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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

METROPOLITAN.

ATHENÆUM LODGE (No. 1491).—The members and friends of this flourishing lodge met on Saturday, the 3rd inst., for a summer day's festivity in the shape of a picnic in the charming locality of Burnham Beeches. Starting from Paddington at mid-day by special excursion carriages, the brethren and their lady relatives and friends, to the number of about fifty, arrived in good time at Taplow Bridge, where vehicles awaited to convey them to the charming scene of reunion, and there amidst the thick ferns and under the spreading arms of the grey giant monarchs of the forest, the venerable beech trees which have given a name to the lovely spot, a most sumptuous banquet appeared, springing from the earth as it were "As by the stroke of an enchanter's wand." The W.M., Bro. S. Poynter, having been duly inducted into an improvised chair, the brethren and their fair and tender belongings fell to with that hearty appetite which a drive through lovely scenery and pure air is well calculated to give. The scene was extremely pretty. The exquisite tints of the foliage, relieved and brought out by the silvery gray of the old beech bark, the snowy cloth with its glittering burthen, the gay dresses of the ladies, set off by the soberer hue of the garments of their lords, delighted the eye, while the good fellowship that prevailed, warmed the heart, and the ringing laughter and brisk "file firing" of the champagne corks, with the background of music, rendered by a grave minstrel in the shape of a very talented harpist, charmed the ear. A few toasts briefly given followed the repast. The W.M. gave "The Health of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen," with which, as usual, he coupled, "Prosperity to the Craft." "Success to the Athenæum Lodge" followed, and then "The Healths of the Committee of Stewards," who had so admirably organized the day's proceedings, and to which Bros. Lewis, S.D.; Heaton, Waterlow, Weiss, and Walsham appropriately responded. Bro. Weiss proposed "The Health of the Ladies," which was responded to by Mr. Geo. Grossmith, junr. (visitor), in a very humorous speech. Bro. John Hamer then proposed "The Health of the Day's Chairman," the W.M. of the lodge, in very complimentary terms, and combined with it that of "The Health of Mrs. Poynter," who was present, a toast that was very warmly received. Bro. Poynter having briefly responded on behalf of himself and lady, the brethren proceeded to enjoy a cigar and a stroll through the lovely woods until the time arrived again to take to the vehicles in order to proceed to Cookham Ferry, where boats had been chartered to convey the party down the river past the far-famed woods, from amidst which, raising its towers to the sky, peeps

"Clieveden's proud alcove,
 The bower of wanton Shrewsbury and love,"
 as Pope sings; but, alas! alas! Jupiter Pluvius determined to assert his right to sway an English July day, and jealous of the slight he had experienced in the morning, when everybody had come to the conclusion that he was not so very potent a deity after all, decreed a deluge. Only the few favoured ones who could find a shelter under the cover of the large barge essayed the water excursion. The remainder of the party clung to the vehicles, affording some little shelter, and drove back to Maidenhead Bridge, where, re-assembling, a cheery and grateful recourse to the "cup that cheers but not inebriates," a beverage ever welcome to our fair sisters, soon made matters look more bright and serene. The weather at length improving, permitted a lounge in the charming grounds of Flindell's Hotel, sloping down to the water, and then came the ride to the train, and the inevitable return to town after, notwithstanding the moist god's reminder, a very charming day, the complete organization of which it was universally admitted reflected the highest credit upon the self-constituted body of Stewards, and especially upon the two Honorary Secretaries, Bros. Heaton and Waterlow, two of the W.M.'s (Bro. Poynter's) most promising initiates. In addition to the names mentioned above, the party comprised Bro. Slyman, W.M. 753; Bro. Thompson, Maybury, 909; Bros. Simmons, Dodd, Emmanuel, Glenn, Johnson, Booth, Miller, and other brethren of No. 1491, and many visitors.

PROVINCIAL.

COLCHESTER.—ANGEL LODGE (No. 51).—On Thursday, the 24th ult. (the annual festival of St. John the Baptist), a large number of the brethren of the Angel Lodge assembled at the lodge-room, the Cups Hotel, on the occasion of the installation of the W.M. elect Bro. Alfred Welch. A goodly number of visitors from London and the province were also present. The splendid ceremony of installation was performed with great effect by W. Bro. Charles J. Martyn, P.G. Ch. of England, who received the hearty thanks of the brethren for his services. The W.M. then proceeded to invest his officers for the year as follows:—Bros. A. Welch, W.M.; C. Cobb, I.P.M.; G. Gard Pyc, S.W.; S. W. Crookes, J.W.; the Rev. C. L. Acland, Chaplain; Wm. Slaney, Treas.; Thos. J. Ralling, Sec.; Capt. Holroyd, S.D.; I. Harris, J.D.; John J. C. Turner, Organist; W. W. Daniell and T. A. Middleton, Stewards; Thos. Hanly, I.G.; Gunner, Tyler. Afterwards the brethren sat down to a magnificent banquet, served à la Russe by Bro. S. Bedford. The usual loyal, Masonic, and personal toasts were given and responded to in a manner not always equalled on such occasions, the W.M. especially obtaining the highest encomiums for his excellent speeches, which were as elegant in diction as they were truly Masonic in sentiment. Among the brethren present during some part, or the whole, of the proceedings, in addition to those before-mentioned, were:—Bros. R. Bolton-Barton, LL.D., P. Dist. G.M., Western India; J. W. Carr, P.G.S., P.M. 160; J. Terry, Sec. R.M.B. Institution; Vero W. Taylor, W.M. 1312; J. E. Wiseman, P.M. and Sec. 433; Geo. Glanfield, P.M. 328; J. Cornell, P.M. 114; Henry Miller, 114; N. Gluckstein, P.M. 185; Thos. Jerome, 697; F. Wright, 213, 697, 1500; Thos. C. Duri, 73; also the following brethren of Lodge 51:—W. P. Lewis, P.M.; S. Chaplin, P.M.; A. E. Church, P.M.; Thos. Rix, P.M.; W. A. Bowler, P.M.; F. F. S. Constant, C. E. Denton, H. H. Elwes, E. Hennemeyer, Ellis Kerry, Geo. Mercer, T. A. Middleton, J. F. P. Osborne, W. S. Sprent, A. R. Staines, and W. R. Willcocks. The musical portion of the proceedings was efficiently rendered by Bros. Cousens, Distin, and Donald King.

WINCHESTER.—LODGE OF ECONOMY (No. 76).—This lodge, the oldest but one in the province, had an interesting meeting on Wednesday, 30th ult. An interchange of Masonic courtesies between certain lodges in the province has of late been much on the increase, and all feel that each lodge is benefitted by such visits, and witnessing the work of other lodges. It produces a spirit of laudable emulation, and one result is that the ceremonies are carefully and efficiently worked. On this occasion the W.M., Bro. Salter, invited the Masters and officers of the neighbouring lodges in Southampton and Basingstoke to be present at the working of the three degrees. The ceremonies were ably gone through by Bro. Salter and his officers, all of whom appeared to be thoroughly at home in the details of the work. Five were raised to the Sublime degree, one passed to the Fellow Craft Degree, and three initiated into Masonry. Although this shows an influx of numbers greater than ever before known in this lodge, yet we believe that system of indiscriminate admission into Masonry, so justly complained of by "L of L" in the last number of the *Freemason*, was carefully avoided, and no one initiated who had not the genuine qualifications to justify admission into the Craft. It must not be forgotten, however, that the installation of the Prince of Wales as the Grand Master of Freemasons attracted the attention of all England, and the present desire to join the Masonic body is not confined to those whom it would be to the interest of Masonry to exclude; but doubtless this year will see a vast increase of members who are prompted by worthy motives, and who by their position and conduct will bring honour and credit to the Craft.

WHITEHAVEN.—SUN, SQUARE, AND COMPASSES LODGE (No. 119).—On Friday, 25th ult, Bro. Dr. Horan, P.S.W., was duly installed Worshipful Master of Sun, Square, and Compasses Lodge, in the presence of a large concourse of the brethren. The following members and visitors were present:—Members: Edward Atter, W.M. and P.G.P.; W. Alsop, S.W. and P.P.G.P.; Edward Tyson, J.W.; Rev. F. W. Wicks, Chaplain and P.G.C.; W. B. Gibson, Treas. P.M. 119, P.P.G.S.W., and P.G.S.; John Rothery, S.D.; Thomas Dawson, J.D.; James Cooper, Org., and P.P.G.O.; J. L. Paitson, I.G.; J. W. Montgomery, Steward; John D. Thompson, Steward; William Cowie, Tyler; John Barr, P.M., and P.P.G.S.B.; William Sandwith, P.M. and P.P.G.T.; G. W. Kenworthy, P.M., and P.P.G.J.W.; Edward Fearon, P.M. and P.P.G.D.C.; J. Spittal, P.M. 872, and P.P.G. Superintendent of Works; James Sugden, George Fitzgerald, Richard Watson, Joseph Fisher, W. F. Hunter, Edward Fletcher, William Pagen, James S. Wilson, Thomas C. Windross, W. H. Brunton, Richard E. England, Robert Bell, William White, Joseph Benson, Daniel Dickinson, John J. Atkinson, John J. Bryden, Augustus Helder, Henry Hampton, George Ryrie, Joseph Dixon, William Poyle, John Moffat, J. Thompson, John Milligan. Visitors: Joseph Nicholson, P.M. 371, and P.P.S.G.W.; James Porter, P.M., P.G.S.W., and P.G. Treas., and W. H. Hoodless, S.W. St. John's Lodge, 327, Wigton; W. F. Lamonby, W.M., John Holloway, and H. Wicks, Skiddaw, 1002, Cockermonth; George Glass, Zetland, P.J.W., D.G.D.C.C., 525; Rev. W. Beeby, W.M. 371, William Armstrong, P.M. 371, and A.G.D.C., and Joseph Abbott, 371, Maryport; R. F. Taylor, S.W., Hartington Lodge, Barrow-in-Furness, 1021; John Huddleston, W.M. 872, E. G. Hughes, P.M. 872, and P.P.A.G.D.C.; C. Morton, P.M. 872, and P.P.G.S.W.; Thomas Atkinson, P.M. 872, and P.G.S.; and Alexander Hardie, 872; William Gaspey, Greta Lodge, 1073, Keswick; Edward Clark, S.W.; J. B. Mossop, J.W.; H. L. Ellis, John Eilbeck, and J. B. Cooper, Kenlis Lodge, 1267, Egremont; G. L. Archibald, W.M.; James J. Beattie, P.M.; Joseph Wood, Secretary; C. B. Pitblade, S.W.; and W. T. Sands, Sun

and Sector, 962, Workington; J. W. Young, 962, P.M. 1400; William Carlyle, T. 962, 1400; Tom Dixon, Secretary, Curwen Lodge, 1400. The lodge was opened shortly after three o'clock, by Bro. Edward Atter, the retiring W.M., and the ceremony of installation was performed by Brother Kenworthy, P.M. 119, P.P.G.J.W., and Brother W. B. Gibson, P.M. 119, P.P.G.S.W. and P.G.S., in their usual masterly style, Brother Cooper ably conducting the musical part of the proceedings. Brother Horan, upon being installed, was warmly greeted by the brethren. At the conclusion of the ceremony the Worshipful Master appointed his officers as follows:—Bros. F. W. Wicks, S.W.; T. Dawson, J.W.; Paitson, S.D.; Milligan, J.D.; W. B. Gibson, Treasurer; F. W. Wicks, Chaplain; Montgomery, I.G.; J. D. Thompson, D.C.; Hunter and Patterson, Stewards; Cowie, Tyler. The lodge was formally closed a few minutes before five o'clock, when, upon the invitation of the newly-installed W.M., the brethren repaired to the banquetting-room, where an elegant dinner awaited them.

WARRINGTON.—LODGE OF LIGHTS (No. 148).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Rooms on Monday 28th ult. The W.M., Dr. Bowes, P.M., P. Prov. G. Reg. Cumberland and Westmorland, was supported by Bros. W. H. Robinson, S.W. Thos. Tunstall, J.W.; John Harding, I.P.M.; Joseph Pickthall, S.D.; John R. Young, J.D.; C. E. Hindley, I.G.; R. G. Stringer, P.M.; W. Sharp, P.M., Treas.; W. Richardson, P.M., W.M. 1250; Charles Skinner, Peter Jones, Thos. Jones, Thos. Grime, Geo. A. Clark, John Pierpoint, J. H. Patten, Thos. B. Carter, Thos. Mee Pattison, Org.; C. Ekkert, Jno. Armstrong, James Bayley Thos. Jones, Jas. Paterson, J. J. Thompson, James Hannah, Tyler. Visitors—Bros. R. Rigby, W.M. 758; John Fothergill, P.M. 1120; P. J. Edelsten, W.M. 1134; D. W. Finney, P.M. 148; W. S. Hawkins, P.M. 1250; E. Aston, S.W. 758; Jas. Warburton, J.W. 758; W. R. Waas, I.G. 758; W. McClellon, 758; and W. Tongue, 978. The lodge was opened in due form with prayer, when the minutes of the previous meeting were read and declared to be correctly recorded. Bro. James Paterson having claimed preferment, and his claim being efficiently proved, he was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree. Bro. Paterson re-admitted and passed by the W.M., who also delivered the lecture on the Tracing Board of the Second Degree. The working tools were presented by the S.W., Bro. W. H. Robinson. The lodge was closed in the Second Degree. Three gentlemen were proposed as fit and proper persons to be received into the Order. Bro. Robert Gibbons, who was elected an annuitant of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution at the recent meeting, was unanimously elected an honorary member of the lodge. Hearty good wishes were tendered by the visitors, and the routine business having been completed, the lodge was closed in solemn form, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment.

STONEHOUSE.—LODGE OF SINCERITY (No. 189).—The brethren of this lodge met in large numbers at St. George's Hall, Stonehouse, to witness the installation of the W.M. elect, Bro. Alfred Latimer, and the attendance was augmented by the presence of many visiting brethren. Amongst those attending were—Officers of Sincerity: J. E. Curteis, W.M.; A. Latimer, S.W.; T. Waldo How, J.W.; R. H. Rae, Sec.; T. S. Bayly, Treas.; J. E. Moon, S.D.; T. W. Leston, P.G.C., J.D.; W. Tester, I.G.; C. Croydon, S.; Past Masters I. Latimer, I.P.M.; R. Robinson Rodd, J. Sadler, J. Dampney, and J. Head; members, G. H. Evans, H. Horton, G. R. Bassett, A. Ralph, J. Lewis, H. C. Fitzgerald, J. P. Latimer, Elliot Square, E. Holberton Edlin, and T. W. Hussey. Visiting brethren—R. Rodda, 105, P. Prov. G.R.; C. Rodda, 105; W. Luxon, 1205; J. K. Lord, P.M. and Treas. 1247; J. May, P.M. 223; E. Martin, I.P.M. 1212; F. Aubrey Thomas, P.M. 1247, P.G.S.D.; H. S. Hill, J.D. 223; R. Franklin, P.M. 1 (Ireland); W. Harris, S.W. 1205; J. W. Cornish, P.M. 223; and others. The minutes of the last regular meeting, including a vote for the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys at the forthcoming festival, of which Bro. Curteis has accepted the office of Steward, were read and confirmed. The ballot was then taken for Bros. Edlin and Luxon as joining members, which proved all clear, and it being the case when it was subsequently taken for Messrs. Coombes and Holmes, they were initiated into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry, the ceremony being performed by the W.M. in his usual excellent and impressive manner. Bro. Curteis then presented the lodge with a large photograph, handsomely framed, of the members of Sincerity who had attended the installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales as M.W.G.M. The Senior P.M., Bro. Rodd, paid a high tribute to the ability and courtesy that had characterized Bro. Curteis's conduct in the chair for the past year, and proposed a resolution, not only recognising his services, but thanking him for his gift. This, most cordially seconded by Bro. I. Latimer, I.P.M., P.G.J.W., &c., was carried by acclamation; and after Bro. Curteis had in feeling terms acknowledged the vote, Bro. Rae, Sec., gave notice of a motion having for its object the presentation of Bro. Curteis with a Past Master's jewel, or some other tangible recognition of his eventful Mastership. For the ceremony of installation a numerous Board of twelve Past Masters was constituted. The entire work was undertaken by Bro. Curteis, who won the admiration of all by his highly successful realization of the beauty and impressiveness of the ceremonial. The newly installed W.M. invested his officers as follows:—J. E. Curteis, I.P.M.; T. Waldo How, S.W.; J. E. Moon, J.W.; T. S. Bayly, Treas.; R. H. Rae, Sec.; Rev. T. W. Lemon, S.D.; G. Jackson, J.D.; C. Croydon, I.G.; Col. Fitzgerald, D.C.; Horton, O.; T. W. Hussey and J. Fouracre, Stewards. At the conclusion of the ceremony the brethren adjourned to an adjoining room and partook of a cold collation. The speeches following were hearty, cordial, and brief. "The Queen," and "The Prince of Wales, G.M. of England,"

having been honoured, the W.M. gave, in terms fully appreciative of their high qualities, "The P.G.M. and the D.P.G.M. of Devon, Provincial Officers Past and Present." W. Bro. I. Latimer made the response, highly eulogizing R. W. Bros. Huyshe and Metham for that work and example which would outlive them many a year. The toast of the evening, "The Newly Installed W.M.," was given in a few complimentary sentences by Bro. Curteis, and Bro. A. Latimer in his response spoke of the confidence he felt owing to the presence in the lodge of such efficient Past Masters and officers. Bro. Curteis and the W. brother from Ireland responded for "The Past Masters," and Bro. Rodda, in a suggestive speech, for "The Visitors." At the suggestion of P.M. Rodd, the officers of Sincerity Lodge were toasted, the respondents being Bros. Rae, How, and Moon; and with "Our Newly Initiated Brethren" and "Our Poor and Distressed Brethren, wherever dispersed, speedy relief to them," a pleasantly spent evening was brought to a close.

WINDSOR.—ETONIAN LODGE OF ST. JOHN (No. 209).—This lodge met on the 1st June, when the W.M., Bro. John O. Carter, was supported as follows:—Bros. Denuc, S.W.; Strange, P.M., P.P.G.S.D., Berks and Bucks, Secretary; Hume, J.D.; Roberts, I.G.; Schiemann, D.C.; Nicholas S. Dixon, P.G.D.C. Berks and Bucks I.P.M.; Wilson, P.M.; Duffield, Whistler, Prince, Willoughby, &c., &c. Visitors. Tolley, P.G.J.D., Berks and Bucks, P.M. 771; Land, W.M. 742; Faulkner Lee, 404; Ritchie, 145; Johnson, 771. The principal business of the evening was raising Bros. Prince and Willoughby to the Third Degree, which ceremony was performed by the W.M., and the initiation of Mr. Joseph Legge, by Bro. Wilson, P.M. The brethren also unanimously elected Bros. Gray and Cobbett as joining members. The W.M. called the attention of the brethren to the fact that since the last meeting a Provincial Grand Lodge had been held at Aylesbury, at which the Provincial Grand Master had invested Bro. Dixon, I.P.M. with the collar and office of P.G.D.C., and proposed that a vote of congratulation to Bro. Dixon should be recorded on the minutes. This was seconded by Bro. Denne, S.W., and carried unanimously. The W.M. alluded to the remarks of the Provincial Grand Master at the Provincial Grand Lodge at Aylesbury, with respect to all the lodges in the province subscribing to the Provincial Grand Lodge Charity Fund, and gave notice that at the next meeting he would submit a scheme, the object of which would be, that this lodge should contribute with the other lodges in the Province, which he trusted would be acceptable to the brethren. Two candidates, one for joining and the other for initiation, having been proposed, the lodge was closed with solemn prayer.

LIVERPOOL.—MERCHANTS' LODGE (No. 241).—In point of influence and popularity the Merchant's Lodge occupies a position second to none in the Province of West Lancashire, and therefore the annual summer festival, celebrated on Tuesday, the 22nd ult., at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, was as brilliantly successful as the standard of the lodge fully merited. The success was not due alone to this fact, however, but also to the great popularity of the in-coming W.M., Bro. Richard Brown, who is universally esteemed by every brother in Liverpool, for his many amiable and excellent social qualities of mind and heart, and also for the indefatigable zeal and untiring anxiety he has displayed in connection with the advancement of true Masonry. Since the death of the lamented Bro. Captain Mott, the position of Honorary Secretary to the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution has been filled by Bro. Brown, who has displayed a tact and energy in that capacity which have maintained and even advanced the position of the excellent institution. The meeting of the lodge was fixed for half-past ten o'clock, and punctually the business of installation was proceeded with. The lodge was duly and solemnly opened by Bro. W. M. Chudley, the retiring Worshipful Master, who was supported by the following officers:—Bros. J. Cobham, P.M.; J. W. Baker, P.M.; Ralph Robinson, P.M.; J. I. Knight, P.M.; R. Brown, S.W.; G. Hutchin, J.W.; S. J. McGeorge, P.M., Treas.; G. Peet, Sec.; J. Winsor, S.D.; T. C. Jones, J.D.; G. Broadbridge, P.P.G.D.C., P.M., D.C.; F. E. Smith, Org.; T. H. Sheen, I.G.; P. Ball, Tyler. The members present were Bros. J. M. Hewitt, H. Newton, B. Woolf, T. Salter, John Winsor, W. M. Norbury, H. Anderson, A. Vandyke, R. Jones, W. J. Lunt, P.M. 823; T. M. Stanbury, W. Williamson, J. Brown, G. W. Hughes, W. Williams, J. Hall, D. Martin, T. Redding, W. Hopps, Wm. Johnson, S. Jacobs, A. Woolrich, J. Kirwin, G. J. Jones, W. Savage, D. C. Marks, M. de Frece, W. J. Raverty, J. Pick, D. Hughes, A. Morison, P. Madge, L. de Jongh, G. Halse, J. Latta, &c. The visitors present were Bros. J. Skeaf, P.G.O.; W. Doyle, P.G.J.D.; J. Lunt, P.G.S., P.M. 1086; W. Laidlaw, P.P.G.S.B., P.M. 216; J. Banning, P.P.G.O. Cumberland and Westmoreland; R. Washington, P.M. 1094; the Rev. Dr. Hyde, Chaplain 1086; J. W. Ballard, W.M. 724; W. Jones, P.M. 220, W.M. 1299; J. Evans, W.M. 220; T. Fozzard, P.M. 1035; E. Johnston, W.M. 203; G. Turner, P.M. 823; H. Nelson, P.M. 673, W.M. 1505; T. O. G. Bark, W.M. 1380; W. Vines, P.M. 220 and 1299; H. Hunt, W.M. 594; T. K. Hughes, P.M. 1013; W. B. Caw, W.M. 786; J. Beesley, P.M. 216; M. Corless, W.M. 673; W. Shortis, P.M. 724; J. Wood, Treas. 1094; J. S. Cuthbert, 823; J. Keel, 1356; D. Campbell, 216; G. G. Walmsley, 292; W. Troughton, 1013; H. Burrows, 673; E. Ford, jun., Sec. 1380; G. Fowler, S.W. 216; J. T. Aeston, 203; R. Bennett, S.W. 1299; W. Levy, 1502; N. Turner, 1356; A. Strother, 823; J. E. Jackson, S.W. 667; J. F. Hall, 673; D. Meek, 203, &c. After the opening, the confirmation of the minutes, and the transaction of some formal business, the chair was taken by Bros. Ralph Robinson, P.M. 241 and W.M. of the Lodge of Israel, No. 1502, who proceeded to instal Bro.

Richard Brown in the position of W.M. for the ensuing year. The ceremony is at all times impressive and beautiful, but when performed in the most masterly manner in which Bro. Robinson did it admiration becomes increased. It is no exaggeration to say that the whole ceremony was performed in a style which has rarely been equalled, and could not have been excelled, and Bro. Robinson gave another proof of his capabilities as an apt Masonic student. The following brethren were invested officers of the lodge:—Bros. Chudley, I.P.M.; G. Broadbridge, P.P.G.D.C., P.M., D.C.; G. Hutchin, S.W.; G. Peet, J.W.; Dr. McGeorge, P.M., Treasurer; J. Winsor, Secretary; T. C. Jones, S.D.; T. Sheen, J.D.; T. Slater, I.G.; F. E. Smith, Org.; and P. Ball, Tyler. Before the lodge was closed a chaste P.M.'s jewel was presented to Bro. W. M. Chudley, I.P.M., on his retirement from the chair, by the brethren of the lodge. The presentation was made by the W.M., who briefly referred to the services of the I.P.M., and Bro. Chudley, in acknowledging the compliment, said he would reserve his remarks until a later period in the day. As the first act of the year of office, Bro. Brown, W.M., subsequently initiated the Rev. J. O'Reilly into the mysteries and privileges of the Order, and the effective way in which the ceremony was performed augurs well for the efficiency of the working during the coming year. The lodge was then closed, and after partaking of luncheon the brethren proceeded by the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway to Birkdale, near Southport. It may be noted, as another evidence of the famed liberality of this company, that, although one hundred special passengers were guaranteed, they positively refused to grant the slightest concession in the fares. The "kindness" of the company was thoroughly appreciated, and will, doubtless, be remembered by Masonic travellers. The banquet took place at the Palace Hotel, Birkdale, at four o'clock, when upwards of one hundred sat down to splendidly laid out tables, profusely decorated with flowers, and bearing all the rarities of the season. The quality of the banquet and the manner in which it was served reflected the highest credit upon Bro. Clarke, the manager of the hotel, giving complete satisfaction to every one. When dessert was placed on the table, the W.M. rose and said he was sure the wishes of the brethren would be best consulted if he made the toast-speaking as brief as possible, the weather outside being so genial and inviting. In giving "The Queen," the W.M. said she took the greatest interest in the working of all their institutions, and patronized their charities in the most practical way. The toast was received with great enthusiasm, renewed when Bro. P.M. Robinson sang the "National Anthem." In giving "The M.W.G. Master, Bro. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales and the M.W. Pro G. Master, the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon," the W.M. said that if any toast evoked enthusiasm it should be this. Never in the history of the Craft was Freemasonry so popular, the acceptance of office by the G.M. doing so much to set aside the false impression which another event might have created. It was his pleasure to be present recently at the Albert Hall, and he must confess that he went there with a feeling that the acceptance of the Grand Mastership by the Prince of Wales would be merely of an ornamental character; but this feeling was entirely changed when he saw his working, and he felt proud they had such a Grand Master. He was most efficiently supported in office by the Earl of Carnarvon, who was noble by birth and noble by act. The W.M. next gave "The R.W. Deputy G. Master and P.G.M. of West Lancashire, Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, and the Grand Officers, Past and Present." In the history of the Craft he said, West Lancashire had reason to be proud of many achievements in Masonry, and it must have given every brother the greatest pleasure when their P.G.M. was appointed the Deputy G.M. of England. They had all seen his lordship at work—they all knew how he had Masonry at heart; and many would remember the ringing cheer with which he was received when chaired by the G.M., especially from the brethren of West Lancashire. In submitting "The W.D.P.G.M., Bro. the Hon. F. A. Stanley and the Officers of P.G. Lodge, Past and Present," Bro. Brown, said the history of the House of Stanley in that country was well known, and that they had a scion of that noble family as the Deputy Prov. G. Master must be a source of gratification to every brother. Inasmuch as they had come to the close of the toasts of their "Masonic rulers, supreme and subordinate," he (the W.M.) did not think it out of place to remind those present, that these exalted brethren filled offices which were of no mythical character; they had work to do, which they did, and did well—so well that not a speck now appeared on the horizon. The toast was acknowledged by Bro. J. Lunt, P.G.S., who briefly thanked the brethren for the enthusiastic manner in which the toast had been received. The W.M. in proposing "The Masonic Charitable Institutions," specially referred to the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution, the Hamer Benevolent Fund, and the London Charities, stating that one of the P.M.'s of the Merchants Lodge (Bro. Broadbridge) was going up as one of the Stewards' at the approaching festival in connection with the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys' with a good round sum. He (Bro. Brown) had frequently spoken of the West Lancashire Educational Institution, and during his year of office he should like the subscriptions to be as large as heretofore. The Merchants' Lodge had to record many good deeds well done, but no laurels were so bright as this noble institution. Bro. R. Wilson, P.M., Hon. Treasurer to the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution, responded to the toast, making an eloquent appeal on behalf of the charity. It had greatly prospered in 1874, and he had no doubt that it would continue to do so in the future. He must however, draw the attention of the brethren to the fact that although the funds of the institution were increasing in a very rapid manner, it was only now that they began to feel that the applicants for its benefits were increasing in

a greater proportion year by year. He would also remind the brethren that their object was not merely to accumulate funds in connection with the charity, but to dispense these funds in such a manner as they ought to do, and their greatest success ought to be sought in having as many children on the foundation as deserved the benefits. He pressed a hope, that, through the liberality of the brethren, the accumulated fund would shortly be £20,000, and that they would be able to educate and clothe 260 instead of 60. Bro. Laidlaw, P.P.G.S.B., P.M. 216, responded on behalf of the Hamer Benevolent Fund, and said, like himself, it was a very juvenile one. Although it had only been in existence for a couple of years, it was an institution which would reflect credit upon West Lancashire, its object being to give annuities to old and decayed Freemasons. After detailing the history of the fund, and alluding to the present state of the finances, Bro. Laidlaw concluded by expressing a hope that it would meet with the hearty support of the brethren in that province. Bro. Broadbridge, P.M., responded on behalf of the London Charities. He remarked that it was somewhat of a misnomer to call them "London Charities" as they were as much open to the brethren in the provinces of those who resided in the metropolis, so long as they gave them hearty support. He assured the brethren that it gave him the greatest pleasure to go up as one of the Stewards at the festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and he cordially thanked the Masons of Liverpool for having entrusted him with the handsome sum which he would be able to take up. East Lancashire was in a position to say that they would elect any three they might send up, and he thought West Lancashire should strive to be in a like position. With regard to the Old Men's Institution the brethren of West Lancashire were in a better position, as only last month they had elected two candidates, making five from this province. As they had a balance of about £12,000 to the credit of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution, he trusted the brethren would turn their attention to the London Charities. Bro. R. Wilson, P.M., next proposed "The Worshipful Master," and said that Bro. Brown had been elected with wonderful unanimity to that office. He thought the choice an exceedingly happy one. In Bro. Richard Brown they had one who would do the lodge infinite credit. As a business man, a man of intelligence, and a Masonic worker, they had every faith in him, and he thought they might safely look forward to a prosperous and pleasant year. The toast was received with immense enthusiasm. In reply, the W.M., who was cordially cheered, said that some one had told them that language was made to conceal their thoughts, but he must confess that in rising to thank them for the very wonderful way in which they had been pleased to receive the mention of his name he certainly lacked the power of language to express his thoughts on that occasion. That moment vividly recalled to his mind the time when he stood up to answer the toast of "The Newly Initiated Brethren," and, amidst all the bewilderment with which he was then surrounded, he could just say that all he had seen was but an example of what was coming, and of the great pleasure in store. He now felt bound to say that from that moment to the present he had never seen anything which had caused him to regret his entrance into Masonry. To him it had proved a great blessing, having cemented many friendships which already existed, and fostered others which were of recent growth. Although not rich in this world's wealth, he was rich in his desire to do good to his fellow-men, and in accepting the Secretaryship of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institute, he did so from a desire to be useful in his day and generation. They had conferred another honour by placing him in the chair of the lodge unanimously. To be the W.M. of any lodge is indeed a proud privilege, but to be the W.M. of one's mother lodge, and following in the footsteps of many worthy Masons was indeed what he most sincerely valued. His election had been accompanied by so many congratulations on every side, both from within and without the lodge, that his soul had been filled with joy, and if he failed to express his feelings in words, he must ask them to look to his deeds in the coming year. The toast of "The Visitors," proposed by the W.M., was responded to by Bro. Captain Turner, P.M. 823, and Bro. Councilor, 216. "The New Initiate," also given by the W.M., was responded to in eloquent terms by Bro. the Rev. J. O'Reilly. The W.M. said there was no toast, he was sure, which would meet with a more hearty response than that of "Bro. Robinson, the Installing Master." As a P.M. of the lodge he had been long respected, and in connection with the Lodge of Instruction, he had done very much valuable work. They would long remember the wonderful way in which the installation ceremony of that day had been performed, and the masterly perfection with which he conducted the instruction lodge. He (Bro. Brown) had listened to the installation ceremony with the deepest interest, and he was sure that no brother had Masonry more at heart than Bro. Robinson. In reply, Bro. Robinson expressed the great pleasure it had given him to instal Bro. Brown, for whom he had the very highest respect. If he (Bro. Robinson) had done his work in a manner which had given them satisfaction he felt amply repaid, and he felt certain that the accession of Bro. Brown to the Master's chair would give additional prestige to the Merchants' Lodge, and prove satisfactory to every brother. "The Worshipful Past Masters," given by Bro. Brown, W.M., was responded to in happy terms by Bro. W. M. Chudley, I.P.M. "The Officers," given by the W.M., was responded to by Bro. G. Hutchin, S.W., and Bro. Councilor G. Peet, J.W. The "Tyler's Toast" brought the proceedings to a close, and the brethren returned to town at an early hour. During the afternoon between £30 and £40 was subscribed by the brethren for the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution.

