Freemazon's

Chronicle.

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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SATURDAY, 10th JUNE 1899.

PRICE THREEPENCE.

A CHECK ON OUTSIDE SHOW.

WE are not egotistical, and therefore we do not take to ourselves all the credit of having induced the advisers of the Grand Master to publish an edict against the frequent and wholly unnecessary parading of Masonic regalia in public which has lately grown up with every increasing frequency in all

parts of the country.

Imitation may be regarded as the sincerest form of flattery, but even those who are in such a position as to be able to set an example to large sections of the community occasionally err, and must be excused if they at times make a slip when, led away perhaps by a sudden outburst of enthusiasm, they overstep the limits of prudence or diplomacy. We have witnessed more than one such error in Freemasonry, notably, when the Grand Master himself led the regulation "Masonic fire" on the occasion of the Centenary Festival of the Girls School in 1888; and in more recent years when a special service was held at St. Paul's Cathedral and, by a combination of unforeseen circumstances, resulted in anything but a creditable display of Freemasonry, or Masonic forbearance.

Luckily the general body of the Craft recognised in the one case that even the Grand Master could err, in his desire to benefit a good cause, and although very many Worshipful Masters of the time argued that the action of the Grand Master made it legal for them also to give the "Fire" in the presence of ladies and others, the practice never became general, and we believe has

now been virtually stamped out.

The lesson taught at St. Paul's Cathedral, and at other places of worship since, had not, however, appeared to make any impression on the authorities, and although we know the matter of allowing such public displays of Masonic Regalia was under consideration as far back as December last, we were afraid those who love show and parade had secured the victory—until we read in the outside press that the Grand Master had taken decided action.

No one who respects Freemasonry will regret the prohibition decided upon, and we may safely look forward to an improved general tone for the Craft as a consequence; with greater admiration from outsiders.

It is much better that the good done by Free-masonry should be carried out without such ostentatious show as has been made on several occasions in the near past—when, as we have more than once urged, actual outsiders have not hesitated to virtually trade on the well known charitable proclivities of our Order, and at the same time have pandered to the vanity of members of the Craft who like to parade in public.

We give elsewhere the text of the letter sent out from the offices of Grand Lodge, but we presume this only applies to Lodges within the London District, although, no doubt, Provincial and District Grand Masters will take note of the prohibition issued from head quarters, and will probably be less ready to grant dispensations than heretofore.

As might be expected, the outside press has given prominence to this subject, many of the leading provincial and other papers commenting on the letter from Grand Lodge, among the more important expressions of opinion being the following:

The Prince of Wales, as Grand Master of the Order, has just taken a step of considerable interest to Masons. Of late years members have developed a habit of wearing regalia at functions not in themselves Masonic and attended by non-Masons. After considering the matter, the Prince has issued an official letter declaring the practice to be one which is not calculated to increase the dignity of the Order.—"Morning Leader."

The Prince of Wales has taken a significant step, as Grand Master of the English Freemasons, in connection with the wearing of Masonic regalia. There has been a growing habit of late to don regalia at assemblies at which non-Masons, and particularly ladies, have been present, and at other gatherings which could not by any means be regarded as Masonic in character. For this purpose special dispensations have been sought. His Royal Highness has now resolved to set his face against this habit, and in a special letter from the offices of the United Grand Lodge of England it is declared that the Prince's advisers "are very strongly of opinion that the wearing of Masonic clothing and regalia both at religious services in churches and at places of entertainment when ladies and others who are not Masons are present is not calculated to increase the dignity of the Order or to raise it in the estimation of those who have not been admitted to its secrets and mysteries. —"Manchester Guardian."

To most Freemasons it comes as a surprise that the wearing of Masonic regalia at assemblies at which non-Masons, and especially ladies, are present is "irregular," but after the special letter which the Prince of Wales, as Grand Master of the English Freemasons, has caused to be written, the practice, it is needless to say, will be stopped. The custom grew up somewhat slowly, but has become general. Freemasons do not express any opinion upon the letter sent from the offices of the United Grand Lodge of England but in future the wearing of Masonic clothing and regalia will be discontinued.—"Western Morning News."

The Prince of Wales has just taken a significant step in connection with the Masonic Order—a step for which, indeed, it would be difficult to find a parallel in the history of Masonry. For some time now there has been a growing desire among a certain section of the Brotherhood to exhibit the regalia not only on occasions when non-Masons, including ladies, are present, but on occasions which could not by any stretch of the imagination be regarded as Masonic in their character—at church openings, civic functions, and the like. The Prince of Wales has from the first regarded this growing desire with distaste, but now an order has been issued from the Central Office of the United Grand Lodge, in which it is distinctly and specifically stated that the advisers of his Royal Highness are of opinion that the wearing of Masonic clothing and regalia both at religious services and in places of entertainment when ladies and others not Masons are present is not calculated to increase the dignity of the Order or to raise it in the estimation of those who have not been admitted to its secrets and mysteries. The Prince has in recent years been given semi-despotic powers in Masonry, and as a result we shall see this injunction sedulously obeyed.—"Glasgow Daily Record."

WEST LANCASHIRE.

SUPPLEMENTARY to the report we gave last week we may add that Bro. McLeod (Secretary of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys) who, with others, attended as a deputation on behalf of the Board of Management of that Institution, presented to Lord Lathom a beautifully illuminated address in album form, as a memento of his father's great services to the Institution.

In the course of the proceedings a collection amounting to £50 was made on behalf of the Preston Royal Infirmary.

The following is a list of the first Officers appointed by

the new Provincial Grand Master:

						-
Bro.	C. Forbes Bell	-	•	-	-	Senior Warden
	E. G. B. Watts	-	-	-	-	Junior Warden
	Rev. Dr. Porter	-	-	-	-	Chaplains
	Rev. J. E. Jelly	-	-	-	-) .
	Dr. R. Prosser Wh	ite	-	-	-	Treasurer
	G. Oakey - T. Loftus -	-	- .	-	-	Registrar
	T. Loftus	-	-	-	-	Deputy Registrar
	W. Goodacre	-	<u>-</u>	-	-	Secretary
	T. W. Rostron	-	-	-	- '):
	G. Barclay -	-	-	-	-	Senior Deacons
	R. Rawlinson	-	-	-	-	\
	J. E. Williams	-	-	-	-) .
	J. Fineberg -	-	_	-	-	Junior Deacons
	C. Gibson -	-	-	-	-)
	R. E. Stringleman		-	-	-	Superintendent of Work
	S. Jude -	-	-	-	-	Director of Ceremonies
	E. Pritchard	-	-	-	-	Deputy Dir. of Cers.
	J. Worthy -	-	-	-	-)
	J. Stubbs -	_	-	-	-	Assistant Dirs. of Cers.
	E. C. Jones -	-	-	-	-)
	A. K. Boothroyd	-	-		-	Sword Bearer
	W. Longbottom	-	-		-	Deputy Sword Bearer
	W. Barnes -	-	-	-	-	, - •
	W. Olver -	_	-	-	-	Standard Bearers
	J. Dawber -	-	-	-	-	Organist
	E. Payne -	-	_		-	Assistant Secretary
	W. W. Webster	-	-	_	-	Pursuivant
	J. Macauley -	-	-	-	-	Assistant Pursuivant
	F. Smith -	-	-	-	-	\
	T. H. Evans -	-	-	_	_	}
	J. Adams -	-	_	-	-	
	W. Taberner -	_	_*	_		}Stewards
	Gow	-	-	-	-	1
	W. Boden -	-	_	_	-)
	W. Doran -	-	_	-	_	Tyler.
						-,

The proceedings of the Provincial Grand Chapter were presided over by Earl Amherst Pro Grand Z., assisted by Companion E. Letchworth Grand Scribe E. and Companion Robt. Wylie P.G.H. West Lancashire.

There was present a large and brilliant gathering of Officers of the Grand Chapter of England, the Provincial Grand Chapters of West Lancashire and East Lancashire, and other Provinces, and a considerable number of Companions of the Order.

The Earl of Lathom was duly installed as Grand Superintendent of West Lancashire, and invested his Officers for the ensuing year. As Second Grand Principal he invested Companion E. Banner Newton, of Liverpool, and as Third Principal the Rev. E. Pimblett, Vicar of St. Matthew's,

On the motion of Companion Wylie, seconded by the T. Barton Spencer, the sum of 60 guineas was voted to the Lathom Memorial Fund.

The banquet which followed the meetings of this Provincial Grand Lodge and Chapter, when the Earl of Lathom was installed as Provincial Grand Master and Provincial Grand Superintendent respectively, was held in the Assembly Room of the Public Hall, Preston, and was

attended by nearly 250 Brethren.

The Provincial Grand Master presided, being supported on his left by the M.W. Pro Grand Master (Earl Amherst), E. Letchworth Grand Sec., Rev. T. Barton Spencer, M.A., P.G.C., Major J. D. Murray P.G. Treas., and on his right by Bro. R. Wylie D.Pr.G.M. P.G.D., S. Gibson Sinclair P.G.D., J. Houlding P.G.D., and W. Goodacre Pr.G.Sec. P.G.S.B.

The Loyal toasts were received with the enthusiasm that befits an Order whose two great mottoes H.R.H. the Prince Wales Grand Master proclaimed to be Loyalty and Charity.

The health of the Pro Grand Master was proposed in happy terms by the Prov.G.M., and was received with enthusiastic cheering by the Brethren, and, in responding, the Pro Grand Master, in well chosen words, expressed the gratification he felt at the admirable way in which everything had been carried out, and the great pleasure it had given him as Pro Grand Master to instal Bro. Lord Lathom in the

chair of Provincial Grand Master of West Lancashire.
In replying to the toast of the Earl of Warwick D.G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers present and past, Bro. E. Letchworth Grand Secretary was accorded a very hearty reception, and in pleasing terms he thanked the Brethren for

The Pro Grand Master proposed the health of the Provincial Grand Master, in terms that found an echo in the heart of every Brother present, and the toast was received with the utmost enthusiasm, cheer after cheer being given

for his lordship, and also for the Countess of Lathom.

The toast was followed by "Here's to his health in a song," admirably given by Bro. F. H. Dale P.M., and at its close the whole of the Brethren left their seats and marched in procession past the upper table, each Brother saluting the Prov. G. Master, the Pro G.M., and the Grand Officers as they passed. The enthusiasm that marked this token of respect and esteem will not easily be forgotten by

those who were present.

The Earl of Lathom, who, in responding, showed that he was deeply touched by the enthusiastic reception with which he had been greeted by the Brethren, replied in a graceful speech. He mentioned that he had appointed a council of thirteen members to assist him in ruling the great Province of West Lancashire, the premier Province in England. His late dear father, who had been for so long their chief, knew all the members of the Province which he, just appointed, could not profess to do then, but he hoped in a very short time to know them all personally. He was especially pleased at the hearty cheers given for his dear wife, for it was owing to her that he became a Freemason. He thanked them from the bottom of his heart for the way they had received him.

Bro. W. Goodacre Prov. G. Sec., in proposing the Worshipful Masters of the Lodges of West Lancashire, gave the Brethren some excellent advice, urging them to be careful in the choice of new members, and to remember, as the late Lord Lathom once expressed it, that Freemasonry was not a Benevolent, but a Charitable Institution.

