

THE

Freemason's Chronicle.

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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PROVINCIAL VISITATIONS.

IT is quite cheering to hear a Provincial Grand Master express his determination to make himself personally acquainted with the Lodges and Brethren under his rule, but unfortunately such good expressions are usually confined to newly installed Masters, and equally as regularly forgotten after they have made one or two of the promised visits, very much to the regret of the Lodges whose members looked forward to being so honoured, and, we believe, to the material disadvantage of the Craft of the Provinces as a whole.

In another part of this issue we record a visit made by the Earl of Lathom, recently installed as chief of the important Province of West Lancashire, to one of the Liverpool Lodges, when his Lordship is reported to have expressed the hope that in the course of time he would be able to visit all the Craft Lodges in the Province, so as to become acquainted with the Brethren of the Division.

Our esteemed Brother has set himself a heavy task, ruling, as he does, over the English Province having the largest number of Lodges, but he is young, enthusiastic, and highly respected by those over whom he presides, so that there is apparently no reason why he should not carry out his desire. By so doing he would win additional regard from his Brother Masons, would advance the welfare of the Craft in his Division, and would set an example which might lead other Provincial rulers to do an equally good work in their respective districts. When will Lord Lathom's ardour cool?, or will he create a record in this direction?

JUBILEE AT WINCHESTER.

A MASONIC Jubilee, in connection with the old Lodge, No. 76—Economy—of this city, was most heartily honoured on Thursday, 28th, by a dinner and presentation to the Provincial Grand Master of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., who has this year completed his fifty years' membership of the Lodge, which holds an Athol Warrant, and has long since celebrated its Centenary. A very large gathering of the Brethren of No. 76, as well as of invited guests, took place, a case of full-sized working tools in ebony being presented to Bro. Beach to mark the jubilee of his membership. That Bro. Beach may be spared for many years of usefulness to the Craft is the hearty wish of every Brother in the Province, and indeed in all centres of Masonry.

INVITATION TO AMERICA.

A TELEGRAM from New York announces that the Grand Master of Virginia has addressed an invitation to the Prince and Princess of Wales to attend the 300th anniversary of the foundation of the Lodge. From another source we learn it is the 600th anniversary that is to be celebrated, but whatever the event we are afraid our trans-Atlantic Brethren will be doomed to disappointment in their desire, it being most unlikely that our Grand Master and the Princess could find time for the visit.

DURHAM.

THE annual meeting of this Provincial Grand Lodge was held on Tuesday afternoon, 26th inst., at the Town Hall, Gateshead, under the banners of the Gateshead Lodges, Nos. 48, 424, 2674. The Provincial Grand Master Sir Hedworth Williamson, Bart., presided.

The Rev. Canon Tristram, D.D., read the report of the Fund Committee, which recommended two grants to a Brother and to a Widow of a deceased Brother amounting to £25; also that the sum of £105 be voted to the Durham Masonic Education Fund; £73 10s to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution; £73 10s to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys; and £73 10s to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls. The Rev. Canon Tristram D.P.G.M. moved the adoption of the report. Bro. John Smith P.P.G.S.B. (Seaham) seconded, and it was adopted.

Bro. R. Stewart Prov. G. Treasurer (Gateshead) presented the annual balance sheet, which was approved, on the motion of Bro. Babington Boulton P.P.G.W., seconded by Bro. R. Whitfield P.P.G.D.C.

The report of the Charities Committee was presented by Bro. C. S. Lane P.P.G.S.W., showing that the result of the Masonic Festival at Durham had been £2,314 4s 2d, which had enabled the Committee to make the Durham Hudson Benevolent Fund investment £3,000, and the Durham Masonic Education Fund investment £3,093. Twenty children were educated and maintained at a cost of £186 16s 2d per annum. Bro. C. S. Lane moved, and Bro. C. D. Hill Drury P.P.S.G.W. seconded this report, which was adopted.

Bro. W. J. Anderson P.M. 2019 proposed, and Bro. H. J. Turnbull P.P.G.W. seconded, the election of Bro. J. H. Pollard P.M. 2019 as Treasurer for the ensuing year, which was carried with applause. Bro. William Addison W.M. Crook Lodge and Bro. T. Y. Tuck P.M. Wear Valley Lodge were appointed as Auditors.

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

Bro. Rev. Canon Tristram, D.D.	-	Deputy
George Hare Philipson, M.D., 2352	-	Senior Warden
William Gray 1334	-	Junior Warden
Rev. John George Ryles 2415	-	} Chaplains
Rev. Edward Sykes 764	-	
James H. Pollard 2019	-	Treasurer
John Readhead 240	-	Registrar
R. Hudson	-	Secretary
Harry Brown 124	-	} Senior Deacons
Thomas Robinson 97	-	
Thomas Black 1932	-	} Junior Deacons
Henry Coulton 1418	-	
Hugh Jackson 48	-	Superintendent of Works
Charles T. Johnson	-	Director of Ceremonies
Wm. J. Heppell 424	-	Deputy Dir. of Cers.
Lancelot Robson 764	-	Assistant Dir. of Cers.
John Nicholls 1389	-	Sword Bearer
Thomas O. Todd 94	-	} Standard Bearers
J. W. Brodie 80	-	
John J. Moore 1274	-	Organist
John Joel	-	Assistant Secretary
David Anderson 1643	-	} Pursuivants
David George Smith 661	-	
George Harrison 1389	-	} Stewards
James A. Birkbeck 2104	-	
Alfred P. Stainton 2418	-	
Samuel Brown 2674	-	
Joseph Ellis 940	-	} Tyler.
W. J. Davidson 424	-	
Thomas Grieve	-	

The Provincial Grand Master, addressing the large assembly, said that none of them could have heard the roll of Lodges called without feeling that it was exceedingly satisfactory. He expressed his thanks to the Lodges under whose banners they had met that day, and also to the Mayor

of Gateshead, who had personally met those who had in hand the making of the necessary arrangements for their gathering. In calling attention to the losses the Craft had sustained during the year by death, he particularly mentioned his old friends, Lord Lathom, Lord Herschel, and Bro. Scarth (Agent at Raby). Masonry had been going on satisfactorily, not by leaps or bounds, but by steady increases. The year 1898 closed with 2,032 members in the Province, which gave an average of eighty-five per Lodge. There had been an increase during the year of 453 members, from which they had to take a loss of 325 Brethren by death, and other causes, leaving a net increase for the year of 128. He then proceeded to give a review of Masonry in the Durham Province since he became its Grand Master in 1885, when there were thirty-one Lodges and a total membership of 2,258. The membership now showed an increase of thirty-three per cent., while the Lodge dues had increased from £254 in 1885, to £411 during the past year. He also alluded to the most satisfactory Festival which had been held at Durham in the spring of the year, which had resulted in such a satisfactory advantage to the Hudson Benevolent Fund and the Durham Masonic Education Fund, and went on to refer to the gratifying conduct of the Provincial Grand Secretary Bro. R. Hudson, for whom they had raised a testimonial, but who was content to receive a slight recognition of his services, and devoted the whole of the proceeds, amounting to nearly 2,000 guineas, to the formation of the Hudson Benevolent Fund and the placing of the Durham Masonic Education Fund upon a permanent foundation with a trust fund of £3,000.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was afterwards closed in due form.

Subsequently the Brethren partook of luncheon in the Assembly Room, the purveyors being Messrs. Swinburne and Co., of the Royal Hotel, Bro. Charles Turnbull, manager, superintending. The Loyal and Masonic toasts were afterwards honoured.

WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE Provincial Grand Lodge of Worcestershire was held on Tuesday, at Stourbridge, and, concurrently, the jubilee of Stability Lodge, No. 564, Stourbridge, was commemorated. The occasion drew a large number of Brethren together—one of the largest assemblages there has been in the Province of Worcestershire. Lodge was held at the Town Hall, which had been specially arranged and decorated for the ceremony. The attendance included Bro. Sir Frederick Godson, M.P., P.G.D.Eng. Provincial Grand Master, his Deputy Bro. William T. Page, and many others.

A Craft Lodge was opened by the W.M. of Stability Lodge, No. 564, and afterwards the Provincial Grand Master and Provincial Grand Officers entered the Lodge, and were received with the customary honours. The Provincial Grand Lodge was then opened, and the business on the agenda was proceeded with. Apologies for absence were received from the Prov. Grand Masters of adjoining Provinces.

A report was presented on the state of Masonry in the Province, and was of a satisfactory nature. The total number of the Brethren was given as 694, being a considerable increase compared with the previous year. The W.M. of each Lodge in the Province gave a brief statement of the work of his Lodge in the past year. The Provincial Grand Treasurer's accounts were received and audited, and Brother Walter Somers (Halesowen) was elected Provincial Grand Treasurer.

The Charity Committee presented a report showing that the amount subscribed for Charities in the past year was upwards of £250. Bro. W. T. Page was elected Secretary to the Charity Committee, regret being expressed that Bro. Matthew Smith (Dudley) should have found it necessary to retire from the office.

The Provincial Grand Master afterwards obligated and invested the Deputy Provincial Grand Master Bro. W. T. Page, and presented him with his Warrant of appointment, and next proceeded to appoint and invest his Officers, of whom the following is a list:

Bro. A. E. Rowe 280	-	-	-	Senior Warden
J. E. Bottomley 564	-	-	-	Junior Warden
Rev. E. E. Lea 377	-	-	-	Chaplain
Rev. J. C. Hill 573	-	-	-	Assistant Chaplain
W. Somers 573	-	-	-	Treasurer
C. D. Martin 560	-	-	-	Registrar
E. Collins 560	-	-	-	Secretary
A. Morton 252	-	-	-	Senior Deacon
J. A. Steward 280	-	-	-	Junior Deacon

Bro. R. Underwood 573	-	-	-	Superintendent of Works
J. M. Harlow 529	-	-	-	Director of Ceremonies
T. W. Tanfield 498	-	-	-	Assist. Dir. of Ceremonies
J. C. Ashton 1874 2724	-	-	-	Sword Bearer
H. Richardson 2385	-	-	-	Standard Bearers
R. W. Haines 2654	-	-	-	
J. M. Clement 252	-	-	-	Organist
A. C. Baker 1204	-	-	-	Pursuivant
G. Ballard 1097	-	-	-	Assistant Pursuivant
J. H. Trenchard 564	-	-	-	Stewards
W. Griffin 564	-	-	-	
H. H. Guest 564	-	-	-	
B. Richardson 564	-	-	-	
W. J. Hinit 564	-	-	-	
C. Trenchard 564	-	-	-	Tylers.
F. W. Knott 280	-	-	-	
J. Dugard 337	-	-	-	

After other business Provincial Grand Lodge was closed, and, the Craft Lodge also being closed, the Brethren attended Divine service at St. Thomas' Church. The service was intoned by Bro. the Rev. J. C. Hill Assistant Provincial Grand Chaplain, the lessons were read by the Rev. Hugh Sherrard, and the sermon was preached by Bro. the Rev. E. E. Lea Provincial Grand Chaplain. The musical arrangements at the service were under the direction of Bro. G. W. Bates.