LIVERPOOL.—MARINERS' LODGE (No. 249).—The annual summer festival meeting of this large and influential lodge was celebrated on Thursday, the 1st inst., and was greatly enjoyed by all who took part in it. A full day's programme necessitated an unusually early starting of the business portion of the proceedings. Accordingly the brethren were summoned to meet at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, at nine o'clock, and punctually at that hour the lodge was opened by Bro. John Hayes, the retiring W.M., who was supported by Bros. Dr. J. K. Smith, P.M.; Rev. P. Pinnington, P.M.; J. J. Rose, I.P.M.; H. P. Price, S.W.; B. R. Martin, J.W.; W. Hamilton, S.D.; W. Forster, J.D.; J. C. Robinson, I.G.; Rev. P. Hains, Chap.; W. G. Veale, Org.; F. Barnett, S.; J. Wood, S.; and Wm. H. Ball, Tyler. The members present during the morning were, Bros. T. L. Daniels, M. Davis, J. Cribbin, W. H. Vernon, E. Jones, H. Reed, J. Kittle, T. H. Hall, W. Corbett, C. J. Jones, J. P. Jones, T. Boden, J. Williams, T. Roberts, H. Rush, J. Lloyd, W. Bolitho, J. Savage, W. Goldstone, P. Ball, T. Grayson, W. Wilson, J. Wainwright, J. Whitnall, W. P. Corlett, J. Whalley, W. Williams, C. H. Foster, J. Croxton, P. Stern, E. Cargill, R. Carter, C. Warner, F. Cooper, R. Jones, J. T. Trewren, W. Yates, H. Hall, J. W. Stubbs, T. Status, J. Nicholas, &c. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, and Bro. J. Hayes, the retiring Master, proceeded to instal Bro. H. P. Price as his successor in the chair of W.M., the whole ceremony being given in a manner which reflected the highest credit upon Bro. Hayes. The following were the officers who were subsequently appointed, elected, and invested:—Bros. J. Hayes, I.P.M.; J. Lloyd, S.W.; the Rev. Philip Haines, J.W.; Dr. J. K. Smith, P.M., Treas.; M. Davis, Sec.; W. Hamilton, S.D.; W. Forster, J.D.; W. Garlick, I.G.; J. J. Rose, P.M., D.C.; W. G. Veale, Org.; F. Barnett, S.; and W. H. Ball, Tyler. On the motion of Bro. C. Leighton, one of the auditors, the accounts were taken as read and unanimously passed, and the lodge and other Committees were subsequently appointed. Bro. H. P. Price, W.M., then presented Bro. John Hayes, I.P.M., in the name of the members of the lodge, with a very chaste and handsome P.M.'s jewel, in token of the esteem felt for him after his year's valuable services in the chair. Bro. Hayes briefly thanked the brethren for their kind recognition of his services, and said the past year would long be remembered by him as one of the most pleasant in his life. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren proceeded to the landing stage, where they were joined by their lady friends and a very large number of brethren connected with the lodge, who had been unable to attend the morning's meeting. The party, numbering nearly 200, crossed the river to Woodside Ferry, from whence bus and rail conveyed them to Hoylake, and a pleasant walk across the fields brought them at last to West Kirby, the place selected for the scene of the picnic. The morning was bright and genial, but one or two showers during the afternoon rather damped the complete enjoyment of the "out." There was quite a round of amusements, however, and every one seemed to enter with zeal into the spirit of the picnic. Some rambled on the shore, others enjoyed themselves in dancing, while races, croquet, and other games were furnished for others. Thus the time passed very pleasantly until the time for returning came, and then the party started for Liverpool, arriving about half-past 10 o'clock. The catering at the West Kirby Hotel gave almost universal dissatisfaction, as it was neither ample nor well-carried out, not a few having to go without anything to eat.

WHITWORTH.—KEYSTONE LODGE (No. 363).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, June 23rd, at the New Inn, Whitworth, and there was a moderate attendance of the brethren. The lodge was opened at 7.15 p.m. by Bro. T. B. Ashworth, P.M. 367, 54, and 363, and the minutes of the previous lodge read and confirmed. The lodge was then opened in the Second Degree, when Bro. R. W. Schofield having presented himself, was examined, and retired. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree. Bro. R. W. Schofield was then admitted, and duly raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason by T. B. Ashworth, P.M., and deaconed by P.M. Dan Mitchell. The ceremony was performed in a very creditable manner. The lodge was then closed in the Third Degree. The lodge was also closed in the Second Degree. There being no other business, the lodge was finally closed at 8.45, and the brethren adjourned to banquet. After the cloth was removed the W.M. gave the usual toasts, commencing with "The Queen and the Craft." This was followed by "His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, M.W. Grand Master of England." The next was "The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, Right Worshipful Pro Grand Master, the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, Very Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers." The W.M. then gave "The Health of Le Gendre N. Starkie, Provincial Grand Master, East Lancashire." This was followed by "Bro. W. R. Callender, Deputy Prov. G.M." "The rest of the Prov. Grand Officers" was then given, and a number of other toasts were given, amongst which P.M. T. B. Ashworth proposed the health of R. W. Schofield, the newly-raised brother. In doing so he hoped he would distinguish himself in the knowledge of the principles of the Craft, as he had done by his untiring diligence and assiduity, in which he had won such distinguished honours for himself in college. The usual closing toast was given, and the brethren separated in peace and good fellowship towards each other, after having spent a very pleasant evening.

COLCHESTER.—UNITED LODGE (No. 697).—At the monthly meeting of this lodge, held on Friday, June 11th, a handsome gold Past Master's jewel was presented to Bro. the Rev. Eustace H. Crate, on his retirement from the W.M.'s chair. The jewel is inscribed as follows:—"Presented to Bro. the Rev. E. H. Crate by the brethren of the

United Lodge, 697, as a token of their appreciation of the zeal and ability displayed by him as W.M. Colchester, June, 1875." The W.M., Bro. R. A. Clench, in making the presentation in the name of the officers and the members, bore testimony, not only to the zeal and assiduity which the I.P.M. had displayed in the cause of Masonry, but to the excellent working of the lodge during his year of office, the rev. brother's tact and kindness being such as to make it easy to maintain discipline, yet promote unity and harmony amongst the brethren. Bro. Crate, who had been taken by surprise by the presentation, thanked the lodge in terms excellently suited to the time and the man, and promised that, no matter where he was to be found in future days, he should ever preserve the jewel as a memento of the respect and honour he had received from the lodge in which he had worked so pleasantly and harmoniously with the brethren. This being the last occasion on which many of the military brethren would attend the lodge (they being ordered away) some kindly expressions of sentiment and good will were exchanged.

WIMBORNE.—ST. CUTHBERGA LODGE (No. 622).—The brethren of this lodge met recently for the despatch of business, and, it being known the subject of the magnificent ceremony of the Installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales was to be brought forward by the W.M. for the information of those brethren who were not so fortunate as to be present, a full lodge assembled. The following officers were present:—Bros. J. W. Luff, W.M.; A. J. Budden, S.W.; J. Hammond, J.W.; J. Atkins, S.D.; Capt. Hereford, J.D.; Haylett, Wyke Smith, H. C. Burt, as I.P.M.; Rowe, E. T. Budden, Walter Fletcher, Smith, Secretary, besides other members of the lodge, and Bro. Edwin, a visitor from Lodge "Phoenix," 914, Jamaica. The lodge being duly opened, the minutes of the last lodge were read and confirmed. The Secretary read letters of apology for non-attendance from Bros. Heath and Wyndham. The ceremony of raising Bro. Wallis being over, and other business discussed, the W.M. graphically alluded to the Installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, which imposing ceremony, he said, would never be forgotten by those who had the good fortune to witness it. It was a great day, indeed, for the Craft when H.R.H. did it the honour to become its head, but greater, indeed, would it be for the noble Masonic charities. He believed it would be the means of adding thousands of pounds to the funds, and unite the brethren closer than ever, if that were possible, in the bonds of loyalty and charity. The enthusiastic reception H.R.H. met with was perfectly overwhelming and indescribable. The manner in which he went through the ceremony, and his part of it particularly as Most Worshipful Grand Master, was worthy of a Prince of his exalted position, and would inspire an additional warmth for their Royal Master and the Craft in the heart of every Mason. Loud and long was the genuine and hearty welcome when H.R.H. took his seat on the Masonic throne. Well might he say "It was a day and sight he should never forget," for it was such as no one who witnessed it could ever cease to remember. And could his Queen Mother but have seen it she would have rejoiced that her Royal sons had become such distinguished members of the loyal and charitable Craft, for he believed if even the Pope himself and his advisers had witnessed that most imposing ceremony and heard the beautiful music used on the occasion, as well as the admirable and eloquent address of H.R.H., they would not again let loose the unfounded, and he might say uncharitable, aspersions they have chosen on recent occasions to indulge in; but he was inclined to think his Holiness would recant, become one of them, and say, "As brethren let us dwell together in unity, loyalty, and charity." They could only be excused through their ignorance of this most excellent Order. The Masons most cordially thanked the Prince for doing them the honour to become one of them, and might the Great Architect of the Universe take him into His safe keeping during a long and happy life. The choice of all the grand officers he made must have been well considered; nothing could be better. That of the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor of that great and wealthy City of London was most gratifying, as his lordship takes every opportunity to promote every Masonic charity. The W.M. proceeded to say: "We have also to thank H.R.H. for doing our lodge the high honour to select Bro. Montague Guest, our I.P.M., to fill the office of his G.S.D., whose investment with the collar of office was a signal for general applause in that vast assembly, being sure evidence of the good choice H.R.H. had made, and the popularity of Bro. Guest, who on any occasion is ready to do good charity to the needy. We claim the Prince partly as a Dorsetshire man, and he did not forget our county on the occasion. Our Provincial Grand Master also paid our lodge a great compliment, in that he selected Bro. H. C. Burt as one of the Provincial Grand Stewards to represent our province on that occasion; so we, as a lodge, have good reason to remember that great day for Freemasonry—April 28th, 1875—and with H.R.H. say, our two watchwords are "Loyalty and Charity," and we assure him we shall never forget that day. The arrangements for the comfort of the brethren at Albert Hall were faultless, the decorations gorgeous, and reflected the highest credit on all those concerned, and must have been most gratifying to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, who was evidently moved by this as well as with the grand reception accorded him. Bro. H. C. Burt announced that the Festival of the Boys' School would take place on the 7th of July, should any of the brethren wish to be present. He will attend as Steward for the Province of Dorset, and he has collected the large sum of £600 in aid of this great charity. Truly his stewardship has been a faithful one. The W.M. stated that, in accordance with the wishes of the brethren, the lodge would not be summoned during the months of July, August, or September, unless business required it. The business of the evening being ended, the brethren assembled in the

large hall, where an excellent supper was provided by the W.M. in honour of the installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales as the M.W.G.M. of England. The usual loyal and Craft toasts were given and duly received, a special greeting being given to that of "The Prince of Wales." An agreeable evening was spent, all the brethren being well content that they had had their dues, and with the great progress of Freemasonry during the present eventful year.

APPLEBY.—EDEN VALLEY LODGE (No. 812).—On Wednesday, 30th ult., the brethren met to celebrate the anniversary festival of St. John the Baptist, and to instal the Worshipful Master for the ensuing twelve months. Their choice had fallen on Bro. Dr. Dinwoodie. There was a good gathering of the brethren, amongst them being Bro. the Rev. James Simpson, P.G.J.W., and Grand Chaplain of England. Bro. McMechan, W.M., St. John's Lodge, Wigton, was the acting Worshipful Master on the occasion. The first business before the lodge was to ballot for the joining members, Bro. the Rev. J. Holme, and Bro. the Rev. J. Baker, and the vote being unanimous, they were declared elected. The next business was to initiate Mr Richard Warton to the first degree in Freemasonry, which ceremony was gone through by Bro. McMechan, who opened the lodge up to the second degree, when the chair was taken by Bro. James Porter, P.M., P.G.S.W., and Bro. Dr. Dinwoodie was installed as W.M. of Eden Valley Lodge in Bro. Porter's usual finished and impressive style. Bro. Porter read a letter from Bro. Colonel Whitwell, D.P.G.M., who had been expected to be present, but who wrote regretting his inability to be present, but wished the brethren every success. The newly-elected W.M. then invested his officers as follows:—Bro. Fulton, I.P.M.; Bro. Thompson, S.W.; Bro. Parks, J.W.; Bro. Armstrong, S.D.; Bro. Thom, J.D.; Bro. Whitehead, Treasurer and Secretary; Bro. R. Wharton, I.G.; Bro. Martin Cousins, Tyler. The brethren afterwards dined together at the King's Head Inn, where an excellent dinner was prepared by Mrs. Rigg. An hour or so was spent in a very pleasant manner. The chair was taken by Bro. Dr. Dinwoodie, supported by Bros. Porter, McMechan, Whitehead, and Dr. Armstrong. The vice-chair was taken by Bro. Thompson. The meeting, altogether, was one of the most successful that has been held at Appleby for some time, and augurs well for the future of the old lodge.

MILLBROOK.—LODGE MERIDIAN (No. 893).—The brethren of this lodge met in their handsome new lodge-room, at Millbrook, on Monday evening, for the purpose of installing the Worshipful Master elect, the Right Hon. the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, P.G. Master of Cornwall. V.W. Bro. Wm. Veale, P.M., P.P.G.J.W., introduced his lordship, and V.W. Bro. E. J. Worth, P.M., P.P.G.J.W., impressively conferred the obligation. His lordship invested his officers for the year as follows:—Bros. J. H. Filmer, I.P.M.; E. J. Worth, P.P.G.J.W., S.W.; Captain H. O'Neil, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., J.W.; Wm. Veale, P.M., P.P.G.J.W., Treasurer; the Rev. T. W. Wintle, Chaplain; J. Henwood, Secretary; W. H. Bickford, P.M., P.P.G.S.D., S.D.; W. Harris, P.M., J.D.; W. H. Clarke, P.M., I.G.; W. Coath, P.M., D.C.; W. Cawse and S. Hutchings, Stewards; and Fisher, Tyler. His lordship then presented Bro. Filmer with a very handsome jewel, which had been unanimously voted to him by the brethren for his zeal and ability in conducting the business of the lodge during his year of office; and in doing so his lordship expressed the very great pleasure he felt in being able to give so good an account of his immediate predecessor in the chair. Bro. Filmer very feelingly returned thanks for the honour conferred, and expressed his wishes for the continued prosperity of the lodge under the direction of his lordship.

LIVERPOOL.—HAMER LODGE (No. 1393).—The annual installation meeting of this flourishing lodge, took place on Tuesday, June 22nd, at the Clarence Hotel, Everton Road, and was attended by a large number of Provincial Grand Officers and distinguished Masons of the province, and was certainly one of the most brilliant and successful gatherings which has taken place in this province for some years. The lodge was opened at 2 p.m. by the W.M., Bro. R. H. Evans, supported by the following officers, and about one hundred members and visitors.—Bros. John Jones, I.P.M.; Henry Jackson, S.W.; John McCarthy, J.W.; Chas. Tyrer, Treas.; W. T. May, P.M., Sec. pro tem.; Ed. Dutch, S.D.; Thos. Large, J.D.; Thos. Sammons, M.C.; Robert Price, I.G.; Robt. Leason, S.; W. G. Veale, Org.; M. Williamson, Tyler. Amongst the visitors present were—Bros. H. S. Alpass, Prov. G. Sec.; Thos. Armstrong, Prov. G. Treas.; Thos. Wylie, P.P.J.G.W.; Robt. Wylie, P.P.G.S.D.; Wm. Doyle, P.P.G.S.D.; Jesse Banning, P.P.G. Org., (C. and W.); the Rev. J. Rees Jenkins, Chaplain; 216; Dr. Wilson, W.M. 537; W. Hughes, W.M. 292; H. Nelson, W.M. 1505, P.M. 673; Thos. Ockleshaw, W.M. 667; E. O. C. Rothwell, W.M. 1356; John Jones, P.M. 216; R. W. Holt, P.M. 1276; Dr. Serjeant, P.M. 203; Dr. Samuels, P.M. 1350; Russell, P.M.; 292; Goodacre, P.M. 1086; A. T. Foy, P.M. 292; C. Leighton, P.M. 1325; Hocken, P.M. 673; Sinclair, P.M. 212; J. T. Callow, S.W. 1505, P.M. 673; W. A. Wilson, P.M. 203; W. Boulton, P.M. 823; Joseph Wood, Treas. 1094; T. Shaw, W.M. elect 823; Dr. Hall, J.W. 823; J. E. Jackson, S.W. 667; A. C. Wylie, Sec. 1299; John Capell, S.D. 1264, &c., &c. The chair was taken by Bro. H. S. Alpass, Prov. G. Sec., as Installing Master, and Bro. Henry Jackson, Worshipful Master elect, was presented by Bro. Robt. Wylie, P.P.G.S.D., and Bro. Wm. Doyle, P.P.G.S.D., to receive at his hands the benefit of installation. After the usual charges had been read and assented to, the brethren beneath the rank of Installed Masters were requested to withdraw. A board of Installed Masters was then opened, and Bro. Jackson was placed in the chair of K.S. and saluted in ancient form by the

W.M.'s and P.M.'s present (who numbered no fewer than twenty-five). On the re-admission of the brethren, Bro. Jackson, the Worshipful Master, was declared, and saluted in the usual manner, and according to ancient custom. The W.M. then proceeded to appoint and invest his officers as follows:—Bros. R. H. Evans, I.P.M.; J. McCarthy, S.W.; Ed. Dutch, J.W.; Charles Tyrer, Treas.; Thomas Large, Sec.; Thomas Sammons, S.D.; Robert Price, J.D.; Robert Leason, I.G.; John Price, M.C.; Thomas Brown, S.S.; Charles Phillips, J.S.; H. Hindle, Org.; M. Williamson, Tyler. We may mention that Bro. Alpass, Prov. G. Sec., performed the duties of Installing Master in a most impressive manner, and he was ably assisted by Bro. Robert Wylie, P.P.S.G.D., who gave the addresses to the officers with that grace and ability which he possesses in so marked a degree. The newly installed W.M. then proceeded to initiate Messrs. McMurphy and Cutler into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry, which he did in a thoroughly efficient manner, and he was well assisted by the newly appointed officers, who did their work in a manner which fully sustained the reputation for perfect working which this lodge possesses. After "hearty good wishes" the lodge was closed in due and solemn form by the W.M. The brethren then adjourned to "The Harrington," Harrington-street, where a most sumptuous banquet was prepared, the caterer being Bro. T. H. Bibby, who provided for the creature comforts of the brethren in a manner which gave the greatest satisfaction. Bro. H. Jackson, W.M., presided, supported on the right by the Provincial Grand Officers, and on the left by the Immediate Past Master, Bro. Evans. Grace having been said by Bro. the Rev. J. Rees Jenkins, the W.M. proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts. In proposing "The Health of Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M. of England, and Prov. Grand Master of West Lancashire," the W.M. said that he was sure that the toast would be most enthusiastically received, as many of the brethren present had had an opportunity of meeting his lordship in either Provincial Grand Lodge, Chapter, or other Masonic gathering, and they must have seen that he took a very great interest in Freemasonry, and he was sure that all the brethren of the province considered that the Most Worshipful Grand Master had made a wise choice in selecting the Prov. G.M. of this province as the Deputy Grand Master of England. In proposing "The West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institute for the education and advancement in life of the children of deceased Freemasons," the W.M. made a strong appeal to the brethren to become subscribing members to this Institution, which he characterized as one of the most deserving Masonic Charitable institutions with which he was acquainted, as it did its work unostentatiously, silently, but effectively, and was productive of more good than any one not acquainted with its nature and character could credit. Bro. H. S. Alpass, Prov. G. Secretary, responded, and in a lengthy and most eloquent speech, which was listened to with marked attention by the assembled brethren, reminded them that their duty as Masons did not only consist in attending the lodge meetings and to their various offices in Freemasonry, but also in giving freely and liberally, the utmost they could afford, not only to the local, but also to the London Masonic charities. In proposing "The Healths of the Installing Officers, Bros. H. S. Alpass and Robert Wylie," the W.M. thanked them, both on his own behalf and on behalf of the lodge, for their kind attendance, and for the admirable manner in which they had performed the ceremony of installation. Bro. Robert Wylie, P.P.G.S.D., responded in well chosen terms. The Immediate Past Master, Bro. R. H. Evans, then proposed "The Worshipful Master, Bro. H. Jackson," and said—We are met here to-day to celebrate a most important event in the annals of the Hamer Lodge. Few standing where I do now, and looking round upon this magnificent gathering, would think it possible that this lodge was only just entering upon the fourth year of its existence, but I feel sure that during the coming year the same success which has hitherto attended this lodge, will not only continue, but increase, more especially as the brother who has now the honour of presiding over you is not only the Worshipful Master by your unanimous vote, but he also occupies the position with the good feeling and affection of every member of this lodge, and he also possesses in a marked degree the necessary qualifications for such an important post, of which many of you are well qualified to judge, having had an opportunity of observing the undeviating care and attention he has paid to the interests of this lodge from its commencement. I am sure that in drinking his health you all sincerely and heartily wish him health and success and happiness during his year of office. The W.M., in responding, said: I am very grateful to you, brethren, for having unanimously elected me to the proud position of Worshipful Master of the Hamer Lodge. I consider it a very proud position indeed, to be the W.M. of such a lodge as the Hamer, but, at the same time, I am fully aware of its great responsibility, but I can assure you that it shall be my earnest endeavour on all occasions, and under all circumstances, during my year of office, to preserve the harmony, promote the prosperity, and sustain the dignity of the Hamer Lodge. I thank you most heartily for the very cordial and hearty manner in which you have received the toast of my health, and I trust that at the end of my year you will be able to say of me that I discharged the duties of the chair faithfully and zealously. I have now the pleasure of proposing "The Healths of my Predecessors, Bro. Evans, I.P.M., and Bros. P.M.'s May and Jones." I am sure, brethren, that you will agree with me that the I.P.M. has set me an example that I shall do well to follow in the manner in which he has filled the duties of the chair during the past twelve months, I feel satisfied that he carries with him the respect, esteem, and affection of every member of the

lodge, and the pleasing duty which now devolves upon me is strong evidence that such is the fact, and that duty is to present you, Bro. Evans, on behalf of the brethren of this lodge, with this magnificent jewel, one of the handsomest and most valuable that any W.M. has ever had the pleasure of placing upon the breast of his predecessor, and I trust, Worshipful Sir, that you may long be spared to wear it, and that you will always look upon it as a spontaneous and sincere token of the esteem and regard in which you are held by the brethren of the Hamer Lodge. (The jewel is of very beautiful design, and is set with five diamonds of unusual size and brilliancy). The W.M. next proposed "The Officers," complimenting them highly upon the manner in which they had that day performed their duties. Bro. McCarthy, S.W., in responding assured the W.M. that the officers would, if possible, during the coming year, improve upon the past. Bro. Dutch, J.W., responded in similar terms. The W.M. next proposed "The Visitors," calling upon the P.M. of the oldest, and the W.M. of the youngest lodge, present to respond. Bro. Jones, P.M. 216, and Bro. H. Nelson, W.M. 1505 responded, and both paid a high compliment to the lodge for efficiency and hospitality. After the healths of the "New Initiates" had been duly proposed and responded to, the Tyler's toast brought a most delightful day to a conclusion. During the evening the proceedings were enlivened by the recitations and songs of Bros. J. C. Cowper, Sinclair, Nicholas Jones, Veale, Roberts, Thomas, and others. The day throughout was a complete success, and the brethren separated, all of them expressing the opinion that they had never attended a more perfectly managed or enjoyable Masonic meeting.

BURY.—EGERTON LODGE (No. 1392).—At the meeting of this lodge, held at the Stanley Arms, on Wednesday evening, June 23rd, there were present Bros. R. Pilkington, W.M.; William Brown, S.W.; Joseph Metcalf, J.W.; William Burgess, S.D.; William Hutchinson, J.D.; Thomas Shaw, I.G.; George Brown, Tyler; William Shaw, Treasurer; Joseph Barlow, Secretary and P.M.; J. W. Crossley, P.M.; Visitor, S. J. Randall Fletcher, P.M. 191; and about 17 other brethren. Mr. John Agar, who had been unanimously balloted for at the previous meeting, but was not then able to attend, was initiated into the secrets of Masonry by the W.M., the charge being given by Bro. Thos. Shaw. The lodge was afterwards opened in the Second Degree, and Bro. Fred. Wilkinson was crafted by the W.M. There were two propositions for initiation. An excellent supper was partaken of by 28 brethren after the closing down, and a very jovial time was passed. Considering the amount of work in hand it is almost certain that the lodge will this year dispense with its summer vacation; in fact the present meeting was one over and above those specified in the calendar. At the various lodges in town there is a fair amount of work on the agenda papers, and a feeling seems to be growing that a vacation is not desirable in the face of so much business. This course has been adopted by No. 42, and possibly No. 1012 may follow suit. Certainly the fact speaks well for the progress which is being made in Bury. Bro. E. Simpkin, Secretary of Lodge of Relief, No. 42, issued circulars to the brethren, on the 25th June, intimating that at a meeting of Lodge 42, on June 17th, it was resolved that a monument be erected over the grave of Bro. J. S. Redfern, P.M. 42, and P. Prov. G.P., East Lancashire, "to commemorate the long and valuable services rendered by him to the brethren of this district." The W.M. (Bro. E. Eccles), Wardens, and P.M.'s were appointed a committee to carry out this resolution, and they knowing how highly Bro. Redfern's services have been appreciated, trust that this mention of them will secure a hearty and generous response to the solicitation for a subscription towards this desirable object.

HAMPTON COURT.—CAMPBELL LODGE (No. 1415).—The installation meeting was held at the Mitre Hotel, Hampton Court, on Wednesday, June 23rd. Present—Bros. Dr. E. Kimber, W.M.; D. M. Dewar, S.W. and W.M. elect; T. Keene, J.W.; T. Cubitt, P.M., P.G. Purst., Treas.; H. C. Levander, P.M., Sec.; T. Levander, J.D. and other brethren. Bros. Rountree, Jones, and Whittaker were passed, and Bro. Summers was raised. Bro. Dewar was then installed W.M. for the ensuing year, the ceremony being performed by our veteran Bro. F. Binckes. The W.M. appointed his officers: T. Keene, S.W.; A. J. Codner, P.M., P. Prov. Reg. Middlesex, J.W.; J. Levander, S.D.; Cole, J.D.; Johnson, I.G.; T. Cubitt, Treas.; H. C. Levander, Sec. A Past Master's jewel was voted to the I.P.M. The usual excellent banquet followed, and the brethren separated at an early hour.

