.M. was again elected Charity Representative of the Lodge.

At the banquet a large number of Brethren were present, including Bros. C. R. N. Beswicke-Royds D.P.G.M., John Clayton P.G.A.D.C. England, H. G. Small P.P.G.W. Cheshire, R. H. Robinson P.P.G.D.C. West Lancs., Hassall P.P.G.Supt. of Works, Walter Newton P.P.G.D., &c., &c.

The usual Loyal toasts having been honoured, the W.M. proposed the Grand Officers, and Bro. J. Clayton responded.

The D.P.G.M. Bro. Beswicke-Royds, responding to the toast of his health, complimented the I.P.M. and the Lodge on the excellent work performed that day.

Bro. P.M. Davies proposed the health of the W.M., and referred to his career in the Lodge, and the various Offices he had held with credit to himself and the Lodge. He did not hesitate to predict that the W.M. would fill the position in a manner that would reflect further credit upon both.

The W.M. very ably responded, and said the ship was well manned, and he had every confidence that by mutual efforts the prestige of the Ashbury Lodge would be maintained. Already he had before him a considerable amount of work, but with the assistance of the Past Masters, which had never been withheld, and he was sure would not be during his year of office, he accepted the position with some confidence that all would go well.

Not the least pleasing part of the Master's duty was now to present the I.P.M. Bro. Townley Trotter, in the name of the Lodge, a Past Master's jewel for services rendered as W.M. during the year just ended. That he had done his work well had already been testified by the D.P.G.M., and the Brethren knew that all he had undertaken he had faithfully performed. The jewel was inscribed:

Presented by

the Brethren to Bro. P.M. J. TOWNLEY TROTTER,
for services rendered as W.M. of the Ashbury Lodge, 1459.—1897-8.
17th November 1898.

Bro. Trotter thanked the Brethren for the handsome jewel presented, and suitably responded to the toast of his health.

The proceedings were enlivened by songs, recitations, &c., by Bros. Bentley, Wilkinson, Cooper, Beastow, and others.

CENTURION LODGE, No. 2322.

THE annual meeting and festival of St. John took place at the Victoria Hotel, Manchester, on Monday, 5th inst.

There were an excellent attendance of members and visitors, the latter numbering nearly thirty.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Brother Surgeon Captain J. J. Kent Fairclough S.W. was duly installed into the chair of K.S., the Installing Officers being Bros. Major T. W. Ashworth W.M., Major Geo. Kershaw I.P.M. S.W., Col. H. J. Robinson P.P.G.R. J.W., and Col. Henry L. Rocca P.P.G.J.D. I.G.

The various addresses were given as follow: that to the W.M. by Col. J. Howarth Clark, J.P., P.P.G.S.D. Treasurer, that to the Wardens by Bro. Rocca, and that to the Brethren generally by Bro. Major W. H. Hopkins P.P.G.D.C., the latter acting very efficiently as D.C.

The Officers for the forthcoming year are: Bros. the Rev. J. W. Challener P.P.G.C. S.W., Capt. Peter Nightingale J.W., Rev. E. Bigoe-Bagot P.M. P.P.G.C. Chaplain, Lt.-Col. J. Howarth Clark P.M. Treasurer, Major F. Pratt P.M. Secretary, Capt. G. W. Heys S.D., Lt.-Col. H. B. Moss J.D., Major W. H. Hopkins P.M. D.C., Lieut. J. T. Smith I.G., Captain H. S. Hardy Organist, Captain J. E. R. Hall Steward, Surgeon-Lieut. Nesfield Steward. Bro. Major John Heap P.M. P.P.S.G.D. was re-elected Charity Representative.

Before the Lodge was closed the name of Mr. Alic Phillips, Lieutenant of the Manchester Medical Staff Corps, was submitted to the Lodge, and being favourably received that gentleman will probably be balloted for and initiated at the next meeting of the Lodge, to be held on 6th February.

A sumptuous banquet followed these proceedings, and a very pleasant evening was spent. Among those present we noticed Bros. Major G. H. Bates, Major W. Humphries, Major W. C. Hall, Capt. F. J. Bentley, Capt. S. Brown, Capt. T. Parker jun., Capt. A. Wall.