ROYAL ARCH.

—:o:—

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

SUBSEQUENT to the meeting of the Mark Grand Lodge, reported elsewhere, the Prov. Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons was held at Wolverton, on the 14th, presided over by Comp. Rev. Canon Brownrigg Grand Superintendent.

The minutes of Prov. Grand Chapter were read by Comp. G. H. Charsley P.Z. S.E. The financial statement placed in the hands of the Companions proved most satisfactory.

The election of Prov. Grand Treasurer and the appointment of Prov. Grand Officers was proceeded with, and the Grand Chapter closed in the usual manner.

The Company afterwards repaired to the Victoria Hotel, where Bro. Tarry provided an excellent banquet.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE Provincial Grand Superintendent Sir Michael Hicks Beach, Bart., has fixed Thursday, 7th December, for the holding of the annual Grand Chapter of this Province. The meeting will take place at Gloucester.

MARK MASONRY.

—:o:—

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

ON Thursday, the 14th inst., the Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons was held in the Wolverton Institute, under the presidency of Bro. the Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg, M.A., Prov. G.M., assisted by Deputy Prov. G.M. Bro. T. Taylor. There was a good attendance of Brethren, which would have been larger but for the Buckingham members being engaged in a special Lodge of their own.

The business included the roll call of the Lodges, reading of the minutes, receiving of accounts, re-election of Prov. G. Tyler Bro. Bonser; and the appointment of Prov. Grand Officers as follow:

Bro. Rev. F. R. Harnett	-	-	-	Senior Warden
R. H. Major	-	-	-	Junior Warden
J. D. Carter	-	-	-	Master Overseer
H. J. Hipsley	-	-	-	Senior Overseer
C. J. Le Gros	-	-	-	Junior Overseer
Rev. V. P. Wyatt	-	-	-	Chaplains
Rev. F. F. Pennidock	-	-	-	
W. D. Sherard	-	-	-	Registrar of Marks
J. Williams	-	-	-	Treasurer
J. R. Willmer	-	-	-	Secretary
J. Simcoe	-	-	-	Senior Deacon
H. Hambling	-	-	-	Junior Deacon
L. Cooper	-	-	-	Director of Ceremonies
W. J. Levi	-	-	-	Organist
A. Simson	-	-	-	Assistant Secretary
H. T. Wickham	-	-	-	Standard Bearer
G. Uthwatt	-	-	-	Inner Guard
Tarry	-	-	-	Steward
J. Bonser	-	-	-	Tyler.

DEVONSHIRE.

THE annual Provincial Lodge meeting of the Devon Mark Masons was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Gandy Street, Exeter, on Tuesday, 26th inst., the Provincial Grand Master Sir H. Stafford Northcote, C.B., M.P., presiding.

The Provincial Grand Secretary reported that all the Lodges in the Province had sent in their returns and paid their dues with one exception. All the Brethren appointed for Office at the last Provincial Grand Lodge had assumed their ranks and paid their fees of honour. During the year 1898 there had been thirty-seven advancements and there were 485 subscribing members to December last. The report was adopted.

The Provincial Grand Secretary reported having received a communication from the Grand Secretary stating that the Most Worshipful Grand Master H.R.H. the Prince of Wales had been pleased to re-appoint the Hon. Sir Stafford Northcote, C.B., M.P., to be Provincial Grand Master of Devon for the next three years. The announcement was received with the usual honours, and these were most enthusiastic.

The Treasurer's report showed that the balance in favour of the Provincial Grand Lodge was £31 5s 11d. Bro. T. W. Payne P.M. St. Aubyn Lodge, No. 64, Plymouth, was elected Provincial Grand Treasurer, and Bros. J. Lord and W. Allsford Auditors.

The following Officers were appointed and invested for the ensuing year:

Bro. Major S. Strobe	-	-	-	Deputy
W. Pierpoint-Roberts	-	-	-	Senior Warden
A. W. Oakley	-	-	-	Junior Warden
N. Radmore	-	-	-	Master Overseer
W. J. A. Pleass	-	-	-	Senior Overseer
R. L. Drake	-	-	-	Junior Overseer
Rev. W. E. Windle	-	-	-	Chaplain
F. Frampton	-	-	-	Registrar
H. Stoker	-	-	-	Secretary
H. A. McBryde	-	-	-	Senior Deacon
W. Winget	-	-	-	Junior Deacon
E. D. Woolcock	-	-	-	Inspector of Works
Joseph Gould	-	-	-	Director of Ceremonies
M. Sennett	-	-	-	Assistant Dir. of Cers.
W. Vickery	-	-	-	Sword Bearer
F. Lillierap	-	-	-	Standard Bearer
E. H. Veale	-	-	-	Organist
J. G. Oldridge	-	-	-	Assistant Secretary
W. G. Coombe	-	-	-	Inner Guard
J. Petherick	-	-	-	} Stewards
W. J. Corse	-	-	-	
James Gidley	-	-	-	Tyler.

MASONRY DEFENDED.

AT the Pleasant Sunday Afternoon Service at the Wesley Church, Perth, Western Australia, on the 13th August, an address was delivered by the Rev. G. E. Rowe, consisting of replies to "Bishop Gibney's Denunciation of Freemasonry," and "Mr. Vosper's Proposed Amendment to the Education Act." There was a large attendance.

Mr. Rowe first dealt with the remarks of Bishop Gibney at the Roman Catholic Cathedral the previous week, denouncing Freemasonry. Those remarks, he said, if merited, were deserving of widest publicity, and the speaker should be applauded for his courageous action. But if they were not warranted they should be contradicted, and if they were contradicted the onus of proving them must rest upon the gentleman who made them. On what grounds did Bishop Gibney denounce Freemasonry? From the report of his speech he gathered that he did so on three grounds, namely, on account of (1) its infidelity, (2) its attack on the church, and (3) the preferment by which incompetent men obtained public appointments. Any one of these grounds, if proved, was sufficient to warrant a public denunciation, but the three combined, if proved, would make an indictment that he (Mr. Rowe) would not like to attempt to answer. They were told that the Roman Catholic Church had from its inception condemned Freemasonry on account of its infidelity. He would like to ask the distinguished prelate if that statement was strictly and historically accurate. He had understood that it was not until Rome lost her temporal power that there was a papal denunciation of Freemasonry.

What did Bishop Gibney mean by infidelity. From the report of the speech delivered by the Bishop, the latter said, "Freemasons established a sort of religion they called ethical, into which they could bring heretics, atheists and non-descripts." Therefore he took the charge of infidelity to mean a repudiation of the Supreme Being. He had not a world-wide knowledge of Freemasonry, but anyone could acquaint

oneself by the literature that was published as to the justice or injustice of the charge as it affected Freemasonry in English-speaking communities. This charge of infidelity was absolutely false as it applied to Freemasonry in Great Britain or Australia. There had been an attempt in France to erase the name of the Supreme Being from all the services in connection with Freemasonry, but the Freemasons in Britain, because of this, refused to recognise the Freemasons in France. This meant that no French Freemason could obtain admittance into a British Masonic Lodge. They knew that so far as Australia was concerned God was acknowledged by Freemasons, and he called upon Bishop Gibney to prove his charge of infidelity.

By Bishop Gibney's second charge, that Freemasonry attacked the church, he supposed that Bishop Gibney meant the papal church. On this charge he also wanted evidence produced. Again, if unjust preferment had been given to Freemasons, this had been done in spite of and not because of the tenets of Freemasonry. This was the kind of charge that any great organisation was open to, the greater its numerical strength the more general the charge. A number of men holding certain appointments might be pointed out with the remark that they were Freemasons, the implication being that they had received their positions because they were Freemasons. He joined hands with Bishop Gibney or any other ecclesiastical leader in the desire for a pure civil service, but the Bishop had submitted no proof in support of his charge, and he asked him to either prove his case or retract his words. Bishop Gibney had not denounced Freemasonry as a secret society, because the Roman Catholic Church had themselves the secret society of the Jesuits. There was no knowing what part a Jesuit would play. If it was good for Roman Catholicism he would become a Protestant, or say that black was white. His teaching was that the end justified the means. So long as it continued to practice the great principles of brotherly love, righteousness and truth, Freemasonry would exist.—"West Australian."

"A SPRIG OF ACACIA."

WE regret to announce the death of Bro. Thomas Samms Sarel, of Chelmsford, which took place on Tuesday morning, 19th inst. The deceased, who had attained the ripe age of 81 years, was a prominent figure among the Masons of the town, occupying the position of Tyler to the Lodge of Good Fellowship for a number of years. On his resigning the position in 1895 he was presented with an illuminated address and a purse of money. Bro. Sarel was also Janitor to the Essex Grand Chapter and Provincial Tyler to the Essex Grand Lodge. Both these positions he was compelled to resign on account of increasing age and its attendant infirmities. Bro. Sarel was for thirty years clerk at the White Hart Wine Stores, while that establishment was in the proprietorship of Bro. Andrew Durrant. On the acquisition of the business by Ind, Coope and Co. the deceased gave up his post, being awarded a pension for faithful service by his employer.

A MID many tokens of respect and regret, the remains of the late Bro. Herbert Arthur Hotblack, who died at his residence, 33 Fourth Avenue, Hove, on Saturday, 16th, were committed to their last resting place at Hove Cemetery on the 20th. Included in the large gathering at the graveside were numerous friends and acquaintances of the deceased, who had attended to pay their last respects to his memory. Several members of the Royal Clarence Lodge, of which the deceased was a member, were also present. The coffin, which could scarcely be seen for the beautiful wreaths which covered it, was of polished oak, with massive brass fittings. The brass plate on the lid bore the following inscription: "Herbert Arthur Hotblack. Died 16th September 1899. Aged 41 years."

REGRET is expressed at the death of Bro. John Dovaston, of Shrewsbury, which occurred on Monday, 18th, after a short illness. The deceased was a direct descendant of John Dovaston, the well-known antiquary of the eighteenth century, and he possessed many of the virtues of that excellent man. He was the oldest member of the Salopian Lodge, and by its members he was much esteemed for his ability and genial character.

ON Tuesday, 19th inst., the interment of the remains of the late Bro. J. C. Harris, of Ratcliffe Grange, took place at Shireoaks Churchyard, in the presence of a large company of mourners. The ceremony was attended by the Brethren of the Pelham Lodge, No. 939, of which deceased was a member.

THE ASHTON DISTRICT MARK LODGE AND THE GRAND MARK LODGE OF ENGLAND.

[COMMUNICATED.]