ROMFORD.—LIBERTY OF HAVERING LODGE (No. 1437).—The brethren of this lodge held their annual meeting on Wednesday, the 23rd ult., at the White Hart Hotel, Romford, the principal part of the business being the installation of the Worshipful Master elect for the ensuing year. There was, however, plenty of other business before the lodge, viz.: balloting for joining members, the initiation of one gentleman into the mysteries of the Order, and advancing three brothers to the Third Degree. There was a large number of brethren present, amongst whom we noticed Bros. Joseph Tydeman, Worshipful Master; Edward West, S.W. and W.M. elect; John Josiah Wilson, I.P.M., P. Prov. G.S.D., Middlesex, W.M. 25, Prov. G.J.W., Essex, &c.; Brayshaw, J.W.; T. F. Bishop, Treas.; J. Ellis, Secretary; T. G. Day, S.D.; G. W. Patmore, J.D.; A. W. Naylor, I.G.; J. Garnett, W.S.; A. Knox, P.M.; A. Harvey; G. English, P.M.; W. Cobb, J. Wotton, J. Taylor, T. Osgathorp, Crozier, T. Hill, Beeson, W. Dilley, Playl, Early, Whisker, F. Smith, &c.; also the following visitors: Bros. J. W. Carr, Prov. G. Sec., Essex; Burton, Prov. G.T., Essex; Rev. Thomas Cochrane, P. Prov. G. Chaplain, Oxon, P.M. Westminster and Keystone No. 10; Robertson, W.M. St. John's Lodge, (No. 1343); W. Sackett, Secretary (No. 1343); Rielly, J.W. (1327); Malcolme, Secretary, (No. 1327); E. Price (No. 1327); A. Manning,

Henley Lodge (No. 1472); J. Ives, Henley Lodge (No. 1472); A. Bartlett, St. John's Lodge (No. 1343); W. Bradstock (No. 1327); Nicholls, P.M. St. John's Lodge (No. 1343); John Payne Cornwallis (No. 1107); F. T. Edgington, W.M. (No. 1321); J. Maller, W.M. High Cross Lodge (No. 1754); C. W. Ashdown, P.M. and Secretary (No. 1427); James Linzell, W.M. (No. 1327); James Knight (No. 1327); J. Church (No. 1327); and others. The lodge having been opened and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed, the ballot was taken for Bro. Manning, of the Henley Lodge (No. 1472), as joining member, and for Mr. Frank Smith for initiation, and proved unanimous in their favour in each case. The lodge was next opened in the Second Degree, when Bros. Whiskers, Early, and Playl being candidates for the sublime degree were questioned, entrusted, and retired, and the lodge being opened in the Third Degree they were re-admitted in due form and raised to the sublime degree of Master Masons. The lodge having been resumed to the First Degree, Mr. Frank Smith was initiated into the mysteries of the Order. Bro. Tydeman, the W.M., having performed the ceremonies of raising and initiation in a very impressive manner, now vacated the chair for the Junior Grand Warden of Essex, Worshipful Bro. J. J. Wilson, P.M., &c., who was present for the purpose of installing the W.M. elect for the ensuing year. The lodge having been opened in the Second Degree, Bro. F. West, S.W., was presented to the Installing Master, to receive at his hands the benefit of installation. The ceremony was most ably performed in the presence of a full board of Installed Masters—being another proof of the excellent abilities possessed by Bro. H. Wilson for Masonic duties, whose worth as a Mason is not only esteemed in Essex, Middlesex, Hertfordshire, and London, but also throughout the lodges of the Channel Islands, of which district he is also a Past Grand Officer. The W.M. having been saluted in the three degrees, proceeded to appoint and invest his officers in the following order:—Bros. J. Tydeman, I.P.M.; B. Brayshaw, S.W.; T. G. Day, J.W.; T. F. Bishop, Treas.; J. W. Ellis, Sec.; G. W. Patmore, S.D.; Naylor, J.D.; A. Knox, D.C.; Alfred Harvey, I.G.; J. Garnett, W.S.; W. Steedman, Tyler. Several letters were received expressive of regret from brethren unable to attend. Bro. J. Tydeman, I.P.M., proposed and Bro. Brayshaw, S.W., seconded, that a vote of thanks be accorded to Bro. Wilson, for the very able manner in which he had performed the ceremony of installation, and, being put to the meeting, it was carried most cordially and unanimously. Bro. Brayshaw, S.W., gave notice of motion that he should propose that the lodge do adjourn during certain months of the year, as may be agreed upon at the next meeting. The business of the lodge being over, the brethren adjourned to the banquet room, where an excellent repast awaited them, which reflected the greatest credit to the proprietors of the hotel, the wines, the dessert, and all else being exceedingly good. The toasts were given in the following order:—"The Queen and the Craft;" "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, G.M. of England," "The Earl of Carnarvon, Pro G.M.," "The D.G.M., Lord Skelmersdale, and the rest of the Grand Officers," "The Prov. G.M., Bro. R. J. Bagshaw," "The D. Prov. G.M. and rest of the Prov. G. Officers," responded to by Bro. J. W. Carr, Prov. G. Sec., and Bro. Burton, Prov. G. Treasurer, who after thanking the lodge on behalf of themselves, the Prov. G.M., D. Prov. G.M., and other provincial officers, passed some very flattering remarks upon the lodge, both for the excellent working of its officers and the prosperity it appeared to be making for so young a lodge. "The Health of the W.M." was proposed by the Prov. G. Sec., Bro. J. W. Carr, and responded to by Bro. West, W.M., in very suitable terms. "The Health of the newly initiated Brother" was responded to by Bro. Smith. The W.M. next proposed "The Health of the Past Masters," and said he should couple with the name of Bro. J. Tydeman, I.P.M., and in doing so he had a very pleasing duty to perform, which was to present Bro. Tydeman with a very handsome 18-carat gold Past Master's jewel, the gift of the lodge in appreciation of the excellent manner he had performed his duties as Worshipful Master during the past twelve months, and as a small token of their esteem. He hoped that Bro. Tydeman would live many years to wear it. He felt great pleasure in seeing Bro. Tydeman so well up in the duties and workings of the ceremonies, especially as he had himself some four or five years ago initiated him into the mysteries of the Order. For so young a Mason Bro. Tydeman had made great success. Bro. Tydeman, I.P.M., in responding, thanked the brethren for the very kind way in which his health had been proposed, also the officers and brethren for the assistance they had rendered him in carrying out the duties of his office during the past year, but more especially he thanked them for the proof of their kindness towards him by presenting him with the handsome jewel now upon his breast; it was not the intrinsic value of the jewel he cared for half so much as the pleasant recollections it would bring to his mind whenever he looked upon it. He should consider it a proof of the kind feeling of the brethren towards him. If he had done his best for the lodge it was enough for him to know that his endeavours had met with the approval of his brethren. There was one thing he had learnt during his year of office, which was that the position of Master of a lodge was one of greater responsibility than might at first be imagined; the great thing that was wanted was the co-operation of every member and officer,—each one must feel in earnest to make it a good lodge; no member, and especially the officers, should be absent from his lodge unless necessity really compelled. He begged of the officers to rally round the new Master they had been fortunate in getting, one who had distinguished himself in the Craft, and was not wanting in ability. All that was required to make his year a successful one was the hearty support of all his officers at every meeting. "The Health

of the Visitors" was responded to by Bro. Linzett, P. Prov. G.D.C. Middlesex; he said that the hospitable way in which visitors were always treated at this lodge must make it a pleasure to all (as it did with himself) to attend their meetings. The Officers, responded to by Bro. Naylor, J.D., and Bro. Ellis, Secretary; after which the Tyler's toast brought a most enjoyable meeting to a close. The evening was enlivened by some excellent singing.

MOLD.—SIR WATKIN LODGE (No. 1477).—On Monday, the 21st June, Bro. Horatio Lloyd, P.M., P.S.G.W. of Cheshire, County Court Judge for North Wales, and Recorder of Chester, was installed W.M. of the Sir Watkin Lodge, No. 1477, at Mold, North Wales. In consequence of the general respect and esteem in which Judge Lloyd is held, a dispensation had been obtained for holding the lodge in a large room in the Market Hall, where a larger number of members and visitors could be accommodated. Since the present W.M. has been appointed County Court Judge for the principality, he had taken up his residence near Mold. The Sir Watkin Lodge has only been established about a year and a half, during which time Bro. J. Salmon, P.S.G.B., North Wales, and P.G.S.D., Cheshire, has been the W.M. Upon this occasion the retiring officers of the lodge were Bros. J. Corbett, J.W.; S. Beresford, Sec.; Rev. — Edwards, Chaplain; Algernon Potts, S.D.; J. Williams, J.D., P.G., Org.; J. D. Birch, I.G. There was an excellent attendance of members of the lodge and of visiting brethren. Among the latter were Bros. A. F. Watts, P.M., Abergele; W. Johnson, W.M. 721, Chester; Robert Jones, 241, Merchants' Lodge, Liverpool; T. Ll. Williams, 597, Holyhead; W. Johnson, 149; A. H. Reid, P.M., and G. Bradley, 1336, Wrexham; R. J. Sissons, W.M., P.G.S. 1143, Denbigh; E. B. Smith, W.M. 1432, Oswestry; J. O. Robinson, W.M.; J. M'Hattie, S.W.; T. Wood, P.M.; S. Spencer, P.G.S. 425, Chester. The ceremony of installation was performed by Bro. Salmon, the retiring W.M., in an exceedingly appropriate and solemn manner, the W.M. elect being presented by Bro. Dr. Spratley. The newly installed W.M. then appointed as his officers J. Corbett, S.W.; A. Potts, J.W.; J. Williams, S.D.; J. D. Birch, J.D.; and — Rowlands, I.G. The Secretary, Organist, and Chaplain were reappointed. At the conclusion of the ceremony, the W.M. presented P.M. Bro. J. Salmon with a handsome and valuable Past Master's jewel, accompanying it with an expression of thanks to him, on the part of the lodge, as one of its founders and chief workers. The brethren retired for refreshment to the Star Hotel, where an excellent banquet was served. The W.M. presided. "The Queen, and the Craft, and the rest of the Royal Family," was duly honoured. The W.M. proposed "His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.; the Earl of Carnarvon, Pro G.M.; Lord Skelmersdale, R.W.D.G.M., and the rest of the Officers of Grand Lodge present and past." "The Health of Sir W. W. Wynn, M.P., R.W.P.G.M., and the rest of the Officers of the P.G. Lodge" was duly honoured, and was responded to by Bro. Sissons. "The W.M. and Officers of the Sir Watkin Lodge," and "The Immediate P.M. and Installing Masters" were responded to by Bros. H. Lloyd and Salmon. Other toasts followed.

On Tuesday a large party of ladies and gentlemen—the latter being members of Masonic lodges in North Wales, Shropshire, and Cheshire, but principally belonging to the Sir Watkin Lodge, Mold—visited Wynnstay Hall, the seat of Brother Sir W. W. Wynn, M.P., R.W.P.G.M. By the kindness of the worthy baronet, the apartments were thrown open to the visitors, and the inspection of the paintings, sculptures, tapestry, &c., afforded a fine treat to the excursionists. A banquet was served in the park, near the gate leading to the village. Afterwards, Bro. Edwards, Chaplain, presented Bro. Salmon, P.M., P.G.S.B., in the name of the Sir Watkin Lodge, with a valuable gold chronometer watch and a lady's gold chain and locket. In doing so, the reverend brother said that Bro. Salmon had been everything to that lodge while it had existed, and had conducted its ceremonies in a manner second to none in the province. (Loud applause.) Bro. Salmon, in acknowledging the gift, said he had but done his duty; and he would have experienced great difficulty in getting through the work had it not been for the services of a younger but more able Mason than himself—he alluded to Bro. J. Worrall, P.M., P.Z., P.G.S.B. He had great pleasure in presenting Bro. Worrall, in the name of the lodge, with a handsome tea and coffee service. (Loud applause.) Bro. Worrall, in thanking the lodge for the presentation, congratulated it on having so distinguished a Mason and so respected a judge as Bro. Horatio Lloyd for their W.M. The party afterwards visited the various localities of the park and neighbourhood, returning to tea in the evening, and leaving at a comparatively early hour.

CHISLEHURST.—CHISLEHURST LODGE (No. 1531).—The first regular meeting of this well-established lodge took place at the Bull Hotel, Chislehurst, on Saturday, June 26th. There were present Bros. J. Coutts, P.G.P., P.M., W.M.; G. F. Guest, S.W.; W. Kipps, J.W.; F. Walters, P.G.P., Middlesex, P.M., Treasurer; J. Griffin, P.M., Secretary; H. Gloster, S.D.; J. Mason, J.D.; W. Hardman, I.G.; J. Fox, W.S.; J. J. Hutchings, M. C.; G. Abbott, P.M.; and others. The visitors were Bros. Reed, J.W. 13; E. Mallett, S.D. 141, 1326, &c. The minutes were read and unanimously confirmed. The ballots, taken separately, were unanimous in favour of the admission of Bros. G. Abbott, P.M. 192; J. Mason, 1423; J. J. Hutchings, 147; and J. Fox, 1275, as joining members, who were all present and joined the lodge. The ballots, separately taken, were unanimous in favour of the admission of Messrs. E. Kipps, H. L. Wain (mine host), J. R. Hooker, and R. F. Lucky, to become candidates for initiation into Freemasonry and members of the lodge. Each candidate for initiation into Freemasonry was introduced separately, and the whole four named

were most impressively initiated into the mysteries and privileges of the ancient Order. The ceremony was ably done and beautifully rendered. The W.M., Bro. J. Coutts, was warmly congratulated by every P.M. and his officers for the superior manner in which he had done all the work. The bye-laws were unanimously agreed to as submitted to the lodge. A distinguished nobleman connected with the province was unanimously elected an honorary member, subject to his accepting the same. Bro. W. Kipps, J.W., made an earnest appeal to the brethren to help his list as their Steward for the Boys' School. One-third of those eligible agreed to attend at the Provincial Grand Lodge of Kent, to be held at Gravesend. Some propositions for joining members were made, and several names of gentlemen handed in who were anxious to be initiated. The usual routine business followed. The lodge was closed. A sumptuous and superior banquet followed. It reflected very great credit on Bro. H. L. Wain for the admirable manner in which he served it. Very good wines and excellent viands were all enjoyed and done ample justice to. After some hours most agreeably spent the non-residents returned to town. This lodge has commenced well, and is likely to prove a great success. The furniture, now completed, and supplied by Bro. George Kenning, was greatly admired, and has given satisfaction to the lodge. It harmonizes well with the room. The new Tracing Boards were models in themselves of the artist's talent, which had been poured on them. Every article gave universal satisfaction.

INSTRUCTION.

UNITED PILGRIMS' LODGE (507).—This flourishing lodge held its first meeting at the Surrey Masonic Hall on Friday, the 2nd July. Bro. Preceptor Larham most ably presided as W.M., assisted by Bro. Assistant Preceptor Poore, S.W.; Field, J.W.; Harvey, S.D.; Wallis, J.D.; Bentley, I.G.; and Francis, Sec. pro tem. The Fifteen Sections were admirably worked in the following order:—First Lecture: Bros. Field, Wallis, Poore, Francis, Coc, Poore, and Geider. Second Lecture: Bros. Stevens, Harvey, Cass, Larham, and Allan. Third Lecture: Bros. Poore, Noke, and Watts. At the conclusion of the working Bro. Noke proposed, which was seconded by Bro. Worthington and carried unanimously, "That a vote of thanks be recorded on the minutes for the very able manner in which the duties of W.M. had been carried out by Bro. Larham on this occasion." The W.M. then returned thanks for the honour awarded him. Bro. Poore was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week. It is with pleasure we mention that this was the largest meeting since 1871, there being no less than forty-nine brethren present, and great praise is due to the presiding officers and brethren who assisted them for the efficient manner in which the work was performed. This lodge meets every Friday at the Surrey Masonic Hall, and deserves to be well supported.

Royal Arch.

CARLISLE.—UNION CHAPTER (310).—The annual convocation of this chapter was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Castle-street. The chapter was opened in solemn form by Comp. Jesse Banning, P.Z., as Z.; Comp. F. W. Hayward, H.; and Comp. Court, J.; and after the minutes of the previous convocation had been read and confirmed, Comp. Jesse Banning, P.Z., and Prov. G.P. Soj. W. Lancashire, then proceeded to install Comp. F. W. Hayward, P.Z., as Z.; Comp. W. Court as H.; and Comp. William Pratchett as J.; the following companions being invested with their respective collars:—Comps. Murchie, S.E.; Noakes, S.N.; Wheatley, P.S.; Blacklock, Treasurer; Mason, First Assistant S.; John Murray, Second Assistant S.; Barnes being elected Janitor. The following propositions were made and duly seconded:—That Captain Maxwell, of Durran Hill, be admitted as a joining companion, and S. G. Saul, Esq., as a candidate for exaltation. After hearty good wishes being tendered by several visiting companions, the chapter was duly and solemnly closed in ancient form. The companions then retired to refreshment, and a very agreeable evening under the presidency of M.E. Comp. Jesse Banning was spent.

Scotland.

GLASGOW.—LODGE ST. JOHN (No. 34).—An emergency meeting of this popular and flourishing lodge was held in their lodge-room, situated at 213, Buchanan-street, on the 29th inst., the object being to raise Bro. Robert Boyle to the degree of Master Mason. He had for some time back been quite prepared for this degree, and having received a sudden call to proceed to Australia, it was resolved that he should be completed in Masonry before he left this country, this meeting being called for the purpose. Among those present were Bros. Bell, R.W.M.; D. M. Wilson, D.M.; T. Fletcher, P.M.; Duthie, 219; D. French, 441; R. Trainer, 447; G. B. Adams, 360; and other well qualified brethren. The Sublime Degree was given by Bro. Duthie, 219, and the lodge closed in all ancient solemnity.

GLASGOW.—LODGE UNION AND CROWN (No. 103).—The monthly meeting of this lodge took place on the 28th ult., in the Masonic Hall, 170, Buchanan-street. There was a very large assembly of the members, and a more than usual attendance of visiting brethren. The R.W.M., A. M. Wright, with the assistance of his Wardens, W. Thomson, S.W., R. Munro, J.W., opened the lodge. The following, among other brethren, were present:—J. Bain, P.M.; J. Gillies, P.M. and Sec.; G. Muir, D.M.; N. Cameron, Treas.; W. Anderson, S.D.; Pollok, J.D.; S.

Cullen, Chaplain; D. D. Lamplough and Wm. Hee, 792, E.C.; J. McInnes, Sec. 333; B. Smart, Treas. 219; W. Phills, R.W.M. 556; John McInnes, S.W. 408; Alex. James, S.D. 437; R. M. Culloch, 114; J. Stewart, 360; W. Bisland, J.W. 408; D. Mitchell, Sec. 408; E. D. Parr, 208; N. York, and others. The Secretary read the minutes of the previous meeting, which were confirmed, when the cases of two brothers requiring relief were considered, and both were granted the necessary assistance; when Bro. Gillies, P.M. and Sec., brought forward his motion (notice of which had previously been given). The motion was to raise the initiation fees, which were considered too low at present. Bro. N. Cameron seconded the motion. An amendment by Bro. Wm. Forsyth, seconded by Bro. D. McGechy, which proposed to go still a little higher than Bro. Gillies's motion went, found favour with Bros. Gillies and Cameron, who withdrew their motion, Bro. Forsyth's amendment becoming the motion. Bro. Geo. Muir, D.M., then moved, as an amendment, that the fees should not be raised so much as either Bro. Gillies or Bro. Forsyth proposed. This found a seconder in Bro. Anderson, which brought out a most lively, amusing, and indeed, thoughtful and instructive conversation, the result of which was that Bro. Forsyth's motion was carried, no one voting for Bro. Muir's amendment but himself and seconder, the affiliation fees remaining as at present. Applications were then laid before the lodge from two gentlemen aspiring to the honours of Freemasonry, Adam Burton and Joseph Ferguson, also an application from Lodge Clyde, 408, and one from Lodge Star, 219, asking Lodge Union and Crown to favour them by initiating two gentlemen for their respective lodges, Allan Martin for Lodge Clyde; Jas. Young for Lodge Star. The four gentlemen being approved of, were prepared, and received the First Degree, Bro. A. M. Wright, R.W.M., officiating. The lodge was then passed to the Fellow Craft Degree, when Bros. Jonathan Black and Robert Tarbet passed an examination in the First Degree, which being most satisfactory, they were passed into the Fellow Craft Degree, the R.W.M. again officiating. Bro. Morgan, R.W.M. of Star Lodge, 219, thanked the Union and Crown Lodge on behalf of the Star, 219, and Clyde, 408, for their kind offices in initiating the two brethren for them. Bro. Gillies said he hoped that the visiting brethren from England, who had honoured them with a visit that night, were satisfied, Bro. Lamplough, No. 792, replying that they were very much pleased, and would be glad to see at any time some Scotch brothers with them. The lodge was then closed in due and ancient form.

RUTHERGLEN.—LODGE ROYAL ARCH (No. 116) met in their hall, Rutherglen, on the 2nd inst. This was the regular meeting of the lodge, but little business was gone into. The R.W.M. took the chair, assisted by Bro. R. Scott, S.W.; James Scott, J.W., and other office-bearers, with a number of competent brethren. The lodge being opened, the Secretary read the previous meeting's minutes, which were confirmed. The R.W.M. then intimated that an invitation had been sent from Pollockshaws Lodge (No. 153) for a deputation to attend with them on the 9th inst., to take part in the consecration of their new lodge, which will be performed by Col. Campbell, of Blythswood, P.G.M. of Renfrew East, and office-bearers of the P.G.L. This closed the business of the evening, and the lodge was closed in due form.

MAYBOLE.—LODGE ROYAL ARCH (No. 198).—A meeting of this lodge was held on the 23rd ult. in their Hall, Maybole. Bro. John Hamilton, R.W.M., in the chair, assisted by the Wardens, Bros. J. McReath, S.W.; Robert Redmond, J.W., and in the presence of a good number of well-qualified brethren the lodge was duly opened. The Secretary, Bro. W. Rennie, then read the minutes of the previous meeting, which were approved and affirmed. A letter was read from Bro. Andrew McRechin, San Francisco, which was much appreciated by the brethren present. Mr. Hugh Bickerstaff was then proposed by Bro. Rennie, seconded by Bro. W. Allan, J.D., as a fit and proper candidate to become a member of this lodge. This being unanimously affirmed by the brethren present, he was properly prepared, and received the first light of Masonry. The lodge was then passed to the F.C. Degree, when the brother received that, the R.W.M. officiating in both degrees with marked care. There being no further business, the lodge was closed in due and ancient form.

RENFREW.—LODGE PAISLEY, COUNTY KILWINNING (No. 370), met in their hall, High-street, Paisley, on the 1st inst. The R.W.M., Bro. James Anderson, took his place in the chair; Jas. Goldie, S.W.; Robt. Brown, acting J.W., and other office-bearers, and a number of well-qualified brethren. The Secretary read the minutes of the previous meeting, which were confirmed. An application from Mr. Charles Galbraith for initiation into Freemasonry was laid before the lodge; he was approved of and prepared for the First Degree, which was given in full style by the R.W.M. There being no further business, the lodge was closed in due and ancient form.

GLASGOW.—LODGE STAR (No. 219).—A special meeting of this lodge was held in their Hall, 12, Trongate, on the 30th ult. Among those present were J. M. Morgan, R.W.M.; John Graith, S.W.; Jas. Horn, J.W.; B. Smart, Treas.; J. Campbell, R.W.M. 128, St. John, Shettleton; W. Campbell, 128; John Stewart, 360; G. B. Adams, 360; A. M. Cullen, 117, &c. The lodge was opened, when an application was read from Mr. George Lyall, who was recommended to the lodge by Bros. J. Pearson and J. Lyall. All being satisfactory, he was prepared, and received the degree, the R.W.M. officiating in admirable style. The lodge was then raised to the F.C. Degree, when two brothers were passed into the F.C., the R.W.M. again acting, when the lodge was opened in the Sublime Degree, and two brothers were completed by receiving the sublime degree of M.M., Bro. J. Campbell, R.W.M. of 128, officiating. The lodge was then closed in due and ancient form.

GLASGOW.—*LODGE CLYDE* (No. 408).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, situate at 170, Buchanan street, on the 2nd inst, at eight o'clock p.m. The meeting was a large one. Bro. W. Harper, R.W.M., presided, supported by his Wardens, J. McInnes, S.W.; W. Bisland, J.W.; Thos. Gordon, D.M.; D. J. Mitchell, Secretary; Jas. Stewart, Treasurer, &c., Bros. John Stevenson Kighland, Secretary No. 583, S. Australia and A. Ross, 1144, E. C., were among the visiting brethren. The lodge being opened, the minutes of the previous meeting were read and passed. The case of an American brother who was represented as being in distress, was brought up. Two brothers retired to have an interview with him, and, on their recommendation, he was temporarily assisted, and his case referred to the Provincial Grand Benevolent Treasurer for further consideration. The lodge was then raised to the Sublime or M.M. Degree, when two brethren of this lodge were raised thereto, Bro. Harper, R.W.M., officiating in his usual impressive way. This brought the business to an end, and the lodge was closed in due form.

GLASGOW.—*LODGE NEPTUNE* (No. 419).—At the monthly meeting of this lodge on the 13th ult., there was a large attendance of members and visitors, the occasion being the annual visitation of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow. The deputation from P.G.L. consisted of the R.W. Master, Bro. W. Montgomerie Neilson; Bros. J. B. Walker, Treas.; A. McTaggart, Sec.; J. Gillies, S.D.; J. Balfour, Director of Ceremonies; William Phillips, S.B.; and George Sinclair, Treasurer and Convener of the P.G. Benevolent Fund. The deputation having been received with the usual formalities, and the R.W.M. of the lodge, Bro. James S. Scott, having acknowledged in customary form the supremacy of the P.G.L., the Secretary of the latter (Bro. McTaggart) gave in the report of the deputation, which was to the effect that after a very minute scrutiny they had found that the books of the lodge were in very good condition, and that the latter was working, as heretofore, in accordance with Grand Lodge law. During last year the lodge had added to its funds the handsome sum of £25, had likewise distributed a handsome amount in charity, and had that night handed over to the P.G. Benevolent Fund the sum of £12 15s. So far as charity went, the P.G. Secretary said he could, without any reserve, congratulate the lodge, and they might rest assured that whenever they had any want or claim on the Benevolent Fund their appeal would have the very best attention. In reference to this fund, he added, he was glad to hear that there was a movement afoot to have an amateur dramatic performance in its aid, to come off in the autumn of the present year. Many well-known names in connection with such matters had cordially promised their best support to the project; and he was sure that if gone about as it ought to be, and would be, it must add to the fund not less a sum than £150. The R.W.P.G.M. then briefly addressed the lodge. It was the custom in the annual rounds of the P.G.L., he said, to examine the state of the books, which, generally speaking, was a very good index of the working state of the lodges. It was usual, too, for the P.G. Secretary to read the report of the same, and it had been usual that he (the speaker) should make some remarks thereupon. But he was happy to say that his worthy Secretary was not only able to write these reports but to make the remarks upon them as well. He (the speaker) was much away from home, and otherwise engaged, and it was a great comfort to him to know that he had such able office-bearers to conduct the business in his absence; and he took the opportunity of saying how very much he was satisfied with the services of his worthy Secretary, Bro. McTaggart. After touching upon one or two points referred to in the Secretary's remarks, the P.G.M., in concluding, said that as to the question of benevolence, every Mason knew that that was their chief work, and therefore it was exceedingly gratifying to find that it had not been neglected by Lodge Neptune. Thereafter, the R.W.M. (Bro. Scott) having suitably acknowledged the visit of the P.G.L., three members of the deputation, namely, Bros. Sinclair, Balfour, and Phillips, were affiliated as members of No. 419 by Bro. McTaggart, and the deputation then withdrew.

CATRINE.—*ST. JOHN'S LODGE* (No. 497).—The brethren of St. John's, Catrine, No. 497, celebrated mid-summer St. John's-day, on Thursday, the 24th ult., by having an excursion to Dumfries. They started from the village in the morning, headed by the Catrine Bleaching Works Brass Band, and took the train at Auchinleck. They were joined by deputations from St. Barnabas, Old Cumnock, and St. John's, New Cumnock, also a number of brethren from other lodges. Having arrived at Dumfries, they were cordially received by a number of the brethren from the Thistle Lodge, Dumfries, No. 62. During the day they visited the various, we may say numerous, places of interest about the place. Dancing was enjoyed on the Bowling Green of the Asylum to the strains of the violin and flute, ably handled by Bros. Park, New Cumnock, and Hood, Catrine. After arriving at the Thistle Lodge hall, refreshments having been partaken of, dancing was again enjoyed until it was time to leave with the late mail train. In due time they arrived at Catrine, much pleased with the enjoyments of the day.

On the same day, another excursion of Freemasons took place from Auchinleck, Benquhet, and neighbourhood, to Dalmellington and surrounding districts. They were accompanied by their wives and sweethearts and the Auchinleck brass band. Having arrived at Dalmellington and getting refreshed, a beautiful walk was enjoyed through the grounds to the mansion-house of Craigmillar, in front of which a halt was made, and a number of tunes played by the band in beautiful style. Three Masonic cheers having been proposed and heartily given for Lady Cathcart, the party proceeded to Loch Doon by way of Ness Glen. The glen just now is clothed in its summer foliage, and it was a scene to be enjoyed by any one having a

taste for the grand in nature, and on this occasion it was certainly all that could be desired. The loch having been reached, all enjoyed a couple of hours' rest or recreation, as they might choose. Opportunities were also afforded for dancing, &c. There was no lack of refreshments on the ground. The procession returned in the afternoon, many of them, we doubt not, tired, but all, we think, pleased with the day's enjoyment.