Bro. R. Wylie D.P.G.M. proposed the Benevolent Institutions of our Order, in an interesting speech, and Bro.

G. A. Harradon suitably responded.

Bro. J. Houlding P.G.D. (ex-Lord Mayor of Liverpool) proposed the toast of the Reception Committee, speaking in eulogistic terms of the way in which everything had been carried out, and the admirable arrangements, which could not have been excelled or improved, and must have involved

not have been excelled or improved, and must have involved great thought, care, and hard work.

Bro. the Rev. T. Barton Spencer, M.A., P.G.C. (Chairman of the General Committee) in responding, said Freemasons often had pleasing duties to perform, and those of the Reception Committee had been very delightful. They must give honour to whom honour was due. First, the honour of the successful arrangements was due to Bro. G. Oakey, the Hon Sec. who had worked with his usual thoroughness in Hon. Sec., who had worked with his usual thoroughness in carrying out duties which had been a work of love. Next, the honour was due to Bro. Major T. R. Jolly, Chairman of the Ceremony Sub-Committee and Bro. T. Nevett, Chairman of the Banquet Sub-Committee, and also to all the members and the Stewards. The work of that Committee had been a pleasing duty, for three special reasons:—First, on account of those who were coming to it; they felt pride in knowing that their meeting would be honoured by the presence of the Pro Grand Master of England the Earl Amherst, who had been welcomed in such a hearty manner, also by the presence of Bro. E. Letchworth Grand Secretary of England, whom they esteemed so highly, and who was the right man in the right place; and also the other Grand Officers. Secondly, because of him who was to be installed their Provincial Grand Master. They loved and reverenced his father, their late Provincial Master, and the present Lord Lathom was worthy of their affection and esteem; they had shown how highly they regarded him, by the remarkable bursts of enthusiasm with which they had greeted him that day, and they all felt proud to serve under him as their Masonic Chief in West Lancashire. And thirdly, because of the importance of the events of that day; they knew that the honour, reputation, and usefulness of their Provincial Grand Lodge would mainly depend upon the skill and assiduity with which their Provincial Grand Master managed its affairs, but they entertained not the slightest doubt that he would discharge those duties with satisfaction to himself, and advantage to the Province of West Lancashire and the Craft generally. Under these happy circumstances they could not be surprised that the Reception Committee found their work

a pleasure. If they had succeeded in their efforts they were more than repaid, and each member of the Committee and the Stewards would ever remember with satisfaction and pleasure that they had had the honour and privilege of taking such a part in preparing for the installation ceremony of their Provincial Grand Master the Earl of Lathom.

Bro. Major Jolly, in responding, bore testimony to the excellent way in which Bro. Oakey had performed his duties, and Bro. T. Nevett did the same. Bro. G. Oakey thanked the Brethren for the kind way in which they had spoken of him and his services. He had done his best, and it was a great satisfaction to him and the members of the Committee to know that all had been so well satisfied with their efforts.

Bro. W. P. Park, J.P. (Chairman of the Preston Royal Infirmary) tendered the thanks of the Infirmary Committee to the Brethren for the handsome contribution of £50 made in the collection of Prov. G. Lodge for the Infirmary. He gave an account of the Institution, and spoke in appropriate and feeling terms of the connection of the late Prov. G. Master with the Town of Preston, and especially with the last Preston Guild.

The last toast was the Tyler's toast, given by Bro. H. Simons Tyler of the Preston Lodges, and the proceedings terminated with the singing of God save the Queen.

Thus came to an end what will be a red letter day in

the history of Freemasonry in West Lancashire, and especially in Preston, for it was frankly acknowledged on all sides that there had never been a more thoroughly successful

meeting of a Provincial Lodge held in West Lancashire.

It may be added that Bro. Nevett P.P.G. Supt. of Works, and Major Jolly P.P.G. Treasurer, had the honour of being selected to present Lord Lathom as Grand Superindent of the Chapter, and Grand Master of the Provincial Lodge.

SOMERSETSHIRE.

THE annual Provincial Grand Lodge was held on Friday, 26th ult., at the Board Schools, Langport, under the banner of the Portcullis Lodge, No. 2038, and under the presidency of the Right Hon. Viscount Dungarvan Provincial Grand Master.

Grand Master.

Considerable regret was experienced by the Brethren by the lamented absence through indisposition of the Deputy Prov.G.M. Bro. R. C. Else, whose duties on this occasion were performed by Bro. T. P. Ashley, of Bath.

The Prov.G. Treasurer C. L. Fry Edwards presented the annual statement of accounts, which showed an adverse balance of £2 9s 4d, but he stated that as much as £219 had been expended in charity. On the proposition of Bro. Ruegg, seconded by Bro. H. Aplin, the accounts were passed, and Bro. Edwards was unanimously re-appointed Treasurer.

Bro. T. P. Ashley next read the report of the Charity

Bro. Edwards was unanimously re-appointed Treasurer.

Bro. T. P. Ashley next read the report of the Charity Organisation Committee, which was of a satisfactory character, and contained the following paragraph:—"This is a memorable year for the Province by reason of the popular R.W.G.M. Viscount Dungarvan taking the chair at the Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, when the splendid total of Car out was appounced. Twenty-seven restrival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, when the splendid total of £21,045 was announced. Twenty-seven Somerset Stewards supported his lordship, whose lists amounted to £2,134 including the Chairman's handsome donation of £635. 'Well done, Somerset,' which only eleven months since sent up no less than sixteen Stewards, with a total of £1,224 for the Centenary Festival for the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys." Bro. J. C. Hunt seconded the adoption of the report, which was agreed to.

The Prov. G.M. said he wished to thank the Brethren

The Prov. G.M. said he wished to thank the Brethren throughout the Province for the very handsome manner in which they had supported him. He must say, after the very generous support they gave last year to the Boys School, he felt a little anxious and uneasy, and it was a very gratifying surprise to him when the figures were announced. He also wished to thank the Brethren who went up from Somerset to wished to thank the Brethren who went up from Somerset to support him on that occasion. He desired to say how deeply he regretted the absence of Bro. Else, who had informed him he had only twice missed being present at the Provincial Grand Lodge.

Bro. Rubie moved that the Secretary be requested to write a letter to Bro. Else, expressing their deep regret at his absence, and their sincere hope that he would shortly be restored to health. Bro. Harrild seconded, and the proposition was heartily and unanimously agreed to.

While an anthem was being sung the alms were collected, and these amounted to £5 2s 8d. It was resolved, on the motion of Bro. Louch, seconded by Bro. Cox, that this

be given to the funds of the Taunton and Somerset Hospital. The Officers appointed and invested for the ensuing year were as follow:

Bro. E. Q. Louch 2038	_	-	-	-	Senior Warden
G. Norman 41	-	-	-	-	Junior Warden
Rev. E. J. Morris 12	22	-	_	-	Chaplain
C. L. Fry Edwards	-	-	-	-	Treasurer
W. Gill 53 .	-	-	-	-	Registrar
E. Fry Wade 291	-	-	-	-	Secretary
F. W. Gaylard 329	-	-	-	-	Senior Deacon
C. Wiltshire 1833	-	_	-	-	Junior Deacon
T. Cross 906 -	- '	-	-	-	Superintendent of Works
R. H. Shrapnell 133	8	-	-	-	Director of Ceremonies
W. H. Westlake 196	6	-	-	-	Assistant Dir. of Cers.
O. A. G. Collins 379	-	-	-	-	Sword Bearer
C. F. White 437	-	-	-	- 1	Standard Bearers
C. E. Alford 814	-	-	-	- f	Standard Dearers
C. J. Parrott 285	-	-	-	-	Organist
A. E. J. Creed 976	-	-	-	-	Assistant Secretary
W. Plank 1953		-	-	-	Pursuivant
A. H. Taylor 446	-	-	-	-	Assistant Pursuivant
E. R. Babbage 135	-	-	-	- ,	
S. G. Loveday 261	-	-	•	- 1	
A. Poole 1197	-	-	-	- }	Stewards
A. W. Metcalfe 1199	-	-	-	-	
H. Pittard 2038	-	-	-	_ ,	
A. J. Salter 53	-	-	-	· -	Tyler
S. Bigwood 41	-	-	-	•	Assistant Tyler.

The Brethren afterwards dined together at the Langport Arms Hotel, the Provincial Grand Master occupying the

LINCOLNSHIRE.

HE annual gathering of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Lincolnshire was held at Brigg, on Wednesday.

Brethren from all parts of the county to the number of about 250 assembled in the Corn Exchange, which was appropriately furnished.

The business was presided over by the Earl of Yarborough Provincial Grand Master, who, in his opening remarks, referred to his visits to various Lodges in the county, all of which he found in good order, and discharging their duties in true Masonic spirit.

Lord Yarborough's predecessor in office, Bro. W. H. Smyth, was presented with a service of gold plate on the occasion of his golden wedding celebration, the beautiful gift being from the Freemasons of the Province. Bro. Smyth

feelingly acknowledged.

It was decided to inaugurate an additional charity, to be known as "The Yarborough Fund for the relief of poor and distressed Freemasons."

The Officers for the ensuing year were appointed, and it was decided to hold the Provincial Lodge at Boston next year. A banquet was afterwards held at the Angel Hotel, when Loyal and Masonic toasts were honoured.

KENT.

THE preparatory meeting of this Provincial Grand Lodge was held at the Burlington Hotel, Dover, last week, under the presidency of Earl Amherst Provincial Grand Master.

The will bears date 4th July 1894, with a codicil of 18th April 1899, of Bro. John Bertram, of Newport Villa, Upper Norwood, and of the firm of Bertram and Roberts, refreshment contractors, Deputy Alderman of the Ward of Farringdon Without, who died on 23rd April last, aged 63 years, leaving personal estate of the value of £12,030. The gross value of the whole of his estate is £36,634. The executors of Bro. Bertram's will are to carry on his business as a refreshment contractor at Earl's Court. Kempton Park. as a refreshment contractor at Earl's Court, Kempton Park, Gatwick, and Newmarket, London Bridge, Victoria, and elsewhere.

On Thursday, 1st inst., the members of the St. Matthew Lodge, No. 539, Walsall, made a presentation to Bro. E. S. Hildick, as a token of appreciation of his eminent services. For the past twelve years Bro. Hildick has filled the responsible and honourable office of Treasurer to the Lodge. On account of a partial breakdown of his health he was ordered some time since by his medical adviser to give up his honorary offices. The presentation took the form of a magnificently illuminated address, suitably framed, and a cheque.

ASTRONOMY AND MASONRY.

A Paper read in Palestine Lodge, No. 357, Detroit, Mich., after the Work of the Second Degree, 27th January 1898.

Voltaire's masterpiece, the romance of Micromegas, an inhabitant of one of the worlds which revolve around the great star Sirius is represented as having learned how to traverse the interstellar spaces and as making a visit to our solar system. He pauses first at the planet Saturn, and in company with one of

the Saturnians, travels onward to our earth.