MANY thanks for publishing my letter on 2nd inst., and I beg permission to point out an error which I understand many have made unwittingly through lack of historical knowledge and true information, which error is and has been a factor of great or vital importance, as it turns out to be the special point on which the Grand Lodge based their action and the chief or only one with which they now find fault, and has all through been "the head and front of our offending."

It has been stated, "that in the teeth of all my evidence of the acknowledged regularity of Constitution of the Ashton District Lodge, the Mark Grand Lodge now declare it Spurious and Clandestine. The reason, of course, is clear, The Ashton Mark has recently dubbed itself 'The Hon. United Grand Lodge of M.M.M. Ashton District,' and that it has done an impolitic act in introducing the word *Grand* into its designation."

Now this is the very thing the Ashton District Lodge has not recently done, at least no change has been made on its title during the present generation. When advanced about thirteen years ago, I was presented with a copy of their Constitutions or Bye-Laws, the front page of which reads as follows:—"Rules for the Government of the Honourable United Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons' Meetings, Ashton District, and Burial Society, established 11th July 1830, Revised 22nd October 1885." I have proof before me to show that the word "Grand" was used by this Lodge as far back as 1857, and tradition dates it before that epoch of its history.

This being so, it is unnecessary to regret the assumption of its present title, lately, and to say "that if it reverts to its old title or adopts a less grandiose designation than it has recently chosen for itself, who shall say it is not to the full as regular as any of the other 'Time Immemorial' Lodges on the roll of Mark Grand Lodge?"

I do not believe the Ashton Mark Lodge desired, or thought much about, this "grandiose designation," and had they known it was in the least offensive to Grand Lodge, would willingly and cheerfully have dropped it. It is their intention to drop it in future, or it is already *fait accompli*.

It is to be regretted the Grand Mark Lodge did not seek information from a reliable source and approach the Ashton Lodge with an open statement of their grievance and suggest the desirability of union, &c., instead of threatening penalties in their first communication; had that been done, union might have been effected ere this with advantage to the Masonic Order, but let us hope it is not even yet too late, as from information received during the past week my views of the general aspect of the case have been materially modified and possibly I "may have mistaken the cold formality of an Official Communication" for the curtness and abruptness of which I complained; anyhow, many of the difficulties have vanished, and the case is ripening for adjustment if we all meet in that Fraternal spirit characteristic of our noble Order. Having had an opportunity of learning some details of the information laid before Grand Lodge, it is not to be wondered at the action taken by them, as that information was grossly inaccurate, very misleading, and calculated to bias the mind of the General Board.

It is not an enviable position to be an informer, and when the information volunteered is inaccurate and untrue, it does not elevate the person in the respect and esteem of his fellow men; all along I suspected the source of the information, but last week my suspicions became stronger, and eventually were confirmed from authentic sources. I was not surprised, for this friend, Bro. John Armstrong, of Liverpool, had written a "History of Joppa Mark Lodge, No. 11," in which he enters on details of the working as well as the history of the Ashton District Mark Lodge, which is the Mother of the "Joppa." He is not only misleading and inaccurate, but states facts that are untrue, and displays a deplorable ignorance of the subject, and, not satisfied, he repeats himself and reiterates the inaccuracies, the only plausible excuse for such tautology being a desire to swell the bulk of the twenty-one page volume he afterwards presents to Grand Lodge to be treasured in its archives.

I shall only refer to a few points. He writes,—"The Lodge has at different times been called the 'Dukinfield Lodge,' &c., &c., and is now (1898) called the 'Hon. United Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of the Ashton-under-Lyne District.' It has always and still meets under the

Banner and Warrant of some Cheshire or East Lancashire Craft Lodge. The Craft Lodge is first opened in the three Craft Degrees, when the Mark Master enters and takes the chair. The candidates are balloted for in the Master Mason's Degree, and the Mark Lodge is then opened, &c." The above "high sounding title" with the word "Grand" was in use long before 1898, even before he or I had "cut our wisdom teeth," as shown in an earlier part of this letter; however, the author must be much pleased with the title, as he repeats it in all its fulness at least four times in his pamphlet. I most emphatically deny that candidates are either proposed or balloted for in the third degree, or that the Lodge ever met under the Banner or Warrant of any Craft Lodge, so far as I know, or can learn from the testimony of Brethren having personal knowledge for at least twenty-five years; but only "*at the Lodges*," meaning the Lodge Rooms, as enumerated in Cheshire, Derbyshire, and Lancashire (see Bye-Laws), or that Craft Lodges were ever opened, the whole ceremony pure and simple being part and parcel of the Ritual of the Mark Degree.

There are many other erroneous passages in the volume, but the above are more applicable to the points at issue, and sufficient to expose and prove the worthless and unreliable character of the production. My advice to Brother Armstrong when next he contemplates attempting to write Masonic history, is the same as "Punch" gave some years ago to the man who sought his opinion as to marrying,—"*DON'T*."

Brother Armstrong applied to me for information and historical details of the Ashton District Mark Lodge, as he was about to write a history of Mark Masonry in Cheshire, I looked through all the minutes and records available, and forwarded him several extracts therefrom, of which exceedingly little, if any, were utilised by him, and I have no knowledge of the source from which he gathered his material. We got into friendly correspondence on this and kindred subjects; I invited him to visit the Ashton Mark, enclosing a circular for the Lodge meeting, also a copy of our Bye-Laws. I considered our correspondence, although not all marked private, of a confidential nature, and never contemplated he would have abused the privilege, without at least consulting me, if not obtaining permission, before sending the Bye-Laws and Circular to Grand Mark Lodge, together with a copy of his heterodox history and other information formulating a charge against his neighbour. "Do unto others as you would wish that they should do unto you."

The Grand Mark Lodge could not well overlook the case as put before them by my over zealous friend, and the same misleading and inaccurate reports being communicated to Grand Craft Lodge necessitated action on their part; however, the Grand Lodge authorities might have displayed equally prudent administrative and judicial ability, when taking the *ipse dixit* of this Brother, had they tabled the charges and evidence more fully, with the name of the informant, so that a complete answer could have been given, and thereby saved much time and trouble to the General Boards, the Officers of the Provinces, and the Worshipful Masters of Lodges; for a simple admonition on any irregularity, real or supposed, with a warning for the future to adhere strictly to any law of the Constitution, if such was broken or infringed, might have been sufficient, and decidedly would have produced less friction.

This closes my correspondence on the subject, and I beg to state that in defending my position, also the good name and fame of the Ashton District Mark Lodge, as well as the honour and reputation of the Craft Lodges implicated in Cheshire and Lancashire, I have endeavoured to adhere strictly to facts, with *mens conscia recti*, and I think it is fully proved now that all concerned are not so bad as painted.

In conclusion allow me to give a word of counsel to the Brethren of the Ashton District Mark Lodge, collectively and individually. Let us live in peace, love and harmony. Union is strength. Let us be united. We are all one happy Masonic family, therefore let there be no divisions or dissensions amongst us. Forgive and forget. After a quarrel the family relationship often becomes stronger, and more firmly cemented. Rise to the magnanimity of the occasion. Come over and help us. Come and unite with us of the Royal Mark. I am one of them, you know me. I promise all possible assistance in effecting union with the Grand Mark Lodge of England. It is the parent in old age, having passed the century, going home to abide with her fair daughter, who is young and vigorous, fresh and full of resources, and she bids you welcome.

Having had interviews lately with several prominent Officers of Grand Mark Lodge, I can assure you they, one

and all, are prepared to extend the right hand of fellowship, give the most hearty welcome and cordial reception possible to every member, and the terms of union suggested are most magnanimous and liberal.

THOMAS D. FOREMAN P.P.G.W. Lanc.

Denton, 26th Sept. 1899.

THE DISPUTE AT ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

THE rupture between the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons and the Mark Master Masons of the Ashton-under-Lyne district had a sequel last week in London, when the Worshipful Masters of the Craft Lodges of the district were summoned to appear before the Grand Lodge of England to account for having committed a breach of the Book of Constitutions by granting the use of the Lodge rooms for Sunday Mark Masons. The various Lodges were admonished, and requested to adhere in the matter to the regulations of the Order.—“Manchester Courier.”

CONTINENTAL AND OUTSIDE MASONRY.

A TELEGRAM from Madrid through Reuter's Agency states that the Bishops who attended the Catholic Congress at Burgos have addressed a message to the Queen Regent, assuring the King of their respect, and requesting the Government to put an end to the abuses of Protestantism and Freemasonry. In a message to the Premier, the Bishops demanded that Freemasons should be disqualified from sitting in the Chamber.—“Daily Chronicle.”

AT a time when Freemasonry is thought by the clerical section in France to be the root of all civic evil—and it has been solemnly averred, for instance, that Captain Frey-staetter changed his opinion as to Captain Dreyfus because of the order of a Masonic Lodge at Versailles, of which he is said to be a member—it is of the more interest to know that the Duke of Connaught has consented to lay the foundation-stone of the proposed new building at Bushey for the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. But, while the Grand Orient of France—the name of which is reversed by M. Guérin's anti-Masonic “Grand Occident” in the Rue Chabrol—has always been “suspect” by its critics on the ground that it trespasses upon politics, Freemasonry in this country has been ever associated with the convivial and charitable side of life. Over a century and a quarter ago this latter point was curiously illustrated in “A Discourse upon Masonry,” published in Dublin, to which was added a “Fraternal Melody, Consisting of Original Odes, Cantatas, and Songs for the Use of Members of the Most Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, the Most Noble Order of Bucks, the Honourable Order of Select Albions, the Honourable Lumber Troop, the Ancient Corporation of Stroud Green, the Ancient Family of Leeches, the Worthy Court of Do-Right, and the Free and Easy Counsellors under the Cauliflower.” The Free and Accepted Masons are still with us; but where are now the Bucks, the Albions, the Leeches, and the Cauliflowers, to say nothing of “the Ancient Corporation of Stroud Green?”—“Westminster Gazette.”

WHILE there is not the slightest chance of the invitation being accepted which has been given to the Prince and Princess of Wales by the Grand Master of the Freemasons of Virginia to attend a tercentenary celebration in that State, a certain piquancy attaches to the fact because it is announced simultaneously with the decision of the Roman Catholic Bishops of Spain to ask the Government to put an end to “the abuses of Protestantism and Freemasonry.” To the average Englishman this juxtaposition will seem quaint, but an even more curious collocation, in which the Papacy itself as well as Masonry was involved, is to be found on the title-page of a book issued in London in early Georgian days, by Edmund Curll, immortalised as the litigious publisher of the poet Pope. This ran in the formidably verbose fashion then customary: “Ebrietates Encomium: or, The Praise of Drunkenness, wherein is authentically, and most evidently proved, the Necessity of frequently getting Drunk; and, That the Practice of getting Drunk is most Ancient, Primitive, and Catholic. Confirmed by the Example of Heathens, Turks, Infidels, Primitive Christians, Saints, Popes, Bishops,

Doctors, Philosophers, Poets, Freemasons, and other Men of Learning in all Ages.” But the Bishops at Burgos assembled are not likely to have heard of this work of the learned—though imaginary—Boniface Oinophilus, de Monte Fiascone, A.B.C.—“Westminster Gazette.”

The Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, having secured a “record” collection of £140,000 at its Centenary Festival last year, over which the Prince of Wales, as Grand Master, presided, intends to put most of the money in bricks and mortar by transferring its School from the present site at Wood Green to a more open and extensive position at Bushey. The Duke of Connaught, who is the Provincial Grand Master of Sussex, has consented to lay the foundation-stone of the new building in May of next year; and it may be expected that the occasion will prove a very striking one in Masonic annals. Few outside Freemasonry realise how much good work is done by its three great English Institutions—the one for Girls, the other for Boys, and the third for Aged Masons and Masons' Widows. These have virtually no endowments, and are supported simply by subscriptions mainly given at the annual Festivals; and when it is said that the total realised at those Festivals amounts on the average to £50,000 a year, and that this does not touch the amounts voted for charitable purposes by the Board of Benevolence of Grand Lodge, by the various Provincial Boards of Benevolence, and by the Almoners of the several Lodges, it will be seen that the claim of Freemasonry to be more than a social and much of a benevolent Institution can be easily demonstrated.—“Birmingham Daily Post.”

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The Chairman of the Bath Surveying Committee, at a recent meeting, said he had received a letter from Mr. Davis, of Walcot Street. It included a request to know whether a Freemason was a proper person to hold a high civic office (laughter), and asked about something that would happen in the sixth year of the next century. Alderman Taylor suggested the chairman's table was broad, and the letter might lie there.

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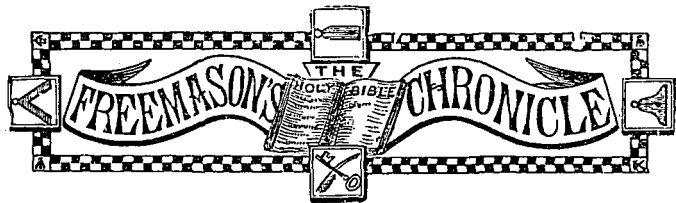
GRAND PATRONESS:
HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCESS OF WALES.

A GENERAL COURT of the GOVERNORS and SUBSCRIBERS of this Institution will be held in the Large Hall of the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, W.C., on THURSDAY, the 12th October 1899, at Twelve o'clock precisely, on the General Business of the Institution; and to Elect 16 Girls into the School from a List of 33 Approved Candidates. The Election will commence at One o'clock or immediately after the conclusion of the General Business, and close at Three o'clock precisely.

F. R. W. HEDGES, Secretary.

5 Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, W.C.
28th September 1899.

*The 112th Anniversary Festival will be held on Wednesday, 9th May next, under the distinguished Presidency of the Rt. Hon. the EARL of DARTMOUTH R.W.Prov.G.M. of Staffordshire. Brethren willing to act as Stewards on this important occasion are earnestly solicited to send in their names to the Secretary as early as convenient.



SATURDAY, 30TH SEPTEMBER 1899.

DEVON CHARITY.

A GRAND evening concert was given by the Worshipful Master, Wardens, Past Masters, Officers, and Brethren of Lodge Concord, No. 1135, Ilfracombe, at the Victoria Pavilion, Ilfracombe, on Wednesday evening, 20th inst., in aid of the Devon Masonic Charities, under the distinguished patronage of the Hon. Sir Stafford Northcote, Bart., C.B., M.P., Provincial Grand Master for Devonshire, and many other prominent Brethren of the district.

There was a large and appreciative audience, the programme being of an excellent and attractive character, including as it did a new song, a new valse, and a new march. The concert opened by the orchestra rendering "God bless the Prince of Wales" Most Worshipful Grand Master of England, and concluded with "God save the Queen."

Bro. J. T. Gardner conducted an efficient orchestra, which performed several items, among them the new valse "Bella Vista" (by the conductor) and a new march "North Devon" (by his son Mr. A. L. Gardner). These and other selections by the orchestra were well received. Mr. G. Kevern Batten, L.R.A.M., sang Dr. Edwards' new song "The banner unfurled" and Hatton's "To Anthea." Mr. Batten was in good form, and his efforts were greatly appreciated. Several songs were contributed by members of the "Follies" company, under the direction of Mr. H. G. Pelissier, whose performance at the Pavilion during the week met with considerable approbation.

Referring to the recently issued voting papers for the half yearly elections for the Educational Institutions the "Hampshire Independent" says there are no female candidates from the Province of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. There are, however, two boys, but as each of these is but nine years old, and will therefore have plenty of time in hand for election, the Provincial Grand Lodge Committee have decided to repay as far as possible votes borrowed to ensure the success of candidates at the last and previous elections. One of the girls at the last poll was a "last chance," and she, happily, was carried, but only by adding to that indebtedness of the Province which it is now hoped to partially wipe out.

CORRESPONDENCE.

—:o:—

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

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

—:o:—

TOO MUCH CHARITY.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Before accepting your views as to the present and possible future positions of the Royal Masonic Institutions for Girls and Boys I should like to ask your explanation of what seems to me to be an anomaly. On one page of your last issue you refer to the recent action of the latter Institution as "the wasteful folly of erecting new Schools, at a cost of upwards of £100,000," on another page of the same issue you say it is with "much pleasure" you are able to announce that H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught has graciously consented to lay the Foundation Stone of the New School Buildings. If this is not inconsistency, what do you term it?

Yours, &c.,

LOOKER-ON.

[We may have mistaken ideas of the fitness of things, but we see nothing inconsistent in the two utterances to which our correspondent refers. We cannot endorse the action of the majority who have decided to sink upwards of a hundred thousand pounds in bricks and mortar at Bushey, but surely this does not prevent our applauding the efforts they are making, or the luck which seems to attend them, in the carrying out of their project—mad as we consider it. We deem it childish for those in a minority to oppose everything because outnumbered on one point; it would be imitating the small clique who blackball every candidate proposed in a Lodge, because they could not have their way on some minor item.—Ed. F.C.]

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Your article on "Too much Charity" will doubtless cause excitement in certain quarters. I quite agree with the idea on which you base your observations, and I find the feeling very much on the increase that the Boys and Girls Schools are too expensive—as compared to other Institutions. Personally, I only support the Old People, as I am of opinion that the "raison d'être" for the Schools has departed since the introduction of the School Boards.

Yours, &c.,

INVICTA.

MASONIC IMPOSTORS.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Your correspondent CARITA appears to admit that there are Masonic Impostors, but not that the nuisance is as grave as is made out. Whether the latter be correct or not, some Provinces necessarily have many applications for relief and others very few. In the one case it is a nuisance, and in the other they know little or nothing about it. What I believe is this, that the evil is a growing one, or the Province of West Yorkshire would not encourage local and outside opinion upon it. I am convinced that it is serious enough in Liverpool too, and in fact other largely populated centres, and perhaps I may claim to be a sort of patentee for its suppression some time ago, so that I ought to know something about it. I am of the same opinion now as I was twenty years ago, viz., that so far as Relief funds and Lodges are concerned, a combined effort is necessary, and without this local attempts are vain. It is, however, merely a question whether the amount annually at stake is worth a yearly subscription of 2s to 3s per Lodge to get rid of the nuisance. In round numbers there are 1800 Lodges in England and Wales. My idea is that many Lodges would prefer to go on in the old loose way, and although the cost I name will hardly cover the valuable "time" wasted yearly in three Provinces (Yorkshire and the two Lancshires) on Masonic Impostors, the outlay would be considered in very many instances as a tax for which their Lodge would get nothing in return. I would not have you suppose I desire to air my scheme. Whenever steps are taken by Grand Lodge will be soon enough; it is of no use to others, in fact, or West Yorkshire would have had it quite two years ago. I may have something more to say on the subject of Masonic Impostors later on, with your kind permission.

Yours, &c.,

Liverpool, 21st September 1899.

J. RAMSDEN RILEY.

THE Great Northern Railway Company are to the fore with convenient arrangements for visitors to the Nottingham Autumn Races and Goose Fair. On Monday and Tuesday next a cheap fast excursion for 1, 2, 3 or 4 days will leave King's Cross (G.N.) at 9.10 a.m., Finsbury Park 9.15, for Nottingham (Race Course or London Road Stations), and on Wednesday and Thursday a similar excursion will leave King's Cross (G.N.) at 8.45 a.m., Finsbury Park 8.50, for Nottingham (London Road Station). On Monday and Tuesday a special express at ordinary fares (with first and third class luncheon cars attached) will leave London (King's Cross) at 10.33 a.m., arriving at Nottingham (Race Course) at 1.0 p.m., London Road 1.5, and returning each day from Nottingham (London Road) at 4.50 p.m., Race Course Station 5.0, arriving London (King's Cross) at 7.40 p.m.

LODGE Summaries, Lists of members, Menus, &c., of every description, Morgan, Printer, Freemason's Chronicle Office, New Barnet

LODGE MEETINGS NEXT WEEK.

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

Monday.

- 25 Robert Burns, Freemasons'-hall
- 69 Unity, Inns of Court Hotel
- 72 Royal Jubilee, Anderton's
- 188 Joppa, Freemasons' Tavern
- 1625 Tredegar, London Tavern
- 1669 Royal Leopold, Camberwell
- 1853 Caxton, Freemasons'-hall
- 2020 St. Botolph, Albion
- 2098 Harlesden, Harlesden
- 2242 Tyssen-Amburst, Stoke Newing.
- 2578 National Artillery, Criterion
- 53 Royal Sussex, Bath
- 107 Philanthropic, Lynn
- 113 Unanimity, Preston
- 119 Sun, Sq. & Compass, White's
- 135 Perpetual Friendship, B'water
- 154 Unanimity, Wakefield
- 156 Harmony, Plymouth
- 199 Peace and Harmony, Dover
- 251 Loyal, Barnstable
- 328 St. John, Torquay
- 331 Phoenix Ho. & Prudence, Truro
- 338 Vitruvian, Ross
- 353 Royal Sussex, Winhill
- 395 Guy, Leamington
- 422 Yarborough, Gainsboro'
- 428 Sincerity, Northwich
- 431 St. George, N. Shields
- 441 Three Grand Principles, C'b'dge
- 482 St. James, Handsworth
- 529 Semper Fidelis, Worcester
- 622 St. Cuthbert, Wimborne
- 694 Oakley, Basingstoke
- 839 Rl. Gloucestershire, Gloucester
- 850 St. Oswald, Ashbourne
- 928 Friendship, Petersfield
- 959 Prince of Wales, Ipswich
- 977 Fowey, Fowey
- 1045 Stamford, Altrincham
- 1050 Gundolph, Rochester
- 1051 Rowley, Lancaster
- 1070 Starkie, Southport
- 1071 Zetland, Saltash
- 1077 Wilton, Blackley
- 1124 St. Oswald, Oswestry
- 1180 Forward, Birmingham
- 1211 Goderich, Leeds
- 1239 Wentworth, Sheffield
- 1254 Semper Fidelis, Exeter
- 1264 Neptune, Liverpool
- 1399 Marlborough, Woodstock
- 1434 Nottinghamshire, Nottingham
- 1452 St. Margaret, Lowestoft
- 1573 Caradoc, Swansea
- 1954 Molesworth, Wadebridge
- 2039 Londonderry, Sunderland
- 2166 Cotchele, Calstock
- 2240 Arrow, Kingston
- 2322 East Lanc. Cent'rion, M'chester.
- 2497 Carville, Wallsend-on-Tyne
- 2520 P. of Wales, Newcastle-on-Tyne
- 2525 Thurston, Coniston
- 2533 Fitzwilliam, Peterborough
- 2586 St. Nicholas, Scarborough

Tuesday.

