

Freemason's

THE LONDON, W.

Chronicle.

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

Reports of United Grand Lodge are published with the Special Sanction of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the Most Worshipful the Grand Master of England.

VOL. LII.—No. 1338.
26th year of issue.

SATURDAY, 1st SEPTEMBER 1900.

PRICE THREEPENCE.
13/6 per annum, in advance

GRAND LODGE NEXT WEEK.

THE Agenda of Business for the Quarterly Communication of United Grand Lodge to be held on Wednesday next may be regarded as an indication of prosperity and steady growth on the part of the English Brotherhood. There is really nothing for the Brethren to do, unless it be to rub their hands and congratulate each other on the all round manifestation of contentment presented, and yet there is much in the business to be brought before the Craft which it would be unwise to simply gloss over.

Unfortunately a note of sadness will be sounded at the outset, it being arranged for the Grand Master in the chair to move a resolution sympathising with the M.W. the Grand Master on the death of his brother the late Duke of Saxe-Coburg Gotha.

This will be followed by the presentation of the Report of the Board of Benevolence for the quarter, and then the Report of the Board of General Purposes will be dealt with. The former requires confirmation for two grants of £75 each, and four of £50 each; the latter records the receipt of upwards of £9,000 on behalf of the distressed Freemasons of South Africa, announces the completion of the additions to Freemasons' Hall, arranges for different payments in connection therewith, and proposes some better and easier method of verifying Brethren previous to admittance to the stated meetings of Grand Lodge.

Later on the Brethren will be asked to sanction an arrangement by which printed copies of the minutes of previous assemblies of Grand Lodge will be provided for those attending the quarterly meetings, it being recognised such a course will save time, and make the Brethren better acquainted with the work.

Thirteen new Lodges have been warranted during the past quarter, six for London, four for the Provinces, and three for the colonies.

A DEVONIAN LODGE.

THE Devonian Club, a club the designation of which is sufficiently descriptive of its scope, and having headquarters at the Adelphi Hotel, Adam Street, London, is giving proof of its vitality. A movement is on foot among its members for the formation of a Lodge. A Warrant has been applied for, and will doubtless be speedily granted. The Lord Chancellor (Lord Halsbury) will be its first Master. It was at first intended to limit the Lodge to members of the Devonian Club, but, at the suggestion of Lord Halsbury, the application now stands for Devonshire men and men of Devonshire descent. We understand that Lord Churston will be one of the first Officers and that Bro. George Lambert, M.P. for South Molton, will also take a position in the Lodge. The Senior Warden will be Bro. Wellsman, C.C., and the Lodge will be unique in having seven Grand Officers among its fourteen Founders. A number of Brethren have expressed a desire to join, and a large number of initiates is expected. The Lodge will meet at the Holborn Viaduct Hotel.

DEVONSHIRE.

THE annual meeting of this Provincial Grand Lodge, held at the Freemasons' Hall, Plymouth, on the 28th ult., was presided over by Bro. G. C. Davie P.G.A.D.C. Eng., acting Prov.G.M., who was supported by two past Officers of the Grand Lodge of England: Bros. Rev. R. Peek (of Drewsteignton) Past Grand Chaplain, and Bro. Sandeman (of Plymouth).

The Acting Prov. Grand Master said as that was the first annual meeting since the departure of their Provincial Grand Master for India, he thought it would be a graceful act if they sent Lord Northcote the following telegram:—"Northcote, Governor, Bombay.—Hearty good wishes and sincere congratulations from Provincial Grand Lodge assembled at Plymouth." He proposed that the telegram be sent, and this being seconded by the Provincial Senior Grand Warden was cordially agreed to.

The Provincial Grand Secretary reported that on 31st December 1899 there were 4,065 members in the 59 Lodges in the Province, an increase of 193 members over the previous year. The names of 271 Brethren had been removed from the register by death, resignation, or exclusion, and 364 new members admitted. The number of Past Masters was 904. A vacancy having occurred in the office of Prov. Asst. Grand Director of Ceremonies the Prov.G. Master had filled it by the appointment in writing of Bro. John Hammond P.M. 1255, who now took Office and rank as though he had been appointed at the annual meeting of Prov. G. Lodge. Attention was called to the many distinguished, valued, and well-known Brethren who had lately been called to their rest, especially to the great loss sustained by the deaths of Bros. John Lane and John Brewer, both of whom were past Officers of Grand Lodge. The former was Prov. Junior G. Warden at the time of his death, and the latter had for ten years faithfully carried out the duties of Prov. G. Secretary. Another new Lodge had recently been constituted, viz., the Lodge of the Three Pillars, to meet at Cockington, making the sixtieth on the roll of the Province. Two new Masonic Halls had been erected and dedicated: at Ilfracombe and St. Budeaux, and progress was being made with the building of another at Okehampton. The Brethren had made a generous response to the Prov. G. Master's appeal on behalf of the National Red Cross Fund, £384 2s having been contributed from the Province. The Lord Mayor of London had sent a grateful acknowledgment of the generous amount contributed by his Masonic Brethren in Devonshire. Two applications had been received from Lodges for the supplemental grant to acquire Life Governorships in the great Masonic Charities, viz., St. John, No. 70, Plymouth, and Devon, No. 1138, Newton Abbot.

The Treasurer's account was presented, showing a balance in hand of £354 13s 3d.

The reports were adopted, on the motion of Bro. Powell, seconded by Bro. Allsford.

Brother Shorto presented the report of the Fortescue Annuity Fund, which began with a regret that many Lodges and members still apparently took no interest in their Benevolent organisations. During the past year £435 had been paid to annuitants, their net revenue had been £580, and the capital value of the Fund was now £4,550. Bro. Shorto moved, and Bro. Allsford seconded the adoption of the report.

Bro. Gover presented the report of the Committee of Petitions. The Lodges and Brethren generally had been loyal to the Provincial arrangement, but the need was urged of all votes being sent to the Committee as soon as issued. They had secured the election of one aged Freemason and one boy, and were in a position to adopt a candidate for one of

the great Charities next January. They regretted the disproportion in the amount received and the amount contributed by the Province to the great Charities. They recommended the vote of 100 guineas to the Royal Masonic Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons, and 30 guineas to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

The report was adopted, and a further sum of 25 guineas was, on the motion of the Prov. G. Sec., voted to the Fund which the Grand Master of England is raising for distressed Freemasons in South Africa. In reply to a question, Bro. Stocker said that Fund now amounted to about £10,000.

The Prov. J.G.W. Bro. Westlake said he had very great pleasure in proposing as Treasurer one whose name they would all receive with éclat; one who was worthy of that high honour, and who would most efficiently carry out the duties. He referred to Bro. Charles Mutten P.M. of Lodge Prudence. Bro. Mutten had been Charity Steward of his Lodge, and many Charities had benefitted by his labours. Brother C. Piper (Exeter), as a personal friend and colleague of Bro. Mutten for over thirty years, asked to have the privilege of seconding the proposition. Bro. Mutten was highly esteemed in all parts of the Province, and his election would be everywhere very heartily endorsed.

Bro. Mutten was unanimously elected, and, in returning thanks, said if, as they had assured him, he had not been altogether useless in the past, he trusted that in the future he might have the opportunity of showing how much he appreciated the great honour they had that day conferred upon him.

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

Bro. Lieut.-Col. F. G. Edyvean 2655	-	-	Senior Warden
J. R. Wilson 954	-	-	Junior Warden
Rev. E. A. Donaldson 230	-	-	} Chaplains
Rev. C. H. Salt 1247	-	-	
C. Mutten 1550	-	-	Treasurer
W. Pierpoint Roberts 2806	-	-	Registrar
John Stocker 39	-	-	Secretary
Russell Coombe 2659	-	-	} Senior Deacons
T. Wellesley Kendle 421	-	-	
T. A. Blackler 328	-	-	} Junior Deacons
Andrew Hope 39	-	-	
G. F. Watson 1550	-	-	Superintendent of Works
J. R. Lord 1247	-	-	Director of Ceremonies
W. Ferguson 1212	-	-	Deputy Dir. of Cers.
H. S. Hill 223	-	-	} Assistant Dirs. of Cers.
G. Milford 1847	-	-	
G. W. Hancock 202	-	-	} Sword Bearer
H. S. Best 2258	-	-	
J. H. Blackell 1099	-	-	} Standard Bearers
Jas. Clift 666	-	-	
W. J. Joint 251	-	-	Organist
G. Perkins 1205	-	-	Assistant Secretary
W. J. Pearce 2655	-	-	Pursuivant
H. Warren 159	-	-	Assistant Pursuivant
W. Sweet 70	-	-	} Stewards
H. Skinner 282	-	-	
F. W. Harding 444	-	-	
W. H. Puddicombe 489	-	-	
W. H. Evans 1181	-	-	
C. Barrett 2595	-	-	} Tyler.
H. Shooter 112	-	-	

The Acting Prov.G.M. then proceeded to present Bro. F. B. Westlake with Patronships of the three great Masonic Charities, secured by the subscriptions of the Lodges of the Province. Bro. Davie said all the Brethren must feel how deeply they were indebted to Bro. Westlake for his work as their representative in London. Upon his tact and good management it largely depended how the Province fared in regard to the great Charities. Bro. Westlake had made himself popular, and worked well with the representatives of other Provinces, and had been fortunate in getting thoroughly deserving cases on the Charities. A few years ago it was mooted that some recognition ought to be made of the immense trouble Bro. Westlake had taken on their behalf, and the suggestion was taken up so warmly that it became a Provincial matter. Bro. Westlake, on being approached, said he should like it to take the form of Patronships of the three great Charities. The Charities had received the amounts necessary, and he had now to hand over the receipts to Bro. Westlake, together with an illuminated address which he would ask the Prov. G. Sec. to read. The address is a most beautiful and appropriate specimen of the illuminator's art, by Bro. J. T. Fouracre. Over the top of the frame were the words:—"Thou doest faithfully whatsoever thou doest to the Brethren," and the address was as follows:—

To Worshipful Bro. FRANCIS BEER WESTLAKE P.M. 70 Prov. G.S.W. Devon—H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G., &c., &c., Most Worshipful Grand Master having conferred on you the honour of P.D.G.D.C. England, we, the Provincial

Grand Officers, Worshipful Masters, Past Masters, and Brethren of the Province of Devon being desirous of showing our sincere and heartfelt appreciation of the distinction, and in recognition of your noble and meritorious services to the Craft, beg your acceptance of the sum of 300 guineas. We congratulate you on your well-deserved honour, and we pray that the Great Architect of the Universe may spare you for many years to enjoy the contemplation of the good work you have accomplished. It is a source of great satisfaction to ourselves and affords additional evidence of your interest in our Charitable Institutions that your consent to this presentation was obtained only on condition that the amount subscribed should be devoted to Charity. You have, by this, and by your own personal donations, obtained Patronships of the three great Masonic Charities—the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and the Royal Masonic Institution for Aged Masons and Widows of Freemasons.

Signed on behalf of the Subscribers, this 28th day of August 1900,

W. J. STANBURY P.M. 1099 P.P.G.A.D.C.

Chairman.

J. KINTON BOND P.M. 1247 P.P.G.D.C.

W. POWELL P.M. 1205 P.P.G.T.

J. R. WILSON P.M. 954 P.G.W.

Vice Chairmen.

JOHN R. LORD P.M. 1247 P.P.G.T. r.G.D.C.

Treasurer.

J. B. GOVER P.M. 70 P.P.A.G.D.C. P.P.G.Sec.

Secretary.

Bro. Lord expressed the sorrow and regret they all felt at the enforced absence of Bro. W. J. Stanbury, the Chairman of the Presentation Committee, through ill-health.