Although the Sirian is several leagues in height, possesses some hundreds of senses and is a young man at the age of some thousands of our years, yet being of a broad and open habit of mind, he is quite ready to admit that his companion, though only 300 feet in height, possessed of only seventy senses and belonging to a race of ephemerals who usually attained to the age of only 400 years, might still possess a certain sort of reasoning faculty and be not wholly unworthy of the attention of a careful student of the infinite variety of creation. But after a careful survey of the earth, finding it from his point of view totally unfit for a dwelling place of intelligent beings, he, with his companion, is about to continue their journey when chance brings into the focus of a microscope in his hands one of those infinitesimal ephemera called men, and with much difficulty he is able to contrive a method of communication with him. He is astonished when the mite, by means of a quadrant, calculates his height. He is saddened when he learns of the inconceivable shortness of human life and how men devote that short life chiefly to making war upon each other and otherwise preying upon each other. But when the speck goes on to expound his theology (he is a Calvinist) and declares that the sun, the heavens and even Micromegas' own sun, the glorious star Sirius, were made by the Almighty Creator solely for the use of man, he leaves him in disgust and makes his way homeward, satisfied that after such an exhibition of arrogance and puny pride he need look for no greater marvel in creation.

The fancy is not so made that it does not have a certain foundation upon analogies. Knowing, or being able to guess at the relative sizes of our sun and of some of the immensely greater suns which we call stars, we may, at least for the purposes of romance, assume that there revolve around those suns dark worlds forever invisible to men, of a size proportionate to their size. We may assume that they are inhabited by rational beings of a size proportionate to them. From the varying lengths of the years of various planets and from observation of the endless variety in creation, in that small corner of God's universe open to our inspection, we may infer great differences in length of life, in

equipment in physicial senses and so on endlessly.

Nor is the parable without use. It teaches the complexity of nature and assists us toward an idea of its magnitude. are totally unable to conceive of even the few facts revealed to our ignorance relative to the magnitude of the visible universe. Our minds cannot grasp them. We must grope our way, a step at a time. We must look first at some little corner of the truth and when we have finally understood that already we have gone beyond our capacity to comprehend, then by calling to mind the relation between that little corner and the immeasurable whole, allow our minds to be for a moment awed by the spectacle which if we were able to comprehend it, we should not be able to bear.

We cannot think of the universe as a whole. We speak of the swiftness of light which could circle the earth seven times in a second. Yet a ray of light consumes more than eight minutes in coming from the sun to the earth. When we consider the distance of the sun expressed in miles, we are already beyond our powers of comprehension and must use a help of this kind. Now when they wish to speak of the distance of the nearest stars, it is the habit of astronomers to express it in "light years." It is idle any longer to speak of miles. They say the nearest stars are five or six light-years distant, meaning that it takes five or six years for the light to come from them to us. Now millions of stars are visible with the greatest telescopes and we have reason to infer that commonly they are no nearer, each to the other, than are the nearest stars to us. Try to conceive, then, if you dare, of the whole starry system, composed of millions of stars, each separated from its nearest neighbour by a distance which it takes light five years to traverse. Imagine, if you can, each of these million surrounded by a system of dark worlds like our own and each world inhabited, for aught we know, by teeming multitudes of God's children.

The greatest telescopes collect the light of stars so distant that the ray which reveals their existence to the astronomer must have started on its lonely journey through space ages before the creation of Adam. So that if Almighty God, to signalise that new work of His, had thought fit to extinguish one of these distant stars, we should be seeing the light, for the last ray or vibration, starting at the time of the creation of Adam, would not yet have reached the earth. And yet sweeping the sky with these great telescopes, among these millions of suns, astronomers find dark places, veritable holes in the sky, in which our whole solar system could revolve without bringing any part of it nearer to the nearest star than it now is and down which it could fall with the swiftness of light, without meeting with any obstruction -how long we cannot guess; certainly longer than the life of the human race has been, according to our common computation.

We need no longer stun ourselves with such conceptions. Let us look for the lesson. It is all found in the Masonic Ritual.

There are the texts. This is only the comment.

Does it not give a new meaning to the words of our Ritual— "being created by one Almighty Parent and inhabitants of the same planet, we are to aid, protect and support one another."

If you are out on a little raft in the midst of the ocean with no man or sign of man in sight, but another poor wretch, clinging like yourself to the same frail support, would not all the shams and conventionalities of life slip from you? Would you not draw as close to him as possible, and would you not both try to aid, support and comfort one another? So when you contemplate the inconceivable spaces of the universe, when you feel how not yourself but the whole, firm-seeming earth is but a speck of dust tossed to and fro over a bottomless abyss, do you not feel a sense of helplessness, of loneliness, come over you? Do you not long for the grasp of a friendly hand and the sound of a voice calling, "Brother"? You feel that man is an atom, that life here is but a breath, the flight of a bird through a dark hall out of one blaze of sunlight and into another, that God alone is great and eternity alone worth considering.

Take two quotations from the lecture of the Second Degree: "Numberless worlds are around us, all framed by the same Divine Artist, which roll through the vast expanse and are all

conducted by the same unerring law of nature.

"While engaged in the study of this science (astronomy) we must perceive unparalleled instances of goodness and wisdom, and throughout the whole creation learn to trace the glorious Author

by His works."

What are worldly wealth and honour, what the pitiful distinctions of human life in the eye and mind of the Creator and Governor of this universe? What is there of any consequence in life except to do good, to love God and men, and to humbly study God and His creation? What folly the interminable wars and disputes kept up among men upon this ball of mud? If as much money and energy had been spent in studying the heavens as has been expended upon wars and preparations for wars only since 1870, I dare say we should have known by this time whether Mars is inhabited by rational creatures, and if it is we might even be in actual communication with them. This is no new notion, but some of you may not have heard of it, and to such it will seem like a dream. But consider. In all the infinite variety of creation one thing remains unchanged—geometry. If there are rational beings in Mars, doubtless they would not know any of our languages; they may have no powers of speech. They may not eat or sleep or hear or breathe, but if they have minds and have cultivated them, they have geometry, and the 47th problem of Euclid, under whatever name, is as familiar to them as it is to us. could mark it out on such a scale upon our earth that they could make it out if they have telescopes only equal to ours, and we need not suppose that their advancement in physical science is behind ours, for according to the nebular hypothesis, their world is older than ours, and perhaps their civilisation is also older. If they have minds and eyes they would recognise our sign as the work of intelligent beings, and as meant for a signal to them, and they would reply. What a prospect is opened up by the

thought!

The wonders of astronomy are not confined to the inconceivably great. Let us look for a moment at the inconceivably small. Students of astronomical physics, "The New Astronomy," as it is called, by an apparatus which is a marvel of human skill, and by an application of analysis which is a monument to human reason, have been able to measure the length of waves of light. They compare with certainty and accuracy the wave lengths of different kinds of light, which vary for the rays of the visible spectrum from about 30,000 to the inch for the red rays to about 65,000 for the violet rays. By the analysis and study of the light sent to us from the heavenly bodies they have to the most surprising extent increased our knowledge of the universe. Many of you have doubtless heard of the early achievements of spectrum analysis, how it revealed to us with certainty the existence, in the sun for example, of nearly all the elements that compose the earth, proving a substantial unity of composition and suggesting with great force the idea of an original unity of existence. That is to say, that the sun and earth and the other planets once formed a single body, from which the planets have been successively detached. You may have heard that by spectrum analysis we have learned that some luminous bodies in the heavens are apparently a simple gas, that some great stars are composed of a few elements, while others have more and some have all that we know of, and some perhaps some new ones.

You may not have heard of the latest achievements of this analysis, how it reveals motions invisible to the eye aided by the greatest telescopes, and enables us for the first time to put a

girdle about a star, to measure and to weigh it.

For example, take the variable star Algol. By the study of the spectrum of this star we have learned that it is twice as large as our sun, but only half as heavy; that it resolves in an orbit of a mean diameter of about three millions of miles about a dark companion, which we shall never see, but of whose existence and location we are certain, for it depends upon no other assumption than that of the universality of the law of gravitation. We know that the speed of Algol in its orbit is twenty-six miles a second, and that it completes a revolution in about three days.

It is to be remembered that nothing of all this could be learned by direct observation. Like all the stars Algol appears in the largest telescopes without any disk, but only as a bright point of light, and the better the telescope the smaller appears that point. Even the width of its orbit is wholly imperceptible. Viewed at its distance from us three million miles is no more in visual size than the diameter of a silver three-cent piece placed at Chicago and viewed from New York. It is almost wholly by means of the spectroscope that we have learned the little we know of the dimensions, composition and movements of the fixed

The little we know. That is the last and greatest lesson of astronomy. I have never known or heard of a great astronomer, or, indeed, of a man great in any kind of natural science, who was not modest, simple, and humble. Sir Isaac Newton was a man,

not modest, simple, and humble. Sir Isaac Newton was a man, to merely comprehend whose greatness, and measure it from below, requires a liberal education. You have all heard of his famous saying that he seemed to himself like a child playing on the shore, picking up a pebble or a shell here and there while the great ocean of the infinite lay unexplored before him.

Most of all, perhaps, we learn from astronomy how little we understand the work of God and the thought of God. We look at those beautiful suns and the silent wandering planets and we speculate about their past and their future and the ultimate destiny of all that. We think we see in the moon an ember of a burnt-out world. We think the sun may be shrinking and cooling, and we are tempted to speculate as to when it will cease to send us its life-giving rays. We picture the sun and the attendant planets at some time in the future all cold, dark and lifeless, circling uselessly through space to all eternity. How vain such speculations. What do we know of God's plan; of the use He has designed to make of this world when cold and dark, or of His design for renewing light and heat in some vast cycle of change.

I have read somewhere of a race of ephemera that were born, brought forth of their kind, grew old and died in the space of an hour. The great-grandchildren of those that saw the sun slowly rising in the east beheld him quite high in the sky. Ten generations later, his rim was touching the western horizon and the race of ephemera came together in the shelter of an ancient mushroom to debate on the probable effect upon their race. And one of the oldest and wisest among them, one bowed with the weight of almost sixty minutes of age, stood up to speak to them. He fold them that authentic tradition had handed it down from graphystics. generation to generation, among the ephemera, that ages before, when the mushroom under which they had assembled was young, the sun had been in the east. That it had always moved westward. That enlightened reason must conclude that it could westward. That enightened reason must conclude that it could move in no other direction and could not return upon its path. That therefore it was about to disappear for ever, and that the race of ephemera, for the sake of whose warmth and light and comfort and life it existed, would also disappear and die for ever. What they thought of his argument I do not know, but I have heard that the sun rose again the next morning.—"American Tylar" Tyler."

SOLICITED AND SOLICITING.

IF there is any one tenet of Freemasonry that is known alike by the initiate and the professions. by the initiate and the profane it is that of opposition to proselytism. No one is solicited to become a Freemason. This is a part of the great unwritten law that must not be and, in fact, no Mason ever violates. Free-will and voluntary action on the part of the applicant for the degrees is absolutely prerequisite. Were this not so the very application itself would bear on its face a

this not so the very application itself would bear on its face a falsehood, and the signature thereto would attest a lie.

This is as it should be. The ego is so pre-eminently a factor in Freemasonry; so much is Freemasonry concerned with the personality; its responsibilities are so individualised, that, although as a whole it is an organisation in which the parts are bound together by the most solemn and impressive ties, the work it does is accomplished more through the personal factors of energy and character than combined effort.

The unsolicited applicant is taught through signs and symbols,

and voluntarily obligates himself to do or not to do certain things. All this concerns him personally. As he profits by the teachings he becomes a character builder. If he becomes really a Freemason, and not merely a member of the Fraternity (for, mark you, there is a vast difference between the two), it is his individuality that works for good. As he lets his light shine, so does he reflect credit upon the Institution. The one absorbs what the other teaches. Then the taught in turn becomes the teacher.