- 9 Albion, Freemasons'-hall
- 101 Temple, Ship and Turtle
- 172 Old Concord, F.M.H.
- 217 Stability, Anderton's
- 765 St. James, Southwark
- 1257 Grosvenor, Freemasons'-hall
- 1259 Duke of Edinburgh, Eastern Htl
- 1381 Kennington, Kennington Park
- 1397 Anerley, Kennington
- 1472 Henley, North Woolwich
- 1803 Cornhill, Piccadilly
- 2154 U. N. Counties, Inns of Crt. Htl
- 2150 Tivoli, Frascati
- 2190 Savage Club, Freemasons'-hall
- 2469 Hortus, Freemasons'-hall
- 47 Newstead, Nottingham
- 52 Union, Norwich
- 70 St. John, Plymouth
- 103 Beauford, Bristol
- 120 Palladian, Hereford
- 124 Marquis of Granby, Durham
- 158 Adam, Sheerness
- 209 Etonian, Windsor
- 226 Benevolence, Littleboro'
- 252 Harmonic, Dudley
- 265 Royal Yorkshire, Keighley
- 315 Royal York, Brighton
- 340 Alfred, Oxford
- 364 Cambrian, Neath
- 393 St. David, Berwick
- 421 Loyal of Industry, S'elmolton

- 457 Loyal Monmouth, Monmouth
- 493 Royal Lebanon, Gloucester
- 510 St. Martin, Liskeard
- 558 Temple, Folkestone
- 615 St. John & St. Paul, Erith
- 660 Camalodunum, New Malton
- 673 St. John, Liverpool
- 685 Northumberland, N'castle-on-T.
- 702 Sherborne, Stroud
- 734 Londresborough, Bridlington
- 794 Warden, Sutton Coldfield
- 304 Carnarvon, Havant
- 847 Fortesque, Honiton
- 948 St. Barnabas, Linslade
- 974 Pentalpha, Bradford
- 995 Furness, Ulverston
- 1002 Skiddaw, Cockermouth
- 1072 Aberystwith, Aberystwith
- 1096 Lord Warden, Walmer
- 1134 Newall, Manchester
- 1197 Nyanza, Ilminster
- 1222 Saint Kew, Weston-super-Mare
- 1244 Marwood, Redcar
- 1282 Anchoime, Brigg
- 1336 Square & Compasses, Wrexham
- 1488 St. Eleth, Alnwich
- 1509 Madoc, Portmadoc
- 1726 Gordon, Bognor
- 1780 Albert Edward, Southampton
- 1785 St. Petroc, Padstow
- 1807 Loyal Wye, Builth
- 1908 Cholmondeley, Frodsham
- 1970 Hadrian, South Shields
- 1981 Arnold, East Molesey
- 2129 Dorothy Vernon, Bakewell
- 2133 Swan of Avon, Stratford-on-Avn
- 2136 St. Michael, Bishops Stortford
- 2260 Ridley, Newcastle-on-Tyne
- 2290 Fairfield, Fairfield
- 2414 Wychwood, Burford
- 2490 Amptill, Amptill
- 2561 West Essex, Buckhurst Hill

Wednesday.

- 511 Zetland, Anderton's
- 1298 Royal Standard, Highbury
- 1306 St. John, Guildhall Tavern
- 1491 Athenæum, Criterion
- 1585 Royal Commemoration, Holborn
- 1687 Rothesay, Frascati
- 2032 Richmond, Richmond
- 74 Athol, Birmingham
- 94 Phoenix, Sunderland
- 137 Amity, Poole
- 159 Brunswick, East Stonehouse
- 164 Perseverance, Sidmouth
- 168 Mariner, Guernsey
- 279 St. John, Leicester
- 282 Bedford, Tavistock
- 287 Unanimity, Stockport
- 298 Harmony, Rochdale
- 326 Moira of Honour, Bristol
- 327 St. John, Wigton
- 406 N'thern Counties, N'castle-on-T.
- 417 Faith & Unanimity, Dorchester
- 429 Royal Navy, Ramsgate
- 471 Silurian, Newport, Mon.
- 611 Marches, Ludlow
- 645 Humphrey Chetham, M'chester
- 678 Earl Ellesmere, Farnworth
- 838 Franklin, Boston
- 929 Waveney, Bungay
- 970 St. Anne, East Loos
- 992 St. Thomas, Manchester
- 1003 Prince of Wales, Jersey
- 1004 Athole, Douglas, Isle of Man
- 1010 Kingston, Hull
- 1013 Royal Victoria, Liverpool
- 1063 Malling Abbey, West Malling
- 1085 Hartington, Derby
- 1167 Alnwick, Alnwick
- 1205 Methem, E. Stonehouse
- 1206 Cinque Ports, Sandwich
- 1274 Earl Durham, Chester-le-Street
- 1333 Athelstan, Atherstone
- 1335 Lindsey, Wigan
- 1354 Marquis of Lorne, Leigh
- 1431 St. Alphege, Solihull
- 1461 Clausentum, Woolston
- 1478 Lougheat, Warminster
- 1532 Bective, Carlisle
- 1549 Abercorn, Great Stanmore
- 1620 Marlborough, Liverpool
- 1660 Arlecdon, Frizzington
- 1736 St. John, Halifax
- 1862 Stranton, West Hartlepool
- 2193 Queen Jubilee, Nelson
- 2200 Pantiles, Tunbridge Wells

- 2224 Fairfield, Long Eaton
- 2330 St. Lawrence, Pudsey
- 2368 Alan, Alderley Edge
- 2382 Loyal Hay, Hay
- 2391 Orde-Powlett, Middlesborough
- 2453 Duke of York, Cardiff
- 2464 Longsight, Longsight
- 2495 Goodacre, Bootle
- 2556 Glyn Ebbw, Ebbw Vale
- 2560 Earl of Lathom, Bury

Thursday.

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

- 24 Newcastle O.T., Newcastle
- 31 United Industrious, Canterbury
- 38 Union, Chichester
- 41 Royal Cumberland, Bath
- 110 Loyal O'brian, Merthyr-Tydvil
- 114 British Union, Ipswich
- 123 Lennox, Richmond, Yorks
- 195 Hengis, Pournemouth
- 219 Prudence, Tadmorden
- 249 Mariner, Liverpool
- 254 Trinity, Coventry
- 266 Naphtali, Heywood
- 269 Fidelity, Blackburn
- 289 Fidelity, Leeds
- 294 Constitutional, Beverley
- 295 Combermere Union, Macclesfield
- 300 Minerva, Ashton-under-Lyne
- 305 Apollo, Beccles
- 309 Harmony, Fareham
- 317 Affability, Manchester
- 360 Pomfret, Northampton
- 362 Doric, Grantham
- 419 St. Peter, Wolverhampton
- 446 Benevolent, Wells
- 462 Bank Terrace, Accrington
- 509 Tees, Stockton
- 531 St. Helen, Hartlepool
- 539 St. Matthew, Walsall
- 633 Yarborough, Manchester
- 637 Portland, Stoke-upon-Trent
- 703 Clifton, Blackpool
- 803 St. Andrew, Biggleswade
- 856 Restormel, Lostwithiel
- 976 Royal Clarence, Bruton
- 1012 Prince of Wales, Bury
- 1231 Savile, Elland
- 1284 Brent, Topsham
- 1304 Olive Union, Horncastle
- 1324 Okeover, Ripley
- 1379 Marquess of Ripon, Darlington
- 1384 Equity, Widnes
- 1473 Bootle, Bootle
- 1500 Walpole, Norwich

- 1504 Red Rose of Lanc'ster, Padiham
- 1513 Friendly, Barnsley
- 1557 Albert Edward, Hexham
- 1565 Earl of Chester, Lymm
- 1639 Watling St., Stony Stratford
- 1770 Vale of White Horse, Faringdon
- 1829 Burrell, Brighton
- 1874 Lechmere V't'n't, Balsall H'th
- 1899 Wellesley, Sandhurst
- 2043 Kendrick, Reading
- 2169 Osborne, East Cowes
- 2255 Philbrick, Chingford
- 2261 Armitage, Milnsbridge
- 2317 Bisley, Woking
- 2321 Acacia, Bradford
- 2342 Easterford, Kelvedon
- 2350 Corinthian, Hindley
- 2386 Clarence, Chester
- 2496 Wirral, Birkenhead

Friday.

- 554 Yarborough, Fenchurch Street
- 890 Hornsey, Anderton's
- 1439 Marquess of Ripon, Highbury
- 1627 Royal Kensington, F'masons'-h.
- 2488 Eccentric, Criterion
- 2511 St. John at Hackney, Hackney
- 44 Friendship, Manchester
- 242 St. George, Doncaster
- 291 Royal Philanthropic, Highbridge
- 306 Alfred, Leeds
- 375 Lambton, Durham
- 521 Truth, Huddersfield
- 574 Loy. Berkshire Hope, Newbury
- 601 St. John, Wellington, Salop
- 698 Ryde, Ryde
- 709 Invicta of Ashford, Ashford
- 751 Eastnor, Ledbury
- 837 De Grey and Ripon, Ripon
- 936 Adair, Aldeburgh
- 998 Welchpool, Welchpool
- 1009 Shakspeare, Manchester
- 1230 Barnard, Barnard Castle
- 1295 Gooch, New Swindon
- 1375 Architect, Chorlton-cum-Hardy
- 1405 Southwell, Nottingham
- 1458 Truth, Manchester
- 1561 Morecambe, Morecambe
- 1648 Prince of Wales, Bradford
- 1664 Gosforth, Gosforth
- 1754 Windsor, Penarth
- 1838 Tudor Rifle V'nt'rs., W'v'h'pton
- 1993 Wolseley, Manchester
- 2433 Minerva, Birkenhead
- 2491 White Rose of York, Sheffield
- 2494 Humber Installed Masters', Hull
- 2569 St. Trillo, Colwyn Bay

Saturday.