Visitors:—Bros. W. H. Norton P.M. 1534 P.P.G.R., J. Wildgoose P.M. 163 P.P.G.D., W. Alcock P.M. 192 1012 Prov. Grand Treas., J. E. Steward P.M. 336 P.P.G.D. Ches., Thos. Nesbitt W.M. 1055, Thos. Hamnett W.M. 2863, G. D. Brookes I.P.M. 1009, E. Faulkner P.M. 2231, R. Butterworth P.M. 1476 2320, G. S. Leresche S.W. 62, and others.

ROYAL ARCH.

CHAPTER OF RECTITUDE, No. 581.

A MEETING took place at the Mosley Hotel, Manchester, on Thursday, 1st inst., Comp. J. C. Wilson M.E.Z., there being a very good attendance.

The minutes having been read and confirmed a successful ballot was taken for Brother Albert Faber, Bee Hive Inn, Portland Street, Manchester, Prince Leopold Lodge, No. 1588, who was afterwards exalted into Royal Arch Masonry by the First Principal.

Comp. Fletcher Armstrong, assisted by Comps. W. J. Melling P.Z. P.P.G.A.D.C. and A. Hibbert 935 (as D.C.) proceeded to instal Comps. Robt. Rudman as First Principal, Wm. Goodman as Second, and T. C. Lilley as Third. The work was well done throughout, and, at the banquet which followed, very high encomiums were passed upon Comps. Armstrong, Melling, and Hibbert, who suitably responded.

DUKE OF FIFE CHAPTER, No. 2345.

THE usual meeting was held at Anderton's Hotel, on Wednesday, 7th inst., when there were present:—Comps. W. G. Boswell, M.R.C.V.S., G.O.V.C., M.E.Z., S. G. Benner H., C. Woods S.E., A. Robertson Treas., C. J. Fitch P. Soj., J. Smith 1st A. Soj., F. W. Sinclair 2nd A. Soj., F. Beckwith and G. Taylor Stewards, C. Patrick P.Z. Janitor.

The business being ended the Companions dined under the presidency of the M.E.Z., who referred most feelingly to the death of the Pro G.Z. the Earl of Lathom when speaking of the Grand Officers.

Comp. C. Wood S.E. proposed the M.E.Z. in felicitous terms, to which Comp. Boswell suitably responded.

Comp. J. Smith recited a stirring ballad, which was well received.

HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS.

—:o:—

REDUCED RATES FOR CHRISTMAS PARCELS.

IN connection with the Christmas and New Year traffic the Midland Railway Company will make special arrangements for the collection, quick transit, and prompt delivery of Christmas parcels in all the chief towns on their system, and for their conveyance at the reduced rates. Through vans will be attached to the principal express and mail trains to accommodate the exceptional parcels traffic concomitant upon the Christmas season and which, in view of the recent reduction in the rates, applicable to both English and Scotch towns (now in some cases less, and in no instance higher than the Parcels Post rates) will no doubt be much heavier than usual. As a timely reminder to many sending parcels at the "Owner's risk" rates, such as game, poultry, tobacco, cakes, cheese, &c., the Midland Company announce that the minima as to weight, formerly applied to this class of traffic, has been abolished as from 1st December, and the charges are now based upon the actual weight of the packages.

LONDON AND NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY.

THIS Company announce that the ticket offices at Euston, Broad Street, Kensington, and Willesden Junction will be open throughout the day, from Thursday, 15th, to Saturday, 24th December inclusive, so that Passengers wishing to obtain tickets for any destination on the London and North Western Railway can do so at any time of the day prior to the starting of the trains.

Tickets, dated to suit the convenience of Passengers, can also be obtained at any time (Sundays and Bank Holidays excepted) at the Town Receiving Offices of the Company.

The following special arrangements will be made in connection with the London and North Western Passenger trains during the holidays:—On Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 22nd, 23rd, and 24th December, a special train will leave Euston at 11.55 a.m. for Birmingham and Wolverhampton, calling at Coventry and Stechford only.

