

THE

Freemason's Chronicle.

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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A CALL TO ACTION.

AT a moment when every section of the community is inclined to put all other considerations into a secondary place, in favour of news from the seat of war, and tidings of the doings of the British forces in South Africa; at a time when all classes—and notably the Freemasons of the country and their Lodges—are vying with each other to do something on behalf of "The Absent-Minded Beggars," and those they have left behind them; it would ill become us to say anything which should appear to suggest that a check should be put upon the patriotic enthusiasm of the Masonic section of the nation. In fact, we have seldom felt more gratification in any matter than has been associated with the publication in our pages, during the last few weeks, of lists of some of the Masonic contributions to the different funds promoted to afford relief to sufferers through the war, and this reaches a climax this week when we are able to point to the handsome contributions of one thousand guineas from Grand Lodge, for the Mansion House Fund; and of one hundred guineas from Mark Grand Lodge to the "Daily Telegraph" Fund; but in spite of patriotism, and with every desire to render help to those left by the soldiers and sailors fighting for the empire, we must not forget that there are other claims, calls upon the benevolence of the Craft nearer home, which are no less deserving of consideration at this moment than are the calls which have aroused the masses, and brought forth a liberal response on every side.

Freemasonry has its beleaguered garrison, a garrison of veterans hemmed in by foes even more relentless than the Boers—old age and helplessness—and it is quite as necessary for the members of the Craft to adopt desperate measures for their relief as ever it was for our military authorities to hurry out reinforcements, and make tremendous sacrifices, to succour those of our countrymen hemmed in by human foes in South Africa. The beleaguered garrison of Freemasonry numbers close on five hundred old people—Annuitants of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution—aged Brethren who have borne the heat and burden of the day in their time, or Widows; all of whom find themselves in distressed circumstances in their closing days, and unless relieved by a strong band of energetic workers among members of the Craft, may have to face a worse fate than any than has been before the surrounded garrisons in South Africa during the progress of the present unhappy struggle; for even captivity in an enemy's land may be made far more endurable than absolute want and poverty in old age.

It is very satisfactory to know the force working to relieve the Masonic veterans of whom we have spoken is fairly strong in point of numbers, and that it is well officered; and we can but hope that on the day at the end of February—for in this case the date of the relief is virtually known—when the result of their efforts

is announced, it will be found there is sufficient for every member of the beleaguered force, and a trifle to spare for the many others equally deserving, but unfortunately not yet taken under the wing of the Benevolent Institution. We have for Commander-in-Chief our esteemed Brother Lord Addington Provincial Grand Master of Buckinghamshire, who has kindly consented to preside at the Anniversary Festival of the Institution; while for head of the staff, chief organiser, and General superintending the whole campaign there is the able veteran Secretary of the Institution Bro. James Terry, whose long experience in such matters places him in the foremost rank among those capable of undertaking the work.

We can hardly believe that the different amounts voted from our Lodges, or the supplementary collections among the Brethren on behalf of "The Absent-minded Beggars," or others suffering through the South African campaign, will have any appreciable effect on the amounts contributed to the Masonic Institutions, the first Festival in connection with which, as usual on behalf of the Benevolent Institution, will be held in February next, but there are many Brethren in our midst who do not view the matter with such equanimity, and not a few who believe that nearly every farthing voted from our Lodges will indirectly come out of the coffers of the three Charities, and not only this, but that the usual flow of benevolence will be checked by reason of the many outside calls, and the dislocation of business caused by the war; and if this is likely to occur we can hardly be accused of inconsistency if we do raise a voice against the flow of patriotic benevolence, by pointing to the claims of our own funds—for Charity really begins at home. We are not the first to give voice to this cry of alarm; other funds besides those of Freemasonry are likely to suffer from the exceptional calls of the time, and we see that even Guy's Hospital has been obliged to draw on its capital in consequence of the falling off in funds, due, no doubt, directly or indirectly, to the war; and many other of the Christmas appeals to the public seem to give unmistakable signs of a general tightening of the purse strings on the part of the benevolent, so far as ordinary objects of relief and assistance are concerned.

We have already spoken of the beleaguered garrison of Freemasonry, hemmed in by the most relentless of foes, old age and helplessness, and have expressed a hope that the Craft may be able to effect their relief in February next. This relief can only be brought about by the collection of a very large sum of money, no less than nearly £17,000 being required to provide the year's annuities alone, to which the Craft is virtually pledged on their behalf: £40 each to 270 Aged Brethren, £32 each to 248 Widows, and £20 each to 22 other Widows, who enjoy half their late husband's pensions; and to secure this very large sum of money there is but one field open—the Lodges and members of the Craft. It is true the

English Brotherhood has nobly discharged its duty in this direction in years gone by, and even if the members show a slight disposition to shirk their responsibilities on the coming occasion no one could really condemn them, but in view of the many counter claims being made just now we hope there will be no attempt at such a course, and we feel that if all who are in a position to do so will respond to the call of the Chairman, the Secretary, and the Stewards, there will not be any insurmountable difficulty to overcome so far as the near future is concerned.

Without making any invidious distinctions we think it is now generally recognised that the Benevolent Institution has the first and foremost claim upon the sympathies of English Freemasons, and this feeling must continue until the State takes the same responsibility in regard to the provision of old age pensions as it has done in the matter of the education of the young; but even apart from this outside distinction there is a growing feeling in our midst that it is far better to provide funds for direct financial assistance to those who really need it, than to give money to be spent on expensive "brick and mortar" schemes. Fortunately most of the old folks of Freemasonry are happy in their own districts, if they only have enough to live upon, and consequently there has been no need to erect stately edifices to accommodate them; had it been otherwise we are convinced it would not have been our privilege on this occasion to have appealed for so many as nearly 500 annuitants, and surely in this respect quantity counts for much, especially when, as we see it in connection with our Benevolent Institution, it is combined with such excellent quality as the £40 annuity given to each Aged Brother, and the £32 to each Widow.

Our aged garrison is in sore straits, and the siege must be raised for the coming year. Ample funds contributed to the Anniversary Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution to be held in February next will accomplish all that is required, and we fraternally ask every reader of these lines to make an effort to do something for the good of the cause—it is a worthy one, and one which, in years to come, may repay anyone of us a hundred fold should we be so unfortunate as to need it.

DORSET.

THE annual meeting of this Provincial Grand Lodge took place at Blandford, on Monday, 27th ult., when there were Brethren present from all parts of the Province.

The Provincial Grand Master Bro. Montague Guest appointed and invested his Officers for the ensuing year, as follow:—

Bro. Sir Cuthbert Edgar Peek, Bart. 665	-	Senior Warden
G. E. Turner 1266	-	Junior Warden
Rev. Ernest Borradaile 2689	-	Chaplain
R. D. Thornton 417	-	Treasurer
F. P. Kitson 1367	-	Registrar
Robert Case 417	-	Secretary
H. R. Jesty 1266	-	Senior Deacon
R. H. Groves 1266	-	Junior Deacon
C. F. Yearsley 386	-	Superintendent of Works
S. Pond 1266	-	Director of Ceremonies
H. Saunders 137	-	Assistant Dir. of Cers.
C. T. Stride 622	-	Standard Bearer
W. B. Wildman 1168	-	Organist
F. A. K. Hounsell 1146	-	Pursuivant
H. W. Scratchley 137	-	
G. J. Hunt 417	-	
T. G. Pinney 472	-	
C. P. Turle 622	-	
J. Vye 1146	-	
T. E. Vincent 1168	-	
S. C. Vye 386	-	
		Tyler.

After the business the Brethren adjourned to the Crown Hotel, where the banquet was held. The usual toasts were honoured.

NORFOLK.

Presentation to the Provincial Grand Master.

MEMBERS of the Craft assembled in strong numbers at the Masonic Rooms, St. Giles's Street, Norwich, on Thursday of last week—the meeting night of Lodge Cabbell—to witness the presentation by the Lodge of the armorial bearings of the Hamon le Strange family to the Provincial Grand Master.

In asking Bro. Hamon le Strange's acceptance of the gift, Bro. S. G. Barnard W.M. explained that the idea of this offering originated with Bro. W. R. Weyer, who had voluntarily executed the work, while the other members of the Lodge had defrayed the cost of the frame.

The Provincial Grand Master cordially thanked Bro. Weyer and the Brethren of Cabbell Lodge for their kindness, and expressed a hope that the Masonic Temple might be further beautified by similar artistic adornments.

The heraldic achievement is designed and carried out on the strict lines of German Renaissance. It shows a border in spandels which contain the arms of Hamon le Strange and his wife (Austin) in the dexter and sinister respectively. The arms of Hamon le Strange contain nine quarterings, chief of which should be mentioned LeStrange Stuart (Scotland), Astley (Hastings), Vernons, Carmois, Vaux, Haydon, and others; the supporters are lion rampant gules, and the white hart with lion's maws, this being one of the few private families in the country entitled to supporters, marking ancient and noble lineage. The crest is a lion passant or, signifying nobility; the motto "Mihi parva tueri" (What is mine I defend), which was assumed by the family about 1195, speaks eloquently of the family attributes.

The after proceedings were of a most enjoyable character. The Prov. Grand Master, responding to the toast of his health, again expressed his gratitude for the kindly thought which had prompted the gift of the beautiful heraldic work which would find a place among the arms of the Grand Masters who had preceded him. He then went on to give an eloquent discourse on the subject of heraldry.

Bro. Weyer's health was heartily pledged, and in the course of his reply he gave the following interesting particulars concerning the le Strange family. This distinguished family dates back to a very remote time. A John Lord Strange held a knight's fee at Hunstanton so far back as 1165, and sometime earlier, in the reign of Henry I., a Roland Extranens witnessed a deed of grant to Castleacre Priory, and this Roland is supposed to have been the father of Lord John. It has been suggested that Roland "the foreigner" was perhaps a native Briton from the Welsh marches, and certain it is that the "Le Stranges" in the time of Henry II. held much property in Shropshire, and kept state at Knockyn Castle, near Oswestry. In 1195 a later John Le Strange held five knights' fees in Norfolk, at Hunstanton, Ringstead, Snetterton, and Tottington. It is supposed that the first Church at Hunstanton was built by Roger Le Strange, and his wife Matilda Le Brun early in the 12th century. The present church was founded by a Hamon Le Strange in the first half of the 14th century. It is very noticeable how certain christian names recur again and again in this ancient family, such as Guy, Hamon, John, Roland, Roger, and Armine, the last being borne by both male and female scions from the earliest records. The Le Strange's were always prominent people. By marrying Ivan de Somery, an heiress of the powerful D'Albinis, one, Lord Le Strange, became possessed of the fees of Rising Castle, for which he performed the duty of "Castle Guard," and a tower of that castle was always known as Strange's or Hunstanton Tower.

The story of the family tells of mighty Castellans holding castles at Bridgnorth, Montgomery, Shrewsbury, Chester, Bruges, and elsewhere. They are found in the ranks of the Crusaders, in the wars with France and Scotland, and sometimes defying the Pope, as John Le Strange, Knight of Bath, signed a declaration against Boniface VIII.

The immediate ancestor of Le Strange of Hunstanton was Sir Hamon, third son of John, fifth Baron Strange of Knockyn, in Shropshire, who was enfeoffed of Hunstanton in 1309 by his eldest Brother John, sixth Baron Strange, his tenure being held by a yearly payment of a white rose. The Le Stranges have become allied by matrimony with the most noble families of England—Vernons, Carmois, Hastings, Stuart, Vaux, Wodehouse, Heydon, Southwell. One of the ladies was wife of the celebrated antiquary and historian, Sir Henry Spelman. As Sheriffs and members for the County of Norfolk the Le Stranges have figured frequently and

prominently in the public service, and one, Hamon Le Strange, on the death of Elizabeth, rode post haste to Edinburgh, and was the first to announce the fact to King James. The monarch for this service offered a baronetcy, which the gallant knight declined for himself, but accepted for his son.

