

THE

Freemason's Chronicle.

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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THE COMING ELECTIONS.

THE half yearly meetings and elections for the benefits of the two Educational Institutions of the Craft will be held next week, on Thursday and Friday respectively.

On the first occasion—in connection with the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls—the Governors and Subscribers will be asked to sanction the creation of a perpetual presentation to the School, in return for a payment of 1,550 guineas from the Province of Kent, in commemoration of the 113th Anniversary Festival of the Institution, to be held next month under the presidency of the Provincial Grand Master of Kent the Earl Amherst Pro G.M. of England, and to be called the "Earl Amherst Presentation;" and afterwards will proceed to the election of fifteen girls into the School, from a list of twenty-two approved candidates.

For the Boys School—the Court of which is to be held on Friday—there are thirty-seven candidates, for twenty-three vacancies.

In the case of the Girls School there are two last application cases, No. 1, L. I. Lerpiniere, with 104 votes to her credit from four previous elections; and No. 7, A. K. Peace, who polled nine votes at the October election of last year. For the Boys there are three such candidates, all first applications, No. 10, W. Soughton; No. 18, S. S. Gilbert; and No. 26, S. Chapman.

One of our daily contemporaries understands that a subscription is about to be started in support of the National Memorial to Queen Victoria Fund among many of the Masonic Lodges of London and the Provinces.

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The practical value of Freemasonry in time of need has been proved over and over again. A contributor to the April "Windsor" writes as follows: During the present war the tie of the Brotherhood has been recognised both by Boers and Englishmen. A colonel of a Canadian regiment at Modder River, on a Sunday morning stroll, strayed too far from his camp, when he suddenly found himself covered by the rifle of a Boer. By a fortunate impulse he made the customary sign, and cried out, "Don't shoot, —" The Boer immediately threw down his gun and hurried to the colonel, informing him that he belonged to "De Broederband in Pretoria," and was a member of General Cronje's staff. He begged him to return at once to his camp, and made him accept a valuable coin as a souvenir of his escape.

* * *

We do not wish to paint the lily or gild the refined gold, but the tireless energy of the King is something to which we cannot readily accustom ourselves. It will take a long time to realise what his virile activity as head of the State really means. Of his perfect tact there was never any doubt, but it was impossible to anticipate what he has accomplished in reviving State functions and transforming traditions of ceremony into actuality. The steps which he has taken to make his office a reality are admired on all hands. Yesterday (20th inst.) he swept up, so to speak, all the addresses which had not previously been presented to him. Many bodies were represented before him, but probably the widest constituency of all is that which will treasure the words in which he expressed his regret at relinquishing the high and honourable post of Grand Master of English Freemasons. He has a most admirable successor, and the wisdom of his Majesty's decision is unquestionable, but the pain of the inevitable change is unquestionably mutual, not from any conventional regard for high station, but from a sincere conviction as to the fitness, efficiency, and usefulness of the retiring Grand Master in his distinguished Office.—"Bristol Mercury."

DERBYSHIRE.

THE annual meeting of this Provincial Grand Chapter was held at Derby on the 28th ult., under the presidency of Comp. H. C. Okeover Prov. G.H., acting as Prov. G. Superintendent, in the unavoidable absence of his Grace the Duke of Devonshire, K.G.

The Acting Provincial Grand Superintendent appointed the Officers for the year.

EAST LANCASHIRE.

A MEETING of this Provincial Grand Lodge is announced for 15th May, at Darwen.

A MEETING of the Provincial Grand Chapter was held at the Town Hall, Salford, on the 27th ult. The Acting Grand Superintendent Comp. C. R. N. Beswicke Royds presided, assisted by Comps. A. Clegg, Buckley Carr, J. Newton, and other Officers.

Of the forty-one Chapters in the Province all were represented save three. The Prov. G. Treasurer Comp. W. H. Peel presented the financial statement, which showed a balance in hand of £146. The balance-sheet was adopted.

Upon the motion of Comp. E. Williams (Manchester), seconded by Comp. Pike (Pendleton), Comp. Walter R. Sharp, of the Starkie Chapter, No. 935, Salford, was elected Prov. Grand Treasurer. Comps. Clegg and Carr were retained in their Offices of P.G.H. and P.G.J. respectively, and the other Provincial Grand Officers for the ensuing year were appointed.

In accordance with notice of motion, Companion C. D. Cheetham P.G.S.N. proposed that a grant of £50 be made to the East Lancashire Systematic Masonic Educational and Benevolent Institution. Comp. F. W. Lean P.P.G.S. seconded the motion. It was moved and seconded as an amendment that the grant should be £100. After some conversation it was resolved that the grant should be £75.

An invitation was accepted to hold the next Provincial meeting at Rochdale.

DR. CONAN DOYLE AND THE CRAFT.

ON Saturday, 23rd ult., the Lodge of Edinburgh Mary's Chapel, No. 1, held a special meeting for the purpose of receiving Dr. Conan Doyle on the occasion of his being admitted an honorary member of the Lodge in recognition of his position as a novelist and a historian, but particularly for his services as a medical man amongst our soldiers in South Africa. There was a large attendance, about sixty representative Masons being present. In the absence, through indisposition, of the Master of the Lodge Bro. W. W. Robertson, the chair was occupied by Past Master P. L. Henderson, while Past Master Dr. Dickson acted as Senior Warden, and Bro. J. A. Trevelyan Sturrock as Junior Warden.

The acting Master intimated that in January last Dr. Conan Doyle was unanimously elected an honorary member of the Lodge, and then administered the usual obligation, and presented to him his diploma of honorary membership. In afterwards proposing the toast of the health of the new member, he said that if Dr. Conan Doyle had done no more than create the immortal Sherlock Holmes he would amply have deserved the highest honour the Lodge could bestow. As Edinburgh citizens they had a special interest in that marvellous man, as it was an Edinburgh doctor, who curiously enough was at present attending the W.M. in his illness, who furnished the type. They had, however, the grievance that Sherlock Holmes had died young. Let them hope that the great detective might yet emerge from his retirement, and in his own inimitable way prove that he had not died at all, but that it was a case of mistaken identity. They had a still further interest in Dr. Conan Doyle—that his father was

for many years a citizen of Edinburgh, and occupied a prominent position in the Office of Works, of which their W.M. was the present head, and that Dr. Doyle took his medical degree in Edinburgh University. It was not only as a novelist that Dr. Doyle had won his spurs. He had written perhaps the most clear and unbiased history of the Boer war. Perhaps the next distinguished name to go on the roll would be that of Dr. Doyle's commander-in-chief, who had promised to come to Edinburgh for the purpose, and had only that week sent a letter to the Secretary stating that he would communicate with Bro. Hawks, the Secretary, whenever he could fix a date. Whenever Lord Roberts came he had allowed his presence to be utilised as a means of raising more money for the sufferers by the war, for which funds the Lodge had already been instrumental in raising £940.

Dr. Conan Doyle thanked the members for conferring on him the honorary membership of that old and distinguished Lodge, and said he thought it was only after being in a country like South Africa in recent days that one could understand the humanising influence of a cosmopolitan Institution like Freemasonry, which drew people together in one Brotherhood, apart from race, and which was founded on Christian charity and goodwill to all men. When he was out there he heard a great deal of Freemasonry. He knew that whenever British troops came to any little place about the first thing they did was to open a Lodge; and he believed the ranks of the Boers also were filled with Masons. And he believed that many of our soldiers when confined among the Boers found personal benefit from the fact that they were Masons, and that our soldiers reciprocated that on our side. He was only too glad to go out to the war as a medical man. In America a chairman, in proposing his health, said it was an extraordinary thing that though he was a medical man no living patient of his had ever yet been seen, but he thought he could truthfully say that when our army came back there would be some very robust patients of his visible then. He spoke in praise of the rifle shooting movement, and then, touching the late lamented Sherlock Holmes, he said that if ever a man inflicted death in self-defence it was he, for if he had not killed that gentleman he was sure Sherlock would have killed him, for one could not go on writing and thinking about the same thing for years without very much injuring one's nerve fibre, and he felt it was high time.

Treasurer Cranston and Councillor Wightman also welcomed the new honorary member.

OLD FOLKS TREAT.

THE annual tea given to the old people of Northampton by the Freemasons of the Borough took place in the Corn Exchange, Northampton, on Thursday evening, 21st ult. The gathering was arranged by the Brethren of the four town Lodges, the Pomfret, Eleanor Cross, De la Prè, and the Kingsley, and, like all its predecessors, was extremely enjoyed by the old folks from beginning to end. We understand the amount subscribed was hardly so large as in recent years, and in consequence the number of invitations issued was slightly less than last year, being 710 against 760 of twelve months ago. The recipients of the invitations, with very few exceptions, were over sixty years of age. The tea tables and seats occupied the whole of the floor space of the Corn Exchange. The orchestra, from which the happy gathering was watched by nearly 200 friends of the subscribing Brethren, was handsomely decorated by Messrs. Jeffery, Sons, and Co. Limited. A feature of the decorations were some beautiful national flags, and the rich banners of the four Lodges. The twenty-eight tables were presided over by the ladies of the locality.

A large number of the Brethren assisted in waiting upon the guests, who had a bountiful tea of ham and tongue, bread and butter, and cake. Later in the evening beer and aerated waters were supplied; the men were each given an ounce of tobacco in a handy circular box adorned with the portrait of one of the war Generals, a clay pipe, and a box of matches; and each woman was given a tin box of snuff. When the proceedings were over each woman was also given a quarter pound packet of tea as she left the hall.

Before the tea commenced the Mayoress (Mrs. C. Adnitt) was escorted to the platform by Bros. J. J. Hart and G. Ellard Directors of Ceremonies. The Mayor (Councillor F. G. Adnitt, J.P.) afterwards arrived, and was conducted to

the platform in a similar manner. Later there was a Masonic procession, headed by the Directors of Ceremonies, Past Masters, and other Brethren, followed by Bro. the Rev. A. W. Gross P.P. Grand Chaplain, Brother H. Manfield Grand Treasurer, and Lord Euston Provincial Grand Master. Bro. T. H. Vials played the National Anthem on the organ, and then Grace was sung. Mr. Luke Warner's String Band performed during the repast, and, after the singing of Grace at the conclusion, there was a short spell of speech-making.

Lord Euston, who was warmly applauded, bade all the guests a hearty welcome, and hoped that the gathering, which he could call, he hoped, a festival, would be thoroughly enjoyed by all. The object of the Masons was to provide a happy and jolly evening, and if they succeeded they would be very pleased; for they were thus endeavouring to carry out in practice the watchword of the Order, "Charity." The gathering this year was rather late, owing to the lamentable death of their beloved Queen, a loss which was felt all over the world. They had now a King, a King who was striving to do all he could for the good and honour of his country, and to follow in the footsteps of his august mother. His Lordship had the pleasure the previous day of going with many Masons to present the King with an address, and he was singularly struck with the admirable way in which the whole Court was being held. Although the King was no longer their Grand Master, he said that his interest and affection for the Craft would never cease. The past year had been important, for they had had a great war upon them, and the people of Northamptonshire had done remarkably well in the men they had sent out. The Northamptonshire Regiment was picked out as the first to be sent to the front, and when the Volunteers were called upon in Northamptonshire they answered right royally. The county had sent from its battalion over 150 men, who had been through the whole of the fighting, and had well and loyally borne the heat and burden of it. Two officers he had seen who had returned from South Africa told him that the Northamptonshire Company was the best Volunteer Company they saw in the whole lot that went out.

The Mayor, in a few brief remarks, said that he had seen many audiences in the Corn Exchange, from the Christmas Dinner children to fashionable concerts, but he had never seen an audience which gave him greater pleasure to look at—they were all pleased and happy and contented. Lord Euston had told them that the watchword of the Order of Freemasons was "Charity," and he was sure that such schemes as model villages and old-age pensions would have the warmest of advocates among Masonic Brethren. He understood that anything in the nature of a vote of thanks to the Freemasons who had provided the tea and entertainment was prohibited, but he would ask all who wished to express their gratitude to do so together by acclamation.

The whole gathering loudly applauded, and the speech making ended.

After the tea a wonderful series of biograph war pictures was given. The pictures gave the greatest possible pleasure, and were again and again applauded. Mr. Spencer Lorraine presided at the piano for this part of the proceedings. Mr. W. A. Peterkin, also of the War Biograph Company, sang some capital songs during the evening. The proceedings concluded with the National Anthem.

The arrangements for the gathering were ably carried out by the following Committee:—Pomfret Lodge, Bros. E. Archer, A. Cockerill, and S. B. Wilkinson; Eleanor Cross Lodge, Bros. J. O. Bailey, W. F. Tipler, and H. Hodges; De la Prè Lodge, Bros. J. Eunson, W. G. Hobbs, and W. H. Turner; Kingsley Lodge, Bros. G. W. Prickman, J. J. Hart, and G. Butcher. The Hon. Secretaries were again Bros. H. W. K. Markham, W. J. Hull, and G. S. Eunson.