On Friday and Saturday, 23rd and 24th, a special express train will leave Birmingham at 11.45 a.m. for Euston, calling at Coventry, Bletchley, and Willesden only. The 2.10 p.m., Birmingham to London, will be divided; the first portion leaving at 2.0 p.m., calling at Coventry, Northampton, and Willesden only, and arriving London 4.35 p.m.; the second portion leaving at the usual time—2.10 p.m.—and calling at Coventry, Northampton, Bletchley, and Willesden, and arriving London 4.50 p.m.

A special express train will leave Birmingham at 4.8 p.m., conveying Passengers for Coventry, Rugby, Northampton, Peterboro', and Harwich, instead of 4.0 p.m. express from Birmingham doing so.

On Saturday, 24th, the 4.30 p.m., Euston to Birmingham, will be divided. The first portion, which will run Express to Birmingham (calling at Northampton and Coventry only), will leave Euston at 4.25 p.m., and be due Birmingham at 6.55 p.m. The second portion of the train will leave Euston at 4.30 p.m., as usual, and convey Passengers for Northampton, Market Harboro', Melton Mowbray, Wellingboro', Coventry, Birmingham, Walsall, Dudley, and Wolverhampton. The 12.0 night train from London due at Warrington at 5.26 a.m. on Sunday (Christmas Day), 25th, will be extended from Warrington to Kendal and Carlisle as on week-days.

On Christmas Day the Trains will run as on ordinary Sundays, with the following exceptions: The 3.30 a.m., Shrewsbury to Hereford (in connection with the 10.0 p.m. from Euston on Saturday night, 24th December, will be extended to Abergavenny (Brecon Road), Merthyr, and Cardiff (via M. T. & A. Line). The train will leave Hereford at 5.15 a.m., and will call at the following Stations:—Abergavenny Junction, Abergavenny, Govilon, Gilwern, Clydach, Brynmawr, Beaufort, Trevil, Nantybwch, Rhymney Bridge, Dowlais, Cefn, arriving Merthyr 8.48 a.m. This train will run in connection with the Rhymney Co.'s train which leaves Rhymney Bridge for Cardiff at 8.50 a.m. A special train will leave Craven Arms at 5.0 a.m. for Swansea (after arrival of the 3.30 a.m. mail from Shrewsbury) in connection with the train leaving Euston at 10.0 p.m. on Saturday night, 24th. This train will call at all stations up to and including Llandovery, also at all stations between Llandovery and Swansea, except the following: Glanrhyd, Talley Road, Ffairfach, Derwydd Road, Llandebie, and Tirydail. The mail train due to leave Shrewsbury for Welshpool and Aberystwyth at 3.40 a.m., in connection with the 10.0 p.m. from London (December 24th), will run as on week-days with connections to the Cambrian Line.

On Monday (Bank Holiday), 26th, the 2.10 p.m., Birmingham to Euston, will call at Rugby and join there the 12.0 noon express from Liverpool, which is due Euston at 5.15 p.m. The 4.30 p.m., Euston to Birmingham and Wolverhampton, will not run. Passengers for Northampton and stations between Rugby and Wolverhampton served by this train will travel by the 5.0 or 5.35 p.m. from Euston; and those from Market Harboro', Melton Mowbray, Nottingham, &c., by the 3.0 p.m. from Euston. The following trains will also be discontinued on this date:—8.0 a.m., Liverpool to London; 8.10 a.m. from Wolverhampton, and 8.45 a.m., Birmingham to London; 5.30 p.m., London to Liverpool, Manchester, and Fleetwood. Numerous trains in the neighbourhood of important Cities and Towns will not be run on Bank Holiday, particulars of which will be announced locally.

The Dining, &c., Cars on the following trains will not be run on this date:—6.55 a.m. from Wolverhampton and 7.30 a.m. from Birmingham to London; 7.40 a.m., Crewe to London; 8.30 a.m., Manchester to London; 6.30 p.m., London to Crewe; 7.0 p.m., London to Birmingham and Wolverhampton. The Dining Saloons and the Breakfast and Luncheon Saloons on all other trains will run as usual.