Several of the Le Stranges have been authors, notably Roger Le Strange, who warmly espoused the cause of Charles I., and "through a Life of Hazard and Adventure," was also a voluminous writer; he established a newspaper, and translated many useful works.

The baronetcy expired at the death of Sir Henry Le Strange, without issue, in 1760, and the manor of Hunstanton devolved upon his elder sister, Armine, who carried it to her husband, Nicholas Styleman, of Snettisham. His second son was rector of Great Ringstead, and named Armine after his mother; when he inherited the property he was called "The Divine Squire." His son, Henry Le Strange Styleman, born in 1815, assumed in 1839, by Royal license, the surname of his ancestors. Of his son, Hamon, the present squire, there is no need to speak. His useful works in Freemasonry and otherwise, both in Norfolk and elsewhere, are well known to all.

A programme of choice music was greatly relished by the Brethren, and a collection after Bro. Waite's recital of "The Absent-Minded Beggar" yielded the sum of £3 12s.—"Eastern Daily Press."

ROYAL ARCH.

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ESSEX.

THE annual Provincial Grand Chapter of Essex was held at the Royal Forest Hotel, Chingford, on Tuesday, 28th ult. Excellent arrangements for the occasion were made by a joint Committee of the five Chapters that hold their meetings at the Hotel, and the result was a brilliant gathering of the Companions.

His Honour Judge Philbrick, Q.C., Grand Superintendent presided, and he was well supported by Officers of the Province.

The minutes of the last annual Provincial Grand Chapter, held at Southend-on-Sea, having been read and confirmed, letters and telegrams were read from several Companions unavoidably prevented attending. The roll of Chapters was called, and all were found to be represented.

The report of the Board of General Purposes was presented by Comp. the Rev. Canon Quennell Prov.G.H., who also moved its adoption. It stated that the thirteen Chapters of the Province showed a membership of 341, as against 355 last year, and that there had been during the year twenty exaltations and seven joining members, whilst the resignations had been twenty-five, the deaths seven, and exclusions nine.

Comp. George Corble seconded the motion, which was put and carried unanimously.

The next business was the election of three members to serve on the Board of General Purposes for the ensuing year, and as only the required number had been nominated, the Grand Superintendent declared them to be elected, as follow:—Comps. G. H. Finch P.Z. 2005 P.P.G.J., John J. C. Turner P.Z. 51 P.P.G.J., and W. E. Dring P.Z. 453 P.P.G.H.

The Grand Superintendent then addressed the Companions. He expressed himself as exceedingly glad to meet them once more at what might, in some walks of life, be called the annual stock-taking, and in others keeping their birthday, an event which, as individuals, was one of great rejoicing whilst they were in youth, but the pleasure in which was somewhat sobered when they came to maturer years, on account of the regrets which were engendered by the remembrance of those that were gone. They commenced their meeting that day under the shadow of the breach which had occurred amongst the Officers of the year in the lamented death of Comp. Bowmaker, and they also had to deplore the loss of a Companion who had been a member of the Board of General Purposes since its foundation, Comp. Francis White. This Companion had always taken a deep interest in the Provincial Grand Chapter, and they should always have a memorial of the great work he had done in the Chapter that bore his name, and which, he believed, was the first Chapter he had consecrated after his appointment to preside over the Province. Whilst mourning the loss of these

Companions, he thought the best way in which their respect could be exhibited was by following the good and bright example they had left behind them. There was not much to be said on the results of the year's working, except that which was disclosed in the sober report of the Board of General Purposes. The number of Chapters remained the same—the traditional thirteen—and they were all in a fairly flourishing condition, whilst it was satisfactory that nothing had arisen to cause him as their Grand Superintendent the least anxiety, the work having been carried on in perfect love and harmony. It was true that, for the first time, he believed, their numbers showed a slight diminution—it worked out at practically one less per Chapter, but he did not think they need take that very seriously to heart, for they had in the Craft Lodges of the Province excellent recruiting grounds, for whilst they did not, as Masons, go out of their way to induce people to join the Craft, he could not see any harm in Companions pointing out to their Masonic friends the desirability of proceeding without delay to the degree of the H.R.A. Their finances were good, and he was glad that the Board of General Purposes had been able to recommend a grant to one of the great Charities of the Order. In conclusion, the Grand Superintendent exhorted them to recollect that the true condition of healthy life was work—and honest work would sooner or later bring its reward. He thanked them all for rendering his rule such a pleasant one, and whilst congratulating themselves upon what they had accomplished in the past, let them humbly look forward to further progress in the future.

The election of a Provincial Grand Treasurer then took place, and Comp. Andrew Durrant was unanimously re-elected for the seventeenth year, on the motion of Comp. J. S. Hammond, seconded by Comp. J. M. Knight.

The Grand Superintendent then appointed his Officers for the ensuing year.

On the motion of the Provincial Grand Superintendent a vote of thanks was passed to the entertaining Chapters, for the excellent arrangements they had made for the meeting, and he having announced that the meeting next year would be held at Colchester, the Chapter was closed.

About fifty Companions afterwards dined together at the Hotel, under the genial presidency of the Provincial Grand Superintendent.

HANTS AND ISLE OF WIGHT.

THE Grand Chapter of the Province of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight will meet on Friday, 26th January, at the Guildhall, Winchester, at 2 p.m., when it is expected the Provincial Grand Superintendent will preside and appoint and invest the Officers for the ensuing year.

"A SPRIG OF ACACIA."

IT is with mournful feelings indeed that we record the death of our dear old friend Bro. E. L. P. Valeriani, who was one of the most worthy among the many zealous Masons it has been our pleasure to become associated with. Our deceased Brother was for many years Secretary of the Rothesay Lodge, No. 1687, and guided that Lodge to such good purpose, especially in the matter of support to the Masonic Institutions, that even Grand Lodge recognised his services, and conferred upon him the distinction of a Past Grand Standard Bearership of England. The remains of our respected Brother were interred at Norwood Cemetery, on the 29th ult., in the presence of a large number of his Masonic and other friends.

ON Friday afternoon, 1st inst., the mortal remains of Bro. S. S. Parsons P.P.G. Steward Suffolk were interred at Manningtree Cemetery, amid profound tokens of respect. The places of business were closed during the ceremony, and all the principal tradesmen attended to pay a tribute of respect to departed merit. There was also a large number of sympathising friends at the church, where the first portion of the service was rendered by the Vicar, the Rev. E. A. Ley. A great many members of the Stour Lodge of Oddfellows and of the Mistle Lodge of Freemasons were also in attendance. The deceased, who was in his 64th year, was for many years Secretary to the Stour Lodge of Oddfellows, and during the last four years he had acted as Secretary to the Mistle Freemasons Lodge. He was also Clerk to the Parish Council, as well as a sidesman at the church, and a manager of the National School. The Oddfellows' oration was delivered by Bro. J. S. Forsdick P.P.G.M. Stour Lodge.

GRAND LODGE OF SCOTLAND.

ON the 30th ult. the Grand Lodge of Scotland held its annual communication in Freemasons' Hall, Edinburgh. Lord Saltoun Grand Master presided, and proposed that the Hon. James Hozier, M.P., be elected as Grand Master. This was agreed to. Lord Saltoun then installed the Grand Master and invested him with the emblems of his Office and elevated him to the Masonic throne.

After the appointment of Officers the Grand Lodge celebrated the Festival of St. Andrew, in the course of which the late Grand Master was called upon to respond to the toast of Past Masters of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, which was proposed by Rev. Dr. M'Adam Muir, of Glasgow.

Lord Saltoun, who was received with prolonged applause, said—I have a great feeling of regret at leaving the high office which you did me the honour of electing me to three years ago. I feel that I have tried to the best of my ability to do my duty in the chair. I know by the way in which the whole business of Grand Committee and Grand Lodge has been conducted that you have done your utmost to support me and to render my task an easy one. On retiring from this office, I would like to thank all those who have attended at Grand Lodge for the way in which they assisted me to conduct the business, I would also most especially like to thank Grand Committee for the great assistance and courteous way in which the whole of the meetings of Grand Committee have been carried out. I feel that when I had the honour of being elected your Grand Master on the suggestion of my esteemed friend on my right, Sir Charles Dalrymple, that he gave me over the estate of Grand Lodge in a very prosperous condition, but I also feel great pride in the fact that year by year that prosperous condition has increased, and now that I hand over the reins of government to another that Grand Lodge is in such a position as it has never been before. I confess I think a great part of this is due to the example which was set by my noble friend on my left, Lord Haddington, who first instituted the regular visitations by Grand Lodge, which have been carried on by Sir Charles Dalrymple and myself, and have been, I believe, one of the great causes of the success of Masonry in Scotland. The visitations have brought the Lodges and Provincial Grand Lodges into contact with the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and I am sure that the effect has been a most excellent one. Now, Brethren, I would also like to congratulate you on your choice of a successor to myself. I have had the honour of installing him as successor to myself in the chair, and as the room was small and the heat was great, and there was not much opportunity of speaking at the time, I should now like to say that I believe your choice has been that of the right man. His whole career as a private gentleman and as a member of Parliament has shown that, and I feel that the confidence you have shown in electing him to the high office will not be misplaced. Higher praise I cannot give, and it is praise both to the Grand Lodge of Scotland and to your Grand Master himself. Now I think that the few years during which I have had the honour of presiding over the affairs of Grand Lodge have not been very quiet in many ways. There have been many circumstances which have taken place—many alterations in Grand Lodge. In particular, I would allude to the increase which was made on Grand Committee. I confess that when that increase was made I was very doubtful how it would work, because my experience is that a small body of men who are together to do business do that business much more rapidly, and easier, than a larger body. But I must say that the whole of my experience teaches me and has shown me that the whole of the increased body of Grand Committee have worked thoroughly together in thorough sympathy, and that if there was a difference it was decided on, and the minority have gone in with the majority and perfect harmony and peace have prevailed, so that no body which was ordained by the Grand Lodge could have more harmoniously have worked together. Well, Brethren, this, I think, is a feather in your caps, because while you increased the Committee you did not increase the business or the amount of work that was done. The next thing which I have to call to my recollection in the years during which I have had the honour of presiding over you—the next important thing, I think, was the special collection for the Annuity Fund which was to be made on St. John's Day, or the annual meeting of each Lodge. This Fund is an important one, and has, I am glad to tell you, been a thorough success. As much as £500 was collected last St. John's Day for the purpose of that Fund. Proposed by Brother Inches, the scheme was a good one, and it has worked thoroughly

well. The next thing of importance, I think, was the fund which I asked you to raise for Lord Kitchener's Fund for the Memorial College at Khartoum; and very nobly you all responded to that. It was a difficult time, because I know that at that time there was also a collection on foot for the St. John's Fund, and that it was a hard trial for many to subscribe to both; but you subscribed, and the result was that £350 was sent to Lord Kitchener. Then the last thing which I had the honour to propose was a Fund for the wives and children of those who were left behind—of the men engaged in the present great campaign. I undertook in Grand Lodge that the money should be spent for the benefit only of Scottish soldiers and sailors and their wives and families. I have now to tell you that I have handed over that Fund to your new Most Worshipful Grand Master, who assures me that he will undertake to carry out the opinions which were expressed in Grand Lodge, so that you may have no fear about the ultimate destination of this Fund. Now, Brethren, I see no reason that I should make you a long speech. I can only thank you all most heartily for the kindness you have shown me during the years I have been in office. I can assure you that it is with regret I leave that most honourable post, and it is my wish, and I hope it will be my pleasure, that I should be able to continue to come amongst you in Grand Lodge. But, before I sit down, there is one thing I must say before you all. I must tell you how great the advantages have been to me of the advice and kindness which I received from Bro. Murray Lyon, the Grand Secretary. I do not say we always agreed. I do not say we have always been in accord; but, whichever way we have gone, we have been able to talk over the various subjects as business men, and we have come, I trust, to right conclusions, going on to Grand Committee for further advice. I would like to say that I hope there is a firm friendship established between myself and him; and I trust that, before very long, I shall have the honour of entertaining him at my house in the far north. There is only one other subject I would mention, and have always been trying to preach it whenever I have gone on a visitation, and that is the fact of so many Lodges meeting in houses of public entertainment. I am very glad to inform you that during the time I have been on the Masonic throne eighty or ninety Lodges have built themselves separate premises, and have taken themselves away from the licensed premises where they used to meet. I think it is a matter of hearty congratulation to Grand Lodge, and I trust it will be improved upon in the future. I have now only to thank the Rev. Brother who has so kindly proposed this toast, and to thank you all for the kindness and cordiality with which you have received me on every occasion during these three years of my period of office.