GLASGOW.—*LODGE ST. ANDREW'S* (No. 465).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on the 1st inst. in their hall, Gargad-road. The attendance was good. The lodge was opened by Bro. D. Reid, R.W.M., in his own place, James McLeish, S.W.; G. B. Davidson, J.W.; W. Campbell, Sec.; Robert Donaldson, Treas.; J. Morton, S.D.; R. Bell, and others. Among the visiting brethren were Bros. Robert Godfray, Sec. 1074, E.C.; J. Lawrence, 134, New Jersey, U.S.A.; Wm. Preice, P.M. 956, Natal, S.A.; J. Sheills, 270, and others. The minutes of the previous meeting, a special meeting, and the meeting for harmony to celebrate the Summer St. John's-day on the 24th June, were read and confirmed, and the lodge was raised to the sublime degree, when Bros. Peter Douglas, George Pirret, and John McFarlane were examined on their progress in the previous degrees, and raised to that of M.M., Bro. Reid, R.W.M., performing the ceremony. Before closing the lodge the R.W.M., in warm terms, thanked the visiting brethren for their attendance, Bro. Godfray, 1074, E.C., replying that they had all felt very much pleasure at being present that night. There being no further business the lodge was closed in due form.

CONSECRATION OF THE UNITED MILITARY LODGE (No. 1537.)

The consecration of the above new lodge, on Friday 2nd inst, was in every respect a most brilliant and imposing spectacle. The lodge being located at the new Masonic Hall, recently built by Bro. Plaisted, and adjoining his house, the "Sir Robert Peel," Anglesea Hill, Plumstead, and the hall not being finished, so far as the internal decorations are concerned, the brethren, under the guidance of the W.M. designate, and with a little outside assistance, covered the bare walls and ceiling with the "Union Jack" of old England, and many other "haunting flags," the magnificent Royal banner covering the east. Upon the drapery of the walls were arranged numerous brilliant devices, formed of swords, bayonets, breastplates, and helmets, and other military trophies, while at intervals occurred prettily worked mottoes, such as "The Duke of Connaught," "Success to the Province of Kent," "God bless the Royal Grand Master." Above the chair, immediately facing the entrance, was a broad ribbon, bearing in gold letters the following, "Welcome, R.W. Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Major-General Brownrigg, C.B.," and when the brethren of the lodge, who are all military men, assembled in their places, backed up with a goodly muster of visitors, the coup d'œil presented was most imposing and picturesque. The Right Worshipful Bro. Major-General J. S. Brownrigg, C.B., Prov. Grand Master Surrey, assisted by Bro. the Rev. W. A. Hill, M.A., Prov. Grand Chaplain, Kent, and Bro. the Rev. E. L. Walsh, B.A., P.P.G.C., Essex, and Chaplain of the Forces at Woolwich, solemnly consecrated the lodge, and Bro. J. Bates, P.M. No. 1424, Brownrigg Lodge, installed, by special request, the W.M. Among the visitors were Bros. Major King, P.M. 706; Captain Phillips, P.M. 13; Major Saunders, P.M. 706; Captain Croisdale, P.M. 706; Captain T. Ward, W.M. 700; W. Tongue, P.M. 913, P.G.D. Kent; T. Smith, Sydney Lodge, P.G.W. Kent; Sydney Clarke, P.M. 706; Captain Donnelly, 706; Captain McLaughlin, P.M. 706; J. Rowland, P.M. 700; J. Henderson, P.M. 13; J. Jarvis, W.M. 1424; A. Penfold, W.M. elect, 913; G. Davis, P.M. 13; F. J. Dawson, P.M. 700; J. McDougall, W.M. 913; J. Hedley, P.M. 706; N. Norman, P.M. 913; C. Norman, P.M. 700; W. T. Vincent, J.W. 913; A. Jessop, Treas. 913; T. Butt, S.W. 700; H. S. Syer, Sec. 13; J. Thomson, Treas. 1424; H. E. Fowler, S.D. 1424; H. Lodge, I.G. 13; C. Jolly, 913; C. Morton, 700; C. Cook, 13; T. Hutton, 13; A. Duck, 913; W. McCoy, 700; R. Barrett, 1424; J. Dickenson, 1424; C. Hulse, 1331; E. A. Cooper, 349 (S.C.); T. Swift, 829; H. Pryce, 913; J. Allen, 913; S. Crane, 1424; J. K. Anderson, 700; F. A. Wallis, 901; E. Palmer, 913; R. Beaver, 700; H. De Grey, 706; W. Lomax, 913, &c., &c.

The following brethren of the lodge were present:—F. G. Pownall, W.M. designate, W. Weston, G. Spinks, M. Murphy, T. Cooper, H. G. Picken, R. J. Lapham, D. Deeves, F. W. Sealy, W. Welding, R. Hill, J. S. Hill, B. Whitaker, J. White, E. Wright, F. Hambling, F. Buck, H. Carlin, H. Oakley, W. Jordan, H. Shaw, W. Pridgeon, C. Buckland, F. J. Warren, J. McKnight, W. Sale, W. Dixon, A. Scarth, T. W. Kirkbride, F. Tims, T. Sharpe, G. F. Pegg, J. W. Farr, A. Cox, J. Joseph, G. Kennedy, C. Glaysher, and others.

At half-past one the brethren and visitors assembled in the new lodge-room, and took the places assigned them by the Stewards, and the procession of consecrating officers and signing brothers shortly after entered, to the strains of a solemn march played by Bro. Glaysher, who, with a trained choir of the brethren, ably sustained the musical portion of the ceremony, assisted by Bro. C. Cook. Silence being proclaimed, the lodge was formally opened with solemn prayer and in due form, General Brownrigg being W.M.; Bro. T. Ward, W.M. 700, being S.W.; and Bro. Croisdale, P.M. 706, J.W. The Secretary then read the reply of the Grand Lodge to their petition, and in the name

of the lodge requested the W.M. to proceed with the consecration.

After a prayer from Bro. Hill, G.C. of Kent, and a reading of a portion of the Sacred Law by Bro. Walsh, G.C. for Essex, the Installing Officer, Bro. Major General J. C. Brownrigg, delivered the following oration:—

Brethren:—At this period of the ceremony of consecration it is customary for the presiding officer to deliver an oration on the nature and principles of the Institution of Masonry. On this occasion, however, and under existing circumstances, I propose to depart from this rule, and instead of addressing you upon the grand principles of our Order, to call your attention more particularly to your position as a military lodge. The supposed origin of our Order, its antiquity, its charity, its power of doing good, its universality, have formed a theme for many illustrious writers, as well as orators, and it is therefore unnecessary for me to dilate upon all its excellences, the true appreciation of which you must look for in your own hearts, and the perfect application of which must be the guide of your lives. It is an essentially military lodge. I would venture to offer you a few words of remark and advice. I have reason to believe that regimental lodges are diminishing in number, and that the original warrants of many such have been either lying dormant for some time, or have been restored to Grand Lodge, and a little reflection will show us that this is not to be wondered at. The numerical strength of a regiment or battalion is hardly sufficient for the existence in it of a separate society, such as a Masonic lodge. A regiment is by its very composition and training, and habits, a society in which there is such a community of interests, identity of action, and close connection, that there is a great probability that a lodge may tend to create two parties in such a comparatively small body, which is clearly objectionable. There is likely to be the broad distinction between those who are Freemasons and those who are not; a distinction, which, when diffused over a larger body of men, with more separate individual and collective interests, would not be obvious, but which in a smaller body must become too strongly marked. Those who have seen the light and have enjoyed the privileges of Freemasonry, will perhaps view with feelings of commiseration, and almost contempt, those whom they consider still in darkness, whilst the others, who from want of inclination, or having other pursuits, may not care to join our fraternity, may not unnaturally ridicule our rules, our Masonic ceremonies, and our brotherhood. There would thus be an exclusiveness about Masonry which in so small a society might have a pernicious effect; but in a lodge constituted as this is I can imagine none of the evils to which I have alluded, whilst, if conducted as I have every reason to believe this lodge will be, the advantages may be most important. Situated in a large garrison, composed as it doubtless will be, with some of its members of a sufficiently permanent service to enable them to instruct the younger brethren who join it, and to keep up its traditions; there will still be a continuous gradual change amongst you, the stream will never stagnate, but ever proceed in a tranquil and harmonious current, instilling the principles of our Craft in the hearts of those who will carry them away as time flows on, and distribute them elsewhere, returning again, as I trust many may, to the fountain head, their mother lodge, with a store of experience and with a strengthened love of our Order which will qualify them to take their places amongst you as rulers. The short experience which has been afforded by the working of the lodge at Chatham, a garrison which in many respects resembles this, enables me to entertain a confident hope that this lodge may succeed and prosper to the full expectation and wish of us all. There is one caution I must give you, brethren—it may be unnecessary, and I hope it is, but as an old Mason and an old soldier I feel bound to utter it. Be most careful that your Masonic brotherhood never takes the form of favouritism in the discharge of your military duties. It must never be permitted in the smallest degree to clash with discipline. Although in our profession the extremes of our different ranks are very far apart, and the chain of our responsibilities very much extended, yet the links of that chain are so finely graduated that they almost merge into one another, and yet they are very distinct. We all know that the mere accident of a day, or in the wording of an order, may make one man superior in rank to another, although the actual military rank may be the same, and thus discipline requires that we should supervise and be obliged to report the shortcomings of those who may be junior in rank to us in a very slight degree. In such a case as this, brethren, should it unfortunately occur, you must never in the smallest degree screen or shrink from reporting an irregularity because an erring subordinate is your Masonic brother. Should you see that he is likely to commit himself, that he is becoming slack in his duty, intemperate in his habits, or in any other way backsliding, then step in as a brother and exert your influence by warning him, by reminding him of that responsibility he owes to the Craft; but in despite of such warning he falls into error, remember that your Masonic obligations, as well your soldier's fealty, oblige you to do your duty, even though he should neglect your advice. Above all, brethren, let your Masonic characteristics have an influence on your conduct as soldiers. Let it be a matter of remark that those of your respective corps who are Freemasons are the smartest on parade, the most scrupulous in the discharge of all their duties, the most punctual, the most truthful, the most temperate, those whose language and demeanour towards their subordinates is most irreproachable, whose manner towards their superiors is most respectful. Let it not be said of you that Masonry is a mere name, an excuse for convivial meetings, but inculcate upon all who join our Order that their entrance into it imposes upon them fresh responsibilities to be good men and true. Let those who ob-

ject to Freemasonry in the abstract be compelled to confess that, at all events, it produces a good effect upon the outer and inner life of those who are enrolled under its banners. Be careful of your funds; reserve your surplus for qualifying your lodge as Governor of the different Masonic charities. This is a far more creditable and useful mode than in squandering it in expensive refreshment. By a little present self sacrifice and economy in this respect you and your widows and children may some day find yourselves much benefitted. There is one more subject upon which I should like to give you a hint. You all know that as in military life, so in Masonry, all politics, all subjects that are likely to produce warm discussion or difference of opinion, are forbidden. "Fear God, Love the Brotherhood, Honour the Queen!" Of those who are true to these watchwords, we admit all men irrespective of country or creed. Still, it is a well known fact that the Roman Catholic Church disapproves of our Masonic tenets. Now, brethren, I have known some very zealous and excellent Freemasons who are also Roman Catholics, and it may be that you have or may have such brethren amongst you; if so, I pray you to be careful not to put any pressure on them to join your lodge; let it be a matter exclusively for their own consciences. Should any such join you, and be afterwards influenced to withdraw their names from your lodge, abstain from all shadow of reproach against them! Depend upon it, all the hardness of the task of withdrawing themselves, all the bitter struggle, will be theirs, and you will best show your brotherly regard by avoiding one word of remonstrance, or reproach, which will only make their task a harder one! Brethren, I fear my oration savours too much of a sermon, but you will, I am sure, believe that my remarks have been dictated by my regard for you as brother Masons, and by my interest in you as brother soldiers.

The beautiful and magnificent ceremony was then proceeded with amid great solemnity, and the patriarchal benediction brought it to a conclusion. The installation of the W.M. designate, Bro. F. G. Pownall, was then proceeded with, Bro. J. Bates, P.M. of the Brownrigg Lodge, 1424, Chatham, performing the ceremony in such a manner as to surround it with unusual impressiveness, the several charges being uttered with thrilling effect. On the re-admission of the brethren, the W.M. was duly saluted in each degree, and proceeded to nominate his officers, as follows:—Bros. W. A. Weston, S.W.; G. Spinks, J.W.; the Rev. E. L. Walsh, Chaplain; Murphy, Treas.; Cooper, Sec.; Picken, S.D.; Shaw, J.D.; Lapham, I.G.; J. McCaffery, D.C. Several officers of the garrison who were present became subscribing members of the lodge. General Brownrigg and the Rev. W. A. Hill were elected honorary members, and a number of joining members and initiates were proposed.

The banquet was a most superb and recherché affair. General Brownrigg and his son were compelled to leave after the ceremonies, and the W.M. presided. After dinner the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were eloquently given and heartily responded to, and during the evening the W.M. read letters of apology from Bros. Col. Goodenough, R.A.; Col. Field, R.A.; Col. Greville, R.A.; Pickard, V.C., R.A.; Boord, M.P.; Capt. Hugh Hallett, R.A.; Hervey, G. Sec.; the whole of whom expressed their hearty good wishes for the success of the lodge.

The W.M., in giving the toast of "Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M., and the other Officers of Grand Lodge," said he regretted the absence of Bro. Patison, P.G.W. of England, who would have been present but for the death of an old and esteemed friend.

In proposing the toast of "The Prov. G. Master, Lord Holmesdale," the W.M. said he felt sure that there was not any ill-feeling on the part of the province because the warrant of the lodge had been sent to him instead of to the Provincial Grand Master, and read a letter from Lord Holmesdale of congratulation, hopes for the success of the lodge, and regret at his inability to be present.

The Rev. Bro. Hill, P.G.C., in reply to the toast of "The D.G.M. and the rest of the Officers," thanked them heartily for their toast, and said the Province of Kent stood second, or at least third, on the roll of the Masonic charities, for its contributions, and he hoped soon to have it first. (Cheers.) Nor need they look upon that as an idle boast, for in no other province were the grand ideas of brotherly love, relief, and truth carried out more faithfully than in this province. He then alluded to the remarks of the W.M. as to the mistake made by the G.L. in respect to the warrant, and assured them that it was looked upon entirely as an oversight; the G.S. regarding it, no doubt, as a Metropolitan lodge, and that was how the mistake had arisen. He trusted they would attend the forthcoming festival on the 6th inst., and receive a hearty welcome at the hands of the Provincial Grand Officers. (Cheers.) He then spoke of the lodge, and said among them, and among soldiers generally, were men who bore upon their countenance the marks of strength, skill, and intelligence, and a dogged desire to do their duty to their Queen and country. He felt moved to say that such characteristics gave a tone and dignity to their work. No one could help admiring the splendid manner in which one of the most respected of their Order, Bro. Bates, had performed the installation ceremony. Masonry led them up, step by step, to a higher and a better life, and taught them to give play to all the good and Christian feeling of the heart; it taught them to fear God, honour the Queen, and love their neighbour as they loved themselves. He apologized for taking up so much of their time, and concluded by trusting they would go on and prosper. (Loud cheers.)

In response to the most enthusiastic reception of his name, as proposed by the I.P.M., Bro. Saunders, the W.M., said he felt greatly the high honour they had done him in receiving his name so flatteringly from P.M. Saunders, and the hearty reception they had given it; he thanked them, not only for placing him in the elevated position he

was now in, but for the kind regard and esteem they had always evinced towards him. He would tell them the cause of the formation of the lodge, and they would remember the remarks of the Grand Master of Surrey, when he said that "military men were often from home upon outlying, or foreign stations," and many of them came to Woolwich from all parts of the world, India and elsewhere, and this lodge was formed for them to come to and join, so that they might not be severed and lose their connection with the Craft. This lodge was not intended for them to alter their connections with their mother lodges, but as a home for them while away from its shelter; he himself belonged to a civilian lodge, and he hoped to belong to it as long as he lived, but this lodge would receive all the military brethren who came from abroad, and required Masonic brotherhood and association, so long as their duties required them to remain here. He did not wish to take all the honours of the day to himself, and the preliminary steps were taken by others, and their thanks were especially due to Bros. Edwards, Weston, Spinks, Picken, Carlin, and several others who had worked hard for the foundation of the lodge (cheers), but since he had been asked to become the W.M., he had done and would continue to do all that lay in his power for its success, and continued prosperity. (Cheers.) The grand manner in which the P.G.M. for Surrey, Bro. General Brownrigg, had performed the ceremony of consecrating the lodge and the eloquent and impressive manner of Bro. P.M. Bates in the installation, would, he felt sure, never be removed from their memories, nor must the remarks of the G. Master upon the necessity of assisting a poor and distressed brother be forgotten, for they were words that ought to be engraven on every soldier's heart who was a Mason. He then proceeded to read the letters of apology, and concluded by saying he looked upon them as a great honour both to himself and the lodge; he again thanked them very sincerely for the great honour paid him, and assured them in his hands the dignity of the lodge should, by the help of the officers, be fully sustained. (Great applause.)

The next toast was at of "The I.P.M., Bro. Major Saunders," who brie y replied. "The Visitors" came next, to which Bros. Major King, Hedley, Ward, McDougall, and Croisdale replied. Bro. Bates, as Installing Officer, received an ovation, and eloquently replied. The Rev. Chaplain, Bro. Walsh, in response to a most enthusiastic reception, feelingly replied. He said that, notwithstanding the many excellent addresses he had listened to that evening, he felt no reluctance in replying on this occasion, if it were only for the fact of hearing the most solemn obligation taken by their esteemed W.M., Bro. Pownall. He looked upon the solemn ceremony that he had seen, and the sublime ritual that he had heard that day, as the christening of the lodge. He had been sixteen years a Mason, and had never before seen the consecration of a lodge, and as one who had been in such a position, the grand ceremonies of the day came upon him with more than usual solemnity, and as long as he lived he should look upon Masonry in a more solemn and Christian light than ever he had hitherto; he looked upon it as the christening of the lodge, and the regeneration of its members into a new life, and he trusted it would lead them to a better and a nobler insight of the duties of a Christian and a loyal life, and so prepare them for that Grand Lodge above, that was the reward of a pure and good work done here below. He thanked them kindly for their recognition of his name. (Great cheering.)

Bro. Plaisted received great commendation for his truly Masonic spirit in building the lodge, and thanked the brethren for their good wishes. The next toast was that of "The Officers of the Lodge," to which Bro. Weston, who on rising to respond was received most enthusiastically, briefly responded, and then the "Tyler's Toast" concluded a red-letter day in the annals of Plumstead and Woolwich Masonry.

The lodge was furnished by Bro. George Kenning.

CONSECRATION OF THE CHAUCER LODGE, No. 1540.

The consecration of this lodge was performed on Friday week at the Bridge House Hotel. The attendance of the brethren to witness the ceremony was very large, there being nearly 100 present. The room provided by Bro. Spencer, the proprietor of the hotel, was the beautiful ball room, which is capable of accommodating great assemblies. The consecrating officer was Bro. John Hervey, Grand Secretary, who was assisted by Bro. Woodford, P.G. Chaplain, as Chaplain, and Bro. R. Wentworth Little, Prov. G. Secretary of Middlesex, as D.C. The S.W. chair was filled by Bro. the Rev. S. R. Wigram, Grand Chaplain, and the J.W. chair by Bro. H. G. Buss, Prov. Grand Treasurer of Middlesex. Bro. Charles Lacey, Prov. G.D. Herts., acted as I.G. Bro. W. W. Kipps, J.W. 1531, presided at the harmonium. Among the other brethren present were:—

- I. J. Hooper Wilkins, W.M. 73; T. Goldsbro, P.M. 201, P.P.G.S.W. Wales; G. Price, P.G. Treas. Surrey, P.M. 463; S. R. Wigram, P.M. 214; W. Henderson, I.G. 1050; C. Lacey, P.G.J.D. Herts, W.M. 1327; J. T. Moss, P.G.R. Middlesex, P.M. 169; E. Phillips, P.M. 379; H. Catter, 554; G. Free, P.M. Sec. 73; W. D. Slyman, W.M. 753; F. Brown, 174; W. Kipps, Org. 73, J.W. 1531; A. J. P. Stevens, D.C. 1298; H. J. Forsdick, J.D. 118, South Memphis, America; Rev. P. M. Holden, S.D. 907; S. M. Lazarus, P.P.G.S.W. Wiltshire; J. W. Baldwin, W.M. 1423; C. Pegler, 304; H. B. Pegler, 339; W. J. Warham, 1491; M. Pawley, J.W. 1414; A. Leuckard, P.G.A.D.C. Essex, W.M., 1000; N. Cockburn, 1414; J. W. S. Benjamin, 548; E. Palmer, P.G.S.D. Kent, P.M. 33; S. R. Ade, P.M. 315; F. Willard,

- 315; G. Broadbridge, 73; T. Robinson, P.M. 3; E. Malett, S.D. 141; E. Clayton, 740; R. W. Price, 463; E. H. Thiellay, S.W. 145; C. B. Payne, G. Tyler, P.M. 27; A. Woodford, P.G.C.; E. Howard, S.D. 181; E. J. Barker, 153; E. Harris, P.M. and Treas. 73; W. Lane, W.M. 28; J. Dixon, P.M. 73; H. Muggerridge, P.M. 715; J. Cunningham, P. Prov. G.S.W. Sussex; T. Trollope, P. Prov. G.J.W. Sussex; H. C. Levander, P.M. 517; H. A. Lacey, P.M. 1288; W. Worrall, P.M. 766; M. Scott, P.M., Sec. 765; F. Spencer, J.W. 1063; W. Hunter Cockburn; Walter Wood, 33; G. Kenning, P.Prov.G.S.D. Middlesex; and H. Massey (Freemason).

The following is a list of the distinguished brethren who sent letters of apology and regret for absence, expressing at the same time their hearty wishes for the success of the Chaucer Lodge:—The Lord Mayor, Bro. D. H. Stone, P.M., G.J.W.; Bros. J. C. Parkinson, P.G.D., Dep. G. Master, Middlesex; Sir J. C. Burrows, P.M. 811, P.P.G.W. Sussex; J. B. Monckton, P.G.D., President Board of General Purposes; J. L. Bridgen, P.M. 732, Mayor of Brighton; James Terry, P.G.D. of C. Herts.; V. Freeman, P.M. 732, P.P.G.W. Sussex; J. H. Scott, P.M. 271, Prov. G. Sec. Sussex; A. E. MacIntyre, Grand Registrar of England; W. H. Hallett, W.M. 721; C. Sandeman, W.M. 315; D. Rose, 73; S. Solomon, 732; John Savage, P.G.D.; Dr. O'Brien, W.M. 811; W. Smith, P.M. 732; J. Smith, P.M. 732, P.P.G.P. Sussex; T. W. P. Launson, W.M. 732, P.G.S. of W. Sussex; E. Martin, P.M. 732, P.P.G.D. Sussex; W. R. Wood, P.M. 63, 315, 811, P.G. Steward; A. German, P.M. 1466; Col. Burdett, P.G.W., Representative of the Grand Lodge of Ireland, Grand Master Middlesex; F. Davison, P.G.S.W. Middlesex; H. Dubois, P.M. 1423, P.G., A.D. of C. Middlesex; C. J. Smith, W.M. 1466; C. Allen, Mackney, Baker, Emery, D'Arcy, Martin, Wilson, Elliott, Herman, Harvey, Hawkins, Suffolk, French, Edwards, Deffill, Markham, and a number of other brethren. The ceremony was conducted with all the usual formalities. Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford delivered an oration, which will be found in another column. The appropriateness of the oration to the occasion will be seen at once. The lodge was originated by Bros. T. J. Sabine, James Cattle Mason, Edward Spencer Stidolph, and the other brethren named in the warrant, to perpetuate the connection of the poet Chaucer with the borough of Southwark, and they chose for the lodge's motto Chaucer's lines:—

"Sunning in moral virtue was his speche,
And gladly wolde he lerne and gladly teche,

* * * * *

"Trouthe and honor, freedom and curtesie."

And the appropriateness of the erection of the new edifice was the more apparent, as only a few days before the consecration of the Chaucer, the famous Tabard Inn, celebrated in the "Canterbury Tales," was demolished. The poet, therefore, is not left without a witness, independent of his writings, which must remain a specimen of the fine old Saxon language of which he was master, when even the borough of Southwark shall have undergone greater changes than it has seen in the last fifteen years. The Chaucer Lodge will be still further interesting, since by Bro. Woodford's research it is found the poet was a Freemason.

The ceremony, after the oration was delivered, was completed, and the installation of the W.M. was proceeded with. On presentation duly made Bro. T. J. Sabine was installed, and the brethren being admitted and the formalities customary on such occasions being properly observed, the W.M. invested the officers. Bros. J. C. Mason became S.W.; Stidolph, J.W.; W. Hudson (Brighton), Treasurer; F. Walters, Secretary; W. George Kemp, S.D.; Charles Hudson, J.D.; H. Faija, I.G.; Hawkes, D.C.; Hutch, Chaplain; Stedman, W.S.; and W. Y. Laing, Tyler Stewards for the festival offered themselves. Bros. Stidolph and Hawkes took the Benevolent Institution for 1876; Bro. Faija, C.E., the Girls'; Bro. C. Hudson the Boys'; and Bro. Mason the Benevolent for 1877.

A vote of thanks was passed to the consecrating brethren, and Bros. Hervey, Woodford, and Little were elected honorary members of the lodge, Bro. Hervey returning thanks. Propositions for numerous initiates and joining members were handed in, and the brethren adjourned to banquet, after closing the lodge. On entering the banquet room a very pleasing sight presented itself. With great taste Bro. Joseph Spencer, the proprietor of the hotel, had laid out three tables, splendidly decorated with fruit and flowers. At the head table, in front of the Master, was a decoration with the word "Chaucer," elaborately formed. Behind this was a plentiful show of fruit, with numerous bouquets; and on either side a vessel forming the foundation of an elegant and refreshing pillar of ice. The dinner, when the brethren were seated, was served à la Russe, and comprised all the delicacies of the season, and their excellence was added to considerably by some of the finest wines that could be procured, though with which Bro. Spencer's cellar abounds. The dinner occupied a considerable time, but it was so well served, in addition to being of such excellence, that the brethren were not wearied by the length of time occupied in consuming it. When at length the "cloth was cleared," as the phrase goes, grace was said, and the loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed. The W.M., of course, first gave "The Queen," and then "The Grand Master," in proposing the latter of which he referred to the scene at the Albert Hall on that day as never to be forgotten, and added that from the way H.R.H. then conducted business every Mason must feel convinced of the soundness of the choice the Craft had made; that he was a good and earnest Mason and meant well to the Craft. The W.M. was convinced that so long as the Prince of Wales was at the head of the Craft he would in every possible way endeavour to promote its best interests, sustain its popu-

larity, and crown with success all the endeavours of individual Masons to support the charitable institutions.