The entertainment committee consisted of Bros. J. J. Hart, T. Phipps Dorman, C. E. Thorpe, J. O. Bailey, T. H. Vials, F. Tonsley, M. Warner, W. Arkell, J. J. Martin, and G. Ellard. The superintendence of the arrangements for the commissariat was again in the able hands of Captain G. S. Eunson. The tables and seating were arranged by Bros. W. D. Gibbins and E. Archer.—"Northampton Mercury."

MASONIC CLUB WANTED.

THE Fraternity in Douglas, Isle of Man, is relatively an important one. Few places of the size can point to such a numerous and influential body of men connected with the Craft; and the most absolute harmony and good-will prevails

among all the members of the four Craft Lodges which are in active being in Douglas. But there are two disadvantages under which Douglas Freemasons labour. They have no common meeting ground, and the Masonic Hall which they occupy for the purposes of their meetings is not secured exclusively for Masonic purposes. Dealing with the first point, it is obvious that the members of the Fraternity are unable to derive full advantage of that pleasant interchange of good feeling which should obtain among Masons, and members of different Lodge have too few opportunities of making and renewing acquaintance with each other. As regards the second point it is to Freemasons a serious drawback that the precincts of the Lodge room are liable to invasions at any moment by any person who may casually require to pass along the corridors or staircases of the Masonic Hall. Here, then, are two distinct ways in which Douglas members are handicapped, and for a considerable time past the double grievance has been the subject of discussion wherever Freemasons congregate. It is not to be understood, of course, that any outside authority is responsible for the faulty state of affairs; on the contrary, we believe that the owners of the Masonic Hall have been ready at all times to meet the Masonic Fraternity in a considerate manner. If anyone at all is to blame for the unsatisfactory status it is the Masons themselves, who have not undertaken the necessary trouble and expense of providing a remedy for it.

Latterly a suggestion has been put forward, which appears to provide a practical solution of the difficulty, it being the opinion of many prominent members of the Craft that the time has arrived when a Masonic Club should be started to which all Douglas Freemasons should have the right of access, on condition only that they pay the subscriptions and observe the rules. In connection with the formation of the Club, an effort would be made to secure the tenancy of the entire building for Masonic purposes, and the club-rooms would be fitted up in an appropriate manner, so as to provide for the comfort and amusement of the members. It is pointed out that this scheme, while it would involve no formidable financial difficulty which need deter a business-like and spirited body of men, would tend vastly to improve the status of the whole Craft in Douglas. In the first place, it would get rid of the almost intolerable nuisance of outsiders hanging about the approaches to the Lodge room when a Lodge is in session; and in the second place, the possession of comfortable club-rooms where members could meet at any time to read or talk or even to transact various business, would prove a great attraction to Masonry itself, giving it an enhanced value in the eyes of Masons themselves, and also in the eyes of the "popular and uninstructed world."

It seems to us that the subject is fully ripe for discussion. In fact, it is already being discussed in an informal way, and it only requires, we are convinced, that it should be taken up in a definite and practical manner in order to achieve what is most certainly wanted. We would suggest that the Master and Wardens of each Lodge should be delegated to form a Committee to consider and discuss the whole question, and to report to their Lodges at the earliest possible date. By adopting this or any analogous procedure the proposal which we have mooted would be put in a business-like shape, and possibly it could be carried out without much difficulty.—"Isle of Man Times."

YORKSHIREMEN IN LONDON.

YORKSHIRE men who have occasion to visit the Metropolis from time to time, and those who are resident there, have at last got a Masonic Lodge for their convenience. The Warrant for the White Rose of York (London) Lodge, No. 2840, has just been granted, and the Founders are busy in making necessary arrangements. Amongst the Founders are Bros. Sir Alfred J. Newton, Bart., W.M., James Graham S.W., Henry W. Dobb J.W. (Rotherham), W. D. Forsdike (Sheffield), Henry J. Barker, M.A., Dr. Thomas Haliwell (Dewsbury), Wm. Metcalfe, Dr. Wm. Briggs, M.A. (Leeds), F. Kershaw, George Russell (Huddersfield), Rev. William Harrison, M.A. (Whitby), T. Chadwick (Bridlington), Frank Pattison, J. J. Fretwell, Thomas Oldroyd, John Briggs, M.A. (Leeds), and J. W. Harrowing, C.C. (Whitby). Meetings will be held four times a year in the Temple of the Holborn Restaurant, namely, on the first Fridays in January, March, September, and November. Yorkshire Brethren, non-resident

in London, who wish to become joining members or country members should communicate at once with Bro. H. J. Barker, M.A., Clopton House, Amity Grove, Raynes Park, S.W. The joining fee (three guineas) will be considerably raised after a brief space of time. The date of Consecration will shortly be fixed. At that ceremony the Venerable Archdeacon Sinclair (Leeds), Canon of St. Paul's, and other distinguished Yorkshire Brethren are expected to be present.

There is a chain of love that binds man with his God; we name it religion. There is another chain of friendship, which binds man with his fellow-man, and we term it Freemasonry.—G. F. Moore, Alabama.

"A SPRIG OF ACACIA."

ALL that was mortal of our much regretted Brother Col. Hugh Mackay Gordon, V.D., J.P., of the Court Yard, Eltham, and Abergeldie, Aberdeenshire, was laid to rest in the churchyard of the quaint old village of Eltham, Kent, on Saturday, 23rd ult. The first portion of the funeral ceremony was held in the Parish Church (a large congregation attending). Col. Gordon was a prominent Mason, a liberal supporter of our Institutions, P.G.S.B. of England P.P.G.D. of Middlesex P.M. and, until just prior to his death, Treas. of the Burdett Lodge, No. 1293 (a position which he vacated in consequence of failing health in favour of Bro. W. G. Kentish), P.M., Treasurer, first Senior Warden and senior surviving Founder of the West Kent Volunteer Lodge, No. 2041, a Lodge in which he took especial interest, and which was founded in 1884 in connection with the 2nd Vol. Batt. the Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment. The deceased was long a member of this Battalion, having joined it at the commencement of the volunteer movement in 1859, and being for many years Capt. Commandant of the 3rd (Lee) Kent R.V.C., subsequently attaining field rank, and retiring about twelve years since with the rank of Colonel. We are informed that only recently he was appointed Deputy Lieutenant of the County of Aberdeen—an honour which unhappily he did not live long to enjoy. Among those of our Order who attended to pay a last mark of respect were Bro. W. G. Kentish P.G. Standard Bearer P.M. and Treas. of the Burdett Lodge, Bro. Surgeon Major H. W. Roberts P.P.G.W. Middx. P.M. of the Burdett and West Kent Volunteer Lodges, Bro. Col. Francis Wm. Frigout, V.D., P.M. and now senior surviving Founder West Kent Volunteer Lodge, No. 2041, A. A. Frigout P.M. 2041 P.P.G. Supt. of Works Kent, Sergt. Major Parsons P.M. 2041, Colour Sergt. Albion G. Collins P.M. 2041, Sergt. John Ward I.P.M. 2041, Henry C. Loney W.M. 2041, Sergt. Edward John Jarratt S.D. 2041, Sergt. Wm. H. Gomer D.C. 2041, Sergt. Samuel Fallows 2041, G. W. Coleman 2041, R. White 2041, &c.

THE death occurred in Nottingham at an early hour on Saturday morning, 23rd ult., of Bro. Nathan Ashurst, in his sixty-third year. The late Bro. Ashurst was a Lancashire man, who for many years had carried on business in Nottingham with a number of large and important firms in the cotton spinning industry. It will be from his interest and labours on behalf of the Masonic body and other institutions that he will be remembered for his philanthropic disposition. He was initiated in the St. John Lodge, No. 104, Southport, and for upwards of a quarter of a century had been connected with the Craft. He was a Founder and Past Master of the Fairfield Lodge, No. 2224, at Long Eaton. While a member of the Lodge he was honoured by the receipt of Provincial rank as Junior Deacon, Derbyshire. In Nottingham he was a member of the Annesley Lodge, and a Founder and Past Master of the Rufford Lodge. Here also he held Provincial rank as Assistant Director of Ceremonies, and took part in the installation of his Grace the Duke of Portland as Provincial Grand Master for Nottinghamshire. Bro. Ashurst was also P.Z. of the Annesley Chapter. The deceased had been an energetic and enthusiastic worker on behalf of Masonic Charity, and was the recipient of many tributes of appreciation. He was never very prominent politically, but had evinced a deep interest in many local organisations of a social and athletic character, notably the Nottingham Glee Club and the Nottingham Rowing Club.

WE regret to have to record the death of the wife of Bro. the Right Hon. W. L. Jackson, M.P., Prov. Grand Master of West Yorkshire, which occurred suddenly in London on the 27th ult.

MEETINGS NEXT WEEK.

Monday.

- 29 St. Alban, Albion
 58 Felicity, Princes Restaurant
 957 Leigh, Freemasons' Hall
 1305 St. Marylebone, Criterion Restaurant
 1670 Adelphi, Freemasons' Hall
 2094 Elthorne and Middlesex, Cafe Royal
 2394 Galen, Freemasons' Hall
 40 Derwent, Castle, Hastings
 68 Royal Clarence, F.M.H., Bristol
 75 Love and Honour, F.M.H., Falmouth
 88 Scientific, Lion, Cambridge
 104 St. John, Mechanics Inst., Stockport
 105 Fortitude, F.M.H., Plymouth
 106 Sun, F.M.H., Exmouth
 133 Harmony, F.M.H., Faversham
 151 Albany, F.M.H., Newport, I. of W.
 189 Sincerity, Town Hall, E. Stonehouse
 237 Indefatigable, F.M.H., Swansea
 240 St. Hilda, F.M.H., South Shields
 262 Salopian, Music Hall, Shrewsbury
 292 Sincerity, Adelphi, Liverpool
 296 Royal Brunswick, F.M.H., Sheffield
 297 Witham, Masonic Rooms, Lincoln
 303 Benevolent, F.M.H., Teignmouth
 314 Peace and Unity, Bull, Preston
 330 One and All, F.M.H., Bodmin
 339 Unanimity, Crown, Penrith
 379 Honour, F.M.H., Bath
 411 Commercial, F.M.H., Nottingham
 422 Yarborough, M. Rms., Gainsborough
 481 St. Peter, F.M.H., Newcastle-on-Tyne
 587 Howe, F.M.H., Birmingham
 589 Druid of Love & Liberty, Redruth
 632 Concord, F.M.H., Trowbridge
 643 Royal, Foord's, Fife
 665 Montagu, F.M.H., Lyme Regis
 671 Prince of Wales, F.M.H., Llanelli
 721 Independence, F.M.H., Chester
 797 Hauley, Hauley Hall, Dartmouth
 827 St. John, Masonic Tem., Dewsbury
 884 Derwent, Town Hall, Wirksworth
 893 Meridian, F.M.H., Millbrook
 941 De Tabley, Royal George, Knutsford
 1069 United Brothers, F.M.H., Portsmouth
 1149 Dorking, Public Hall, Dorking
 1174 Pentangle, Sun, Chatham
 1221 Defence, F.M.H., Leeds
 1237 Enfield, George, Enfield
 1253 Travellers, Queen, Manchester
 1302 De Warren, White Swan, Halifax
 1350 Fernor Hesketh, F.M.H., Bootle
 1380 Skelmersdale, Town Hall, Liverpool
 1402 Jordan, Masonic Temple, Torquay
 1408 Stamford & Warrington, Stalybridge
 1436 Castle, F.M.H., Sandgate
 1449 Royal Military, Mas. Tem., Canterbury
 1452 St. Margaret, Royal, Lowestoft
 1474 Israel, F.M.H., Birmingham
 1477 Sir Watkin, F.M.H., Mold
 1496 Trafford, Western, Moss Side
 1505 Emulation, F.M.H., Liverpool
 1564 St. John, F.M.H., Woking
 1611 Eboracum, F.M.H., York
 1618 Handyside, Priv. Rms., Saltburn-by-Sea
 1730 Urmston, Victoria, Urmston
 1748 Castlemartin, Assembly R., Pembroke
 1792 Tudor, The Institute, Harborne
 1802 Vernon, Exchange Bldgs., E. Retford
 1852 Forest, Town Hall, Mansfield
 1885 Torridge, F.M.H., Great Torrington
 1914 St. Thomas, Harecastle, Kidsgrove
 1948 Hardman, Queen's Arms, Rawtenstall
 1952 High Peak, Tn. H., Chapel-en-le-Frith
 1966 Fidelity & Sincerity, M.H., Wellington
 2034 Masefield, Institute, Moseley
 2144 De Tatton, Town Hall, Altrincham
 2185 Ardwick, Moseley, Manchester
 2187 Adur, Assembly Rooms, Henfield
 2197 Spencer Walpole Temperance, Douglas
 2376 Carnarvon, Public Hall, Leyland
 2382 Loyal Hay, Hay
 2457 St. Anne's, St. Anne's-on-Sea
 2487 St. Michael, Crown, Stone
 2584 Queen Victoria, Con. Club, Cheetham

Tuesday.

