

THE Freemason's Chronicle.

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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CYCLING MASONS.

WE refer below to a smoking concert given last week by the Liverpool Masonic Cycling Club, which now enjoys a membership of 115, and which induces us to again ask the question—more than once propounded in our columns—how is it that London and other large centres cannot boast a similar organisation? It seems to us that the association of Freemasonry and Cycling should form a splendid nucleus on which to build a number of prosperous clubs in the metropolis and other large towns of the country, and we know several Brethren, patrons of the wheel, who share that opinion, and yet the Liverpool Club is the only one we hear of in active existence.

We should be very pleased to take a part in establishing a Masonic Cycling Club for the northern parts of the metropolis, and should like to hear from Brethren in the district willing to co-operate, or from others outside of it who would undertake a like duty for their neighbourhood and, later on, we should like to arrange for runs of a distinctly Masonic character.

It has long been a reproach to Freemasonry that its members spend most of the time they devote to Masonic meetings around the festive board at their Lodge quarters, but there have been many signs of changes in this respect in recent years, and it seems to us Masonic Cycling runs might advantageously take their share with summer outings and pic-nics in bringing members of the Craft more into the light of day, and at the same time afford them the means of offering a little pleasure to those not yet permitted to participate in the privileges of the Craft.

Bro. Bowers, F.R.H.S., will lecture on "King Solomon's Temple, its builders and destroyers," at the Israel Lodge of Instruction, the Rising Sun Tavern, Globe Road, Bethnal Green, E., one Sunday evening in April. Brethren should pay an early visit to the Lodge, to ensure an invitation.

The Fifteen Sections will be worked in the Guelph Lodge of Instruction, No. 1685, at the Plough and Harrow, Leytonstone Road, E., on Wednesday, 22nd inst., commencing at 7 p.m. Bro. James Oxley P.M. 1306 will preside, and will be supported by some of the best known Section workers of the day.

For a long series of years the Brethren of the Hamer Lodge, No. 1393, have annually had a reunion and ball, and that for the current season, held in the Liverpool Assembly Rooms, Hardman Street, on Wednesday, 22nd ult., was in every respect as enjoyable and successful as the best of its predecessors. A capital programme of dance music had been arranged, and in the intervals songs were contributed by Bro. H. Fairfield, Mr. A. Hampson, and Miss Elmslie. Bro. J. Pilling P.M. P.P.G.St.B., and Bro. F. E. Marshall were the M.Cs., and the various arrangements were in the hands of a Committee, of which Bro. A. E. M'Dougall W.M. was Chairman, Bro. N. Christensen P.M. Treasurer, and Bro. F. Minshull Secretary.

CONSECRATION.

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COMRADES LODGE.

A NEW Lodge formed by the Warrant and Non-Commissioned Officers of the Household Cavalry and the Brigade of Guards was, on Friday of last week, consecrated at the Holborn Restaurant, under the appropriate title of the Comrades, No. 2740.

The consecration was most efficiently carried out by Bro. E. Letchworth, F.S.A., Grand Secretary, assisted by Bros. J. H. Matthews President of the Board of Benevolence as S.W., Col. J. Davis A.D.C. P. Deputy G.D.C. as J.W., Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, M.A., P.G.Chap. as Chap., Frank Richardson P.G.D. as D.C., Major J. H. N. Bridges P.G.S.B. as I.G., and Henry Sadler G. Tyler as Tyler.

Both in the Address and the Oration great stress was laid on the aptness of the title chosen by the Brethren; the good fellowship and rivalry which exists between every regiment of Her Majesty's forces, and the great loyalty of all Military Brethren to the Craft.

The founders were: Bros. G. H. Lister P.M. 2444 P.P.G.Swd.B., J. W. Baldock 1604, J. C. Jordan 2444, C. E. Harford 2444, W. J. Carey P.M. 179, S. Wright 1331, J. M. Walker 2444, G. Lunt 2444, E. Bungay 2444, E. Daniels 2444, C. Yeatman 2444, R. Dixon 2444, J. H. Browne 1604, H. Border 2444, T. Davie 2444, C. Lloyd 2444, W. Armstrong 2444.

After the ceremony of consecration, Bro. G. H. Lister P.M. was installed as W.M., and the following were invested as Officers: Bros. J. W. Baldock S.W., J. C. Jordan J.W., C. E. Harford Sec., J. Carey P.M. Treas., E. H. Bungey S.D., S. Wright J.D., J. H. Browne I.G., R. Dixon D.C., G. Lunt Org., C. Yeatman, E. Daniels, and J. Davie Stewards, and C. S. Plant P.M. Tyler.

The musical arrangements were very ably conducted by Bro. H. W. Schartau W.M. 1261, assisted by Bros. Frank Tebbatt 2098, W. Fell 1766, and Geo. Stubbs 771, the pieces rendered being highly appreciated.

The Visitors included Bros. Col. T. C. Pleydell Calley, Household Brigade Lodge, No. 2614, Major R. G. Gordon-Gilmour 2614, F. King P.M. 269 P.P.G.Std.Br. Berks, W. Putman 2444, J. Quigley 2621, A. Leyden 2621, G. Handley P.M. Sec. 2444, W. Fitch S.W. 179, J. A. Stock P.M. Sec. 1586, J. O. Chamberlain 325 (I.C.), J. W. Harris 153, E. W. Davis P.M. 1503, G. Boulton P.M. 1604, W. G. Vaughan I.G. 1329, W. Hayes 1331, W. C. Jones 1604, A. J. Walklin 483, C. P. Bowen 483, Jas. Kew P.M. 179 P.A.G.Purs., J. Vowles 1614, J. Hewison 483, W. Archibald 160 (S.C.), and W. H. Rowntree 2621.

A NEW MARK PROVINCE.

IT is understood in well informed quarters that a petition recently presented to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales as Grand Mark Master, praying for the Mark Lodges of Essex to be constituted into a Province, has been granted, and that H.R.H. has appointed the Earl of Warwick to be the first Provincial Grand Master. It is expected that the installation of the new Prov. G.M. will take place about the middle of May, at Colchester.—"Essex County Standard."

The Liverpool Masonic Cycling Club, which has a membership of 115, and which is rapidly gaining in numbers, held a very successful smoking concert last week, at which Bro. A. Blinkhorn, late Hon. Secretary, was presented with a valuable gold watch, in recognition of his services on behalf of the Club. One of the rules of the Club is that all surplus funds are to be given to local Masonic charities, and last year, fifteen guineas were so disposed of.

HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE Provincial Grand Lodge held its annual meeting in the Corn Exchange, Ross, on Monday, 6th ult.

The business was of the usual character, but it was made interesting from the coincident facts that this was the identical day on which Bro. H. C. Beddoe Deputy Provincial Grand Master was initiated fifty years ago; that the Provincial Grand meeting in Ross was held on Monday, 6th of February 1893; and that this was the first Masonic function in which the Provincial Grand Master Lord Glanusk had to take part since his elevation to the peerage by Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen.

Provincial Grand Officers for the ensuing year were appointed and invested as follow:

Bro. T. Matthew	.	.	.	.	Senior Warden
T. Blinkhorn	.	.	.	.	Junior Warden
R. Harington	.	.	.	.	Chaplain
J. E. S. Hewett	.	.	.	.	Treasurer
W. R. Stafford	.	.	.	.	Secretary
A. P. Small	.	.	.	.	Supt. of Works
S. G. Yates	.	.	.	.	Dir. of Cers.
H. B. Cowx	.	.	.	.	Organist
H. H. Parry	.	.	.	.	Pursuivant

Afterwards a banquet was served at the Royal Hotel.

CHARITY IN CORNWALL.

THE Cornwall Masonic Annuity and Benevolent Fund annual report shows that on 31st December 1898 the invested funds amounted to £5,841; the income from which was nearly £250 per annum. Some £12,000 has been received since the society was formed in 1864, out of which about half that sum has been paid away in annuities and grants; the expenses of management for that long period being under £500. The subscriptions for the year 1898 run up to £330, and the Fund was never in a better state, or more useful than it is at the present time.

DEVONSHIRE CHARITY.

THE Annual Meeting of the Devonshire Aged Widows' Annuity Fund was held on the 22nd ult., at the Freemasons' Hall, Plymouth, the chair being occupied by Bro. Major G. S. S. Strode P.P.G.J.W.

The Treasurer Bro. F. B. Westlake presented his financial statement, which showed a balance in hand of £71 13s 5d. During the year £250 had been placed in the bank to the credit of the deposit account, which now amounted to £900. This was, of course, in addition to the payments made to annuitants.

In moving the adoption of the report, the Chairman expressed the hope that the various Lodges would take an even greater interest in the charity in the future than in the past. Bro. W. Allsford seconded, and the report was unanimously adopted.

On the proposition of Bro. Allsford, seconded by Bro. F. B. Westlake, who remarked that the position Bro. Major Strode held in the Province, and the interest he manifested in the Institution, made him the very best possible Chairman, the Chairman was re-elected.

In expressing his thanks, Bro. Major Strode assured the Brethren that he would always do his best for the Widow's Annuity Fund.

Bro. S. J. Page was re-appointed Vice-Chairman, whilst Bros. F. B. Westlake and J. Gifford again consented to fill the offices of Treasurer and Secretary. Bro. F. Mabin was re-elected Assistant Secretary, and Bros. W. J. Stanbury and J. R. Wilson Auditors. The Executive Committee were re-appointed, on the proposition of Bro. George Dunsterville.

There were two candidates for the fund, the third nominee being disqualified, but after the scrutineers Bros. Jas. Griffin and E. H. Littleton had examined the votes, Mrs. Louisa Andrews, of Tiverton, was declared duly elected. Mrs. Andrews, who is seventy-three years of age, was the unsuccessful candidate at the last election, and 544 votes were brought forward to her credit. This year she polled 821 additional votes, against the total of 120 recorded for the unsuccessful candidate.

After Bro. W. Allsford had given notice of a proposition to alter the date of the annual meeting, which will be discussed at a special meeting, the scrutineers were thanked for

their services. A similiar compliment was accorded the Chairman.

A MEETING of the General Purposes Committee of the Devon Masonic Educational Fund was held on Monday afternoon, at the Freemasons' Hall, Plymouth, to make arrangements for the forthcoming annual meeting of subscribers. Bro. C. S. Stebbing presided, and there were also present Bros. J. R. Lord Hon. Treasurer, J. B. Gover Hon. Secretary, W. Powell, Capt. T. Reynolds, W. Allsford, C. Mutton, C. Piper (Exeter), A. Parkhouse, and W. T. Hocking.

As Past Master and Charity Steward of Lodge 1753, Bro. C. Piper gave a cordial invitation to the Committee to hold the next annual meeting at Okehampton. He believed that if different towns were visited from time to time it would prove an effectual means of bringing the claims of the Institution before the notice of Brethren, who otherwise would be inadequately informed of the good that it was doing, and that this would result in a large increase of subscriptions.

It was unanimously resolved, on the motion of Bro. Allsford, seconded by Bro. Mutton, to accept the invitation, and the annual meeting will be held at Okehampton on Wednesday, the 5th prox. It was also decided to elect one child on the Fund, and petitions must reach the Hon. Secretary not later than Monday next.

A discussion arose with reference to the present state of the funds of the Institution. The Hon. Treasurer reported that there had been a serious falling off in the income during the past year, the receipts from all sources having decreased from £529 in 1897, to about £330 in 1898. The last annual concert was much less successful than those of former years, and this accounted to a very large extent for the decreased receipts.

Bro. Mutton reminded the Committee that, relying on the increased receipts arising from the annual concerts for many years past, they had largely added to the number of children receiving assistance from the Fund, but the figures which Bro. Lord had put before them showed that their expenditure—probably for the first time in the history of the Fund—was now in excess of their income. This was a serious matter, and he made an earnest appeal to the Brethren throughout the Province to help put the Fund on a more satisfactory basis.

Bro. Gover said there were still many Lodges in the Province that gave no assistance whatever to the Institution, and had never done so, although repeated appeals had been made to them. In view of the present state of the funds he hoped those Lodges would now come to their aid, so that the Institution might be maintained with even increased efficiency. It was doing an important work, and every Mason in Devonshire ought to support it.

Bros. Powell and Reynolds spoke in similiar terms, and suggested that a special appeal should be made to the Lodges that do not subscribe to the funds of the Institution. It was understood that this would be done.