The Earl of Haddington afterwards proposed the health of Lady Saltoun, and the toast was received with enthusiasm.

Lord Saltoun, in reply, said—I have to thank you for the kind way in which Brother Past Grand Master Lord Haddington has proposed the toast of Lady Saltoun; and I am proud to think that she is not unknown to the Masons, at all events in Edinburgh and parts of our northern district. She has on two occasions received invitations from Lodges in Edinburgh. The first was from St. Mary's Chapel, No. 1, to a great theatrical entertainment, which will be in the recollection of the Brethren, and she went there and had a reception such as any lady might be proud of; and I can assure St. Mary's Chapel Lodge, No. 1, that she was deeply touched with the reception she had from them, and I, myself, was also deeply touched by the honour which they did her. And, again, she had the honour of visiting Lodge No. 8, and that Lodge did my wife a very particular honour, which, I can assure you, she appreciated at the time, and has been proud of ever since. It is known to the Brethren in all Scotland that on the occasion I had the honour of presenting that Lodge with a banner, and they did my wife the honour of presenting her with a gold bangle. I can assure you that that has not been forgotten by her ladyship or by myself, and I trust that it will be a bond between Lodge No. 8 and ourselves in all time to come. Then, again, she was present on that notable occasion when I had the honour of presenting a gift from Grand Lodge and from the Past Grand Masters to my friend who sits below me, Brother Murray Lyon. Then, again, she received a hearty welcome which was accorded her by all chivalrous Masons.

Bro. Baron de Busch will be married next Wednesday to Miss Pauline Joran, the celebrated singer, at St. Margaret's, Westminster. The ceremony will take place at 2.30, and the reception afterwards, at the Whitehall Rooms.

NEW HALL AT ABERGAVENNY.

THERE was a large gathering of Monmouthshire Brethren at Abergavenny on Wednesday evening, 22nd ult., on the occasion of the opening of a new Masonic Hall by the Philanthropic Lodge, No. 818. The occasion was marked by the holding of the Provincial Grand Mark Lodge, under Bro. J. O. Marsh Prov. G. Master.

The hall forms portion of the ancient Church of St. John, which dates from the fourteenth century, and it is said to have been at one period the parish church of Abergavenny. The property held by the Craft includes an ancient embattled tower, and this fact Bro. I. T. Williams W.M., in an address, said was unique in the history of Masonic Temples. Freemasonry, he added, was introduced at Abergavenny by French officers brought there as prisoners during the Peninsular War and released on parole within the town boundary.

Bro. J. H. Taylor P.M. S.G.W. of the Eastern Division of South Wales said that several years ago a friend who was travelling in France by accident made the acquaintance of the descendants of those French Officers who were captives at Abergavenny, and was given a snuff-box adorned with Masonic emblems, which one of them had carved during his captivity from a marrow-bone. This was afterwards presented to the speaker (Bro. Taylor), and he, in turn, enclosed it in a suitable case and gave it to the museum of relics connected with the Philanthropic Lodge.

After the business the Brethren dined together at the Angel Hotel, the W.M. being supported by the Deputy Prov. G.M. Bro. C. R. Lyne, and the Mayor of Abergavenny Bro. J. Bishop.

LEEDS MASONIC HALL.

A DIFFICULTY has arisen in connection with the scheme for building a new Masonic Hall on the south side of Great George Street, Leeds. Plans for the structure, upon which (apart from the land) it is intended to spend about £6,000, were recently adopted, and everything is ready for commencing building operations. Before a spadeful of soil has been turned, however, an unforeseen obstacle has presented itself. The Leeds City Council at their last meeting sanctioned an important project for widening and straightening Cookridge Street, the carrying out of that plan involving the purchase and demolition of the Roman Catholic cathedral, schools, and presbytery. It is proposed by the Corporation to schedule land eighty-four yards back from Cookridge Street, the area thus affected comprising 14,625 yards between Great George Street and Guildford Street. The ear marked land includes the new Masonic Hall site, containing about 650 square yards, which, it is understood, the Improvements Committee intend to offer to the Roman Catholic authorities in substitution for the site now occupied by St. Ann's Cathedral and adjoining buildings. The Masonic Fraternity are taking vigorous steps to prevent the acquisition of their site by the Roman Catholics, and a resolution on the subject will be moved at the next meeting of the City Council. —“Building News.”

By the kindness of the Lord Mayor of Manchester and of the Town Hall Committee, the use of the large room in the Manchester Town Hall has been granted to the Minnehaha Minstrels for the purpose of giving two entertainments in aid of the local War Fund, one being billed for last evening (Friday, 8th Dec.) and the other for Monday next, 11th instant.

Mr. Justice Bucknill, who was recently engaged at the Glamorgan Assizes, is one of the most distinguished Freemasons in the country, as was his father before him. He is a Past Grand Warden of England, and has held very high Provincial honours. On Wednesday, 22nd ult., he attended the Prince Llewellyn Lodge, at Cardiff, and was supported by the leading members of the South Wales Bar. At the banquet which followed he proved himself a genial and clever after-dinner speaker, and the gathering was one which local Masons will not soon forget. —“Western Mail.”

At a recent meeting of the Clyde Lodge the Provincial Grand Treasurer of the Benevolent Fund unfolded a scheme which, it is proposed, should be adopted in the distribution of grants from the Fund. The question of how a case for

assistance should be dealt with, where the applicant has not been connected with any Lodge for years, has long been a vexed question to the Committee. Some years ago it was proposed that a Brother three years in arrears in the Lodge through which the application came, should be regarded as outside the pale of the P.G.L.B.F. That never became a law, but now the Committee seem to think that some rule in this direction should be established. They favour the suggestion that any application founded on a member who has ceased to be faithful to his Masonic duties for the period of five years, should not be entertained. Such distinction could not be accepted as a hard and fast rule, however, as there are cases in which it would be manifestly unjust to apply such a rule, but given as a general instruction to the Committee it would greatly strengthen their powers, and enable them to afford help in larger amounts in relieving deserving cases.

o o o

Cheshire Freemasonry continues to flourish, and the progress made both in numbers and influence must be especially gratifying to the Provincial Grand Master Earl Egerton of Tatton. Saturday afternoon (25th ult.) witnessed the consecration of the Asheton-Egerton Lodge, No. 2793, and the Lodges in the Province now number fifty-three. Incidentally, the choice of the name is a compliment to his lordship's family, as it includes the territorial names of the owners of Hale and Ashley for centuries back, but the main reason for the foundation of the Lodge is to be found in the fact that within the last few years green fields and country hedgerows have given place to numerous beautiful residences which are occupied mostly by the representatives of Great Britain's growing commerce. The hotel, too, in which the Lodge will find its headquarters, has shown evidence of the growth of the district. Many remember the “Old Bleeding Wolf,” with its farm-like surroundings, and had a liking for the quaint structure; but, phoenix-like, it has risen from its own ashes, so to speak, and we have now a palatial edifice with gables and markings peculiar to the old Cheshire style of architecture, which will serve for many generations to come. —“Stockport Advertiser.”

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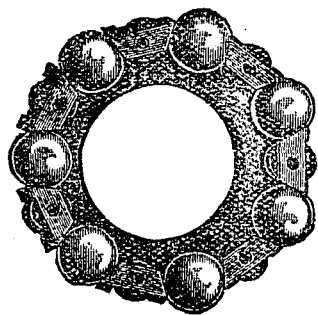
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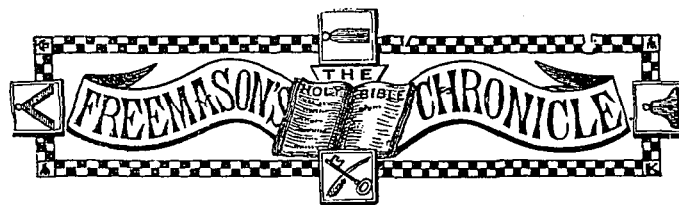


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SATURDAY, 9TH DECEMBER 1899.

UNITED GRAND LODGE.

THE Quarterly Communication of United Grand Lodge was held on Wednesday, at Freemasons' Hall, London, under the presidency of the Earl of Warwick Deputy Grand Master, who was supported by Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., as D.G.M., Bro. Thomas Fenn as S.G.W., Bro. Robert Grey as J.G.W., and a large assembly.

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales was nominated by Bro. Charles Beaumont, for re-election as Grand Master, and Bro. Harry Manfield was proposed by Bro. John Glass for the office of Grand Treasurer.

The other business on the agenda, as given in our pages last week, was proceeded with in regular order.

The general opinion in regard to the vote of one thousand guineas to the War Fund was that not only should those wives and widows who were not married on the strength, but that officers' widows and wives, and also the loyal people in Natal and the Cape who had lost farms and homes, and also had fought for the Mother country, should participate, and it was accordingly referred to the Board of Benevolence to decide in what proportions and in what direction the sum should be allocated. Bro. R. D. M. Littler, Q.C., proposed this amendment, and said he should have been only too glad if the 1,000 guineas proposed had been ten times that amount.

MARK GRAND LODGE.

THE Quarterly meeting was held at Mark Masons' Hall, London, on Tuesday, when the Earl of Euston Pro Grand Master presided.

The Prince of Wales was nominated for re-election as Grand Master, and Bro. John Dimsdale proposed as Grand Treasurer for next year.

On the motion of the Earl of Euston one hundred guineas was voted to the "Daily Telegraph" Shilling Fund for Widows and Orphans by the Transvaal War. Bro. W. E. M. Tomlinson, M.P., having asked why it should not go to the Lord Mayor's Fund, was informed that, as the latter was identified with the Patriotic Fund, it did not take in the wives married without leave, whereas the Fund to which this grant was made relieved all, and the sufferings of some of them were very great.

Reverting to the recent resignation by Bro. Col. T. Davies Sewell, of the Secretaryship of the Alliance Lodge, No. 1827, we are pleased to learn that, to mark their appreciation of the able and genial way in which the retiring Secretary discharged his duties, the members of the Lodge have unanimously elected him an honorary member, like Sir John Monckton P.M. P.G.W., another of the founders. Next to Alderman Frank Green P.M. P.G.D. the Colonel is the senior member of the Lodge.

LODGE MEETINGS NEXT WEEK.

Monday.