Advancement in Freemasonry should be along the same lines as those which led to the acceptance of the applicant. "What! do you exclaim: "Should the Freemason become a solicitor, for honours?" Not at all. He came to Freemasonry unsolicted, and Freemasonry received him. He solicited. Freemasonry investigated and, accepting, taught him to become a Freemason. As Freemasonry does not solicit, neither should he as a Freemason solicit, for Freemasonry is but the aggregation of Freemasons. masons.

But does Freemasonry never solicit? Yes! Freemasonry solicits of her votaries that they shall be good men and true, and conform their lives upon the moral principles symbolised by the plumb, the level, and the square. She asks that they apportion their time as she has taught them by the gauge. She solicits that they shall spread the cement of brotherly love and, with the Great Light in Freemasonry as their guide, build such a spiritual

temple as shall make them worthy of all honour.

Once a Freemason soliciting should forever cease. As no Freemason would dare solicit a profane, neither should he solicit preferment or honours. By living such a life as would make him worthy of these, he will be the solicited. Freemasonry delights to honour her worthy ones. She solicits their services and honours worthy performance.—"Keystone."

It may be mentioned in connection with the investiture of Bro. Alfred H. Bevan in the position of Treasurer of the Grand Mark Lodge, that it is the first time in the history of English Freemasonry that the positions of Grand Treasurer of United Grand Lodge, of Supreme Grand Chapter, and of Grand Mark Lodge have been held in the same year by one and the same person, and Bro. Bevan has been warmly congratulated upon the distinction thus accorded him.

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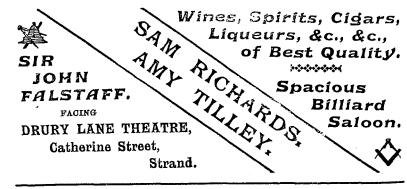
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J. MORRISON McLEOD, P.G.S.B.,

Hon. Secretary to the Board of Stewards.

6 Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.

10th June 1899.

** The services of Ladies and Brethren as Stewards on this important occasion are earnestly solicited, and will be gratefully acknowledged.



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SATURDAY, 10TH JUNE 1899.

MASONIC REGALIA IN PUBLIC.

THE following is a copy of the letter addressed by Grand Lodge to the Worshipful Masters of its Lodges, in reference to the wearing of Masonic Clothing in public, and to which we refer elsewhere in this issue:

United Grand Lodge of England,

Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, London, W.C.,

25th May 1899.

Dear Sir and Worshipful Master,—In view of the increasing number of applications to the M.W. Grand Master for dispensations to wear Masonic Clothing on occasions other than Lodge Meetings, His Royal Highness's advisers have very fully and seriously considered the question of granting such applications in future, and they are very strongly of opinion that the wearing of Masonic Clothing and Regalia both at Religious Services in Churches, and at places of entertainment when ladies and others who are not Masons are present, is not calculated to increase the dignity of the Order, or to raise it in the estimation of those who have not been admitted to its secrets and mysteries.

or to raise it in the estimation of those who have not been admitted to its secrets and mysteries.

It is moreover thought that the wearing in public, of Masonic Badges and Regalia has the effect of placing Freemasons, in the opinion of many, very much in the same category as Benefit Societies which, although most excellent in themselves, are formed for purposes, and have aims, wholly different to those for which Masonry exists.

I am, therefore, directed to ask you to be so good as to make it known to your Lodge, that only under very special and exceptional circumstances, will the M.W. Grand Master be advised to grant such dispensations in future, and then only after a memorial stating the exceptional circumstances of the case shall have been lodged at the office of the Grand Secretary, for the consideration of the Grand Master's advisers at their periodical meetings.

I am to request it may be understood that it is not desired to discourage the meeting of Brethren, either for religious worship, or on occasions of their extending hospitality to those who are not members of the Order; the only object of the decision which has been arrived at is to check the exhibition in public of a costume intended to be worn only in private during the performance of Masonic Rites and Ceremonies.

I am, Dear Sir and Brother, Yours fraternally,

I am, Dear Sir and Brother, Yours fraternally,

(Signed) E. LETCHWORTH, Grand Secretary.

UNITED GRAND LODGE.

HE Quarterly Communication of the United Grand Lodge of England was held on Wednesday evening, at Freemasons' Hall, London, under the presidency of the Pro Grand Master Earl Amherst.

Bro. Loveland-Loveland, Q.C., was re-appointed by the Prince of Wales as President of the Board of General Purposes, and Bro. John Smith was re-elected Grand Lodge Auditor.

The recommendation of the Board of General Purposes, that the Earl of Lathom and Viscount Dungarvan be appointed to fill vacancies among the Trustees of the Personal Property of Grand Lodge, was agreed to; as were the propositions standing in the names of Bros. Farnfield and Richardson, the one in reference to the annual vote of £70 to provide coal for the residents in the Masonic Institution at Croydon, and the other expunging Rule 137 of the Book of Constitutions, which made it compulsory for Masters and Wardens of London Lodges to attend and sign their names at the Grand Secretary's office.

ROYAL ARCH.

DEVON.

THE annual convocation of the Provincial Grand Chapter of Devonshire was held at the Masonic Temple, Torquay, on the 23rd ult., when the Grand Superintendent Sir Stafford Northcote, C.B., M.P. presided over an attendance of seventy Companions.

A new Chapter, to be attached to the Jordan Lodge, No A new Chapter, to be attached to the Jordan Lodge, No 1402, was duly consecrated by the Provincial Grand Superintendent. An oration was delivered by Comp. W. J. Hughan, after which Comps. J. Lane, T. H. Wills, and W. Winget were installed in the three Principals' chairs of the new Chapter, the other Officers of which were appointed.

The business of the Prov. Grand Chapter was then continued, and the Grand Superintendent appointed the Provincial Grand Officers for the ensuing year.

MARK GRAND LODGE.

THE annual installation meeting of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons was held on Tuesday, at Mark Masons' Hall, London, under the presidency of the Earl of Euston Pro G.M.M., who was supported by a full attendance of members of the degree.

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales was proclaimed as re-installed Grand Master, for the fourteenth year in succession, while the other Grand Officers appointed for the year were as follow:

		~ _				
ro	The Earl of Euston		_		-	Pro Grand Master
	Viscount Dungarvan		-	-	-	Deputy Grand Master
	Lord Glenesk	_	-	-	-	Senior Warden
	Sir Thomas Roe	-	-	-	-	Junior Warden
	Major C. W. Carrell	-	-	-	-	Master Overseer
	John Houlding	-	-	-	-	Senior Overseer
	C. V. Cotterell	-	-	-	-	Junior Overseer
	Rev. W. R. Finkay		-	-	- {	Chaplains
	Rev. A. W. N. Deaco	n	-	-	- }	Chapianis
	Alfred H. Bevan	-	-	-	-	Treasurer
	Frank Richardson		-	-	-	Registrar
	R. Loveland-Lovelan	ıd, Q.C		-	-	Pres. General Board
	C. F. Matier -	-	-	-	-	Secretary
	Col. C. Walton Walk	er	-	-	- ì	
	Edgar Horne	-	-	-	- (Deacons
	Dr. W. H. Bull	-	-	-	- (Deacons
	T. H. Gardiner	-	-	-	- }	
	Rowland Plumbe, F.	R.I.B.	A.	-	-	Inspector of Works
	H. E. Cousans	-	-	-	-	Director of Ceremonies
	Dr. H. L. Thomson-	Lyon		-	-]	Assistant Dirs. of Cers.
	Dr. C. S. Brewer		-	-	- }	
	MajGen. Astley Fel	llowes !	Terry	-	-	Sword Bearer
	Harry Nicholls	-	-	-	- }	Standard Bearers
	Spencer W. Morris		-	-	- 1	
	Thomas Westlake M	organ	-	-	-	Organist
	W. Forrest	-	-	-	-	Inner Guard
	John Smith -	-	-	-	-	Assistant Inner Guard
	E. J. Mills -	-	-	-	-	Tyler.
					_	

The annual Mark Grand Festival was subsequently held, under the presidency of the Earl of Euston.

The following is the Report of the General Board, submitted at the meeting of Grand Lodge, and which was crowded out from its usual place in the Agenda we published last week:

During the three months ending 31st March 1899, there have been issued:—Mark Certificates, 780; total registered, 39,972.

Since the last report, two Warrants have been granted for new Lodges, viz.:

No. 524, Kyrle, Ross.

No. 525, Haywra, Harrogate.

Royal Ark Mariner Certificates, 137; number registered, 5,935.

Warrant for one Royal Ark Mariner Lodge, viz.:

Bridgman, attached to Walpole Lodge, No. 92, Norwich.

His Royal Highness the Most Worshipful Grand Master has been graciously pleased to appoint:

R.W. Bro. His Honour Judge William Masterman to be Provincial Grand Master for Nottinghamshire, vice Col. William Newton, deceased.

His Royal Highness the Most Worshipful Grand Master has been graciously pleased to re-appoint for a further term of three years:

R.W. Bro. J. Owen Marsh as Provincial Grond Master for Monmouth-

His Royal Highness the M.W. Grand Master has been pleased to direct that the Lodges in the County of Essex shall be separated from the Province of East Anglia and be constituted into the Province of Essex. H.E. The Rt. Honourable Lord Henniker M.W.P.G.M. will continue to preside over East Anglia, which will now consist of the counties of Cambridge, Norfolk, and Suffolk, and the M.W. Grand Master has been pleased to appoint the R.W. Bro. The Earl of Warwick to be Provincial Grand Master for Essex.

R.W. Bro. The Earl of Warwick to be Provincial Grand Master for Essex.

The attention of the General Board has been directed to a body of Craft Brethren in Ashton-under-Lyne and other towns in Cheshire and East Lancashire, who profess to work the Mark Degree under the style and title of "The Honourable United Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of the Ashton-under-Lyne District." We are informed by W. Bro. John Armstrong, P.M. No. 11, &c., in an interesting pamphlet "The History of the Joppa Lodge, No. 11, Liverpool, 1898," that the Lodge is reported to have been founded towards the end of last century by a non-commissioned officer who had received the Mark Degree in India, and that it was originally called "The Mark Link and Ark," and afterwards "The Dukinfield Lodge," "The Cheshire Mark Lodge," and "The Travelling Mark Lodge." The records of the Lodge, however, only date back to 11th July 1830. It has always met, and still meets, quarterly on a Sunday afternoon, under the Warrant of some Cheshire or East Lancashire Craft Lodge, the Endeavour Lodge, No. 830, Dukinfield, being the one most frequently favoured. The Craft Lodge is first opened in the three degrees, and in the 3° the W. Mark Master enters and takes the chair. The Candidates are then balloted for and afterwards the Mark Lodge is opened and the Candidates advanced. The advancement fee is 10s 6d, with 5s additional for Certificate, and the subscription 6d per quarter, the whole of which, until very recently, formed a Funeral Fund for Members.

In 1870, the M.W. Bro. Canon Portal G.M., and the then Grand

In 1870, the M.W. Bro. Canon Portal G.M., and the then Grand Secretary, approached these Brethren with a view to their giving their allegiance to Grand Lodge, and a Warrant of Confirmation was offered them free of cost, with the understanding that all their Members should be registered at a nominal fee, but the Funeral Fund seemed to stand in the way and the negotiations fell through.