- 1572 Carnarvon, Albion
- 1622 Rose, Camberwell
- 1949 Brixton, Kennington
- 2466 Cheerybles, Freemasons'-hall
- 1223 Amherst, Riverhead
- 1388 Canynges, Bristol
- 1460 Thames Valley, Hampton Ct.
- 1550 Prudence, Plymouth
- 1567 Elliot, Feltham
- 1929 Mozart, Croydon
- 2054 Wilson H's, Rickmansworth
- 2096 George Price, Croydon
- 2331 Ravenscroft, Barnet
- 2442 St. Clement, Leigh
- 2493 Vale of Eden, Appleby
- 2499 North Kent, Bexley Heath
- 2541 St. Andrew, Avonmouth

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REPORTS OF MEETINGS.

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

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CRAFT: METROPOLITAN.

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HOLLOWAY LODGE, No. 2601.

ON Wednesday, 20th inst., Bro. R. Pain Walkden P.M. P.Z. W.M. presided over a very successful meeting at Beale's Restaurant, Holloway Road, supported by the following Officers:—Bros. Hughes P.M. S.W., Kettle J.W., J. H. Macfarlane P.M. Secretary, Vincent Larnier P.M. Treasurer, Gordon Larnier W.M. 1926 S.D., H. Grimwade J.D., King I.G., and a good attendance of Brethren, including Bro. James Terry P.G. Sword Bearer Secretary R.M. Benevolent Institution.

The Lodge was opened in due form and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed.

The Lodge was opened in the second degree and Bros. G. W. Goodchild and A. J. Reid having proved their proficiency in the former degree, the Lodge was opened in the third degree, and the Brethren named duly raised to the rank of Master Mason.

The Lodge was resumed to the first degree, and the ballot having proved unanimous in his favour, the W.M. initiated into the mysteries and privileges of the Craft Mr. Herbert Alired Cockerton.

It was unanimously decided to hold a Ladies' night in November, the Officers of the Lodge to act as a Committee to make the necessary arrangements.

The meeting was followed by an excellent banquet, at which the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were duly observed.

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INSTRUCTION.

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PRINCE FREDERICK WILLIAM LODGE, No. 753.

TUESDAY, at Bro. F. Crocker's, the Crown Hotel, Aberdeen Place, Maida Vale, W., being Officers' night, an exceptionally good meeting took place, and we had the pleasure of seeing Bro. A. B. Butt Worshipful Master of the Mother Lodge in the chair, he receiving the assistance of the following Brethren: J. L. Goldstein S.W., T. E. Harpton J.W., G. Wood P.M. Prec., W. J. Stratton P.M. Treas., H. J. Thomas P.M. Sec., L. B. Conradi S.D., W. Yeo J.D., M. E. Swan I.G., H. Track, C. Barter, D. R. Redfearn, M. Hart, F. Crocker, J. H. Craig, W. Constant, A. Achard, J. Hands, J. Hearn, T. W. Muzzell, W. Smith, J. Hobbs, J. Mackay, C. T. Bevan, J. Wynman, A. J. Neck, R. Martin, &c.

The W.M. rehearsed the second ceremony, for which Bro. Mackay offered himself as candidate, and was previously examined and entrusted. The W.M. next informed the Brethren that the ceremony of raising was to be rehearsed. Bros. Mackay, Hobbs, and Bevan answered the questions and retired, Brother Barter was entrusted, the Lodge was further advanced, and the ceremony of raising was gone through.

We congratulate the Brethren of the Prince Frederick William Lodge on having so excellent a worker as Bro. Butt; the ceremonies were rendered perfectly, and to the entire satisfaction of every Brother present.

Bro. Goldstein was elected W.M. for next meeting, a Benevolent Association ballot also resulting in his favour.

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RANELAGH LODGE, No. 834.

ON Friday, 22nd inst., at the Six Bells Hotel, Hammersmith, W., Bros. H. Stokes W.M., M. F. Wilkins S.W., G. White J.W., W. Hinds P.M. Treas., F. Craggs P.M. Sec., Arthur Williams P.M. Preceptor, J. H. Cumming P.M. S.D., W. G. Palmer J.D., Robert Reid P.M. I.G., R. H. Williams P.M. P.P.G.J.D. Middlesex, L. Bryett P.M. P.P.G.S.W. Hants, W. Atkinson, and others.

The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Atkinson acting as candidate. Lodge was called off and on. The second section of the lecture was worked by Bro. Arthur Williams Preceptor, assisted by the Brethren.

A vote of thanks was passed to Bro. Stokes for his working as W.M. for the first time in this or any other Lodge of Instruction.

A vote of sympathy was passed to Bro. George Higginson P.M. (who is extremely popular in the district), and the Secretary was asked to convey the same by letter. The Scrutineers for the ballot were elected, and Lodge duly closed.

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FINSBURY PARK LODGE, No. 1288.

ON Saturday, at Bro. Frank Evans's, the Cock Tavern, Highbury, the chair was taken by Bro. W. Sycklemore P.M. as W.M., with Bros. J. A. Key S.W., R. J. Davis J.W., H. Hill P.M. Prec., Butterworth acting Sec., G. H. Henderson S.D., J. W. Key J.D., W. H. Coley I.G., M. Taylor P.M., G. Paine, W. Hume, E. Baker, Haines P.M., Linfoot, J. Wynman.

The W.M. rehearsed the ceremony of passing, for which Bros. Baker and Paine being accepted as candidates, answered the usual questions, and were entrusted. The Lodge was opened in the second degree, and the ceremony was perfectly rendered. By desire of the W.M. Bro. Haines P.M., with the assistance of the Brethren, worked the first section of the lecture. The W.M. resumed the Lodge to the first degree, and kindly vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Taylor, who announced his intention of rehearsing the ceremony of initiation, for which Bro. J. Hume was accepted as the candidate, and in due course the ceremony was rehearsed. The perfect working of Bro. Taylor P.M. 1563 being so well known requires no comment.

Bro. J. A. Key was elected W.M. for to-day (Saturday).

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WOODROW LODGE, No. 1708.

THE Brethren of this very prosperous Lodge of Instruction re-assembled after the summer holidays on Monday afternoon at three o'clock, at

Bro. W. H. Rudderforth's (Stone's) Restaurant, 24 Pantom Street, Haymarket, and we are pleased to say the first meeting of the season was a great success.

The chair was taken by the popular Preceptor Bro. C. Woodrow P.M., who received the support of Bros. N. Cawley S.W., W. West J.W., C. Wetton Dep. Prec., J. W. Simeons Sec., J. E. Culverhouse S.D., L. Burges J.D., G. Spice W.M. 193 I.G., C. Murless Eyre Lodge, H. Woodcock, J. Firminger, E. Pennock I.P.M. 193, J. Wynman, and others.

Bro. Woodrow, with his usual kindness, vacated the chair in favour of the worthy Secretary Bro. Simeons, who advanced the Lodge to the second degree, and intimated his intention of rehearsing the third ceremony, for which Bro. E. Pennock kindly offered himself as candidate. He was entrusted, the Lodge was advanced and the ceremony of raising was rehearsed. This being ended the W.M. resumed the Lodge to the first degree, and examined Bro. Firminger, the ceremony of passing being afterwards gone through. This was the first occasion on which we had seen Bro. Simeons in the chair of K.S., and although we were by no means surprised that he was able to acquit himself so ably, we take the opportunity of congratulating him on the excellent and impressive manner in which he rehearsed the different ceremonies, and we hope to witness his performance on many future occasions.

Bro. Cawley was elected to preside at the next meeting of the Lodge.

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CHISWICK LODGE, No. 2012.

ON Saturday, 23rd inst., at the Windsor Castle Hotel, Hammersmith, W., Bros. M. F. Wilkins W.M., W. Atkinson S.W., J. H. Cumming P.M. J.W., F. Craggs P.M. Treas., R. Josey P.M. Sec., Arthur Williams P.M. Preceptor, W. Ridgway S.D., W. Jeffries J.D., W. Botley I.G., R. Reid P.M., E. Fox P.M., John Knight W.M. of the Finsbury Lodge, and several others.

Lodge was opened in the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd degrees, then resumed to the first, when the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Brother Knight acting as candidate. Lodge was resumed to the third degree and the second section of that lecture worked by Bro. Arthur Williams, the questions being put by Bro. Knight, who afterwards worked the first section of the same lecture, the questions being put by the Preceptor. It is needless to state that both these Brethren, who are distinguished section workers, acquitted themselves splendidly.

Bro. Atkinson, of the Star Lodge, was elected to take the chair at the next meeting. We may state that this Lodge of Instruction which is always numerous attended, meets on Saturday evenings at 7.30, all the year round.

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EYRE LODGE, No. 2742.

ON Wednesday, at the Eyre Arms Hotel, St. John's Wood, N.W., Bros. A. Barrell W.M., G. E. Thompson S.W., W. C. Bercy J.W., H. J. Weston P.M. Prec., C. Murless Treas., P. J. Weeden Sec., W. Jordan S.D. J. Cosham J.D., A. Pereno I.G., J. Wynman, S. A. Weeden, J. Dewhurst, A. Jewell.

The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Wynman being the candidate. Bros. Bercy, Thompson, and Pereno answered the questions in a perfect manner. The Lodge was called off. On resuming, Bro. C. Murless Treasurer of the Lodge proposed Bro. A. Jewell, of the Stuart Lodge, No. 1632, as a member, which was seconded and unanimously carried. Bro. Thompson was elected to preside at the next meeting.

A complimentary supper will be held on Wednesday, 11th October, of which further particulars will be given in our next issue.

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PROVINCIAL.

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LODGE OF MERIT, No. 466.

THE annual festival was held at the George Hotel, Stamford Baron, on Monday, 18th inst. The chief business was the installation of the Worshipful Master Bro. C. H. Thrower and the appointment and investiture of Officers for the ensuing year.

After the business was concluded the Brethren partook of a sumptuous banquet provided by Bro. Clark, host of the George Hotel. A very pleasant and enjoyable evening concluded the day's proceedings.

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ST. PETER LODGE, No. 1024.

AT the monthly meeting held on Wednesday evening, 20th inst., Bro. the Rev. Donald Gotto S.W. was elected Worshipful Master, Bro. Henry J. Sansom P.M. P.P.G.J.D. Treasurer, and Bro. George Burnes Tyler. The meeting was held, by kind permission of the Mayor (Ald. E. A. Fitch, C.A.), in the Council Chamber of the Moot Hall, Maldon, as the Masonic Hall was deemed unsafe. It appears that the Masonic Hall, which is attached to the old tower of St. Peter's Church, has not been used since May last, the Lodge having adjourned for the summer months, and on the 18th inst., on assembling for a Lodge of Instruction, the walls of the building were found to be badly cracked, and though late in the evening, Bro. P. M. Beaumont, A.M.I.C.E., was called in, and he made an examination into the state of affairs. Next day a further examination was made by this Brother, who considered that it would be unsafe to use the building, as a high wind or a passing traction engine might cause the massive tower to fall. It is estimated that about £200 will be required to make the tower safe.