GRAND LODGE FOR WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

BY order of His Excellency the Governor, Sir Gerard Smith District Grand Master of Western Australia, the following circular letter has been addressed by the District Grand Secretary to the Worshipful Masters of all the Lodges under the English Constitution in that colony:—

Dear Sir and W. Brother,—It is a matter of common knowledge among the Masons of the District of Western Australia that many Brethren are desirous of seeing the establishment of a Grand Lodge of Western Australia, but the R.W.D.G.M. has noted with regret that with few exceptions the Brethren are in ignorance of the method of procedure necessary to give effect to their desire.

2. Under these circumstances I am instructed by the R.W.D.G.M. to hand you the six copies herewith transmitted of the new rules added to the Book of Constitutions (under the numbers 218A-218B) for your information and the use of your Lodge.

3. It is the R.W.D.G.M.'s desire that these rules be read to the Brethren in open Lodge, at a special meeting or at the next regular meeting of your Lodge, together with this communication.

4. I am to add that the R.W.D.G.M. has recently received a communication from the V.W. Grand Secretary

of the Grand Lodge of England to the effect that if the steps taken by the Brethren in Western Australia to give effect to their wishes be of a constitutional character, neither the Grand Master nor Grand Lodge would raise any objection to the recognition of the Grand Lodge of Western Australia, provided the rights of those Lodges which might desire to remain under the English Constitution be reserved and respected.

5. I am further desirous to inform you that while reserving the expression of his opinion as to the desirability of establishing a Grand Lodge, so as to leave the Lodges of the District the most complete freedom of action, it is the R.W.D.G.M.'s intention sternly to discountenance any departure from the constitutional procedure laid down and now brought prominently to your notice for the first time.

6. I will thank you to acknowledge the receipt of this communication, and to signify your intention of complying with the instruction contained in paragraph 3.

(Signed) Frank Shaw, D.G.S.

At the usual meeting of the Stour Valley Lodge, at the Masonic Hall, Sudbury, on Friday evening, 24th ult., there was a large gathering in honour of Bro. F. Wheeler, to whom it had been arranged a presentation should be made in recognition of his services to Masonry and his personal gifts. The occasion was all the more interesting from the fact that Bro. Wheeler's son, Mr. F. B. Wheeler, was initiated by his father into the mysteries of the Craft. Bro. Wheeler has been Secretary of the Lodge for twenty-two years, an office which, said Bro. Thornber, the Worshipful Master, in making the presentation, their friend had filled with the utmost satisfaction. The gift consisted of a handsome silver salver, upon which the following inscription was engraved:—"Presented to W. Bro. F. Wheeler P.M., P.P.G.Reg. (Suffolk), by the Brethren of Stour Valley Lodge, No. 1224, as a mark of appreciation of the excellent services rendered by him as Secretary from 1876 to 1897, and of the kind and courteous manner universally shown by him to all connected with the Lodge." Bro. Wheeler, in response, said that words failed him to thank the Brethren sufficiently for their kind and handsome present, which he accepted in the spirit in which it was given, as an appreciation of the services which he was fortunate enough to render to the Lodge in the capacity of Secretary. But he felt perhaps more than anything that which he saw underlying it—the kindness and goodwill which was so characteristic of their Order. He stood there that night a debtor in many respects to Freemasonry. During the thirty years—it might be a little more—he had been a member of the Craft, it had been his privilege to be associated with and introduced to many members whom he regarded as his most sincere and best friends, and from whom he had received very great kindness, and more particularly during the twenty-two years he had filled the office of Secretary. The kindness and courtesy he had received at the hands of the Brethren was ample repayment to him for any services he had been able to give. No one perhaps knew better than he did how inefficient those services were. Well, perhaps, he did as well as he could, but for some time past he had not devoted the attention to the Lodge which he should have liked. He reminded them of the token of their kindness of many years since, in the gold presentation watch which he was then wearing. In conclusion, he assured them that he should value that magnificent present to the latest hour of his existence, and which he hoped would then go down to his son, and to generations yet unborn.

Professors of music and the drama who are Freemasons, not being able to attend Lodges of Instruction the meetings of which take place in the evening, have only one available day in the week for learning the Masonic ceremonies, and this day is Sunday, when no authorised Lodges of Instruction meet. They, therefore, have in the metropolitan district two Clubs of Instruction, the Logic and the Genesis, which meet on Sunday mornings for the teaching of Lodge ceremonies. On Sunday the Genesis visited the Logic at the Cavendish Rooms, and gave a rehearsal of the ceremony observed at the installation of a Worshipful Master. About 100 Brethren were present, and Mr. H. G. Danby installed Mr. Harry Nicholls, the well-known actor, the ceremony being accompanied by a very fine musical performance, wherein Mr. J. E. Hambleton played the violoncello, and Messrs. Frank Boor and Richard Green sang the solos and duets, Mr. Louis Honig being Organist. The proceedings, which lasted more than two hours, were exceptionally successful.—"Birmingham Post."

An East end firm has been favoured with commissions for some of those whose names are written on the page of history, and Messrs. Harris and Son, the well-known monumental sculptors and workers in the Craft in the East end of London, of Beaumont Street, Mile End, are now executing elaborate marble and granite memorials for the late Mr. Barney Barnato, Mr. Woolf Joel, Baron Ferdinand De Rothschild, and Dr. Cornelius Herz, of Panama fame. A peculiar feature with respect to the late Mr. Woolf Joel is that a tomb, facsimile of the one being placed over the body at Willesden, is to be sent to Johannesburg to be placed over the grave containing that part of the body which was removed to permit of the embalming process.

A Cinderella dance will take place at the Holborn Restaurant, on Friday, 24th inst., under the auspices of the Holborn Lodge, Mo. 2398, on behalf of the funds of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution.

The tenth annual Masonic ball in aid of the West Ham Hospital was held in Stratford Town Hall, on Wednesday evening, 22nd ult., about 300 guests being present. The scene was a brilliant one in the extreme, and everyone responsible deserves the highest praise.

"A SPRIG OF ACACIA."

ON Saturday, 25th ult., amid general manifestations of public sympathy, the remains of the late Bro. Alfred Schofield, proprietor of the George Hotel, Alfreton, were laid to rest in the Parish Churchyard. The procession left the George Hotel about one o'clock, headed by representatives of the Alfreton Friendly Societies, followed by some sixty Brethren of the Masonic Order, of which the deceased was for many years a member. The Masonic Brethren hailed chiefly from the Royal Alfred Lodge, the St. Thomas Lodge (Tibshelf), the St. Martin Lodge of Mark Masters (Alfreton), and the Okeover Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, with all of which the deceased was connected. The Brethren lined each side of the pathway from the Church gates to the entrance. The coffin was met by Bros. the Revs. A. C. Beckett (vicar), and F. C. Mahony (Chaplain of the Royal Alfred Lodge). From the gates into the church the coffin was borne by Bros. T. Hardstaff, T. Barratt, S. Burnham and W. M. Radford. The bearers from the George Hotel to the church gates, and from the sacred edifice to the grave, were the deceased Brother's own workmen. The service was conducted by the Vicar, Bro. the Rev. F. C. Mahony reading the Epistle. After the service for the Burial of the Dead was concluded at the graveside, Bro. the Rev. F. C. Mahony recited a Masonic prayer. The Brethren then reverently gave honours to their departed Brother. The Chaplain (Bro. Mahony) delivered the following brief address: Brethren, the melancholy event which has caused us to assemble on the present occasion cannot have failed to impress itself on the mind of everyone present. The loss of a friend and Brother—especially of one so distinguished in the Craft as he whose loss we now deplore—conveys a powerful appeal to our hearts, reminding us as it does of the uncertainty of life, and of the vanity of earthly hopes and designs. Amid the pleasures, the cares, and the various associations of life, we are too apt to forget that, upon us also, the common lot of all mankind must one day fall, and that Death's dread summons may surprise us even in the meridian of our lives, and in the full spring-tide of enjoyment and success. The ceremonial observances which we practice during the obsequies of a departed Brother are intended to remind us of "our own inevitable destiny," and to warn us that we also should be likewise ready, for we know not the day nor the hour when, in the case of each of us, "the dust shall return to the earth as it was, and the spirit shall return to God who gave it." Then, Brethren, let us lay these things seriously to heart; let us strive in all things to act up to our Masonic profession; to live in accordance with the high moral precepts inculcated in our ceremonies, and to practically illustrate in our lives and actions the ancient tenets and established customs of the Order. Thus, in humble dependence upon the mercy of the Most High, we may hope, when this transitory life, with all its cares and sorrows, shall have passed away, to rejoin this our departed friend and Brother in the Grand Lodge above, where the world's Great Architect lives and reigns supreme.—So mote it be.

LADIES' NIGHT OF THE EARL OF ZETLAND LODGE AND CHAPTER, No. 1364.

THE second Ladies Night given by the Earl of Zetland Lodge and Chapter was held on Saturday, 4th instant, at the Guildhall Tavern, Gresham Street, E.C., when about 150 Ladies, Brethren, and friends assembled to do honour to the occasion, under the able presidency of Bro. W. P. Forbes W.M., and Comp. S. J. Cross P.Z. M.E.Z.

A reception was held in the Chapter Room at 5 p.m., and the guests were presented to the W.M. and M.E.Z. by the D.C. Bro. H. W. Gompertz P.M. The reception ended, the company proceeded to the ball room, where dancing commenced at 5.45 p.m., and was continued until 11.30, a sumptuous supper being served at 7.45 p.m. Bro. Tom Leabon acted as M.C., and Bro. H. H. Cooper P.M. as A.M.C., and by their unflagging energies the brilliant success of the Cinderella was secured.

High compliments are due to the following Brethren, for the admirable arrangements made by them, either as members of the Dance Committee, Stewards, or in other ways: Bros. W. P. Forbes W.M., A. F. Lay P.M. P.Z. Treas., H. H. Cooper P.M., H. W. Gompertz P.M. Sec., J. E. Cockett P.M., W. R. Jeffray P.M., H. Lowe P.M., J. F. Saunders P.M., W. H. Turner P.M., J. Moore S.W., H. G. Tayler J.W., M. Tuck J.D., G. Billings, T. Leabon, G. Cashford, W. J. Hiam, H. I. Dormer, G. T. Lupson, R. S. Low, C. Lloyd, and others.

"Laudī Spirituali" having been sung after supper, the W.M. proposed the Loyal toast of the Queen and the Royal Family, and remarked that, as the Brethren were of course well aware, a lady ruled over every household, and it was only right and proper that a lady should govern their mighty Empire.

Miss Haskins, who was in charming voice, sang the National Anthem, accompanied by her father Bro. J. F. Haskins P.P. Grand Org. Herts and Essex, who at all times renders excellent service to the Earl of Zetland Lodge.

The next toast was that of the W.M., proposed by Bro. J. F. Saunders P.M., in terms of great cordiality and high admiration of his many excellencies.

Bro. H. W. Gompertz P.M. Sec. proposed the health of Comp. S. J. Cross P.Z., and in very congratulatory terms expressed the thanks of the Brethren and of the Ladies for the energy and skill which he had devoted to the whole of the arrangements, not only on the present occasion, but also in the case of the previous Cinderella. Bro. H. G. Tayler S.W. put the proposition to the Brethren, who received it with great acclamation.

The next was the toast of the evening, that of the Ladies, proposed by Comp. S. J. Cross P.Z. in a most eloquent and graceful manner. He amused the company by many humorous quotations, and stated that it was hardly necessary to say that the proper study of man was woman, as all the members of the Earl of Zetland Lodge and Chapter felt with that notable man who, on enquiring "Where is my wife Maria," was told that he never seemed happy if "Maria" was out of the room for a moment, and retorted, "I am not; that is why I married her." As an example of the strong attachment which existed between the sexes, he pointed out that no man would think of going on his honeymoon alone, on the ground that it was so expensive to pay for two to travel. He informed the assembly that some of the horrid arguments use by those terrible bachelors were as follow:

Woman is a good idea—spoiled.

Man's life is divided into two epochs; first trying to get a wife, and then trying to keep her.

Woman was taken out of the side of man, and it is not to be wondered at if she wants to get back to her old quarters.

While thanking the Ladies for their company he expressed the hope that they would have a most enjoyable evening.

Bro. W. R. Jeffray P.M., in suitably replying for the Ladies, assumed that by command of the W.M. he was for the time being one of their good-looking sisters, and thanked the Lodge and Chapter most heartily for the handsome fans of ostrich feathers which had been presented to the Ladies, who would keep them as souvenirs of the occasion, and look forward with pleasure to the time when they would have the opportunity of meeting the Brethren again.

Dancing was then resumed, and the blue, purple and gold clothing of the Brethren, flashing jewels, and exquisite dresses of the beautiful Ladies, made up a picture which will long be remembered.