Bro. Westlake, enthusiastically received, said it was impossible to find words to properly express his gratification at this further mark of their good feeling towards him. He was glad that in honouring him they had also benefitted the great Masonic Charities, because, in the first place, the Province was not too strong in its voting power, and secondly, because it would contribute towards making those Charities better known to the Brethren of the Province. At present their Province received £789 a year for the Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons, and he deplored the comparatively small amount that went up from the Province. He was glad to hear they had voted 100 guineas to the Charities, and he believed it was going to be placed on Bro. John Stocker's list. He hoped that in going up to London as Steward, Bro. Stocker would be able to carry up a list worthy of the Province. In the Boys School they had five boys receiving a splendid education, and owing in no small degree to their having made him a Patron of that School he had been put in the proud position of representing them on the Board of Management of the Boys School. In the Girls School they had four girls from Devonshire, and he recommended the Brethren if possible to take an opportunity of visiting the School, and he was sure they would never afterwards let their names be off the list for any subscription they could afford. In conclusion, Brother Westlake again thanked the Brethren, and assured them he should appreciate their kindness as long as he lived.

Provincial Grand Lodge was then closed in due form.

DEVON EDUCATIONAL FUND.

AT the close of the Provincial Grand Lodge meeting on Tuesday, the General Purposes Committee of the Devon Masonic Educational Fund held a meeting for the purpose of deciding if another should be held in October, and how many candidates should be elected.

Bro. C. Mutten Prov. Grand Treasurer presided. There were also present Bros. G. C. Davie D.P.G.M., J. Stocker Prov. G. Secretary, F. B. Westlake P.P.G.S.W., S. Jones P.P.G.J.W., E. H. Shorto, W. A. Gregory, C. Piper, W. Allsford, J. B. Gover Hon. Secretary, J. R. Lord Hon. Treasurer, E. J. Knight, W. A. Staton, E. H. Littleton, Andrew Hope, W. T. Hocking, W. Cocks, and E. Henley.

Bro. Lord reported that the subscriptions received this year up to the present time amounted to £172, which was nearly £26 less than last year, but he believed there were other sums still to come in, in addition to £25 which had been received that day under the will of the late Bro. G. R. Barrett. They were therefore in quite as good a position as last year.

It was decided on the motion of Bro. Gregory, seconded by Bro. Hocking, that a meeting should be held in October and that two candidates should be elected on the Fund. This meeting will be held at Plymouth. It was also decided to give a concert in Plymouth Guildhall in November or December next, on behalf of the Institution, and a Committee was appointed to make the necessary preliminary arrangements.

BERKS AND OXON.

THE annual meeting of this Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons is appointed to be held on Wednesday, 19th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Windsor, when it is expected the Prov.G.M.M. Viscount Valentia, M.P., will preside.

NEW HALL AT CALSTOCK.

WHEN in April 1887, the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, as Provincial Grand Master of Cornwall, consecrated the new Cotehele Lodge, No. 2166, at Calstock, not even the most sanguine among its promoters could have hoped that it would have met with such marked and continuous success as has been the case. But the interest of the members in Masonic work has grown as the years have rolled by, and their numbers have increased to such an extent that the Lodge Room in which they have been "cribb'd, cabin'd, and confin'd" for so many years has proved altogether inadequate to the growing requirements of the members. This was long since foreseen, and preparation was accordingly made for the expansion which sooner or later had to be provided for.

It has now been determined to erect a new Masonic Hall, at a cost, including the site, of nearly £800, and the foundation stone of the new building was laid with full Masonic ceremonial in the presence of a large number of Brethren as well as of the general public. The Provincial Grand Master was unfortunately unable to attend, but in a letter expressing regret at his absence his lordship wrote: "I hope the building will proceed rapidly, and that I may have the pleasure of being present when the Lodge first meets within its walls." In the noble earl's absence the foundation stone was laid by Bro. P. Colville Smith Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Cornwall P.G.D. of England, who was accompanied by Bro. Bernard F. Edyvean Prov. Grand Secretary. A large number of visiting Brethren were present from Plymouth, Devonport, Tavistock, Saltash, and other places.

The Brethren first assembled at the Wesleyan School Room, which had been fitted up for the purposes of a Lodge Room, and under the presidency of Bro. H. Down, who was the first W.M. of Cotehele Lodge, some preliminary business was done. Then a procession was formed, and, headed by the Harrow-barrow brass band, marched to the site of the new Hall. Those marching in the procession included four Lewises carrying the Bible and the square and compasses on a velvet cushion. On their arrival at the site the Brethren formed a hollow square, and all joined in singing "God bless the Prince of Wales." Bro. Major Shanks, acting as Chaplain, offered prayer.

The D.P.G.M., prior to laying the foundation stone, briefly addressed the assembled Brethren. He said they were met as true and lawful Masons, true and faithful to the laws of their country, and bound by solemn obligations to raise useful and handsome buildings for the promotion of Freemasonry in its truest and best form. They had, as part of their Institution, though hidden from the eyes of others, secrets which might not be revealed, but which were true and honourable, and in no sense repugnant to the laws of God or man. They were given to Masons in ancient times in love and honour, and having been faithfully transmitted to them it was their duty to transmit them to posterity. Unless their Craft was good and their calling honourable Freemasonry would not have existed for so many generations, nor would it have reckoned so many illustrious Brethren within its borders. They were about to erect a building for the benefit of the Lodge at Calstock and to the honour and glory of the Most High, and he prayed that God might bless the building, and that the work done within it might ever redound to the credit and honour of Freemasonry.

The Chaplain having offered another prayer, the stone

was lowered in its place, after Bro. Down had deposited coins in the cavity beneath, and the D.P.G.M. declared it to be well and truly laid; corn, wine, and oil being placed upon the stone with the accustomed ceremonies.

The foundation stone is a very handsome piece of polished granite, and on its face is the inscription:

Cotehele Lodge, No. 2166.

This stone was laid 21st August 1900,

by

W. BRO. P. COLVILLE SMITH

D.P.G.M. of Cornwall and P.G.D. of England.

Presented and engraved by Bro. John Eade D.C.

The procession (having been reformed, the Brethren returned to the School Room, where the four Lewises who carried the Bible in the procession—Masters Reginald Bowhay, Reginald Smale, George Langsford, and Edward N. Alford—were each presented with a Bible by the D.P.G.M., who expressed a hope that they would take that Book as their guide in life, and never fail to act according to its precepts.

Bro. Down, in the name of the Lodge, then thanked the D.P.G.M. for his presence, and for the admirable manner in which he had performed the ceremony of laying the stone. He also asked his acceptance of the trowel and other implements used in the performance of the ceremony.

Bro. Colville Smith briefly returned thanks, and thanks were also accorded to Bros. Bernard Edyvean Prov.G.S., and Broad, of Camborne, for their presence. In acknowledging this vote both Brethren made an earnest appeal on behalf of the Cornish Masonic Charities.

The Lodge was then closed, and a large number of Brethren afterwards partook of an excellent luncheon provided at the Tamar Hotel by Bro. Herring.

NEW HALL AT OKEHAMPTON.

A LARGE gathering at Okehampton on Monday assisted at the laying the corner-stone of a new Freemasons' Hall. Lodge Obedience, No. 1753, was founded on Monday, 26th August 1878—just 22 years ago—the first W.M. being the late vicar of Okehampton Rev. C. W. Holley. It was largely assisted by Exeter Brethren, and endeavours were early made to secure a suitable site for a Freemasons' Hall. A piece of land, known as Nathan's Plot, at the corner of the road to the station, was fixed upon, and negotiations were entered into with the Okehampton United Charities with a view to purchase. After many delays, possession of the site was obtained, and plans for the buildings were prepared by Mr. J. Archibald Lucas, F.S.I., Exeter. The total cost of the building is estimated to be from £650 to £700. The style is to be Renaissance, and the building will include a well-proportioned Lodge Room, with open-timbered roof, and reception and retiring rooms. The whole is to be completed by May next.

The Lodge met in the Church Room to receive the Acting Provincial Grand Master Bro. G. C. Davie P.G.D. Eng., who had undertaken to lay the corner-stone. There was a very large attendance of Brethren. The Acting Prov.G.M. and his Officers having been duly received, a procession was formed under the direction of Bro. J. R. Lord Prov.G.D.C.

They proceeded first to the Town Hall, where they met the Mayor and Corporation, and then to St. James's Chapel, where a service was conducted by the Vicar Bro. the Rev. F. Wilberforce Saulez, and a sermon was preached by the Rev. C. Gordon Browne Prov. G. Chap. Bro. Browne's text was Psalm cxxvii, 1 and 2, "Except the Lord build the house their labour is but lost that build it."

After service the procession was reformed and marched to the site for the ceremony of laying the stone. After prayer by the Prov. G. Chaplain, the architect handed a silver trowel to the Acting Prov.G.M., who laid the stone in Masonic form. The stone was inscribed:—

Lodge Obedience, 1753.

This corner-stone was laid by

W. BRO. G. C. DAVIE

Grand Deacon of England, Acting Prov. Grand Master of Devonshire, on Installation Day, 27th August 1900; W. Bro. Rev. Thomas Ward-Brown W.M., Bro. W. Pollard S.W. W.M.

elect, Bro. A. Amand J.W., W. Bro. Chas. Fletcher P.M. Treas., W. Bro. Charles Piper P.M. P.P.G.D.D.C., W. Bro. Edwards Secretary, and Bro. Alfred Bray (trustees); Archibald J. Lucas, F.S.I., Architect; John Sleeman, Builder."

The Acting Prov.G.M. said: As they had just heard in church an address pointing out to them their duties as Masons, it was not his intention to say anything on that head, but he could not refrain from congratulating the Brethren on being able to see their way clear to build for themselves a local habitation. In his judgment, and he spoke now with nearly forty years experience of Freemasonry, there was nothing that marked the progress of Masonry in this country more than the number of Masonic Halls that of late years had sprung up. It used to be, and still was sometimes, the custom of Masons to meet in Hotels; but, without saying anything derogatory to the utility or the management of Hotels, he was one of those who considered that a Hotel was not the best place for the Brethren to meet. In the first place, it was often difficult to obtain there the privacy necessary for the proper carrying out of their work; and, secondly, it placed the weaker Brethren in the way of temptation, which it were better for themselves and for the Craft that they should be spared. Therefore, he considered it one of the best things that could happen when a Lodge found itself in a position to build a house for itself. It, moreover, showed the outside world that they were confident of the enduring character of their work. Indeed, he thought the occasion of so much importance that he willingly conceded the use of Masonic clothing in the procession. The building of a Lodge Room was a great occasion in the history of a Lodge, and he again heartily congratulated the Okehampton Lodge on the event of that day.

After the ceremony the procession was reformed, and returned to the Lodge Room. On arrival at the Town Hall the Mayor and Corporation took their leave.

The Masons returned to the Church Room, where the W.M. Rev. T. W. Brown proposed a vote of thanks to the Acting Prov.G.M., the Prov. Grand Chaplain, and the Vicar of the parish.

Afterwards Bro. William Pollard was installed W.M., and invested his Officers.

A banquet was held in the evening at the White Hart Hotel. The W.M. presided, and there was a large attendance.

Bro. Rev. R. Peek responded for the Grand Lodge of England. He remarked that his dear friend, their Junior Warden Bro. Saulez, who they had heard to their consternation was about to leave them, had often invited him to their Lodge, and he was very glad to have been with them. He congratulated them on having introduced into their ceremony that day the service at church. By that hearty service they had shown the world that Masons were neither ungodly nor mere bon vivants; but they had shown that there was among Masons a genuine reverence of the Great Architect of the Universe.