Lately, this Funeral Fund has been abolished, and, as the Board has been informed, the money was divided among the Members, since which time they have assumed the style and title of "The Honourable United Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of the Ashton-under-Lyne District."

Several Brethren have privately interested themselves to bring about an understanding with this so-called Grand Lodge, but to no purpose, and on the 3rd March 1899 the Secretary was informed that, unless submission was made, the Board would have no alternative but to declare them not to be a legitimate body working the Mark Degree, but a spurious and clandestine body, and to issue an edict prohibiting all Masonic intercourse between them and the Brethren under the jurisdiction of Grand Lodge, and further that such edict would not be issued until 1st May.

The Secretary replied, 22nd March 1899, that "an edict such as you threaten can only very slightly affect a small number of our Brethren," and asks the Board what they have to suggest.

He was informed, 7th April 1899, that the Board had nothing to add to their former communication, and that any fresh matter should reach them before the 30th April. To this no reply was received. The Board therefore recommend Grand Lodge to declare:

"That the Body styling itself 'The Honourable United Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Mark Master Masons, Ashton District,' is a spurious and clandestine Body, and all members of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England, Wales, and the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown, are hereby prohibited from visiting such Body, or from receiving any member thereof as a visitor in any Lodge of Mark Master Masons under this jurisdiction."

The R.W. Provincial Grand Master for North Wales having inadvertently appointed Bro. T. Westlake Morgan to the office of Provincial Grand Master Overseer, and Bro. W. A. Foster to the office of Provincial Grand Junior Overseer, contary to Article 81, Book of Constitutions, the Board have decided that such appointments are null and void, and that the beforementioned Brethren are not entitled to assume the rank or wear the clothing of Provincial Grand Overseer.

The Hiram Lodge, No. 13, having reported to the Board that Bro. Walter Hill had been installed in the Chair without a dispensation from the M.W. Grand Master, he not being a Master or Past Master of a Craft Lodge (Art. 99), and having expressed their great regret for the irregularity, the Board ruled that the Lodge be fined one guinea and be directed to apply at once for a dispensation, to be dated nunc pro tunc, and that at the next regular meeting of the Lodge Bro. Walter Hill be re-obligated in the presence of a Board of Installed Masters, and that this decision be read in open Lodge at the next regular meeting of the Lodge. the next regular meeting of the Lodge.

The Board earnestly desire to call the attention of all Installing Masters to the absolute necessity of ascertaining that the Master-elect is duly qualified as an Installed Master of a Craft Lodge, or, failing the qualification, that a dispensation has been obtained.

The Board have the pleasure to announce that the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Ireland have agreed to interchange Representatives with the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons, and have appointed the M.W. Bro. The Earl of Euston Pro Grand Master as their representative near this Grand Lodge; while M.E. Comp. Dr. Hugh A. Anchinleck has been appointed as our representative near the Grand Chapter of Ireland.

The Board have the pleasure to announce that the sum of £363 19s 6d has been repaid by the General Fund to the Annuity Fund.

The sum of £1,400 is still due to the Annuity Fund.

FUND OF BENEVOLENCE.

The R.W. Brother Rt. Hon. The Earl of Warwick Provincial Grand Master for Essex has most kindly consented to preside at the thirty-first Annual Festival in aid of the Benevolent Fund, which will be held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Wednesday, 12th July 1899, and the Grand Secretary will be happy to receive the names of Ladies and Brethren willing to act as Stewards.

The Board have elected on the Educational Fund without a poll:

Dorothy May Palmer, daughter of the late Bro. Montagu Palmer, of the Porchester Lodge, No. 27, Newbury.

The following cases have been relieved:

Mrs. C. (widow of a Brother of the Irish Constitution) £5.

The family of a Brother of Lodge No. 373, £20.

R. LOVELAND-LOVELAND President. FRANK RICHARDSON Vice-President. C. F. MATIER Grand Secretary.

4th May 1899.

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

FRANK RICHARDSON Vice-President.

HANNAN'S ASSOCIATED, WEST AUSTRALIA.

THE attention of the speculative investor, on the look-out for low-priced THE attention of the speculative investor, on the look-out for low-priced shares in West Australian companies, whose properties are favourably situated for striking the rich lodes contained in the Great Boulder, Ivanhoe, and Lake View Mines, should be directed to the £1 fully paid shares of the Hannan's Associated Mines, Limited, which are now dealt in on the London Stock Exchange at about 10s each. This company owns 11 mining leases, with an area of about 228 acres, situated on the famous Hannan's Field, Kalgoorlie, only 160 chains south of the Great Boulder and Lake View Mines. Mr. W. G. Brookman, the discoverer of the Great Boulder and other successful West Australian mines, states in his report as follows: "You have an extremely valuable combination of leases, which will, I have no doubt, prove to contain the Great Boulder Main Lodes, the Ivanhoe Main Lodes, and others, and probably the Lake View Lode. I congratulate you on securing it, and I have no hesitation in recommending this property as one which will yield handsome dividends."

Books, new music, &c., intended for review should be addressed to the Editor, FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, New Barnet.

LODGE MEETINGS NEXT WEEK.

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

Monday. 1305 St. Marylebone, Criterion 68 Royal Clarence, Bristol 75 Love and Honour, Falmouth 68 Royal Clarence, Bristol 75 Love and Honour, Falmouth 104 St. John, Stockport 105 Fortitude, Plymouth 106 Sun, Exmouth 151 Albany, Newport, I. of Wight 189 Sincerity, East Stonehouse 237 Indefatigable, Swansea 240 St. Hilda, South Shields 296 Royal Brunswick, Sheffield 297 Whitham, Lincoln 303 Benevolent, Teignmouth 314 Peace and Unity, Preston 330 One and All, Bodmin 339 Unanimity, Penrith 481 St. Peter, Newcastle-on-Tyne 589 Druid Love & Lib., Redruth 643 Royal, Filey 671 Prince of Wales, Llanelly 797 Hauley, Dartmouth 884 Derwent, Wirksworth 893 Meridan, Millbrook 941 De Tabley, Knutsford 1149 Dorking, Dorking 1221 Defence, Leeds 1302 De Warren, Halifax 1408 Stamford & Warr'gton, St'yb'ge 1436 Castle, Sandgate 1449 Royal Military, Canterbury

1302 De Warren, Halifax
1408 Stamford & Warr'gton, St'yb'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
1656 Wolsey, Hampton Court
1691 Quadratic, Hampton Court
1730 Urmston, Urmston
1792 Tudor, Harborne
1802 Vernon, Retford
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
2457 St. Anne, St. Anne's-on-Sea
2487 St. Michael, Stone

Tuesday.

167 St. John, Hampstead Heath 834 Ranelagh, Criterion 2427 Hampden, St. Pancrus 2546 Rahere, Frascati

80 St. John, Sunderland
131 Fortitude, Truro
184 United Chatham, New Bro'pton
241 Merchant, Liverpool
272 Harmony, Boston
319 New Forest, Lymington
371 Perseverance, Maryport
473 Faithful, Birmingham
495 Wakefield, Wakefield
496 Peace & Harmony, St. Austell
502 Rectitude, Rugby

502 Rectitude, Rugby
503 Belvedere, Maidstone
603 Zetland, Cleckheaton
626 Lansdowne Unity, Chippenham
696 St. Bartholomew, Wednesbury

723 Panmure, Aldershot 764 H'rbour of Refuge, W. H'tlep'l.

723 Panmure, Aldershot
724 Panmure, Aldershot
725 Panmure, Aldershot
726 H'rbour of Refuge, W. H'tlep'l.
829 Sydney, Sidcup
877 Royal Alfred, Jersey
897 S. Helen of Loyalty, St. Helen's
903 Gosport, Gosport
967 Three Grand Principles, Penryn
1021 Hartington, Barrow-in-Furness
1073 Greta, Keswick
1220 Solway, Aspatria
1250 Gilbert Greenall, Warrington
1267 Kenlis, Egremont
1267 Kenlis, Egremont
1273 St. Hubert, Andover
1402 Jordan, Torquay
1476 Blackpool, Blackpool
1528 Fort, Newquay
1545 Baildon, Baildon
1713 Wilbraham, Walton-on-the-Hill
1837 Lullingstone, Willmington
1847 Ebrington, Stonehouse
2099 Ethelbert, Herne Bay

2134 Wilberforce, Hull 2222 Frederick West, East Molesey 2324 Horwich, Horwich 2559 St. Aldhelms, Branksome

Wednesday.

Committee Royal Masonic Benevo-lent Institution, F.M.H., at 4.

13 Union Waterloo, Plumstead 1260 John Hervey, Freemasons'-hall 1610 Northern Bar, Café Royal 1629 United, Freemasons'-hall 2470 Telegraph Cable, Ship & Turtle 2581 Empress, Earl's Court

84 Doyle of Friendship, Guernsey 125 Prince Edwin, Hythe 146 Antiquity, Bolton 187 Rl. Sussex Hospitality, Bristol 204 Caledonian, Manchester

204 Caledonian, Manchester 225 St. Luke, Ipswich 244 Yarborough, Jersey 274 Tranquility, Newchurch 277 Friendship, Oldham 281 Fortitude, Lancaster 288 Harmony, Todmorden 323 Concord, Stockport 483 Sympathy, Crayesend

323 Concord, Stockport
483 Sympathy, Gravesend
498 Royal Standard, Dudley
654 Peveril of the Peak, New Mills
661 Fawcett, Seaham Harbour
666 Benevolence, Dartmoor
679 St. David, Aberdare
708 Carnarvon, Hampton Court
730 Ellesmere, Chorley
731 Arboretum, Derby
755 St. Tudno, Llandudno
851 Worthing Friendship, Worthing
854 Albert, Shaw
906 Royal Albert Edward, Bath
946 Strawberry Hill, Twickenham
1018 Shakespeare, Bradford
1031 Fletcher, Birmingham
1060 Marmion, Tamworth
1091 Erme, Ivybridge

1031 Fletcher, Birmingham
1050 Marmion, Tamworth
1091 Erme, Ivybridge
1094 Temple, Liverpool
1107 Cornwallis, Chiselhurst
1135 Concord, Ilfracombe
1140 Ashton, Heaton Moor
1181 De la Pole, Seaton
1209 Lewises, Ramsgate
1242 Tynewold, Douglas, Isle of Man
1248 Denison, Scarborough
1331 Aldershot Camp, Aldershot
1342 Walker, Newcastle-on-Tyne
1356 Toxteth, Liverpool
1398 Baldwin, Dalton-in-Furness
1400 Curwen, Workington
1547 Liverpool, Liverpoor
1582 Llanidloes, Llanidloes
1588 Prince Leopold, Stretford
1643 Perseverance, Hebburn-on-Tyne
1692 Hervey, Bromley
1798 Zion, Manchester
1848 Ferrum, Middlesborough
1855 St. Maurice, Plympton
1879 Lord Warkworth, Amble
1932 Whitworth, Spennymoor
1958 St. George, Portsea
2046 Robinson, Maidstone
2156 Arthur Sullivan, Manchester
2284 Wavertree, Wavertree
2389 Avondale, Middlewich
2423 St. Mark, Connah Quay
2450 Loxfield, Uckfield
2483 Hadrian, Westham
2504 Earl of Warwick, Buckh'rst Hill

Thursday.