His Worship's sentiments were greatly applauded, and the loyalty of the brethren received strong proof. Still, said the W.M., was there a more important toast to introduce, and this, he said, comprised three in one, the Prov. Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, and the Grand Officers. Of all of these he spoke with a personal knowledge of their worth and work, as sincere Masons, who never shrank from their duty, and who had the sincere love of all the brethren under the English Constitution. This reminded him of Bro. Hervey, Bro. Wigram, and Bro. Woodford, and gave him occasion to recall the beautiful work which had that day been witnessed in lodge, and which had afforded the brethren so much gratification. As the highest Grand Officer present, Grand Chaplain, the Rev. S. R. Wigram, responded, but apologised if there had been detected any rustiness in his working as S.W., for which office he had not been expected to be cast. The apology, however, was by no means necessary, for the work was perfect. The Grand Chaplain said he could not but be struck at the work which the lodge had commenced with, and foresaw that the W.M. was preparing a rod for the backs of his successors, inasmuch as the excellence of his work would keep the brethren who were aspiring to the chair fully occupied in acquiring the duties of W.M. He was, however, sure that the officers would not be backward in going up to the chair, and would do the best they could to follow in their W.M.'s footsteps. Then came the toast of "The Consecrating Officer, Bro. Hervey," whose valuable services that day rendered to the lodge would never be forgotten so long as there was a member of the lodge living who had had the good fortune to be present whilst the lodge was formally dedicated to Freemasonry. He was sure there would be handed down, from generation to generation, the memory of that auspicious occasion; auspicious in two senses—first, because it was the inauguration of a new lodge, and secondly, because it had commenced its career under such bright and brilliant circumstances. The fame of the lodge would be enhanced by the fact of so distinguished a Mason, so genial a man, and so kindly a Grand Officer as John Hervey attending to lay the first stone of the establishment. The lodge had been erected on a firm basis and a permanent foundation. Passing over further compliments in the presence of such a brother, whose fame was in all lodges, he refrained from gilding refined gold, but added that Bro. Hervey was a man thoroughly honoured and respected. He then proposed his health, and hoped, as all W.M.'s who have been honoured with Bro. Hervey's company have hoped, that they might frequently see him again as their guest. After due honours had been done to the toast the subject of it responded, expressing his gratification at the very roseate hue in which he had been painted by the W.M. He was pleased to think he had rendered some service, but could not claim all the performance to himself. Other brethren were associated with him in the performance, and they, as well as he, were as pleased as he to forward the cause they all had at heart. All had been delighted to hear Bro. Woodford's excellent address, and for Bro. Little, he looked upon him as his alter ego, for he was as capable of consecrating a lodge as himself. To turn from mentioning self, which was at all times an unpleasant task, he would, with the permission of the W.M., propose another toast for the brethren's acceptance. This was "The Health of the W.M., and Success to the Chaucer Lodge," and this gave him an opportunity of again thanking the lodge for conferring on him the distinction of being one of its honorary members. The W.M. was well known to the Craft, and by his efforts in its behalf had done it good service, and it gave him, as he had said in lodge, great pleasure to commit the warrant to his keeping. The lodge was numbered 1540, a long way down in the list; but if it followed the example of many that preceded it, it would rise to great eminence. The brethren who had become its officers were a guarantee of this, and would do their best for the charities of the Order, and for loyalty, which he looked upon not as loyalty to the Royal Family alone, but as loyalty to the Craft. It must have been in that sense that the Grand Master on the occasion of his installation used the words "Charity and Loyalty"—"charity" to the world in general; "loyalty" to the Craft. The W.M. replied. The lodge having no past he could not refer to the years gone by, nor to the Past Masters. He was therefore full of hope and confidence—hope that the brethren of the lodge would have generous consideration at the hands of their conferees among whom they worked; confidence that they would endeavour to deserve the good opinion of those among whom they worked. No effort would be spared on his part, or on the part of those who had been that day entrusted with office, to perform Masonry's true work. Alone, he was able to do nothing; but with his Wardens Deacons, Treasurer, Secretary, and I.G., he hoped to make the lodge a success. Established that day on historic ground, almost exactly on the spot where 500 years ago that first of English poets trod the roadway on his celebrated pilgrimage to Canterbury, of which he had left such excellent records behind, he trusted that the lodge would perpetuate his name for ages to come. It was a fact that on that day, while they were rearing that temple with Chaucer's name attached, the old Tabard Inn, from which the pilgrims set out on their notable journey to Canterbury, was being pulled down. Therefore he thought they had been employed in a good service to the neighbourhood in establishing a Masonic lodge. Referring to the lines from Chaucer given above, the W.M. said that when he presided as Master of the Mount Lebanon Lodge he had endeavoured to carry out his duties with "truth and honour, freedom and courtesy." Above all, he had endeavoured to perform the greatest of all duties—benevo-

lence. He had had the honour of being a Mason twelve years. He had served nine Stewardships, and though he did not say this in a spirit of boasting, he was not tired of his course. Next Wednesday he hoped to carry up £500 to the Boys' School Festival. He trusted others would do likewise. Reverting to the subject of the lodge, he hoped it would have a bright future and would always hold out the right hand of fellowship to visitors. Next year he hoped to instal his successor in the chair, and on that occasion to have an equal number of visitors, whose health he now proposed. Bro. Isaac J. Hooper Wilkins responded, and concluded by wishing "Prosperity to the Chaucer Lodge, and may it Live Long and Flourish." At this point the W.M. asked the brethren to subscribe half-a-crown a-piece towards the relief of the distress caused by the recent inundations in France. This was immediately and cheerfully done, and £6 2s. 6d. was collected. Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford proposed "The Charities," and drew attention to the fact that £25,000 a-year was collected for the Masonic Institutions. He refuted the doctrine of the Masonic Order being a rich order; for, though they had some members of rank and opulence among them, a very large majority were the great middle class, who had but small incomes to provide for their families. The greater credit was, therefore, due to them for so nobly supporting the charities. Although he was speaking in the presence of Bro. Little, there was no institution in this country which deserved more heartily the support of the Order at the present moment than the Boys' School. The boys educated there were the sons of our own brethren with whom we had sat down. We stood in loco parentis to these boys, and were bound to give them the best education we could. The Girls' School was second to none, and, speaking as an old clergyman, he did not know of another institution for girls in the country so well conducted. He had, also, nothing but praise to bestow on the Benevolent Institution for Aged Masons and Masons' Widows. Bro. E. H. Thielley thanked the W.M. and brethren on behalf of his distressed countrymen in France for the collection made on their behalf. Bro. Binckes responded for "The Charities." No such limited body as Masons contributed so largely to their institutions, which were a pride to the Order. In the presence of such brethren as those around him it was unnecessary that he should go through the various needs and deserts of those institutions. Suffice it to say that taking all three together there were some 600 individuals supported by them, who, but for them, would be left to the mercies of the cold world. Bro. Binckes afterwards noticed the new experiment of the Wednesday, and the alteration in the date of the festival, in the locale, and in the system of brethren dining alone. He volunteered to predict success for it, and believed that more than 600 would sit down to banquet at the Alexandra Palace. If it should be a success it would be the inauguration of a new régime, and he asked the brethren to endeavour to make it a success. In a pecuniary point of view he expected the Stewards' lists would rival the largest sum the institution ever had received. He concluded by thanking the brethren for having on this, their first meeting in the Chaucer Lodge, sent up Stewards to each of the institutions. After the other toasts had been disposed of, the brethren retired, having spent a delightful evening, which was enlivened by some charming singing and recitations by various brethren.

Masonic Tidings.

A full report of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Suffolk, by our own correspondent, will appear in our next issue.

ROYAL DRAMATIC COLLEGE.—The annual fête in aid of this Institution took place at the Alexandra Palace, on Saturday last, and, despite the very unfavourable weather, drew together a large attendance. The amusements offered to the public were of a varied description. Selections from a few of the most popular pieces of the present day were given, in which many well known artistes sustained characters, Bros. James and Thorne appearing in "Our Boys." In the Great Hall, Mrs. Stirling, Miss Ada Swanborough, Miss Fowler, the Vokes family, and many others contributed a series of miscellaneous amusements.

NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION.—Among the valuable prizes at the forthcoming Wimbledon meeting is one for £20, contributed by the well known firm Messrs. Felton & Sons, proprietors of the popular "Specialité" Sherry, Albemarle-street.

The Prince and Princess of Wales will open the new branch establishment of the Kent-road Deaf and Dumb Asylum at Margate on Monday, the 19th inst.

We learn from Portsmouth that the Duke of Connaught proposes shortly to take a voyage in his yacht along the coast of Syria.

The Grand Lodge of Quebec have appointed Bro. George Kenning to supply the whole of the Grand Officers with the necessary clothing and jewels. This insignia, which is of a most elaborate description, will be on view, as soon as finished, at the Masonic Depot, Little Britain, and of this due notice will be given.

The Fifteen Sections will be worked in the Star Lodge of Instruction, 1275, at the Marquis of Granby, New Cross Road, on Saturday, the 24th inst., by Bro. T. Pulsford, P.M. 1158, &c. Lodge will be opened at 6.30 precisely.

MOUNT LEBANON LODGE OF INSTRUCTION (No. 73).—The ceremony of consecration and installation will be worked in this Lodge of Instruction on Wednesday evening the 14th July inst., at 8 o'clock precisely, by Bro. Terry, P.M., P.Z., and Secretary of the Benevolent Institution, at Bro. Plock's, "Windsor Castle," 199, Southwark Bridge Road. Brethren are invited to attend; Masonic Craft clothing to be worn. This excellent Lodge of Instruction meets every Wednesday evening at 8 o'clock; Bro. Noke, P.M., Preceptor.

A Concert will be given for the benefit of the widow of the late Richard Limpus, founder of the College of Organists, Organist of St. Michael's, Cornhill, and Provincial Grand Organist of Middlesex, at St. George's Hall, Langham Place, Regent-street. The following artistes have already kindly promised their assistance:—Vocalists: Miss Edith Wynne and Miss Annie Sinclair, Miss Julia Elton, Madame Poole, Miss Kate Wild, and Miss Palmer; Mr. George Perren, Mr. Wilby Cooper, Mr. Henry Guy, Mr. Stedman, Mr. G. T. Carter, Mr. Pearson, and Mr. W. H. Cummings. Signor Caravoglia, Mr. Thurley Beale, Mr. Theodore Distin, and Mr. Lewis Thomas. Instrumentalists: Pianoforte, Miss Ellen Day, Mr. Charles E. Stephens, and Mr. Henry Parker. Conductors: Mr. Ganz, Mr. Sidney Naylor, Mr. Walter Macfarren, and Mr. F. Kingsbury. A selection of glees and part songs will be sung by the gentlemen of the Choir of St. Michael's Cornhill. Prices of admission—Five Shillings, Three Shillings, and Two Shillings. Tickets to be obtained at Messrs. Cramer and Co.; Chappell and Co.; Boosey and Co.; Novello and Co., and of Mrs. Limpus, 41, Queen-square.

Bro. Frederick Kent, C.C., has received the diploma of Fellow of the Royal Historical Society.

Bro. the Right Hon. George Ward Hunt, as First Lord of the Admiralty, has accepted the invitation of the members of the Navy Club to be their guest on Wednesday, the 28th inst., at Willis's Rooms.

Bro. His Royal Highness Prince Leopold, attended by the Hon. Alexander Yorke, left Windsor Castle on Wednesday for Boyton Manor, Wilts, to be present at the marriage of Bro. Collins, which took place on the 8th inst.

Bro. Captain Boyton paid a visit to Middlesborough on Wednesday, for the purpose of displaying his life-saving dress. Many thousands of visitors were attracted from the surrounding towns, the weather being very propitious. The captain repeated his evolutions, and during the hour occupied was loudly cheered.

A testimonial is about to be presented to Bro. H. W. Smith, of Seaham Harbour, on his leaving, after a residence in the town of forty-three years.

THE BOYS' SCHOOL.—With respect to Bro. Perrott's circular, and Bro. Binckes' reply, we deem it to be in the interests of Freemasonry to publish neither. The matter has assumed a purely personal phase, which is unsuitable to the columns of the *Freemason*. With regard to the prizes, we have received two lists, which entirely differ, so we publish neither, as the number even of the names, is not the same.

FREEMASONRY IN NEW YORK.—Two capital engravings of the Dedication of the Masonic Temple in New York appeared in last week's issue of the *Pictorial World*.

MANSION HOUSE.—We are requested to state that the Lady Mayoress's receptions will be discontinued until further notice.

ALEXANDRA PALACE.—On Thursday last the great fête of the season was given in the Alexandra Palace, Madame Adelina Patti having consented to appear in connection with other members of Mr. Gye's company. In the evening there was a brilliant display of fireworks.

THE TOULOUSE FLOODS.—The Lord Mayor has received from her Majesty the Queen a cheque for £200 for this fund. Among the other principal amounts received at the Mansion House in respect of this fund were £400 from Lord Derby, £500 from Messrs. Fredk. Huth and Co., £100 each from Messrs. Heath and Co. and Mr. F. H. Dutton, £40 from Colonel and Mrs. Gordon, £26 5s. from Messrs. Veitch and Sons, and £20 from Mr. J. Dearman Birchall. The total receipts amount to nearly £6000.

The City of Carthage, which sailed from Liverpool for Calcutta on the 4th of June, arrived out (on Sunday, having made the quickest passage on record.

The consecration of the Liverpool Lodge will take place at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, on Wednesday the 14th. The Rev. J. F. Goggin, Past Prov. Grand Chaplain, Rector of Rufford, will be installed the first W.M.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT.—When the weather is hot it will be found that persons who suffer from swelled feet and ankles, varicose veins, ulcers, and sores of all kinds, and, in fact, from any skin disease, feel these complaints more troublesome, and aggravating than at any other time of the year. They will soon find relief in the use of these remedies, for if the wounds or ulcers are dressed with this Ointment it at once soothes the irritability of the skin, causes the discharges to lose their acrimonious character, and lessens any inflammation that may be present. It cannot be too widely known that these twin remedies are the most powerful of anti-ferbrile and anti-inflammatory agents we possess.—ADVT.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF DEVON.

A special Provincial Grand Lodge of Devon was held at Huyshe Temple, Plymouth, on Wednesday, for the purpose of consecrating "Prudence" Lodge, No. 1550. The originators of the latest addition to the Masonic strength of the West were Bro. R. G. Bird and Bro. J. P. Rogers, the first Master and Junior Warden respectively. Their exertions (aided by others, Bros. J. Gover and J. G. Avery among them) in the matter, have been most arduous for the last three months, but they have their just reward in the knowledge that the results have exceeded their most sanguine anticipations. The suggestion of a new lodge arose in consequence of its being found that the evenings on which other lodges held their meetings were most inconvenient for business men, who, absent during the early part of the week, returned to Plymouth towards the end. This lodge, therefore, is formed for the purpose of removing this inconvenience, and will hold its meetings on Fridays. The lodge has fixed its initiation fee at ten guineas and its joining fee at two guineas. At their first meeting they will initiate five brethren—the largest number they can admit on any one night—and the names of others are down for subsequent nights. Seven joining members will also be balloted for on the first night. When the lodge has reached a certain strength it is the intention to still further increase the fees. The first officers named on the warrant are R. G. Bird, W.M.; J. G. Avery, S.W.; J. P. Rogers, J.W.; J. B. Gover, Sec.; J. J. Avery, Treas.; R. B. Twose, I.P.M.; B. N. Westcott, S.D.; J. G. Keverne, J.D.; F. B. Bond, I.G.; Rev. J. Whittle, Chaplain; G. H. Emery, Organist; W. Garland, D.C.; C. Philip, A.D.C.; R. R. Pengelly, S.S., and W. B. Hambly, J.S.

The lodge having been opened in ancient form, the P.G.M. apologized for the delay occasioned by the railway accident, and then remarked that it was particularly gratifying to him to be called upon to consecrate so important a lodge as that which they were about to consecrate.

The new lodge was then ably opened by W.M. Bird, and Bro. Rogers, P.G.Sec., read the warrant from the Grand Master (H.R.H. the Prince of Wales) constituting the lodge, and the brethren of the lodge having assented to the nomination of the officers, P.D.G.M. Metham, at the call of the P.G.M. delivered the following oration:—

Right Worshipful Sir,—By your command I have undertaken the task which it has so often previously been my pleasing duty to perform of delivering the usual oration; a duty made on this occasion more onerous, as the same address must, from want of time, serve for both the consecration of the Prudence Lodge and Huyshe Chapter. Unfortunately the duty is required of me at a time when I have been overwhelmed with most urgent and anxious engagements elsewhere, and I must ask the indulgence of the brethren if I am not able to place before them so concisely and clearly as I could wish, the important points on which I have to address them. But before all other topics I must speak of the honour done to our Craft by the acceptance by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales of the leadership of our Order. Who that witnessed that matchless spectacle will ever forget it; who is there "with soul so dead" as not, even now, to delight in conjuring up before his mind's eye that vast and grand picture in which figured all that is good, great, and noble in Masonry? Who is there so thoughtless as not to look beneath the surface and see, clear as the sun at noonday, that the many thousands who had gathered on that day from the north, the south, the east, and the west, the noble and the learned, the statesman, the minister of religion, the advocate, the physician, the merchant, the tradesman, the soldier, the sailor, and the sons of toil, came not only to do homage to a Royal Chief, all sufficient as such a season might, at any other time be esteemed. They

came in their thousands to shout down the taunting cry, and unjust imputation that they were disloyal to the State or unfaithful to true religion. They came to show the whole world that the noble tree of Masonry was still sound to the core, and still more vigorous than ever, although one branch had unhappily fallen to the ground. It devolves now upon Masons to show not only in the lodge, but in society, and in their daily lives, of how noble an Order they are the members. Masonry has done much for you all, and she has a right to expect that you should do much for her. I come now to the best mode of ensuring such a standard of moral character in our members as shall enable us to maintain the proud position our Order has reached, and to prevent its retrograding. The indiscriminate, and often culpable manner in which unfit and unworthy persons are admitted into the Order, is doing the greatest injury, and will eventually sap its towers and undermine its foundations, unless all lodges unite in enforcing more stringent rules as to the admission of candidates. I have given long and serious consideration to the remedies requisite, and in my mind, they resolve themselves into two heads, pecuniary, and what is much more important, moral. I believe the fee for initiation should never be below £10 10s., and that every lodge should pay towards charitable objects, giving a preference to those of a Masonic character, at least 5s. for each member, independent of Grand Provincial, or Private Lodge subscriptions.

Secondly.—That every Master and his Wardens should be required to make themselves acquainted by private inquiry with the social position and moral qualities of every candidate for initiation, and whether he had ever been proposed in any other Lodge. That the name of no candidate who resides at a distance from the lodge in which he is proposed, shall be placed in the circular for initiation until the most searching inquiries have been made as to the reason why he was not proposed in a lodge nearer to his place of residence. That the Emergency Clause should be more rigidly enacted. That every candidate should pledge himself not to use the Masonic emblems on any sign-board, flag, card, or paper connected with his calling.

That no member of a lodge who has compounded with his creditors, shall be allowed to continue as a subscribing member until his debts have been paid in full.

Such, my brethren, are some of the suggestions I would offer for the adoption of those lodges which sincerely desire to sustain the dignity and integrity of the order.

I turn from that which is at all times an unpleasant task to one more consonant with Masonic feelings and particularly congenial to myself. I allude to that splendid display of Masonic benevolence which the United Provinces of Devonshire and Cornwall made on the occasion of his Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh placing the memorial stone of the Royal British Female Orphan Asylum, with which I am so personally and intimately connected. In private lodges and to private members of the craft, I have had some opportunities of expressing my grateful thanks for that munificent contribution, now amounting, with other donations from other parts of England, to nearly 1,250 guineas, including 25 guineas from the Royal Patron of the Fund H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Grand Master. I eagerly embrace this opportunity of thanking you, and I cannot express how sincerely. The impression made on the public mind is favourable to Freemasonry; its benefits will be felt by many an orphan of our brave but unfortunate brethren whose lives may be sacrificed. It is right that you should know that during the late election, out of 150 candidates, there were no less than three orphans of our deceased brethren, of whom two were elected, and the other, who was only brought to our knowledge at a very late period, by the W.M. of the lodge at Weymouth, Br. Hooper, son of our esteemed Br. Hooper, of Exeter, will, I trust, by your votes be elected next year. And now Worshipful Sir and Brethren, I earnestly commend the good

work in which we have been engaged to-day to the care of Him who is the ruler and architect of this as of all works.

The Master and members of the new lodge having pledged to obey the laws and constitution of the Grand Lodge, the P.G.M. declared the "Prudence" Lodge regularly and duly constituted, and proceeded with the impressive ceremony of consecration, in which he was assisted by P.G.S.W. Col. Elliott, and P.C.J.W. I. Latimer, the Revs. T. W. Lemon, and the Rev. G. Whittle, P.G. Chaplains. The musical portion of the ceremony was effectively rendered by a small choir, Bro. Emery presiding at the harmonium.

The lodge having been closed in due form, several of the brethren adjourned to an adjoining room, where Bro. R. G. Bird was installed W.M. of "Prudence," and he afterwards appointed his officers as stated above.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF DEVON.

Immediately afterwards the Provincial Grand Chapter of Devonshire met for the consecration of the "Huyshe" Chapter, 1099, under the presidency of the Rev. J. Huyshe, G. Supt. of R.A. Masons. The beautiful consecration ceremony was wanting in nothing to give it that solemnly impressive character which marks it. The chief burden, of course, fell upon the G. Supt., but he received valuable assistance from Principals Metham, H., and Rogers, J. The officers appointed to the new chapter were Pr. Brown, Z.; Gillman, H.; and Blackhall, J.

The ordinary business of Grand Chapter was then transacted. Scribe E. (Comp. Rogers) having reported a balance in hand of £63, some time was occupied in disposing of it amongst various charities. Comp. Rodda mentioning that Comp. Curteis had become a steward of the Masonic School for Boys, for the present year, moved that Grand Chapter had the privilege of being represented on his list. Comp. Du Pre seconded this. Prin. Rae proposed that the sum be twenty guineas, but this was lost. Finally a sum of fifteen guineas was granted, on the motion of Comp. Colonel Elliott (Comp. Rodda withdrawing the original motion), to Comp. Curteis for the Boys' School.

On the motion of Comp. Harris, 20 guineas was voted to the Fortescue Fund; and at the suggestion of Comp. Jones, seconded by Comp. Gover, 10 guineas were voted to the Masonic School for Girls. Comp. Leigh moved that 10 guineas be given to the Royal British Female Orphan Asylum, Stoke, which was still in want of £1,500. Comp. J. Harris asked if this was not the same institution to which the Freemasons had given £1,250. He did not anticipate that any other claim would be made on them, especially as it was an institution outside Masonry. Comp. the Rev. J. Whittle contended that nothing that was good and honourable, and no effort which had for its object the relief of the distressed and especially the succour of the orphans was outside the principles of Masonry. (Applause.) The motion having been carried with one dissentient, Comp. Metham heartily thanked the brethren for another proof of their interest in an institution he had so much at heart. It too, had enabled Masons to erect a memorial to the world. Twelve months ago he believed that if he could raise from the brethren £200 it would be a great thing. Later on it was his hope that they would contribute one-eighth of the cost; but now he was glad to tell them that with what was promised the Freemasons would raise one-fourth part of the £6,000 expended on the extension of the Asylum. (Applause.)

On the motion of Comp. Leigh, two guineas were voted to the Masonic bed at the Royal Albert Hospital.

The Grand Superintendent then proceeded to appoint his officers for the ensuing year, Comps. Metham, H.; Rogers, Scribe E.; Captain Keyworth, J.; Burden, 303, Scribe N.; J. P. Phillips, P.S.; Godstchalk, S.B.; Dr. H. Woodgates, G.Reg.; Emery, O.; Wolloughby, A.S.; and Twose, D.C. Comps. W. Joll had previously been elected as Secretary, and J. Harris and T. S. Bayly as Auditors.

NOTICE.

Many complaints having been received of the difficulty experienced in procuring the *Freemason* in the City, the publisher begs to append the following list, being a selected few of the appointed agents:—

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The *Freemason* is a sixteen page weekly newspaper, price 2d. It is published every Friday morning, and contains the most important and useful information relating to Freemasonry in every degree. Annual subscription in the United Kingdom, Post free, 10/. Brethren in foreign parts, wishing to have this newspaper sent them regularly from the office of publication, should, in sending their remittances, add to the 2d. per week the postage on 20z. newspapers.

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All communications, correspondence, reports, &c., must be addressed to the Editor.

Advertisements, change in address, complaints of difficulties in procuring *Freemason*, &c., to the Publisher, 198, Fleet-st., London, E.C.

Careful attention will be paid to all MSS. entrusted to the Editor, but he cannot undertake to return them unless accompanied by stamp directed covers.

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Answers to Correspondents.

All Communications, Advertisements, &c., intended for insertion in the Number of the following Saturday, must reach the Office not later than 12 o'clock on Wednesday morning.

The following stand over:—

Funeral Lodge at Glasgow; Sham Decorations; The Mercers Letter; Reports of Lodges 160, 1012, 1125, 1458, 1482, 1494.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, JULY 10, 1875.

THE CONSECRATION OF THE CHAUCER LODGE.

The consecration of this new lodge took place, according to the report elsewhere, on Friday last, under very favourable auspices. There was a numerous attendance of the brethren, in a very handsome room; all the ancient ceremonies were duly performed, under the presidency of our distinguished Bro. J. Hervey, Grand Secretary, with his two assistant officers, Bros. Little and Woodford, and the proceedings passed over prosperously and satisfactorily. In compliment to the old poet, the new lodge being in Southwark, not far from the site of the original Tabard Inn, adopted the time-honoured name of Geoffrey Chaucer, and we think very opportunely and wisely. For speculative Freemasonry always does well, in our opinion, when it connects itself, more or less directly, with those elevating acts and civilizing labours, which tend so greatly to the onward progress and peaceful victories of mankind. Since the days when Chaucer penned his famous lays, at least 400 years ago, what mighty changes have passed over this world of ours, and what struggles, and advances, and ameliorations, have successive generations witnessed, in all that renders life endurable and comfortable, attractive, and welcome. No longer for the most part spent amid the more degrading aspects of barbarous existence, this earth of ours to-day seems to manifest everywhere the upward condition of civilization and education! There is much no doubt to condemn, and more to deplore, alike in social anomalies and passing habits of life, modes of thought, the turbid passions, the fleeting pageantry of the hour. But yet his must be either a very cynical or morbid

mind, or he must take a very imperfect view of things, who does not and will not admit, that amid much that is sensational and startling, and more that is saddening and sorrowful day by day, there are yet tokens of the gradual improvement, alike of individual tastes and of national feelings. And it seems to us that amid the rolling cycles of time, which have left us since the hour that Chaucer, for instance, gave us his happy thoughts and quaint expressions in the then Anglo-Saxon vernacular, the voice of the poet especially has ever been distinctly heard above the din of men, and over the strife of tongues, uttering words of gentleness and fancy, of sympathy and goodness, of purity, honour, truth, and right, for the elevation of our struggling race, and for the spiritual improvement of the world. We commend, then, warmly the idea, whose soever it originally was, which induced Bro. Sabine and his officers and brethren to give to the new lodge the name of Chaucer. We are glad to see another vigorous offshoot of our old and grand Masonic tree "taking root downwards," and, let us hope, "bearing fruit upwards," especially in so important a portion of our Metropolis. For we are amongst those infatuated persons, as some would term us, who believe in Freemasonry, both in the propagation of its principles, and the development of its moral and peaceful influences. We do not wish to take too high a ground, or claim too great a scope for its labours and its lessons; we equally object to rhapsodical utterances, and untenable assertions; but we think we are warranted in saying this much, that every lodge, fitly presided over, properly worked, and composed of congenial elements, may be an instrument, providentially, of much intellectual, moral, and civilizing good! It is true that we have nothing very new to announce, and like the famous sufferer of old, ours may fairly be the response to-day, "Story, God bless you, I've none to tell you, Sir." For ours are only old-fashioned truths, and antiquated moralities; we proclaim reverence to our Maker, and loyalty to our Queen; we ask for due respect to constituted authority, obedience to our laws, and avoidance alike of seditious aims, or revolutionary tendencies. We want no definition of personal belief, we respect the right of conscience, we uphold liberty of opinion, free discussion, and we denounce persecution, whether sectarian or pseudo-religious, of every kind. We are a religious, a peaceable, a good feeling, a loyal, a benevolent, a liberal-minded, a tolerant fraternity, and when we have said this we have not much more to say. We welcome all good men and true within our pale, not asking them "how do you believe, or what do you believe," contented so long as agreeing together in humble acknowledgment of the Great Creator and Father of all, and sympathizing with the brotherhood of our fellow children of the dust, we seek in the works of heartfelt charity and good will, to assuage the contentions, to soften the acerbities, to relieve the distresses, and to lessen the calamities of our common earthly inheritance. And here we stop to-day, congratulating Bro. Sabine and all the members of his lodge on their auspicious start in Masonic life, proposing next week to call attention to the weighty words and sound seasonable advice which fell from the lips of Bro. Hervey, as Consecrating Officer of this, one of the youngest of the many promising numbers of our rapidly increasing Masonic family.

MASONIC SYMPATHY.

Old John Wesley made a great use, in his early teaching at any rate, of the duty and importance of sympathy. He worked, so to say, upon a long neglected mine deeply lying in the heart and emotion of his hearers, and we have always felt that many religious teachers might now-a-days well follow in his steps, and even improve upon his endeavours. For curiously enough, despite our habitual coldness and inconsiderateness for each other here, our want too often of hearty interest in the welfare and griefs, the trials and joys of our fellow creatures, we all of us often require sympathy ourselves at many times and at many crossings of our journey of life. It has been said, and probably truly, that

we all have more sympathy for others than we are aware of, and that it only requires to be stirred and evoked in order to be manifested more clearly and fully in us all alike. There may be some truth in such a statement as regards us all in our psychological formation, and our individual temperament, but yet, on the whole, we are inclined to believe that sympathy, like every other grace, if implanted in us by our Divine Creator, has to be educed and expanded, and invigorated, and trained under a higher power, by the needs and claims, the duties and responsibilities of life. We all of us have experienced times when sympathy is very needful and very refreshing to us. In the first moments of personal bereavement, in the full flowing tide of heavy sorrow, in the pressure of adverse circumstances, in the cruel tortures of calumny, in morbid moods, and in lonely cares, how pleasant it is to listen to the always tender accents of true and faithful sympathy? Then it is that we rejoice to think that God has given us those who cheer our anxieties, who lessen our woes, who repair our misfortunes, who soothe our wounded or complaining spirit with all that graceful charm which sympathizing friendship can offer to lighten the dark clouds of trouble, or smooth away the rugged corners of the road on which we all are travelling now. And some of us have found in Freemasonry a brotherly good will, affection, and interest, the truest expression of personal sympathy and kindly concern. It is one of the great charms of Freemasonry, that it conciliates firm friendships amongst men of diverse views and beliefs, and that it serves often to quicken in us all alike, these sympathetic evidences of friendly concern and friendship, which if they belong to us all more or less alike, we too often allow to "rest," so to say in "abeyance," or to be forgotten in stoic indifference. Yes somehow Freemasonry often aids to kindle a fire where none has burnt vividly before, and to evoke for us all alike, those living and active exertions of friendship, interest, and good will which serve more than anything else to render human life enjoyable, and to work out all the nobler characteristics of the human race. How many fast friendships has Freemasonry cemented? How much undying sympathy has it brought to light and perfection? And after all no nobler or better expression of our true individual life, and our purely personal showing can be aimed at, or believed in, or worked out by any of us. To sympathize with our brother, to believe in his truth and honour, and good repute, to smile on his efforts, to encourage his toils, to uphold his good name, to vindicate his upright character, to rebuke the slanderer, and the maligner, who like gad flies both buzz and sting, is indeed the true work of Masonic sympathy. To feel for each other here, to grieve with the calamities, to rejoice with the successes of humanity, to mourn over grievous wrong, and to uphold manfully the right, in season and out of season, never to desert a good cause, and ever to sympathize with all that is pure, and peaceable, and righteous, and of good repute, is the duty of every true Freemason. While then we all sympathize warmly with each other, and learn even to sympathize more and more with each other, let us never be ashamed boldly to discountenance vice and wrong, injustice and villainy, under whatever names they may be cloaked among men, and let us, we repeat, have a fellow feeling from the bottom of our hearts, not only for our friend and our brother, but for everything here that lends dignity to virtue, and gives consistency to truth.

THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE BOYS' SCHOOL FOR 1875.

When these lines meet the eyes of our readers the Anniversary for 1875 of this most important institution will be a thing of the past, let us hope, "though lost to sight to memory dear." As we pen these words to-day, the result of the "coup de Binckes," to which he himself humorously and vivaciously alluded at the Chaucer Lodge gathering, amid the applause of the brethren, is still enveloped in the haze of uncertainty. Bro. Binckes, in his animated address last Friday, seemed to anticipate a very great success, and we sincerely trust that his legitimate anticipa-

tions may be perfectly realized, and his strenuous exertions fittingly rewarded. But it is hopeless for us now to moralize, or to dwell on what will be, for when our brethren look down this column all will be settled and ended, whether for good or evil, whether for failure or success. Bro. Binckes alluded also, last Friday, to what some termed his revolutionary proceedings, first in going to Muswell Hill at all, and secondly, in introducing our sisters to share in the festival programme. "No longer," said our brother, in a burst of poetic fervour, "are we to look up to them at a dim distance; in this age of progress and expanding civilization we ask them to come down to us from those inaccessible regions, and grace the genial board, and sit happily and confidently by our sides." No wonder that the brethren loudly applauded the speaker, and we observed one or two of the elder brethren amongst us, married men though they be, very demonstrative. We are inclined to agree with Bro. Binckes. In the first place, there is no objection to Muswell Hill Masonically. "High hills" are old places of assembly for Freemasons, and as regards our sisters, we think the time has come when the exclusion of ladies from our greater gatherings should no longer be insisted upon as "de rigueur" by Masonic rules and regulations. If Bro. Binckes has never any other faults found with him than by those who really are the "wet blankets" of all Masonic meetings, the "stumbling blocks" to all Masonic improvements, he will do very well. We believe, ourselves, that in this development of the anniversary meeting, in the assembling of sisters and brethren all interested in the welfare of a most admirable educational institution, Bro. Binckes is wise in his generation, and, knowing how to sail on the "ebb tide" of general Masonic feeling, will be wafted on favouring trade winds, to a haven of success and reward. No doubt some of our ancient brethren, and some of us ourselves, let us be honest, in the matter, have objected to the presence of ladies. The dear creatures do so attract and please, they make so "much of the running" to use a sporting phrase, that we lords of the creation often have to pale our puny fires before the scintillations of woman's wit, her loving heart, and her graceful goodness. But yet surely our male exclusiveness is a great mistake. For the Boys' School, as Bro. Binckes properly said, our sisters have laboured, for it they work, for it they collect, and why should they be debarred from the pleasures of the festival day, when, let us hope they may be led, by the sights they witness, and the words they hear, to increase their kindly sympathy and interest in Freemasons and Freemasonry. Who knows what fates may be decided, in the full flow of aerated and cooling liquids, amid the echoes of music, during the intervals of the speeches. Bro. Jones will have made the rash plunge, in an unguarded second, and his Medora will have not said no. Bro. Robinson will find the agreeable little widow, more agreeable than ever, and Mr. and Mrs. Robinson will soon announce "No Cards." Bro. Brown will have fallen at last before the wiles of azure eyes and golden curls, and his friends Bros. Figgins and Jackson will declare that he's "gone and done it." For all this and much more Bro. Binckes is responsible, and an indulgent Order will no doubt at the fitting time ask for a full explanation from him. We are happy however in being able to state that the Stewards' lists on the occasion amounted to the handsome returns of £12,700 0s 0d. We congratulate Bro. Binckes. We shall recur to the subject in our next.

THE RECENT FLOODS IN FRANCE.

As Freemasons we always sympathize deeply and truly with the trials and afflictions of humanity. In this view we fully endorse all that is so well said by a correspondent in *The Freemason*. Every now and then there come before us, in this great and living world of ours, at home and abroad, before our doors, or in some distant land, sad evidences of wasting and destruction, of calamity and misery, brought about by the convulsions of nature, so to say, or by some fearful exhibition of unavoidable disaster. An

earthquake submerges a whole town and population, a fire levels to the ground the houses of thousands, a reservoir bursts its bounds, carrying death and destruction amid peaceful myriads, or a river overflows its banks and sweeps all before it in its resistless strength, overthrowing the works of many hands, and causing a watery grave to many old and young. At this moment a portion of the fair land of France, Toulouse, is suffering from the terrible inundation caused by the overflowing of the Garonne. Houses are dismantled and destroyed, cottages are in ruins, a large number of human beings have perished in the surging waters, and more than one noble and gallant Frenchman has fallen at the post of duty in the endeavour to save some sinking fellow-creatures. A large number of the industrious population are now homeless and penniless, their tenements and furniture swept away and destroyed, probably many savings of years gone never to return, and the French Government and the French people are manfully endeavouring to meet this great disaster, in a spirit of energy and liberality which deserves all praise. It seems to us that our Masonic Lodges may fairly make a lodge collection for the sufferers and send it to our worthy and estimable brother, the Lord Mayor, at the Mansion House, for our French brethren and sisters across the Channel. The W.M. of the Chaucer Lodge inaugurated, happily, his new regime by a small but successful "whip" for the occasion, and if every lodge will do the same, leaving each brother to give what he can afford, a considerable sum will be raised for the relief of a suffering and industrious population. We in England, have, in truth, much of admiration for our Gallican neighbours. We admire their geniality of spirit and their animation of character, we respect the courage they shew in adverse circumstances and their happy endurance of dark and dangerous days. We recognize their many claims to warm sympathy and friendly good-will, and now that their industrious and kind-hearted population is suffering from the direst calamities that can afflict humanity, the feeling of every Englishman, and the wish of every Freemason will be to offer them both ready and hearty co-operation, and to hold out to them the kindly hand of fellowship and relief. We hope that our views may be seconded by our benevolent fraternity, and we shall be glad to announce in the *Freemason* any contribution to the Lord Mayor's Fund for the speedy support and assistance of so many suffering fellow-creatures in France.

PROVINCIAL FUNDS.—III.
CORNWALL.

In the good province of Cornwall the annual income seems to be about £230 per annum, more or less. This amount is made up to the close of the financial year, July, 8th, 1875, of the following items:—Balance, £64 13s. 2d.; collection in church, £13 15s. 0d.; fees of honour, £18 18s. 0d.; lodge dues, £133 7s. 6d.; dispensations, £5—in all, £230 18s. 8d. The expenditure is as follows:—Donation to vicar of Bodmin, one-fifth of collection, £2 15s. 0d.; East Cornwall Hospital, £5 10s. 0d.; Cornwall Masonic Annuity and Benevolent Fund, £6 10s. 0d.; Cornwall Annuity and Benevolent Fund, £25 0s. 0d. donation to the Royal Orphan Asylum, £10 10s. 0d.; Relief to a brother and a widow, £4 0s. 0d.; two brethren, £20 0s. 0d.; special expenses, £47 17s. 4d.; ordinary expenses, £64 1s. 5d. This last sum is no doubt increased by the great gathering at Plymouth, 14th August last year, to greet our Royal brother the Prince of Wales. The balance for the year is £49 4s. 11d. in favour of Prov. Grand Lodge. The Province of Cornwall has also £2,000 funded for its Annuity and Benevolent Fund, which does not appear in the Financial Statement of the Prov. G. Lodge. It was established in 1864, and is supported by the voluntary subscriptions of the brethren, each lodge electing a Steward to collect the subscriptions. It now supports 4 annuitants of £20 each for life, and it is also intended, we understand to aid the education of children, and the relief of widows of Cornwall Freemasons. There

are now 24 lodges in the Province of Cornwall, and 1340 members. In 1874 there were 177 initiations. The province has 68 votes for the Girls' School, 191 for the Boys' School, 118 for aged Masons, and 121 for the Widows, in all 498 votes. Our worthy Bro. W. J. Hughan, takes a very active part officially in all that relates to the charities, and the voting for these institutions, following the wise example of West Yorkshire.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

HOW MASONRY IS MADE.
To the Editor of the *Freemason*.

Dear Sir and Brother,—
Permit me to supplement the letter of "L. of L." in to-day's issue with a few remarks. Although I agree with "L. of L." that the balloting for non-resident persons is a fruitful source of the admission of unfit members, and think that the instance he records is of such a disgraceful character that the P.G.M. of W.L. should give it more than a passing consideration, yet there are other causes of the introduction of unsuitable individuals which merit attention, and I may add that if the P.G. Lodge could carry out the admirable suggestions contained in the three resolutions proposed by L. of L. I feel satisfied that they would effectually grapple with the difficulty, and do much to re-establish Masonry in the eyes of the more respectable. There is no doubt but that this matter is pressing itself to the front in the minds of all earnest and zealous Masons—the rapid increase of individuals who would not, as L. of L. says, ever have dreamed a few years ago, of gaining admission into the Order. If you admit one or two unsuitable men into a lodge you probably shock the feelings of a dozen good members, and by not attending the lodge meetings they permit the lodge to be made use of in introducing others of the same class, and it thus becomes infested with and governed by unmasonic Masons, and the result is lavish expenditure, neglected charities, internal division, and a legacy of widows and orphans.

I may say that nearly all the cases within my personal knowledge that have become burdens upon our Masonic charities or private benevolence have been the widows and children of those who did not attend their lodges, who would not contribute to the charities, and against whom there was prima facie evidence that they were not fit and proper persons to become a Mason.

The source of injury to the Craft that I wish to point out, in addition to the one of proposing non-resident persons, is in Secretaries and Masters of lodges not making inquiries, or in not using the knowledge they possess respecting the suitability of joining members or persons who have been rejected in other lodges.

I will mention a few cases in connection with a lodge in West Lancashire to which I belong, and which will serve to illustrate an evil that will be more or less patent to the minds of most Masons.

We have had individuals rejected in our lodge accepted in others without any inquiry, and joining members accepted by others who were known to be in arrears with us, without a word of inquiry from the Secretary or W.M.; in fact, Mr. Editor, with the exception of one lodge from the South of England I do not remember that we have had an official inquiry respecting one who has been rejected or a member who was in arrears. This shows a very lax system as many for whom quarterages have been paid to the Grand Lodge and P.G. Lodge before they were removed from the list of members have and can obtain admission into other lodges without difficulty. I will instance a few cases. No. 1 was notoriously in arrears with us, and it was known to many members of another lodge, but he was accepted by them without hesitation. No. 2 was a source of trouble to us and in arrears; he was accepted about two years ago by another lodge, and has not paid them his joining fee or subscription since. No. 3 accepted as joining member, in arrears with us. No. 4 rejected by us, accepted without inquiry by another lodge. The above and many other cases could be given which have occurred within a short period, all showing great inattention or culpable negligence. It is sad to think that lodges should close their eyes to the Masonic antecedents of a member, for if he is in arrears with one lodge he will certainly not be an acquisition to another. I might add to the resolutions proposed by L. of L. that if a lodge accepts as a joining member one who is in arrears with his mother lodge that the lodge he joins should be made responsible for such arrears.

I am, yours fraternally,

QUERN.

Preston, June 26th, 1875.

THE FLOODS IN FRANCE.
To the Editor of the *Freemason*.

Dear Sir and Brother,—
The sad reports which, since more than a week, we daily read in the papers of the terrible disaster caused by the inundation of the rivers in the South of France, should remind us of our Masonic duty to carry one of our great principles into effect, viz., charity. Masonry is universal, and, consequently, our Masonic duties are of an international character.

I think it only wants an application to the generosity and human feeling which is so remarkable throughout the Craft, and every brother will give to the best of his financial position.

I am convinced if you, dear Sir and Brother, would announce the opening of a subscription list in the *Freemason's* publishing office, your endeavours would be crowned by a desirable result, and you would speedily be able to make some fair remittance to the Paris Central Committee.

Believe me, dear Sir and Brother, very fraternally yours,
M. KLEIMENHAGEN,
No. 1298, Royal Standard Lodge.

FREEMASONRY AT JERUSALEM.

We have been requested to publish the following:
Royal Solomon Mother Lodge, No. 293,
Jerusalem, May 25th, 1875.

HENRY MAUDSLAY, Esq., C.E., &c., &c.
Institution of Civil Engineers,
Westminster, London.

Dear Sir and much esteemed Brother,—At its meeting of May the 20th, this Royal Solomon Mother Lodge, of which you are an honorary member, instructed me to address you a copy of the vote of thanks passed on February the 3rd, 1875, and recorded in the minutes of this lodge. It gives me great pleasure indeed to communicate the same, adding to that my personal greetings and sincerest thanks.

Said vote of thanks, read by Bro. Bergheien, the Senior Warden, ran thus:

"I believe I shall be acting in accordance with the sentiments of the members of this lodge by rising to propose that a vote of thanks be recorded to Bro. Henry Maudslay, who, to our regret, is about to leave Jerusalem. Our thanks are due to Bro. Maudslay not only for the honour he has done us by joining our lodge as an honorary member, but are due to him for the great and good work he has done in and to the lodge. The position of the lodge a few weeks ago was very precarious, and had it not been for Bro. Maudslay, as far as I see, the consequences would have been such as to have made the heart of every true Mason sorrowful. We have to thank Bro. Maudslay for the anxiety he has shown, the trouble and pains he has taken in re-establishing, as it were, our young lodge, and placing it in its present footing and organization.

"I am sure each of us feels personally grateful to him for the good and sound advice he has so kindly given us, and to that we hope to show when he revisits us that his advice and his counsel had not been given in vain.

"We greatly regret his leaving us, and we shall always look forward to his seeing us again, and that soon.

"In wishing him God speed, a safe and pleasant long life and health, let us assure him that we shall always bear a grateful remembrance of him in our hearts."

Hoping this will meet and find you in perfect health, I avail myself of this opportunity to reiterate to you my best regards and the sentiments of high consideration.

Yours, in brotherly love,

SERAPION MURAD,
J.W. and Sec.

P.S.—Having received my leave of absence for twelve months, I shall leave Jaffa on the 5th of June for Berlin. Address: Foreign Office, Berlin.

"TEMPERANCE"

To the Editor of the *Freemason*.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Will you kindly allow me to remind our brother "South London" that "Temperance" is not only the rule in every lodge, but, as one of our four cardinal virtues, is an integral part of the very system of Masonry.

If instead of "Temperance" our brother means "Teetotalism," I would remind him that this is as much alien to the spirit of Freemasonry as the other is an essential part of its teaching. Freemasonry gives to every brother the liberty of ruling his own actions, but not those of his fellows.

At the same time let me tell our brother that if side by side with total abstinence in himself he can tolerate moderation in the brethren who sit beside him, he may feel at home in any and every Masonic lodge.

I might add that I have myself been a total abstainer for a long period, and further, that I was such when initiated—since that day I have been in many lodges and Grand Lodges, and that, whether ruling, working, or visiting, I have never found any brethren interfere with my own practice, nor have I found it interfere with them.

Yours, Dear Sir and Brother, faithfully and fraternally,
P.M. &c.

Multum in Parvo; or Masonic Notes and Queries.

MASONIC ARCHAEOLOGY.

Observing the remarks on this subject in the *Freemason* of June 26th—"May I ask how comes it, if our Freemasonry dates from Hiram Abiff, that there are numerous accredited instances, relied on throughout the Craft as veritable, of the lives of English Freemasons having been saved, or spared, on their making the proper sign to Hindus—for the latter have never had any knowledge of Hiram Abiff?"

The explanation is simple, and, if doubted, let the doubt be accompanied by a reference to all that is known of Hiram Abiff, through sacred or profane history. The explanation is simply this: that Hiram Abiff derived his knowledge of Masonry, of both kinds, from the Brahmans, the Solomonic speculative Masonry being the offshoot of a purer symbolism, before it had degenerated into idolatry, when the symbol itself came to be worshipped, instead of that which it symbolized.

KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS.

Can any brother inform me, if an American Order called the Knights of Pythias has any place of meeting in London, and, if so, where? K.

MASONS' MARKS.

We gladly support our esteemed Bro. Kelly in asking what has become of Bro. Shaw's valuable collection of Masonic Marks. If they are to be had, would it not be well to have them published, and their character and contents become the common property of the Craft universal in a handy book form? Surely sufficient subscribers could be obtained to render such an enterprise not an unmasonic failure financially, as such works generally turn out to be.

W. J. HUGHAN.

LODGE OF INDUSTRY, GATESHEAD.

I have been familiar with the history of the old lodge at Gateshead for some years through the medium of the sketch of its career which prefaces the bye-laws. I have several times applied for information as to its minutes, but not succeeding in procuring anything additional to the history already published. I am, therefore, exceedingly glad that the W.M. and the Treasurer, Bro. E. Robson, P.M., have decided to place the records of the lodge in the hands of Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, M.A., for, like several of us Masonic students, he has made such matters his particular study.

We shall all be anxiously on the look-out for fuller particulars than those already afforded in the pages of the *Freemason* to-day, which are promised for the *Masonic Magazine* in August, and especially the copy of the "Orders of Antiquity," by which we presume is meant another copy of the "Old Charges," or in other words the "Gateshead MS."

The Record-book is a valuable "find," and exceedingly curious. The particulars as to the "Highrodium" will likely be beyond our comprehension at the present time, but in order that every opportunity may be given us to discover their meaning, let us express a hope that the minutes will be printed verbatim et literatim in the *Freemason* as well as in the *Masonic Magazine*.

WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN.

Truro, 3rd July, 1875.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The General Committee of this Institution held its regular monthly meeting on Saturday last, under the presidency of Bro. H. Browse. There were also present Bros. John Symonds, Benjamin Head, Hyde Pullen, S. Rosenthal, H. Massey (*Freemason*), H. Dubosc, F. C. Moutrie, H. W. Hunt, J. Wordsworth, J. G. Chancellor, W. Paas, Jesse Turner, J. W. Dossell, F. J. Cox, and F. Binckes (Secretary). The minutes of the last meeting having been read by Bro. Binckes, that brother proceeded to read the minutes of the various House (regular and special) Committee meetings which had been held since the last meeting of the General Committee. These reported the different proceedings which had taken place with reference to the school, among which were that fourteen gentlemen had become candidates for the post of headmaster of the school, which would become vacant at Christmas next. Out of these fourteen gentlemen thirteen had attended for election, and the Rev. S. Morris, of King's College, had been chosen to fill the Rev. O. G. D. Perrott's place, which he had resigned. The General Committee unanimously confirmed this appointment, and passed a resolution, also unanimously, that Dr. Morris should enter upon his duties on the reassembling of the boys on the 10th of August, assisted by four assistant masters in lieu of those who also retired. The Committee proceeded then with the consideration of the petitions of the friends of boys who wish to be admitted to the school as pupils. There were eight of these, and after the consideration of them the Committee adjourned.

PROVINCIAL GRAND MARK LODGE OF SOMERSET.

The annual meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, Weston-super-Mare, on Monday, the 21st June, and was attended by Bros. Wm. Thompson, J.P., S.G. Mark W.; A. W. Butter, J.G. Mark W.; Rev. J. R. Davy, P.G. Chaplain of England, P.G.C.; E. T. Payne, P.G.O., P.G. Treas.; W. W. Westcott, M.D., R. of M.; Col. H. Guyon, P.G.S.W.B.; Lieut.-Gen. H. E. Doherty, C.B., P.G.O.; B. Gay, P.G.O.; A. W. Scott, P. Prov. G.O. and G. Std.; G. F. Tuckey, P. Prov. G.J.W., and G. Std.; Benj. Cox, P. Prov. G.S.W., and P.G. Std., and R.A.C.; W. Richards, J. T. Hallam, M. Ansaldo, J. M. Hunt, G. Summers, R. Gregory, J. Easterbrook, J. Birchell, W. Nott, G. Mann, J. B. Halford, W. Richardson, H. Amor, P. Prov. G.S.D.; S. Jones, P. Prov. J.O.; R. C. Else, P. Prov. J.G.W.; Major-Gen. G. B. Munbee, J.P., P. Prov. S.G.W.; and numerous brethren from Bath, Bristol, Bridgewater, and other towns in the province.

In the absence of the Provincial Grand Master, Bro. the Earl of Carnarvon, the Deputy Grand Master, Bro. Captain Irwin, presided. The members of the Provincial Grand Lodge were received in due form by the acting W.M., General Munbee (the W.M., Bro. A. W. Butter, being an officer of the province), and members of Lodge 102.

The lodge having been opened, some formal business was transacted, and in the course of the proceedings the P.G.S.W., Bro. W. Thompson, of Bath, in fulfilment of a promise given last year, presented to the lodge a very handsome blue silk banner, bearing the arms of the P.G.M., beautifully painted in heraldic colours.

The Deputy Provincial Grand Master, in a few well-chosen sentences, conveyed to Bro. Thompson the thanks

of the lodge for his generous gift, and expressed a hope that the other brethren in the province would emulate him in zeal and liberality in the interest of the Order. The following brethren were invested with collars of office for the ensuing year:—Bros. A. W. Scott, Lodge 119, P.G.S.W.; Rev. C. R. Davy, 119, P.G.J.W.; S. Lewis, 102, P.G.M.O.; J. Matthews, 102, P.G.S.O.; W. B. Frampton, 102, P.G.J.O.; Rev. H. Richardson, 119, P.G. Chaplain; E. T. Payne, 177, P.G. Treas.; J. B. Halford, 119, P.G. Reg. M.; H. Amor, 119, Asst. do.; B. Cox, 102, P.G. Sec.; J. T. Hallam, 119, P.G. Asst. Sec.; G. Summers, 162, P.G.S.D.; R. Taylor, 155, P.G.J.D.; Haley, P.G. Insp. W.; J. H. H. Colmer, 162, Asst. do.; B. Gay, 119, P.G.D.C.; W. Richards, 119, P.G. Asst. D.C.; Capt. G. A. Phayre, 177, P.G. Sword Bearer; Major J. W. Preston, P.G. Standard Bearer; W. L. Gaskell, 102, P.G. Organist; J. Easterbrook, 119, P.G.I.G.; Grand Stewards, Bros. R. Gregory, W. E. Perrett, 102, M. Ansaldo, 119, A. Wickenden, 102, T. R. Lord, and Falkner; Grand Tyler, Bro. W. Cousins, 102.

At the conclusion of the lodge business the brethren adjourned to the Town Hall, where to the number of between thirty and forty they sat down to a first class banquet, served à la Russe, provided by Bro. Wickenden. The bill of fare comprised all the delicacies of the season, the dessert was rich and profuse, and the wines of the best quality. The V.W. the D.P.G.M. presided; the vice chairs being filled by the two Wardens of the lodge, Bro. A. W. Scott and Bro. Rev. C. R. Davy. After dinner a short toast list was gone through, but the speeches were chiefly of a complimentary character. The premier toast was of course, "The Queen and Mark Masonry." This was followed by the Grand Master (the Earl of Limerick) and the members of the Grand Lodge, coupled with the names of Bros. Thompson and Munro (Grand Stewards), and the first named gentleman incidentally mentioned that he had been a member of the Craft for about half a century. The next toast was the P.G.M. of Somerset, the Earl of Carnarvon, to whose interest in all that could promote the interest and well being of the Order the D.P.G.M. was enabled to pay handsome testimony. The toast found a fit respondent in Bro. Else, who is the D.P.G.M. designate of the Craft for the province, and who remarked that he was sure the brethren would excuse the attendance of the noble earl, seeing the important position he held in Her Majesty's Government, and the onerous and responsible duties which pressed upon him in the office of Secretary of State for the Colonies. Bro. Else concluded by giving the health of the D.P.G.M., whose skill in Masonry and the services he had rendered in its behalf he warmly eulogized. Captain Irwin acknowledged the compliment and proposed Bro. General Gore Munbee, the first Senior Grand Warden, and the acting Deputy Grand Master of the day, referring to the great interest the General had taken in Freemasonry both in England and India, and his readiness at all times to do everything in his power for the good of the Order. General Munbee, in returning thanks, referred with pleasure to the increase in the number of Mark Lodges, and spoke of the advantage of working under the Grand Lodge of England. For the Provincial Grand Officers, given from the chair, Bro. the Rev. C. R. Davy, P.G.J.W., responded. In giving the next toast, the W.M., officers and members of Lodge 102, the D.P.G.M. congratulated the W.M. upon the working of the lodge on the occasion of a recent visit, and the W.M. (Bro. A. W. Butter) briefly returned thanks. The W.M.'s of the other lodges in the province were next honoured, Bros. Davy (Royal Sussex), and Munro (119), responding. The D.P.G.M. next asked the brethren to toast Bro. Else, and darkly hinting (because the fact had not been officially communicated to him) at his appointment as Deputy Master of the Craft in the province, he congratulated Masons in general, and Mark Masons in particular because of the interest Bro. Else takes in the Mark Degree, upon the choice made by the P.G.M. The toast having been honoured, Bro. Else responded. Alluding to the "mysterious" hint of the D.P.G.M., he stated that a few days ago he received a letter from the Earl of Carnarvon, asking him when in London to call upon him, and he did so, when his lordship said the appointment of a successor to their late highly respected deputy, Captain Bridges, had occupied his thoughts very seriously for some time, and the determination he had come to, after taking all matters into consideration, was to ask him if he would accept the office. He thanked his lordship, and said that if he possessed his confidence, and it was for the benefit of the Craft, and would be acceptable to the brethren, he hoped he should not be doing wrong in accepting the appointment. Upon his lordship's assurance that he had his entire confidence he intimated his intention of accepting the office. He reminded the brethren that at present he was in the position of an elected Master of a lodge, but he thanked all who had congratulated him upon what they had heard. He trusted the Great Architect would give him health and strength and judgment to fill the office in a manner that would be advantageous to the Craft—promote the harmony of the Order, and the happiness of the brethren. The succeeding toast was "The Provincial Grand Officers," on whose behalf Bro. Munro returned thanks, and the concluding toast, "All poor and distressed Masons," was given by the P.G.S.W. We should say that the post prandial proceedings were the more enjoyable by the singing of several musical brethren.

"There are few wines that contain so many valuable qualities as really good Sherry, a remarkable fine pure pale wine imported by the firm of Felton and Sons Albermarle-st., that would surely convert the most ardent admirers of French vintages."—*Standard*.



ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS, WOOD GREEN.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The 77th anniversary festival of this Institution was held on Wednesday last, at the Alexandra Palace, Wood Green, the first time that it has been held in the summer and the first time that ladies have sat down with the brethren at the banquet table. To quote the words of our contemporary the *Daily News*, "The numbers of the Craft and of supporters of the Masonic Charitable Institutions having increased of late years to an enormous extent, the Freemasons' Tavern was considered too small to hold all the supporters of the different festivals, and the Secretary of the Boys' School, Bro. F. Binckes, conceived the idea of having the ladies to partake with the brethren of the pleasures of the banquet table out of town in lieu of in London. At all the Masonic Charitable Festivals ladies are admitted, but they dine by themselves and join the gentlemen only when the toasts and singing commence. The new experiment however, changed the usual routine, but although it had had many opponents, it proved to be a success, and it is not unlikely that it may be repeated on future occasions, at all events with the Boys' School."

The Rt. Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, Pro Grand Master and Provincial Grand Master for Somerset, presided, and was supported by more than 800 ladies and brethren. Among the latter were the Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot, Sir Henry Edwards, Magnus Ohren, Hyde Pullen, J. M. P. Montagu, the Rev. C. J. Martyn, G. Plucknett, John Hervey, Thomas Meggy, Bros. Scott (D.P.G.M. Trinidad), J. Dent Allcroft (Treasurer of Christ's Hospital), Rev. Dr. Brette, J. G. Chancellor, H. Keeble, Thos. J. Sabine, H. Venn, W. Roebuck, Capt. Wordsworth, Capt. Smith, W. Worrell (Sec. Albert Orphan Asylum), James Terry (Sec. R. Masonic Ben. Inst.), R. W. Little (Sec. Girls' School), Thomas Cubitt, C. A. Cottebrune, W. H. Stephens, W. Murlis, Robt. B. Webster, J. A. Rucker, John Symonds, I. J. H. Wilkins, H. Dubosc, G. W. Verry, F. Walters, John While, R. D. Duckett, H. G. Buss, H. Thompson, A.