Rumours were whispered in the Ball Room that the next occasion on which the Ladies would have the opportunity of attending would probably be a summer outing.

LADIES' NIGHT OF THE TEMPERANCE LODGE, No. 169.

THE social meeting of this Lodge was indeed a night of nights, and the W.M. Bro. Charles W. Cobon and his able Stewards, with Bro. C. H. Nicholson as Hon. Secretary, are to be congratulated on the result of their efforts. Ladies, Brethren, and their friends assembled in strong force on Wednesday, 22nd ult., at the Tower Bridge Hotel, Tooley Street, S.E.

Bro. Cobon and Mrs. Cobon received the large gathering, and a dispensation having been obtained for the Brethren to wear Masonic clothing, this, with the very charming costumes of the ladies, gave the room a very festive appearance.

The company adjourned to the banqueting room, where an excellent supper was provided, which reflected the highest possible credit on the establishment. It was admirably served under the personal superintendence of the Proprietor Bro. G. J. Brown, who was most assiduous in looking after the comfort of the company, especially that of the ladies. The W.M. Bro. Cobon presided, and was well supported by the Officers of the Lodge.

The toast list was short, the gathering being intended more for enjoyment than speech making.

The W.M. in eloquent terms gave the toast of the Queen, the Prince and Princess of Wales, and the other members of the Royal family, which toast was duly honoured.

The W.M. now proceeded by submitting the toast of the Ladies, which was rendered in a very humorous manner.

The toast was drunk with the greatest enthusiasm, and was responded to by Bro. Tom Best P.M. and Sec. of the Lodge.

Bro. J. F. Cripps I.P.M. said he had the pleasure and privilege to propose the toast of the W.M. Bro. Cobon, who, he said, was a good Mason, and deserved great compliment for the able manner in which he had presided that evening, and for the enjoyable programme he had provided for the members and their friends. It was a great credit to himself and to the Lodge.

The Worshipful Master was heartily welcomed on rising to respond; he sincerely thanked Bro. Cripps for his very kind remarks, and was pleased that the Ladies and the rest of the company were enjoying themselves. He would do his best for the Lodge, and hoped to have a similar gathering to the present every year.

The Worshipful Master gave the toast of the Visitors, and tendered them a most hearty welcome. Mr. Fletcher, on behalf of the guests, suitably responded.

The W.M. next gave the toast of the Lodge of Temperance, which was responded to by Bro. Wilton P.M.

During the evening each lady was presented with a bottle of perfume, which was highly appreciated.

After the bountiful banquet an adjournment was made to the Pillar Hall of the Hotel, and some capital songs were rendered, amongst the artistes who added to the enjoyment of the evening being Mrs. M. L. Carpenter, Miss M. Glenn, Past Masters Wilton and Johnson, also Bro. Gurney Russell, Mr. George Maud, Mr. George Reson, and Mr. Burrows. The accompanist was Bro. Herbert Townsend.

The remainder of a very enjoyable evening was spent in dancing.

LADIES' NIGHT OF THE SCOTS LODGE, No. 2319.

THE annual Ladies Night was held on Friday, 17th ult., when a company of 200 Ladies and Brethren assembled at the Holborn Restaurant to do honour to the occasion. A reception took place at 6.30 p.m., in the ante-room of the King's Hall, when the company was received by Bro. D. Robertson Duncan W.M. and Mrs. Duncan.

After the reception the company proceeded to the King's Hall, where a magnificent banquet was provided, the Worshipful Master presiding. After the banquet the following three toasts were proposed: the Queen and Royal Family, the Ladies, and the Worshipful Master.

The Worshipful Master proposed the first two, and expressed his regret at the absence through illness of Bros. D. F. Gellion P.M., and Alex. Ritchie, J.P., C.C. Bro. John Imray Treasurer, in replying to the toast, said he considered it a high honour to be asked to return thanks for the Ladies.

Bro. Dr. D. M. Forbes I.P.M. proposed the Worshipful Master. The Chairman was beloved by the members of the Scots Lodge; he was well known for his skill in working the ritual, and for his interest in the cause of Freemasonry and its Charitable Institutions. He asked the Worshipful Master to accept from him a souvenir of that event, in the shape of a handsomely-framed photograph of a picture of the Mother Lodge of Scotland, which Bro. A. Ritchie, J.P., C.C., had asked him to present in his enforced absence through illness.

Bro. D. Robertson Duncan W.M. returned thanks for the toast and presentation, and referred to the assistance he had received from the Secretary of the Lodge Bro. D. Angus Ross.

The Worshipful Master announced that the donations received for the Charity Fund amounted to £9 9s.

In the interval between these speeches Miss Grainger Kerr and Mr. Swabey Russell entertained the company by singing several Scotch songs.

Bro. Sergeant Peter Maclean, piper of the Lodge, and two boys, pupils of the Royal Caledonian Asylum, contributed greatly to the success of the evening by their pipe music.

Dancing commenced at 10 p.m., and was kept up with unflagging energy until 4 a.m.

DUKE OF CONNAUGHT LODGE CINDERELLA.

THE flourishing Duke of Connaught Lodge, No. 1558, held their Annual Cinderella Dance at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, on Tuesday, 28th ult. The Ball Room, which was decorated with choice flowers, presented a splendid appearance, and, with the charming dresses of the ladies, combined with the Craft and Arch Regalia worn by the Brethren, for which a special dispensation had been granted by Grand Lodge, made a picturesque scene. The numerous friends and members of the Craft, numbering about 150, arrived in quick succession, and introductions having been effected, the W.M. Bro. Frank Lever and his wife opened the dance. The duties of M.Cs. were very ably carried out by Bros. H. Lewis S.W. and H. C. Pink Steward, who fully earned, by their indefatigable energies, the high appreciation of those dancing. Bros. C. B. Andrews Steward, J. H. Keen Steward, H. E. Ebdon, C. G. Beasley, and W. D. Osborne acted as Stewards, and their assistance very much conduced to the enjoyable evening. The band, which was under the direction of Bro. Walter Taylor, played some popular music, with the best possible result. Altogether the dance was an unqualified success, and thoroughly enjoyed by those present.

ANNUAL SUPPER OF THE ROYAL ALFRED LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, No. 780.

A LARGE number of members of this Lodge, as well as visitors, assembled at the Star and Garter Hotel, Kew Bridge, on Thursday, 16th ult., and full justice was done to the first class viands placed before them by the Proprietor.

The chair was taken by Bro. R. H. Williams P.M. P.P.G.J.D. Midx., supported by Bro. Justin Allen as S.W., and Bro. E. H. Wilcox as J.W.

After the Loyal toasts had been honoured the Chairman asked all present to drink success to the Royal Alfred Lodge of Instruction, and drew their attention to the fact of its great prosperity and financial position, both of which were the result of good attendances, and increase in the number of members.

In replying to the toast of the West London Masonic Election Association, Bro. F. Craggs P.M. 834 (whom we may remark is one of the hardest working and most energetic Freemasons in the West of London) gave an interesting account of the Association since its formation in 1894, showing Brethren who had votes how they could prevent waste by sending them to the Association, by whom they were collected and applied to appropriate cases.

The Treasurer Bro. F. J. Larkman P.M., and the Secretary Bro. J. H. Cumming P.M. suitably replied to the toasts drunk in their honour.

Bro. Captain Purkiss, Proprietor of the Hotel, thanked the Brethren for the complimentary remarks made by the Chairman on the excellent nature of the repast provided, and added that he would always do his best to study their comfort.

A choice selection of songs and recitations was given by the Brethren during the intervals between the toasts, and it was generally agreed that a most enjoyable evening had been spent.

MASONIC ENTERTAINMENT AT NORTHAMPTON.

THE Northampton Corn Exchange was, on Thursday afternoon, 16th ult., the scene of a pleasing gathering, some 750 of the aged poor of the town meeting together to partake of the hospitality which the local Freemasons provided in the shape of a first-class meat tea, with a capital entertainment afterwards. The treat is annually given by the Brethren of the town, and is always eagerly looked forward to by all who have once been privileged to attend.

When all the guests were seated at the twenty-six tables, Mr. M. L. Warner's band struck up the National Anthem, and the company rose as a procession, headed by the Director of Ceremonies and Past Masters of the Lodges, entered the hall and escorted to the platform Brother J. Haviland Deputy Provincial Grand Master of the Province of Norths and Hunts, who, in the unavoidable absence of the Provincial Master the Earl of Euston, presided. Shortly afterwards the procession was re-formed to welcome the Mayor and Mayoress, Councillor F. Tonsley and Mrs. Tonsley, who, entering the Hall as the band played, for a second time, the National Anthem, met with a hearty reception.

The Deputy Provincial Grand Master expressed the pleasure which he felt at welcoming the guests on behalf of the Masons of Northampton, and said that nothing could give the Masons more pleasure than to see so many people enjoying themselves. He was exceedingly sorry to be obliged to apologise for the Earl of Euston, who had fully intended to be present, but who was attending the funeral of a very close friend. Masons took a pleasure and delight, not only in pleasing themselves, but in giving pleasure and doing good to other people. That was the great principle on which Masonry existed, and every Mason worth his salt was actuated by that principle. They did not claim to be the only people in the world who liked to give pleasure to other people, and they recognised that, in Northampton at any rate, there were a great many others who shared their feelings. As proof of that, they had with them the Mayor. They could not invite a great many people who were not Masons, and so they asked the Mayor to represent his fellow-citizens. The Mayoress was there too, and everyone, he was sure, would be glad that they were able to attend. As he would not have an opportunity later in the evening, he would thank Bro. Dorman, who was going to give an entertainment, and those members of the Craft who formed the Committee, and who had gone to so much trouble, in making the arrangements.

The Mayor, who was heartily received, said that those who read the papers would see that he had been having a rather trying time of it lately. He was glad to know that the presence of the Mayoress and himself had given satisfaction and pleasure to the Masons and to the assembled company, and he could only express the sincere hope that there would be no after-regrets. Both the Mayoress and he felt considerable pleasure in being present; and the Masons, in giving the entertainment, were performing an act of kindness which he felt sure the whole of the inhabitants of Northampton appreciated. He trusted that the good example they had set would be emulated by other associations and societies in the town. Charity was one of the fundamental principles of Masonry, and any worthy object needing assistance in Northampton was always liberally assisted by the Masons. He was sure the guests would allow him, occupying the position he did, to thank, in their name, the Masons for the entertainment they had provided.

Bro. H. P. Markham, speaking at the request of the Chairman, and addressing the company as "Brothers and sisters, sisters and brothers," welcomed the guests as a Mason. All present were old people, but he did not think there was anyone so old as himself. How soon would it be, in the natural order of things, that all, they and he, would be where all distinctions were at an end? All regretted the absence of the Provincial Grand Master, but none more than the Provincial Grand Master himself. Touching on the work of the Craft, Bro. Markham said that the Book of the Sacred Law was inculcated on everyone who became a Mason, and from that Book they learned the inestimable value of charity.

Bro. T. P. Dorman gave a highly-appreciated lantern entertainment. Commencing with a number of photographs, including the Earl of Euston, Bro. Haviland, &c., Bro. Dorman subsequently exhibited a number of "Old Northampton Scenes and People," while, as a diversion, he gave a pictorial representation of the "Death of Cock Robin," Bro. W. H. Tarry singing the explanatory rhymes. The second part of the entertainment consisted of views of "The Land of the Rose, Shamrock, and Thistle," and when these had been got through, the proceedings quickly terminated.

NEW MUSIC.

Stand by the old Flag.—Arranged as a march by Joseph H. Adams (W. Morley and Co.). A fine arrangement of this stirring melody, with plenty of lively movement.

Danse Brahmanique.—Arranged for the pianoforte by Cecil Neilson (Charles Tuckwood). A taking little melody, not too difficult, yet affording scope for effect.

The Daughter of the Regiment.—Song written by Stanhope Gray, the music composed by Theo. Bonheur (Charles Tuckwood). The composer has given a very pretty setting to the pleasing theme of the author, and we may expect to hear of the doings of this "Daughter" on many occasions in the near future.

De Sweetest Gal.—Coon song by Frank Stayton. Music by James Philp (Edwin Ashdown). A nicely arranged nigger ditty, of easy compass.

Hawke.—"In seventeen hundred and fifty-nine," Song written by Henry Newbolt. Composed by C. H. Lloyd (Joseph Williams). Here we have a taking song, with a good old fashioned ring about it, and plenty of material for effective rendering.