- 96 Burlington, Albion
 198 Percy, Ship and Turtle
 211 St. Michael, Albion
 228 United Strength, Guildhall Tavern
 35 Nine Muses, Grand Hotel, Charing C.
 81 Merchant Navy, Town H., Limehouse
 824 Ranelagh, Criterion Restaurant
 917 Cosmopolitan, City Terminus Hotel
 933 Doric, Anderton's Hotel
 1196 Urban, Freemasons' Hall
 1269 Stanhope, Surrey Masonic Hall

- 1593 Royal Naval College, Ship, Greenwich
 1604 Wanderers, Freemasons' Hall
 1614 Covent Garden, Criterion Restaurant
 1693 Kingsland, Holborn Restaurant
 1891 St. Ambrose, St. James's Restaurant
 2127 Drury Lane, Theatre Royal, Drury L.
 2427 Hampden, Hampden House, N.W.
 2622 Beach, Horns, Kennington Park
 2751 Arts, Freemasons' Hall
 80 St. John, F.M.H., Sunderland
 93 Social, 47 St. Giles Street, Norwich
 131 Fortitude, F.M.H., Truro
 184 United Benevolence, New Brompton
 226 Benevolence, Red Lion, Littleboro'
 241 Merchants, F.M.H., Liverpool
 272 Harmony, F.M.H., Boston
 284 Shakespeare, F.M.H., Warwick
 293 King's Friends, Lamb, Nantwich
 319 New Forest, Visitors Hall, Lymington
 371 Perseverance, F.M.H., Maryport
 378 Loyal Welsh, F.M.H., Pembroke Dock
 386 Unity, Town Hall, Wareham
 448 St. James, F.M.H., Halifax
 473 Faithful, F.M.H., Birmingham
 494 Virtue and Honour, F.M.H., Axminster
 495 Wakefield, F.M.H., Wakefield
 496 Peace and Harmony, St. Austell
 502 Rectitude, F.M.H., Rugby
 503 Belvedere, F.M.H., Maidstone
 506 Mundy Grove, Boat Inn, Shipley Gate
 573 Perseverance, Drill Hall, Hales Owen
 593 St. Ann, Masonic Rooms, Alderney
 603 Zetland, F.M.H., Cleckheaton
 606 Segontium, F.M.H., Carnarvon
 626 Lansdowne of Unity, Chippenham
 650 Star in the East, Gt. Eastern, Harwich
 686 Jerusalem, F.M.H., Bristol
 696 St. Bartholomew, Anchor, Wednesbury
 723 Panmure, F.M.H., Aldershot
 764 Harbour o' Refuge, M.H., W. Hartlepool
 771 Windsor Castle, F.M.H., Windsor
 829 Sydney, Black Horse, Sidcup
 877 Royal Alfred, Masonic Temple, Jersey
 892 Royal Edward, Royal Oak, Leominster
 897 St. Helens of Loyalty, St. Helens
 903 Gosport, India Arms, Gosport
 954 St. Aubyn, Mas. Hall, Morice Town
 1021 Hartington, F.M.H., Barrow-in-Fur.
 1073 Greta, Keswick Hotel, Keswick
 1120 St. Milburga, Tontine, Ironbridge
 1138 Devon, F.M.H., Newton Abbot
 1197 Nyanza, F.M.H., Ilminster
 1250 Gilbert Greenall, Lion, Warrington
 1267 Kenlis, Oddfellows Hall, Egremont
 1414 Knole, Parish Room, Sevenoaks
 1476 Blackpool, F.M.H., Blackpool
 1528 Fort, F.M.H., Newquay
 1545 Baildon, Masonic Rooms, Baildon
 1560 Albert Edward, F.M.H., Leicester
 1713 Wilbraham, Walton-on-the-Hill
 1837 Lullingstone, F.M.H., Wilmington
 1847 Ebrington, Masonic H., E. Stonehouse
 1883 William of Wykeham, Winchester
 1942 Minerva, Public Hall, Fenton
 2086 Dacre, Lyric Hall, Stevenage
 2099 Ethelbert, Masonic Rooms, Herne Bay
 2104 Whitwell, F.M.H., Stockton-on-Tees
 2134 Wilberforce, F.M.H., Hull
 2164 St. Germans, Peel Castle, Peel
 2256 Warner, Royal Forest, Chingford
 2324 Horwich, Bridge, Horwich
 2357 Barrv. Royal, Cadoxton-Juxta-Barry
 2475 Border, White Hart, Blackwater
 2477 Colne, Greyhound Inn, Wyvenhoe
 2529 Abbey, F.M.H., Whalley
 2550 St. Aldhelm, F.M.H., Branksome
 2582 Lewisham, Blue Gates, Smethwick
 2600 Stanley, Bull, Preston
 2667 Buckingham & Chandos, Rockferry
 2689 King's Court, F.M.H., Gillingham
 2708 Holmes, F.M.H., Wigan
 2714 Temperance, F.M.H., Liverpool
 2723 Heaton, 232 Shields Road, Byker
 2790 Merton, Boys' Club, Merton

Wednesday.

- Committee R.M. Benevolent Inst., at 4.
 3 Fidelity, Freemasons' Hall
 11 Enoch, Freemasons' Hall
 13 Union Waterloo, F.M.H., Plumstead
 15 Kent, Freemasons' Hall
 147 Justice, Ship, Greenwich
 548 Wellington, City Terminus Hotel
 749 Belgrave, Anderton's Hotel
 1260 John Hervey, Freemasons' Hall
 1538 St. Martins-le-Grand, Holborn Rest.
 1586 Upper Norwood, White Hart, Up. N.
 1766 St. Leonard, Great Eastern Hotel
 2362 Bloomsbury Rifles, Chancery Street
 2410 Æsculapius, Cafe Royal
 2581 Empress, Cafe Royal

- 2620 Cavendish, Royal Palace Hotel
 2765 Earl's Court, Royal Palace Hotel
 54 Hone, Spread Eagle, Rochdale
 84 Doyle's Fellowship, F.M.H., Guernsey
 128 Prince Edwin, Bridge Inn, Bury
 146 Antiquity, F.M.H., Bolton
 187 Roy. Sussex Hospitality, M.H., Bristol
 204 Caledonian, F.M.H., Manchester
 225 St. Luke, F.M.H., Ipswich
 244 Yarborough, Masonic Temple, Jersey
 250 Minerva, F.M.H., Hull
 274 Tranquillity, Boar's Head, Newchurch
 277 Friendship, F.M.H., Oldham
 281 Fortitude, F.M.H., Lancaster
 288 Harmony, F.M.H., Todmorden
 290 Huddersfield, F.M.H., Huddersfield
 323 Concord, Florist, Stockport
 463 Croydon of Concord, Croydon
 483 Sympathy, Royal Clarendon, Gravesend
 498 Royal Standard, Dudley Arms, Dudley
 567 Unity, Woolpack, Warwick
 654 Peveril of the Peak, F.M.H., New Mills
 661 Fawcett, F.M.H., Seaham Harbour
 666 Benevolence, Wes. School, Princetown
 679 St. David, F.M.H., Aberdare
 730 Ellesmere, F.M.H., Chorley
 731 Arboretum, F.M.H., Derby
 750 Friendship, F.M.H., Cleckheaton
 755 St. Tudno, F.M.H., Llandudno
 851 Worthing of Friendship, Worthing
 854 Albert, Duke of York, Shaw
 906 Royal Albert Edward, F.M.H., Bath
 1005 Zetland, Bell, Gloucester
 1018 Shakespeare, F.M.H., Bradford
 1031 Fletcher, F.M.H., Birmingham
 1060 Marmion, 14 Church St., Tamworth
 1064 Borough, Bull, Burnley
 1088 Royal Edward, Mas. Club, Stalybridge
 1094 Temple, F.M.H., Liverpool
 1101 Grey Friars, F.M.H., Reading
 1112 Shirley, F.M.H., Southampton
 1125 St. Peter, F.M.H., Tiverton
 1135 Concord, Masonic Temple, Ilfracombe
 1140 Ashton, Reform Club, Heaton Moor
 1181 De la Pole, F.M.H., Seaton
 1209 Lewises, Royal, Ramsgate
 1220 Solway, F.M.H., Aspatria
 1242 Tynwald, F.M.H., Douglas
 1248 Denison, F.M.H., Scarborough
 1273 St. Michael, F.M.H., Sittingbourne
 1331 Aldershot Camp, So. Westn., Aldershot
 1342 Walker, F.M.H., Newcastle-on-Tyne
 1356 Toxteth, So North Hill St., Liverpool
 1398 Baldwin, Castle, Dalton-in-Furness
 1400 Curwen, F.M.H., Workington
 1503 Sir Francis Burdett, Twickenham
 1582 St. Idloes, Llanidloes
 1588 Prince Leopold, Angel, Stretford
 1643 Perseverance, M.H., Hebburn-on-Tyne
 1692 Hervey, Royal Bell, Bromley, Kent
 1703 Windrush, Corn Ex., Witney
 1721 Trinity, Golden Lion, Rayleigh
 1798 Zion, Grand, Manchester
 1848 Ferrum, F.M.H., Middlesborough
 1855 St. Maurice, Working Hall, Plympton
 1879 Lord Warkworth, F.M.H., Amble
 1895 Thames, F.M.H., Henley
 1932 Whitworth, F.M.H., Spennymoor
 1947 Stanford, Town Hall, Hove
 1958 St. George, F.M.H., Portsea
 2016 Shalden, Assembly Rooms, Alton
 2046 Robinson, F.M.H., Maidstone
 2147 Crays Valley, Institute, St. Mary Cray
 2156 Ar. Sullivan, Boar's Head, Manchester
 2183 Royal Hampton Court, Hampton Ct.
 2259 St. Nicholas, Masonic Rooms, Thorne
 2284 Smyth, F.M.H., Grimsby
 2294 Wavertree, Coffee House, Wavertree
 2389 Avondale, King's Arms, Middlewich
 2423 St. Mark, Hare & H's, Connah's Quay
 2483 Hadrian, Devonshire, Bexhill
 2583 St. Thomas, F.M.H., Tibshelf
 2591 St. Mary, Town Hall, New Shoreham
 2727 St. Audrey, F.M.H., Ely
 2752 Marlow, Crown, Marlow
 2758 Fylde, Palatine, Blackpool

Thursday.

- Quarterly General Court, Girls School, F.M.H. at 12.
 19 Royal Athelstan, City Terminus Hotel
 91 Regularity, Freemasons' Hall
 206 Friendship, Ship and Turtle
 238 Pilgrim, Freemasons' Hall
 263 Bank of England, Albion
 860 Dalhousie, Anderton's Hotel
 879 Southwark, Bridge House Hotel
 1076 Capper, Guildhall Tavern
 1471 Islington, Cock Tavern, Highbury, N.
 1558 Duke of Connaught, Surrey Mas. Hall
 1599 Skelmersdale, Ship and Turtle

1791 Creaton, Freemasons' Hall
 1804 Coborn, Vestry Hall, Bow
 2047 Beckenham, Public Hall, Beckenham
 2090 Hammersmith, Vestry Hall, Hammer.
 2754 Thomas-a-Becket, Old Kent Road
 35 Medina, F.M.H., Cowes
 50 Knights of Malta, Hinckley
 97 Palatine, F.M.H., Sunderland
 130 Royal Gloucester, M.H., Southampton
 132 Unity, F.M.H., Ringwood
 139 Britannia, F.M.H., Sheffield
 191 St. John, Knowsley, Bury
 215 Commerce, Commercial, Haslingden
 216 Harmonic, Adelphi, Liverpool
 324 Moira, Wellington, Stalybridge
 333 Royal Preston, Castle, Preston
 344 Faith, Ram's Head, Radcliffe
 369 Limestone Rock, Swan, Clitheroe
 381 Harmony & Industry, M.H., Darwen
 437 Science, F.M.H., Wincanton
 442 St. Peter, F.M.H., Peterborough
 477 Mersey, Mas. Chambers, Birkenhead
 487 Portsmouth, F.M.H., Portsmouth
 546 Etruscan, F.M.H., Longton
 561 Zetland, F.M.H., Guisborough
 586 Elias De Derham, F.M.H., Salisbury
 588 St. Botolph, Corn Exchange, Sleaford
 625 Devonshire, F.M.H., Glossop
 725 Stoneleigh, Craven Arms, Coventry
 732 Royal Brunswick, Pavilion, Brighton
 739 Temperance, F.M.H., Birmingham
 784 Wellington, Public Rooms, Deal
 816 Royd, Falcon, Littleborough
 945 Abbev. Council Chamber, Abingdon
 971 Trafalgar, F.M.H., Batley
 973 Royal Somerset, F.M.H., Frome
 991 Tyne, F.M.H., Wallsend
 1035 Pr. of Wales, Skelmers. Hall, Liverpool
 1055 Derby, Victoria, Manchester
 1061 Triumph, County & Com., Lytham
 1098 St. George, Temper. Hall, Tredegar
 1099 Huyshe, F.M.H., Stoke
 1107 Cornwallis, Bull, Chislehurst
 1143 Royal Denbigh, Town Hall, Denbigh
 1144 Milton, George and D., Ashton-u-Lyne