A. Pendlebury, Geo. Kenning, John Sutcliffe, W. F. C. Moutrie, F. Adlard, 7; C. J. Morgan, 8; W. R. Marsh, 9; J. Burton, 10; J. B. Garratt, 11; J. Clever, 12; C. W. Gray, 22; W. Laue, W.M. 28; J. Bingemann, 55; J. Compton, 55; W. G. Brighten, 72; J. Griffin, 90; W. Wilson, 96; J. H. Leggott, 145; F. R. Vine, 173; R. Tyrrell, W.M. 179; W. Hopekirk, Treas., 179; W. C. Parsons, 180; W. J. Norfolk, W.M. 181; Rev. D. Shaboe, 183; John Seex, 186; E. Jones, 192; E. Emanuel, 235; E. G. V. Sutton, 259; S. Rosenthal, 435; J. Johnsson, 657; J. Bertram, 742; J. Painter, 749; A. Braun, 766; H. Stewart, 780; H. Lamb, 780; Samuel May, 780; T. J. Cusworth, 813; W. H. Farnfield, 907; F. H. Miller, 907; W. Wrenn, 1056; G. B. Brodie, 1118; S. J. Hose, 1155; J. Wright, 1158; J. C. Cox, 1257; J. M. Klenck, W.M. 1339; D. Betts, W.M. 1351; W. Lutwyche, 1365; A. E. Burrell, 1446; and W. Kipps, 1631. Among the brethren from the provinces were Bros. J. Barce, 574; J. Palmer, 1501; J. F. Norris, 1404; W. Richards, J. E. Williams, 425; T. Marwood, 537; W. Matthews, 72; H.; E. Diamond, 353; C. Low, 802; Fitzherburg Wright, 1324; S. Jones, 112; J. Edward Curteis, 189; H. C. Burt, 622; F. Maddison, 1389; R. W. Motion, 453; Joseph Tanner, 1457; Joseph Reade, 951; H. C. Levander, 76; J. Lillywhite, 257; H. Coles, 359; H. Hacker, 723; F. Venables, 1385; W. Hicks, 77; W. Briggs, 298; James Holroyd, 298; W. Roberts, 298; W. Marshall, 792; W. H. Roberts, 792; J. Hadfield, 792; R. Mac Sheer, 792; Capt. Thomas Jewitt, 792; Dr. Ace, 1482; E. C. Woodward, 382; H. Edlmann, 708; Dr. Ramsey, 778; J. H. Thompson, 1237; F. Keily, 1293; S. Wolff, 1423; R. G. Griffin, 442; Ephraim Wood, 1124; J. O. Bury, 1336; E. T. Payne, 53; W. Richards (Mark Pro.G.L., Somerset); W. H. Lucia, 1008; A. J. Dickinson, 452; C. W. Duke, 40; Charles Horsley, 811; Joseph Fenn, 74; Edward Handley, 938; J. Chandler, 355; J. Thompson, 240; and W. Tasker, 61. The number of Stewards was about 250, The above list is not complete, but only contains the names

of those present as far as we were able to ascertain them.

The Earl of Carnarvon took the chair by half-past five o'clock, and the elegant and choice banquet was immediately proceeded with. When it was concluded grace was sung.

After grace had been sung,

The Chairman rose and said:—Brethren, and I think I must add on this occasion—almost the first in my own Masonic career—not only brethren, but ladies, whom I venture to welcome very cordially to our meeting, my first toast is that which stands by immemorial custom on our list, "The Health of Her Majesty the Queen." The Queen commands our respect by every possible title, on every possible occasion, in every possible place; but she commands it here by a twofold obligation, namely, as the Queen and as the Patron of this Institution. Brethren, "The Health of the Queen."

After the singing of the National Anthem,

The Chairman again rose and said:—Brethren, the next toast on my list is that of "His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales," and in giving that toast I give it not merely as the Prince of Wales, the first of our English Royalties, but as the Grand Master of English Freemasons. (Cheers.) Many of those who are in this room were present a short time since in the Albert Hall, and they saw there one of the greatest sights which Masonry in any part of the world or at any time has witnessed. (Hear, hear.) They saw there collected from all parts of England Masons of experience, of age, of standing, men respected in the Craft; who came to present their homage, and to hail with absolute unanimity the election of His Royal Highness to the chair—(hear, hear)—and the wish, the implied and the expressed wish, of every man there present, as the wish is of every person in this room, is that his Royal Highness may live long to rule over the Craft in happiness, in peace, and with success. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) Brethren, "The Health of His Royal Highness the Grand Master."

The toast, as usual, was drunk with the heartiest enthusiasm, and followed by the sing-

ing of the part-song of Brinley Richards', "The Cambrian Plume."

The Earl of Shrewsbury followed by proposing "The Health of the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, Prov. G.M., Chairman," and in doing so said:—Ladies and Brethren,—I hope you will fill a bumper to drink to the health of him whom I am about to offer to your notice; and when I mention to you that I have the honour to propose to you the health of my old schoolfellow of my old college companion, of my brother in politics, and my brother in Masonry, our Pro-Grand Master the Earl of Carnarvon, I am glad to think that you will pardon any want of eloquence on my part in offering this toast to you. As boys, as college friends, and in the House, we have kept up that intimacy, and it has been a pleasure to me that we have gone out into the world together. I told him I would not praise him, I knew his bashful disposition; but, I said, you must allow friendship to speak fairly and freely on your behalf. I am glad, therefore, to offer his health to such a distinguished assembly as I see before me. I know that time is valuable, and I know that ladies do not like long speeches, therefore, I shall do no more than propose to you "The Health of the Pro-Grand Master, with all his titles, the Earl of Carnarvon." (Applause.)

The toast was drank enthusiastically, and in reply,

The Chairman said: Ladies and Brethren,—There is an old proverb that it is extremely pleasant for any one to be praised by one who is himself praised. It is equally pleasant to have your health proposed by an old school and college friend: and my noble friend who just now has been good enough to propose my health, has done so not only as a Mason, but in recollection of many pleasant days and hours which we in former times have passed together. (Hear hear.) I thank him most cordially for the kindness which has prompted every word, and I thank this great meeting, also, for the kindly, and more than that, the friendly manner in which they have been pleased to receive that health. (Cheers.) Brethren, I have a duty now to perform in submitting to you another toast which stands upon my list, and which is one well deserving of all commendation. You are well aware that Masonry has been from all time past compacted, so to speak, of different orders and of different degrees; above all things, it has represented these two great principles, the principle of election and the principle of appointment. Your Masters are elected in your lodges, your Grand Master is elected by the free voice of the Craft (Hear, hear), and yet both Masters and Grand Masters, each in their turn, have certain great powers of appointment vested in them; and the officers who more than any represent this double principle of election and appointment are your Grand Officers. They have all served their turn as Masters in their lodges; they have all taken their part in the administration of the Craft in the provinces; and they have all been selected, in turn, by the Grand Master for the time being; and, therefore, they are above all the lights and the pillars, so to speak, of the Craft. (Hear, hear.) Brethren, we have some of them present here to-day, and I give you their health, and with that toast I give you the name of one who has but recently been invested with the purple of office, but who already has made himself a position of great popularity in his own county, "The Provincial Grand Master of West Yorkshire, Sir Henry Edwards." (Great cheering.)

The toast was fittingly accepted by the whole company, and immediately responded to by

Sir Henry Edwards, who said,—My lords, ladies, and brother Masons, it is indeed a great and unexpected pleasure, as it is a great privilege, for any Mason to be allowed to stand up in this room to respond for a toast of the importance which I consider this to be. It is quite clear that your General cannot carry on the affairs of the Craft without his lieutenants, and it is indeed handsome on his part to acknowledge that it is so—that we are all dependent one upon the other, from the head down to the very lowest of the Craft. Friends, all I can say is this that I entirely agree with those who support this Institution, to the Masons, their wives, their daughters,

their sisters, met with them to do honour to our Provincial and Pro Grand Master; and I must say this, that of all great meetings that I have attended I have never known such a success as this. (Great applause.) It only shows how much our Provincial and Pro Grand Master's abilities are appreciated by the Craft in general; and it also shows that those who have come here might have come here entirely in consequence of knowing he was to preside this evening. I will not say much more, because I know that time is short, and very little time is to be given to subordinates like myself; but I cannot help saying one good word for the lodge to which I have the honour to belong, No. 61 of the Province of West Yorkshire. (Cheers.) I congratulate them on assembling in such numbers to-night, and for the wonderful contributions they have made to the Boys' School. I think that I can answer for this, that next year it will be larger still. (Renewed cheering.) My Lord, I am obliged to you for the honour you have done me, and I am sorry that the time is so short as it is.

Miss Josephine Sherrington here sang the Shadow song from "Dinorah," and was enthusiastically cheered and encored. After she had complied with the call, and been again rapturously applauded;

The Chairman rose to propose the toast of the evening, "Prosperity to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys." He said,—Brethren, there is an old saying somewhere that "After the nightingales come the crows," and I feel myself very much in the position of a crow when I follow the extremely beautiful air to which we have just been listening; but whether I be a crow or whether I be any other sort of bird—and I lay no claim to being a nightingale—it is my duty to trespass on your patience for a few minutes, and I promise that they shall be but a few minutes, whilst I endeavour to give you that which is after all, the toast of the evening, that which has brought us together to-day. (Hear hear.) Brethren, I have to give you "The Prosperity of this Institution." In this, as in every institution, we naturally look back to the past, and if we compare the past with the present how very wide will that difference be. I must ask you to go back with me as far as the year 1739, and you need not be afraid that I shall give you a record of every fact that has occurred between then and now; but I ask you to remember what the year 1739 was in England. Politically it was very different from the present. We were on the eve of a civil war, and of an internal disturbance. In matters of education, though there were great writers and great thinkers whom we still delight to read and to honour, there was little education in the class at least for whom this school is provided, and, Masonically, it was an important year, because just at that time the Pope had thought it worth while in England to fulminate the bull against Freemasonry; and English Freemasonry itself did not number, I suppose, within the four seas, one-half of those whom I see collected in this room. In that year, 1739, I find that a resolution was proposed during the Grand Mastership of one who, strange to say, bore my own name, the Lord Carnarvon of the day, from which grew out, some years afterwards, first the Girls' Schools and secondly the Boys' School. That resolution is now matter of Masonic history. It was subsequently acted upon as I have said, and this institution was established. In those days it was but a small affair; there were but six scholars, and they were to be clothed, and brought up, and nurtured, and educated; but in the inevitable default of the necessary accommodation it was provided that they should be brought up in any neighbouring school which would offer a good education. Since then, however, great is the difference! Buildings have been erected which we all know, and the present school, for the sake of which we are assembled together to-day, numbers within its walls no less, I am told, than 177 boys who are brought up, clothed, and educated entirely free of expense to their friends; they receive what may be termed a thoroughly good commercial education, they go forth subsequently into life, and I believe from all that I have heard, that they do honour to themselves generally, and to the institution which has sent them forth. Year by year this school has passed

under examination—first of all under the Syndicate of Cambridge, and periodically by the University Local Examinations, and it may be a matter of satisfaction to all those who take an interest in this Institution to know that since the day when these buildings were erected, now some 16 years since, so satisfactory has been the health of those boys, that I am informed that during the whole of that period there have been but three deaths. In this time the school and the Craft have gone on steadily advancing together, and this is an illustration in fact of the way in which the Craft itself is worked in this country. It has undertaken useful works; by those useful works it stands; and through those useful works it has spread far and wide its great reputation for usefulness and for charity. I have to say one word on the subject of that which, after all, affects all these questions more closely than anything else, and which though it may sound dull, is yet of vital consequence—I mean the question of finance. I have not myself had the opportunity of looking into or examining closely the financial condition of this institution. All that I can say is to be derived from those who are more conversant with it; and whilst on the one hand there is much that is satisfactory I am bound also to point out to you that, like all human things, it even yet admits of amendment. You have, no doubt, done much; large sums are subscribed on every gathering such as this. You have erected magnificent buildings; you have even, as I am informed, paid off the debt upon these buildings; and you give an education to these boys at what seems to me comparatively a very low figure, viz., £45 a year, and I am told further that even that £45 a year has been gradually reduced, as expenses have been brought down during the last few years. All this you have done, all this is matter of honest pride and satisfaction, but I have also to remind you that this institution has no endowment, and that the money which is subscribed on these occasions has hitherto, as I understand, been only just sufficient to pay the way of this great Institution. And, more than that, I may repeat what was said by one who formerly spoke in this place, and spoke, I think, on that point with considerable truth, when he stated that the subscriptions proceed too frequently from a certain given fixed number of individuals, and are not so largely taken up and supported as they should be by the whole body of the Craft. In this, as in other matters of charity, I desire that the pyramid should have as broad a base as possible—should rest on that base, and should not rest on a tiny bottom. Nothing but a large amount of subscriptions from a great number of individuals can make the base of your pyramid broad, and nothing but breadth of base is a security for such an institution as this. And now I have said enough, and perhaps I should not have said so much had I not myself absolutely felt bound on such an occasion to do so. I have said quite enough for so festive an occasion as this. I can only commend the charity to you and to your sympathies by commending it to all those who have in former times supported it so nobly and liberally. I commend it further to those brethren who as individuals have sympathised with, but have not yet given any visible and tangible evidence of that sympathy; and lastly, and certainly most potentially, I commend it to those who can do more for it than any brother here present, the ladies who have sat down with us to-day.

Bro. George Plucknett, Treasurer, replied as follows:—Ladies and brethren,—To the last toast I have to reply. I beg to thank you, and to express the gratitude of the Institution for the very kind manner in which the toast has been received. First, let me express on the part of the Institution our gratitude to the noble lord who has presided here to-night. While the Institution has the privilege and the advantage of being presided over by a nobleman in the exalted position which Lord Carnarvon is, we may augur well for the prosperity of the Institution. Allow me also to express our grateful thanks to the ladies for their presence here to-night; and we may be assured that while they take an interest in the prosperity of the Institution there is no telling what success may attend it. I may tell

you that all your subscriptions will be most judiciously and economically expended, and I am sure that the committee to whom you delegate your affairs will take care that the Institution shall be the best that there is. (Cheers.)

Bro. F. Binckes here read the following lists of subscriptions:—

	£	s.	d.
Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, M.W. Pro Grand Master, and R.W. Provincial Grand Master of Somerset, <i>Chairman</i> ...	52	10	0
Earl of Shrewsbury...	21	0	0
Right Hon. Lord Balfour of Burleigh, P.G.S.W. ...	10	10	0
Bro. John A. Rucker, P.G.D., and P.G.Std., P.M. 66, and Vice-Pres. of Institution ...	31	10	0
Bro. J. M. P. Montagu, D.P.G.M. Dorset, Friends in Council Lodge, 1383 ...	367	10	0
W. Bro. R. B. Webster, No. 1320, and P.M. 140 ...	116	11	0
LONDON LODGES.			
Grand Stewards' ...	131	5	0
1 Grand Master's ...	15	15	0
2 Antiquity ...	58	8	0
3 Fidelity ...	83	1	6
4 Rl. Somerset House & Inverness ...	52	10	0
5 St. George and Corner Stone... ..	54	12	0
6 Friendship ...	10	10	0
7 Royal York of Perseverance ...	35	14	0
8 British ...	23	2	0
9 Albion ...	65	0	0
10 Westminster and Keystone ...	30	19	6
11 Enoch ...	32	1	6
12 Fortitude and Old Cumberland ...	70	7	0
14 Tuscan... ..	49	7	0
18 Old Dundee ...	121	16	0
21 Emulation ...	43	1	0
22 Neptune ...	38	17	0
28 Old King's Arms ...	29	19	0
33 Britannic ...	101	1	6
49 Gihon ...	246	15	0
55 Constitutional ...	63	0	0
59 Royal Naval ...	30	9	0
60 Peace and Harmony ...	31	10	0
72 Jubilee... ..	40	8	6
73 Mount Lebanon ...	144	18	0
90 St. John's ...	44	8	6
91 Regularity ...	47	7	0
96 Burlington ...	37	16	0
108 London ...	50	8	0
145 Prudent Brethren ...	53	5	6
165 Honour and Generosity ...	47	5	0
167 St. John's ...	39	18	0
173 Phoenix ...	78	4	6
176 Caveac ...	50	18	6
179 Manchester ...	29	18	6
180 St. James' Union ...	120	14	0
181 Universal ...	30	9	0
186 Industry ...	72	9	0
192 Lion and Lamb ...	142	5	6
197 Jerusalem ...	34	12	0
222 St. Andrew'-in-the-East ...	50	8	0
235 Nine Muses ...	21	0	0
256 Unions... ..	39	18	0
259 Prince of Wales' ...	36	15	0
435 Salisbury ...	52	10	0
511 Zetland ...	44	2	0
569 Fitzroy ...	69	16	0
657 Canonbury ...	140	14	0
749 Belgrave ...	28	8	6
766 William Preston ...	36	15	0
780 Royal Alfred ...	27	6	0
813 New Concord ...	53	17	0
822 Victoria Rifles ...	52	10	0
834 Ranelagh ...	17	17	0
907 Royal Albert ...	34	13	0
1056 Victoria ...	100	0	0
1118 University ...	47	5	0
1155 Excelsior ...	35	14	6
1158 Southern Star ...	133	17	6
1201 Eclectic ...	21	0	0
1178 Perfect Ashlar ...	31	10	0
1227 Upton... ..	64	1	0
1257 Grosvenor ...	80	11	6
1278 Burdett Coutts ...	70	7	0
1305 St. Marylebone ...	63	0	0
1329 Sphinx ...	31	10	0
1339 Stockwell ...	31	10	0
1351 St. Clement Danes'... ..	69	16	6
1365 Clapton ...	26	5	0
1445 Prince Leopold ...	35	3	6
1446 Mount Edgumbe ...	227	6	0

1489 Marquess of Ripon ...	135	0	0
1531 Chiselhurst ...	28	16	0
BERKS AND BUCKS.			
414 Union ...	29	18	6
574 Hope ...	36	15	0
591 Buckingham ...	31	10	0
1101 Grey Friars ...	73	10	0
1501 Wycombe ...	115	10	0
1404 St. Vincent ...	114	9	0
425 Cestrian ...	73	10	0
537 Zetland ...	10	10	0
721 Independence ...	10	10	0
DERBYSHIRE.			
253 Tyrian ...	78	15	0
353 Royal Sussex... ..	57	15	0
802 Repose ...	10	18	0
1324 Okeover ...	123	18	0
DEVONSHIRE.			
70 St. John's ...	63	1	0
112 St. George's ...	137	11	0
189 Sincerity ...	89	5	0
DORSET.			
622 St. Cuthberga ...	633	3	0
DURHAM,			
1389 Fenwick ...	372	19	6
ESSEX.			
453 Chigwell ...	68	5	0
GLOUCESTERSHIRE.			
951 Prince of Wales ...	42	0	0
257 Phoenix ...	102	1	0
359 Peace and Harmony ...	96	12	0
723 Panmure (including £10 10s. from the Duke of Connaught) ...	151	14	0
403 Hertford ...	12	12	0
404 Watford ...	51	9	0
1385 Gladsmuir ...	55	10	0
1479 Halsey ...	10	10	0
77 Freedom ...	23	2	0
829 Sdney ...	157	10	0
1464 Erasmus Wilson ...	26	5	0
LANCASHIRE EAST.			
37 Anchor and Hope ...	42	0	0
62 Social... ..	10	10	0
298 Harmony ...	10	10	0
645 Humphrey Cheetham ...	115	10	0
LANCASHIRE WEST.			
148 Lights... ..	12	12	0
241 Merchants' ...	126	0	0
281 Fortitude ...	11	11	0
1021 Hartington ...	47	5	0
1225 Hindpool ...	47	5	0
LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLANDSHIRE.			
1391 Commercial ...	181	13	0
792 Pelham Pillar ...	63	0	0
1298 St. Alban's ...	10	10	0
MIDDLESEX.			
382 Royal Union... ..	22	1	0
708 Carnarvon ...	19	19	0
778 Bard of Avon... ..	23	2	0
1237 Enfield ...	94	10	0
1309 Acacia ...	63	0	0
1423 Era ...	15	15	0
1465 Thames Valley ...	94	10	0
1494 Felix ...	12	12	0
1503 Francis Burdett ...	16	16	0
1194 R. Middlesex R. Arch Chap. ...	37	16	0
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE AND HUNTS.			
442 St. Peter's ...	113	8	0
NORTHUMBERLAND.			
991 Tyne ...	110	5	0
NORTH WALES AND SALOP.			
117 Salopian of Charity ...	21	0	0
1124 St. Oswald ...	10	10	0
1336 Square and Compasses ...	52	10	0
1477 Sir Watkin ...	15	15	0
OXFORDSHIRE.			
340 Alfred ...	10	10	0
357 Apollo University (including £10 10s. from Prince Leopold) ...	132	8	0
599 Cherwell ...	15	15	0
SOMERSETSHIRE.			
53 Royal Sussex ...	286	6	0
135 Perpetual Friendship ...	171	7	6
Mark Provincial Grand Lodge ...	30	9	0
SOUTH WALES—EASTERN DIVISION.			
833 Afan ...	236	5	0
SOUTH WALES—WESTERN DIVISION.			
671 Prince of Wales' ...	130	4	0
STAFFORDSHIRE.			
418 Menturia ...	221	0	0

SUFFOLK.			
1008 Royal St. Edmund's ...	65	2	0
1224 Stour Valley ...	38	17	0
SURREY.			
452 Frederick of Unity ...	22	11	6
1046 St. Andrew's... ..	5	5	0
SUSSEX.			
40 Derwent ...	68	5	0
811 Yarborough ...	44	2	0
WARWICKSHIRE.			
74 Athol... ..	80	17	0
938 Grosvenor ...	283	10	0
WILTSHIRE.			
355 Royal Sussex of Emulation ...	91	7	0
YORKSHIRE—NORTH AND EAST.			
250 Minerva ...	36	15	0
MARK DEGREE.			
75 Royal Sussex... ..	514	0	0
Prov. Grand Mark Lodge ...	815	1	0
INDIA.			
Presidency of Bombay ...	31	10	0
MARK DEGREE.			
75 Royal Sussex ...	514	0	0
ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED RITE.			
Palestine Chapter of R.C. ...	21	0	0

Making altogether a total of over £12,700. The result was received with great cheering. The Earl of Carnarvon during the reading of the lists was called away by official duties, and the Earl of Shrewsbury took the chair. At the conclusion of the reading of the lists, The Earl of Shrewsbury said he should propose that the company should drink no more toasts, but he could not suffer the brethren to adjourn without honouring the toast of "The Ladies." The toast was drunk. Bro. S. Rosenthal responded, After which the whole party adjourned to the concert hall and spent the remainder of the evening there. The musical arrangements were highly creditable to Madame Thaddeus Wells, under whose direction they were, and the artistes engaged were Miss Josephine Sherrington, Madame Poole, Mdle. Risarelli, Signor Bignardi, Mr. Henry Guy, R.A.M.; Bro. J. Kerr Gedge, Bro. Geo. Fox, Bro. Farquharson, Herr Behrens; solo-violin, Mdle. Bertha Brousil; pianoforte, Signor Li Calsi, Madame Thaddeus Wells, and Bro. Henry Parker. The dinner, supplied by Bros. Bertram and Roberts, was all that could be desired.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND.

The half-yearly communication of the above Provincial Grand Lodge took place at the Town Hall, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, on the 29th ult., in the lodge-room of the Ferrers and Ivanhoe Lodge, No. 779, under the auspices of which the meeting was held. The Craft Lodge was opened at one o'clock. Shortly after that time the R.W. Prov. Grand Master, the Right Hon. the Earl Ferrers, accompanied by his Prov. G. Officers, entered the lodge-room and received the customary salute. After the minutes had been confirmed and the ballot taken for several joining members and candidates for initiation, the principal event of the day, that of installing Bro. S. E. Johnson as W.M. of No. 799, took place, the office of Installing Master having been, by the special desire of the members of that lodge, undertaken by the Provincial Grand Master. It is almost needless to state that the duties of that important office, and the impressive ritual of the ceremony of installation, were performed in a very admirable and efficient manner. The brethren, not only of the Ferrers and Ivanhoe Lodge, but of other lodges also in the province, are under deep obligations to his lordship for having on several occasions fulfilled the onerous duties of Installing Master, and too much praise cannot be accorded to him for the ready and gracious spirit in which he has always been pleased to comply with the wishes of the brethren that he should undertake those duties. On the completion of the business of the Craft Lodge, the Provincial Grand Lodge was opened in due form by the Prov. Grand Master, who was assisted by the following officers:—W. Bros. the Revd. J. Denton, P.P.S.G.W., as Deputy Prov. G.M.; Samuel Love, Prov. S.G.W.; E. F. Mannwatt, P. Prov. S.G.W., as I.G.W.; W. B. Smith, Prov. G. Treasurer; T. G. Tippetts, Prov. G. Reg.; S. S. Partridge, Prov. G. Secretary; W. Johnson as Prov. G.S.D.; W. Hardy, Prov. G.J.D.; J. T. Thorp, Prov. G.A.D.C., as D.C.; R. Boughton-Smith, P.P.G.A. D.C., as Grand Sword Bearer; C. E. Stretton, Prov. G.A.P., as Grand Purst.; G. W. Statham and R. Dalgleish, P.G. Stewards; and C. Bembridge, Prov. G. Tyler. A fuller report of the proceedings will appear in our next.

AN ORATION

BY THE REV. A. F. A. WOODFORD, P.G.C.,

Delivered on the occasion of the Consecration of Chaucer Lodge, No. 1540.

Most Worshipful Consecrating Officer, Senior and Junior Wardens and Brethren, though I should personally have preferred that some brother more connected with the locality had addressed you on the present occasion, yet as during my 33 years of connection with our good old Order, I have always obeyed my superiors, I felt bound to defer at once to the wishes and command of my excellent and respected friend and brother in the chair. I shall, therefore, venture to address a few words to you today, relying on your wonted fraternal kindness and consideration. I congratulate you, in the first instance, on your name of the Chaucer Lodge. Chaucer is so historical a name to Englishmen, that in this locality especially the name of your lodge suggests many and pleasant memories. It is not far from here that the "Tabard" once stood from which Chaucer started in his famous pilgrimages with his goodly companions. The old original Tabard has long since given way to the "encroaching hand of time," but a successor has long existed on the same spot, which is now also doomed to pass away.* Chaucer may fairly be denominated the Patriarch of English Poetry. Though not the first in that long roll of illustrious names in point of time, he may be looked upon as the eldest of that great family which has shed such grace and honour on the English language, which has charmed imagination, vindicated honour, aroused sympathy, and proclaimed the right, and which is now read by countless thousands, not only of the Anglo-Saxon race, but of all nations alike, with gratification, admiration, and enthusiasm.

Chaucer is 7th in point of time. He was preceded by Cædmon, by our great King Alfred, by Robert of Gloucester, by Robert de Brunne, by Richard Rolle, by Robert Langland, though the last is very nearly contemporary with Chaucer.

In his "Pilgrimage" he tells us that

"An Haberdasher and a Carpenter,
A Webbe, a Dyer and a Tapiser,
Were all y clothed in o liverè

Of a solempne and grete fraternitè ;"

and were amongst those who went out from the Tabard.

It is a pity that he has not said also a "Freemason," as we might have learned whether he were also, as some have surmised from stray expressions in his writings, a member of our fraternity. Of this I can say nothing certain. It may be so, but we have no evidence of it, further than this, that he was connected with the operative masons. On the 12th of July, 1389, he was appointed, by patent, Clerk of the King's Works at the Palace of Westminster, Tower of London, and elsewhere. In July, 1790, he was commanded to procure workmen for the repair of St. George's Chapel, at Windsor. Chaucer, as it is believed, married Philippa, the daughter of Sir Payne Roet, a Fleming by birth, and sister of Katherine Roet, first the wife of Sir Hugh Swinford, and then of John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster. He died in a tenement leased from Westminster Abbey, in 1400, and was buried in that sacred fane.

Let us now pass on to one or two topics connected with our present assembly.

Agreeing heartily as I do with all that our excellent Grand Secretary and Presiding Officer has so well said in respect of caution as to the admission of new members, which at this moment is a great trial of our order, I would, after a long membership, point out, that some of us take a fallacious view of the subject. I have heard it said, if a person can pay his fees, and is a good sort of a fellow, that is quite enough. I venture to think that such a view is not a true one, nor a Masonic one of the matter. In the admission of members we ought to ask ourselves this question, is the candidate so thoroughly respectable and well principled that we could, if need be, safely introduce him to our own family circle? If we cannot say so, we have no right to admit him into our lodge, which, remember, is a band of brethren, linked together by the most sacred ties of virtuous and religious sympathies, by a love of morality, honour, loyalty, and truth.

At this moment some, I fear, are tempted to enter into Freemasonry by a sort of idea that they are providing against a rainy day. They treat it as an enlarged benefit club, which view, as Lord Zetland once most truly said, is utterly opposed to the real teaching of Freemasonry. Freemasonry never was, and never can be a mere benefit society. We relieve our brethren in unforeseen emergencies of calamity and distress; we educate the orphan, and we assist the widow, but no one has a right to claim such relief—it is and must ever be the spontaneous expression of pure Masonic benevolence.

I think, too, Worshipful Sir and Brethren, that

* The W.M. stated later that the demolition was going on when these words were spoken.

like as our Grand Master so well reminded us, "Loyalty and Charity" should be our watchwords just now. Happily for us we know nothing of political discussions, but as Freemasons we are loyal always to the sovereign of our native land, and we pay honest obedience to the laws of any country where we may casually reside.

Loyalty is a wide word, and includes not only loyalty to our sovereign, but loyalty to our own duties as fathers and husbands, as brethren, as citizens. Loyalty too to those fair sisters of ours, in the true chivalry of Freemasonry, who shed, let us ever remember with gratitude and devotion, the inestimable blessing of Masonic grace, and faith, and love, and truth, on this hard world of ours.

Bro. Woodford here read an extract from Chaucer called "Praise of Women," which was loudly applauded by the brethren.

He proceeded to say, as to charity I need say but very little; we can fairly point to our great charities when the outer world asks us, either with sincere good will or impertinent curiosity of what good we are.

Bro. Woodford here read another extract from Chaucer, entitled "Mercy," which was also greatly appreciated.

And now, brethren, I beg to conclude my short and imperfect oration, thanking you for your attention, craving your forbearance, and reiterating my own hearty good wishes for the progress and prosperity, the harmony and the welfare of the Chaucer Lodge.

LODGE "ROMAN EAGLE," EDINBURGH,
No. 160.