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BENEVOLENCE LODGE, No. 1168.

THE regular meeting was held at the Masonic Hall, Sherborne, on Tuesday, when Bro. A. K. Woolmington S.W. was elected W.M. in place of Bro. A. Gates. Bro. A. J. Drew was re-elected as Treasurer, and Bro. J. Himbury as Tyler.

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LIVERPOOL DRAMATIC LODGE, No. 1609.

SINCE its Consecration in 1876, this Lodge, formed for the convenience of histrionic, musical, medical, and literary Brethren, has held a conspicuous position in the Province of West Lancashire, the largest in England; and its name and fame were very greatly emphasised on Tuesday, 26th inst., by the circumstances attending the annual installation meeting at the Masonic Hall, Hope Street, Liverpool.

For the first time since his installation as chief of the division a few

months ago, the Earl of Lathom Prov. G. Master honoured the Dramatic by his presence—a singular compliment, which was welcome and significant.

The attendance at the interesting function was numerous and representative, the whole of the proceedings being eminently successful. The chair, at the opening of the Lodge, was occupied by Bro. Eustace Baxter W.M., and he was supported by a full complement of Officers and other prominent members of the Lodge.

Bro. Arthur George Goodwin S.W. was installed W.M. for the ensuing year by Bro. E. Baxter, who performed the impressive ceremony in a manner which elicited the heartiest commendation of all who were present.

A pleasant break in the business of the proceedings of the afternoon took place when the Prov. G.M., in a few cordial sentences, expressed the pleasure he felt in connection with his visit to the Dramatic, of which he spoke in high terms, at the same time paying a high tribute to the masterly manner in which Bro. Baxter had performed the installation ceremony. In response to cordial congratulations on his appointment to the chief position in the important Province, his lordship said that in the course of time he hoped to visit all the Craft Lodges in the Province so as to become acquainted with the Brethren of the Division.

At the close of business an excellent banquet was served by Messrs. Galt and Capper. The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were afterwards proposed, and in the course of the evening Bro. Baxter was the recipient of a Past Master's jewel and a gold watch, as marks of the esteem in which he is held by the Brethren.

WHITWORTH LODGE, No. 1932.

THE annual meeting was held on the 13th inst., in the Masonic Hall, Spennymoor. The principal business was the installation of Bro. Robert Hogg S.W. as W.M. for the ensuing year.

The annual banquet was afterwards held in the Town Hall, the new W.M. presiding, and Brother J. Chisholm occupying the vice-chair. After dinner the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were honoured, the proceedings being pleasantly varied by musical contributions from the choir.

EMULATION LODGE, No. 2281.

THE anniversary of this Lodge was celebrated on Thursday, 3rd August, in the Masonic Temple, Perth (Western Australia). There was a representative gathering to witness the installation of Bro. Daniel Feakes as Worshipful Master for the ensuing year. The ceremony was performed by Bro. F. D. Good D.G.Treas. W.M., assisted by several of the Past Masters of the Lodge.

DOWNSHIRE LODGE, No. 2437.

ANUMEROUSLY attended gathering was held at Wokingham on Monday, 18th, on the occasion of the installation of Bro. Alderman D. N. Heron as Worshipful Master for the ensuing year, in succession to Bro. G. W. Fortescue.

The Lodge was opened by the Worshipful Master Bro. Fortescue, who impressively performed the ceremony of the day, after which the newly-installed Master appointed and invested his Officers for the ensuing year.

At the conclusion of the business the Brethren sat down to a banquet provided at the Town Hall, under the genial presidency of the W.M., when the customary Masonic toasts were honoured.

Bro. Keyser responded on behalf of the Grand Officers, and Col. Ricardo and Bro. Slaughter for the Provincial Grand Officers.

The Immediate Past Master proposed the health of the Worshipful Master, which was drunk with enthusiasm, and appropriately acknowledged.

Bro. Creed gave the toast of the Installing Master and Past Masters, for whom Bro. Fortescue returned thanks.

Rev. P. H. Ditchfield proposed the Masonic Charities, to which Bro. Keyser replied.

HADRIAN LODGE, No. 2483.

THE annual installation meeting was held at the Devonshire Hotel, Bexhill, on Wednesday afternoon, 13th inst., when Bro. the Rev. Francis William Pawson Prov.G.C. was installed W.M. for the ensuing year.

ROYAL ARCH.

HOPE CHAPTER, No. 574.

THE installation meeting was held on Thursday, 21st inst., at the Temperance Hall, Newbury, under the presidency of Rev. W. M. Hope M.E.Z.

Comp. S. Knight was installed Z., W. H. Belcher H., and Col. Gerald Ricardo J., the Z. of the Chapter being assisted by Comp. C. E. Keyser. A jewel was presented to the retiring First Principal.

MARK MASONRY.

PORCHESTER LODGE, No. 27.

THE Masonic meetings in the town of Newbury were resumed after the summer recess on Thursday, 21st inst., when the Officers and Brethren of this Lodge of Mark Masons assembled at the Temperance Hall, where the W.M. Bro. John Napoleon Day presided, supported by the Immediate Past Master Bro. C. E. Keyser, Colonel Gerald Ricardo, and others.

BENEVOLENT LODGE, No. 316.

THE annual installation meeting was held at the Masonic Hall, Teignmouth, on Monday, 25th inst., when Bro. J. W. Finch S.W. was installed Worshipful Master for the ensuing year. The ceremony was performed by Bro. H. Martin P.M. Devon Lodge, No. 315, in the presence of several Past Masters.

After the ceremony the Brethren adjourned to the London Hotel, where the annual supper was held.

ELFFIN LODGE, No. 321.

ON Thursday, 7th inst., the annual installation meeting was held at Carnarvon Castle, Bro. W. Charles Whiskin W.M. Bro. J. O. Morris J.W. P.P.G.S.B. was installed W.M. for the ensuing year, the installation ceremony being conducted by Bro. Whiskin, assisted by Bro. R. W. Newton.

ST. OSWALD LODGE, No. 387.

THE installation festival was celebrated at the Masonic Hall, Crowle, on the 25th. Bro. Joseph H. Lee P.P.G.O. was the W.M.-elect, and the installation ceremony was impressively performed by Bro. G. S. Tyack Prov.G.S.W. W.M.

Bro. Lee was the recipient of several congratulatory telegrams and letters from Provincial Grand Officers and others, having attained the unique distinction of being the Worshipful Master of both the Craft (Isle of Axholme) and the Mark (St. Oswald) Lodges in the same year.

ROSE CROIX.

THE installation of the Blackpool Rose Croix Chapter was held in the New Masonic Hall, Adelaide Street, Blackpool, on Thursday afternoon, 14th inst., when Bro. Taylor was installed M.W.S. by Bro. Major J. D. Murray 31st degree.

After the ceremony the company adjourned to the Stanley Arms, where the usual toasts were honoured.

FREEMASONS AT PLAY.

IT is not of frequent occurrence that Lancashire and Cheshire bowlers, especially those of the Fraternity of Freemasons, have an opportunity to enter into friendly rivalry with each other. The crack players on either side have for some time past been more than anxious to bring about a contest, so that the relative claims of the respective counties might once and for all be settled. The opportunity, thanks to the efforts of Bro. Beattie, of the redoubtable Lancashire team, was afforded on Thursday, 21st inst., when a strong representative list of about forty trundlers of the woods assembled at Kirkby, near Melling, to decide the county superiority.

Bro. John Lee acted as captain for the Cestrians, and Bro. H. E. Hollis for the Lancastrians. The teams were, as regards prize-winners and scientific scorers generally, about equal, and the contest was looked forward to as a final exhibition of county strength and champion playing. In the result the Cestrians had their own way, as the figures appended will show.

After play an elaborate luncheon was provided, and an entertainment followed in which Bros. Lee, Lane, Griffiths, Hollis, Lewis, George Smith, and others took part. It is to be hoped that a return match will shortly be arranged, so that the Lancastrians may have a chance of wiping out their sore defeat, if such a friendly revenge can be reckoned within the bounds of possibility. Score:

LANCASHIRE.			CHESHIRE.		
N. Parsonage	13		L. Ellis	12	
J. McWilliam	10	2	J. H. McGaul	13	11
J. H. Lewis	9		J. Thompson	13	
W. H. Moore	4	7	J. Daken	13	11
J. Neil	10		J. Smith	13	
H. E. Hollis	12	9	J. Lee	13	11
W. Whitehead	13		A. Ferguson	12	
G. Smith	5	11	W. L. Robinson	13	9
C. Williams	13		W. G. Cross	11	
A. Henderson	8	11	J. McLeavy	13	10
G. Beattie	4		S. Bond	13	
H. Johnston	2		P. Davies	13	11
J. H. Simms	13		J. Barnes	6	
J. Neil (sub)	7	9	W. Cooper	13	11
J. Lane	6		J. G. Holmes	13	
W. Griffiths	6	11	C. Catrall	13	6
W. Barnes	8		J. A. Francis	13	
T. C. Pesketh	4	11	J. W. Dale	13	5
G. Smith (sub)	13		C. Grant	7	

160 80 (240)

230 85 (315)

Majority for Cheshire 75.—" Birkenhead News."

THE Freemasons of Stockton on Saturday visited Wynyard Park, the beautiful north country seat of the Marquis of Londonderry, by the kind invitation of his lordship. On arrival sides in a cricket match were chosen respectively by Bro. William Smith (the father of cricket in Stockton, and one of the originators, many years ago, of similar pleasant re-unions at Wynyard Park) and Bro. H. E. Gribble. A most enjoyable match resulted in a win for the team captained by the latter. After the match the Brethren assembled in the tent specially erected for their use, and a hearty vote of thanks was enthusiastically accorded his lordship on the proposition of Bro. Fred Watson, seconded by Bro. Matthias Robinson, both of whom spoke most highly of the more than kindly manner in which Lord Londonderry had treated the Freemasons of Stockton over a series of years. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Gribble for the excellent arrangements he had made for the comfort of the Brethren, and he returned thanks in suitable terms for himself and for the manner in which the toast of his lordship had been received. The Brethren afterwards visited the garden and conservatories, which were in really magnificent condition, and reflected the highest credit on Bro. Gribble.

A "P.M." writes to the "Lancet" pointing out to Brother Masons that amongst the candidates for election to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls is Iris Douglass, the daughter of a deceased member of the profession, and suggesting to those medical Brethren who have votes or can influence them that they should support her solidly and endeavour to secure her election, as the profession has none too many helps of the kind. We hope our Brother's appeal will be heartily responded to.