1145 Equality, Red Lion, Accrington
 1147 St. David, F.M.H., Manchester
 1182 Duke of Edinburgh, M.H., Liverpool
 1204 Royd, F.M.H., Malvern
 1213 Bridgwater, Assembly Rooms, Eccles
 1247 St. John, F.M.H., Plymouth
 1387 Chorlton, M.H., Chorlton-cum-Hardy
 1416 Falcon, F.M.H., Thirsk
 1429 Albert Edward P. W., Newport, Mon.
 1457 Bagshaw, Public Hall, Loughton
 1495 Arkwright, New Bath H., Matlock Bath
 1514 Thornhill, F.M.H., Huddersfield
 1583 Corbet, Whitehall House, Towyn
 1592 Abbey, F.M.H., Bury St. Edmunds
 1697 Hospitality, Royal, Waterfoot
 1750 Coleridge, Public Hall, Clevedon
 1863 Priory, F.M.H., Tynemouth
 1911 De La Pre, F.M.H., Northampton
 1915 Graystone, Foresters H., Whitstable
 1992 Tennant, Masonic Temple, Cardiff
 2038 Portcullis, St. Mary's Chapel, Langport
 2109 Pr. Edward, Assy. Hall, Heaton Moor
 2132 Egerton, F.M.H., New Brighton
 2217 Windermere, Mas. Room, Windermere
 2227 White Horse, F.M.H., Westbury
 2234 Onslow, F.M.H., Guildford
 2285 Eden, Masonic Rooms, Workington
 2311 St. Alkmund, Victoria, Whitchurch
 2343 Sir W. Harpur, Assy. Room, Bedford
 2428 Gracedieu, F.M.H., Coalville
 2449 Duke of York, Albion, Manchester
 2523 Roll Call, Oddfellows' H., Hounslow
 2568 Delaval, Central, Newcastle-on-Tyne
 2606 Fforest, Masonic Rooms, Treharris
 2619 New Brighton, Victoria, New Brighton

Friday.

Quarterly Court, Boys School, at 4.
 134 Caledonian, Ship and Turtle
 1559 New Cross, Hotel Cecil
 1997 John Carpenter, Albion
 2399 Ordnance, F.M.H., Plumstead
 2740 Comrades, Holborn Restaurant
 36 Glamorgan, F.M.H., Cardiff
 81 Doric, Private Room, Woodbridge

170 All Souls, F.M.H., Weymouth
 458 Aire and Calder, F.M.H., Goole
 516 Phoenix, Fox, Stowmarket
 526 Honour, Star & Garter, Wolverhampton
 680 Sefton, Adelphi, Liverpool
 786 Croxteth United Service, Liverpool
 815 Blair, Town Hall, Hulme
 1001 Harrogate & Claro, F.M.H., Harrogate
 1087 Beaudesert, Ass. Rs., Leighton Buzzard
 1102 Mirfield, F.M.H., Mirfield
 1121 Wear Valley, F.M.H., Bishop Auckland
 1289 Rock, Masonic Chambers, Birkenhead
 1428 United Service, F.M.H., Landport
 1605 De la Pole, F.M.H., Hull
 1661 Newton, F.M.H., Newark-upon-Trent
 1676 St. Nicholas, Cen. M.H., Newcastle-o-T.
 1715 A. J. Brogden, M.H., Grange-o-Sands
 1849 Royal Leek, F.M.H., Bangor
 1983 Martyn, Town Hall, Southwold
 2359 Doric, F.M.H., Chorlton-cum-Hardy
 2554 Manchester, F.M.H., Manchester
 2558 Furnival, F.M.H., Sheffield
 2594 Old Priory, Masonic Rooms, Beeston
 2608 Headingley, Parochial Institute, Leeds
 2622 Albany, Kingston-on-Thames
 2660 Crane, George, Cranbrook
 2674 Ravensworth, F.M.H., Gateshead
 2677 Calcaria, Masonic Rooms, Tadcaster

Saturday.

108 London, Ship and Turtle
 173 Phoenix, Freemasons' Hall
 1446 Mount Edgcombe, Holborn Restaurant
 1607 Loyalty, London Tavern
 1612 West Middlesex, Mun. Bldgs., Ealing
 1671 Mizpah, Albion
 1743 Perseverance, Anderton's Hotel
 2369 Cornish, Freemasons' Hall
 2384 Mitcham, Lower Mitcham
 2599 Engineer, 33 Golden Square
 737 Wentworth, F.M.H., Wellingborough
 1755 Eldon, Royal, Portishead
 2326 Wigan, F.M.H., Wigan
 2504 Earl of Warwick, King's H., Chigwell

The Pudsey Freemasons have purchased by private treaty Greenwood House and grounds, situate in Church Lane, Pudsey. The building is to be adapted into a Freemasons' Hall. We congratulate the Brethren of the town on their progress; the local Lodge was Warranted in 1889.

The question of "lapse masses" in Masonry, and why it should be so, is painful to contemplate. The fact that with an ever-increasing register this lapse list grows, makes it apparent that Freemasons in Scotland must set themselves to the task of making less members and more Masons. The "lapses" are undoubtedly due to many causes. Chief of these, however, is a want of appreciation through a lack of sufficient knowledge. Initiates pass through the ceremonies, but not grasping their meaning, the institution fails to have any attraction for them. Others join with an idea of some personal benefit they are to derive from being a Freemason. When such find that the society is benevolent, and that they are called upon to assist others, instead of the society assisting them, they discover that their object in seeking admission is not realised, and finding fault with Freemasonry, because it has not come up to their sordid notions, straightway leave it. These are lost, but not missed. There was no evidence of the true spirit of Freemasonry in the minds of such members, and never could have been. The real fault lies in the Brethren who, for want of due care, unthinkingly introduced them as fit candidates. But much rests with the Lodges. There organised system of visiting should be thought out. I am aware some Lodges have set themselves to this task, and I have no doubt it will form not only a pleasant one for all concerned, but a profitable one for the Lodge so acting. There are many Brethren who have joined and who thoroughly appreciated Freemasonry, but through business cares or domestic causes have, much to their regret, been compelled to cease attending Lodge or Chapter meetings. Having got out of the way of attending, and losing touch with the members, they shrink from going "occasionally," and they, through force of circumstances, drop off altogether. A system of visitation to such Brethren would be a boon. It would make them feel they had undertaken duties that can never be laid aside; that, in return for the interest they are called upon to take in others, there is a personal interest taken in themselves. Visit! get into touch with members lapsing and lapsed, and much of the existing reproach

in this subject will disappear.—"The Mallet," in "Glasgow Evening News."

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The 113th ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL
WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, THE 8TH MAY 1901

THE
M.W. PRO GRAND MASTER
THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL AMHERST
R.W. Prov. Grand Master Kent
IN THE CHAIR.

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

F. R. W. HEDGES, Secretary.

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

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ROYAL Masonic Institution for Boys, WOOD GREEN, LONDON, N.

President.—HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT,
K.G., &c., &c., &c., M.W.G.M.

A QUARTERLY COURT of the Governors and Subscribers will be held in the Large Hall, Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, on Friday, the 12th day of April 1901, at twelve o'clock noon precisely, for the transaction of the ordinary business of the Institution:—

To consider Notice of Motion by the W. BRO. CHARLES EDWARD KEYSER, M.A., F.S.A., J.P., P.G.D., Treasurer and Patron of Institution:—

"That a humble Address be presented to His Majesty King Edward expressing the respectful sympathy of the Subscribers on the lamented death of Her late Majesty Queen Victoria, Grand Patron of the Institution; and of congratulation to the King's Most Excellent Majesty on his Accession to the Throne."

To elect a Treasurer for the ensuing twelve months; also 12 Members of the Council, and 10 Life Governors to serve on the Board of Management; also to elect 23 Boys from an approved list of 37 Candidates.

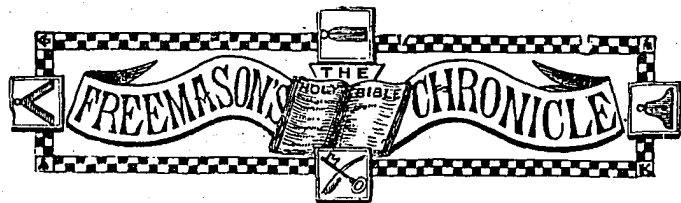
The Ballot for the Election of Boys will open at One o'clock, or so soon as the General Business of the Court shall have terminated, and will close at Three o'clock precisely.

By order, J. MORRISON MCLEOD, Secretary.

Offices.—6 Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.
4th April 1901.

* * The One Hundred and Third Anniversary Festival will be held on 26th June 1901, the Right Hon. W. W. Bramston Beach, M.P., R.W.Prov.G.M. Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, in the Chair. The services of Ladies and Brethren as Stewards on this important occasion are earnestly solicited, and will be gratefully acknowledged.

* * Copies of the Revised History of the Institution may be had on application to the Secretary, price (including postage) one shilling each.



SATURDAY, 6TH APRIL 1901.

Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

WE have much pleasure in announcing that the Medical Officer Bro. W. E. Porter, M.D., having kindly delivered a third series of Lectures—nineteen of the Boys were entered for the recent examination of the St. John's Ambulance Society and all passed. This satisfactory result of the great pains taken by Bro. Porter will be welcomed by the Subscribers, and the Board of Management has tendered to the worthy Medical Officer its best thanks for his services, so ably and gratuitously rendered.

AT the regular meeting of the Council held on Friday, 29th ult., Bro. George Everett P.G.Treas. in the chair, those present included Bros. J. W. Burgess, Geo. Chapman, W. S. Emden, C. Pulman, W. Russell, J. Speller, and J. W. Woodall. A notice of motion was given by Bro. Charles E. Keyser, for the Quarterly Court on Friday, 12th April, for the presentation of a humble address to His Majesty King Edward on the death of her late Majesty Queen Victoria Grand Patron of the Institution.

The list of nominations for election to the Board of Management was closed, Bros. R. D. Cummings, Dr. W. H. Kempster, J. D. Langton, and J. J. Thomas, retiring members, and Bro. Alfred J. Thomas being alone nominated as representing London Brethren; the last named Brother to take the place of Bro. Rowland Plumbe, who retires from the Board owing to pressure of his business engagements.

For the Provinces seven Brethren were nominated for five vacancies, but Bros. B. A. Smith (nominated by Leicestershire and Rutland) and Thomas Taylor (by Staffordshire) have since withdrawn for this election.

The five retiring members, viz.:—Bros. Benson (North Wales and Cheshire), Corble (Essex), Manfield (Norths. and Hunts.), Margrett (Berkshire), Papworth (Cambridge), will thus be re-elected, being the first time since the Board was constituted (1891) of there being no contested election.

WEST YORKSHIRE CHARITY.

THE annual meeting of the West Yorkshire Charity Committee was held at the Masonic Hall, Wakefield, on Saturday, 30th ult., Bro. W. Blackburn presiding.

A vote of condolence with the Right Worshipful Prov. Grand Master Bro. W. L. Jackson, M.P., on the death of Mrs. Jackson was adopted. The resolution was seconded by Bro. W. C. Lupton, Mayor of Bradford.

The draft of the forty-second annual report was passed for presentation to the Provincial Grand Lodge. The report stated that the sum subscribed in the Province to the three Masonic Charities in London amounted during the year to £2,883 16s and £180 had been promised to the West Yorkshire Masonic Educational and Benevolent Fund. The Sub-Committee had succeeded in electing all the West Yorkshire candidates for those Institutions—two girls, one boy, three men, and one widow. For the elections in April and May they had as candidates one girl, three boys, two men, and two widows.

Brother W. Blackburn and Brother H. S. Childe were respectively re-elected Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Committee for the ensuing year.

Bro. Harry A. Badman W.M. of the Royal Standard Lodge, No. 1298, installed his successor at the Holborn Restaurant, on Wednesday. Owing to our going to press early on account of the Easter holidays the report of the proceedings is postponed till next week.

We understand that the Earl of March has been appointed and has accepted the Provincial Grand Mastership of Sussex, but it will be some time before his lordship can be installed, as he is just about leaving England for South Africa.

The appointment to be conferred on Bro. Cheetham at the coming Festival of Grand Lodge, and to which we referred last week, is that of Grand Deacon, not Warden as printed.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

—:o:—

MASONIC IMPOSTORS.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—As a sufferer and a victim to Masonic Impostors I am delighted that you expose two cases in your issue of this date.

I should esteem it a great favour if you will make it known that I emphatically disown all connection with an impostor who is going about obtaining money from Lodges, and individuals, on the strength of using my name, which happens to be fairly well known, especially among London Lodges.