6 Friendship, Criterion 1320 Blackheath, Southwark 1681 Londesborough, Café Royal 1716 All Saints, Poplar

57 Humber, Hull 98 St. Martin, Burslem 98 St. Martin, Burslem
203 Ancient Union, Liverpool
230 Fidelity, Devonport
245 Mechanics, Jersey
286 Samaritan, Bacup
322 Peace, Stockport
343 Concord, Preston
345 Perseverance, Blackburn
350 Charity, Farnworth
367 Probity & Freedom Roche

367 Probity & Freedom, Rochdale 489 Benevolence. Bideford 600 Harmony, Bradford

605 Combermere, Birkenhead 659 Blagdon, Blyth 758 Ellesmere, Runcorn

758 Ellesmere, Runcorn
802 Repose, Derby
833 Afan, Aberavon
939 Pelham, Worksop
940 Philanthropy, Stockton
1011 Richmond, Manchester
1037 Portland, Portland
1042 Excelsior, Leeds
1184 Abbey, Battle
1247 St. John, Plymouth
1299 Pembroke, Liverpool
1327 King Harold, Waltham Cross
1332 Unity, Crediton
1386 St. Hugh, Lincoln
1393 Hamer, Liverpool
1459 Ashbury, West Gorton
1464 Erasmus Wilson, Gravesend
1534 Concord, Prestwich
1562 Homfray, Risca

1562 Homfray, Risca 1776 Landport, Landport 1869 Sandown, Sandown, I. of W'ht.

1869 Sandown, Sandown, I. o 1872 St. Margaret, Surbiton 1892 Wallington, Sutton 2158 Boscombe, Boscombe 2226 St. David, Rhymney 2261 Armitage, Milnsbridge 2268 Hallamshire, Sheffield 2302 St. Mary, Southwell 2305 Stour, Ashford, Kent

2341 Clemency, Oldham 2390 Exmoor, Minehead 2430 Runnymede, Wraysbury 2523 Roll Call, Hounslow 2555 England Centre, Weedon

Friday. 143 Middlesex, Albion 975 Rose of Denmark, Kennington

975 Rose of Denmark, Kennington
152 Virtue, Manchester
271 Royal Clarence, Brighton
347 Noah Ark, Tipton
541 De Loraine, Newcastle-on-Tyne
993 Alexandra, Levenshulme
1103 Royal Wharfedale, Otley
1311 Zetland, Leeds
1773 Albert Victor, Pendleton
2005 Brooke, Chingford
2063 St. Osyth Priory, Cl'ct'n-on-Sea
2231 Talbot, Stretford
2447 Palatine, Manchester

Saturday.

2041 West Kent Volunteer, Plums'd.

1126 Oakwood, Romiley 1326 Lebanon, Feltham 1597 Musgrave, Hampton Court 1871 Gostling Murray, Hounslow 2035 Beaumont, Kirkburton 2228 Dene, Cookham Dene

REPORTS OFMEETINGS.

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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.

CRAFT: METROPOLITAN.

HONOUR AND GENEROSITY LODGE, No. 165.

HONOUR AND GENEROSITY LODGE, No. 165.

THE installation meeting of this Lodge was held on Tuesday, 23rd ult., when the following Brethern were present:—Bros. Alfred P. Crabb W.M., Frank E. Rosher I.P.M., F. Howard Rosher S.W. Master-elect, J. W. Howard Thompson P.M. Treas., Henry Times P.M. Sec., Godfrey Sykes S.D., W. de B. Herbert J.D., Richard Eve P.G.T. P.M., Henry W. Clarkson Organist, C. J. Andrews, Hayward J. Strudwick, E. H. P. Francis, Harry Bearman, William H. Burt, Joseph Ellis, and A. Spencer Ellam.

The Visitors were Bros. Fred West P.G.D. D.P.G.M. Surrey, G. Pitt-Lewis P.G.D., E. Strange, Charles Carter 137, G. H. Pearson P.M. 1567, Frank Callingham S.D. 1769, Albert Leighton W.M. 263, Lionel Cooke W.M. 2108, C. H. Rosher J.W. 1777, Herbert W. Ellis W.M. 142, Frank Attenborough 1357, H. Wharton Wells I.P.M. 946, Charles H. Kiralfy S.W. 2581, Harry Nicholls P.M. 2127, H. Percy Smith 1383 P.G. D.Staffs., P. Braby J.D. 2241, Regd. Groome, Lovett-King, and F. Byrd-Page 1611.

The ceremony of passing was worked by the W.M. Bro. Alfred P. Crabb, who afterwards installed his successor Bro. F. Howard Rosher, who appointed the following Officers:—Bros. Jno. Woodhouse S.W., Godfrey Sykes J.W., Herbert Rosher Chap., J. W. Howard Thompson P.M. Treas., Henry Times P.M. Sec., W. de B. Herbert S.D., W. Marcus Thompson J.D., A. Spencer Ellam I.G., Henry W. Clarkson Organist, and R. H. Goddard Tyler.

The addresses were given by Bro. Crabb I.P.M. with a Past Master's Jewel, as a token of esteem, and to mark the appreciation of the Brethren of the excellent services he had rendered to the Lodge during his Mastership. A sum of ten guineas was voted out of the Lunds of the Lodge to be placed on the list of Bro. Godfrey Sykes, who is acting as Steward at the forthcoming Festival of the R.M.I. for Boys.

The Secretary read letters of regret for absence, from illness and other unavoidable causes, which he had received from Bros. Sir John Monckton P.G.W., the Archdeacon of London P.G. Chaplain, Edward Letchworth Grand Se

was conducted.

Bro. Alfred P. Crabb I.P.M., on rising to give the toast of the Worshipful Master, said it was the most important toast of the evening. He had known Bro. Howard Rosher long before either of them had become Masons, and from his personal knowledge he could vouch that he was in every way fitted to fill the important office which had devolved upon him; he was sure the

Brethren of the Lodge had every confidence that he would discharge his important duties with satisfaction to himself and advantage to the Lodge.

The W.M. Bro. Howard Rosher, on rising to respond, was received with prolonged applause. He felt very deeply the honour and dignity of the office to which he had been appointed in being installed in the chair of so ancient and honourable a Lodge as that of Honour and Generosity. He would do everything that lay in his power to further the interests of the Lodge. He thanked the I.P.M. for the kind manner in which the toast had been proposed, and the Brethren for the enthusiastic manner in which they had received it. had received it.

been proposed, and the Brethren for the enthusiastic manner in which they had received it.

Bro. Richard Eve P.G.Treas., with his well known eloquence, responded to the toast of the Past Masters. In the course of his speech he said it was with many regrets that he noticed so many Past Masters absent. The Lodge had suffered severely in losing by death during the last two or three years many distinguished Masons, amongst whom he had to lament the death of Bro. Driver P.G.D., who was for 37 years the Secretary of the Lodge; and Bro. Lemon P.A.G.D.C. the late Treasurer, whose influence for the good of the Lodge had been very great. But it was very gratifying to him, as one of the oldest Past Masters, to notice that there were young men coming along who were enthusiastic Masons; who had the energy and the ability, and could spare the time to conduct the affairs of the Lodge with the dignity and impressiveness such as he had had the pleasure of witnessing that evening. Masonry was a noble Institution, which was open to all men, no matter what their religion, whether it be Mahomedan, Buddist, or any other; so long as they were good and true men, and had attained the age of maturity. If by accident a dishonourable man did gain admission to, and became a member of the Craft, then Masonry would have the effect of concentrating and bringing to maturity all that was best in the character of that man, and, if it were possible, to make a better man of him in the future. Masonry was not an Institution to which men belonged in order to see what they could get out of it, but rather to see what they could bring into it; and for that reason; it had become the greatest and most nowerful Institution in they could get out of it, but rather to see what they could bring into it; and for that reason it had become the greatest and most powerful Institution in the land.

Bro. Harry Nicholls P.M. and Secretary of the Drury Lane Lodge responded for the Visitors, and congratulated the Lodge on the working of the Installation ceremony, and the excellent way in which the guests had been entertained. He trusted he might often have the pleasure of accepting the hospitable invitations of the Lodge which he so regularly received. Bros. Charles Carter and H. W. Ellis also responded.

The toast of the Installing Master was responded to by Bro. Crabb I.P.M., and that of the Officers by Bros. G. Sykes J.W., and Ellam I.G.

The Tyler's toast brought a charming and delightful evening to a close. A musical programme under the direction of Bro. Reginald Groome was much appreciated, among the artists who specially distinguished themselves being: Miss Percival Allen, Miss Noona MacQuoid, Miss Daisy Baily, Bro. Reginald Groome, and Mr. W. A. Peterkin; while musical sketches were given by Bros. Herbert Sparling and Lovett King.

Bro. Dr. Byrd Page gave an entertainment embracing some wonderful card experiments and conjuring tricks, which succeeded in mystifying everyone present. Bro. Wharton Wells, F.C.O., presided at the pianoforte.

CRYSTAL PALACE LODGE, No. 742.

CRYSTAL PALACE LODGE, No. 742.

THURSDAY, the 1st of June, at the glorious and magnificent resort the Crystal Palace, Sydenham, witnessed the completion of a most successful year in the history of this Lodge, and the commencement of a new one which gives every promise of adding to the reputation alike of the Lodge, and its new ruler Bro. William F. Wilkinson.

Bro. Robert Eddie presided, and was well supported by Officers and other members of the Lodge, amongst those present being Bros. W. F. Wilkinson W.M.-elect S.W., C. H. Lawrence J.W., F. Purkiss P.M. Treasurer, C. J. Grove P.M. Secretary, H. Tull S.D., H. C. Wootton acting J.D., G. Paxton I.G., Seymour Smith Org., H. Martin P.M. Tyler; Past Masters S.W. Larkin, T. W. Blott, A. J. Manning, G. Weeks, O. Barnett, &c.; Bros. H. B. Haylock, C. J. Garland, John Taft, John Bull, F. Blundell, E. Tallin, and several others.

others.

Amongst the Visitors we had the pleasure of seeing Bros. H. Holland 2353
P.G.St.B. Herts, T. H. Roberts P.P.G.D. Surrey, C. Wade I.P.M. 432, C.
Smith P.M. 1328, A. Cormicks W.M. 2120, C. Wilkinson I.G. 1287, J. A.
Elder P.M. 1472, R. Manuel P.M. 1196, A. Brandt S.W. 1619, J. Latham
S.W. 1963, T. Steen J.W. 1287, J. H. Lelmes Assist. S. 45, J. Wynman, &c.
The Lodge being duly formed the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. John Bull, who was initiated at the previous meeting, was presented for a higher degree, and having answered the questions without the slightest assistance, and to the satisfaction of the W.M., he was entrusted.