The through carriages will not run between London and the following Towns:—Birkenhead (except on the 12.15 noon from London), Blackburn, Bolton, Carmarthen, Knutsford, Llanidloes, Melton Mowbray, Rochdale, Southport, Swansea, Walsall, Warwick, Welshpool (on 4.15 p.m. from Euston).

The through carriages between Birmingham and Victoria (L. B. & S. C.), Birmingham and Swansea, Central Wales, and Llandudno, will also be discontinued.

The through carriages between Willesden Junction and Dover, and Willesden Junction and Queenboro', via Heine Hill and L. C. & D. Railway, will run as usual.

The Company also announce cheap excursions for the Christmas Holidays on 23rd December to Ireland and Carlisle and Scotland, and on 24th December to Coventry, Leamington, Kenilworth, Warwick, Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Dudley, Walsall, Nuneaton, Leicester, Stafford, Crewe, Liverpool, Warrington, Wigan, Preston, Lancaster, the English Lake District,

"THE THREE MUSKETEERS," which has been so phenomenally successful at the Globe Theatre, will be transferred in its entirety to the Garrick Theatre on Thursday evening next, 22nd inst., "Brother Officers" being withdrawn on the 21st, to make room for same.

Furness Line Stations, Manchester, Oldham, Stockport, Stoke, Macclesfield, Chester, Birkenhead, North and South Wales, Aberystwyth, Barmouth, and the Cambrian Line, Shrewsbury, &c.; and on 30th December to Carlisle and Scotland for New Year's Holidays.

Cheap week-end tickets are issued every Friday and Saturday to Carlisle, Church Stretton, Grange, Lancaster, Leamington, Llandrindod, Llanwrtyd, Llangammarch, Malvern, Morecambe, Oxford, Stratford-on-Avon, Windermere, Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Greenock, Inverness, Montrose, Oban, Perth, Stirling, and other places.

Tourist tickets available for two months are issued during the winter to North and Central Wales, Cambrian Line Stations, Blackpool, Southport, Morecambe, Windermere, Grange, Ulverston, the English Lake District, Greenore, Portrush, &c.

For full particulars see the Company's announcements.

MIDLAND RAILWAY.

ON Christmas Eve the pressure of traffic will be relieved by the running of duplicate trains from St. Pancras as circumstances may require. On Monday, 26th December, and on 2nd January, certain booked trains will be discontinued, of which due notice will be given by special bills at the stations.

The Midland Railway Company, to prevent inconvenience and crowding, have arranged for the booking offices at St. Pancras and Moorgate Street Station to be opened for the issue of tickets all day on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 22nd, 23rd, and 24th December, and tickets to all principal stations on the Midland Railway can be obtained beforehand at the Midland Company's City and Suburban Offices. The tickets obtained at these offices will be available from St. Pancras Station, and will be issued at the same fares as charged at that station, and dated to suit the convenience of passengers.

Cheap Excursion trains will be run from London (St. Pancras) and principal provincial stations to Carlisle, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Greenock, Dundee, Aberdeen, &c., on Friday, 23rd December, for four, five, or eight days, and 30th December for four or eight days, by which return tickets will be issued at a third class single fare for the double journey. The single fare tickets issued on 23rd December will be available for returning on any day up to and including 7th January 1899, and single fare tickets taken on 30th December will be available for returning any day up to and including 14th January 1899. Cheap excursion trains will also be run from London (St. Pancras) on Saturday, 24th December, to Leicester, Birmingham, Nottingham, Derby, Newark, Lincoln, Burton, Manchester, Liverpool, Blackburn, Bolton, Sheffield, Leeds, Bradford, York, Hull, Scarborough, Newcastle, Barrow-in-Furness, the Lake District, &c., returning 26th or 27th December; and on Christmas Day, 25th December (Saturday midnight) a cheap two days trip will be run to Nottingham, Manchester, Stockport, Warrington, Liverpool, Sheffield, Leeds and Bradford.