This man represents that he hails from a Lodge in Minneapolis, has been shipwrecked, and is an Engineer. Worst of all, after having fleeced not only myself but many of my Masonic friends also, I now find that he is representing himself as being related to me, which is the greatest and most annoying imposture he has adopted.

By giving publicity to this, with a view of thwarting such nefarious procedure you would confer a lasting favour on

Yours fraternally,

A. DARCH.

P.M. and Sec. 72, P.M. 1986, P.Z. 72, Preceptor 2184.

112 Westminster Bridge Road, S.E.,
16th March 1901.

We may take this opportunity of mentioning that Bro. Cyril H. Beever P.M. Prov.G.Reg. W.M. who is a prominent member of the Minnehaha Minstrel Lodge, and who, as his title indicates, is also connected with West Lancashire, has recently had bestowed upon him Royal Arch honours in the latter Province. He has been appointed Provincial Grand J., and we very heartily and sincerely congratulate him upon his well-deserved success.

Jan Ten-Kate, whose pictures are attracting much attention in London just now, is the son of one of the greatest poets of Holland. The poetic instinct has developed in the son, and his pictures give the clue to his imaginative powers. For fifteen years he has been engaged on a series of pictures depicting Humanity, and they are striking examples of bold and effective work.

REPORTS OF MEETINGS.

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We shall be pleased to receive particulars of Masonic meetings for insertion in our columns, and where desired will endeavour to send a representative, to report Lodge or other proceedings. We do not sanction anyone attending Lodge meetings as our representative without a specific invitation.

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CRAFT: METROPOLITAN.

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Duke of Connaught Lodge, No. 1524.

It will be in the memory of our readers that the installation meeting of this Lodge was held on the 31st January last, at the time the nation was first experiencing the shock caused by the death of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, and that as a consequence the installation banquet was postponed until the March meeting, which was held on Thursday, 28th ult., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, the whole of the proceedings being of such a hearty and cordial character as to in a measure compensate the new W.M. Bro. Albert Smith for the disappointment he experienced at the time of his installation, when the whole of the surroundings were of a really funeral character.

The Lodge was called for 4.30 p.m., and was regularly opened by the W.M., who was well supported by Past Masters, Brethren, and Visitors during the meeting. Eleven of the fifteen Past Masters on the roll of the Lodge were present, including the four highest in point of seniority, and six of the first seven.

Those present wearing collars of Office were Bros. James Bedford I.P.M., F. Henderson S.W., H. W. D. Willis J.W., W. H. Brand P.M. (1880) Treasurer, C. Lorkin P.M. (1883) Secretary, E. Dignam P.M. (1882), A. Ferrar P.M. (1886), A. R. Olley P.M. (1889), J. H. Rich P.M. (1891), W. T. Oakley P.M. (1896), H. Pearse P.M. (1897), A. M. Archer P.M. (1898), E. Frisby P.M. (1899) Organist, H. G. C. Hollinghurst S.D., J. B. Welch J.D., L. G. Hammond D.C., E. T. Stevens and A. S. Black Stewards, T. Williams Tyler.

There was a full agenda of business, and after having opened the Lodge the W.M. proceeded to dispose of it in really masterly manner. There were three raisings, two passings, and two initiations, all of which were carried through in most approved form.

A grant of ten guineas was made from the Lodge for a late member's widow, while further effort in the cause of Masonic benevolence was specially made by Bro. Frisby P.M., who succeeded in collecting nearly three hundred and fifty votes on behalf of the daughter of the late Bro. Allardyce, an old member of the Lodge, who died some short time since.

At the conclusion of the work the Lodge was closed, and the Brethren proceeded to the banquet hall, where the Installation Festival was celebrated. The visitors included Bros. G. A. Sturgess W.M. 538, A. J. Wood 1706, Howard E. Mullins S.W. 211, J. Stevenson 212, Russell Hill P.M. 2343, A. Haylock 27, Alfred Kelland Steward 1672, J. Newlands 2374, W. W. Morgan 177.

At the conclusion of the dinner grace was said, and then the W.M. submitted the Loyal toast of the King and the Craft. His Majesty had shown himself to be a worthy son, and he believed that in him they had a good successor of a most worthy sovereign.

Then followed the toast of the Duke of Connaught Grand Master-elect, and the Officers of Grand Lodge.

Bro. Bedford next assumed the gavel. The toast he had to propose was one that always came with a great deal of joy from the Immediate Past Master, who was enabled to look back upon all his shortcomings with the knowledge that no one could then find fault with him, no matter what he did. He looked upon a new Worshipful Master as one in the teething stage—with all his troubles to come. As in the outer world they said the King never died, so in their Lodges neither did the W.M. The W.M. was dead, long live the W.M. The present ruler of the Lodge assumed the reigns of government at the last meeting, under somewhat distressing surroundings, but the way in which he took up the work convinced them all—from the highest to the lowest—that he was the soul of courtesy and kindness, and one in whom the Lodge might take pride and pleasure. The day for long speeches for him was past, the fact being he had done so much talking that there was little left for him to say. Happily it was not necessary in proposing the health of the W.M., which was most cordially honoured.

The W.M. tendered his sincere thanks for the hearty reception of the toast, and he also thanked Bro. Bedford for the kind words with which he had introduced it. He had tried to redeem the promise he made when the Brethren elected him to the proud position of Master, and if he in any way came up to their expectations he should indeed be a proud man that day.

The next toast, said the W.M., was usually considered, and rightly so, the toast of the evening, being the health of the initiates. Masonry, like everything else, could not succeed without additions to its ranks. They had admitted two gentlemen that evening and one was initiated at the last meeting, so that they had to welcome three worthy Brethren who, he felt, would become a credit to the Craft. He hoped they would at once aspire to, and eventually reach, the position he at present occupied in the Lodge. Each of the new members replied, expressing their thanks, and the pleasure they had experienced in being admitted to the Craft.

The Charity box having been sent round the Lodge the W.M. announced the contents as amounting to 34s.

In giving the health of the Visitors the W.M. tendered them a hearty welcome. The toast had hitherto been received in the Lodge with the greatest enthusiasm, and he trusted it would be as well received as usual, which proved to be the case.

Bros. Sturgess W.M. 538, A. J. Wood 1706, and the other

visitors replied. Bro. Wood said that in the W.M. he had really his first Masonic friend. A near neighbour of theirs died, leaving a widow and children, and mainly through the efforts of Bro. Smith they had been enabled to get two of those children into the Masonic Schools.

The W.M. proposed the health of the Treasurer and Secretary, a toast he was sure they would drink most heartily. The worthy Brethren had held the positions they occupied in the Lodge for very many years, with satisfaction to the members and credit to themselves.

Bro. Brand Treasurer was very glad the new Worshipful Master had started a year of short speeches. The Brethren could understand that in his case it was very difficult to find fresh words to say on each occasion he was called upon. He was very pleased to see the Lodge still prospering, and hoped they would not only keep up the quantity but also the quality of their membership. The Lodge had always been known as one of the best working Lodges of London, and he hoped it would long enjoy that distinction.

Bro. Lorkin Secretary was very proud of the reception accorded him, and very pleased to see so large an assemblage. There were not so many as they had expected, but most of the absentees were to be accounted for by the ravages of influenza, and attacks of British climate on the chest. He felt that for some considerable time they had not had a Master in the chair who had let the ritual really glide forth as their present Worshipful Master was able to do, and this came as a surprise to many of them, as the W.M. was what he might almost call a stranger in the Lodge. There were many of the members who hardly knew him until he rose to the dignity of the chairs. He had not been in many Offices, but he had come to the front, and he evidently meant to stop there. Some years ago a member of the Lodge died, and little was said about the widow and children, but the wife of the present Worshipful Master worked zealously and admirably on their behalf, with the result that two of them were elected to the Masonic Schools. At that time the W.M. was not a member of the Craft, but he saw the beauty of the Order and speedily sought admission. The wife of the W.M., as they could see for themselves that evening, wore more jewels than any of the Brethren there that night, and no doubt many of them had wondered what jewels they were. They were the result of that lady's efforts on behalf of the Institutions of Freemasonry; each one of them represented a service rendered by Mrs. Smith, who was a Life Governor of the three Funds and Vice Patron of two of them, and she had funds in hand from which she hoped to make herself Patron of all three. Bro. Lorkin felt that Mrs. Smith had really done as much as all of the members of the Lodge put together, and all honour to her for doing so. He remembered on one occasion at a large gathering of Ladies and Brethren Mrs. Smith was referred to as the only lady medalist present.

Bro. Frisby felt it was not out of place to ask the Brethren to drink the health of Mrs. Smith, and pointed to a large batch of votes he had just received from that lady on behalf of the candidature of young Allardyce, as a tangible proof of her interest in the work of Freemasonry. The toast was heartily honoured, and was acknowledged by the Worshipful Master, who said it was exceedingly kind of the Brethren to take so much interest, and for Bro. Lorkin to mention some of the virtues, of his very much better half. All the members of her family were Masons, and he confessed it was really through her that he had sought admission to the Craft. She had qualified as Bro. Lorkin had told them for the honours of the Craft, and was never tired of doing what she could in its behalf. The Institutions of the Craft for which she had laboured were certainly very worthy objects and he had no doubt she would continue to devote herself to the good cause. He thanked the Brethren most sincerely on her behalf.

The W.M. proposed the health of the Past Masters, characterising them as the pillars of the Lodge—Brethren to whom they looked for help and assistance, and who were always found ready and willing to do anything to help the Brother who attained to the position of Worshipful Master.

Bro. Bedford replied. He felt he had done his work very badly during his term of Office, and had finished up worse; he had the grace to know it, the pluck to acknowledge it, and just enough common sense to take all the kind things that were uttered and place them to the generosity of the Brethren who uttered them, rather than to the individual to whom they were directed. He knew—no man better—the unsatisfactory way in which he went through his year of Master-ship, but outside the Lodge he had had a year of trouble, and a year of heavy pecuniary losses, through doing kindly actions to others. He felt they had now a very excellent Master in the Lodge—not perhaps such a showy one, or one with such a gift of the gab as they had last year, but one with a thorough knowledge of Freemasonry, and he thought they would find the Lodge would greatly benefit by his ruling. He was accustomed to put things down at what they were worth, and felt the Lodge had now a much better Master than it had last year. He had found a lot of good in Freemasonry, and was obliged to the Brethren for their reception of the toast of the Past Masters.

Bro. Dignam followed, adding his tribute to the ability displayed by the Worshipful Master. He should very much like to see the Lodge do better on behalf of the Charities; he felt the Lodge ought to send up a Steward at least every year.

Bros. Rich, Oakley, Archer, and Frisby also replied, Brother Oakley specially congratulating the W.M. on the great support rendered by his wife to the Masonic Institutions.

Bro. Frisby, in the course of his remarks, desired to thank the Brethren for the help they had given in support of the case of the daughter of their Brother Allardyce, and trusted with a continuance of such generous support that they would be able to carry the election.

The toast of the Officers was next given, and those who were present acknowledged it in turn.

Several members of the Lodge contributed to the harmony of the evening, under the direction of Bro. Frisby P.M., who presided at the piano. Miss Dora C. Smith, daughter of the Worshipful Master, also contributed some piano solos, which were particularly acceptable to those present.

Skelmersdale Lodge, No. 1658.

CELEBRATION OF SILVER ANNIVERSARY, AND INSTALLATION OF BROTHER THOMAS JOHN RAWLINGS.

THERE is always a charm in visiting this Lodge, where the right hand of true friendship and Brotherly love is regularly extended to the visitors, and where there is the certainty of experiencing the Fraternal spirit of charity, exercised in support of some needy orphan, or in smoothing the weary brow of the widow. But there was an additional pleasure associated with this year's installation meeting, inasmuch as it marked the silver anniversary of the establishment of the Lodge, which was consecrated in 1876.

This year's annual meeting was held on Thursday of last week, at the Surrey Masonic Hall, and marked the completion of a most successful quarter of a century in the history of the Lodge, and the commencement of a new era which gives every promise of adding to the high reputation already achieved by the Lodge.

The proceedings were commenced at 3.45 p.m. by the W.M. of the past year Bro. Robert Gabell, who had the support of Bros. T. J. Rawlings W.M.-elect S.W., J. Farmer J.W., W. Croxson P.M. Treas., W. H. Boys P.M. Sec., S. E. Rice S.D., J. Thorneloe acting J.D., J. Pardell A.D.C., W. Bennett I.G., E. H. Smyth Steward, C. Plant P.M. Tyler; Past Masters R. Rowland, Earle Douglas Side, Henry B. Buckeridge, Humphrey Cohen; with Bros. W. Rose, G. Cully, G. Potter, C. W. Lubbock, S. Morris, W. H. Greenfield, F. Hardy, S. P. Smeltzer, G. F. Tavener, B. Cohen, F. A. Marlow, R. D. Godefroy, J. Atkinson, A. Davis, S. C. May, H. Levy, A. Logett, W. J. Perrin, G. A. Nilen, E. A. Wass, F. Nilen, J. Gibbs, D. Gunton, W. H. Edwards, John Shaw, J. R. Papworth, W. R. Hummerston, W. Biles, J. H. Danson, W. M. Foster, F. C. Atkinson, J. Humphries, J. C. Penny, J. Hibble, R. H. Alabaster, C. Sisman, J. C. Davies, F. G. Hardy, J. W. Tredwen, C. Castleman, T. A. Rawlings, M. Leighton, W. G. Watts, J. H. Down, George E. Laughlin and several others.