5 S. Geo. & C'ner Stone, L.M.H.
 29 St. Alban, Albion
 59 Royal Naval, Freemasons'-hall
 193 Confidence, Anderton's
 957 Leigh, Freemasons'-hall
 1305 St. Marylebone, Criterion
 1670 Adelphi, Freemasons'-hall
 2030 The Abbey, Westminster
 2094 Elthorne & Middlesex, Café R'l.
 2394 Galen, Freemasons'-hall
 2454 Guildhall School Music, Holb'n.
 2565 Royal Rose, Hampstead Road
 40 Derwent, Hastings
 61 Probity, Halifax
 68 Royal Clarence, Bristol
 75 Love and Honour, Falmouth
 85 Faithful, Harleston
 88 Scientific, Cambridge
 89 Unanimity, Dukinfield
 104 St. John, Stockport
 105 Fortitude, Plymouth
 106 Sun, Exmouth
 133 Harmony, Faversham
 151 Albany, Newport, I. of Wight
 189 Sincerity, East Stonehouse
 237 Indefatigable, Swansea
 240 St. Hilda, South Shields
 262 Salopian, Shrewsbury
 264 Nelson of the Nile, Batley
 292 Sincerity, Liverpool
 296 Royal Brunswick, Sheffield
 297 Whitham, Lincoln
 303 Benevolent, Teignmouth
 313 United Friends, Gt. Yarmouth
 314 Peace and Unity, Preston
 330 One and All, Bodmin
 339 Unanimity, Penrith
 379 Honour, Bath
 408 Three Graces, Haworth
 411 Commercial, Nottingham
 433 Hope, Brightlingsea
 467 Tudor, Oldham
 481 St. Peter, Newcastle-on-Tyne
 587 Howe, Birmingham
 589 Druid Love & Lib., Redruth
 613 Unity, Southport
 632 Concord, Trowbridge
 643 Royal, Fife
 665 Montagu, Lyme Regis
 671 Prince of Wales, Llanelly
 721 Independence, Chester
 797 Hauley, Dartmouth
 884 Derwent, Wirksworth
 893 Meridan, Millbrook
 941 De Tabley, Knutsford
 1069 United Brothers, Portsmouth
 1149 Dorking, Dorking
 1174 Pentangle, Chatham
 1221 Defence, Leeds
 1237 Enfield, Enfield
 1253 Travellers, Manchester
 1280 Walden, Saffron Walden
 1286 Bayon, Market Rasen
 1302 De Warren, Halifax
 1312 St. Mary, Bocking
 1350 Fermor Hesketh, Bootle
 1350 Skelmersdale, Liverpool
 1408 Stamford & Warr'gton, St'y'b'ge
 1436 Castle, Sandgate
 1449 Royal Military, Canterbury
 1474 Israel, Birmingham
 1496 Trafford, Moss Side
 1542 Legiolum, Castleford
 1564 St. John, Woking
 1575 Clive, Drayton
 1592 Abbey, Bury St. Edmunds
 1600 Hamilton, Alford
 1611 Eboracum, York
 1618 Handyside, Saltburn-by-Sea
 1730 Urmston, Urmston
 1792 Tudor, Harborne
 1802 Vernon, Retford
 1852 Forest, Mansfield
 1885 Torridge, Great Torrington
 1914 St. Thomas, Kidsgrove
 1948 Hardman, Rawtenstall
 1952 High Peak, Chapel-en-le-Frith
 1966 Fidelity & Sincerity, Wellington
 2034 Maschfield, 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
 2505 County Palatine, Birkdale
 2584 Queen Victoria, Manchester

Tuesday.

96 Burlington, Albion

180 St. James Union, F.M.H.
 198 Percy, Ship and Turtle
 211 St. Michael, Albion
 228 United Strength, Guildhall Tav.
 235 Nine Muses, Charing Cross
 781 Merchant Navy, Limehouse
 834 Ranelagh, Criterion
 935 Doric, Anderton's
 1571 Leopold, Southwark
 1593 Royal Naval College, Greenwich
 1604 Wanderers, Freemasons'-hall
 1693 Kingsland, Highbury
 1769 Clarendon, Guildhall Tavern
 1969 Waldeck, Freemasons'-hall
 2546 Rahere, Frascati
 80 St. John, Sunderland
 93 Social, Norwich
 131 Fortitude, Truro
 160 True Friendship, Rochford
 184 United Chatham, New Brompton
 241 Merchant, Liverpool
 272 Harmony, Boston
 284 Shakespeare, Warwick
 319 New Forest, Lymington
 366 St. David, Milford
 371 Perseverance, Maryport
 473 Faithful, Birmingham
 484 Faith, Newton-le-Willows
 494 Virtue and Honour, Axminster
 495 Wakefield, Wakefield
 496 Peace & Harmony, St. Austell
 502 Rectitude, Rugby
 503 Belvedere, Maidstone
 567 Unity, Warwick
 573 Perseverance, Hales-Owen
 593 St. Ann, Alderney
 603 Zetland, Cleckheaton
 624 Abbey, Burton-on-Trent
 626 Lansdowne Unity, Chippenham
 650 Star in the East, Harwich
 686 Jerusalem, Bristol
 696 St. Bartholomew, Wednesbury
 723 Panmure, Aldershot
 764 H'rbour of Refuge, W. H'tlep'l.
 771 Windsor Castle, Windsor
 789 Dunheved, Llaneston
 814 Parrett and Axe, Crewkern
 877 Royal Alfred, Jersey
 892 Royal Edward, Leominster
 897 S. Helen of Loyalty, St. Helen's
 903 Gosport, Gosport
 967 Three Grand Principles, Penryn
 979 Four Cardinal Virtues, Crewe
 990 Neyland, Neyland
 1021 Hartington, Barrow-in-Furness
 1028 Royal Alfred, Alfreton
 1036 Bowyer, Chipping Norton
 1067 R'y'l Forest Dean, N'h'm S'v'u.
 1073 Greta, Keswick
 1120 St. Milburga, Ironbridge
 1138 Devon, Newton Abbot
 1214 Scarborough, Batley
 1220 Solway, Aspatria
 1250 Gilbert Greenall, Warrington
 1267 Kenlis, Egremont
 1373 St. Hubert, Andover
 1402 Jordan, Torquay
 1414 Knole, Sevenoaks
 1476 Blackpool, Blackpool
 1482 Isle of Axholme, Crowle
 1528 Fort, Newquay
 1545 Baildon, Baildon
 1560 Albert Edward, Leicester
 1713 Wilbraham, Walton-on-the-Hill
 1782 Machen, Colleshill
 1823 Royal Clarence, Clare
 1837 Lullingstone, Wilmington
 1847 Ebrington, Stonehouse
 1883 William of Wykeham, W'nc'h'ter
 1902 St. Outhbert, Bedlington
 2001 Narberth, Narberth
 2099 Ethelbert, Herne Bay
 2104 Whitwell, Stockton-on-Tees
 2134 Wilberforce, Hull
 2164 St. Germans, Peel, Isle of Man
 2256 Warner, Chingford
 2324 Horwich, Horwich
 2477 Colne, Wyvenhoe
 2521 Noel-Money, Weybridge
 2559 St. Aldhelms, Branksome

Wednesday.

Committee Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, at 4.
 3 Fidelity, Freemasons'-hall
 11 Enoch, Freemasons'-hall
 13 Union Waterloo, Plumstead
 15 Kent, Freemasons'-hall
 136 Good Report, Albion
 548 Wellington, Cannon Street Ho.
 1228 Beacontree, Guildhall Tavern
 1260 John Hervey, Freemasons'-hall

1538 St. Martin-le-Grand, Holborn
 1586 Up. Norwood, Upper Norwood
 1766 St. Leonard, Gt. Eastern Hotel
 1815 Penge, Anerley
 1900 Montague Guest, Inns of Ct. Hl.
 2410 Æsculapius, Café Royal
 2581 Empress, Earl's Court
 54 Hope, Rochdale
 84 Doyle of Friendship, Guernsey
 125 Prince Edwin, Hythe
 146 Antiquity, Bolton
 187 Rl. Sussex Hospitality, Bristol
 204 Caledonian, Manchester
 225 St. Luke, Ipswich
 244 Yarrowburgh, Jersey
 274 Tranquility, Newchurch
 277 Friendship, Oldham
 281 Fortitude, Lancaster
 288 Harmony, Todmorden
 323 Concord, Stockport
 498 Royal Standard, Dudley
 654 Peveril of the Peak, New Mills
 661 Fawcett, Seaham Harbour
 666 Benevolence, Dartmoor
 679 St. David, Aberdare
 730 Ellesmere, Churley
 731 Arboretum, Derby
 755 St. Tudno, Llandudno
 851 Worthing Friendship, Worthing
 854 Albert, Shaw
 1005 Zetland, Gloucester
 1018 Shakespeare, Bradford
 1031 Fletcher, Birmingham
 1060 Marmion, Tamworth
 1064 Borough, Burnley
 1088 Royal Edward, Stalybridge
 1091 Erme, Ivybridge
 1094 Temple, Liverpool
 1101 Grey Friars, Reading
 1112 Shirley, Southampton
 1125 St. Peter, Tiverton
 1135 Concord, Ilfracombe
 1140 Ashton, Heaton Moor
 1181 De la Pole, Seaton
 1209 Lewises, Ramsgate
 1242 Tynewold, Douglas, Isle of Man
 1248 Denison, Scarborough
 1351 Aldershot Camp, Aldershot
 1342 Walker, Newcastle-on-Tyne
 1356 Toxteth, Liverpool
 1398 Baldwin, Dalton-in-Furness
 1400 Curwen, Workington
 1465 Ockenden, Cuckfield
 1547 Liverpool, Liverpool
 1582 Llanidloes, Llanidloes
 1588 Prince Leopold, Stretford
 1643 Perseverance, Hebburn-on-Tyne
 1703 Windrush, Witney
 1715 A. J. Brogden, Grange-o'-Sands
 1798 Zion, Manchester
 1848 Ferrum, Middlesborough
 1855 St. Maurice, Plympton
 1879 Lord Warkworth, Amble
 1932 Whitworth, Spennymoor
 1947 Stanford, Hove
 1958 St. George, Portsea
 2046 Robinson, Maidstone
 2156 Arthur Sullivan, Manchester
 2183 Royal Hampton Ct., Hamptn Ct
 2284 Smyth, Grimsby
 2294 Wavertree, Wavertree
 2389 Avondale, Middlewich
 2423 St. Mark, Connah Quay
 2483 Hadrian, Westham
 2504 Earl of Warwick, Buckh'rst Hill
 2540 Ember, East Molesey

Thursday.

19 Royal Athelstan, Cannon St. Ho.
 238 Pilgrim, Freemasons'-hall
 263 Bank of England, Albion
 534 Polish National, F.M.H.
 860 Dalhousie, Anderton's
 1076 Capper, Guildhall Tavern
 1558 Duke of Connaught, C'mb'rwell
 1708 Plucknet, North Finchley
 1791 Creaton, Freemasons'-hall
 1804 Coborn, Bow
 1820 Sir Thomas White, Café Royal
 1987 Strand, Piccadilly
 2047 Beckenham, Beckenham
 35 Medina, Cowes
 50 Knights of Malta, Hinckley
 97 Palatine, Sunderland
 112 St. George, Exeter
 130 Royal Gloucester, South'mpton
 139 Britannia, Sheffield
 191 St. John, Bury
 216 Harmonic, Liverpool
 333 Royal Preston, Preston
 344 Faith, Radcliffe
 369 Limestone Rock, Clitheroe
 381 Harmony & Industry, Darwen
 437 Science, Wincanton
 442 St. Peter, Peterboro'
 477 Mersey, Birkenhead
 487 Portsmouth, Portsmouth

546 Etruscan, Longton
 561 Zetland, Gnisborough
 585 Elias De Derham, Salisbury
 588 St. Botolph, Sleaford
 725 Stoneleigh, Coventry
 732 Royal Brunswick, Brighton
 739 Temperance, Birmingham
 784 Wellington, Deal
 816 Royd, Littleboro'
 945 Abbey, Abingdon
 973 Royal Somerset, Frome
 991 Tyne, Wallsend
 1035 Prince of Wales, Liverpool
 1055 Derby, Manchester
 1061 Triumph, Lancaster
 1098 St. George, Tredegar
 1099 Huyshe, Stoke, Devonport
 1143 Royal Denbigh, Denbigh
 1144 Milton, Ashton-under-Lyne
 1145 Equality, Accrington
 1147 St. David, Manchester
 1164 Eliot, St. Germans
 1182 Duke of Edinburgh, Liverpool
 1204 Royd, Malvern
 1213 Bridgewater, Eccles
 1235 Phoenix St. Ann, Buxton
 1247 St. John, Plymouth
 1273 St. Michael, Sittingbourne
 1387 Chorlton, Chorlton-cum-Hardy
 1416 Falcon, Thirsk
 1429 Alb't Edw'd Pr. of Wales, N'p't.
 1457 Bagshaw, Loughton
 1495 Arkwright, Matlock Bath
 1515 Bertie, Oxford
 1583 Corbet, Towyn
 1697 Hospitality, Waverfoot
 1750 Coleridge, Clevedon
 1863 Priory, Tynemouth
 1911 De la Pré, Northampton
 1915 Graystone, Whitstable
 1992 Tennant, Cardiff
 2016 Shaldon, Alton
 2028 Granite, Narborough
 2038 Portcullis, Langport
 2091 Castleberg, Settle
 2109 Prince Edward, Heaton Moor
 2132 Egerton, Seacombe
 2189 Ashburton, Ashburton
 2217 Windermere, Windermere
 2227 White Horse, Westbury
 2234 Onslow, Guildford
 2285 Eden, Workington
 2311 Saint Alkmund, Whitchurch
 2343 Sir William Harpur, Bedford
 2420 Fd. de Rothschild, Waddesdon
 2428 Gracedieu, Coalville
 2449 Duke of York, Manchester
 2468 St. John, Douglas, Isle of Man
 2523 Roll Call, Hounslow
 2529 Abbey, Whalley
 2568 Deleval, Newcastle-on-Tyne

Friday.