Bro. Edwards gave the Prov.G. Master and the Prov.G. Lodge. Lord Northcote, he said, had done much to raise the status of Freemasonry, and they rejoiced in the high position he occupied in the empire. Lord Northcote had promised to lay their corner-stone, but that work had been worthily done by his representative, Bro. Davie. Bro. Westlake was a member of G. Lodge, well known in the Province, and required no recommendation. In Bro. Lord they had with them one of the smartest Officers of the Province, and they owed especial debt of gratitude also to Bro. Stocker Prov.G. Sec., for the great trouble he had taken with the arrangements of that day.

The Acting P.G. Master Bro. Davie, in reply, also spoke of the indebtedness of the Province to the Secretary and the Director of Ceremonies. Few Brethren, he said, had any conception of the work that devolved upon Bro. Stocker, in connection with the sixty Lodges and the 3,000 members of the Province. He considered that one of the best services he had rendered the Province was when he suggested to Lord Ebrington that Bro. Lord should be made permanent Director of Ceremonies of the Province. That was an Office that required experience, and as long as Bro. Lord held the position the ceremonial work of the Province would be carried out as it ought to be.

The health of the W.M. was proposed by the I.P.M. (Bro. Rev. T. W. Brown), and the W.M., in responding, spoke of the Founders of the Lodge, and especially regretted the absence of Bro. Pidsley. For the new Lodge Room they had now started to build they were greatly indebted to Bros. Piper and Edwards, assisted by Bro. Lucas.

Bro. the Rev. F. W. Saulez proposed the Past Masters of Lodge Obedience. He said he esteemed it a great honour

that, although he was leaving the neighbourhood, the W.M. had conferred on him the Office of Junior Warden. The proceedings of that day had been a great pleasure to him, especially that grand religious service in the Church of St. James.

The I.P.M. said he had had a very happy year of office, and had initiated more candidates than had been initiated in any previous year.

Bro. Pierce also responded. He felt proud that he had introduced Bro. Ward Brown into the Lodge, and at the present position it had attained.

Bro. Piper proposed "Visiting Brethren." In doing so, he alluded to Bro. Brodie, who presided over the Lodge twenty-two years ago. He coupled with the toast the name of Bro. Russell, who, in reply, hoped that their new Lodge, which would be solemnly dedicated to Masonic purposes, would be reserved for Masonic purposes alone.

There is in England, and in other Masonic jurisdictions, a practice among almsgivers of recording on the back of petitioner's diploma or certificate of M.M. the amount of aid doled out. In some cases that have come under my notice the "certificate" has been defaced for the sake of half-a-crown. The practice, to say the least, is not commendable. The entry, it will be argued, is a check to fraudulent representation and to temptation, but it should be remembered that it is making a permanent record of the Brother's present distress, which may be a source of bitterness in after and, it may be, more prosperous years. There the recording of the aid given is insisted on, and it is insisted on notwithstanding protests; the applicant has no redress, he must submit or go without the aid he so much needs. Lodges under the Scottish Constitution are, so far as I have been able to gather, free from this practice of defacing diplomas. I would commend to Provinces and Districts the system in vogue in the Glasgow Province, requiring an applicant first to apply to the Treasurer of the Provincial Grand Lodge Benevolent Fund, who supplies him with a card on which is marked the amount of aid given. Possessed with this card he can apply to any Lodge in the Province, each recording the item contributed.—"The Mallet," in "Glasgow Evening News."

"A SPRIG OF ACACIA."

THE Masons of Durham have been thrown into mourning by the death of their chief, Sir Hedworth Williamson, Bart., who died at his residence, Whitburn Hall, Sunderland, on Sunday morning. The deceased, who was the eighth Baronet, was born in 1827, at Florence, and in 1848 was appointed Attache at the British Embassy at St. Petersburg. Two years later he was transferred to the Paris Embassy. In 1864 he was returned to Parliament for North Durham, which he continued to represent for ten years. In 1885 he was installed Provincial Grand Master of Durham, in succession to the Marquis of Londonderry. He was married in 1862 to Elizabeth Jane Hay Liddell, third daughter of the third Earl of Ravensworth, who survives him. He succeeded in the title by his son Hedworth, who was born in 1867. He was an enthusiastic supporter of the Craft, and a popular figure in many social circles. The funeral took place on Thursday afternoon at Whitburn, the family seat. The obsequies were the cause of a demonstration of the very widespread esteem in which the deceased was held in the north. The remains of Sir Hedworth were followed to the grave by a large company, representative of all classes of the community, and the progress of the cortege from the Hall to the church, and thence to the family vault, was watched with respectful interest by a great crowd of people, including many from the neighbouring borough of Sunderland. The funeral was to a very great degree a Masonic one. The Brethren of the various Lodges of the Province assembled at the Whitburn Village School shortly before two o'clock, and from thence they walked in procession to the Hall. The members of the Craft, who numbered about 300, wore white gloves, and each had in his coat a sprig of acacia.

THE death of Bro. Charles Storey Woodhead, of Bradford, on Wednesday evening of last week, after a protracted illness, will come somewhat as a surprise to his more immediate friends. Bro. Woodhead had a marvellous memory for coincidences, dates and personages appertaining to Bradford's earlier days; hence he was generally most interesting company. He was initiated in the Lodge of Hope, No. 302, on Whit Monday evening, 1859.

MASONIC LANGUAGE.

EVEN the profane know that Freemasonry is a "sui generis" organisation. It has its own laws. It has its own regulations. The ceremonies and ritual belong exclusively to it as an inheritance.

This the profane know. There is no secrecy as to these facts. They are known by all intelligent men. It is also as well known that the mysteries of Freemasonry are only to be imparted to those who are duly qualified to receive them.

That qualification is based on the character of the applicant, his mental capacity, his moral vigour and full comprehension of the high standard of morality, virtue, honesty, truth and fair dealing which make up the moral constitution of upright men.

Morality in Masonry is neither a myth nor a sham. It is a real, existing condition, an ascertainable factor in one's life as he is brought into close association with society.

It belongs to his family relations, his business associations, his social conduct, his value and worth as a citizen.

These are the requirements of the applicant for initiation into Masonry. When the applicant becomes the candidate, he must be examined as to other qualifications that are essential. They are strictly Masonic qualifications that are thus to be investigated.

There is then, a Masonic language which must be learned. To express the teachings of Freemasonry it must use its own peculiar language. This no one can acquire unless he be taught, and no one can be taught who has not proved himself capable of understanding, and can prove himself willing to learn and obey.

This, therefore, necessarily involves a mode of expression. Language is such a mode. In the earliest days signs constituted language. Now-a-days the almost universal method of expressing, vocally, that which is to be conveyed to the mind is a spoken tongue. So in Freemasonry a language peculiar to itself is known. It is always unexceptionally used. By it the lessons of Freemasonry are taught.

Remember that at the ford of the ancient river those who wished to pass over were known to be enemies, because they were in ever so little at variance in the language, they could not be granted the permission.

By this example of ignorance of the force of exact words, serious trouble was occasioned. This historic fact is of significance in any discussion of the use of authorised language as it is applied in every relation of life where it has a distinctive character. The expert words in any profession or trade indicate how well the lessons were given and how comprehended, the names of tools, the terms identified with the expression of particular characteristics as the terminology of sciences, or descriptive of phenomena, or the classification of species and their separate or unified connection, all these are taught by special language.

The student must learn these languages before he can become a master in the profession or the science.

The plumb, level and square, the trowel, the tools of iron, the setting maul, are terms used in the construction of buildings. Take the carpenter's vocation, the saw is a tool that has a general application. Yet there are known to the expert mechanic ten tools called saws, each different from the other, the compass saw, the pruning saw, the rip saw, the sweep saw, and the jig saw. These words have the significance which the master builder knows, and he adopts them, in teaching those who are to begin this business or trade.

Freemasonry has its language. The profane cannot use it, for they do not know the significance of terms used in teaching the sciences which Masonry fosters.

When, therefore, it is said that Masonic language has its peculiar expressions, and the initiate must acquire a knowledge of them, it is only asserting an historic fact by all who are well informed as Masons.

The intelligent Mason who is really impressed with the character which belongs to the lessons that teach the esoteric mysteries of the Craft cannot fail to be anxious to become master of the Masonic language. By it he only can be taught what Freemasonry truly is in its wonderful influence on all the members of the Fraternity.

It is of the utmost importance to the integrity of the Craft and the perpetuation of its ritual and ceremonial as it was handed down to us from the fathers, that the Masonic language should be preserved in all its strict and unaltered

expressions. Novelties, spectacular additions to the work, changes, and what are called suggestive modern innovations, must be prohibited.

It would be as fatal to ancient Freemasonry as a new language used in the teachings of the mysteries. The old Masons could not understand it; the young initiates would not know what ancient Freemasonry was by such teachings.

It is a most interesting study for a true student of Freemasonry. Learn the Masonic language.—"Keystone."

VALUABLE SPACE WASTED.

WE agree with a contemporary that much valuable space is wasted in some Masonic publications with detailed reports of Lodge meetings. Indeed, that is practically all of a Masonic character that some papers devoted to the Fraternity contain. Why not utilise that space with a live editorial or an intelligent article on some phase of Masonry? It is well enough to record unusual events in connection with the meetings of Lodges, but to chronicle routine work is of little interest. And, besides, it is almost invariably the case that such papers cater to the pride of the Lodge and call the work excellent in every instance. A Masonic paper which will not criticise justly and call attention to faults in an intelligent, albeit a brotherly manner, is a weakling which does not deserve the support it aims to secure through its very weakness. Let the Masonic press be a strong leader, pointing the Craft upward to high ideals. Let it use every inch of space in a valuable way. The general press uses plenty of type in the accounts of stated meetings. Let us delve deeper and have to do more with the soul of Masonry, rather than its outward semblance. Masonic publications, we believe, should be a factor in the education of Masons. Let them, then, realise their own value and live accordingly.—"American Tyler."

SPIERS & POND'S STORES

(No Tickets Required)

QUEEN VICTORIA STREET, E.C.,

Opposite

Blackfriars Station (District Rly.)

AND

St. Paul's Station (L. C. & D. Rly.).

PRICE BOOK (1,000 pages),

illustrated,

free on application.

FREE DELIVERY

IN SUBURBS

by our own Vans.

Liberal terms

for Country Orders.

FOR FULL DETAILS

SEE PRICE BOOK.

QUEEN'S Hotel & Restaurant, LEICESTER SQUARE, LONDON, W.

Table d'Hôte Luncheon, 3/-
Table d'Hôte Dinner, 5/-
Theatre Suppers à la Carte.

The Grand Dining Hall of this Hotel is admitted to
be one of the Finest in Europe.

THE MAGNIFICENT GRILL-ROOM OPEN TILL MIDNIGHT.

THE QUEEN'S ORCHESTRA PERFORMS DAILY.

*A Suite of Rooms adapted for
Masonic purposes is one of the
features of this Hotel. Inspection
invited.*

TELEPHONE: 2088 GERRARD.

EYRE ARMS HOTEL AND WELLINGTON HALL, St. JOHN'S WOOD, N.W.

The accommodation at this old and popular establishment.

FOR
MASONIC LODGES, CHAPTERS, BALLS, DANCES, DINNERS, &c.
will be found of the most complete character.

The LODGE ROOMS are commodious and well appointed.

The Handsome Ball Room,

with Electric Light, and floor on Roller Springs, is one of the
finest in London.

THE BANQUET HALL WILL SEAT OVER 400.

These elegant rooms are also to let for Weddings, Private Parties, Concerts, &c.

COFFEE ROOM & BILLIARD ROOM OPEN ALL DAY.

The Eyre Lodge, No. 2742; and the Instruction Lodge, every Wednesday, at 8,
hold their meetings at this establishment.

Bro. ALFRED J. BARRELL, Manager.

HOSKIN'S HOTEL, OXTED, SURREY,

One minute's walk from S.E. and L.B. & S.C. Railway Stations,

Proprietor . . . BRO. THOMAS TUCKER.