Amongst the Visitors were Bros. James G. Watts P.P.G.S.B., C. Childs 548, C. H. Marrison S.W. 1901, R. Russell 1563, A. King 834, A. E. Dyke W.M. 2045, W. J. Newstead S.D. 1973, W. C. Holland S.D. 140, S. Bright S.D. 1950, W. Busby W.M. 733, Jos. Smith P.M. 1598, H. B. Spaul P.M. and Sec. 145, J. Potter 1681, J. Freer P.M. 1681, John Rugg J.D. 1278, A. C. Wood P.M. 1586, C. W. Evans 2021, H. Townsend Org. 2466, A. H. Smith 257, S. D. Kemp 2513, A. Cobs 2157, J. M. Jones W.M. 2664, C. H. Mayo P.M., W. E. Copley, G. Golding, J. Wynman, &c.

The Lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the regular and emergency meetings were read and confirmed. The report of the Audit Committee was received and adopted. The principal business of the evening was then proceeded with, the W.M. first declaring all Offices vacant and appointing Bro. Side P.M. as acting S.W. and Bro. Rowland P.M. as J.W. to assist him. The Lodge was opened in the second degree, and Bro. Thomas John Rawlings W.M.-elect was presented by Bro. Henry Baldy Buckeridge P.M. Director of Ceremonies. The W.M. having signified his assent to the ancient charges and regulations took the obligation; the Lodge was advanced to the third degree, and a strong Board of Installed Masters being formed he was formally inducted into the chair of King Solomon as ruler of the Skelmersdale Lodge for the ensuing twelve months. The Brethren having been re-admitted the W.M. was duly proclaimed and saluted in the various degrees. The installation ceremony was admirably performed, without the slightest hitch or hesitation by the outgoing Master Bro. Gabell, who subsequently delivered the addresses in such a way as elicited the hearty appreciation of all present.

The W.M. appointed the Officers for the ensuing year, as follow: Bros. James Farmer S.W., S. E. Rice J.W., W. Croxson P.M. Treasurer, W. H. Boys P.M. Secretary, J. W. Sandell S.D., W. Bennett J.D., Frank Lloyd I.G. (unavoidably absent), E. H. Smith D.C., J. Thorneloe A.D.C., E. A. Wass and W. J. Perrin Stewards, H. Townsend Organist, C. Plant P.M. Tyler.

It rarely happens that ceremonial working is arranged to follow the installation, but there was an exception on this occasion, there being five candidates for initiation on the agenda, one of the gentlemen being the son of the W.M., who did not wish the opportunity to pass of making his own son a Mason on the day of his own installation. The ballot was accordingly taken for Messrs. Thomas Alfred Rawlings, Malcolm Leighton, William George Watts, James Henry Down, and George Edwin Laughlin, and proved unanimous in their favour.

In due course those gentlemen had the pleasure of participating in the beautiful symbolism and allegory of the Fraternity, and although fresh at the work the W.M. was quite at ease, and gave ample proof of his ability as a Worshipful Master; there was no nervousness and confusion about his work. The ceremony of investiture of Officers was also done faultlessly. Bro. H. B. Buckeridge P.M. added greatly to the impressiveness of the initiation ceremony by giving the ancient charge, and if first impressions have weight on candidates then the Brethren admitted on this occasion should reap great advantages.

A notice of motion was brought forward, that the sum of £20 be presented to Bro. Boys, the Secretary, as an honorarium for the most able services he had rendered during the past year of Office. Bro. Buckeridge P.M. and Bro. Humphrey Cohen P.M. in strong terms of recommendation had much pleasure in seconding and supporting the proposition. The W.M. said he also had great pleasure in supporting the same. He added to the observations that he

remembered the Lodge, some years ago, had only a very small balance in hand, in fact if he remembered well, it was 7s 8d. Now the Lodge, he was proud and happy to say, was in a very flourishing condition, and could well afford the amount proposed. Bro. Boys had stuck to the Lodge manfully and most loyally; there was a great deal of trouble attached to the working of the Lodge, which could not so well be understood by the Brethren generally, as by the Past Masters. The Lodge consisted of nearly a hundred members and there was naturally a great deal of work for the Secretary to do. His books were kept in a most creditable manner, and the presentation of the proposed sum was only a token of gratitude. The proposal was carried unanimously.

Brother Boys, in a few well chosen words, acknowledged the compliment.

Bro. Buckeridge P.M. said it was some years since that the Lodge was represented at the Festival of a Masonic Institution; he wished to represent it at the coming Festival, and asked the W.M. and Brethren to support him. The W.M. said he certainly would do so, and proposed that the sum of ten guineas be added to Bro. Buckeridge's list, which proposition was also unanimously carried, and Bro. Buckeridge acknowledged the same.

It was proposed that a letter of sincere condolence be sent to Mrs. Brown, widow of a late member.

Three candidates were proposed for the next meeting and several communications were read by the Secretary. Amongst these was a letter from Bro. Rev. St. Clair Hill P.P.G.Chap., acknowledging the compliment paid him in having elected him an honorary member.

The resignation of Bro. Kipps Organist was read, he being unable to attend on the nights of meeting, on account of other important business, and this was accepted with regret. Other work being disposed of the Lodge was closed, and the Brethren repaired to the banqueting room, where an excellent repast was provided, and thoroughly enjoyed by the large company present.

At the conclusion of the banquet grace was sung, and then the W.M. gave the first toast, that of the King and the Craft.

The toast of the Grand Officers was introduced in becoming terms. The W.M. said the Grand Officers did everything in their power for the welfare of Freemasonry, as he was delighted to say the Skelmersdale Lodge did, but on a smaller scale.

Bro. Gabell I.P.M. in most eloquent terms proposed the health of the W.M. He and the W.M. had followed each other within two months from step to step. He was sure the W.M. would give every satisfaction; he had already given proof of his ability, by initiating five candidates. A new Worshipful Master was usually a little nervous, but there was nothing of that sort evidenced that evening. He had made a very good start, and there was plenty of work before him. There were three candidates for initiation at the next meeting and everything looked very prosperous for the W.M. during his year of Office. He called upon the Brethren to drink to the good health of their ruler.

The W.M. on rising received quite an ovation. He thanked Bro. Gabell I.P.M. for the toast, and his good wishes, and also the Brethren for receiving the toast in such a cordial manner. He was proud of being the ruler of the Skelmersdale Lodge, having worked hard to gain that honourable position. Eleven years ago he was initiated in the Lodge, but through unforeseen circumstances he could not at the time devote his time to it so much as he was at liberty to do at present. He regarded the Past Masters as the back-bone of the Lodge, and intended to follow their excellent example, as in time to come he hoped to take his place among the old fossils. One of their Past Masters had departed from the old beaten track of putting Brethren on as Officers according to seniority; he put them on in accordance with the Constitutions, according to merit and ability, and at the same time put the Lodge on a sound financial basis. It was a proud moment for him that evening to have the pleasure of initiating his son; he should also have initiated another son, but he was away in South Africa, fighting the enemy of the country. He hoped to initiate him, however, before his year of Office expired.

The W.M., in proposing the toast of the initiates, said that without candidates the Lodge would be like the world without babies. He had known two of the candidates for some years, and another (his son) from the hour he was born; the others were proposed and seconded by worthy Brethren of the Lodge; in fact they could not have brought better recommendation. The Lodge was now getting very strong. He was not a lover of large numbers, what he wanted being quality, and therefore he urged the members to be cautious whom they introduced for initiation. From the strict attention the initiates had paid to the ceremony, and by the impressive charge given by Bro. Buckeridge, he felt positive the candidates would become acquisitions to the Lodge.

Bro. T. A. Rawlings son of the W.M. met a specially hearty reception on rising. He sincerely thanked his father, as Worshipful Master, for having initiated him; and the Brethren for having accepted him as a Brother amongst them. He pledged himself to never forget the obligation he had agreed to, and hoped to follow the good example of his father and follow in his footsteps in the Lodge.

Bro. William George Watts said his intention had been to become a Freemason for a long time, but he postponed his application until he could have the pleasure of being initiated by his esteemed friend Bro. Rawlings, their W.M. He thanked him for having introduced him, and he felt proud to be a Brother amongst them. He sincerely thanked the Brethren for the honour they had conferred upon him.

Bro. Malcolm Leighton could only endorse what the two other Brethren had said; they had taken the words out of his mouth. From that day he should virtually start again as a baby amongst them.

Bro. George Edwin Laughlin thanked the W.M. for having initiated him. He was very much impressed with the ceremony and

should always remember his Obligation. He had never done anything wrong in his profession, and certainly would not do so towards the Order or his Lodge. He hoped to make many friends among the Brethren, and specially thanked Bros. Lubbock and Farmer the S.W. for having proposed and seconded him as a member of the Skelmersdale Lodge.

Bro. James Henry Down also acknowledged the compliment, in a few well chosen words.

The next toast—that of the Immediate Past and Installing Master—the W.M. regarded as the chief one of the evening. Unfortunately the I.P.M. had during his year thirteen initiates, which number he considered an unlucky one; but a greater misfortune had befallen them by the death of their beloved Queen. Otherwise Bro. Gabell had had a grand year of Office, with plenty of work, and the Brethren would agree that Bro. Gabell was one of the best, and had ably followed in the steps of his predecessors. The Brethren had heard Bro. Gabell work the different ceremonies during his year of Office, and could but be delighted at his performance. That day they had seen him perform the ceremony of installation, and must agree he had concluded his term of work in a most creditable manner. The W.M. was glad the official duty had devolved upon him to pin on the breast of Bro. Gabell the Past Master's jewel of the Lodge, as he felt that if ever a Past Master of the Lodge deserved such a token it was Bro. Gabell. He hoped he would wear it in health and strength for many years to come. But the thanks of the Brethren did not end here, as the Worshipful Master called upon Bro. J. Shaw who, addressing Bro. Gabell, said it was the desire of the Brethren who had had the honour of being initiated by the I.P.M. during his year of office—and of such he was the senior—to present him with a Past Master's collar, in appreciation of the honour he had done them. They gave it with the hope that he might wear it in health and prosperity for many years to come.

The I.P.M., on rising, received a hearty greeting. As what the W.M. had called one of the old fossils he sincerely thanked him for proposing his health in such very kind terms, and the Brethren for receiving the toast with such cordiality. He was the W.M. in two centuries, and as the W.M. had said he had had thirteen initiates during his year of Office. That the W.M. had said was an unlucky number, but he considered that was great nonsense; yet, nevertheless, during his year of Office the Treasurer had died, the Senior and Junior Wardens had been ill, the first candidate could not attend, and, finally, his wife was taken very ill. But thank Heaven the dark clouds had rolled away, and he predicted that the year before them would be one of the most prosperous in the history of the Lodge. He was pleased he had given satisfaction during his year of Office, and felt the very handsome jewel presented to him that evening was evidence of the approbation of the Brethren. To the initiates he was particularly indebted, and he congratulated them on the quiet way in which they had worked and provided such a handsome collar; it would be a source of gratification to him. He also took the opportunity of thanking the Treasurer and Secretary for their kind assistance, as also the Past Masters and Officers. He had tried to rule them fairly, and never during the year had there been an unpleasant word. Again he thanked them all.

In proposing the health of the Visitors the W.M. characterised the toast as a most important one, for the reason that the Skelmersdale Lodge took credit to itself for making a feature of according a hearty welcome to visiting Brethren.

Bro. Watts P.P.G.S.B. said he was exceedingly pleased to attend; it was a day of days; he had enjoyed the working, and was delighted to have been present to see his son initiated. He was sure that Brother would do credit to the Lodge. He concluded by thanking the W.M. for his cordiality.

Bro. Busby W.M. 733 thanked the Master for the kind manner in which he had welcomed the Visitors. It was not the first time he had had the pleasure of visiting the Lodge. He always admired its working, and was sorry that business detained him from being present at the installation ceremony; still, he had enjoyed the first working of the W.M., who had a grand prospect in front of him. He concluded by wishing the W.M. a prosperous year of Office.

Bro. Spaul P.M. was pleased the W.M. had coupled him with the toast of the Visitors, and sincerely thanked him for the hospitality which had been so freely extended. He was pleased to be able to say the working he had witnessed was admirable, and was glad to see five new candidates initiated. As an old fossil he felt justified in saying the Brethren had a W.M. who would rule with kindness and courtesy, but with firmness.