2243 Argonauts, Putney
 2346 Warrant Officers, F'masons'-hall
 152 Virtue, Manchester
 155 Perseverance, Liverpool
 271 Royal Clarence, Brighton
 347 Noah Ark, Tipton
 355 R'l. S'x. Emulation, Swindon
 401 Royal Forest, Slaidburn
 426 Shakespeare, Spilsby
 445 Fidelity, Towcester
 460 Sut'land Unity, N'castle-u-Lyme
 516 Phoenix, Stowmarket
 541 De Lorraine, Newcastle-on-Tyne
 566 St. Germain, Selby
 652 Holme Valley, Holmfirth
 712 Lindsey, Louth
 951 Prince of Wales, Stow on'Wold
 1054 Eccleshill, Eccleshill
 1074 Underley, Kirkby Lonsdale
 1108 Royal Wharfedale, Otley
 1224 Stour Valley, Sudbury
 1232 Hereward, Bourn
 1311 Zetland, Leeds
 1330 St. Peter, Market Harborough
 1357 Cope, Sale
 1389 Fenwick, Sunderland
 1739 Carnarvon, Swadlincote
 1773 Albert Victor, Pendleton
 1794 De Vere, Nottingham
 2078 St. Lawrence, Scunthorpe
 2231 Talbot, Stretford
 2447 Palatine, Manchester

Saturday.

1139 South Norwood, S. Norwood P.
 1641 Crichton, Camberwell
 1732 King's Cross, Anderton's
 2513 Sir Walter S. John, Cam'well
 149 Peace, Meltham
 308 Prince George, Eastwood
 336 Benevolence, Marple
 811 Yarrowburgh, Brighton
 993 Alexandra, Levenshulme
 1126 Oakwood, Romiley

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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HONOUR AND GENEROSITY LODGE, No. 165.

THE first meeting of the season of this ancient Lodge was held on Tuesday, 28th ult., when the following Brethren were present:—F. Howard Rosher W.M., John Woodhouse S.W., Godfrey Sykes J.W., J. W. Howard Thompson P.M. Treasurer, Henry Times P.M. Secretary, H. W. Clarkson Organist, A. P. Crabb I.P.M., F. E. Rosher P.M., Hayward J. Strudwick, William H. Burt, Harry Bearman, C. J. Andrews, Joseph W. Ellis, W. C. Hulbert, Bertram B. Van Praagh, Frank S. Gaylor, Ernest H. Palin Francis.

Amongst the Visitors were: Bros. W. C. Lumley Grand Master's Lodge No. 1, Hy. Pritchard P.M. Secretary Bank of England Lodge 263 P.P.G. Treas. Middlesex, Albert Leighton W.M. 263, W. H. Anns De Moulham Lodge 1146, J. Dowdeswell 1146, H. Massey P.M. Gallery Lodge 1928, D. Marston Duke of Albany Lodge 1863, W. Drew Eccentric Lodge, F. H. Callingham S.D. Clarendon Lodge 1768, Reginald Groome Runymede Lodge, Percy Nisbett John Hervey Lodge 126, John Bromley Mary Chapel Lodge No. 1 of Edinburgh, and F. H. Cheesewright P.M. Royal Albert Lodge 907.

Letters of regret for absence from illness and other unavoidable causes were read from Bros. Sir John Monckton P.G.W., Richard Eve P.G. Treas., Edward Letchworth Grand Secretary, V. P. Freeman P.G.D. and Prov.G. Secretary Sussex, Charles Belton P.G.S.B., R. Clay Sudlow P.G.S.B., Sir A. Collins P.M., and John Le Hay.

Bro. J. W. Howard Thompson Treasurer moved a resolution that a sum of twenty guineas should be given to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution from the Lodge funds, and placed on the list of Bro. Times, acting as Steward at the next Festival. This was seconded by Bro. A. P. Crabb I.P.M. and was carried unanimously.

The third ceremony was worked, and after all other Masonic business had been concluded the Brethren adjourned to the banquet room, where an excellent dinner was provided.

The toast of the Queen and the Craft was duly honoured, and God save the Queen was sung by Bro. Reginald Groome.

After the toast of the Grand Master H.R.H. the Prince of Wales and the Grand Officers had been duly honoured, Bro. A. P. Crabb I.P.M. gave that of the W.M., which was briefly responded to by Bro. F. Howard Rosher.

The Visitors' toast was responded to by Bro. Henry Pritchard P.M. P.P.G. Treas. Middlesex, and Bro. Albert Leighton W.M. of the Bank of England Lodge, No. 263.

Bro. J. W. Howard Thompson P.M. and Treas., Bro. Jno. Woodhouse S.W., and Bro. Godfrey Sykes J.W. replied for the Officers, and the Tyler's toast brought an enjoyable evening to a close.

During the evening the Brethren were entertained with an excellent musical programme, which was arranged by Bro. Groome, who was assisted by Bro. F. Cheesewright, with Bro. John Bromley at the piano.

Mr. James Dunn gave a banjo sketch, and Bro. Dr. Byrd-Page delighted the Brethren with some tricks of sleight of hand.

During the evening a collection was made on behalf of the "Daily Telegraph" Soldiers' Widows and Orphans fund, which realised the sum of £10.

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CONFIDENCE LODGE, No. 193.

THE members of this Lodge, who are so widely known for their unbounded hospitality, and for the liberal way in which they always entertain their guests, held their Seventh Annual Ladies Banquet and Ball on Wednesday, 29th ult., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C., and it proved one of the most charming and most pleasant gatherings we have ever had the pleasure of participating in. From the ruler of the Lodge (Bro. George Spice) to the youngest member all seemed to have but one desire—that of being happy and communicating happiness; no Masonic work was thought of on the occasion, the aim of the members being to devote their whole attention to the numerous guests who assembled to participate in the pleasures of a "Confidence social"; and they succeeded in their endeavours.

The Worshipful Master, with his sister Mrs. Grier, received the company, and an early adjournment was made to the banquet room, where the tables were most beautifully decorated with flowers and tasteful ornaments. The dinner was all that could be desired, and reflected credit alike on the establishment and on Bro. Charles E. Wagstaff, the manager. Bro. Collings in his usual attentive manner superintended the banquet, and to the satisfaction of the company.

At the conclusion of the repast the Worshipful Master gave the toast of the Queen and the Craft. The Queen was the grand patroness of the Order, and might God bless her for many years to come.

In proposing His Royal Highness the Grand Master, the W.M. spoke of the goodness and charitable disposition of the Prince of Wales. The toast was heartily honoured, and Bro. J. W. Simeons S.W. (whose voice was in extra good form) sang "God bless the Prince of Wales."

Bro. E. Pennock I.P.M. gave the toast of the W.M., referring to his special ability inside the Lodge, his interest in such gatherings as the present, and, above all, his devotion to the true principles of Freemasonry.

The Worshipful Master, on rising, received quite an ovation, and it was some moments before Bro. Spice had the opportunity of responding. He thanked Bro. Pennock for the flattering terms in which he gave the toast, and assured the Brethren of his great interest in the success of the Lodge. He felt it his duty to acknowledge the services of Bro. Davey, their worthy Secretary, in carrying out the arrangements for the present successful gathering, and proposed a special toast in his honour.

Bro. Davey thanked the W.M. for the flattering terms in which he had proposed his health. It was a pleasure to do anything in his power to promote the success and pleasure of the Confidence Lodge.

Bro. T. Kington P.M., by special desire of the W.M., gave the toast of the Ladies, saying he felt it an honour to be asked to do so. As the mouth-piece of the Lodge he gave the Ladies a most hearty welcome, and assured

them that the best endeavours of the members of the Lodge had been made to afford the guests a pleasurable evening. He should have liked to say a great deal more, but being a batchelor he was rather bashful in the presence of so many ladies. At any rate, he hoped the Ladies would equally enjoy themselves later on in the Ball room.

Bro. F. Fells, in a short but elegant speech, responded on behalf of the Ladies.

Bro. J. W. Simeons S.W. gave the health of the visitors, saying he considered it a special compliment being entrusted with the toast, as there were several distinguished guests amongst them. He wished the toast had been placed in more able hands than his own, so that full justice might have been done to it, but the Brethren knew the Lodge was famed for its hospitality, and in their name he gave the Visitors a most hearty welcome, with the hope that they might have the pleasure of their company for many years to come.

Some other speeches followed, after which the company retired to the Ball room, which was beautifully decorated with ferns and plants. The band of Bro. F. R. Pritchard played excellent dance music, and the Ladies, with their beaming faces and magnificent dresses, made one for the moment imagine they were in the land of the fairies—instead of at Anderton's Hotel.

The party separated at an early hour in the morning, to retire to their homesteads, and no doubt to dream of the very pleasant and enjoyable time they had spent amongst the members of the Confidence Lodge.

Amongst those present were Bro. G. Spice W.M. and his sister, Bro. J. W. Simeons S.W., Mrs. Buick and Miss Smith, Dr. and Mrs. Grant, Bro. Fraser P.M. 1901, Bros. Brown S.W. 902, Green, J. Cowper Turner and Mrs. Turner, Bro. F. Pribul, Mrs. and Miss Pribul, Bro. and Mrs. E. Stratford, Bro. J. E. Fells P.M. Treasurer, with Mrs. and Misses Fells, Bro. E. Pennock I.P.M. and Mrs. Pennock, Bro. Kington P.M. and friends, Bro. Cornish and friends, Bro. and Mrs. J. Cutting and friends, Bro. and Mrs. Lough and Mrs. Stagg, Bro. M. Baillie J.D. and daughters, Bro. E. Humphrey P.M., Bro. and Mrs. R. M. Owen and friends, Bro. and Mrs. W. Houghton, Bro. G. F. Carr, Bro. and Mrs. Goovartz, Bro. and Mrs. Gosham and friends, Bro. T. Wiffen and family, Bro. G. Barrett and lady, Bro. and Mrs. S. C. Foreman, Bro. and Mrs. Jay and friends, Bro. and Mrs. Webber and friends, Bro. G. R. Ousey P.M., Bro. J. Wynman, and numerous others.

The musical entertainment during the banquet was greatly appreciated and well received. Bro. E. H. Lough with his usual ability presided at the piano, while in conclusion we congratulate Bro. Simeons and Webber for the able manner in which they acted as Directors of Ceremonies.

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DUKE OF CONNAUGHT LODGE, No. 1524.

THE Worshipful Master Bro. Edmund Frisby presided at a meeting of this Lodge held on Thursday of last week, at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C., when a full programme of business was presented.