Special Accommodation for Lodges and Chapters.

Spacious Banquet Room, Ante-Rooms, and other conveniences.

EVERY FACILITY FOR SUMMER OUTINGS.

Culinary arrangements perfection. Wines, Cigars, &c., of finest brands.

The East Surrey Lodge, 2769, meets at this establishment.

GOOD STABLING. SPLENDID SCENERY

Charges very Moderate. For further particulars apply to the Proprietor,

GRAND TREASURERSHIP 1901.

CANDIDATE:

W. BRO. CAPT. JOHN BARLOW, J.P.,
P.M. 1260, 1012, &c., &c.

CHAIRMAN OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

W. BRO. JAMES IRVINE P.M., &c.

Brother BARLOW is the LONDON Representative for the
Craft, and Bros. WALTER POTTER, 442 Kingsland Road, N.E. and C.
D. CHEETHAM, 7 Mosley Street, Manchester, having consented to
act as Hon. Secretaries for LONDON and the PROVINCES, respectively,
will be pleased to furnish any further information that may be desired.

THE CASTLE HOTEL, EAST MOLESEY,
Adjoining Hampton Court Station,
FACING THE RIVER AND PALACE.

Special Provision for Lodge and other meetings, including

A MASONIC TEMPLE

with ample Ante-Rooms, Banquet Hall, and every convenience

FIVE LODGES ALREADY MEET HERE.

Ample accommodation in the new wing of this old-established and noted River-
side Hotel for Banquets for any number up to 100. Every convenience for Ladies'
Gatherings. Spacious landing to river, whence Steam Launches can start.
Specimens of Menus, with prices, sent on application.

TWO BILLIARD TABLES. GOOD STABLING ACCOMMODATION
STEAM LAUNCHES AND SCULLING BOATS

provided at the shortest notice.

Tariff, &c. of Bro. JOHN MAYO, Proprietor.

DOVER CASTLE HOTEL, WESTMINSTER BRIDGE ROAD,

CHARLES BEST & Co., Proprietors. E. VOIGT, Manager.

THE MOST HANDSOME AND COMMODIOUS HOTEL IN SOUTH LONDON.

Bed and Sitting Rooms. Bed and Breakfast from 5s. Dining Rooms on Ground
and First Floor. Special Dishes for the day, from 12 till 3. The Best 2s 6d Table
d'Hôte Dinner in London, from 5.80 to 8.00. Seven Courses. English and French
Cuisine. Silver Grill and Suppers till Midnight.

MASONIC ACCOMMODATION AND BANQUETING HALL. PUBLIC AND PRIVATE
DINNERS TO ORDER. TWO LODGES ALREADY MEET HERE,

Billiard Tables by Wright and Co.

Choice Wines and Liqueurs, Munich Burgerbrau on draught.

D. ROSENBERG,
India Rubber Manufacturer,
89A BOW COMMON LANE, LONDON, E.

Buyer of all kinds of India Rubber Coat Cuttings, and also
Diving Dresses and Pneumatic Tyres, and Hose Pipes, and all
kinds of second-hand India Rubber.

THE OLDEST ESTABLISHED FIRM FOR
OLD METALS AND WASTE INDIA RUBBER
IN THE TRADE.

J. SIMMONDS (Established 1840),
106 Upper North Street, Poplar, London, E.

Telegrams: Unblushing, London. Telephone: 429 Eastern.

All remittances sent on as soon as goods are delivered.

The Freemason's Chronicle.

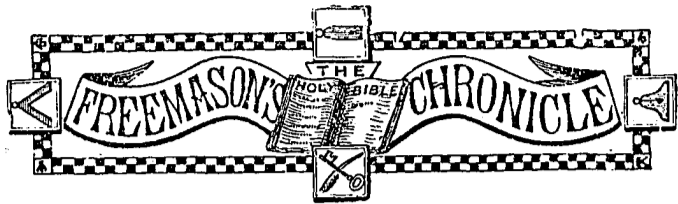
A Weekly Record of Masonic Intelligence.

Published every Saturday, price 8d. 18s 6d per annum, post free.

Scale of Charges for Advertisements.

Back page	£10 10 0
Inside page	8 8 0
General Advertisements, Trade Announcements, &c. (narrow column)	5s per inch
News column Advertisements	1s per line
Births, Marriages and Deaths	1s per line

Special terms for series of insertions or particular positions.



SATURDAY, 1ST SEPTEMBER 1900.

UNITED GRAND LODGE.

THE Quarterly Communication of United Grand Lodge will be held on Wednesday next, 5th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, London, at 5 for 6 p.m. The following is the Agenda of Business:

1. The Minutes of the Quarterly Communication of the 6th June for confirmation.

2. The Grand Master in the chair will move a resolution offering to the Most Worshipful Grand Master His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales the respectful and fraternal sympathy of Grand Lodge, on the loss he had sustained by the death of His Royal Highness the Duke of Saxe-Coburg Gotha.

3. Report of the Board of Benevolence for the months ending June, July, and August, in which are recommendations for the following grants, viz:

The Widow of a Brother of the St. Oswald Lodge, No. 1124, Oswestry	£75 0 0
The Widow of a Brother of the Halsey Lodge, No. 1479, St. Albans	50 0 0
The Widow of a Brother of the Union Lodge, No. 38, Chichester	50 0 0
The Widow of a Brother of the Kingswood Lodge, No. 2278, Broxbourne	50 0 0
A Brother of the Liberty of Havering Lodge, No. 1437, Romford	50 0 0
A Brother of the Barnato Lodge, No. 2265, London	75 0 0

4. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES. To the United Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England.

The Board begs to report that the subscriptions to the South African Masonic Relief Fund received by the Grand Secretary pursuant to the resolution of Grand Lodge, and announced from time to time in the "Freemason" newspaper, amount to £9,002 2s 3d, of which the sum of £4,000 has already been transmitted to South Africa, where it is in course of distribution by R.W. Brother George Richards District Grand Master of the Transvaal, the Very Reverend the Dean of Cape Town, and the District Grand Master of South Africa (E.D.), assisted by the other District Grand Masters of the several Districts in South Africa.

The Board has the pleasure to announce that the additions to the Freemasons' Hall, carried out by Messrs. Cubitt and Co., in accordance with plans prepared by the Grand Superintendent of Works, are now completed.

During the progress of the work, it became apparent to the Board that certain modifications of, and additions to, the original design were desirable, and it accordingly authorised the execution of the work. The cost of these modifications and additions amounts to £464, the payment of which the Board asks Grand Lodge formally to sanction.

The Board further asks Grand Lodge to sanction the expenditure of a sum not exceeding £2,500; the cost of necessary fittings and furniture up to the present being £2,241, but it is thought that a further addition to this sum will be required, which Grand Lodge is asked to sanction.

The substantial fittings, such as book cases, show cases, lockers, &c., have been supplied by Messrs. Cubitt, and by Messrs. Drew, of High Holborn, the cost amounting to £1,145 5s 8d, while the furniture of the new rooms has been supplied by Messrs. Maple and Co., at a cost up to the present of £675 1s 3d. The accounts for the installation of the electric light and fittings amount to £421 9s 8d.

The Board have also to state that they have ordered Policies of Insurance to be taken out with regard to the new premises in the sums of £10,000 on the buildings, and £2,000 on the furniture.

The Board have had under their consideration the question of the delay and difficulty experienced by Brethren in signing the books on entering Grand Lodge, and it hopes that some better arrangement will be suggested by the Grand Secretary, and the Grand Director of Ceremonies, in whose hands the Board have placed the matter.

In acknowledging the following presentations, the Board again takes the opportunity to report that the capacious and handsome room for the reception of the Library and curiosities belonging to Grand Lodge, is now completed, and the Board will be most happy to receive any additions thereto, which the generosity of members of the Craft may place at its disposal.

Title or Object.

By whom presented.

M.S. Notes, &c., relating to Lane's "Masonic Records"—W. Jas. Hughan, P.G.D.

Old R.A. Certificate, Irish—Courtenay M. Gray P.P.G.Org.

History of "Zur Hoffnung" Lodge, Berne, Switzerland—Charles Besson, G. Rep.

Old Masonic Collar Jewel and R.A. Apron, the late Duke of Leinster's—George Kenning and Son.

History of Lodge Perseverance, Bombay—I. M. Shields, D.D.G.M. Constitution and Statutes of G.L. of Montana—The G. Sec. of Montana.

Constitution and Ceremonials of G.L. of Manitoba—The G. Sec. of Manitoba.

Old Royal Arch Medal—Francis Lazenby, P.M. No. 694.

Addresses of the G. Master of New York—The G. Librarian of New York.

Rules and Regulations of the Boys' School, 1808—Robert Hudson, P.G.S.B.

An Old Masonic Medal—Perceval A. Nairne, P.G.D.

Consecration Programme of St. Bride Lodge, No. 2817—C. J. Drummond, W.M. No. 2817.

Catalogue of the Library of Sup. Council, 33rd degree—Supreme Council.

The Board also submit a Statement of the Grand Lodge Accounts at the last meeting of the Finance Committee, held on Friday, the 17th day of August 1900, showing a balance in the Bank of England (Law Courts Branch) of £10,020 6s 2d, and in the hands of the Grand Secretary for Petty Cash £100, and for Servants' Wages £100.

(Signed) RICHARD LOVELAND-LOVELAND,

President.

FREEMASONS' HALL, LONDON, W.C.,

21st August 1900.

5. NOTICE OF MOTION.

By W. Brother George W. Speth, P.A.G.D.C. :—

"That the Brethren attending Grand Lodge be furnished with printed copies of the Minutes of any previous Quarterly Communication when due for Confirmation."

6. APPEAL.

By Brother H. W. Coxon, of the Hopeful Lodge, No. 2634, against a ruling of the R.W. District Grand Master of Queensland, concerning Brother Coxon's Election and Installation.

List of Lodges for which Warrants have been granted by the M.W. Grand Master since the last Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge.

- No. 2817.—The St. Bride Lodge, London.
- 2818.—The Kirby Lodge, London.
- 2819.—The Widnes Lodge, Widnes, Lancashire.
- 2820.—The Perseverance Lodge, Mount Morgan, Queensland, Australia.
- 2821.—The Whitley Lodge, Whitley, Northumberland.
- 2822.—The Horistic Lodge, London.
- 2823.—The William Rogers Lodge, London.
- 2824.—The Grove Park Kent Lodge, London.
- 2825.—The St. John Lodge, Blackpool, Lancashire.
- 2826.—The Birkenhead Lodge, Birkenhead, Cheshire.
- 2827.—The Lord Roberts Lodge, London.
- 2828.—The Evening Star Lodge, Burgersdorp, Cape Colony, South Africa.
- 2829.—The Caribbee Lodge, St. John, Antigua, West Indies.

MARK GRAND LODGE.

THE Quarterly meeting of this Grand Lodge will be held on Tuesday next, 4th inst., at Mark Masons' Hall, Great Queen Street, London, at 5 for 6 p.m. The following is the Agenda of Business:

1. Read and, if approved, confirm Minutes of Quarterly Communication of 5th June 1900.

2. REPORT OF GENERAL BOARD.

During the three months ending 30th June 1900, there have been issued:—Mark Certificates, 292; total registered, 41,775.

Since the last report two Warrants for new Lodges have been granted, viz.:—No. 541, Staffordshire Knot, Stafford; and No. 542, Davoren, Wellington, Madras.

Royal Ark Mariner Certificates, 98; number registered 6,303.

Warrant for one Royal Ark Mariner Lodge, viz.: Leopold, attached to the Leopold Lodge, No. 235, Reading.

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

R.W. Bro. the Rev. Canon Tristram, D.D., as Provincial Grand Master for Northumberland and Durham.