Bro. A. H. Smith said he had not visited the Lodge since 1888, when Bro. Humphrey Cohen was installed. The Skelmersdale Lodge had had some excellent Masters. He wished especially to say to the Initiates that the working was not picked up easily; he therefore strongly advised them to attend Instruction Lodges. He could not conclude without thanking the W.M. for his hospitality.

Several other Visitors also made suitable response.

The toast of the Past Masters was submitted by the W.M., who said he was proud to feel they had the very best of Past Masters. There was nothing too much for them to undertake; they were truly the pillars of the Lodge.

The toast having been responded to the W.M. proceeded to give that of the Treasurer, Secretary, and Officers of the Lodge, for which Bro. Farmer S.W. responded on behalf of himself and others.

The Tyler was now summoned, and he gave the concluding sentiment, bringing a most successful meeting to a close.

The musical entertainment was a special feature of the evening, those who contributed being Miss Gertrude Hughes, Miss Adela Bona, Mr. Walber Clyde, and Mr. John Walters, with Bro. H. Townsend Orgot as accompanist.

The Charity box was sent round during the evening, the sum of £1 12s 6d being collected.

Shepherds Bush Lodge, No. 1828.

THE regular meeting of this Lodge, held on Monday, 25th ult., at the Frascati, Oxford Street, proved very successful, under the presidency of Bro. George Knights W.M., who was supported by Bros. R. Mark P.M. Treas. as S.W., Isaac Levy J.W., W. E. Bull P.M. Sec., H. P. Gilbert P.M., F. C. Neilson S.D., H. Stephens J.D., F. Case I.G., John Josey 1706 acting Organist, C. Patrick P.M. Tyler, J. C. Brown, G. Tiley, F. Murray, C. Humphrey, E. Hess, J. Sigourney, W. H. Garratt, &c.

Among the visitors we had the pleasure of seeing Bros. S. Levy, G. A. Grant 483, M. Chapman P.M. 619, J. G. W. Guyer P.M. 1288, W. Relfort J.W. 59, S. B. Lotheim 205, John Josey, and J. Wynman.

Bros. J. Sigourney and G. Tiley, who were initiated at the previous meeting, were entrusted. The Lodge was advanced, and they were passed to the second degree.

The Lodge was resumed to the first degree, and Mr. Michael Levy was presented and initiated, the ballot having first been proved to be unanimous in his favour.

The Secretary read the communications to the Lodge, among them being letters from the Senior Warden and Bro. J. H. Richardson I.P.M., explaining their absence on account of illness. Bro. Gilbert P.M. proposed that letters of sympathy should be sent, with wishes for speedy recovery, and the same was agreed to.

The Lodge being closed the company repaired to the banquet room, where an excellent repast was provided, one worthy the high reputation of the establishment.

After the Loyal toasts Bro. Gilbert P.M., in the absence of the I.P.M., proposed the health of the Worshipful Master, whom he complimented on the way in which he had performed his duties that day. As usual his working was a credit to himself and also to the Lodge.

The toast was heartily received and was acknowledged by the W.M., who thanked Past Master Gilbert for his remarks, and the Brethren for receiving the toast so cordially. He had tried to do his best, and hoped to do even better on future occasions. He was pleased to know he had given some amount of satisfaction.

In proposing the toast of the Initiates the W.M. said that at the last meeting he had had the pleasure of initiating two gentlemen and that evening one. He could but wish there had been more, as he liked to see new blood introduced into Freemasonry. Bro. Levy, whom they had initiated that night came to them well recommended and gave every promise of making an additional ornament to the Lodge.

Bro. Levy replied. He said that at any time he was not much of a speaker, but he must be especially excused that night, because the ceremony and the reception he had met with had so greatly impressed him. He was pleased to have been initiated, and assured the W.M. and Brethren that he hoped in time to give proofs of his gratitude. He thanked the Brethren for having accepted him and for their hearty welcome that evening.

The toast of the Visitors was next given, the Master according the guests a most hearty welcome. The Shepherds Bush Lodge was always pleased to see guests, and on behalf of the members he tendered them a cordial greeting.

Bro. Guyer P.M. 1288 replied, saying how much he appreciated the way in which the work had been performed that evening; the hospitality extended to the visitors was also to be noted. He concluded by complimenting the W.M. on his position, and wished the Lodge every prosperity.

Bro. Grant 483 and Bro. Lotheim 205 also replied, the latter expressing the pleasure he felt in seeing his brother-in-law Bro. Levy initiated in the Lodge. He was sure that Brother had been very much impressed with the ceremony and he hoped, as he felt, that he would attend regularly and do everything in his power for the welfare of Freemasonry in general and the Shepherds Bush Lodge in particular.

The toast of the Past Masters, Treasurer and Secretary was next given, the W.M. regretting the scarcity of Past Masters that night, although in Bro. G. Gilbert they had a worthy representative. He had the pleasure of being initiated by that Brother. The extra good qualities of the Treasurer and Secretary were well known to the members; they were hard working Masons, and did all in their power in support of the Lodge. The toast was well received.

Bro. Gilbert, on behalf of the Past Masters, thanked the W.M. for his remarks, and regretted the I.P.M. Bro. Richardson was not able to be present to respond. The working that night had been all that could be desired. The W.M. had said he would have liked more work to do, which he did not doubt for a moment, but he felt the Lodge did not want a very large number of members—desiring rather quality than quantity. He was sure all present were pleased with the way in which the W.M. had done the work before him. He regretted the absence of the Senior Warden and some other Officers, and hoped to see them in their places at the next meeting. Bro. Past Master Mark had shown his willingness to fulfil the duties of S.W., and he was sure all the Past Masters were equally ready to render any assistance that might be required of them.

Bro. Mark P.M. Treasurer said the Past Masters were always willing to render all the assistance required of them. As a proof that night he had officiated as S.W., and he, or the other Past Masters, would most willingly fulfil any duty they were asked to undertake. He was sorry the S.W. was not present.

Bro. Isaac Levy J.W. replied on behalf of the Officers, and then the Tyler's toast was given and brought a most entertaining evening to a conclusion.

Some enjoyable songs were contributed during the evening, those who added to the harmony being Miss Lillie Laughton, Bro. John Josey, Edward Lacey, Edward Bentley, Gilbert Barton, and others. Bro. John Josey officiated at the piano.

INSTRUCTION.

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Royal Athelstan Lodge, No. 19.

THERE was a specially strong meeting on Sunday evening, 31st ult., at the Clachan, 34 King Street, Regent Street, the occasion being the working of the Fifteen Sections. Those present included Bros. W. Cleghorn P.M. 1287 W.M., C. A. Cottebrune P.G.P. I.P.M., R. Sandland S.D. 2398 S.W., A. P. Lowthian W.M. 1900 J.W., C. H. Denny P.M. 1671 Treas., J. I. Moar P.M. 813 Sec., L. Gunzell P.M. 2021 S.D., L. Lake J.D., L. Rolfe I.G., G. Faaz, J. Cohn W.M.-elect Samson Lodge, Hawkins, Edmonds, Staples, J. Duffy, Burgess, Kerswell, A. Witmond, J. Wynman, and others.

The sections of the first degree were worked by Bros. J. Staples 1744, L. Lake S.W. 87, T. Mark S.W. 1997, L. Gunzell P.M. 2021, A. Carlstrom 733, J. Paul P.M. 1287, and R. Sandland S.D. 2398; those of the second degree by Bros. G. Jackson J.W. 1364, W. Vicars S.W. 2021, R. Sandland, J. Paul, and W. Vicars; and those of the third degree by Bros. A. P. Lowthian, J. I. Moar, and W. Vicars.

At the conclusion of the work the Preceptor desired to make a proposition which he hoped would be unanimously received. It was that a hearty vote of thanks be accorded to Bro. Cleghorn, congratulating him on the way in which he had worked the Sections. This was agreed to and Bro. Cleghorn thanked the Brethren for their cordial recognition. It was some 15 or 16 years since he had last worked the sections.

Bros. Charles Staples and J. Duffy were elected members, and Bro. J. Cohn appointed to the chair for to-morrow week, 14th inst.

Confidence Lodge, No. 193.

At the meeting on Wednesday, 20th ult., Bro. Hattersley, a very promising and energetic young Mason, occupied the Worshipful Master's chair, and rehearsed the first ceremony with very little assistance from the Preceptor. The remaining Officers were Bros. Bushell S.W., Chittock J.W., Goodchild S.D., Bygrave J.D., Done I.G., Lough acting Secretary, Stenner P.M. 861 acting Preceptor.

After Lodge had been opened in the second degree Bro. Baillie took the chair, and in a perfect manner rehearsed the second ceremony and gave a splendid rendering of the tracing board. The candidates were Bros. Rowland and Scoones.

At the meeting on the 27th, the workings were somewhat varied. Bro. Stenner, who filled the chair, is about to initiate his son into Freemasonry in the Finsbury Lodge, and very naturally did his level best in rehearsing the first degree. He is a Past Master of many years standing, but time has not obliterated from his memory the beautiful ritual, and as a further proof of his ability he opened and closed the Lodge in each of the three degrees, resuming as occasion required.

Bros. Bygrave S.W., Done J.W., Rowland S.D., Carr J.D., W. H. Johnson I.G., Simeons I.P.M. 193 acting Preceptor, J. K. Pitt Secretary, Metcalf Baillie acting Treasurer were also present.

During the evening Bro. Stenner vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Cohn, W.M.-elect of his Lodge, who rehearsed the third ceremony so emphatically and earnestly that many Brethren remarked it had never been rendered better, and a vote of congratulation to Bro. Cohn was ordered to be recorded on the minutes. It was regarded as possible that some of the sections would be worked at the next meeting, a young Mason of great ability occupying the chair.

Dalhousie Lodge, No. 865.

At the Greyhound Hotel, Kensington Square, W., on Monday, 18th ult., Bros. K. Von Donat W.M., S. Mussell S.W., Howard J.W., Arthur Williams P.M. Prec., J. Spring Sec., H. G. Cox S.D., J. Thompson J.D., W. Binfield I.G., J. Johnson Steward, H. J. Cousens, W. R. Flack, Dyer W.M. of the Mother Lodge, Sargeant, Inderwick, Lewis, Davies, A. G. Peckham, J. McNaughton.

Lodge was opened and advanced to the second degree, when Bro. Davies answered the questions and retired, being a F.C. Bro. Johnson took his place, was entrusted, and acted as candidate in the raising ceremony. Lodge was resumed to the first degree, and Bro. Sargeant was examined and entrusted, after which the Lodge was resumed to the second degree and the ceremony of passing rehearsed.

Bro. Shiel Mussell was elected W.M. for the ensuing meeting.

Bro. A. G. Peckham, a prominent member of the Strong Man Lodge, No. 45, was elected a member.

Metropolitan (Victoria) Lodge, No. 1056.

At the Mail Coach Hotel, Farringdon Street, E.C., on Friday, 20th ult., Bros. A. B. Clayton W.M., Harding S.W., G. Newnam J.W., Neilson S.D., Moyle J.D., A. Sayer I.G., W. R. Witt Sec., F. P. Weinell P.M. Preceptor, Russell, Hayward.

The first section was worked by Bro. Clayton, the second by Bro. Weinell P.M., and the third by Bro. Clayton, each assisted by the Brethren. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Brother Hayward as the candidate. It was announced that the Fifteen Sections would be worked on Friday, 26th inst., on which occasion Bro. H. Hill P.M. 1305 will occupy the chair.

Metropolitan Lodge, No. 1507.

At Bro. Richard Blunden's, the Globe Tavern and Restaurant, Moorgate Street, Bros. E. Strange S.W. 2549 W.M., J. W. Doubtfire S.W., Geo. Collins J.W., J. F. Saunders P.M. Preceptor, G. Ryon acting Sec., R. Hunt S.D., F. H. Witheridge J.D., A. J.

Jordan I.G., E. T. Stevens, J. Webster, Marcus Weinstein, H. W. Butcher, McGivern, W. Smith P.M., Wynman, &c.

The ceremony of initiation, including the ancient charge, was rehearsed, Bro. Marcus Weinstein being the candidate. The Lodge was opened in the second degree, and the same Brother answered the questions leading to the third and retired. Brother McGivern was entrusted. The Lodge was further advanced and the ceremony of raising was rehearsed, including the explanation of the tracing board. The Lodge was resumed to the first degree. This being the first occasion on which we have witnessed the working of Brother Strange we take the opportunity of complimenting him thereon. His performances were most creditable. Bro. Marcus Weinstein, of the Duke of Connaught Lodge, No. 1524, was elected a member, and Bro. Doubtfire was chosen W.M. for Monday, 15th inst.

Chiswick Lodge, No. 2012.

ON Saturday, 23rd ult., at the Windsor Castle Hotel, Hammer-smith, Bro. Lewis Walsh W.M. of the Philbrick Lodge occupied the chair, and his Officers were: Bros. W. Atkinson S.W., K. M. Ross J.W., L. J. Powell P.M. acting Prec., F. Craggs P.M. Treas., R. Josey P.M. Sec., J. Evans S.D., M. F. Wilkins J.D., Hugh Mair I.G., W. Hillier P.M., H. J. Cousens P.M., J. H. Cumming P.M., T. Harrington P.M., Geo. Kirkham P.M., Arthur Williams P.M., T. G. Hodgson W.M. of the Hammersmith Lodge, T. W. Leete, A. Wells, J. Winter.