Love in Venice.—Waltz from the popular song by Claude Trevor (E. Ascherberg and Co.). A nice easy going dance, well in keeping with the spirit of the song. Really an inducement to act up to the words, and "Drift on, drift on for ever."

Oriana Waltz.—Composed by Popplewell Royle (E. Ascherberg and Co.). An inspiring arrangement. Plenty of "go," and "taking" music.

Love me.—Vocal Waltz composed by J. Munro Coward and dedicated by him to Mrs. Robert Newman (Boosey and Co.). A lively tune, likely to become highly popular, the words and music being both taking. It met great success when given at the Queen's Hall Promenade Concerts.

Gavotte.—Arranged for the piano by N. Lambelet (Edwin Ashdown). A number with plenty of good music to recommend it. Some pleasing variations.

CORRESPONDENCE.

—:o:—

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

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

—:o:—

MASONIC CHARITY IN THE WEST INDIES.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR,—Two years ago, through the initiative of the W.M. of the Igualdad Lodge, No. 653, the "Victoria Fund" was founded, with the philanthropic idea to activate and foment the education and instruction of the needful class of this Island, in order to make useful members of society of them. There was since that date no means left untried, nor was zeal and activity lacking to obtain the proposed object; but unfortunately, if the idea was applauded, the help was deficient, and our efforts were shattered against all the obstacles which ignorance could bring forward.

Beaten in part, but never vanquished, the Igualdad Lodge decided, at the regular meeting of the 23rd of November last, to appoint a commission with the object to organise a "Bazaar Tombala," in order to obtain funds for the above mentioned Institution, with the generous co-operation of the Brethren and private individuals, protectors of charity, instruction and progress.

Knowing with surety that you will faithfully answer to our call, we take the liberty to beg you to contribute not only with your material help, but also with the gifts which, in funds or objects of art, you may collect from your friends and relations for said object, and beg you besides to forward these gifts, previous to the 25th of June of this year, to the President of the "Bazaar Tombala."

Depending on the efficacy of your co-operation, and offering you the most disinterested reciprocity.

We are, dear Sir,

Yours very truly,

J. P. G. ECKER, President of the "Bazaar Tombala."
JOHAN H. RANDER REE, Secretary.

Curacao, 1st January 1899.

Bro. Lieut. Dan Godfrey and his band left England on the 25th ult., by the "Lucania," for New York, for a tour through the United States. The first performance was to be given before President McKinley at Washington, on Monday last. We commend our Bro. Godfrey to our Brethren across the Atlantic.

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Other nights vacant.

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ROYAL Masonic Institution for Girls.

The 11th ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL
WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, THE 10TH MAY 1899,
THE RIGHT HON. VISCOUNT DUNGARVAN, D.L.,
R. W. PROV. G. M. SOMERSET,
IN THE CHAIR.

Brethren willing to act as Stewards are earnestly solicited to send in their names to the Secretary, as early as convenient. Stewards are much needed, and their services will be gratefully received.

F. R. W. HEDGES, Secretary.

Office—5 Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.

The Freemason's Chronicle.

A Weekly Record of Masonic Intelligence.

Published every Saturday, Price 3d.

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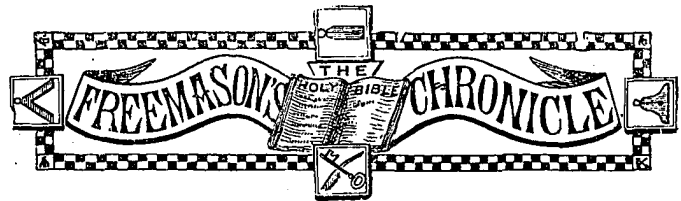
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General Advertisements, Trade Announcements, &c., narrow column, 5s per inch. News column Advertisements 1s per line. Special terms for a series of insertions or special positions on application.

The Theatres, &c.

Adelphi.—8, The Man in the Iron Mask.
Avenue.—8, The Rift within the Lute. 8.50, The Cuckoo. Matinée, Saturday, 3.
Comedy.—8.15, A Lady of Quality. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.
Court.—8.15, For Love of Prim. 9, A Court Scandal. Matinée, Saturday, 3.
Criterion.—8.15, Nicolette. 8.45, My "Soldier" Boy. Matinée, Saturday, 3.
Daly's.—8.15, A Greek Slave. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.
Drury Lane.—7.30, The Forty Thieves. Matinée, Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday, 1.30.
Duke of York's.—8, Chums. 8.45, The Adventure of Lady Ursula. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.30.
Gaiety.—8.15, A Runaway Girl. Matinée, Saturday, 2.
Garrick.—8, The Three Musketeers. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.15.
Globe.—8, Six and eightpence. 8.30, Ours.
Haymarket.—8.10, A Golden Wedding. 9, The Manceuvres of Jane. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.15.
Her Majesty's.—8.15, The Musketeers. Matinée, Saturday, 2.15.
Lyceum.—8, The Only Way. Matinée, Saturday, 2.
Lyric.—8.15, Little Miss Nobody. Matinée, Thursday, 2.30.
Opera Comique.—2, Alice in Wonderland. Saturday, 8 also.
Prince of Wales.—8.15, Coquette. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.
Princess's.—7.45, Woman and Wine.
Royalty.—8.15, Confederates. 9, A Little Ray of Sunshine. Matinée, Saturday, 3.
Savoy.—8.20, The Lucky Star. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.
Shaftesbury.—8, The Belle of New York. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.
St. James's.—8, A Repentance. 8.45, The Ambassador. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.
Strand.—8.15, An Empty Stocking. 9, What happened to Jones. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.30.
Terry's.—8.15, Sweet Lavender. Matinée, Thursday and Saturday, 2.30.
Vaudeville.—8, A Bad Penny. 9, On and Off. Matinée, Saturday, 3.
Alexandra.—Next week, Two little Vagabonds.
Dalston.—7.45, A Trip to Chinatown.
Grand.—Next week, The Lyceum Theatre Company.
Queen's Opera House, Crouch End.—Next week, The J.P.
Alhambra.—7.45, Variety Entertainment. Jack Ashore, &c.
Aquarium.—The Fisheries, Varied Performances, &c., twice daily.
Empire.—7.50, Variety Entertainment. New Ballet Alaska, &c.
London Pavillion.—8, Variety Entertainment.
Oxford.—Variety Entertainment.
Palace.—7.45, Variety Entertainment. New American Biograph, &c.
Royal.—7.30, Variety Company. Saturday, 2.30 also.
Tivoli.—7.30, Variety Entertainment. Saturday, 2.15 also.
Crystal Palace.—Varied attractions daily.
Egyptian Hall.—3 and 8, Mr. J. N. Maskelyne's entertainment.
Madame Tussaud's (Baker Street Station).—Open daily. Portrait models of modern celebrities, &c. Father Christmas and Monster Lucky Tub.
Olympia.—Barnum and Bailey's Show.



SATURDAY, 11TH MARCH 1899.

We do not attend Lodge meetings, neither do we sanction anyone doing so on our behalf, without a specific invitation, directed to our office, or to our representative in Manchester (Bro. E. Roberts), and anyone who attends a Lodge "on behalf of the Freemason's Chronicle," under any other condition, does so without our knowledge or sanction. We shall be obliged if Lodge Officials will act on this notice whenever it may be necessary. We cannot be answerable for Lodge visits made in our name, without our knowledge.

R. M. I. BOYS.

WE have pleasure in publishing the following lists of successes secured by the pupils of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, as just announced by the examiners:

Cambridge Local Examinations.

December 1898.—Juniors (age up to 16).—3 first class, 4 second class, 9 third class, and 11 other passes, with 4 distinctions for Mathematics, and Latin. Average age, 14 years, 8 months.

Preliminary (age up to 14).—1 first class, 7 second class, 11 third class, and 29 other passes, with 13 distinctions for Religious Knowledge, Arithmetic, Geography, English, French, and Euclid. Average age, 13 years, 2 months.

At the January examinations of the London University, two of "Our Boys" matriculated, viz.: E. J. W. Barker in the first division, and H. R. Corner in the second—their ages being respectively 16½ and 16½ years.

During the past three years six of the boys have gained the distinction of passing in the first division in these difficult examinations, and the Board of Management and Head Master are to be warmly congratulated on such good results of the policy adopted of retaining deserving and clever boys for higher education. The successes are the more noteworthy as the youth of the boys compares most favourably with the average age of the competitors.

PROPOSED HALL AT NEWBURY.

NEXT year being the Jubilee of the Lodge in Newbury, the Brethren have determined to celebrate the event by the inauguration of a Masonic Hall. Through the energy and foresight of the Worshipful Master of the Loyal Berkshire Lodge of Hope, Bro. Colonel Ricardo, roomy premises centrally situated in Northbrook Street (for many years occupied as Solicitors' offices, and also used for some period by the County Justices as a police court) have been purchased, for conversion into a Hall, in which the members of the Hope Craft Lodge, the Hope Chapter, and the Porchester Lodge of Mark Master Masons will be able to transact their business. The two oldest surviving members of the Hope Lodge are Bros. George Boyer and George J. Cosburn, who joined more than thirty years ago. At the present time Freemasonry is in a more flourishing state in Newbury than at any previous date. The first Worshipful Master, in 1850, was the late Bro. John Packer, Bro. J. Beale being W.M. in 1857, and Bro. E. Balding in 1852, says the "Reading Mercury."

It is announced that the building site, known as Nathan's Plot, situate at the foot of the Station Road, Okehampton, an excellent position, had been secured for the erection of a Masonic Hall at that town.

The Jubilee of St. Germain Lodge, No. 566, was celebrated on the 24th ult., at Selby, when Bro. Mark Scott P.M. P.P.G.J.W. was installed W.M., the ceremony being performed by Bro. Peck Prov. G.Sec. P.G.S.B. England, in the presence of a numerous company. The installation banquet was afterwards held at the Londesborough Hotel, and was attended by a large number of the members of the Lodge and Visiting Brethren.

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.

5 S. Geo. & C'ner Stone, b. M.H.
29 St. Alban, Albion
59 Royal Naval, Freemasons'-hall
193 Confidence, Anderton's
1366 Highgate, Midland Grand H't'l.
1670 Adelphi, Freemasons'-hall
1922 Earl of Lathom, Camberwell
2012 Chiswick, Criterion
2030 The Abbey, Westminster
2394 Galen, Freemasons'-hall
2426 Wood Green, Wood Green
2454 Guildhall School Music, Holb'n.
40 Derwent, Hastings
68 Royal Clarence, Bristol
75 Love and Honour, Falmouth
88 Scientific, Cambridge
104 St. John, Stockport
105 Fortitude, Plymouth
106 Sun, Exmouth
133 Harmony, Faversham
151 Albany, Newport, I. of Wight
189 Sincerity, East Stonehouse
237 Indefatigable, Swansea
240 St. Hilda, South Shields
262 Salopian, Shrewsbury
292 Sincerity, Liverpool
296 Royal Brunswick, Sheffield
297 Whitham, Lincoln
303 Benevolent, Teignmouth
313 United Friends, Gt. Yarmouth
314 Peace and Unity, Preston
330 One and All, Bodmin
339 Unanimity, Penrith
379 Honour, Bath
411 Commercial, Nottingham
481 St. Peter, Newcastle-on-Tyne
587 Howe, Birmingham
589 Druid Love & Lib., Redruth
632 Concord, Trowbridge
643 Royal, Fife
665 Montagu, Lyme Regis
671 Prince of Wales, Llanelli
721 Independence, Chester
797 Hauley, Dartmouth
884 Derwent, Wirksworth
893 Meridan, Millbrook
941 De Tabley, Knutsford
1069 United Brothers, Portsmouth
1174 Pentangle, Chatham
1221 Defence, Leeds
1237 Enfield, Enfield
1253 Travellers, Manchester
1302 De Warren, Halifax
1350 Fernor Hesketh, Bootle
1350 Skelmersdale, Liverpool
1408 Stamford & Warr'gton, St'y'b'ge
1436 Castle, Sandgate
1449 Royal Military, Canterbury
1474 Israel, Birmingham
1496 Trafford, Moss Side
1564 St. John, Woking
1592 Abbey, Bury St. Edmunds
1611 Eboracum, York
1618 Handyside, Saltburn-by-Sea
1730 Urmston, Urmston
1792 Tudor, Harborne
1802 Vernon, Retford
1852 Forest, Mansfield
1885 Torridge, Great Torrington
1914 St. Thomas, Kidsgrove
1948 Hardman, Rawtenstall
1952 High Peak, Chapel-en-le-Frith
1966 Fidelity & Sincerity, Wellington
2034 Masefield, Moseley
2144 De Tatton, Altrincham
2185 Ardwick, Manchester
2197 Spencer Walpole Temp., D'glas
2237 Earl of Leicester, Wells
2376 Carnarvon, Leyland
2422 Ebbisham, Epsom
2457 St. Anne, St. Anne's-on-Sea
2487 St. Michael, Stone
2505 County Palatine, Birkdale
2584 Queen Victoria, Manchester

Tuesday.