With praiseworthy punctuality Bro. Frisby opened the Lodge at the time mentioned on the summons, but unfortunately his Officers, with the exception of Bros. James Bedford J.W., C. Lorkin P.M. Secretary, and W. H. Brand P.M. Treasurer, from various causes were not present, and other Brethren had to be appointed to the various vacant Offices.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the Lodge was advanced to the second degree, when Bros. Thomson, Burbridge, De Lee, Robinson, and Croft proved their proficiency as Craftsmen, were afterwards raised to the sublime degree, and took their seats in the Lodge as Master Masons. Bros. W. G. Jones and Cope were passed as Craftsmen; and Mr. Robert Woffinder was regularly initiated into the mysteries and privileges of the Order. All the ceremonies were ably rendered by Bro. Frisby, who certainly deserved the compliment that was subsequently bestowed upon him.

This being election night according to the bye-laws the Brethren proceeded to elect a Master, Treasurer, and Tyler for the ensuing year, with the result that Bro. James Bedford J.W., W. H. Brand P.M., and C. Williams were selected for those respective Offices. Bros. Robinson, Wagner, and Stephens were appointed to audit the accounts of the Lodge.

Bro. W. T. Oakley P.M. proposed, and Bro. Edmond J. Turnbull P.M. seconded, that a grant of 210 shillings be made to the "Daily Telegraph" Fund for the Widows and Orphans of the soldiers and sailors fallen in the Transvaal War. This was agreed to, and the W.M. suggested that the amount might be further increased by a collection at the dinner table, when a further sum of 105 shillings was gathered in, and a cheque for fifteen guineas was drawn by Bro. Brand, and sent on during the evening.

Bro. Archer I.P.M. proposed that in order to mark the valuable services of Bro. Frisby during his year of office, a Past Master's jewel of the value of ten guineas be presented to him at the next meeting. This was also carried, and Bro. Frisby returned his sincere thanks. Three candidates were proposed for initiation, and as there are still two others already approved of, it would appear that the Lodge will be busy for some time to come. The Visiting Brethren having tendered their hearty good wishes, the Lodge was closed and the meeting adjourned.

A very pleasant evening followed, and the customary congratulatory speeches were made. A capital musical entertainment was provided, the artistes being Miss Stannah, Bros. W. W. Robinson, Cope, Harding, F. Henderson, and Duncanson, together with Mr. J. G. Stones.

Among those who were present in addition to those mentioned above were Bros. Arthur Ferrar P.M., J. H. Rich P.M., A. R. Olley P.M., J. Buszard, W. Twist, G. T. Dobson, E. Harris, T. James, &c.

The visitors were Bros. Thomas Griffiths P.P.A.D.C. Surrey, Rev. T. H. Russell Chaplain 2408, W. C. Sabine I.P.M. 1893, A. L. Brown J.D. 1050, Edward Parker J.D. 511, Charles Snow 765, Frank W. Jackson 2005, and Orilton Cooper 211.

Congratulations, tempered by regret, were conveyed to Bro. Duncanson, the first initiate of the W.M., who is leaving the Lodge in consequence of having to take up a good commercial position in Glasgow.

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INSTRUCTION.

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CONFIDENCE LODGE, No. 193.

ON Wednesday, at the Bunch of Grapes, Lime Street, E.C., at 7 p.m., Bros. G. Spice W.M., J. W. Simeons S.W., M. Baillie J.W., G. F. Carr S.D., H. Martin J.D., J. Done I.G., E. J. Davey acting Secretary, Thos. Goodchild, J. Sweeney, E. J. Tiffin, and other Brethren.

Bro. Goodchild offered himself as a candidate for initiation, and the ceremony was rehearsed. The Lodge was opened in the second degree, and the ceremony of installation was rehearsed by the W.M., Bro. Simeons acting

as W.M.-elect. The investiture of Officers was gone through. Brother Spice gave the charges and addresses in a very impressive manner. The W.M. then worked the first section of the first lecture, assisted by the Brethren.

Bro. Thos. Goodchild, of the Mother Lodge, became a member.

FINSBURY PARK LODGE, No. 1288.

ON Saturday, at the Old Cock Tavern, Highbury, N., Bros. G. H. Paine W.M., Edward Palmer S.W., W. Briggs J.W., H. Hill P.M. Prec., J. W. Key acting Sec., R. Fox S.D., R. Bryant J.D., W. Newbold I.G., M. M. Taylor P.M., M. Johnson, A. A. Ibbott, J. Gray, F. Linfoot W.M. 27, J. Wynman, G. Cox, C. G. Smith, G. Dixon, W. Hudson.

The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. A. A. Ibbott acting as candidate. The Lodge was opened in the second degree, when the W.M. vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Bryant, who rehearsed the ceremony of installation, Bro. Paine being presented by Bro. Hill as W.M.-elect. The W.M. was saluted in the various degrees, and proceeded to invest the Officers, after which Bro. Bryant delivered the addresses. Bro. Richard Fox 2048 was elected a member, and Bro. Edward Palmer W.M. for to-day (Saturday).

WOODROW LODGE, No. 1708.

ON Monday afternoon, at Bro. Rudderforth's (Stone's) Restaurant, Pantons Street, Haymarket, Bros. J. E. Culverhouse W.M., G. Yeowell S.W., R. Cawley J.W., C. E. Wetton P.M. Dep. Prec., J. W. Simeons Sec., W. West S.D., H. J. Rose J.D., J. C. Pyke I.G., J. Lobb, W. Hann, W. H. Simms, A. Pion, J. Wynman, G. Baker, J. Cartal, J. Ollington, Victor Weston, C. Murless.

The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, including the ancient charge, Bro. Lobb being the candidate. The W.M. proceeded to rehearse the ceremony of passing, Bro. Hann acting as candidate. Bro. Lobb answered the questions leading to the third degree.

We congratulate Bro. Culverhouse on his working, both the ceremonies being rendered in a faultless manner.

The Lodge was resumed to the first degree, and Bro. J. Cartal, of the City of Westminster Lodge, No. 1563, was elected a member. Bro. Yeowell will preside as W.M. on Monday next.

Bro. Simeons Secretary informed the W.M. that there was sufficient cash in the bank for four benevolent ballots, of five guineas each, which was received with acclamation, and in due course the ballot proved in favour of Bros. G. Catling, W. West, and R. Cawley (2 votes).

RESUSCITATION OF THE HAMMERSMITH LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, No. 2090.

FOR some years the above Lodge of Instruction met at the Board Room of the Local Baths and Wash-Houses, the Brethren having always had the strongest objection to holding their meetings on licensed premises, but from some unknown cause the numbers attending became so limited that it was found to be useless continuing the meetings, and as a consequence, since 1895, the Lodge of Instruction has ceased to assemble. Some few months ago, however, some of the hard working members of the Mother Lodge determined to do their best to resuscitate the fallen fortunes of this Lodge of Instruction, but found it rather a difficult task to get a meeting place in an unlicensed building. That difficulty has now been overcome, and on Wednesday, 22nd ult., we wended our way to Wycombe House, 263 Hammersmith Road, W. (almost adjoining the District Railway Station), and on gaining admission found ourselves in one of the most comfortable and complete assembly Rooms in the Metropolis. Handsomely furnished and appointed, electric light being plentifully employed, it seemed the very place for Brethren in the neighbourhood to meet at.

The W.M. Bro. Golby was supported by the following Officers: Bros. Scolding S.W., Beale J.W., W. Hillier P.M. 2090 Preceptor, H. Warren Treas., T. G. Hodgson Sec., F. Cave S.D., W. Atkinson J.D., J. Young sen. I.G., W. H. Cave, Woods, G. T. Meek, H. Mair, Greenwood, J. Patison, W. Patison, Max Simon, J. H. Cumming P.M., W. G. Cave, and others.

Lodge was opened and the minutes confirmed and then advanced to the second degree, when Bro. Cave was examined and entrusted. Lodge was opened in the third degree, and the ceremony of raising was rehearsed. Lodge was resumed to the first degree and called off and on. The W.M. next rehearsed the initiation ceremony, Bro. Meek acting as candidate.

Three members were elected, and on being informed of the fact returned thanks in suitable terms.

The Treasurer read a statement showing that the Lodge of Instruction, after paying all debts for new furniture, working tools, printing, &c., had a balance in hand after the short period of six months that had elapsed since its reconstruction.

A hearty vote of thanks was carried, and ordered to be entered on the minutes, to Bro. J. H. Cumming P.M., for attending on behalf of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE. The W.M. was complimented on the way in which he had carried out his duties, and we may add that it has seldom been our good fortune to find on visiting a Lodge of Instruction every Officer present almost letter-perfect.

The S.W. was elected to the post of W.M. for the next meeting.

ON Wednesday, 29th ult., Bros. W. Scolding W.M., Beale S.W., J. Cave J.W., Henry Warren Treas., T. G. Hodgson Sec., W. Hillier P.M. 1366 2090 Preceptor, G. T. Meek S.D., Young sen. J.D., Gale I.G., Warren Tyler, C. Pascall W.M. of the Mother Lodge, W. Elliott P.M. 2090, J. H. Cumming P.M., Golby, Woods, and several others.

The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Woods taking the place of the candidate. Lodge was called off and on. It was then opened in the third degree and closed down.

Bro. Beale was unanimously elected to act as W.M. at the meeting to be held on 13th inst., the next assembly being Officers' night. A hearty vote of thanks was carried, and ordered to be placed on the minutes, to Bro. Scolding for the excellence of his working, this being the first time he had occupied the position of W.M. in this or any other Lodge of Instruction.

KENTISH CLUB OF INSTRUCTION.

AT the Assembly Hotel, Kentish Town Road, N.W., there was a goodly gathering at 8 p.m., on Monday. The first Monday in each month being Officers' night Masonic clothing was worn by all.

Bro. Harry Pickett P.M. Deputy Preceptor presided, supported by Bros.

A. Cocks S.W., W. Busby J.W., A. E. Trigg S.D., W. Coney J.D., E. Kluge I.G., A. Scott Tyler, J. Dawson Sec., W. F. Coney Assist. Sec. Org., W. Souter, J. O. K. Strong, W. Bills, J. F. Barron, Tom Mills, and others. The Preceptor Bro. C. F. Quicke P.M. was unfortunately absent, being indisposed.

The minutes being disposed of, Bro. Souter, as a candidate for passing, answered the questions, and the Lodge was advanced to the second degree. The ceremony of passing was rehearsed. Then followed the ceremony of raising, Bro. Strong answering the questions and acting as candidate. The W.M. rendered the ceremonies, as became a Deputy Preceptor, to the benefit of all assembled, and a really instructive evening was passed.

Bro. Edward Gatfield was elected W.M. for Monday next, when the Officers will resume rotation. The Lodge was opened and closed with musical ceremony.

PROVINCIAL.

INTEGRITY LODGE, No. 163.

THE regular meeting was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Cooper Street, Manchester, on Wednesday, 29th ult., Bro. Henry Robert Yates W.M., there being a good attendance of members and visitors.

After the reading and confirmation of minutes, Mr. James Albert Sinclair, Bank Accountant, Salford, a son of Bro. J. M. Sinclair P.M. P.P.G.J.D., was successfully balloted for and afterwards initiated into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry.

The usual festive board followed.

FAITH LODGE, No. 581.

THE regular meeting was held at the Bradford Hotel, Mill Street, Manchester, on the 15th ult., Brother Chas. H. Griffiths W.M.

The principal business was the election of Officers. Bro. Dr. E. E. Jones S.W. was unanimously chosen as W.M.-elect, and his installation will take place on Wednesday, 20th inst.

After the close of the Lodge a very pleasant evening was spent, several Brethren contributing to the harmony.

DE GREY AND RIPON LODGE, No. 837.

THE annual meeting for the installation of Worshipful Master was held at the Town Hall, Ripon, on Friday, 1st inst., when there was a good attendance, including several visiting Brethren. Bro. W. Waldon, B.A., S.W. was installed W.M., the ceremony being performed by Bro. W. Steel W.M.

The annual banquet was afterwards held at the Unicorn Hotel, and in the course of the evening Dr. Jefferson recited "The Absent-minded Beggar," the sum of £2 12s being realised for the Patriotic Fund.

STOUR VALLEY LODGE, No. 1224.