The Lodge was opened in the second degree and Bro. Bull was passed as

Next came the great event of the year, the installation as Worshipful Master for the ensuing twelve months of Bro. William F. Wilkinson Senior Warden, who was presented by Bro. J. Blundell P.M. The ancient charges and regulations were read and agreed to, and the W.M.-elect was obligated; a board of sixteen Installed Masters was formed, and he was placed in the chair as ruler of the Crystal Palace Lodge, according to the old rites and

After being saluted, the W.M. appointed his Assistant Officers, as follow:
C. H. Lawrence S.W., H. Tull J.W., F. Purkiss P.M. Treasurer, C. J. Grove
P.M. Secretary, G. Paxton S.D., H. C. Wootton J.D., E. Tallin I.G., W.
Larkin P.M. D.C., Seymour Smith Org., C. J. Garland and H. B. Haylock
Stewards, H. Martin P.M. Tyler (in place of the late Bro. R. Morley).

The addresses to the Worshipful Master, Wardens, and Brethren were
well delivered by Bros. Past Masters T. W. Blott and A. J. Manning, while we
cannot speak too highly of the ability shown by the new Master in the
investiture of his Officers.

A vote of thanks was accorded to the Auditors, for the way in which they
had attended to the accounts of the Lodge.

A vote of thanks was accorded to the Auditors, for the way in which they had attended to the accounts of the Lodge.

It was proposed by Bro. Manning P.M., and seconded by Bro. Purkiss P.M. Treasurer, that a letter of sincere sympathy and condolence be sent to the relatives of the late Bro. John Bertram, in consequence of whose death the members attended in Masonic mourning.

Several letters were read from Brethren expressing their regret in being unable to attend, also a letter from Grand Lodge; and after some other communications had been attended to the work of the Lodge terminated and the W.M. closed.

The whole company thereupon adjourned to the Banquetting room.

The w.M. closed.

The whole company thereupon adjourned to the Banquetting room, where an excellent repast was provided by the well known caterers Bro. J. Lyons and Co., of Crosby Hall, Kensington, and elsewhere; and served under the direction of Mr. George Wiesinger, the manager, Mr. J. Stump also looking after the comfort of the guests.

The dinner being ended the W.M. gave the toast of the Queen and the

The dinner being ended the W.M. gave the toast of the Queen and the Craft, which was responded to in a most loyal manner.

The next toast the W.M. had very much pleasure to propose, it being the health of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales M.W.G.M. The W.M. felt it was not necessary to allude to the good qualities of his Royal Highness, as everyone knew he had Freemasonry at heart, and did everything he could for the welfare of the Craft.

The toast of the Pro G.M., the D.G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers followed, and was also duly attended to. At this point the W.M. called the attention of the Brethren to the magnificent display of fireworks, and adjourned the proceedings for a time, for the enjoyment of the Brethren—particularly those who were accompanied by their wives.

The Brethren having resumed their seats, the W.M., in highly complimentary terms congratulated Bro. Larkin on the able and impressive manner in which he had installed him, which compliment was acknowledged in a few appreciative words.

Bro. Eddie I.P.M. assumed the gavel, and had very much pleasure in giving the toast of the Worshipful Master. The way in which that Brother had invested his Officers might be taken as a fair sample of his ability. They all hoped he would have a very successful year of office. The W.M. had followed the speaker remarkably close. He (Bro. Eddie) was initiated in June 1891, while the present Master was initiated in August of the same year. He knew him to be a good worker, one who would get over every difficulty. He was an ideal ruler, and as he could assure them that Bro. Wilkinson would make an excellent Master, he felt certain the Brethren would experience enough of his capabilities to be satisfied that they had elected him Worshipful Master of the Crystal Palace Lodge. He hoped the toast would be honoured with all the enthusiasm it deserved. Bro. Eddie took the opportunity to thank the Officers who had so ably assisted him during his year of office.

ful Master of the Crystal Palace Lodge. He hoped the toast would be honoured with all the enthusiasm it deserved. Bro. Eddie took the opportunity to thank the Officers who had so ably assisted him during his year of office.

The W.M., on rising, was most heartily received. He sincerely thanked Bro. Eddie for his very kind remarks and for his hearty good wishes, and the Brethren for responding to the toast in so cordial a manner. He was sure, with the able assistance of such an excellent body of Past Masters as he had around him, that he would be able to give the members the satisfaction which they anticipated. He assured them he had the prosperity of the Crystal Palace Lodge at heart, and would do everything in his power for the welfare of the Lodge and its Charity Association. Bro. Wilkinson concluded with expressions of his indebtedness to the members one and all.

The toast of the visitors was next given, the W.M. saying guests might always rely on a cordial reception at the Crystal Palace Lodge. He hoped the visitors that evening had enjoyed themselves, and expressed the pleasure he and the other members would experience in seeing them.again on a future occasion. The Lodge had the gratification of entertaining that night several prominent members of the Craft, and he had much pleasure in proposing the toast to their honour.

Bro. Manuel, responding, said he had had the pleasure of attending the Lodge before, and knew that the reputation for good work therein was a matter of history. He congratulated the members on what had been accomplished that day.

Bro. Holland P.G.Sd.B. Herts said he felt almost a member of the Lodge, having visited it on several previous occasions. For this reason he was not at all surprised to see the ritual of Freemasonry rendered in spertect a manner as he had witnessed that day.

Bro. Holland P.G.Sd.B. Herts said he felt almost a member of the Lodge, having visited it on several previous occasions. For this reason he was not at all surprised to see the ritual of Freemasonry rendere

possessed.

Bro. Eddie acknowledged the compliment paid him by the W.M., and assured the company that whenever any assistance was required of him he would be most happy to render it. He hoped to wear the handsome jewel they had been good enough to give him for many years among them.

The toast of the Past Masters, the Treasurer and the Secretary was next given, Bro. Purkiss responding as custodian of the funds of the Lidge, and wishing the W.M. a prosperous year of office, with good health and plenty of Masonic work.

Masonic work.

Masonic work.

Bro. Grove followed, saying how proud he was to be Secretary of the Lodge. It would be his constant endeavour to assist their Brother Treasurer in keeping a good balance in hand. When Bro. Larkin P.M. did him the honour of appointing him Secretary of the Lodge—in 1895—the books showed a balance of several pounds due to the Treasurer, but during that year the balance was transferred to the other side of the account, only to go back again, the following year, to the wrong side; thanks, however, to the Brethren their next balance sheeet showed the finances were well in hand, and now there was sufficient money in the hands of their Treasurer to open a banking account; so that the W.M. had one element—at least—towards a successful year of office.

The Officers of the Lodge were now toasted, the W.M. saying he was convinced he had invested Brethren who knew their duties. With their support he felt sure the Lodge would become as prosperous as in any year in the past. Each of the Officers replied in rotation.

The newly appointed Tyler of the Lodge brought the proceedings to a close at an advanced hour.

The speeches were interspersed with songs, &c., the contributaries to the harmony of the evening including Miss Annie Wilson, Miss Ethel Hunt, Bro. Harry Marriott, Mr. Ernest Jago, and others. Bro. Seymour Smith presided at the piano and organ with his well known ability.

INSTRUCTION.

ROYAL ALFRED LODGE, No. 780.

O'N the 25th ult., at the Star and Garter Hotel, Kew Bridge, Bros. Stewart W.M., Ridgway S.W., Ridley J.W., Larkman Treas., Johnson Assist. Sec., Dowling S.D., Hall J.D., Humble I.G., Dinnis P.M., W. M. Langdon, W. M. Dinnis, Archer, Jacob.

After opening the Lodge the W.M. vacated the chair in favour of Bro.

Ridgway, who opened in the second and third degrees, and rehearsed the ceremony of raising, Bro. Dinnis acting as candidate and answering the usual questions. Lodge was closed down to the first degree, Bro. Stewart resumed the chair, and with the assistance of Bro. Williams P.M. worked the first section of the lecture. Bro. Ridgway was elected W.M. for next

It was proposed by Bro. Dinnis, and seconded by Bro. Humble, that a vote of sympathy be passed with Bro. Robinson, on his illness, which was carried unanimously, and Brother Secretary was directed to communicate the same. A vote of thanks was passed to Bro. Stewart for his working, this being the first time he had presided.

N the 1st inst., Bros. Ridgway W.M., Ridley S.W., Heath J.W., R. H. Williams P.M. Prec., Larkman Treas., Johnson Assist. Sec., Worth S.D., Humble J.D., Wilcox I.G.

The Lodge was opened to the second degree, when Bro. Cousens was examined, and the Lodge was advanced. Lodge was resumed to the first degree, called off and on, and resumed in the second degree, when the ceremony of passing was rehearsed, with Bro. Reid as the candidate.

A vote of thanks was passed to Bro. Ridgway, on his occupying the chair for the first time.

CHISWICK LODGE, No. 2012.

T the Windsor Castle Hotel, Hammersmith, on Saturday, 13th ult.,
Bros. W. T. Ridgway W.M., Robert Reid S.W., W. Herring J.W.,
Arthur Williams P.M. Prec., F. Craggs P.M. Treas., R. Josey P.M. Sec., R.
Jeffries S.D., H. J. Cousens J.D., W. Atkinson I.G., J. H. Cumming P.M.
Steward, S. W. Keene P.M. P.P.G. S.W. Middx., Maurice Speigel P.M.,
W. S. Whiteley, L. J. Powell, L. Walsh, J. Standring, and several others.
Lodge was advanced to the second degree, when Bro. Whiteley answered
the questions and was entrusted, after which Lodge was opened in the third
degree and the ceremony rehearsed. Lodge was resumed to the first degree,
and called off and on. and called off and on.

The Auditors were elected to examine and report on the accounts, and Bro. Robert Reid was chosen to occupy the chair at the next meeting.

0 PROVINCIAL.

LODGE OF FAITH, No. 581.

THE regular meeting was held at the Bradford Hotel, Mill Street, Manchester, on Wednesday, 17th ultimo, Brother Charles H. Griffiths Worshipful Master, there being a good attendance.

Lodge was opened at 445 p.m., and after the reading and confirmation of minutes, Bro. David Holland was passed to the degree of F.C. by Bro.Wm. Jones P.M., after which Bro. S. Ramsbottom was raised to the sublime degree of M.M. by the W.M.

The festive board succeeded Lodge business.

Visitors: Bros. T. Radeliffe P.M. 757, and W. Ramsden P.M. 311 P.P.G.D. Cheshire.

P.P.G.D. Cheshire.

0 0 DUNCOMBE LODGE, No. 1486.

ONE of the most successful functions in connection with this Lodge, which meets at Kingsbridge, Devon, took place on Monday, 5th inst., upon the occasion of the installation of Bro. E. J. Wilson as W.M., in succession

which meets at Kingsbridge, Devon, took place on Monday, 5th inst., upon the occasion of the installation of Bro. E. J. Wilson as W.M., in succession to Bro. Ben Johnson, who performed the ceremony, assisted by Bro. George Hooper P.P.G.S. Works.

After the installation the W.M. invested his Officers for the ensuing year, as follow: Bros. W. Pengelly S.W., H. G. Richards J.W., E. H. Dibben Chap., Wm. J. Port S.D., W. J. White J.D., Joseph Foale Treas., Geo. Hooper P.P.G.S. Works D.C., Robert Chase Sec., Joseph Cranch Org., E. H. Boon I.G., Hathaway and A. C. Perraton Stewards, John Lee Tyler.

There was a good attendance, and ample evidence was afforded of the great interest which is being evinced in Freemasonry in the South Hams.

The proceedings were marked by several pleasing features. Bro. Ben obnson presented Bro. C. Elliott, one of the founders of the Lodge, with a founder's jewel, and in doing so expressed the great pleasure he had in making the gift, upon Bro. Elliott's recovery from a serious illness.