96 Burlington, Albion
180 St. James Union, F.M.H.
198 Percy, Ship and Turtle
211 St. Michael, Albion
228 United Strength, Guildhall Tav.
235 Nine Muses, Charing Cross
781 Merchant Navy, Limehouse
917 Cosmopolitan, Cannon St. Ho.
933 Doric, Anderton's

1196 Urban, Freemasons'-hall
1269 Stanhope, Camberwell
1571 Leopold, Southwark
1593 Royal Naval College, Greenwich
1604 Wanderers, Freemasons'-hall
1614 Covent Garden, Criterion
1668 Samson, Café Royal
1693 Kingsland, Highbury
1969 Waldeck, Freemasons'-hall
2127 Drury Lane, Drury Lane
2400 Brentford, Brentford
80 St. John, Sunderland
93 Social, Norwich
131 Fortitude, Truro
184 United Chatham, New Bro'pton
241 Merchant, Liverpool
272 Harmony, Boston
284 Shakespeare, Warwick
319 New Forest, Lymington
371 Perseverance, Maryport
473 Faithful, Birmingham
494 Virtue and Honour, Axminster
495 Wakefield, Wakefield
496 Peace & Harmony, St. Austell
502 Rectitude, Rugby
503 Belvedere, Maidstone
567 Unity, Warwick
573 Perseverance, Hales-Owen
593 St. Ann, Alderney
603 Zetland, Cleckheaton
626 Lansdowne Unity, Chippenham
650 Star in the East, Harwich
686 Jerusalem, Bristol
696 St. Bartholomew, Wednesbury
723 Panmure, Aldershot
764 H'rbour of Refuge, W. H'tlep'l.
771 Windsor Castle, Windsor
877 Royal Alfred, Jersey
892 Royal Edward, Leominster
897 S. Helen of Loyalty, St. Helen's
903 Gosport, Gosport
967 Three Grand Principles, Penryn
1073 Greta, Keswick
1120 St. Milburga, Ironbridge
1138 Devon, Newton Abbot
1220 Solway, Aspatria
1250 Gilbert Greenall, Warrington
1267 Kenlis, Egremont
1314 Acacia, Bromley
1327 King Harold, Waltham Cross
1373 St. Hubert, Andover
1402 Jordan, Torquay
1414 Knoles, Sevenoaks
1476 Blackpool, Blackpool
1528 Fort, Newquay
1545 Baildon, Baildon
1560 Albert Edward, Leicester
1713 Wilbraham, Walton-on-the-Hill
1782 Machen, Colehill
1837 Lullington, Willmington
1847 Ebrington, Stonehouse
1883 William of Wykeham, W'nch'ter
2099 Ethelbert, Herne Bay
2104 Whitwell, Stockton-on-Tees
2134 Wilberforce, Hull
2164 St. Germans, Peel, Isle of Man
2324 Horwich, Horwich
2414 Wychwood, Burford
2477 Colne, Wyvenhoe
2492 Concordia, Wendover
2559 St. Aldhelms, Branksome

Wednesday.

Grand Stewards, Freemasons'-hall.
7 Rl. York Perseverance, Albion
140 St. George, Greenwich
169 Temperance, Deptford
174 Sincerity, Guildhall Tavern
190 Oak, Freemasons'-hall
700 Nelson, Plumstead
969 Maybury, Lincoln-Inn's-Fields
1044 Wandsworth, Wandsworth
1150 Buck'gham & Chandos, F.M.H.
1278 Burdett Courts, London Tavern
1349 Friars, Ship and Turtle
1382 Corinthian, Cubitt Town
1507 Metropolitan, Anderton's
1539 Surrey Masonic Hall, C'mb'rw'll
1624 Eccleston, Criterion
1673 Welcome, Holborn Viaduct H'tl.
1677 Crusaders,
2241 Cordwainer Ward, C'non St. Ho
2272 Rye, Peckham
2345 Duke of Fife, Clapham Common
2361 Cricklewood, Frascati
2409 Woodgrange, Forest Gate
2456 Chanc'y Bar, Hall Lincoln's Inn

2589 Borough, Bridge House Hotel
20 Rl. Kent Antiquity, Chatham
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
261 Unanimity & Sincerity, Taunton
285 Love & Honour, Shepton Mallet
311 South Saxon, Lewes
325 St. John, Salford
342 Royal Sussex, Landport
376 Perfect Friendship, Ipswich
451 Sutherland, Burslem
537 Zetland, Birkenhead
581 Faith, Openshaw
591 Buckingham, Aylesbury
592 Cotteswold, Cirencester
610 Colston, Bristol
662 Dartmouth, West Bromwich
68 Isca, Newport, Mon.
726 Staffordshire Knot, Stafford
823 Everton, Liverpool
874 Holmesdale, Tunbridge Wells
889 Dobie, Kingston-on-Thames
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
1212 Elms, Stoke Damerel
1246 Holte, Aston, Warwicks
1294 St. Alban, Grimsby
1301 Brighthouse, Brighthouse
1323 Talbot, Swansea
1334 Norman, Durham
1353 Duke of Lancaster, Lancaster
1511 Alexandra, Hornsey
1634 Starkie, Ramsbottom
1774 Mellor, Ashton-under-Lyne
1797 South Down, Hurstpierpoint
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
2412 Ashfield, Sutton-in-Ashfield
2434 Anderida, Eastbourne
2475 Border, Blackwater
2514 City, Liverpool
2587 Radnor, Folkestone

Thursday.

6 Friendship, Criterion
23 Globe, Freemasons'-hall
49 Gihon, Guildhall Tavern
55 Constitutional, Cannon St. Ho.
63 St. Mary, Freemasons'-hall
179 Manchester, Anderton's
181 Universal, Albion
657 Canonbury, Holborn Rest
733 Westbourne, Holborn Rest
813 New Concord, Guildhall Tavern
1227 Upton, Great Eastern Hotel
1287 Great Northern, Freemasons'-h.
1365 Clapton, Great Eastern Hotel
1420 Earl Spencer, Lavender Hill
1475 Peckham, Camberwell
1598 Ley Spring, Anderton's
1613 Cripplegate, Albion
1623 West Smithfield, Freemasons'-h.
1901 Selwyn, Peckham
2310 London Scottish Rifles, Crit'ion.
42 Relief, Bury
56 Howard B'ly Love, L'hampton
57 Humber, Hull
98 St. Martin, Burslem
100 Friendship, Great Yarmouth
203 Ancient Union, Liverpool
230 Fidelity, Devonport
245 Mechanics, Jersey
267 Unity, Macclesfield
268 Union, Ashton-under-Lyne
280 Worcester, Worcester
286 Samaritan, Bacup
322 Peace, Stockport
343 Concord, Preston

345 Perseverance, Blackburn
350 Charity, Farnworth
363 Keystone, Whitworth
367 Probity & Freedom, Rochdale
394 Southampton, Southampton
425 Cestrian, Chester
430 Fidelity, Ashton-under-Lyne
489 Benevolence, Bideford
523 John of Gaunt, Leicester
600 Harmony, Bradford
605 Combermere, Birkenhead
659 Blagdon, Blyth
663 Wiltshire of Fidelity, Devizes
758 Ellesmere, Runcorn
777 Royal Alfred, Guildford
802 Repose, Derby
833 Afan, Aberavon
900 St. George, Tewkesbury
939 Pelham, Worksop
940 Philanthropy, Stockton
993 Alexandra, Levenshulme
1000 Priory, Southend
1011 Richmond, Manchester
1037 Portland, Portland
1042 Excelsior, Leeds
1184 Abbey, Battle
1247 St. John, Plymouth
1332 Unity, Crediton
1393 Hamer, Liverpool
1432 Fitz-Allan, Oswestry
1459 Ashbury, West Gorton
1470 Chiltern, Dunstable
1512 Hemming, Hampton Court
1534 Concord, Prestwich
1562 Homfray, Risca
1594 Cedewain, Newtown, Mont.
1776 Landport, Landport
1821 Atlingworth, Brighton
1869 Sandown, Sandown, I. of W'ht.
1872 St. Margaret, Surbiton
1887 St. Hilda, Wallingford
1892 Wallington, Sutton
2107 Etheldreda, Newmarket
2158 Boscombe, Boscombe
2226 St. David, Rhymney
2261 Armitage, Milnsbridge
2268 Hallamshire, Sheffield
2302 St. Mary, Southwell
2305 Stour, Ashford, Kent
2325 Rose of Lancaster, Southport
2341 Clemency, Oldham
2390 Exmoor, Minehead
2523 Roll Call, Hounslow
2555 England Centre, Weedon
2570 Prince Llewellyn, Cardiff

Friday.

Board of Management, Boys School,
2:30
143 Middlesex, Albion
1118 Oxford and Cambridge, F.M.H.
1962 London Rifle Brigade, And't'n's.
2157 St. Mark's College, H'born Rest
2243 Argonauts, Putney
2346 Warrant Officers, F'masons'-hall
152 Virtue, Manchester
271 Royal Clarence, Brighton
347 Noah Ark, Tipton
541 De Loraine, Newcastle-on-Tyne
1108 Royal Wharfedale, Otley
1311 Zetland, Leeds
1330 St. Peter, Market Harborough
1357 Cope, Sale
1389 Fenwick, Sunderland
1644 Alma Mater, Birmingham
1773 Albert Victor, Pendleton
1794 De Vere, Nottingham
2063 St. Osyth Priory, C'et'n-on-Sea
2231 Talbot, Stretford
2447 Palatine, Manchester

Saturday.

715 Panmure, Cannon Street Hotel
1139 South Norwood, S. Norwood P.
1326 Lebanon, Feltham
1364 Earl of Zetland, Guildhall Tav.
1732 King's Cross, Anderton's
1767 Kensington, Kensington
2308 Viator, Anderton's
416 Surrey, Reigate
811 Yarborough, Brighton
1126 Oakwood, Romiley
1194 Villiers, Hampton Court
1556 Addiscombe, Croydon
1597 Musgrave, Hampton Court
1871 Gostling Murray, Hounslow
2035 Beaumont, Kirkburton
2318 Lennox Browne, B'khurst Hill
2437 Downshire, Wokingham
2458 Eton, Eton
2548 Herga, Harrow

All books, &c., intended for review should be addressed to the Editor, Freemason's Chronicle, New Barnet.

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: PROVINCIAL.

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ARCHITECT LODGE, No. 1375.

IT is hardly possible but that the character should take a higher tone from the constant habit of associating in thought with a class of thinkers.—Sir John Herschel.

THAT was a very excellent function which took place at the Masonic Hall, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, on Friday, the 3rd instant, embracing as it did the annual meeting of the above named Lodge, and also the Festival of St. John of Jerusalem in connection therewith. The Brethren, numbering upwards of fifty, assembled at an early hour in the afternoon, to witness the installation of Brother John Mann Crone S.W. into the chair of K.S., and the ceremony, performed by Bro. I. R. E. Birkett the retiring Master was, as afterwards characterised by several of the Visitors, a very satisfactory effort.

Bro. Birkett was supported by Past Masters James Laidlaw P.P.G.J.D. as Installing S.W., Henry Nall P.P.G.Tr. as J.W., Alfred Geo. Collins P.P.G.D.C. as I.G., and had the further assistance of Bro. Chas. Rawle, who presented and explained the working tools in each degree; and Bro. Cyril H. Beever, who addressed the Brethren generally.

The newly-installed Master invested the following Officers, who were addressed by Bros. W. T. Hesketh Secretary, and Alfred Pickford, viz., Bros. Hugh W. Bloomer S.W., William Rushton J.W., A. Redfearn Treasurer, W. T. Hesketh P.M. Secretary, Wm. Lea S.D., Dr. Andrew Denholm J.D., Alfred Pickford P.M. D.C., C. T. Tallent-Bateman Organist, C. A. Klindworth I.G., A. V. Sharratt, Oliphant A. Brown, Geo. Hy. Smith Stewards, Cyril H. Beever Charity Representative.

During the proceedings Brother Crone W.M., on behalf of the Lodge, presented to his predecessor a very handsome Past Master's jewel, which bore this legend:—

Presented to

BRO. I. R. E. BIRKETT, P.M.,

by the Brethren of the Architect Lodge, 1375,

as a token of recognition of his valuable services, 1898-9.