NEW HALL AT BEDLINGTON.

THE Masonic Hall recently built at the West End, Bedlington, by the members of the St. Cuthbert's Lodge, 1902, has been formally opened by Brother A. E. Burdon, J.P., P.M. P.P.G.S.W., who said he was glad they had now a home of their own, and trusted it would be the means of adding to the membership of the St. Cuthbert's Lodge.

The installation of Bro. S. Hare S.W. followed, and Bro. Hare having been installed by Bro. T. W. Barker I.P.M. invested his Officers.

The annual festival was afterwards held at Bro. R. Metcalf's, Turk's Head Hotel. A number of visitors from Ridley Lodge, Blyth, and Ogle Lodge, Morpeth, and Newcastle were present.

A NEW HOME FOR MASONRY.

PROBABLY there is no quarter of the metropolis that has undergone a greater change during the last few years than the part just north of Finsbury Park. One need not go back very many years to remember the district an unbroken prospect of green fields, with the New River meandering through them, and making a really pretty picture. To-day there is also an almost unbroken prospect—but it is houses and busy thoroughfares that take the place of the fields; and what was then an almost uninhabited district is now one of the most populous of the suburbs of our great city. Harringay, Stroud Green, Crouch End, and Hornsey have each in turn sprung into popularity and importance, and, as is but natural, Freemasonry has progressed with the district, until we find a considerable number of local Lodges in active working, among the latest to be established being the Crouch End, No. 2580, and the Harringay, No. 2763.

This latter Lodge, which was consecrated a few weeks back (by dispensation) at Freemasons' Hall, London, will hold its regular meetings at the new Salisbury Hotel, Green Lanes, Harringay, and will occupy one of the finest Masonic homes around London. It would be unwise to say that the Harringay Lodge was formed for the purpose of being attached to this new establishment, but no doubt the provision of suitable accommodation in the neighbourhood had no little weight with the Founders, and the authorities of Grand Lodge when the question of granting the Warrant came on for consideration; and it would be equally wrong to say that the new Hotel was built for the purpose of accommodating this new Masonic Lodge; but it is very certain the two blend most harmoniously, and we hope the one will be associated with the other, to their mutual advantage, for many years to come. The Hotel is one of the most handsome and luxuriously fitted establishments in the northern suburbs, and should secure a large amount of patronage as a Commercial and Family Hotel, being situate close to the Harringay Station of the Great Northern, and the Harringay Park Station of the Midland and Great Eastern Railways. It possesses private Sitting and Coffee Rooms, Smoking Room, Billiard Room, Grill Room, and ample other accommodation, the whole being supervised by Mr. J. C. Hill, the Proprietor, with Mr. Richard Anderson as Manager of the Hotel, and Mr. W. A. Oathles as General Manager. We hope to have the opportunity of recording some of the doings of the new Lodge, and look for the establishment of a Lodge of Instruction at no very distant date. There are a large number of Masons in the immediate neighbourhood with, at present, little provision for practice or instruction in the ritual and work of the Craft.

THE CABLE-TOW.

DID you ever think of the meaning of this word? Not the definition as laid down by standard authors on Masonry, but rather the application of this important bit of Masonic teaching. No two words have a greater meaning or are susceptible of a wider range of action. Every Mason has a "cable-tow," the length of which is governed entirely by his conception of duty—duty which he owes to God, his neighbour and himself, and must be regulated by his conscience. Some who are charitably disposed stretch their "cable-tow" until it encompasses their duty as a good citizen and their obligation as a Mason. To all such its teachings have not been lost. Others who do not properly comprehend its meaning, and have no inclination to cultivate it to a finish, satisfy themselves with disengaging the knots of but one or two strands, while others, whose consciences are so dwarfed by selfishness and self-esteem as to be satisfied by an occasional visit to the Lodge, never even unwind their "cable-tow." For all such we have a profound sympathy—sympathy akin to that "charity which suffereth long and is kind."

As a citizen, did you never "pass by on the other side" to avoid some organ-grinding object of charity on the corner whom you chanced to see while you were headed saloonward? Or did you rush into the first cigar stand you could find and spend the nickel which your conscience told you to drop in the tin-cup of the sightless one who asked your alms? As a Mason, did you forego the pleasure of a drink and the happy effect of a smoke and contribute the price thereof to the relief of said object of charity, thereby extending your "cable-tow" to the one whom God has bound you to by nature? If you have done this, you have done well, and the sacrifice made thereby will be placed as a credit to your account when you "go hence." As a citizen, did you ever try to satisfy your conscience for failing to do alms with the thought that you may be assisting impostors? As a Mason, your "cable-tow" will not permit you to judge, but

teaches you to relieve ninety and nine impostors rather than let one worthy person suffer. As a citizen, do you herald your charities to the world by kindly mention in the public press and by receiving the congratulations of your fellow-man? As a Mason, you are taught to "let not your right hand know what your left hand doeth," being satisfied to await your reward hereafter. So much for alms-giving. As a citizen you cannot separate yourself from your duty as a Mason.

My Brother, did you ever keep your seat in the Lodge when the Master called for volunteers to watch with a sick Brother? Did you ever turn your head or find it convenient to visit the water cooler while the hat was being passed for the "evening offering?" Did you ever absent yourself from the funeral of a Brother when you might have attended with the slightest sacrifice to yourself? Did you ever fail to exert yourself to assist your Brother to find employment? Did you ever take him by the arm and by the "cable-tow" that binds you, declined to have it loosed until you attained the end desired? Did you ever fail to cover his faults with the "broad mantle of charity" while you whispered in his ear a tale of reformation? Did you ever through personal spite lend your aid toward affecting his business relations? Did you ever repeat a whispered scandal in the ear of another, the circulation of which would in time blast the reputation of your Brother or his family? Did you ever do any of these things? If so, then, indeed, is your "cable-tow" being rapidly frayed out, and the quicker you have it repaired the better it will be for you, both here and hereafter.—Bro. Bun. F. Price, in "American Tyler."

Not many Lodges can boast of the possession of £2,360 on fixed deposit, as can Lodge Australia, No. 3, N.S.W., whose balance-sheet was presented to its members at its last meeting. There are therein some few items that deserve special mention—£71 was received from interest, and £73 disbursed in charity—so that the savings of previous years provide that Lodge with an income available for the relief of its poor and distressed Brethren. The prosperous condition of the Lodge enables it to pay £66 in salaries, and yet have £62 to its credit at the bank, as against £42 brought forward from the previous year.—"Masonry."

It would appear from the following extract, which we take from "Masonry," that New Zealand is not the only country where the office of Grand Steward is not held in very high repute:—"It was most amusing to watch how the much despised office of Grand Steward went a begging in a leading Melbourne Lodge. All the P.M.s. held it altogether below their dignity to hold that office, evidently forgetting that by reason of it being elective it is more honourable than Grand Lodge honours obtained by appointment, and which not rarely fall to those least fit and deserving to hold even such honours."

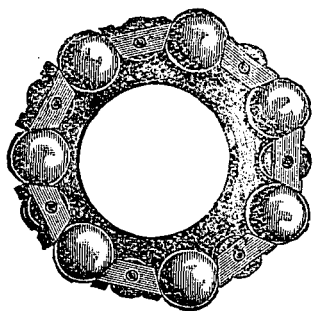
The Theatres, &c.

Adelphi.—7.45, With flying colours. Matinée, Wednesday, 2.
Avenue.—8.15, An old Admirer. 9, An interrupted Honeymoon.
Criterion.—8.30, My Daughter-in-Law. Matinée, Saturday, 3.
Drury Lane.—7.30, Hearts are Trumps. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 1.30.
Duke of York's.—8, An American Citizen.
Gaiety.—8.15, A Runaway Girl. Matinée, Saturday, 2.
Globe.—8, The Gay Lord Quex. Matinée, Saturday, 2.
Haymarket.—8.30, The Degenerates. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.30.
Her Majesty's.—8.15, King John. Matinée, Wednesday, 2.15.
Lyceum.—Saturday, 7th October, Man and his makers.
Lyric.—8.30, El Capitan. Matinée, Thursday, 2.30.
New Olympic.—8.15, A trip to Midget town. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.30.
Prince of Wales's.—8.15, The Moonlight Blossom. Matinée, Saturday.
Princess's.—Alone in London.
Savoy.—8.30, H.M.S. Pinafore. Trial by Jury. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.
Shaftesbury.—8, The Belle of New York. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.
Strand.—Thursday, 5th October, The Prince of Borneo.
Vaudeville.—8.15, Hook and Eye. 9, The Elixir of Youth. Matinée, Wednesday, 3.
Alexandra.—Next week, 7.45, An American Citizen.
Grand.—Next week, 7.30, How London lives.
Queen's Opera House, Crouch End.—Next week, The White Heather.
Standard.—Next week, Two Little Vagabonds.
Surrey.—Next week, Drink.
Alhambra.—8.15, Variety Entertainment. A Day Off, Napoli, &c.
Aquarium.—The world's great Show. The Great Fight. Varied Performances, daily.
Empire.—8.15, Variety Entertainment. Round the Town again, &c.
London Pavilion.—8, Variety Entertainment.
Oxford.—7.30, Variety Entertainment, Talma, &c. Saturday, 2.15 also.
Palace.—7.40, Variety Entertainment. New American Biography, &c. Saturday, 2 also.
Royal.—7.30, Variety Company. A duel in the snow. Saturday, 2.30 also.
Tivoli.—7.30, Variety Entertainment. Vanity Fair, &c. Saturday, 2.15 also.
Crystal Palace.—Varied attractions daily.
Agricultural Hall.—Mohawk Minstrels.

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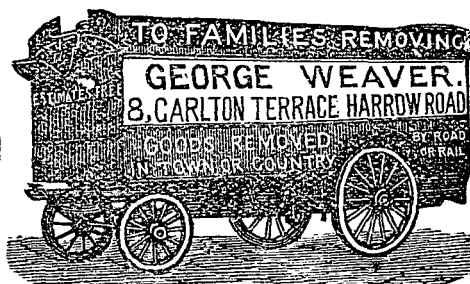
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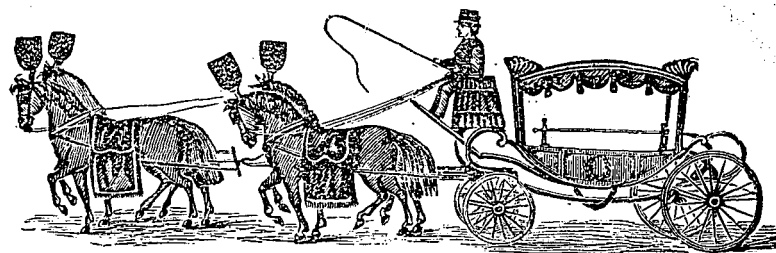
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