The initiation ceremony was gone through, the candidate being Bro. Harrington. The Lodge was called off and on. Bro. Bunce having been examined was entrusted, the Lodge was opened in the second degree, and the passing ceremony rehearsed. Lodge was resumed to the first degree.

Bro. Walter Atkinson, one of the shining lights of the Star Lodge, was elected to act as W.M. at the meeting on Saturday, 6th April, as the Preceptor always occupies the chair at this Lodge of Instruction when five meeting nights occur in the month, a regulation which many other Lodges of Instruction might adopt.

Woodrow Lodge, No. 2271.

ON Monday, at 3 o'clock, at Bro. Rudderforth's (Stone's) Restaurant, Pantons Street, Haymarket, Bros. J. E. Culverhouse W.M., B. A. Calot S.W., S. Firminger J.W., C. Woodrow P.M. Preceptor, W. H. G. Rudderforth P.M. Treas. acting Sec., G. Yeowell S.D., A. Elliott J.D., J. G. Lobb I.G., T. Grummant P.M., W. H. Making P.M., J. Francis, J. Cunningham, G. W. Lacy, J. Wynman, J. Williamson.

The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Lacy acting as candidate. The Lodge was opened in the second degree, and Bro. Cunningham answered the questions and was entrusted. The Lodge was advanced to the third degree, and the ceremony of raising was gone through. Both the ceremonies were exceedingly well rendered.

Bro. R. Williamson 1784 was elected a member, which compliment was acknowledged. Monday next being Bank Holiday there will be no meeting. Bro. Calot was elected W.M. for Monday, 15th inst.

Earl's Court Lodge, No. 2765.

ON Thursday, 14th ult., a well attended meeting took place at the headquarters, the Greyhound Hotel, Kensington Square, W. The chair was taken by Bro. Shiel Mussell, and the following were present: Bros. J. W. Heath S.W., H. G. Cox J.W., H. J. Cousens P.M. acting Preceptor, J. H. Cumming P.M. acting Sec., W. Todd-Lewis S.D., W. Binfield J.D., J. Gilbeart I.G., John Worth P.M., C. G. Hatt P.M., Joseph Cox P.M., and others.

The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Todd-Lewis acting as candidate. The W.M. gave the ancient charge in a faultless manner. Lodge being called off and on the W.M. vacated the chair in favour of a rising young Mason Bro. Binfield, who soon proved to those present that he had perfectly mastered the ritual. He examined and entrusted Bro. Hatt, and after opening the Lodge in the second degree rehearsed the passing ceremony. Bro. S. Mussell resumed the chair and the Lodge to the first degree.

Bro. Heath was unanimously elected to act as W.M. at the next meeting.

It was passed by acclamation that a vote of congratulation be recorded to Bro. J. Worth, on his being present for the first time since his serious accident.

ON the 21st., Bro. E. D. Richards W.M. of the Ranelagh Lodge, No. 834, who had been invited by the esteemed Preceptor Bro. John Worth to work the installation ceremony in its entirety, presided. The handsomely decorated and beautifully appointed room of the Greyhound Hotel in Kensington was filled. Bro. E. D. Richards was supported by Bros. W. Binfield S.W., Todd-Lewis J.W., John Worth P.M. Preceptor, H. J. Cousens P.M. Sec., J. Gilbeart S.D., Shiel Mussell J.D., R. R. Young I.G., A. J. Taylor Steward, S. J. Parker P.M., F. P. Langford P.M., T. W. Heath P.M., Arthur Williams P.M., J. H. Cumming P.M., E. G. Stevens, G. E. White, F. W. Smethurst, H. Stokes, J. E. Humphreys, H. G. Cox, A. J. Dalton, J. G. Phillips, H. J. West, and others.

Lodge was opened to the second degree, and Bro. Heath P.M. was presented and gave his assent to the qualifications. The Brethren below the rank of Installed Master were then requested to retire, and a Board of Installed Masters being formed Bro. Heath was inducted to the chair of K.S. with the usual formalities, and the Board was declared closed.

The Brethren of the different degrees being admitted, the salutes were given with particular exactitude, Bro. Richards acting as D.C. Bro. Stokes S.W. of the Ranelagh Lodge was invited to take the chair, and rehearse the investiture of Officers, and as this Brother will in a few weeks succeed Bro. Richards in the chair we venture to forecast a good year for the Ranelagh Lodge, for Bro.

Stokes is simply letter perfect in his rendering of all the ceremonies. Bro. Richards must be complimented on the impressive way in which he gave the three addresses. Bro. Heath resumed the chair, and Bro. Stokes having proved his efficiency the Lodge was resumed to the second degree and the passing ceremony was gone through.

Bro. Binfield was elected W.M. for the next meeting, and Bros. Richards, Dalton and Phillips, of the Ranelagh, and Bro. H. J. West of the Woodgrange Lodge, were elected members.

A vote of thanks was passed to Bro. Richards for his courtesy in attending, and Bro. Arthur Williams paid him a compliment by saying he had never heard the ceremonies better rendered.

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PROVINCIAL.

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Lodge of Integrity, No. 163.

IN consequence of an unusual amount of work being due at the last meeting, 27th ult., the members were summoned at an early hour of the day; still there was an exceptionally good attendance of Brethren.

After the reading and confirmation of minutes, Bros. Alfred Assheton Haigh and Henry Septimus Haigh were passed to the degree of F.C. by Bro. Robert Race Worshipful Master, a similar service being performed towards Bro. John Sydney Haigh by Bro. Edward Webb P.M.

These ceremonies were followed by the raising to the sublime degree of Bros. Joseph Allen and Julian Tilley Bee, the former being performed by Bro. John Studd P.M. P.P.G.D., and the latter by the W.M. Bro. Race presented and explained the working tools in both degrees.

At the festive board, Brother Studd proposed the health of the candidates, who responded.

Bro. Hy. E. Massie P.M. 1459 Senior Warden introduced the toast of the W.M. in glowing terms, and took the opportunity of referring to the very great interest which Bro. Race had always evinced in matters Masonic.

The W.M. responded in a somewhat lengthy speech, and introduced to the notice of the Brethren what was described on the summons as "a subject of special importance." He explained in a very interesting manner the object of the local Charities, and made an eloquent and impassioned appeal to the Brethren on behalf of the same. Personally he intended to qualify as a Steward and Life Governor in connection with the June Festival, and he sincerely hoped that every member of the Lodge would be in evidence as a subscriber to the funds, even if he did not go so far as to reach a Life Governorship.

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Centurion Lodge, No. 2322.

THE last meeting of the present session was held at the Victoria Hotel, Manchester, on Monday, 1st inst., Bro. Capt. Peter Nightingale W.M.

After the reading and confirmation of minutes, Bro. Reginald Brooke Lilly was passed to the degree of F.C. by the Worshipful Master.

Following the business of the Lodge was the usual festive board, a fair number of members and visitors being in attendance, among whom were Bros. Surg.-Lieut. J. Turville Smith J.W., Col. J. Howarth Clark, J.P., Treas. P.M. P.P.G.D., Major Fred. Pratt P.M. Sec., Capt. J. E. R. Hall S.D., Lieut. Arthur S. Pearce Std., Colonel John Eaton P.M. P.P.G.S.ofW. P.P.G.T., Colonel Henry L. Rocca P.M. P.P.G.J.D., Major George Kershaw P.M., Major T. W. Ashworth P.M., Capt. J. A. Kirkland. Visitors: Bros. Samuel Newton P.M. 430 Prov. J.G.D., J. W. Pollitt W.M. 430. J. B. Pownall P.M. 430 (Mayor of Ashton-under-Lyne), W. A. Wilkinson I.G. 430, and others.

The next meeting will take place on Monday, 7th October.

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Minnehaha Minstrel Lodge, No. 2363.

THE regular meeting was held at the Victoria Hotel, Manchester, on Monday, 25th ult., Bro. S. Harold Stubbs Worshipful Master, the principal business of the evening being that of balloting for Bro. Frank Septimus Rhodes, Solicitor, St. John Lodge, No. 325. The ballot was successful.

A supper followed Lodge business, which in turn was succeeded by the festive board, where Loyal and Masonic toasts were pleasantly relieved with songs, recitations, &c., contributed by Bros. F. Todd S.W., W. H. Purdy Org., Edwyn A. Smith P.M. P.P.G.A.D.C., the brothers Beswick, Edward Roberts P.M. Prov.G.Tlr.; Chapman, Howard, and others.

ENTERTAINMENT NOTES.

Comedy.—"Count Tezma," by Mr. Homer, the play with which Mr. Forbes Robertson will open this theatre on Saturday, 20th inst., is a romantic play in three acts, the action of which is laid in an imaginary province called Dalmania. The first act takes place in the castle of one Baron Festeron, in the mountains of Dalmania. The second is laid in Count Tezma's military quarters at the Palace of the Prince of Dalmania, and the final act in a villa of Count Tezma's. Mr. Forbes Robertson appears in the title role, and his wife, Miss Gertrude Elliott, will appear as the heroine (Ilona, niece of Baron Festeron). The general management continues in the hands of Mr. Robertson's Manager, Mr. Wilfred Cotton, and the Business Manager and Secretary will be Mr. J. E. Vedrenne, who has been for some time associated with the Comedy Theatre. Rehearsals of the piece are taking place this week at Cardiff, where Mr. Robertson is appearing at the Theatre Royal, in a repertoire of plays including "Hamlet," and the "Sacrament of Judas."

MASONIC CONSECRATION ODE.*

WRITTEN by special request of the Founders of the Defence Lodge, Calcutta, to be consecrated in April 1901; by BRO. DR. CHARLES FORSHAW, M.S.A., Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature, Fellow of the Royal Historical Society, &c.

Ye Brethren of the Mystic Tie
Who live for purpose pure and high;
Who dauntless, noble and erect
Love, fear and trust Heaven's Architect;
Who work and labour day by day
To drive some carking care away;
Whose aim in life—an aim thrice blest—
Is following the Divine behest;
Who walk the ways of Truth and Right
Where Darkness giveth place to Light:
Who speak for Wisdom, and imbued
With Prudence, Temperance, Fortitude,
Can ease the poor-forlorn, in grief
By whispering words which give Relief—
Words which are fluent with the Free
Words based on Love and Charity!
Ye Brethren—'tis to you I speak,
Whose very strength sustains the weak,
Whose actions show such lessons true
Such witness to the White and Blue,
That all the world example finds
And seeks the Tie that frees, yet binds!

* * *

To ye on this eventful day
I dedicate this heartfelt lay;
And should my lines to you impart
More reverence for our Royal Art,
Should they—Most High O aid me still—
Show more of God's most Holy Will,
And showing, make you love the more
The Great Creator we adore,
Then should I say my humble strain
Has not been writ for you in vain,
And to the Giver of all Good
Whence emanates the Brotherhood
Once more I'll bend the willing knee,
And thank Him for Freemasonry!

* * *

As Craftsmen be ye Just and Fair,
Acting to all, "Upon the Square";
Let Truth for ever foremost shine,
And Faith and Hope and Love combine,
To lead where Mercy's hallowed ray
Shows Justice pointing out the way,
Remembering One will still provide,
And prove a Friend when foes deride—
Relief He'll give when men chastise,
He'll succour, soothe and sympathise,
And pour the vials of His love
When Faith uplifts the heart above.
O never harbour thoughts of wrong
Our Mystic Tie is broad and strong,
And still Fraternal hands extend
To any who would hail you Friend!
Still make some wanderer's soul rejoice,
Led to the path by reason's voice,
Mindful that our Masonic ways
Are Highest Heaven's reflected rays,
That, as life's devious streets are trod
We never lose our Trust in God—
Owing Him first, we then shall be
Of His Great Guild for ever Free!

* * *

And ye who've formed this Lodge "Defence,"
Still look to His Omnipotence—
Your Country's cause and King defend,
Not force of arms alone befriend,
Befriend the honour of your name,
Loud let your works and ways proclaim
That slander's envious tongue is dumb,
That nothing servile here can come,
That e'en as all are in God's sight
Of equal rank if wrong they fight
So meet ye here as Brothers true,
With manliness to dare and do.
So that when Life's brief warfare's o'er,
Ye gather on that farther shore,
The good fight fought, the battle won,
You hear the Father's glad "Well Done"!
And joining all the ransomed blest,
You enter His Eternal Rest,
Your Labour o'er, earth's cross laid down,
Your wages paid—A Heavenly Crown—
A full reward for Victory—
I fervent pray—SO MOTE IT BE!

48 Hanover Square, Bradford,
24th March 1901.

* The Defence Lodge is for members of the Volunteer Forces in India—Cavalry, Infantry, Artillery, Naval, and Engineer.

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