March 3rd, 1899.

In pinning the jewel upon the breast of the recipient, Bro. Crone made the following very excellent remarks:—Bro. Birkett, in Masonic language, I have great pleasure in investing you with the distinguishing badge of an Immediate Past Master, and most heartily congratulate you upon the successful close of your year of office. So satisfied are the Brethren with the part you have performed during your occupancy of the chair, that they are desirous of marking in a substantial way the esteem with which you are regarded, and as their representative on this occasion, I have great pleasure in pinning on your breast this handsome Past Master's jewel. May you wear it for many years to come, and may it be handed down to posterity as one of the cherished heirlooms of those who are endeared to you.

Letters of apology for non-attendance were read from Bros. Robert Wylie P.G.D. Eng. Dep. Prov. G.M. West Lancs, J. Morrison McLeod P.G.S.B. Eng. Secretary Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, Jas. D. Murray P.G. Treas. Eng., Fred Smitton Pr.S.G.W., Myles Kennedy Pr.J.G.W., Norval Watson Helme, J.P., P.M. 1051 P.P.G.W. (cousin to the W.M.), W. J. Waugh P.M. 1545 P.P.G.Reg., and the following members of the Castleberg Lodge, No. 2091, viz., John Throup P.M. P.P.G.S.B. Yorks, S. Parker W.M., Rev. R. C. Garnett I.P.M., F. E. Atkinson P.M. Treasurer, J. E. Bruce P.M., E. Handby P.M., T. Proctor P.M., John Winkill P.M., C. A. L. Swale S.W., J. L. Kidd J.W., Rev. Addison Crofton Chaplain, Rev. W. G. Whittam; Oliver Proctor S.W. 1074, and others.

The Festival of St. John was held in the dining room of the hall, and was presided over by Bro. Crone W.M., who proposed the Loyal and other toasts.

Of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen he said:—The first toast which it is my duty and pleasure to propose needs no words from me to commend it to your acceptance. It has often been submitted under various circumstances, and by abler speakers than myself, but it has never been done with greater sincerity than I do it now. My toast is that of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, whose long and unexampled reign has caused the hearts of her loving subjects to thrill with joy in the celebration of her jubilee; but for whom, on the other hand, they have felt a throb of sorrow when learning that she has suffered a recent bereavement in the death of her grandson, Prince Alfred of Saxe-Coburg. Our entire sympathies are with her, and we sincerely hope that the G.A.O.T.U. will sustain her in this her last affliction, and enable her to bear it with requisite fortitude.

In referring to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Bro. Crone thus expressed himself:—My next toast is that of the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in England. In His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales we have a ruler of whom all Brethren are proud, for so much has he identified himself with Freemasonry in general that he has become a necessary portion of it. The secret of his unique influence among us is not only his own special charm, but the aptitude with which he adapts himself to every circumstance of his position, and the earnestness and thoroughness with which he carries out his personal labours.

The Princess of Wales received the following eulogy:—Like her illustrious husband, Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales has endeared herself to us all. As Englishmen we are proud of her, as Freemasons we honour her on account of her relationship to our Grand Master. I call upon you to drink her health, as heartily and as enthusiastically as possible.

The succeeding toast, to the memory of the Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom, G.C.B., was drunk in solemn silence, Bro. Crone speaking of the defunct earl in language which was highly commendatory. He further added:—It is our duty as Masons to pay a tribute of respect to the memory of one who has recently been called to the Grand Lodge above, I allude to the Earl of Lathom, late Pro Grand Master of Masons in England, and Provincial Grand Master of West Lancashire. Frank and genial, with intellectual powers of the highest order, he combined a thoroughly brave and ardent nature with a sensitive and exquisite tenderness. That he was loved during life goes without saying, and that he is revered in death has been evinced on

every hand, and in every station—high and low. To show our esteem for him as Masons, let us drink in solemn silence to his memory.

Of his successor, Bro. Crone said:—We cannot judge the Right Hon. the Earl Amherst M.W. Pro Grand Master by the light of experience in the office to which he has just been appointed, but in other phases of Masonry he has proved himself to be a capable leader, and we look forward hopefully to the fact that he will have a long, a prosperous, and an illustrious career in his new position.

In proposing the toast of the Right Hon. the Earl of Warwick Deputy Grand Master and the Grand Officers present and past, Bro. Crone said:—We must all recognise the fact that it is the province of some to rule and govern, whilst others must learn and obey; it is our bounden duty therefore to give whatever support and encouragement we can to those placed in positions of trust above us. Our Grand Masters of the past have left to this generation sufficient evidence of how they laboured for the well-being and advancement of the Craft, and those of the present, I feel sure, are keenly alive to the advantages of perpetuating the good works of their predecessors.

The toast of the Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom P.G.W. Provincial Grand Master-designate was in the capable hands of Bro. Nall, who admitted how delighted the Brethren of the Province of West Lancashire were when they learned of this appointment. The present earl was a worthy son of his lately deceased and revered father, and although His Royal Highness the Grand Master had before him several worthy names from which to make his selection, he had, with his usual tact, fixed upon one who bore the honoured title they all loved so well.

The toast of Bro. Robert Wylie Deputy Prov. Grand Master and the Prov. Grand Officers present and past was proposed by the W.M., being received with enthusiasm. He said:—In the toast of the Provincial Grand Officers we seem to be getting nearer home, and the fine array of such Brethren (mentioning their names) sitting near me, acts as a reminder that I must not occupy the time which some of them, I hope, may wish to use. To those Officers, who are all familiar with the internal working of our Province, we look for guidance and support, feeling sure that when judiciously demanded it will never be withheld. I call upon you to cordially drink the toast of their health.

Brothers Wm. Boden P.M. 155 P.P.G.Reg., J. L. Brayshaw P.M. 2091 P.P.G.D., Eustace G. Parker P.P.G.D. Ches., J. W. Clayton P.M. 703 and 2437 P.P.G.S.B., and Wm. Cole P.M. 1588 P.P.G.O. responded.

Bro. Birkett I.P.M., in proposing the health of the W.M., assured the Brethren that this was a pleasant task for him to undertake; he was sure the toast would be enthusiastically received. Brother Goodacre Prov. Gr. Secretary had said at a recent installation that there were several qualities which were required to make a successful Worshipful Master, but he (Bro. Birkett) believed that Bro. Crone possessed them all, and so far had most satisfactorily acquitted himself. He must not forget to thank him for the splendid support which he had rendered to the chair during the last twelve months. It was not necessary for him to go out of his way to extol the virtues of Bro. Crone, further than to say that he was esteemed not only in the Architect Lodge, but held high office in the Castleberg Lodge, No. 2091, Settle, where he was very popular. Indeed, his popularity there was evidenced by the fact that there were so many visitors present that night from the latter Lodge, who had undertaken the long journey as a sincere mark of respect to him.

Bro. Laidlaw, in a few well-chosen words, added his testimony to Bro. Crone's excellence as a Mason.

Bro. Crone replied as follows: In the first place allow me to thank Bros. Birkett and Laidlaw for their kind remarks, and in the next allow me to promise that I shall not inflict upon you a very long and tedious speech. To say that I am grateful for the kindness which I have received and which has resulted in my occupying to-night for the first time the highest position which it is in the power of the Lodge to bestow, will not in any way express my present feelings. In selecting me to fill the chair of K.S. you may, and no doubt have been governed, not only by the fact that I have as an Officer endeavoured faithfully to discharge the various duties which have devolved upon me in my Masonic progress, but also been actuated by some little friendship which I fancy you may have entertained for my humble self individually. I do not make any great promises, but will be content with saying that I will try to maintain my new position with all the necessary dignity which it demands, that I will seek to be true to the serious obligations which I have taken, and that I will endeavour, to the best of my ability, so to perform its duties as to give satisfaction to my Brethren. In looking at the list of Officers who will support me during my year of Mastership, I think I may fairly rely upon having Brethren who have made up their minds to be active in well-doing, and I can conscientiously promise in advance that my anticipations will not be wrong.

Bro. Crone afterwards proposed the health of the Visitors, in a very smart speech. He said: One of the greatest pleasures of married life was the fact that husband and wife alike could ask their friends to spend a social hour at their home, and otherwise partake of their hospitality. But Freemasonry had higher aims than the mere social element, for when a Brother was asked to another Lodge, it was generally with the intention—not merely of entertaining him socially, or of amusing him, but of providing, if possible, an intellectual feast for his acceptance. Ceremonies are performed, and the knowledge that critical eyes are upon the worker is often an inducement to put forth the best efforts in an endeavour to produce the most satisfactory results. The influence of visitors was, he believed, generally for good, and in no Lodge were they more heartily welcomed than in the Architect. The members were always glad to see visitors, and they invariably offered them of the best, and thought they were forced sometimes to speed their departure, and at the most joyous moment perhaps, yet it was always regretfully, and only because railway time-tables are compiled with the idea of being very exact.

Bros. Jas. Shaw Whitley W.M. 1740, Geo. Unsworth W.M. 2231, and Thomas Hamnett W.M. 2363 responded, Bro. Unsworth jocularly referring to a telegram forwarded from "Sister Crone," St. Anne's-on-the-Sea, congratulating her husband upon having been installed into the high position of Worshipful Master.

The toast of the Installing Master and Past Masters was ably introduced by Bro. Bloomer S.W., who said that if the speech of the proposer was lame and halting, the toast would commend itself to their notice. He eulogised Bro. Birkett for the excellent manner in which he had performed his work. Mentioning the names of various Past Masters, he also praised their efforts, saying that the present successful position of the Architect Lodge was due to them, for they were all actuated by a sense of duty to their Lodge, knowing that its success depended upon their individual efforts and assiduity. The Past Masters of the Architect Lodge had never to be asked twice to do anything, and he concluded by hoping that they might be long spared to assist and guide the younger members. Bro. Rawle responded.

Bro. Nall, in a very touching and energetic speech, proposed the toast of

the Masonic Charities, reminding his auditors that charity was the ruling characteristic of a Freemason's heart. The various charitable funds in connection with the Order were described by him as noble institutions, and he added that outside of these there were many acts of Masonic charity performed which never saw the light, these perhaps being the best kind. The admirable peroration with which he closed his remarks reminded us of the words of Bishop Hall, "If I do but little good to others by my endeavours, yet this is great good to me, that by my labour, I keep myself from hurt." Bro. Nall advised his listeners to kindly construe the acts of every Brother, for it was a high and noble teaching to lean kindly to the faults of others.

Bro. Beever responded, saying that in the glorious result of last year (the Boys Centenary) the Architect Lodge shaped well. He explained that there were many good institutions connected with the Province of West Lancashire, and if the Brethren gave a guinea they might rest assured that it would all be spent in charity, and not in bricks and mortar. He was reminded of a saying to the effect that "money was like manure—it does no good unless you spread it," and, as Charity Representative, if they only gave him the money, he would see that it was judiciously spread.

Bro. J. G. Bromley P.M., in introducing the toast of the newly-invested Officers, mentioned them individually, and enumerated their various qualities, adding that he did not think any Worshipful Master was now, or ever had been supported by a more intellectual and efficient body of men. Bros. Rushworth S.W., Denholm J.W., and Tallent-Bateman Org. responded. Other toasts followed.

The contributors to the harmony of the evening were Bros. Nall, who gave the W.M.'s song; Rushton, who rendered the solo God Save the Queen, the song, Alice, where art thou? and also joined Bro. Nall in a duet The veteran's toast; Hesketh, who gave the song God bless the Prince of Wales; Charles Shaw I.P.M. 1147, with topical and other amusing ditties; C. E. Bygrave P.M. 2091, in the song, I want to be popular; Dr. Denholm, in When twilight comes; Beever, in Fairy Bells, on the auto harp; Robert Dottie P.M. 1161, with a selection from Elizer Goff, The great fite; and Thomas Hamnett W.M. 2363, whose ventriloquial sketch, fashioned on some peculiarities observed during the evening, was excruciatingly funny.

We must not omit a word of praise to the printer of the beautiful menu card, which was adorned with striking portraits of Bros. Crone W.M., Bloomer S.W., and Rushton J.W., and liberally interspersed with pertinent Masonic sentiments.