R.W. Bro. the Hon. Alan de Tatton Egerton, M.P., as Provincial Grand Master for Cheshire.

R.W. Bro. Richard Vassar Vassar-Smith, as Provincial Grand Master for Gloucestershire and Herefordshire.

The Warrant of the Pulny Andy Lodge, No. 420, has been returned to Grand Lodge through the District Grand Master for Madras.

The Board begs to recommend that the following addition be made to Article 121, Book of Constitutions.

"And if in any Lodge it should become impossible to hold the regular meeting upon the day named in the bye-laws for that purpose, the Grand Master, and in Provinces or Districts the Provincial or District Grand Master, may grant a dispensation for the holding of such meeting upon a day not more than seven days before or after that fixed by the bye-laws, which day shall for all purposes be deemed the regular day of meeting."

The Board regrets to record the death of R. W. Bro. the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Radnor Provincial Grand Master for Wiltshire. As no Deputy Provincial Grand Master was ever appointed the Province is at present in charge of the Provincial Senior Grand Warden (Book of Constitutions, Art. 74).

The Board has also to report with much regret the death of their valued colleague V. W. Bro. Richard Eve, a member since 1894. Also that the M. W. Grand Master has been pleased to appoint R. W. Bro. Charles Letch Mason Provincial Grand Master for West Yorkshire to fill the vacancy on the General Board for the unexpired portion of the late Bro. Eve's term of office.

In commemoration of his many services to the Mark degree the M. W. Grand Master has been pleased to confer on Bro. Charles Belton V. W. Past G. Overseer, the rank and precedence of Past Grand Junior Warden.

The Board has great pleasure in announcing that the electric light has been installed in Mark Masons' Hall, and the Grand Secretary will be happy to give every information as to the dates on which the Lodge rooms are vacant.

FUND OF BENEVOLENCE.

The thirty-second Annual Festival was held at Freemasons' Tavern on the 11th July, under the presidency of the M. W. Bro. the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Euston Pro Grand Master. The sum of £5,113 was announced as having been paid and promised, this being the largest result ever declared. The Board have great pleasure in congratulating the Chairman and the Board of Stewards.

The thirty-third Annual Festival will be held in July 1901, under distinguished presidency, and the Grand Secretary will be happy to receive the names of Ladies and Brethren willing to act as Stewards.

Mrs. Allison, widow of Bro. Robert Vickerman Allison, late an annuitant, has been granted half her late husband's annuity for three years under Rule 203, Sub-section XIII.

The following cases have been relieved:—

Bro. T. R., Lodges Nos. 213, 216	£10
Bro. E. P., Lodge No. 255	£10

The Board recommends to Grand Lodge—

£25 to Mrs. F. E. P., Widow of a Brother of Lodges Nos. 100 and 155;

£20 to Mrs. E. M., Widow of a Brother of Lodge No. 277.

R. LOVELAND-LOVELAND, President.

FRANK RICHARDSON, Vice-President.

C. FITZGERALD MATIER, Grand Secretary.

August 1900.

3. A motion will be made that the Report be taken as read.

4. A motion will be made that the Report be received and entered on the minutes.

5. Recommendations arising out of the Report:—

(A) "Addition to Article 121 Book of Constitutions:—'And if in any Lodge it should become impossible to hold the regular meeting upon the day named in the bye-laws for that purpose, the Grand Master, and in Provinces or Districts the Provincial or District Grand Master, may grant a dispensation for the holding of such meeting, upon a day not more than seven days before or after that fixed by the bye-laws, which day shall for all purposes be deemed the regular day of meeting.'"

(B) Grants recommended:—£25 to Mrs. P., Widow of a Brother of Lodge Hawton, No. 100, and Portal, No. 155.
£20 to Mrs. M., Widow of a Brother of Fitzwilliam Lodge, No. 277.

6. A motion will be proposed that the Report be adopted.

7. Presentation of Charity Jewels to the Stewards of the last Benevolent Fund Festival.

Negotiations are in progress for the commencement of a Lodge at Whitley Bay, under the title of the "Whitley." The consecration ceremony will likely take place at the next meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Northumberland.

* * *

DONCASTER RACES.—The Great Northern Railway Company are, as usual, making very extensive and complete arrangements in connection with this year's Doncaster Races. The ordinary splendid service of seventeen express trains from London will be fully maintained, and additional special expresses will be run, as well as special cheap excursions for the different dates and for varied periods.

REPORTS OF MEETINGS.

—:o:—

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.

—:o:—

CRAFT: PROVINCIAL.

—:o:—

ENGLAND'S CENTRE LODGE, No. 2555.

AT Weedon, on Thursday afternoon, 23rd ult., at a well-attended Lodge, which included a number of Brethren from Northampton, Bro. T. Horton, of Harpole, the popular captain of the Northamptonshire Cricket Club, was installed Worshipful Master, the installation ceremony being performed by the outgoing W. M. Bro. C. Welsh, who was assisted by Bro. George Ellard, of Northampton.

* * *

METROPOLITAN: INSTRUCTION.

—:o:—

CONFIDENCE LODGE, No. 193.

THE reputation of this Lodge being so widely known we paid it another visit on Wednesday evening, at 7 o'clock, at Bro. C. Goovaerts's, the Bunch of Grapes, Lime Street, and we were agreeably pleased to witness the harmony and Brotherly sentiments which exist amongst the members. On this occasion Bro. J. Mear P. M. was in the chair, with Bros. A. G. McDonald S. W., H. Rowland J. W., J. K. Pitt P. M., &c. acting Preceptor and Secretary, C. Goovaerts Treas., A. Cook S. D., A. E. Green J. D., J. Done I. G., J. Lewis, H. Watkins, W. Chittock, T. Clark, J. Wynman, &c.

The Lodge being formed the W. M. rehearsed the ceremony of initiation, for which Bro. Lewis acted as candidate. The Lodge was opened in the second degree and the same Brother answered the questions leading to the third and retired. Bro. Watkins kindly took the candidate's place, the Lodge was opened in the third degree, and the ceremony of raising was rehearsed. Both the ceremonies were perfectly and distinctly rendered, for which Bro. Mears received well earned congratulations.

Bro. A. G. McDonald was elected W. M. for next meeting, and the same Brother was elected a member of the Lodge, which compliment was acknowledged.

The Lodge was closed and the Brethren retired to partake of their usual little supper, in connection with which Bro. Goovaerts is so well known to study the palates of his patrons.

* * *

YARBOROUGH LODGE, No. 554.

MEMBERS of this well known Lodge of Instruction, after having enjoyed their summer holiday, re-assembled on Tuesday evening, at 8 o'clock, at the house of Bro. Butlin, the popular host of the Citizen, Houndsditch. On this occasion we had the pleasure of seeing Bro. R. Mahony acting as W. M., supported by Bros. L. Norden P. M. S. W., L. DaCosta P. M. J. W., T. Cowell P. M. Preceptor, D. McNish P. M. Sec., E. H. Norden P. M. S. D., R. Butlin I. G., S. B. Lotheim, J. Norden, Andrews, J. Wynman, and others.

The W. M. proposed to rehearse the ceremony of initiation, for which Bro. Andrews offered himself as candidate. The ceremony was perfectly rendered. By desire of the W. M. Bro. Cowell Preceptor of the Lodge gave the ancient charge in grand style. Bro. J. Norden answered the questions leading to the second degree, and Bro. Cowell continued by working the second section of the first lecture, whilst Bro. L. DaCosta P. M. Preceptor of the Friars Lodge was ready to assist the Brethren with their answers when necessary.

Bros. L. Norden P. M., E. H. Norden P. M., and S. B. Lotheim, members of the Israel Lodge, No. 205, were unanimously elected members, which compliment was acknowledged and highly appreciated by those Brethren.

Bro. L. Norden was elected W. M. for Tuesday. His perfect working being so well known, particularly amongst the Brethren of the Israel Lodge, will be highly appreciated by the members of the Yarborough.

This being the first time we had the pleasure of witnessing the ruling of Bro. Mahony we take the opportunity of complimenting him on his working, which was perfectly and impressively done.

* * *

ROYAL VICTORIA JUBILEE LODGE, No. 2184.

ON Wednesday afternoon, at 3 o'clock, at the Dover Castle Hotel, Westminster Bridge Road, S. E., Bros. C. E. West W. M., W. J. Newstead Sec. acting S. W., C. B. Andrews J. W., A. Darch P. M. Prec., J. Wynman I. G., B. Cohen, Newson, Houghton, &c.

The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. B. Cohen acting as candidate. This being ended, the Lodge was opened in the second degree and the inner working of installation was rehearsed, Bro. W. J. Newstead being presented as W. M.-elect, whilst Bro. B. Cohen acted as D. C. The W. M. invested his Officers and the three addresses were delivered in a most impressive manner. The Lodge was resumed to the first degree, and Bro. W. J. Newstead was elected W. M. for next meeting. The working, as usual in this Lodge, was perfect. We are exceedingly sorry we have forgotten the name of the Senior Deacon, as the assistance he rendered was highly appreciated by the W. M., considering that he was only initiated in December last.

Bro. Sir Joseph Dimsdale on Thursday accepted the invitation of the City of London Conservative Association, in council assembled, to become their candidate at the next Parliamentary election, in the place of Brother Sir Reginald Hanson, whose intention it is to retire from active political life, in consequence of continued ill health.

MEETINGS NEXT WEEK.

Monday.

- 1321 Emblematic, Criterion
 61 Probity, F.M.H., Halifax
 85 Faithful, Swan, Harleston
 89 Unanimity, Angel, Dukinfield
 113 Unanimity, Bull, Preston
 119 Sun, Square & Compasses, Whitehaven
 135 Perpetual Friendship, Bridgwater
 156 Harmony, F.M.H., Plymouth
 251 Loyal, F.M.H., Barnstaple
 264 Nelson of the Nile, F.M.H., Batley
 328 St. John, F.M.H., Torquay
 331 Phoenix of Honour & Prudence, Truro
 408 Three Graces, Masonic Room, Haworth
 428 Sincerity, Angel, Northwich
 431 St. George, F.M.H., North Shields
 433 Hope, Duke of Well'ton, Brightlingsea
 467 Tudor, F.M.H., Oldham
 482 St. James, Wretham Rm., Handsworth
 529 Semper Fidelis, F.M.H., Worcester
 557 Loyal Victoria, F.M.H., Callington
 613 Unity, F.M.H., Southport
 622 St. Cuthberga, F.M.H., Wimborne
 839 Rl. Gloucestershire, Bell, Gloucester
 850 St. Oswald, Town Hall, Ashborne
 959 Prince of Wales, F.M.H., Ipswich
 977 Fowey, F.M.H., Fowey
 1045 Stamford, Town Hall, Altrincham
 1051 Rowley, F.M.H., Lancaster
 1071 Zetland, F.M.H., Saltash
 1211 Goderich, F.M.H., Leeds
 1239 Wentworth, F.M.H., Sheffield
 1254 Semper Fidelis, F.M.H., Exeter
 1264 Neptune, F.M.H., Liverpool
 1280 Walden, Rose & Crown, Saffron Walden
 1286 Bayon, F.M.H., Market Rasen
 1312 St. Mary, F.M.H., Braintree
 1399 Marlborough, Mlb. Arms, Woodstock
 1542 Legiolium, F.M.H., Castleford
 1573 Caradoc, F.M.H., Swansea
 1575 Clive, Raven, Market Drayton
 1600 Hamilton, F.M.H., Alford
 1954 Molesworth, F.M.H., Wadebridge
 2039 Londonderry, F.M.H., Sunderland
 2078 St. Lawrence, F.M.H., Scunthorpe
 2163 Jersev, Railway Hotel, Southall
 2166 Cotehele, F.M.H., Calstock
 2497 Carville, F.M.H., Wallsend-on-Tyne
 2520 Prince Wales, F.M.H., Newcastle-on-T.
 2533 Fitzwilliam, F.M.H., Peterborough
 2586 St. Nicholas, F.M.H., Scarborough

Tuesday.