Cheap excursion tickets will be issued from London (St. Pancras) and principal provincial stations on Friday, 23rd December, to Dublin, Cork, Killarney, Limerick, &c., via Liverpool, available for sixteen days, and via Morecambe, available for returning on 29th or 31st December, and 3rd, 5th, or 7th January 1899; on Friday, 23rd December, to Belfast, Londonderry, Portrush, &c., via Barrow, or via Liverpool, available for sixteen days; on Saturday, 24th December, to Londonderry, via Morecambe or via Liverpool; available for returning 29th December, or 2nd or 5th January, via Morecambe, and 27th or 31st December, and 3rd or 7th January, via Liverpool.

On Christmas Day cheap day excursion tickets will be issued to Southend-on-Sea from St. Pancras, Kentish Town, Walthamstow, Leytonstone, and stations on the Tottenham and Forest Gate Joint line.

Cheap week-end tickets will be issued on Fridays, 23rd and 30th December, and Saturdays, 24th and 31st December, from St. Pancras and other Midland Stations to the principal holiday and health resorts in England and Scotland, available for returning on the following Sunday (train service permitting), Monday or Tuesday. Winter Tourists tickets are also issued to the chief tourist resorts in England and Wales.

GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.

THIS Company issue tickets at their principal City and West End offices, and this arrangement cannot fail to be a boon to those travellers who desire to avoid the trouble of obtaining tickets at a crowded Railway Station, particularly at holiday times, and the Booking Office at Paddington Station will be open all day for the issue of tickets on 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd and 24th December. Ordinary tickets obtained in London between 19th and 24th December will be available for use on any day between and including those days.

Cheap third class tickets at reduced fares will be issued at Paddington, Clapham Junction, Victoria (L. C. & D.), Kensington (Addison Road), Hammersmith, &c., to Bath, Bristol, Taunton, Barnstaple, Ilfracombe, Exeter, Torquay, Plymouth, Falmouth, Penzance, Yeovil, Dorchester, Weymouth, Guernsey, Jersey, &c. Similar tickets will also be issued from those districts to London (except the Channel Islands).

On Thursday, 22nd December, Cheap Excursions will be run from Paddington, Clapham Junction, Kensington (Addison Road), Hammersmith, &c., to Cork and Killarney, on Friday, 23rd, to Waterford, Limerick, Tralee, Kilkenny, Killarney, Belfast, Armagh, Giant's Causeway, &c.; and on Saturday night, 24th December, to Evesham, Worcester, Malvern, Hereford, Oxford, Banbury, Leamington, Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Shrewsbury, Chester, Liverpool, Bath, Bristol, Swansea, Llanely, Llandoverly, Carmarthen, Tenby, New Milford, &c., for 2 or 3 days; and to Cirencester, Stroud, Stonehouse, Gloucester, Cheltenham, Newport, Cardiff, &c., for 3 days.

On the days immediately preceding Christmas Day, several of the trains from Paddington will be divided, and the first portion of some of them will start five minutes before the advertised time.

On Saturday, 24th December, the 3.0 p.m. train to Plymouth will be extended to Truro. A special will leave Paddington at 7.5 p.m., for Bath, Bristol, Exeter, Plymouth, Penzance, and other stations, and a special express will depart at 12.20 night for Reading, Swindon, Gloucester, Cheltenham, Newport, Cardiff, Swansea, &c.

On Christmas Day, the usual Sunday service of trains will run, but the 5.30 a.m. train from Paddington will also be run as on week-days, to Oxford, Exeter, and Swansea. There will be connections to Trowbridge, Frome, Yeovil, Bridport, Dorchester, Weymouth, Banbury, Leamington, Birmingham, Worcester, Malvern, Kidderminster, Wolverhampton, &c.

In order to meet the extraordinary demands upon the Company's resources occasioned by the enormous parcel traffic despatched both from and to London at Christmas time, special fast trains carrying parcels only, and calling at the principal intermediate stations, will run between London and Plymouth, Birkenhead, Worcester and New Milford.

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