AT the 35th anniversary of this Lodge, held at Sudbury, Bro. F. E. Dunn was installed W.M. by the D.P.G.M. Bro. Rev. C. J. Martyn.

During the evening the Brethren subscribed £10 10s towards the cost of rebuilding the tower of Melford Church (making the sum of £100 subscribed by the Province); £4 4s was also subscribed to the Mayor's War Relief Fund.

CONCORD LODGE, No. 1534.

THE regular meeting was held at the Lodge Rooms, Prestwich, on the 16th ult., Brother Jas. Kershaw W.M., there being a good attendance of members.

After the reading and confirmation of minutes, Mr. William Scholfield, Prestwich, Assist. Gen. Inspector, was successfully balloted for and afterwards initiated into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry by the W.M., assisted by Bros. W. H. Norton P.M. P.P.G.Reg., who gave the address at the N.E.; W. W. Briggs P.M., who presented and explained the working tools to the candidate; and Geo. H. Nield S.W., who rendered the ancient charge.

The festive board followed, Loyal and Masonic toasts being submitted and duly responded to. Several Brethren contributed songs and sketches, a pleasant evening being spent.

MORECAMBE LODGE, No. 1561.

THE annual installation took place on Thursday, 30th ult., at the King's Arms Hotel, Morecambe, when Bro. J. W. Waterson S.W. was installed W.M., the installing Master being Bro. J. L. Gorton.

There was a large attendance of Brethren, including several visitors, amongst the latter being Bro. W. Goodacre Provincial Grand Secretary West Lancashire.

MINNEHAHA MINSTREL LODGE, No. 2363.

AT the meeting of this Lodge, held on Monday, 27th ult., at the Victoria Hotel, Manchester, Brother Sam Luke Worshipful Master commenced his duties in the chair of K.S. under most favourable conditions, the principal business of the evening being that of balloting for and initiating Mr. Joseph Gabriel, Merchant, Levenshulme, and also the passing to the degree of F.C. of Bro. R. C. Irwin.

The first ceremony was performed by the W.M., assisted by Bro. F. Todd J.W., who presented and explained the working tools and delivered the ancient charge. The passing was undertaken by Bro. Seth Wrigley P.M. P.P.G.D.D.C., the working tools being presented by Bro. S. H. Stubbs S.W., the work throughout being excellent, and without a hitch, which was extremely creditable for a first attempt.

At the festive board which followed, Loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, and were interspersed with songs, &c., from various Brethren, principal among whom were Bros. J. Harrison Hill Org. 317, and Fred Hilton P.M. P.P.G.D.C. Sec., the former rendering several of his inimitable sketches and drolleries, and the latter singing Bro. Kipling's latest humanitarian war appeal, which induced a collection of something like £14, every coin being cheerfully and enthusiastically given. This amount will be

paid to the Treasurer of the Minnehaha Amateur Minstrels, by way of increasing their quota to the local War Fund.

The W.M. proposed the health of the initiate, to which Bro. Gabriel replied, saying his heart was full of gratitude to the Brethren for their enthusiastic reception of him. It had been his desire many years ago to become a Freemason, and that night, through their kindness, his wish was fulfilled. In looking around he saw his old friend and neighbour, Bro. Wm. Goldthorpe P.P.G.Reg., who had put himself to no little inconvenience to be present at his initiation, and he felt that he owed a debt of gratitude to him also.

Bro. Fred Hilton proposed the health of the newly-passed Brother, to which Bro. Irwin responded, saying he felt that the Lodge had conferred an honour upon him by accepting him into the ranks of Freemasonry. Other toasts followed.

Among the numerous visitors were Bros. J. Lees P.M. 1345 P.P.G.D., W. T. Blease I.P.M. 1773, F. Scott W.M. 44, C. Duckworth P.M. 44, J. N. Withers P.M. 2529, &c.

FELIX LODGE, No. 2371.

THE installation festival of this Lodge was held on Tuesday, when Bro. J. W. Read was installed Worshipful Master for the ensuing year. The Lodge room at the Bath Hotel was handsomely decorated with chrysanthemums by Host Bro. G. R. Quilter for the occasion, and the fine display of plants was greatly admired.

There was a full attendance of Officers and Brethren, and the Visitors included Bros. H. W. Chatterton 1494 P.P.G.Reg. Middx., J. E. Cook I.P.M. 1452, U. C. Grice P.M. 650, W. Kemp P.M. 959 P.P.G.P., Alma Cocks P.M. 959, W. Watson I.P.M. 959, W. Fodlum W.M. 959, Chas. Grayson S.W. 959, A. Goff S.D. 959, E. H. Hopson 81, F. W. Hopson 81, J. C. Balham I.P.M. 516, H. P. Ward 376, and Chas. E. Runnacles 2148.

The installation ceremony was impressively performed by Bro. C. G. Havell P.P.G. Org., at the conclusion of which the Worshipful Master Bro. J. W. Read appointed and invested his Officers, as follow: Bros. F. A. Brooks S.W., C. H. Quilter J.W., Rev. S. J. Sherwood Banks Chap., W. M. Cuckow P.M. P.P.G.Std.B. Treas., H. J. Wright P.M. P.P.G.D.C. Sec., W. O. S. Pell S.D., A. J. Haward J.D., G. R. Quilter P.M. P.P.S.G.D. D.C., C. G. Havell P.M. P.P.G. Org., F. E. Brown I.G., J. H. Goodwin, H. T. Homer and Tom Whittle Stewards, P. Cooper Tyler.

The installation banquet followed, the Worshipful Master presiding.

After the Loyal toasts the W.M., in proposing that of the Provincial Grand Master Lord Henniker, the Deputy Bro. Rev. C. J. Martyn, and the Provincial Officers, stated they all regretted the indisposition of the Prov. Grand Master, and sincerely hoped he would soon be restored to that greatest of blessings, good health. The Deputy Grand Master had endeared himself to the Brethren by his genial and kind disposition, and it was a great pleasure to all to have his presence at their gathering.

The Installing and I.P.M. Bro. Havell, in eulogistic terms proposed the toast of the Worshipful Master. The Brethren of the Felix Lodge knew that their W.M. had always taken the keenest interest in the well working of the Lodge. He congratulated him on his unanimous election to the honourable position he had attained, and wished him a most successful year of office. The toast was drunk with enthusiasm.

The W.M., in response, thanked the Brethren for the cordial feeling expressed. He trusted the Officers would be imbued with the spirit of emulation, so that the high position the Lodge had attained in the Province might be upheld.

He next proposed the health of the Installing and I.P.M., and in presenting Bro. Havell with a handsome Past Master's jewel said it was spontaneously subscribed for by the Brethren as a small acknowledgment of his valuable services to the Lodge, and he trusted the G.A.O.T.U. would long spare him to wear it, with credit to himself and honour to the Craft.

Bro. Havell feelingly thanked the Brethren in an appropriate speech.

The Masonic Charities, the Visitors, the Officers, and the Tyler's toast were duly given and acknowledged.

Many visitors and Brethren contributed to the harmony of the meeting, Bro. F. W. Hopson 81 kindly presiding at the piano. After Rudyard Kipling's poem "The Absent-Minded Beggar" had with much feeling been recited by Bro. H. T. Horner a collection amounting to ten pounds was made for our Soldiers' Widows and Orphans fund.

During the evening telegrams and letters of congratulation to the W.M. were read from Bros. C. C. Cheston P.G.D.Eng. P.P.S.G.W., N. Tracey P.P.G.Std.B.Eng. Prov.G.Sec., W. H. Brown W.M. 376, and others.

THE MANCHESTER LODGE, No. 2554.

A MEETING of this Lodge, recently held at the Freemasons' Hall, Manchester, was a very successful one, four new members swelling the ranks, one (Bro. Richard John Brew, West Didsbury, Lodge 222, Bray, I.C.) as a joining member, and three as initiates, namely, Messrs. Walter Gibbons, Old Trafford; Max Wilhelm Karge, Chorlton-cum-Hardy; and Arthur James Hoyland, Clayton. The first and last ceremonies were performed by Bro. A. C. K. Smith W.M., whilst Bro. W. A. Boyer I.P.M. initiated Mr. Karge into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry. The working tools were presented and explained, and the charge rendered, by Bro. W. E. Davies J.W., in a highly creditable manner.

At the festive board which followed, various toasts were submitted, these being agreeably varied by songs and recitations, given by Bros. A. B. Smith S.W., F. J. Burt S.D., C. Jordan Org., E. Roberts P.M., &c., J. M. Myers P.M. 1339, A. J. Lunn 317, and others.

INSTRUCTION.

CRANBOURNE LODGE, No. 1580.

KNOWING the high reputation of the Mother Lodge, which has been held for many years past at the Red Lion Hotel, Hatfield, we looked forward with considerable gratification to a visit to the Instruction Lodge, which we attended on Tuesday, at the same quarters, when we were agreeably impressed with the excellent accommodation provided for the gathering, and the effective working of Bro. J. Gray, who acted as Worshipful Master, supported by Bros. W. J. Richardson S.W., M. Johnson J.W., F. W. Robinson P.M. Prec., F. C. Harrison J.D., E. Smith I.G., J. Wynman, and some other Brethren whose names we do not have the pleasure of knowing.

The Lodge being duly formed the minutes were read and confirmed, and

then the W.M. proceeded to rehearse the ceremony of initiation, for which Bro. Wynman was accepted as candidate. This being ended, the same Brother answered the questions leading to the second degree, and the ceremony was most perfectly and impressively rendered. It was proposed by Bro. Robinson that Bro. Wynman be elected an honorary member of the Lodge, which was seconded by the S.W., supported by the J.W., and unanimously agreed to. Bro. Wynman on behalf of the Press, and for himself, returned thanks for the compliment.

Bro. Richardson was unanimously elected to preside as W.M. on Tuesday, the 19th inst., and knowing the perfect working of that Brother we expect to see a very good meeting.

A letter was read from the Secretary Bro. Smith, explaining his inability to attend, on account of indisposition.

The Lodge is held every alternate Tuesday, at 7.30 sharp, and we strongly advise our readers residing in Hatfield, Hertford, St. Albans, and the neighbourhood, to visit it, not only for instruction, but also for social intercourse one with another. Bro. Robinson P.M. is the Preceptor, and his working is all that can be desired.

We have often spoken of cycling trips being promoted in connection with such meetings as we here report, and if our Brethren of the Cranbourne will "guarantee" us a fine evening, with the moon near the full, early in the new year, and will admit visitors in cycling attire, we think a pleasant outing could be arranged in their direction, with the possibility of, at least, half a dozen visitors from Barnet alone.

ENTERTAINMENT NOTES.

—:o:—

Court.—A particularly pleasing play has been produced by Messrs. Arthur Chudleigh and Dion Boucicault, which ought to achieve a large measure of popularity. It is termed by the author, Mr. R. Marshall, "a comedy of romance" and is entitled "A Royal Family." For state reasons it is necessary that the Princess Angela, daughter of King Louis VII, of Arcasia, should marry Prince Victor of Kurland, but being a well educated young lady, with her own ideas on the subject, she decides to marry only the man of her choice. The Prince, endued by a similar sentiment, determines to woo his bride under the disguise of a gentleman of his court. Some very pretty scenes follow, with of course the customary happy ending, brought about by the amiable Cardinal Casano. The story is not new; but it is charmingly told, and the dialogue, if we except an occasional lapse into up-to-date colloquialisms, smartly written. The two principal characters are admirably sustained by Miss Gertrude Elliott and Mr. Paul Arthur, but all concerned contribute to the success of the piece. Mr. Eric Lewis renders the part of King Louis with the proper dignity, and Mr. Boucicault gives a pleasing impersonation of the benevolent Cardinal. An amusing picture of the Queen Dowager, who desires to direct the affairs of state through the domestic circle, is presented by Mrs. Charles Calvert, and another humorous character is that of the rather foolish Chief of Police, capably played by Mr. A. Fitzgerald. Miss Ada Branson looks a stately Queen, Mr. James Erskine a vivacious Duke of Berascon, and Messrs. Geo. Bellamy, Marsh Allen, A. Weatherley, and S. Conover ably represent the supplementary characters. The play is beautifully mounted, and the costumes, especially those in the throne room scene, are both magnificent and effective. It should be a long time before a change of programme becomes necessary, for it is certainly a play that can be seen with pleasure at least twice.