Bro. Elliott, who had the honour of heading a procession of upwards of two thousand Freemasons of Devon and Cornwall, on the 12th of August 1874, upon the occasion of the opening the Plymouth Guildhall, acknowledged the gift; and said he considered the presentation of the jewel to be a great honour; he would always think highly of what the Duncombe Lodge had done for him.

It was also resolved to present Brother Rev. James Henning, formerly Duncombe Lecturer at Kingsbridge, with a Past Master's jewel, in acknowledgment of the services rendered by him to the Lodge during the time he was at Kingsbridge, in exquisitely and artistically decorating the interior of the Lodge during his Mastership. Another equally pleasing ceremony was that performed by Bro. R. Chase, who, having collected the necessary funds, presented Bro. Ben Johnson with a Life Governorship of the Devon Aged Widows Fund, in token of the able services rendered by him as W.M. during the past year.

After the whole of the business had been tran the past year.

After the whole of the business had been transacted, an adjournment

After the whole of the business had been transacted, an adjournment was made to the Anchor Hotel, where an excellent repast was served up in capital style by Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Oldrieve, the Manager and Manageress for Bro. R. Johnson Marr, who has recently become the Proprietor, and who must be highly complimented on the successful issue of his first attempt to provide the Annual Banquet for Duncombe Lodge.

After dinner the toasts of Her Majesty the Queen and the M.W. Grand Master H.R.H. the Prince of Wales were proposed by the W.M. and loyally honoured.

honoured.

Bro. Ben Johnson next proposed the Provincial G.M. and Prov. G. Officers, and this was responded to by Bros. Geo. Hooper, Rev. T. C. Lewis, and W. Bond.

The next toast was that of the Worshipful Master, which was proposed by Bro. Ben Johnson, and was duly acknowledged.

The Officers of Duncombe Lodge was afterwards proposed by Bro. A. A. Froude, and Bros. W. Pengelly, H. G. Richards, and J. White replied.

Bro. the Rev. T. C. Lewis gave the toast of the Installing Master, and said how rejoiced he was that he had been in Lodge to witness one of the best coremonics and the correct method of installation.

Bro. Ben Johnson suitably acknowledged the toast. He said what he

Bro. Ben Johnson suitably acknowledged the toast. He said what he had done was for the love of the work, and that all things attempted should

Following this, Bro. R. Johnson Marr submitted the Past Masters, and Bros. P. Trant jun. and Rev. T. C. Lewis replied.

The Masonic Charities was afterwards proposed by Bro. R. Chase, who narrated what the Lodge had done in the past, and was anxious that still more should be accomplished in the future; for that purpose he urged the necessity for the establishment of a Charitable Association in connection with the Lodge.

Bro. Johnson, in responding, made a telling speech, and testified to the good effect of the proposal, by referring to a similar Association in the Bromley St. Leonard Lodge, with which he is connected.

The concluding toasts included that of the Visitors, proposed by Bro. R. J. Marr, and responded to by Bros. Dr. L. de C. E. Harston and Major Kendle.

The Tyler's toast was proposed by Bro. Ben Johnson, and the Host by Bro. Geo. Hooper, the latter being acknowledged by Bro. R. J. Marr.

During the evening a most enjoyable programme of vocal and instrumental music was carried out, songs being contributed by Bros. Major Kendle, C. C. Elliott, and E. H. Boon. Bro. Jos. Cranch presided at the niano.

RHODESIAN RAILWAY EXTENSION.

RHODESIAN RAILWAY EXTENSION.

A CCORDING to the latest despatch from Buluwayo, the first turf of the railway extension for the further opening up of Rhodesia was turned on 30th May last. In addition to this highly satisfactory news, there comes the statement made by the Chairman of the Austen (Gwelo) Development Syndicate, Limited, at the first general meeting of shareholders, held on Thursday, 1st June, that the first set of claims belonging to the syndicate had been disposed of to the Ninety Mile Proprietary Company, Limited, on very favourable terms, as was foreshadowed in our issue last week. As the total capital of the Austen (Gwelo) Syndicate is only £50,000, in shares of £1 each fully paid, this sale, and others that are being negotiated, should enable the syndicate to pay handsome dividends on their shares, which are now dealt in on the London Stock Exchange at about £2 2s 6d per share.

GRAND HOTEL, BROADSTAIRS.

GRAND HOTEL, BROADSTAIRS.

THIS pleasant sea side resort is now in possession of one of the best situated and most comfortable Hotels on the Kentish Coast, the Grand Hotel having been opened there by the Gordon Hotels Company.

The building, which almost overhangs the sea, stands on the East Downs, and commands a charming prospect of uninterrupted sea, with the picturesque little bay in the rear.

The accommodation is excellent, and conveniently arranged, the general effect of the interior being that of a delightful country house. Visitors enter a large hall, decorated with soft hangings on the walls, rich Turkey carpets, and comfortable couches. From the hall the visitor enters the reading room, wainscoted with fine carved oak panelling of original design, with a moulded frieze of ivory colour. The hangings here are of a soft and dusky blue, the over draperies embroidered with a scroll-work of gold, while the furniture is of oak. Leading out of the hall also is the lounge, a very pleasant apartment. The wall panels are of shaded crimson and scarlet velvet, and the luxurious couches are also of scarlet velvet; every corner and window space is provided with comfortable seats. The lounge, like all the reception rooms, except the reading room, faces the sea, and leads direct on to the terrace which runs along the whole front of the Hotel. The smoking room is a handsome apartment, suitably furnished in oak, with a dado of the same surmounted by a red and gold Japanese paper. The dining room, which is delightfully airy, is refreshingly decorated in white, with panels of turquoise blue brocade. Hangings and carpet of deeper tints of the same colour harmonise delightfully. Chairs of a fine Chippendale pattern, cushioned in deep biscuit coloured leather, add to the quiet but effective ensemble.

The sleeping apartments and private suites occupy the upper floors.

colour harmonise delightfully. Chairs of a une cumppendate pattern, cushioned in deep biscuit coloured leather, add to the quiet but effective ensemble.

The sleeping apartments and private suites occupy the upper floors. They are approached by an exceedingly pretty staircase, with richly carpeted marble steps leading on to spacious vestibules or landings, comfortably supplied with couches and seats. The effect of the arches through which the corridors are entered is most pleasing. The colouring of landings and corridors throughout is ivory and green, relieved by warmer colours in the flooring. The result is cool and delightful to the eye. On the first two floors the rooms are mostly en suite, so that any number of bedrooms can be attached to a sitting room, and some suites have large bathrooms attached.

The furniture and decoration is thoroughly good, but simple in style, as suitable to a country residence. Pretty chintzes and cretonnes have been utilised in the hangings throughout, and in all the rooms the softest and richest carpets have been provided. The rooms are exceptionally large and airy, and there are eighty apartments in all. A lift serves every floor. In the summer a band will play when fine, on the terrace, which is provided with an awning. When the weather is unfavourable concerts will be arranged in the lounge. The garden is prettily laid out, and is provided with a tennis court for the use of visitors. With so many attractions to offer, and so genial a manager as Bro. Arthur Holland, the Grand Hotel is sure to become most popular.

"A SPRIG OF ACACIA."

A N old and greatly respected inhabitant of Milford has just passed away in the person of Bro. J. Perkin, whose death, at the age of 69 years, after some weeks' severe illness, occurred on Thursday morning, 1st inst. Bro. Perkin was for over 20 years engaged as chief clerk to Mr. Jas. Vaughan, the Quay Stores. Previous to that he served over twenty-one years in the army, retiring from the Royal Artillery with a pension in the rank of Master Gunner. went through the Crimean War, where he was employed as Transport Sergeant, and held two medals with clasps for that war. He leaves a widow and four children to mourn his loss. Bro. Perkin was a Past Master of the St. David Lodge, No. 366, and was accorded a Masonic funeral. The Brethren assembled in the Lodge at the Masonic Hall at 2.30 p.m., afterwards joining the funeral cortége at the house.

The Theatres, &c.

Adelphi.—7.45, Hamlet. Matinée, Wednesday.

Avenue.—8, Pot Pourri.

Comedy.—8.15, Great Cæsar. Matinée, Thursday, 2.30.

Court.—8.30, Wheels within Wheels. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

Covent Garden.—Grand Opera Season.

Criterion.—8.20, The Tyranny of Tears. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

Daly's.—8.15, A Gaiety Girl. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

Duke of York's.—8.30, The Cowboy and the Lady. Matinée, Wednesday, 2.30.

Gaiety.—8.15, A Rupewey Girl. Matinée, Wednesday, 3.30.

2:30.

Gaiety.—8:15, A Runaway Girl. Matinée, Wednesday, 2.

Garrick.—8.45, Halves.

Globe.—8, The Gay Lord Quex. Matinée, Saturday, 2.

Haymarket.—8:10, A Golden Wedding. 9, The Manœuvres of Jane.

Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 2:15.

Her Majesty's—8:15, Captain Swift. 10:30, The First Night. Matinee,

Wednesday, 2:15.

Lyceum.—8, Robespierre.

Lyric.—8:15, Cupid and the Princess. Matinée, Thursday, 2:30.

Prince of Wales's.—8:15, The Only Way. Matinée, Saturday, 2:15.

Princess's.—8, One of the Best.

Royalty.—8:15, Mr. Cynic. 9, A Little Ray of Sunshine. Matinée, Saturday, 3.

day, 3.
Savoy.—8:30, H.M.S. Pinafore. Matinée, Saturday, 2:30.
Shaftesbury.—8, The Belle of New York. Matinée, Wednesday and Satur-

Shaftesbury.—8, The Belle of New York. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.

St. James's.—8:30, In Days of Old.

Strand.—8:15, Bob Bradshaw's Dream. 8:45, Why Smith Left Home. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 2:30.

Terry's.—8:30, Sweet Lavender.

Vaudeville.—8, A Woman's Love. 9, On and Off. Matinée, Wednesday, 3. Alexandra.—Next week, D'Oyly Carte's Opera.

Grand.—Next week, Geo. Alexander's Repertoire Co. Queen's Opera House, Crouch End.—Next week, The King's Outcast. Alhambra.—7.45, Variety Entertainment. Red Shoes. A Day Off, &c. Aquarium.—The World's Great Show. The Great Fight. Varied Perform ances, twice daily.

ances, twice daily.

Empire.—7:50, Variety Entertainment. Round the Town again, &c.

London Pavilion.—8, Variety Entertainment. My little Octoroon, &c.

Oxford.—7:45, Variety Entertainment. Saturday, 2:30 also.

Palace.—7:45, Variety Entertainment. New American Biograph, &c. Saturday, 2:30 also.

day, 2 also.

Royal.—7:30, Variety Company. Saturday, 2:30 also.

Tivoli.—7:30, Variety Entertainment. Ugo Biondi, &c. Saturday, 2:15 also.

Alexandra Palace.—Varied attractions daily. Fireworks, Thursday and Saturday, &c.

Crystal Palace.—Varied attractions daily. Fireworks, Thursday.

Earl's Court.—Savage South Africa, &c.
Egyptian Hall.—3 and 8, Mr. J. N. Maskelyne's entertainment.

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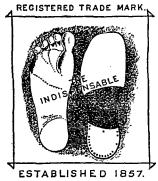
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