- Mark Grand Lodge, 5 for 6.
 1472 Henley, Three Crowns, Nth. Woolwich
 1662 Beaconsfield, Brooke, Walthamstow
 2738 Army and Navy, Anderton's
 52 Union, 47 St. Giles Street, Norwich
 70 St. John, F.M.H., Plymouth
 103 Beaufort, F.M.H., Bristol
 124 Marquis of Granby, F.M.H., Durham
 158 Adam, Britannia, Sheerness
 160 True Friendship, Old Ship, Rochford
 252 Harmonic, F.M.T., Dudley
 265 Royal Yorkshire, F.M.H., Keighley
 315 Royal York, Royal Pavilion, Brighton
 364 Cambrian, F.M.H., Neath
 393 St. David, F.M.H., Berwick
 421 Loyal Industry, F.M.H., Southmolton
 457 Loyal Monmouth, F.M.H., Monmouth
 484 Faith, Gerard's, Ashton-in-Makerfield
 403 Royal Lebanon, Bell, Gloucester
 510 St. Martin, F.M.H., Liskeard
 558 Temple, F.M.H., Folkestone
 615 St. John & St. Paul, F.M.H., Belvedere
 624 Abbey, F.M.H., Burton-on-Trent
 660 Camalodunum, F.M.H., New Malton
 673 St. John, F.M.H., Liverpool
 734 Londesborough, F.M.H., Bridlington
 789 Dunheved, F.M.H., Launceston
 804 Carnarvon, F.M.H., Havant
 814 Parrett & Axe, Town Hall, Crewkerne
 847 Fortescue, F.M.H., Honiton
 910 St. Oswald, F.M.H., Pontefract
 949 St. Barnabas, Elephant & Cst., Linslade
 960 Bute, F.M.H., Cardiff

- 967 Three G. Principles, F.M.H., Penryn
 974 Pentalpha, F.M.H., Bradford
 979 Four Cardinal Virtues, Royal, Crewe
 990 Neyland, New Masonic Hall, Neyland
 1002 Skiddaw, Masonic Rooms, Cockermouth
 1134 Newall, F.M.H., Manchester
 1214 Scarborough, Station Hotel, Batley
 1244 Marwood, F.M.H., Redcar
 1310 Harrow, King's Head, Harrow
 1336 Square & Compass, F.M.H., Wrexham
 1482 Isle of Axholme, F.M.H., Crowle
 1619 Sackville, F.M.H., East Grinstead
 1780 Albert Edward, F.M.H., Southampton
 1785 St. Petroc, F.M.H., Padstow
 1902 St. Cuthbert, King's Arms, Bedlington
 1908 Cholmondeley, F.M.H., Frodsham
 1970 Hadrian, F.M.H., South Shields
 1981 Arnold, Castle, East Molesey
 2129 Dorothy Vernon, Town Hall, Bakewell
 2595 Trinity, Assembly Rm., Buckfastleigh

Wednesday.

- United Grand Lodge, 5 for 6.
 2739 Verity, Cafe Monico
 74 Athol, F.M.H., Birmingham
 86 Loyalty, King's Arms, Prescott, Lanc.
 94 Phoenix, F.M.H., Sunderland
 137 Amity, F.M.H., Poole
 159 Brunswick, F.M.H., East Stonehouse
 168 Mariners, Masonic Temple, Guernsey
 282 Bedford, F.M.H., Tavistock
 287 Unanimity, White Lion, Stockport
 298 Harmony, Masonic Room, Rochdale
 326 Moira of Honour, F.M.H., Bristol
 327 St. John, Lion and Lamb, Wigton
 332 Virtue and Silence, Hadleigh
 406 Northern Counties, Newcastle-on-Tyne
 417 Faith & Unanimity, F.M.H., Dorchester
 420 Royal Navy, Royal, Ramsgate
 471 Silurian, F.M.H., Newport, Mon.
 633 Yarborough, Grand, Manchester
 678 Earl Ellesmere, Farnworth
 681 Scarsdale, F.M.H., Chesterfield
 970 St. Anne, F.M.H., East Looe
 992 St. Thomas, Griffin, L. Broughton
 1003 Prince of Wales, Mas. Tem., Jersey
 1010 Kingston, F.M.H., Hull
 1013 Royal Victoria, F.M.H., Liverpool
 1085 Hartington, F.M.H., Derby
 1091 Erme, F.M.H., Ivybridge
 1167 Alnwick, F.M.H., Alnwick
 1193 Doric, White Hart, Wymondham
 1274 Earl of Durham, F.M.H., Chester-le-St.
 1335 Lindsay, F.M.H., Wigan
 1354 Marquis of Lorne, F.M.H., Leigh
 1431 St. Alphege, George, Solihull
 1461 Clausentum, F.M.H., Woolston
 1522 Bective, F.M.H., Carlisle
 1620 Marlborough, Derby Hall, Liverpool
 1660 Arlecdon, F.M.H., Frizington
 1736 St. John, F.M.H., Halifax
 1862 Stranton, F.M.H., West Hartlepool
 2283 Huston, New Inn, St. Neots
 2368 Alan, Queens, Alderly Edge
 2391 Orde-Powlett, F.M.H., Middlesbrough
 2450 Loxfield, Maiden's Head, Uckfield
 2453 Duke of York, F.M.H., Cardiff
 2464 Longsight, Club House, Longsight
 2560 Earl of Lathom, Royal, Bury
 2684 St. Ivo, Mas. Temple, St. Ives, Hunts.
 2690 West Kirby, Tynwold Hall, W. Kirby

Thursday.

- 1178 Perfect Ashlar, Bridge House Hotel
 1445 Prince Leopold, Three Nuns, Aldgate
 1963 Duke of Albany, Surrey Masonic Hall
 24 Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Newcastle-on-T.
 31 United Industrious, Canterbury
 57 Humber, F.M.H., Hull
 110 Loyal Cambrian, Merthyr Tydvil
 123 Lennox, F.M.H., Richmond, Yorks.
 195 Hengist, F.M.H., Bournemouth
 219 Prudence, F.M.H., Todmorden
 230 Fidelity, Masonic Hall, Devonport
 249 Mariners, F.M.H., Liverpool
 254 Trinity, Craven Arms, Coventry
 266 Naphtali, Freemasons' Arms, Heywood
 269 Fidelity, Volunteer Hd. Qts., Blackburn
 276 Good Fellowship, Chelmsford

- 289 Fidelity, F.M.H., Leeds
 294 Constitutional, F.M.H., Beverley
 295 Combermere of Union, Macclesfield
 300 Minerva, Ashton-under-Lyne
 317 Affability, F.M.H., Manchester
 361 Industry, Norfolk Arms, Hyde
 362 Doric, F.M.H., Manchester
 446 Benevolent, Vicar's Hall, Wells, Som.
 449 Cecil, Sun, Hitchin
 462 Bank Terrace, Hargreaves, Accrington
 509 Tees, F.M.H., Stockton
 531 St. Helen, F.M.H., Hartlepool
 637 Portland, Town Hall, Stoke-upon-Trent
 703 Clifton, F.M.H., Blackpool
 792 Pelham Pillar, F.M.H., Grimsby
 856 Restormel, Duchy Palace, Lostwithiel
 976 Royal Clarence, Blue Ball, Bruton
 1164 Eliot F.M.H., St. Germans
 1231 Savile, Masonic Room, Elland
 1304 Olive Union, F.M.H., Horncastle
 1324 Okeover, Masonic Room, Ripley
 1384 Equity, Central, Widnes
 1424 Brownrigg of Unity, Old Brompton
 1473 Bootle, F.M.H., Bootle
 1504 Red Rose of Lancaster, Padigham
 1513 Friendly, F.M.H., Barnsley
 1557 Albert Edward, F.M.H., Hexham
 1565 Earl of Chester, F.M.H., Lymm
 1741 Montgomerie, King's Head, Diss
 1790 Old England, Art Gallery, Croydon
 1820 Burrell, Royal Pavilion, Brighton
 1874 Lechmere, F.M.H., Balsall Heath
 1899 Wellesley, Wellington, Crowhurst
 2169 Osborne, F.M.H., East Cowes
 2195 Military Jubilee, F.M.H., Dover
 2317 Bisley, F.M.H., Woking
 2321 Acacia, F.M.H., Bradford
 2350 Corinthian, Bird i' th' hand, Hindley
 2386 Clarence, F.M.H., Chester
 2433 Minerva, Bank Bldgs., Connah's Quay
 2496 Wirral, Cloughton Hall, Birkenhead
 2651 Charity, F.M.H., Warrington
 2683 Addington, Bridge House, Eton
 2786 St. Albans, Red Lion, St. Albans

Friday.

- 1275 Star, Ship, Greenwich
 2511 St. John at Hackney, Finsbury
 44 Friendship, Albion, Manchester
 242 St. George, F.M.H., Doncaster
 291 Rural Philanthropic, Highbridge
 306 Alfred, F.M.H., Leeds
 355 Royal Sussex of Emulation, Swindon
 420 Shakespeare, F.M.H., Spilsby
 445 Fidelity, Pomfret, Towcester
 521 Truth, F.M.H., Huddersfield
 712 Lindsey, F.M.H., Louth
 837 De Grey and Ripon, Town Hall, Ripon
 838 Franklin, Peacock and Royal, Boston
 1230 Barnard, F.M.H., Barnard's Castle
 1232 Hereward, Angel, Bourne
 1375 Architect, F.M.H., Chorlton-cum-Hardy
 1405 Southwell, F.M.H., Nottingham
 1547 Liverpool, F.M.H., Liverpool
 1648 Prince of Wales, F.M.H., Bradford
 1664 Gosforth, F.M.H., Gosforth
 1739 Carnarvon, F.M.H., Swadlincote
 1754 Windsor, F.M.H., Penarth
 1993 Wolseley, Trevalyan, Manchester
 2290 Fairfield, Alexandra, Liverpool
 2491 White Rose of York, F.M.H., Sheffield
 2569 St. Trillo, Oxford Bldgs., Colwyn Bay
 2680 Swinburne, F.M.H., Newcastle-on-Tyne

Saturday.

- 1446 Mount Edgcumbe, Holborn Restaurant
 1607 Loyalty, London Tavern
 1685 Guelph, Town Hall, Leyton
 1839 Duke of Cornwall, F.M.H.
 2384 Mitcham, Lower Mitcham
 2579 Lewisham, Parish Hall, Lewisham
 140 Peace, F.M.H., Meltham
 308 Pr. George, Station House, Todmorden
 336 Benevolence, Jolly Sailor, Marple
 444 Union, Courtenay Arms, Starcross
 869 Gresham, Great House, Cheshunt
 1755 Eldon, Royal, Portishead
 2246 Cyclist, Castle, East Molesey
 2278 Kingswood, Crown, Broxbourne
 2442 St. Clement, Bell, Leigh

FIRST IMPRESSIONS.

IN Freemasonry, as in most other institutions or orders a man joins, his first impressions materially affect the value of the interests he subsequently develops. A great responsibility therefore rests upon the Master of a Lodge in his duty towards initiates. Assuming that the candidate has really

been prompted by a "favourable opinion preconceived of the Fraternity, a general desire for knowledge and a sincere wish to render himself more extensively serviceable to his fellow man"—it is expedient that no attention to detail be spared to cause him to look seriously upon the ceremony through which he is about to pass.