Besides those already mentioned, there were present Bros. T. A. Holland P.M., E. M. Beebee, John Webster. Visitors: Bros. H. G. Ward I.P.M. 993, Jas. Ormrod I.P.M. 1730, Thos. Shaw I.P.M. 1387, J. F. Murphy P.M. 467, C. W. Buck P.M. 2091, T. E. Purdy W.M. 1140, J. Kennerley W.M. 1387, R. H. Ibbotson W.M. 1588, John Spilsbury W.M. 2109, Joseph Ward W.M. 2359, H. B. Shepherd P.M. 2091, and many others.



BRO. JOHN MANN CRONE,
W.M. OF THE ARCHITECT LODGE, No. 1375.

Brother John Mann Crone Worshipful Master, the subject of our notice, and whose portrait we here re-produce, is comparatively a young man, having been born in Liverpool, 15th October 1859. A sound education imparted at the Royal Grammar School, Lancaster, furnished him with the necessary equipment for entering into an apprenticeship at the General Stores, Settle, in conjunction with one who, but for his untimely death in 1896, would probably have become a shining light in the Province of West Lancashire, we allude to Brother W. Dyson Fryer P.M. This friendship,

which without outward demonstration was fervent, was destined to have continuous results, for Bros. Crone and Fryer ultimately made their advent into Manchester, accepting lucrative positions with a well-known and reputable firm of wholesale tea dealers, of which the latter's father was a partner.

But Bro. Crone's restless momentum increased with his years. Desiring a more extended sphere of action, he, in October 1882, accepted a position offered by an uncle, one of the partners in the firm of Jas. Helme and Co., Halton Mills, Lancaster, and became their Manchester representative for the sale of oil-cloths, etc., which position he still retains. He represented this firm at the last Paris Exhibition, and in 1887 went to Africa, where he made a lengthened stay. In the summer of 1894 he, together with Brother Fryer, travelled to Norway, and it was on this occasion that he made his first and only abstention from his Masonic Lodge, but to show that he had not forgotten his Brethren in England, sent a telegram containing "heartly good wishes" from a very remote village in that country.

Bro. Crone was married in the winter of 1895, the partner of his joys being Miss Cora Sheard, youngest daughter of the late Frank Sheard, Esq., of the firm of Griffin and Sheard, Printers, & Co., Ashton-under-Lyne. On that occasion, as fully described in these columns, the wedding presents were both numerous and costly, and included one from the Architect Lodge, No. 1375.

Bro. Crone's Masonic career has not been a lengthy one, nor has it been phenomenally varied, but his interests in the Craft have been absorbing, and he has cultivated and sustained them, as is proved by the fact that in less than seven years he has risen to the highest position which it is in the power of the Lodge to bestow. We were present in the Architect Lodge when he was initiated on the 6th May 1892, and remember the eulogistic words of his proposer, Bro. Fryer, who was then Worshipful Master, and of Bro. Jas. Laidlaw P.M. P.P.G.D., his seconder.

He seems to have almost reverential affection for Freemasonry, for on 19th December 1893 he was exalted into the Chorlton Chapter, No. 1387, and became a member of the Crawford Rose Croix Chapter, No. 114, on 9th February 1895. On 4th April of the same year he joined the Castleberg Lodge, No. 2091, and is also a member of the Quatuor Coronati Lodge, No. 2076, London. So far, we have not reverted to the charitable side of his nature, but the fact that he acted as Steward on the occasion of the Boys Centenary of last year, is sufficient proof that his Freemasonry is governed by more abiding standards than the mere desire for office.

Bro. Crone has great possibilities before him, but he is sturdy, vigorous, and enthusiastic, and as one of his especial felicities is that of courtesy, he is likely to have a stimulating influence upon those Officers who now support him, and whose ambition is probably that of reaching the proud position which he has just attained.

LIVERPOOL DRAMATIC LODGE, No. 1609.

INTEREST and prominent Masonic spirit was displayed on Tuesday, 28th ult., at the Masonic Hall, Hope Street, Liverpool, the Brethren attached to this Lodge assembling in strong force at the early hour of one o'clock to assist in the active functions of the day.

Upwards of seventy members and visitors assembled to witness the working of the Lodge, which deservedly holds a high position in this respect in the extensive Province of West Lancashire. It was expected that the three degrees would have to be performed, but for the second time a candidate proposed for the first failed to turn up, without any apology being sent to the proper authority.

The Worshipful Master Bro. Eustace Baxter was in his place with promptitude, and in a most effective manner Bros. R. B. Haddock and W. T. Thompson (Prince of Wales's Theatre) were passed to the second degree. Bros. W. R. Greenwood and W. T. Lloyd were raised to the rank of M.M.

After the final routine business the Brethren sat down to dinner in the large Banqueting Room, where the best of Brotherly feeling prevailed. A vocal and elocutionary programme of the best class was afterwards furnished.

Besides the usual collection for the benevolent box, a substantial sum was subscribed in aid of a "poor and distressed" musical Brother.

LODGE OF SYMPATHY, No. 483.

A MEETING of this prosperous Lodge was held on Wednesday, at the Royal Clarendon Hotel, Gravesend, when all the three degrees were worked.

In the unavoidable absence of Bro. Alfred J. Walklin W.M., the Lodge was opened by Bro. R. J. Beamish P.Prov.G.D.C., after which the minutes were read and confirmed. The ballot was taken and proved unanimous in favour of Mr. Alfred Charles Watkins, as a candidate for initiation. The Lodge was then opened in the second degree, when Bro. James George Browne proved his proficiency as a Craftsman, and being subsequently raised to the sublime degree, was invested as a Master Mason and took his seat in the Lodge. Bros. C. E. Mitchell, J. A. Smith and A. Tulk answered the usual questions in a very perfect manner, and thus demonstrated the proof of their attendance at the Lodge of Instruction. The Lodge was resumed to the second degree, when these candidates were regularly passed as Craftsmen. The Lodge was resumed to the first degree, and Mr. Alfred Charles Watkins being in attendance was admitted, and duly initiated as a member of the Fraternity. All the ceremonies were admirably rendered by Bro. Beamish, as befits a Preceptor of the ritual, and gave general satisfaction to the Brethren.

The votes of the Brethren were requested for an old Past Master, who had fallen into distressed circumstances, and who is now a candidate at the next election of the Benevolent Institution.

The Lodge was the recipient of two elegant presents, viz., a lamp for the purposes of the third degree, and an easel for the purpose of displaying the Tracing Boards. Votes of thanks were passed to the Brethren who presented the articles.

There being no further business, the Lodge was closed in perfect harmony, and the Brethren adjourned to supper.

Among those present were Bros. J. N. Willis S.W., C. Spencer Bowen J.W., Thos. T. Hogg P.Prov.G.S.B. Treasurer, Arthur Ronaldson P.Prov.G. Registrar Secretary, Henry Forss P.M., W. Hawkey P.M., Ernest Ingman S.D., J. A. Gillett J.D., J. Axcoll D.C., F. Smith I.G., C. Percy Bowen, Jas. Hewison, G. A. Grant, and T. A. Mummery Stewards, Robert Matthews Organist, A. E. Lockhart, E. Blandford, J. W. Sweet, G. Grant, Realf, J. W. Prior, F. Webber, J. A. Smith, H. Drake, T. Kemp, Jas. Silvester.

Visitors:—Bros. F. W. Martin S.D. 77, F. S. Sutton 1329, S. Wright J.D. 2740.

METROPOLITAN.

HONOUR AND GENEROSITY LODGE, No. 165.

A MEETING of this ancient and well known Lodge was held on Tuesday, 28th ult., at the Inns of Court Hotel, Lincoln's Inn Fields, when amongst the Brethren present were Bros. A. P. Crabb W.M., Frank E. Rosher I.P.M., F. Howard Rosher S.W., Jno. Woodhouse J.W., J. W. Howard Thompson P.M. Treasurer, Henry Times P.M. Secretary, Godfrey Sykes S.D., W. Marcus Thompson I.G., R. A. Bush P.M., Frank Baggallay P.M., F. B. Thompson, W. C. Hulbert, Harry Bearman, Bertram B. Van Praagh, Frank S. Gaylor, and J. W. Ellis.

Amongst the many distinguished Visitors were Bros. Alfred Love P.M., F. Ford 2032, Herbert Grover 2323, D. T. Tudor 176, J. H. Ford 2032, F. H. Cheesewright P.M. 907, W. A. Piggot P.M. 1670, Charles H. Rosher 1777, H. Massey P.M. 1928, H. Wharton Wells P.M. 946, W. F. Cheesewright 907.

The ceremonies of initiation and passing were worked by the W.M., in strict accordance with Emulation ritual, which was much appreciated by the Brethren present. The explanation of the second tracing board was given by the W.M.

Two candidates for initiation were proposed, and after other Masonic business had been transacted the Brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet.

After the usual Loyal toasts had been duly honoured Bro. Baggallay P.M. proposed the toast of the Grand Officers.

Bro. Frank E. Rosher proposed the health of the W.M., who responded in suitable terms.

Before resuming his seat the Master gave the toast of the Past Masters of the Lodge who, he stated, always had the welfare of the Lodge at heart. He particularly mentioned Bro. Times P.M. Secretary, who worked hard outside of the Lodge for the comfort of the Brethren in the Lodge. Bro. Bush P.M. responded.

The toast of the Initiate was proposed in eloquent and graceful terms by Bro. J. W. Howard Thompson P.M. Treasurer of the Lodge, and was responded to by the Initiate Bro. Frank Gaylor, in an almost equally fluent manner.

Bro. W. Marcus Thompson gave the toast of the Visitors, in a witty and original manner, calling upon Bros. F. H. Cheesewright and H. Wharton Wells, who both responded.

Bro. Bertram Van Praagh proposed the domestic toast of the Officers, which was answered by Bro. F. H. Rosher S.W.

In the course of the evening the W.M. announced that an emergency meeting would be held on Tuesday, 25th April, in order to reduce the large amount of Masonic work which would otherwise have to be got through at the installation meeting in May.

A special feature of this Lodge is the excellent music which is always to be heard during the evenings. On this occasion the singing of Bro. Herbert Grover, the well-known tenor, and several excellent songs by Bros. Fred. Cheesewright and his son W. F. Cheesewright, were much appreciated, while Bro. Wharton Wells, F.C.O., gave all the greatest satisfaction by his piano-forte accompaniments.

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LION AND LAMB LODGE, No. 192.

THE installation meeting was held at the Cannon Street Hotel, on Thursday, 2nd inst.

The Lodge having been opened in due form, the outgoing Master Bro. William Baker installed Bro. J. G. Robeson as his successor. Subsequently the Brethren adjourned to a banquet in the Pillar Hall.

The toasts of the Grand Officers and of the Masonic Charities were responded to by Bro. F. R. W. Hedges P.G.S.B. Secretary of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls.

In proposing the Installing Master the W.M. presented him with a very handsome gold P.M.'s Jewel as a token of the esteem of the Brethren, and in acknowledgment of the able manner in which he had performed his duties.

The toast of the Masonic Charities drew a strong appeal from the W.M. on behalf of his Steward's list for the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls.

Bro. Hedges and the I.P.M. supported the appeal, and before the proceedings closed the W.M. announced that he had received promises amounting to 140 guineas.

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LA TOLERANCE LODGE, No. 538.

AN ordinary meeting of this highly interesting Lodge, now in the fifty-third year of its existence, was held on the 2nd inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, W.C., when Bro. Thomas Alfred Tidy W.M. presided, being supported by his Officers, Past Masters, and a good muster of the members.

The following Visitors were present: Bros. G. F. Gilderstone P.M. 1278, H. A. Brown J.W. 2096, J. M. Mitchell P.M. 92, W. Jarvis 1471, J. Wynman 188, J. Paul P.M. 1287, C. W. Holmes 1687, &c.

The only business before the Lodge was the raising of Bros. Edward J. Whittle and Sidney Worpell Harrington, and therefore after the Lodge had been opened and the minutes confirmed, those Brethren proved their proficiency as Craftsmen, and were subsequently raised to the sublime degree and took their seats in the Lodge as Master Masons. The ceremony was very ably rendered by Bro. Tidy, who was admirably assisted by his Officers, especially the Deacons, whose knowledge of their duties materially conducted to the completeness of the ceremony.

It was announced that the Annual Dinner in connection with the Lodge of Instruction would take place on the 19th April, at the Frascati, Oxford Street, and that arrangements would be made later on for a summer outing.

The Lodge was then closed, and the Brethren afterwards dined together. A capital musical entertainment, under the direction of Bro. Fred Cambridge, Mus. Bac., P.P.G. Organist Surrey, interspersed the customary congratulatory and complimentary speeches, and a very pleasant evening was spent.

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WELLINGTON LODGE, No. 548.