Shaftesbury.—The "Belle of New York" seems to lose little of her popularity among London playgoers, this theatre being nightly filled with enthusiastic audiences, who thoroughly enjoy the programme which—after a run of nearly 900 performances—seems still to keep its star in the ascendant. There is plenty of fun throughout the piece, spirited music, and good acting; the performance of the "polite lunatic" being particularly funny. By the way, is it a coincidence, or intentional, the way in which the elder Bronson's guards stand to attention? On the occasion of our visit the theatre was not "close tyed," else we might have been inclined to challenge them.

Comedy.—"El Capitan" concludes his merry run at the Comedy Theatre this evening, and on Wednesday a new comic opera by Messrs. Klein and Sousa, entitled "The Mystical Miss," will be produced. It is stated that Miss Adine Bouvier "the handsomest woman of the American Stage" will appear in this piece.

Music of the Day.

AS usual at this period of the year some of the most attractive of recent publications are to be found among the new dance tunes for the season, which are this year well up to the high standard reached in the past, and may be expected to be patronised with fervour and enthusiasm during the next few months.

Adele (4) is particularly pleasing, and would be hard to beat as an opening number, where a good old fashioned polka was desired. Bonnie Scots (2) is a splendidly arranged schottische, one of the liveliest tunes we have heard for some time, and must win approval wherever played.

Barn dances are popular this year, as they have been since the introduction of this lively round dance in our midst, one of the prettiest tunes of the season being the Colorado, (3) which is well marked, and has a most pleasant ring about its setting. The same may also be said of the Blackamoors, (4) the music of which is so lively as to carry one away with a desire to join the merry throng in the mazy dance. The Yokohama Girl (5) shares with these two the glories of a most interesting trio, and will be found one of the best tunes yet submitted for the patrons of the dance. Captive Love (6) is yet another lively contribution to this section of our music port-

(1) Adele, a graceful dance for the pianoforte, by Dudley May (Reeder and Walsh).

(2) Bonnie Scots schottische, by Fabian Rose (Phillips and Page).

(3) Colorado barn dance, composed by Dudley Clinton (E. Ascherberg and Co.).

(4) Blackamoors barn dance, by Fabian Rose (Phillips and Page).

(5) Yokohama Girl barn dance, by Aigrette (J. B. Cramer and Co.).

(6) Captive Love barn dance, by Claude Trevor (E. Ascherberg and Co.).

folio, and one that improves on acquaintance, containing as it does some tuneful passages.

The Gnomes (7) polka has a light and pleasant ring about it, and should take a foremost place in popular favour. Love in Venice (8) waltz has been before us on a previous occasion, but this by no means detracts from its merits, which are of no mean order—it is alike lively and tuneful. Valse Militaire (9) should be popular, if only in keeping with the martial spirit of the times, but in addition it has much in its favour, and would give a good account of itself at any time, being a spirited and well arranged composition; it has been performed with marked favour by the chief military bands, and will no doubt long remain in the foremost rank.

An Eastern fire dance (10) gives us a tuneful setting which ably illustrates the peculiar style of the music of which it is an exponent, and will well repay careful study. Olesia (11) and Valse Norwegienne (12) are two other interesting studies, each possessing merit in their spheres, and affording ample scope for effective display.

Among Dance Albums we have two new candidates for public favour. Messrs. Gould's (13) premier work in this direction is published at 1s, and contains ten lively tunes, from among which it is very difficult to select one for special mention, when all are so good; the Boston Belle barn dance, and the Across Country gallop perhaps deserve particular recognition, being especially good, but in saying this it must not be supposed we wish to detract from the merits of the other compositions in the book.

Messrs. Mocatta's (14) first Dance Album, also published at one shilling, is another production which should please all who are fortunate enough to secure a copy. It contains nine good pieces, including the ever popular old English "Sir Roger de Coverley," three waltzes, a polka, barn dance, set of quadrilles, lancers, and gallop—all of them well up to the mark as regards tuneful and spirited music. A violin part is provided to the Album, at six pence.

Hammond's Music Portfolios, (15) Nos. 16 and 17, well sustain the high reputation already achieved by this popular series. The best known composers of waltz music are represented in the two parts before us, and to attempt to praise compositions of such masters as Johann Strauss, Josef Gungl, F. Wagner, E. H. Prout, May Ostlere, and the others whose work is here collected would be indeed attempting to gild refined gold. The parts, both containing six selections, are published at 1s each, and deserve their popularity if only for the fine work they enable the masses to become acquainted with. Violin and cornet accompaniment may be had to each, at 6d.

De Sweetest Gal Barn Dance. By James Philp (Edwin Ashdown).—A jolly dance tune, moderately easy.

Just like the world. Words by Clifton Bingham, music by Herbert E. Crimp (Keith, Prowse and Co.).—A good all round song, set to music well within the compass of amateurs.

A Hunting Morning. Words by A. Conan Doyle, music by Ethel Beningfield (Keith, Prowse and Co.).—A rollicking tune, which should win general favour at hunt and other assemblies.

(7) Gnomes polka, by Warwick Williams (J. B. Cramer and Co.).

(8) Love in Venice waltz, by Claud Trevor (E. Ascherberg and Co.).

(9) Valse Militaire, by Josef Meissler (Jefferys).

(10) An Eastern fire dance, for the pianoforte, by Dudley Clinton (Edwin Ashdown).

(11) Olesia. Polish dance for the pianoforte, by Albert W. Ketelbey (A. Hammond and Co.).

(12) Valse Norwegienne, for piano, by Charlwood Dunkley (Edwin Ashdown).

(13) Dance Album. No. 1. (Gould and Co.).

(14) B. Mocatta and Co.'s First Dance Album (Reeder and Walsh).

(15) A. Hammond and Co.

Books of the Day.

THE selection of a suitable book for presentation to the young folks at this season is made all the easier by a glance at the catalogue of Messrs. J. M. Dent and Co., two of whose recent publications, suitable for Christmas gifts, are before us. One of these, Fairy tales from Hans Christian Andersen, (1) is a subject that hardly calls for criticism at our hands. Andersen's fairy tales are so well known to our children—young and old—that it would, as Shakespeare has it, be wasteful and ridiculous excess to attempt to paint their charms, or add one iota to their reputation; but it is not always the fare that is put before us that is so alluring; the way in which it is dressed is as often as not an equal attraction; and so it is in this case. Messrs. Dent have selected a popular theme, and have worked it to the greatest advantage, and the result is that one of the most enjoyable books it is possible to select for our young folks is also one of the most attractive of the season. The translation has been undertaken by Mrs. E. Lucas, who explains in the preface her reason for putting before the English public a new translation of some of Andersen's Tales, when so many already exist; an intimate association all her life with both the Danish and English languages placing her in a peculiar position to reproduce as closely as possible the spirit and the style of the original. The illustrations are by Thomas, Charles, and William Robinson, and are by no means the least attractive portion of the very pleasing volume—one far more likely to be treasured in the future than some of the ephemeral annuals which often win favour as gift books.

Mrs. Leicester's School, (2) written by Charles and Mary Lamb, and illustrated by Winifred Green, would gladden the heart of any of our younger daughters, by whom we can imagine it would be highly prized—and deservedly so. The childish stories are prettily told, and will no doubt interest many of our juvenile friends during the Christmas holidays, while the illustrations are so characteristic, so daintily coloured, and so numerous, as to prove a real attraction to such of the older folk who care to "look over" the juniors in their recreation and enjoyment. As in the other work of Messrs. Dent's to which we have referred, the aim appears to be to provide a really good book, and then call in the aid of the printer's art to make it even more acceptable to public taste; good paper, clear type, and handsome binding, in addition to the pretty illustrations already spoken of, being particular features in this direction, and all tending towards the realisation of the desire to provide a pleasant souvenir for presentation and other purposes.

(1) Published by J. M. Dent and Co., Aldine House, 29-30 Bedford Street, Covent Garden.

RESCUE BY THE MASONIC LIFE-BOAT.

(By Telegram).

THE schooner "Moonlight," of St. Ives, was wrecked on the West Burrows Sands on Thursday night, and her crew of four men were compelled to take to the rigging, where they remained six hours.

They were rescued by the Life-boat "Albert Edward" stationed at Clacton, and belonging to the Royal National Life-boat Institution.

The "Albert Edward" is one of the two Life-boats presented to the Institution by the United Grand Lodge of England in commemoration of the safe return from India of the Most Worshipful Grand Master H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, who is President of the Institution, and has, we are pleased to say, done good suit and service on more than one occasion this year.

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:—

THE TRANSVAAL WAR FUNDS.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—It would appear from the reports in the daily papers that at the Grand Mark Lodge on Tuesday last a statement was made that the "Patriotic Fund" did not recognise the claims of the Widows of our Soldiers who had married "without leave."

Will you permit me to say that I hold a letter dated 20th Nov. 1899 from Mr. W. T. Soulsby, the private Secretary to the Lord Mayor, in which he states:—

"The Patriotic Fund helps the widows and orphans of Sailors as well as Soldiers.

The widows and families of Soldiers and Sailors who have married without leave will participate equally with the others."

As considerable misapprehension appears to exist on the point and may prove detrimental to the good cause all are so justly ready to help, I shall be glad if this authoritative announcement may be made known to the Craft through your columns.

I am, Dear Sir and Brother,

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

J. M. McLEOD.

6 Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.,
7th December 1899.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

Tom Graham, V.C. A tale of the Afghan war, by William Johnston Illustrated (3s 6d)—Thomas Nelson and Sons.

WE have had the pleasure of inspecting a very handsome cruet frame which is intended as a Christmas present for the wife of a well-known Brother, as a memento of her husband's association with the Craft, and although we are not at liberty to give the names of the donors or the recipient, we take the opportunity of testifying to the beauty of the design and the liberality with which the promoters of the testimonial have been treated by our Bro. W. J. Carroll, from whose establishment at 17 Beer Lane, Great Tower Street, the gift was purchased, at a price far below what we should have expected for so handsome and massive an article. This reminds us to advise any of our readers who may contemplate making a useful present during the next few days to pay Bro. Carroll a visit, as the extent and variety of his stock is really surprising. Perhaps it would not be fair to borrow Dickens's title of the "Old Curiosity Shop" for Bro. Carroll's establishment, but we very much question if that famous creation of the great novelist could boast anything like so varied an assortment as is to be found in the piece of "old London" in which Bro. Carroll conducts his business. It is a veritable "multum in parvo."

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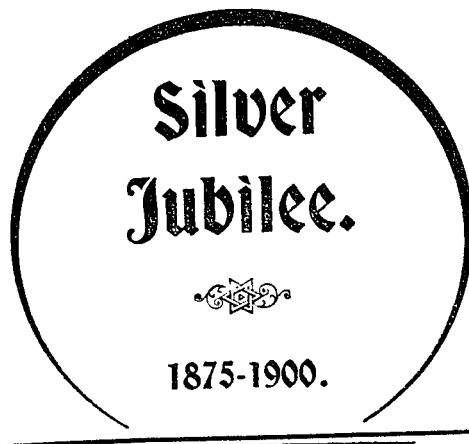
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W. W. MORGAN,
PROPRIETOR,
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NEW BARNET.

Dear Sir and Brother,

At the end of the year the "Freemason's Chronicle" completes its twenty-fifth year of publication, and to mark the event I shall be very pleased if you and our other supporters can secure at least one new subscriber each.

Will you kindly make an effort to do so? If you would like any specimen copies for distribution among your friends I shall be pleased to send them on hearing from you.

Yours fraternally,

W. W. MORGAN.