According to an old form of ritual, it was the custom to

have the declaration made by the candidate in the presence of a few Brethren, and not embodied in the ceremony as at present. The practice has so much to commend it that it might well be universally adopted. It tended to fit the candidate's mind for the reception of the precepts that followed, and convince him that the first steps to Freemasonry required serious reflection and could not be taken thoughtlessly or rashly as, it may be feared, they too often are. Much, therefore depends upon the Brother who is passed out to perform this important function. With a little tact he can, in a measure, prepare the mind of the candidate for the ordeal. A word or two in season during the brief delay, which is associated in many of our experiences with a feeling bordering on anxiety, will make the subsequent development of the system all the more intelligible and interesting, provided, and herein lies the rub, the ceremony is given with due forcibility, intelligence and eloquence.

If the delivery of the beautiful words and sentiments of our ritual lack the above qualities, in even an ordinary degree, the first impression of the candidate cannot be a favourable one. If they are gabbled over, or mouthed, without any regard to emphasis or expression, as we have heard them, times out of number, we pity the intelligence of the candidate that could allow him to be impressed, or even interested in the ceremony in the slightest degree. To get off a degree pat, and gabble it over with the air of a man racing against time, is labour and energy thrown away. Such a feat of memory in no wise constitutes a capacity for giving a degree; indeed, to use the well-known quotation, "it shows a pitiful lack of ambition in the man who uses it."

A Master may be a good executive officer, popular and a credit to his position, yet a signal failure in giving degrees. It is a difficult matter to suggest a remedy. The inability to confer a degree should not in our opinion be quoted as a point in his disfavour, provided he possesses the more important qualities requisite in a Master. "True and trusty, of good report, held in high estimation among his Brethren, courteous in demeanour, easy of address, of exemplary character, steady and firm in principle." These are the qualifications necessary. If added to these he possesses the gift of eloquence and a good memory, there is little else wanting. Failing these latter qualities some provision should be made for conferring degrees, as it is expedient our candidates have the teachings of the Fraternity brought before them, in the first instance especially, in an impressive and forcible manner.

It would be, of course, too delicate a matter to suggest to a Worshipful Master, who could just manage to struggle through a degree, that it would be better if he allowed some other Worshipful Brother to undertake the work. It would probably give him offence or at least hurt his feelings. The only way out of the difficulty, as it seems to us, is to appoint a Preceptor from the Past Masters, one who has been more than ordinarily successful in conferring degrees and look to him to perform this duty and arrange ceremonies. Such an office would be no sinecure. Its holder would have to make himself conversant with the tracing boards and lectures, and be ready to deliver them whenever opportunity afforded.

It might be here mentioned that a great number of Brethren have never heard either. In our Presidency towns, where there are regular Lodges of Instruction, the facility may be often afforded, but except on rare occasions, members of Mofussil Lodges do not hear any explanation of the tracing boards from one year's end to the other and get no opportunity of participating in the lectures in a lifetime. This question might be dwelt upon at length, but to do so here would digress from our present subject, to which we must now revert. The junior Officers of a Lodge should be perfect in their respective parts, or the first impressions of a candidate are as likely to be perverted as from any of the other causes we have mentioned.

Though we may not have experienced the feeling ourselves, we can realise without much difficulty what the reflections of a candidate of ordinary intelligence must be, when he hears the incessant prompting from the far end of the room directed to his guide, whose faltering words must plainly reveal the fact to the candidate that he is himself at the mercy of an instructor, who personally needs instruction. How can it be possible for a candidate, under such circumstances, to be impressed by the ceremony of his first degree? As it is but a very short step from the sublime to the ridiculous, equally easily can our ceremonies be trans-

formed from the height of beauty of thought, word and action, to almost meaningless gestures and senseless jargon. It is very easy to make a man a Freemason to all external appearance, but a more difficult matter to make him one "in his heart," nay, well nigh impossible, unless his initiation has been conducted from first to last with earnestness, accuracy and order, and an entire absence of all undue haste and flurry.—"Indian Freemason."

THE LOST WORD.

THE following instructive address was delivered by Companion Francis W. Hemporly H.P. of Temple R.A. Chapter, No. 248, Philadelphia.

"In all the oriental mysteries, as well as in Masonic tradition and in the Hebrew Scriptures, much space and deep interest are given to an ineffable name which was once known, afterwards lost and again restored to men. It would be very interesting to trace the relations of these various teachings, and to show that in all probability they have had a common origin. But to-night we do not intend to make a scholarly disquisition upon the subject. It is our aim to call the attention of the Companions to one or two points which may serve to awaken an interest in the subject and possibly at some future time call forth an investigation which will result in a richer reward to the patient student.

"We are told that our three Grand Masters, Solomon, King of Israel, Hiram, King of Tyre, and Hiram, the architect, had agreed upon a word which was to be the secret word as a Master Mason, and that it was to be conferred upon the more meritorious of the Fellow Craft at the completion of the temple, but that it was to be conferred only in the presence of the three. For a well known reason this word, which they had deposited in a secret vault for safe keeping, was lost. It could not be conferred upon the Fellow Craft. It remained hidden away in the depths of the earth beneath the temple which was destroyed above it, and there lay concealed until after the Kingdom of Judah, which had been carried away into captivity, had served the King of Babylon for several years and finally, after a period of 470 years, the word was found and restored to the knowledge of the children of Israel.

"This word was the mysterious name of the Divine Being—the name which God himself gave to Moses out of the burning bush. It was that name which means in the Hebrew language, 'I am He who is,' the only uncreated and the self-existent creator of all. This is my name forever, and this is my memorial to all generations.

"It would be exceedingly interesting to take up the signification of this name; to show how it is composed of peculiar consonants and vowels; to notice that, in the ancient Hebrew language the word was never written with the vowel points attached, but that the true pronunciation was a matter of oral tradition, and that even to this day there are grave doubts as to the true pronunciation of the word. What we wish especially to bring before you is the practical lessons which are contained in the bosom of the magnificent teachings of Freemasonry. We have always felt that the doctrines of our ancient teachers have been builded for all time and for all men. In their simple letters they attract and interest those who, as Entered Apprentices, have just passed over the threshold. And as they advance in knowledge and skill, the lessons of wisdom become more and more open, until finally, when they are regarded as proper to be made Masters, when the genuine spiritual temple symbolised by the temple of Solomon has been erected within them, then it is, and not before, that the ancient, true, and secret word of a Master Mason can be given and understood by them.

"In a certain sense every man travels over this road from infancy to manhood. The loving lessons of the innocent days of childhood are taught by the affectionate counsels of mother and of father, and the angels which hover around the cradle of the sleeping infant fill the fair pages of its tender mind with the bright pictures of an inner paradise. The representatives of the three ancient Grand Masters are concerned in the structure of this spiritual temple in every human soul. They are the wisdom of Solomon, the Tyrian king with his store of rational knowledge, which are the cedars of Lebanon and the practical application of these things in the uses of the daily life by the cunning mind of the widow's son who was skilled in all manner of work. But

as we grow from infancy to youth, and through youth into manhood, we all of us realise that there is more or less of a falling away from the standard of a faithful life. We know more than we practice. We are ambitious to forsee the secrets of a higher life—the knowledge of the secret word, which is the name of Him who is self-existent, and the cause of existence in all—but we are not willing to wait until we are properly prepared by the deeds of our life to receive the knowledge. The Kingdom of Heaven in us suffereth violence, and the violent lusts and passions of our corporeal nature seek to take it by force with the sad result, in the great majority of cases, that our power to do unto others as we would have them do unto us is slain, and the true and secret word of the name of names, which stands for all that is good and true and useful in human existence, is lost.

“The children of Israel, the seed of Abraham—whose name was changed by the insertion of the middle letter of the Ineffable Name, from Abram to Abraham—are carried away into captivity, and they serve the King of Babylon, who represents the evil lusts of the flesh, for seventy years, which means until such time as is necessary to complete the work of subjugation in us of those rebellious principles. Then there always arises a Messiah—a Cyrus, if you please, as a Hebrew; or a Jesus, if you please, as a Christian—a time when the edict goes forth that the people may go free, and a Zerubbabel comes forth to lead us back again—back into the states of our early days, back into the condition of our early childhood, back amid the ruins caused by our wrongful lives.

“To this work we must come with honest hearts, actuated by a sincere desire to rebuild the house of the Lord without expectation of fee or reward. There must be nothing mercenary or selfish about it. We must be moved by a genuine love of the good and true. In such a condition of mind and effort, we shall, sooner or later, discover that which was lost. The Book of the Law, long lost, now found, will be re-opened in the sanctum sanctorum of our heart's true love and revealed to us as a newer and more glorious light. The jewel of the ancient Lodge, with its mysterious significance, will be found safely preserved, and the ancient, true and secret word will be once again in our possession. We shall have the name of the Divine as a memorial to all the future generations of thought and feeling within us.

“He who knows the true name of the Deity, knows also His essential nature and character. As we learn the genuine truth that God is love and wisdom, combined in everlasting unity and concord, and ever working for the good of all His creatures, we have the ancient, true and secret word—the genuine name of the Deity—restored to us, and in this supreme condition of most excellent wisdom we are prepared to practice those principles of peace on earth and good will among men, symbolised by the graving upon our frontlets of ‘Holiness to the Lord’—holiness which permeates with its sweet savour of charity our every thought, word and action.

“My dear Companions, it is a consummation most devoutly to be wished that every one of us may, sooner or later, clear away the rubbish of his past life, and upon the ruins of the old waste places rebuild the true spiritual temple of the Lord, and find once more established in strength the essential signified by the word which was lost, but which, having been found and loved and obeyed, will pass us through the white veil of the sanctuary above, and secure to us the white stone of an innocent character, in which is written the New Name of Holiness to the Lord forever.”—“Masonic Advocate.”

INNOVATORS.

THOUGH admitting the firm establishment and the absolute unchangability of the fundamentals of Masonry, innovators constantly arise, clamouring for revision and improvement in some particular or other. Grand Masters express set opinions and attempt to legislate them into governing regulations. While it is often true that there is no progress without change, and that increasing light and the vagaries of time frequently bring the necessity for the embodiment of new ideas adapted to the present day, still it must be distinctly kept in mind that there is no one influence so deteriorating to Masonry as the tendency towards innovation. Masonry at bottom is as immutable as Truth itself, and must remain so. Who are we that we should presume to adapt and re-adapt to our narrow views that which has come down

to us in such perfect form. Latter-day Masons, it seems, are too prone to desire change, to consider their ideas, because they are new ideas, the only correct ones. There is too much worry in some jurisdictions over the form of the ritual, or minor regulations, none of which are unimportant.

We like the attitude taken by P.G.M. James Bradley, of Michigan, who, in 1899, while expressing his personal opposition to the regulation barring an applicant who had lost part of two fingers and a thumb, nevertheless made no attempt to accomplish an innovation nor to circumvent the law. We may think many regulations useless, many forms unmeaning, but they are there, were set there for good reason, and must be obeyed. Greater minds than ours conceived the plan, in detail and ensemble, of Masonry, and ours “not to reason why.”

Many jurisdictions are to-day at marked variance upon points seemingly insignificant, but which might easily, under certain conditions, bring up embarrassing and perplexing questions. In union there is strength. When jurisdictions vary too greatly they begin to draw away from each other and in the end disintegration sets in and retrogression is in sight. Beware the man who continually cries innovation, and seeks to “remedy” and “improve” existing laws and regulations. The Brother who yields a faithful, implicit and unquestioning obedience contributes most to the strength and enduring qualities of Freemasonry.—“Tyler.”

THE OBLIGATION.