THE regular meeting of this Lodge was held on Wednesday, at the Cannon Street Hotel, E.C., under the presidency of Bro. David Jackson W.M., who had for his supporters Bros. H. Groves S.W., G. Freame J.W., F. W. Hancock P.M. Treas., Andrew Holmes P.M. 548 P.Z. 79 Sec., W. E. Jeanes S.D., C. Childs J.D., J. Laxson I.G., F. T. Adams Steward, A. Ball P.M.

Tyler, H. Wybourn I.P.M., S. P. Catterson P.M. P.P.G. Std. Br., B. Reminton P.M., J. McGregor P.M., G. Newall P.M., and several other Past Masters and other Brethren.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, further work was postponed, this being the Ladies' Night of the Lodge, which was regularly closed by the W.M., who next, with his wife, received a large company of Brethren and Ladies, who attended to participate in the festivities of the occasion.

The company included Bro. David Jackson W.M., Mrs. and Misses Ethel and Hilda Jackson, A. Holmes P.M. Sec., Mrs. and Miss Holmes, J. W. Hancock P.M. Treas., G. Newall P.M. and Mrs. Newall, B. Reminton P.M. and Mrs. Reminton, Alfred Martin and Mrs. Martin, E. G. Cooper and Mrs. Cooper, J. Edwards and Mrs. Edwards, C. Childs J.D. and Mrs. Childs, Walter Scott and Mrs. Scott, John McKenzie and Mrs. McKenzie, G. Freame J.W. and Mrs. Freame, S. Groves S.W. and Mrs. Groves, W. Jeanes S.D. and Mrs. Jeanes, John Laxson and Mrs. Laxson, E. W. Hathersick and Mrs. Hathersick, Mrs. Brown and Miss Brown, Fred. Flood P.M. Sec. 1929 P.P.G.A.D.O. Surrey, Bros. J. Brown, T. Cook, T. Whiting, T. Bradley, E. Brandon, F. Hillier, R. Brisco, H. Plant, R. T. Putnam, J. Whale, J. Woods, T. Humm, W. A. Ottaway, W. J. Harris, D. S. Ross, W. Coop, W. Harris, W. Jones, George Scott, E. Davis, Bradley, Criggs, Mathews, Adams, Bailey, Corp, Aldway, and others, in all about one hundred and twenty being present.

After the reception the company adjourned to the banquet room, where an excellent repast was provided, the service being under the direction of the Manager Bro. W. G. Feneley, who did everything in his power to ensure the comfort and enjoyment of the party.

At the conclusion of the banquet the W.M. gave the Loyal toast of the Queen, followed by that of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales Grand Master, both of which were well received, musical honours being accorded them.

Bro. Catterson P.P.G. Standard B., one of the oldest Past Masters of the Lodge, in brief but eloquent terms proposed the health of the Worshipful Master Bro. Jackson, his wife and daughters, which toast was received with acclamation.

The W.M., on rising to reply, was most cordially received. He first read a telegram from Bro. Jones I.P.M., excusing his non-attendance, on account of the death of his sister, and then referred to his own work in the chair of the Lodge. He had only one month to look back upon, but his service during that period had really been a labour of love, culminating in his being enabled to hand over £69 10s as the contribution from the Lodge to the recent Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. As they were all anxious to make their way to the Ball room he would make his remarks very short, contenting himself with an expression of sincere thanks to them all, on behalf of his wife, his daughters, and himself, for the cordial manner in which they had received the toast proposed by Bro. Catterson.

At this point of the proceedings each lady was presented with a handsome cut glass bottle of perfume, which, it is needless to say, was much appreciated.

The W.M. made a humorous speech in proposing the toast of the Ladies, to which Bro. Hancock P.M. Treasurer replied. He felt sorry he could not actually read the thoughts of the ladies, but he felt they were enjoying themselves as guests of the Lodge, and would go away with the hope of taking part in similar gatherings in the future. He felt it would be a desirable feature to have such pleasant reunions more than once a year, as it would be the means of showing the ladies more of what Masonry really consisted.

The W.M. once again claimed the attention of the company. They had the pleasure of presenting to their esteemed Secretary Bro. Andrew Holmes P.M. a life sized oil painting of himself. It was suggested that the presentation should be made on the Ladies' Night, and to this Bro. Holmes had readily assented, and his wife, Mrs. Jackson, having been asked to make the presentation, had also agreed. He felt they had to congratulate Mrs. Fred. Malyon on the skill and artistic merit she had displayed in painting so excellent a portrait.

Mrs. Jackson met a most cordial reception on rising, and in a few well chosen words presented to Bro. Holmes the souvenir on behalf of the Lodge and the Ladies Committee, this latter including Mrs. Groves, Mrs. Plant, Mrs. Jeanes, Mrs. Freame, and others.

Bro. Holmes, in acknowledgment, said he was proud to receive such a handsome present from the Lodge—especially as it had been presented to him by the wife of their Worshipful Master, on behalf of the Lodge and the Ladies Committee—painted by so skilful an artist as Mrs. Fred Malyon, of Greenwich. He assured the Worshipful Master, Ladies and Brethren that he should never forget that happy event, and on behalf of his wife and for himself again tendered his heartiest expressions of thanks.

Other speeches followed, after which the company retired to the concert room, where Miss Ethel Holmes sang "Angus Macdonald," and was deservedly encored. Mrs. Adams and other ladies also rendered some lovely songs, after which a move was made to the ball room, where the remainder of a most enjoyable evening was spent.

During the banquet the charity box was not forgotten, and its being passed round among the company realised a nice little amount.

Great credit is due to those who had the arrangement of the programme for the perfect way in which the annual event passed off. The M.Os. were Bros. F. W. Hancock P.M. Treas., and W. E. Jeanes S.D., and the Stewards Bros. H. Groves S.W., G. Freame J.W., E. A. Brandon, F. T. Adams, W. J. Harris, H. Plant, A. G. Martin, and W. S. Ottaway, with Bro. A. Holmes P.M. in his accustomed role as Secretary. No small part of the success of the gathering was due to the music, so well provided by Bro. A. E. Kipps' band.

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ALLEYN LODGE, No. 2647.

ON Saturday afternoon, 25th ult., the members of this very prosperous Lodge held their first meeting after the Christmas recess, at the Crown and Greyhound Hotel, Dulwich Village. There was a large muster of members and visitors to witness the ceremony of installing Bro. J. Joel as Worshipful Master for the ensuing year. The first part of the ceremony was worked by Bro. Capel, and the remainder by Bro. C. J. Axford, the entire ceremony being performed in a very impressive and perfect manner by both Brethren.

At the conclusion of the business, the Brethren adjourned to a well served banquet supplied in a very satisfactory manner by Bro. W. J. Chapman, proprietor of the Hotel. This was followed by the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts, that of the Worshipful Master being especially well received, and responded to in very feeling terms by Bro. Joel.

A very handsome Past Master's jewel was presented to Bro. G. W. Capel, for the excellent manner in which he had carried out his duties during the year.

INSTRUCTION.

WELLINGTON LODGE, No. 548.

THERE was a very good attendance on Monday, at the magnificent establishment of Bro. F. Hare, the New Cross Hotel, New Cross Road, it being Officers night of the Lodge.

We had the pleasure of witnessing the working on this occasion of Bro. D. Jackson, the popular W.M. of the Mother Lodge, who was supported by Bro. H. Groves S.W., G. Freame J.W., J. G. Milbourn P.M. 13 Prec., F. W. Hancock P.M. Treas., A. Hathersick P.M. Acting Sec., F. T. Adams S.D., J. Timms J.D., C. W. Coborn Organist, J. Laxson I.G., Holmes P.M., A. Reminton P.M., Humm, Freeman, Harris, Evans, Martin, Cobden, Hewison, Griggs, Welch, Wyborn, Wynman, and others.

After formalities the W.M. proceeded to rehearse the second ceremony, Bros. Griggs and Hewison acting as candidates, and being previously examined and entrusted. The W.M. having to leave, handed over the gavel to Bro. Groves, Bro. Griggs taking his place in the chair of S.W. Bro. Groves resumed the Lodge in the first degree, and the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, with Bro. Welch representing the candidate.

Bro. Milbourn P.M. Preceptor proposed the election of Bro. Wynman as an honorary member of the Lodge, which was seconded, unanimously agreed to, and suitably acknowledged.

The Lodge meets every Monday evening, at 8 o'clock, under the preceptorship of Bro. John G. Milbourn, a Brother well qualified for the post. The Lodge quarters are most comfortable, easily reached, and in every way suitable for the purposes of the work carried on.

PRINCE FREDERICK WILLIAM LODGE, No. 753.

THERE was a strong muster at the weekly meeting of this Lodge of Instruction on Tuesday, 28th ult., at the Crown Hotel, Aberdeen Place, Maida Hill, when Bro. H. Sadler Grand Tyler of England attended, and gave his lecture on "Tylers and Tyling."

The chair was occupied by Bro. Dr. A. Achard, who was supported by Bros. M. E. Swann S.W., J. O. Kruse J.W., H. J. Thomas P.M. Sec., C. T. Brown P.M. S.D., J. Hand J.D., E. W. Miller I.G., J. W. Smith P.M. Tyler, and about forty other Brethren.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Sadler for his interesting lecture, and the Honorary Membership of the Lodge was conferred upon him as a further mark of the Brethren's appreciation. Six other new members were also enrolled during the evening.

CITADEL LODGE, No. 1897.

THE 160th meeting was held on Friday 24th ult., at Bro. Wallace's, Farleigh Hotel, Amherst Road, Stoke Newington. Those present included Bros. Harry Willsmer Sec. W.M., F. W. Bishop S.W., G. Larnier J.W., E. Dunstan P.M. Prec., A. Rusby S.D., Wallace J.D., Leher I.G., Ladler, Harris, Van Noorden, Platt, Barnes, W. Wright, R. Willsmer, A. Revill and George Clark P.M.

The initiation ceremony and the ancient charge were rehearsed. Bro. Ladler assumed the chair, and the first and second sections of the Lecture were worked by Bros. Dunstan and Rusby.

Bros. Ralph Willsmer and Arthur Revill, of the Wharton Lodge, were admitted as members.

A vote of thanks was accorded Bro. H. Willsmer Secretary, for his efforts in connection with the fifth annual supper, held at the Holborn Restaurant, on the 17th ult.; this was proposed by Bro. F. W. Bishop, seconded by Bro. F. Dunstan, and supported by Bro. Geo. Clark, the same to be recorded on the minutes.

ON Friday, 3rd inst., Bros. F. W. Bishop W.M., G. Larnier S.W., J. Abrahams J.W., Dunstan Prec., H. Willsmer Sec., Platt S.D., Leher J.D., Ralph Willsmer I.G., Feistel, Brett, Revill, &c.

The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Revill acting as candidate. Bros. R. Willsmer and A. Revill answered the questions leading to the second degree. The first and second sections were worked.

YE OLDE FRIENDS.

THE seventh annual Smoking concert of this association was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen Street, W.C., on Monday, and the large hall was packed with an appreciative audience numbering some hundreds. These "Smokers" are organised by the Managers of Messrs. Spiers and Pond's various establishments, and have been highly successful, the promoters having for their object the truly Masonic design of being happy themselves and communicating happiness to those whose lives cannot be said to be passed in pleasant places. The surplus of past concerts has enabled the Committee to give teas, entertainments and gifts to over two thousand poor children; and the proceeds from last Monday will doubtless considerably increase that number. Mr. G. T. King, the Treasurer of "Ye Olde Friends," presided, and drew attention to the objects of the gathering, which he explained were altogether worthy of support. The recipients of their charity formed a portion of the waifs and strays of London, to whom the entertainment was a memorable evening, and were sought out each year with the assistance of the police inspectors of the respective districts.

The Great Northern Railway Company have again arranged with Messrs. Walter Hill and Co., Limited, of 67 and 69 Southampton Row, London, W.C., for the preparation of a list of Seaside, Farmhouse and Country Lodgings to be let at places adjacent to, or in connection with, their system. The Station Masters at the various Great Northern Stations are collecting the necessary information, and will be glad to furnish full particulars on application. Enquiries may also be addressed to Messrs. Walter Hill and Co., at the above address, or to Mr. J. Alexander, Superintendent of the Line, Great Northern Railway, Kings Cross Station.

The Directors of Spiers and Pond Limited announce that the share transfer books will be closed from the 21st to the 31st inst., both inclusive, for the purpose of preparing dividend warrants for the third instalment of four shillings per share, less income tax, payable on the 1st April next, making twelve shillings per share paid on account of the dividend for the year ending 31st March 1899.

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