IT is a matter for deep regret that of late the idea seems to be gaining ground amongst us that the obligation of a Master Mason does not extend to and cover his relations with the Brethren in private life, but only extends to the converse and work of the Lodge room—that want of Brotherly love, and unkindness and injustice amongst the Brethren in their relations as private citizens, is a matter entirely beyond and outside Masonic cognisance. If this view is correct and should become generally adopted and acted upon, it must surely eventually tend not only to render the terms of a most solemn obligation unintelligible and foolish jargon but also in a very great measure nullify the principle of Brotherly kindness, which is as strictly enjoined as any other of the tenets to which we give assent in that obligation. If Brethren are only to be kind, just and true to one another when in Lodge assembled, and when unclothed are absolved from their obligation in this respect, then will we in vain seek to impress upon the profane that there can be in our system consistency, integrity and stability. But I do most earnestly contend, in the words of one of the most able living exponents of the tenets of Masonry, “that the Brotherly love inculcated by Masonry is no such mere abstraction, nor is its character left to the general and careless understanding of a Mason who may feel disposed to give much or little of it, according to the peculiar constitution of his own generous or selfish disposition. It is closely defined, the mode and manner and extent of its practice detailed in words and illustrated in symbolism, so that there can be no excuse for error nor apology for indifference.” It is but necessary to mention the five points of fellowship, once and forever to stamp out the idea that a Mason can ever, any time or in any way wilfully injure a Brother Mason, and at the same time maintain unsullied his own honour and reputation or remain true either to the spirit or the letter of his obligation.—Rev. Bro. C. W. Culley, in “Toronto Freemason.”

INCREASING MASONIC KNOWLEDGE.

WE meet with the following transaction in the history of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York in the year 1842:

“The desire to more extensively educate the Brethren in Masonic matters gave rise to a promise by the Grand Lodge that it would cause to be prepared annually, and to have sent to the Lodges, a circular imparting instruction and giving such instruction as would tend to the edification of the Brethren; and the Lodges were urged to appoint, from time to time, the most competent of their Brethren to lecture on subjects of interest and practical utility, as should be deemed beneficial to themselves and to the Fraternity.”

This was a most glorious idea, conceived in the true

Masonic spirit and in harmony with the teachings of the Craft, and if practical at the present time would at once impart more intellectual life to our meetings, and enrich our Masonic papers with a greater variety of entertaining material.—“Freemasons' Journal.”

BROTHER RICHARD EVE'S BEQUESTS.

ON Thursday, the details were published of the will, dated 11th June 1900, of Bro. Richard Eve, of Aldershot, solicitor, F.R.G.S., C.C., a Director of the National Liberal Club Buildings Company (Limited), who died at 11 Nottingham Place, Marylebone, on 6th July last, aged sixty-eight years. Probate has been granted to Charles Belton, of Cartlands, Cookham Dean, Berkshire; John William Howard Thompson, of the Temple, solicitor; and Norman Clinton, of Aldershot, solicitor; to each of whom the testator bequeathed £200, and he bequeathed to them all his Masonic apparel, and jewels, and articles of personal use and ornament, and his presentation silver and addresses to apportion the same amongst themselves, or to such of his friends as they may think fit. He bequeathed to each of the daughters, and to the two youngest sons of his late brother Benjamin Eve, £200; to Mrs. Clinton, Mrs. Bessie Williams, to his clerk Robert Bateman, and to Hester Cartwright each £100; to his friends Mrs. Emily Foote, Colonel William Henry Talbot, and Edward Parry £100 each; and to the daughters of Colonel Talbot £50 each; to his brother George Eve an annuity for five years of £50, and in six years a legacy of £1,000; to Mrs. Marian Ranna an annuity of £50, and in six years a legacy of £500; and to Norman Clinton his watch and chain and his legal books and papers and his business. Bro. Eve bequeathed to the Kidderminster Infirmary £500, to the New Meeting Chapel at Kidderminster £500, to the Cottage Hospital for the Poor of Aldershot £2,000, to the National Sunday League £50, and £3,150 to his trustees for the purpose of purchasing “the perpetual right of presentation to the three Royal Masonic Charities for Boys, Girls, and Aged Masons or Widows for the three Provinces of Hampshire and Isle of Wight, Worcestershire, and Warwickshire respectively, and the testator desired that the Provincial Grand Masters of those Provinces should exercise their respective rights of presentation in such rotation as they may agree upon, and he directed that preference in such presentations respectively shall be given in favour of a child of a member of the Panmure Lodge, 723, Hampshire; Hope and Charity Lodge, Worcestershire; and Guy's Lodge, Leamington; and also in favour of an Aged Mason or Widow of a Brother who has been a member of either of those three Lodges respectively; and he left the residue of his estate to John William Howard Thompson and to his nephew R. W. Eve. The late Bro. Richard Eve's estate has been valued at £34,199, gross, and £26,988 net.

R. M. I. GIRLS EMPLOYES OUTING.

THE first annual outing of the employes of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls took place on Saturday, 18th ult., when a party of thirty left by the four-horse brake, “Lavender Belle,” for Orpington, Kent. The start was made from the residence of the foreman of works, Mr. Bragg. After being photographed in a group, and giving cheers for Mr. Bragg, who to the regret of all, was unable to go, the holiday-makers proceeded via Clapham, Stockwell, Bromley, and Chiselhurst, to the pleasant village of Orpington. The headquarters of the day was the White Hart Inn.

The visitors indulged in cricket, and in athletic sports arranged by Mr. Poole. An excellent dinner was done full justice to, after which the usual loyal and patriotic toasts were honoured at the initiative of Mr. John Saxby Chairman, who was supported by Mr. W. Bragg jun., Mr. Ernest Bragg, and many others.

The Chairman, in an able speech, proposed the toast of the day—“The Royal Masonic Institution for Girls,” coupling with it the name of Mr. W. Bragg, foreman of works. Mr. W. Bragg jun. expressed his father's great

regret at not being able to be with them, owing to the heavy duties incidental to the return of the 300 girls after the summer vacation. He added that his father was very pleased at the way the men had worked, and wished them all happiness and prosperity. At this juncture a telegram was read from Mr. Bragg sen., wishing the company a happy day.

Mr. Robert Edgar then submitted the health of Mr. John Saxby, and Mr. Ernest Bragg, who had so successfully arranged the day's outing. Both gentlemen suitably responded.

At seven o'clock the return journey through the pretty country was commenced, the delightful summer evening being greatly enjoyed by all. With Chinese lanterns and music the happy party arrived at the Railway Tavern, Battersea Rise, where an impromptu meeting was held.

Mr. W. Bragg sen. was present to receive his men, and was supported by Mr. W. Bragg jun., Mr. E. Bragg, Mr. W. Lawrence, Mr. John Saxby, Mr. W. Saxby, and many others.

Mr. John Saxby, after thanking Mr. Bragg for his support to the outing, proposed the health of the Chairman, which was supported by Mr. Robert Edgar, and drunk with musical honours. Mr. Bragg expressed his pleasure at the success of the outing. He promised them that next year he would keep the date open, and assist them by enlisting the support of the powers that be.

Mr. C. Baldwin moved a vote of thanks to Mr. John Saxby for his untiring efforts. This was seconded by Mr. Berthold Burgeman, and carried with acclamation. In reply, Mr. Saxby, after referring to the numerous difficulties which had to be surmounted, said that the thanks of the men were also due to Mr. Ernest Bragg, who had so ably assisted him.

The gathering closed with the singing of “Auld Lang Syne.” A small band, consisting of Messrs. C. Brook, Jarvis, and Berthold Burgeman played throughout the day. During the evening Mr. James Saxby sang “Boys of the Old Brigade.”—“Wandsworth Times.”

THE NEW PALACE STEAMERS.

(COMMUNICATED).

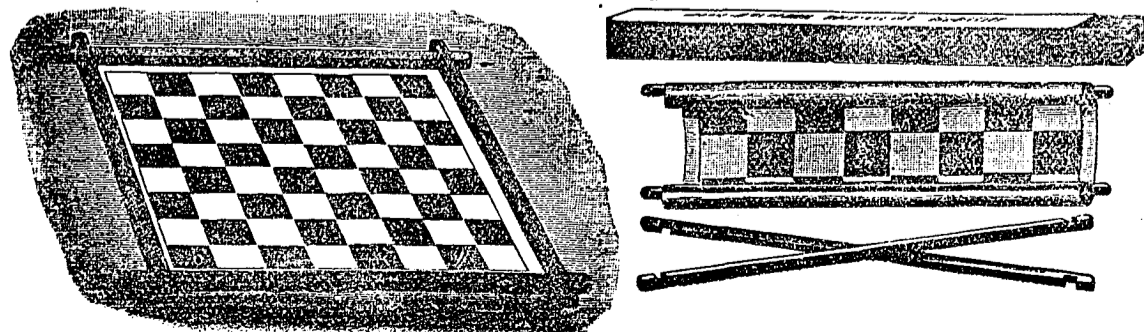
REQUIRING a change of air we had no hesitation in selecting the “Royal Sovereign” for a day's trip, and found that vessel commanded by Capt. E. J. Holland. Due to leave Old Swan Pier, London Bridge, at 9.20 a.m. it was barely a minute past that time before we had the pleasure of hearing the signal to make a start. The cautious manner in which Capt. Holland navigated the well known steamer was creditable alike to himself and to the New Palace Steamers Company, and induced full confidence in his seamanship; further than this, he had a pleasant word for all he met, when released from the anxieties of command. He was ably seconded by Mr. J. Jones, first mate, who assumed command in the chief's brief absence from the bridge. Mr. John E. Tovell is an efficient chief of the Catering Department—so essential a feature if a pleasant day is to be experienced—in fact, it would be difficult to find anyone better qualified for the duties of his position. The luncheon consisted of roast fowls and York ham, roast beef, roast lamb, calf's head and bacon, with vegetables, sweets, cheese, &c., and was served in the usual bountiful manner we are accustomed to find on this Company's boats. The viands were also excellent, and all was provided at a reasonable price, this rendering all round praise possible, as well as fully deserved. The trip to Margate and back is one we can fully recommend to our Brethren, who, should they so desire it, will soon discover more than one well known Mason among the staff of the “Royal Sovereign.”

THE UPPER THAMES.—It has been decided to discontinue, on 16th September, for the present season, the guinea trips which have, during the summer months, been made daily from Paddington Station to Henley-on-Thames, and thence by steam launch to Oliveden Woods or Pangbourne.

The Theatres, &c.

Avenue.—8, His Wife's Picture. 8.45, A Message from Mars. Matinée, Wednesday, 3.
 Criterion.—8.30, Lady Huntworth's Experiment, except Saturdays Matinée, Wednesday, 2.30.
 Daly's.—8.15, San Toy. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.
 Gaiety.—8.15, The Messenger Boy. Matinée, Saturday, 2.
 Gt. Queen Street.—8.15, A Boer Meisje. 9, The Private Secretary. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 3.
 Haymarket.—8.30, Sweet Nell of Old Drury. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.30.
 Her Majesty's.—Thursday, 6th September, 8, Julius Caesar.
 Prince of Wales.—8.30, English Nell. Matinée, Wednesday, 2.30.
 Savoy.—8.15, The Outpost. 8.45, The Pirates of Penzance. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.
 Shaftesbury.—8, The Casino Girl. Matinée, Wednesday, 2.
 Strand.—8.15, Punctured. 9, In the Soup. Matinée, Wednesday, 3.
 St. James's.—8.30, A Debt of Honour.
 Alexandra.—Next week, 8, Contusion.
 Opera House, Crouch End.—Next week, 8, The six Brothers Luck.
 Surrey.—Next week, 7.45, Honour thy Father.

The “Vade Mecum” Collapsible Chess Board.



Introduced to supply players a cheap Board that is sufficiently large to be used with ordinary sized men, and that can be easily packed away into a small space. It measures 16in. when open, and shuts up into a case measuring about 1½in. square, forming a firm board that may be used without a table, or for playing in a railway carriage.

—:o:—

Price, Complete in Cloth Case, 5s., of
 W. W. MORGAN, NEW BARNET.