A Funeral Lodge was held in the Lodge Roman Eagle, No. 160, on Tuesday the 15th ultimo, in memory of Bro. Dr. Thomas Cairns, J.P.M. The lodge was opened at the Third Degree by Bro. George Laing, R.W.M., assisted by Bro. B. Miller, S.W.; Bro. Thomas Willmott, J.W.; Bro. W. Cownie, P.M.; Bro. Dr. W. Stevenson, D.M.; Bro. I. Mann, S.M.; Bro. Cowan, Chaplain; Bro. W. Anderson, Treasurer; Bro. Alex. Scott, Secretary; and a large attendance of the Brethren. There were also present, Bro. Dr. W. S. Carmichael, P.M. 48; Bro. Geo. Borland, R.W.M. 151; Bro. D. Cameron, P.M. 429; Bro. A. D. Cairns, S.W. 392; Bro. Walter W. Mooney, S.W. 145, &c.

The following is the Programme of the proceedings: Solemn music while brethren are taking their seats, and office bearers and brethren of sister lodges enter in procession and take their appointed seats.

Dead March in Saul.

The R.W.M. then opened the lodge in the Third Degree.

Prayer.—Chaplain.

Grand Honours.

Requiem.—Harmonium.

Anthem.—Holy, Holy Lord God Almighty, who was, and is, and is to come, who shall not glorify Thy name, for Thou only art holy, Thou only art the Lord.

Service with responses.—*M.* It is appointed unto all men once to die, and after death the judgment. *Response.* So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom. *M.* Lord, make us to know our end, and the measure of our days, what it is, that we may know how frail we are. *R.* Behold thou hast made our days as an handbreadth, and our age is as nothing before Thee. *M.* What is life? It is even a vapour that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away. *R.* Therefore, whatsoever our hands find to do, may we do it with all our might, seeing there is no work, nor device, nor wisdom, nor knowledge in the grave, whither we are going.

Grand Honours.

Anthem (Luther).—Blest are the departed who in the Lord are sleeping, from henceforth, for evermore. They rest from their labours, and their works follow them.

Service with responses.—*M.* Let me die the death of the righteous, and let my last end be like his. *R.* God is our God for ever and ever; He will be our God even unto death.

Grand Honours.

Anthem (Kent).—O Lord, our Governor, O how excellent is Thy name in all the world!

ORATION BY BRO. GEORGE LAING, R.W.M. 160.

Brethren, not long ago, we met within this hall, in joyous festivity, to acknowledge, as best we could, the honour of receiving the first official visit paid to a daughter lodge by the M. W. the G.M.M. of Scotland, Sir Michael Robert Shaw Stewart, after his election to the throne.

The place the same, how changed the scene! Assembled as we now are to pay the last M.H. to the memory of our I.P.M., and in accordance with usual Masonic custom, it devolves on me to lay before you some sketch of the life of our departed brother, Dr. Cairns.

In the performance of that duty, I must crave

that sympathy at your hands on which I feel I can rely, for any shortcomings which may become apparent to you, and this the more readily, that it is to our deceased brother that the L.R.E. and I are indebted for being brought together.

That introduction was under circumstances of solemn sadness and mourning, through the death of your beloved and lamented late R.W.M., Bro. James Paterson, the immediate successor to Bro. Dr. Cairns, who, on the last occasion of a Funeral Lodge in your midst, though himself suffering severely under illness and physical exhaustion, so ably and so eloquently conducted those honours to the memory of Bro. Paterson, which it is now incumbent upon me to attempt for him.

Brother Thomas Cairns was born in the post town of Saline, Fifeshire, in the year 1822. The family from which he sprung had resided there through many generations, his father in his day occupying the position of builder and architect in his native town. Thomas was the second son in a family of five sons and three daughters, and although he alone ultimately turned his energies towards a professional career, all his brothers attained useful and prominent positions in agricultural and commercial life. Two brothers and two sisters now survive to mourn his loss.

After receiving the education requisite for the career intended for him by his father, Thomas was, at the age of twelve, placed behind the counter of Mr. Matthew Brady, a respectable and successful grocer in Alloa. Here he faithfully served a formal and long apprenticeship of seven years. To a mind like his, this must have been tedious training indeed, but probably not without great influence in disciplining him to toil patiently and perseveringly in acquiring those stores of highly cultivated knowledge and information in the many and varied branches which he mastered so ably at a future period.

At the age of nineteen, having completed his apprenticeship, he commenced studying with the intention of becoming a clergyman, and prosecuted those studies so earnestly and well, as in due time to be formally licensed as a preacher in connection with the Free Church of Scotland, in which capacity he officiated most satisfactorily in different pulpits in various places, Edinburgh among others. This and subsequent successful results to his labours were entirely due to his own prudence and indomitable spirit of perseverance, and from first to last carried on without any pecuniary help whatever from family or friends. Thus launched in a definite profession, most men would, under ordinary circumstances, have been satisfied with the prospects now unfolding, still more after such an achievement as his against obstacles requiring every possible exertion of prudence, forethought and care. With him, however, his course of studies and battle with difficulties were little more than begun.

From what cause is not exactly known, but shortly after being licensed as a probationer, he commenced the study of surgery and medicine, furnishing himself with the necessary means by devoting the time he had to spare to teaching classical literature, mathematics, and other branches of the higher education. Former pupils—and I believe some such are now here—bear grateful testimony to his high intellectual culture, and the great fluency he possessed in imparting instruction.

The result of his own second course of professional studies was the attainment of a degree from the R.C.P. as well as from the R.C.S., both in Edinburgh. Of his career as a medical practitioner, others could speak with more authority than I possibly can, yet this I may assert, that when death's pale peace came o'er him, many a grateful patient mourned his loss. In his application to professional duties in the hour of sickness and pain, he was thoroughly zealous—his own health and comfort the least of his thoughts. Full of earnest anxiety where danger existed or threatened, with his natural fertility of resource, if one remedy failed he had another to apply, and the performance of his professional duties was accompanied throughout, by a degree of kindly sympathy and interest, evinced in the soothing accents with which he brought hope to alarm and relief to suffering, that linked him to the affections of his patients and their friends. As an accoucheur, in the opinion of his professional brethren, he was great and successful in his art.

That he had devoted much attention to the treatment of the diseases of children was proved by his skilful practice amongst them. Of children he was naturally fond, soon gaining the affectionate confidence of the little ones who lispingly welcomed the Doctor, whose visits were, in their minds more associated with gifts of barley-sugar and sweeties, than with doses of medicine in the hateful forms of powders and draughts. In any address to you I need not dwell upon the social virtues which endeared him to all who had the privilege to call him friend, but personally, I must acknowledge his never-varying courtesy to myself.

Although his nominee in my position as your R.W.M., while his position among you was deservedly one of great influence, whether from time to time we agreed or not, as to the ideas I had in conducting the affairs of the lodge, I had always his good wishes and hearty support, and no brother of the lodge could congratulate me more cordially than he did upon the success attending its workings. His delicate and failing health precluded my asking that assistance in these labours which he was, nevertheless, willing and ready to give, and to the last, his interest in the prosperity of the L.R.E. was vividly retained, and our present mournful gathering is in accordance with one of the dearest wishes of his heart. The exalted opinion of Freemasonry which he thus evinced, was acquired by careful and persistent study of its principles, in which he gloried, ever delighting in the work of making others become participators in that he loved so well.

Freemasonry in its highest lessons, teaches men so to die, that when the shadows fall, and the earthly light for them is waning, then becomes most apparent in its brightest effulgence, the eternal light in the Eternal Lodge. Therefore we mourn our late brother as departed, not as dead. Called on as we are this evening to contemplate the valley darkened with the shadow of death, through which our brother has passed, we can see, however faintly it may be, only a single ray of the glorious light in which that valley terminates, and we have a sure confidence that this is realized in all its brightness by him whose loss we mourn. Let us, whom he has left behind, whose vision is obscured by the darkness of earth, and to whom all Masonry is but as blind groping through the mist, take comfort in the thought that that last Masonic step which our brother has taken, and in which we must so surely follow, leads to the realization of perfect knowledge from the Omniscient Fount on High.

Farewell! good friend—social companion—whose genial and well-stored mind enriched many an evening with bright and intellectual enjoyment—to whose kindness—whose generosity, and whose charity—we would now bear testimony through personal knowledge, and through grateful report!

Farewell! good, true, hard-working Mason, ever ready to promote the interests of our Craft by services so rendered as to rear a monument to your Masonic fame. May thy spirit live with us, so to move us that in our lives we may carry out the precepts you so often and so well inculcated in our own and in our sister lodges, who now gratefully sympathize with us in our time of mourning.

Farewell! but not for ever, nor for long. Over us too the shadows are fast lengthening, but in this we rejoice, that the principles of Freemasonry, practised on earth, all tend to a final re-union of the brotherhood beneath Heaven's great arch—darkness and doubt for ever passed away.

Elegy (Calcott).—Choir.

Service with responses.—M. The memory of the just is blessed. R. But the name of the wicked shall perish.

Anthem.—Behold how pleasant it is for Brethren to dwell together in unity. It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard, that went down to the skirts of his garments; as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion; for there the Lord commanded the blessing, even life for evermore.

Service with responses.—M. A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches. R. And loving favour rather than silver and gold. M. The Lord is just in all his ways. R. And holy in all his works.

Grand Honours.

Prayer.—Chaplain.

NATIONAL ANTHEM.

God save our gracious Queen;
Long may Victoria reign.
God save the Queen!
May she defend our laws,
And ever give us cause
To sing with heart and voice,
God save the Queen!

Hail! mystic holy light,
Heaven born and ever bright,
Spread more and more.
Light of the bold and free,
Honour and Loyalty,
Light of Free Masonry,
Ne'er leave our shore.

The choral services were conducted by Bro. O. W. Longstreth, and a choir of eight voices. Bro. A. G. Jameson presided at the harmonium. The choruses were most effectively rendered, and the whole ceremony was most impressive throughout.

The lodge was then closed by the R.W.M.

Freemasonry in New Zealand.

PACIFIC LODGE, No. 1229, E.C., HOKITIKA, WESTLAND, NEW ZEALAND.

The annual installation meeting of this highly prosperous lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Revell Street, on Tuesday afternoon, February 23rd. The R.W.D.G.M., Bro. Lazar, attended by his D.G.S.W., Bro. Bevan and D.G.J.W. Bro. Hudson, and other District Grand Officers were received with the customary honours. W.M. Bro. Eisfelder then vacated his seat to the R.W.D.G.M., who, with his officers presided, and then duly installed, in his well-known and eloquent manner, Bro. J. Bramwell as W.M.; Bro. Eisfelder, J.P.M.; Bro. Ramsay, S.W.; Bro. Hill, J.W.; Bro. Linnemann, Treasurer; Bro. Wales, Secretary; Bro. Benning, S.D.; Bro. Dixon, J.D.; Bro. Douglas, J.G.; Bro. Epping, Tyler. There were about twelve Past Masters, as well as a large attendance of Brethren from all parts of the Province, present to witness the interesting and time honoured proceedings, which were conducted in so able a manner as to elicit the warmest approbation.

The R.W.D.G.M. congratulated the lodge on its increasing prosperity, the zealous attention of the Brethren to their duties, and the highly satisfactory manner in which everything relating to the welfare of the craft was conducted in this important lodge—one indeed, which could well lay claim to rank foremost in Masonic circles, for he really felt proud when he heard the balance-sheet read, and shewing a credit balance of over £600, notwithstanding the large amounts of money which had been expended during the year in charity and other good works. It was therefore evident that the true spirit of Masonry was thoroughly implanted in the hearts of the Brethren, and he hoped they would long enjoy the happiness which at present surrounded them.

The usual banquet was held at 8 p.m., at which between 50 and 60 Brethren sat down. On this occasion it was held in the lodge room, which was most appropriately and tastefully laid out, everything provided being of the best description. The newly installed W.M. Bro. Bramwell, presided. After the more serious and substantial portion of the proceedings were concluded, and grace said, the W.M. proposed the "Queen and the Craft," which was most loyally, and heartily drunk, followed by the "National Anthem." The "Prince of Wales, Most Worshipful Grand Master of England," was the next toast. The W.M. in proposing it, dwelt at considerable length upon the incalculable advantages which Masonry derived from such a Sovereign head, especially under the circumstances which had so unaccountably created the vacancy in Grand Lodge. He felt fully assured that, from every part of the world, our Brethren would rejoice to think that Masonry was still triumphant, that the darkest cloud had revealed the brightest sunshine, thereby portending a still greater future for Freemasonry than ever. This toast was received with great enthusiasm. The toast the "Grand Masters of Scotland and Ireland" was also drunk in bumpers. The W.M. then proposed the health of the "R.W.D.G.M., Bro. Lazar," and referred in terms of much affection to the many excellent qualities of our veteran chief, who was always ready in all weathers, notwithstanding his advancing years, to devote himself to the cause of Masonry. The "R.W.D.G.M." replied in feeling and appropriate terms, and proposed the health of the W.M. "Bro. Bramwell," and congratulated the Brethren upon having elected another zealous and able Brother to preside over them, whose sole delight appeared to be in promoting their welfare, and whose energy and ability was acknowledged by all. The W.M., in a well chosen and capital speech, most suitably responded, and proposed the health of the "Past Masters of the Pacific Lodge," paying each, and every one of them well merited compliments, for their valuable aid. This toast was responded to by Bros. P.M.'s Eisfelder, Hudson and Bevan. The toast W.M.'s and P.M.'s of sister lodges, responded to by Bro. P.M. Hardcastle, and W.M. Bro. Brown. The toast the "Visitors, Mothers, Wives and Daughters of Freemasons," were duly honoured, and responded to. The "D.G.S.W., Bro. Bevan," having been entrusted with the gavel, proposed "Our Masonic Charities," and in an excellent speech, referred to the marvellous amount of good which was disseminated thereby, it being the glory of our Masonic Institution that millions of Masons were educated in this great masterwork of the Craft, raising up a fabric, the foundations of which are laid upon the rocks of truth—its glorious charter, signed by the unsullied hand, called charity.

The grand Masonic schools in England, Ireland, and elsewhere; the institutions for the aged and infirm, and the large amounts annually expended in their support, was alluded to, and listened to with wrapt attention; Bro. Bevan concluding with the following lines of his own:—

Come join me, all ye Brothers true,
A toast I will propose to you,
One that will, enraptured find,
Response in every Brother's mind,
From every purse if needed be,
For 'tis the toast of charity.

Thy goblets then I pray thee fill,
To drink the toast with right good will,
And wish the sorrows from the brow
Of him who sadly suffers now,
So that with us to-morrow he,
May drink the toast of charity.

Apron, heart and hand I give,
This will teach us how to live,
How to feel a Brother's woe,
How a kindness to bestow,
How that a gentle word may be
More lovely than our charity.

Cheer upon cheer succeeded the reception of this toast. The "Founders of the Pacific Lodge," was feelingly responded to by Bro. Nees, who after an absence of seven years, stated how proud he felt of the lodge, and although he had visited many lodges in New Zealand, San Francisco, and Honolulu, still he had seen none to win his affections like the Pacific. He also referred to the early struggles of the Craft on the then hospitable coast, and when and how their meetings were held. He missed many of his old friends, some were gone to their eternal rest; others were tossed about on the eventful sea of life, but he still rejoiced that there was yet a few of the familiar faces, "the early friends of Masonry," whose success required no comment, for their works were abundantly expressed in this their fraternal and joyful gathering. "Our absent Brethren," "The Masonic Press" (especially the *Freemason*), were heartily proposed and received. "The Tylers" toast concluded one of the most enjoyable Masonic events ever held on the West Coast of New Zealand.

Bro. Gosson, D.G. Organist, most ably conducted the musical portions of the proceedings, and with the assistance of several good voices, greatly enhanced the pleasures of this memorable evening.

WELLINGTON, MAY 10th, 1875.—The 23rd April, 1875, was a red letter day in the Masonic calendar (locally speaking) it being set apart for the constituting of a second Masonic lodge in this city, under the English Constitution, to be called the "Wellington Lodge," No. 1521. An emergency meeting of the Pacific Lodge, No. 517, having been called for that purpose at 8 p.m. Bro. P.M. Toxward assumed "the East," and having opened the lodge informed the brethren of the purpose of the meeting. After the reading and confirmation of the minutes of the preliminary meetings of the members composing the new lodge, P.M.'s Charles White, Jonas Woodward, and Henry Tribe, were announced as representatives of Grand Lodge, and took their respective positions as W.M., S.W., and J.W. Bro. P.M. White, acting as installing officer, proceeded to instal Bro. McDonald, P.M., as proxy for Bro. E. D. Butts, P.M. (absent) the W.M. designate. After the usual ceremonies so well-known to every well informed Mason (and therefore not necessary to detail here), the newly installed W.M. invested his officers, and Bro. P.M. White was then assisted in the south and west by Bro. P.M.'s McTurk, and Ladd. The whole of the ceremony was conducted, and performed by the J.O. in his usual earnest and impressive manner. The musical portion of the programme was efficiently rendered by the choir, thanks to Bro. Raymond (Organist of the Pacific), who is at all times willing to give his talented services for the good of Masonry. After the closing of the lodge the Brethren reassembled in the refreshment room, and sat down to perhaps one of the most *recherche* banquets ever laid before the Craft in Wellington; the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and duly honoured; of course the toast of the evening, "Success to the Wellington Lodge, No. 1521," received proper attention, and the Brethren present spent a most enjoyable time.

Among northern items, I find, the Masonic Hall Company of Auckland is likely to be a great success, six out of seven lodges having subscribed by vote for a certain number of shares; already over 1,000 shares are taken. The Company intending shortly to call for competition designs, for the building, we sincerely trust the selection may be a happier one than some others that have been made in this colony, that some attention may be given to *form and situation*, and especially to points of ingress and egress.

Our Canterbury Brethren (all honour to them) are putting their theory into practice. They announce "The Second Masonic Scholarship, of the annual value of £25, tenable for three years, open to children of Masons within the province, who are under 12 years of age; on May 1st, 1875, will be competed for at the examination for Provincial Scholarships in June next."

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.
For the Week ending Friday, July 16, 1875.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or time of meeting.

SATURDAY, JULY 10.

Quarterly General Court, Girls' School, at 12.
Lodge 1361, United Service, Greyhound Hotel, Richmond,
Manchester Lodge of Instruction (179), Yorkshire Grey,
77, London-st., Fitzroy-sq., at 8; Bro. H. Ash, Prec.
Lily Lodge of Instruction (820), Greyhound, Richmond.
Star Lodge of Instruction (1275), Marquis of Granby,
New Cross-road, at 7; Bros. Macdonald and Griffin,
Preceptors.

MONDAY, JULY 12.

Quarterly General Court, Boys' School, at 12. See Advt.
Lodge 1366, Highgate, Gatehouse Hotel, Highgate.
Chap. 1319, Asaph, Freemasons' Hall.
Mark Lodge 173, Temple, Green Dragon Tavern, Stepney.
Prince Leopold Lodge of Instruction (1445), Lord
Stanley Tavern, Sandringham-road, Kingsland, at 7;
Bro. T. Austin, Preceptor.
Strong Man Lodge of Instruction (45), Crown Tavern,
Clerkenwell Green, at 8; Bro. Beckett, Preceptor.
Sincerity Lodge of Instruction (174), Railway Tavern,
Fenchurch-street Station, at 7.
Camden Lodge of Instruction (704), Adelaide Tavern,
Haverstock-hill, at 8; Bro. T. A. Adams, Preceptor.
Eastern Star Lodge of Instruction (95), Royal Hotel, Mile-
end-road, at 7.30; Bro. E. Gottheil, Preceptor.
British Oak Lodge of Instruction (813), Bank of Friendship
Tavern, Mile-end, at 7 for 8.
St. James's Union Lodge of Instruction (180), Union
Tavern, Air-st., Regent-st., at 8; Bro. J. R. Stacey,
Preceptor.
Wellington Lodge of Instruction (548), White Swan,
Deptford, at 8; Bros. Shaw and Griffin, Preceptors.
West Kent Lodge of Improvement (1297), St. Saviour's Col-
lege, Stansted-road, Forest-hill, at 7.30; Bro. H. W.
Lindus, Preceptor.
Metropolitan Mark Lodge of Instruction, Coach and
Horses Hotel, 323, Strand, at 8.
Perfect Ashlar Lodge of Instruction (1178), Victoria
Tavern, Lower-road, Rotherhithe, at 8; Bro. C. W.
Kent, Preceptor.

TUESDAY, JULY 13.

Lodge 167, St. John's, Holly Bush Tavern, Hampstead.
" 548, Wellington, White Swan Tavern, Deptford.
Supreme Grand Council 33, 33, Golden-square.
Yarborough Lodge of Instruction (554), Green Dragon,
Stepney, at 8; Bro. Barnes, P.M., Preceptor.
Domatic Lodge of Instruction, Surrey Masonic Hall,
Camberwell New-road, at 8; Bro. Larham, Precep.
Faith Lodge of Instruction (141), Refreshment Rooms, Victo-
ria-st. (opposite Westminster Palace Hotel), at 8;
Bro. C. A. Cottebrune, Preceptor.
Prince Fredk. William Lodge of Instruction (753), Lord's
Hotel, Lord's Cricket Ground, St. John's Wood, at 8;
Bro. F. G. Baker, Preceptor.
Dalhousie Lodge of Instruction (860), King Edward,
Triangle, Hackney, at 7.30; Bro. Crawley, Preceptor.
Prosperity Lodge of Instruction (65), Gladstone Tavern,
Bishopsgate-st. Within, at 7.30; Bro. J. L. Mather,
P.M. 65 and 1227, Preceptor.
St. Marylebone Lodge of Instruction (1305), British Stores
Tavern, New-street, St. John's Wood, at 8; Bro. T.
A. Adams, Preceptor.
Constitutional Lodge of Instruction (55), Wheat-sheaf
Hotel, Hand-court, Holborn, at 7; Bro. J. R. Stacey,
P.M. 180, Preceptor.
Percy Lodge of Instruction, Grapes Tavern, Little Wind-
mill-street, W.
Israel Lodge of Instruction, Rising Sun Tavern, Globe-road,
at 7.30.
Sydney Lodge of Instruction, White Hart Hotel, Upper
Norwood; Bro. H. Frances, Preceptor.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 14.

Committee Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution at 3.
Lodge 708, Carnarvon, Mitre Inn, Hampton Court.
" 820, Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond.
" 1228, Beacontree, Private Rooms, Leytonstone.
Supreme Grand Council, 33, 33, Golden-square.
Mount Lebanon Lodge of Instruction (73), Windsor Castle
Tavern, Southwark-bridge-road, at 8; Bro. Noke,
P.M., Preceptor.
Pythagorean Lodge of Instruction (79), Prince of Orange,
Greenwich, at 8; Bro. J. Robt. Nash, Preceptor.
New Concord Lodge of Instruction, Rosemary Branch
Tavern, Hoxton, at 8.
Royal Union Lodge of Instruction, Horse and Groom,
Winsley-st., Oxford-st., at 8; Bro. T. A. Adams, Prec.
Confidence Lodge of Instruction, White Hart Tavern, Ab-
church-lane, at 7.30.
Peckham Lodge of Instruction, Maismore Arms, Park-road,
Peckham, at 8; Bro. David Rose, Preceptor.
Temperance in the East Lodge of Instruction, George the
Fourth, Catherine-street, Poplar.
Stanhope Lodge of Instruction, Thicket Hotel, Anerley, at
7.30 p.m.; Bro. H. W. Lindus, Preceptor.
Finsbury Park Lodge of Instruction (1288), Finsbury
Park Tavern, Seven Sisters'-road, N., at 8. Bro. P.
Dickinson, Preceptor.
Southwark Lodge of Instruction (879), Southwark Park
Tavern, Southwark Park.
Dalston Lodge of Instruction (975), Havelock Tavern,
Albion-road, Dalston, E.
United Strength Lodge of Instruction (228), the Grafton
Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, Kentish-town, at 8;
Bro. J. N. Frost, Preceptor.

Mount Edgecumbe Lodge of Instruction (1446), 19 Jermyn-
Street, St. James's, at 8; Bro. Mander, Preceptor.

THURSDAY, JULY 15.

Lodge 1227, Upton, Spotted Dog Tavern, Upton.
" 1278, Burdett Coutts, Approach Tavern, Approach-
road, Victoria Park.
" 1320, Blackheath, Crown Hotel, Blackheath.
" 1365, Clapton, White Hart Tavern, Clapton.
Chap. 742, Crystal Palace, Clarendon Hotel, Anerley.
" 1326, Lebanon, Red Lion Hotel, Hampton.
Mark Lodge 7, Carnarvon, Mitre Hotel, Hampton Court.
Egyptian Lodge of Instruction (27) Hercules Tavern,
Leadenhall-st., at 7.30; J. Crawley, Preceptor.
Albert Edward Lodge of Instruction, King's Arms Hotel,
Peckham Rye; W. W. Ayling, Hon. Sec.
Fidelity Lodge of Instruction (3), Yorkshire Grey, London-
st., W., at 8; Bro. T. A. Adams, Preceptor.
Finsbury Lodge of Instruction, Jolly Anglers' Tavern,
Bath-street, City-road; Bro. Stean, Preceptor.
United Mariners' Lodge of Instruction, Three Cranes,
Mile-end-road, at 8; Bro. T. J. Barnes, Preceptor.
Whittington Lodge of Instruction (862), Crown Tavern,
Holborn, at 8; Bro. L. Alexander, P.M. 188, Preceptor.
Doric Chapter of Instruction, Three Cranes Tavern, Mile-
end-road, at 8; Comp. T. J. Barnes, Preceptor.
Ebury Lodge of Instruction, 12, Ponsoby-st., Millbank.
Highgate Lodge of Instruction (1366), Bull and Gate,
Kentish-town, at 8; Bro. J. N. Frost, Preceptor.
The Great City Lodge of Instruction (1426), 111, Cheap-
side, at 6.30.
High Cross Lodge of Instruction (754), Coach & Horses,
High-road, Tottenham.
Salisbury Lodge of Instruction, Union Tavern, Air-st.,
Regent-st., at 8; Bro. Mander, Preceptor.

FRIDAY, JULY 16.

Preceptory 48, Kemeys Tynte, 33, Golden-square.
Union of Waterloo Lodge of Instruction (13), Earl of
Chatham, Thomas-st., Woolwich, at 8; Bros. Davis
and Macdonald, Preceptors.
St. George's Lodge of Instruction (140), Globe
Tavern, Royal-hill, Greenwich.
Robert Burns Lodge of Instruction, Union Tavern, Air-st.,
Regent-st., at 8.
Belgrave Lodge of Instruction, (749), Lyceum Tavern, 354,
Strand, at 8; Bro. Pulsford, Preceptor.
Panmure Lodge of Instruction (720), Balham Hotel, Bal-
ham, at 7.30.
Unions Emulation Lodge of Improvement for M.M.'s,
Freemasons' Hall, at 7.
Temperance Lodge of Instruction, Victoria Tavern,
Victoria-road, Deptford, at 8.
Clapton Lodge of Instruction (1365), White Hart, Clapton,
at 7.30; Bro. James Brett, P.G.P., &c., Preceptor.
Royal Standard Lodge of Instruction (1298), the Castle
Tavern, Holloway, at 8; Bro. W. F. Rogers, Preceptor.
Pythagorean Chapter of Instruction (79), Prince of
Orange, Greenwich-rd., at 8; Comp. W. Smith, Precep.
Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction (1056), Portugal Hotel,
Fleet-street; Bro. Stacey, P.M. 180, Preceptor.
Westbourne Lodge of Instruction (733), Horse and Groom,
Winsley-street, Oxford-street, at 8.
Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction, 269, Pentonville-road,
at 7; Bro. T. Adams, P.G.P., Preceptor.
United Pilgrims Lodge of Instruction, Surrey Masonic
Hall, Camberwell New Road, at 7; Bro. M. S. Lar-
ham, Preceptor.
St. James's Lodge of Instruction, New Tanners' Arms,
Grange-road, Bermondsey, at 8; Bro. Joshua Howes,
P.M. 765, 879, Preceptor.
Duke of Edinburgh Lodge of Instruction, Silver Lion,
Penny-fields, Poplar, at 7; Bro. D. S. Potts, Preceptor.
Doric Lodge of Instruction, Earl Grey Tavern, Mile-end-
road, at 8; Bro. P. M. Austin, Preceptor.
Burgoyne Lodge of Instruction, Grafton Arms, Prince of
Wales's-road, N.W., at 8; Bro. P. M. Wuest, Pre-
ceptor.
St. Luke's Lodge of Instruction (144), Rose Tavern,
Fulham-road, S.W.
Chigwell Lodge of Instruction, Bald-faced Stag Hotel,
Buckhurst-hill, at 8.
Burdett Coutts Lodge of Instruction (1278), Approach
Tavern, Approach-road, Victoria Park, at 8; Bro. J.
Crawley, Preceptor.

**MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND
CHESHIRE.**

For the Week ending Saturday, July 17, 1875.

MONDAY, JULY 12.

Lodge 314, Peace and Unity, Militia Mess Rooms, Preston.
" 721, Independence, Masonic Rooms, Eastgate-row,
Chester, at 5.
" 1021, Hartington, Masonic Hall, Barrow-in-Fur-
ness.
" 1398, Baldwin Castle, Dalton-in-Furness.
Chap. 148, Elias Ashmole, Chapter Rooms, Warrington,
at 6.30.

TUESDAY, JULY 13.

Lodge 241, Merchants', Masonic Hall, Liverpool; at 5.
" 1250, Gilbert Greenall, Masonic Rooms, Warring-
ton.
" 1325, Stanley, Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, at 9.
Downshire Lodge of Instruction (594), Masonic Hall,
Liverpool, at 7.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 14.

Lodge 281, Fortitude, Athenæum, Lancaster.
" 1052, Callender, Public Hall, Rusholme.
" 1094, Temple, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 6.
" 1356, De Grey and Ripon, North Hill-street,
Toxteth-park, Liverpool, at 6.
Chap. 673, St. John's, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 6.30.
St. John's Lodge of Instruction (673), Masonic Hall,
Liverpool, at 8.

Neptune Lodge of Instruction (1264), Masonic Hall,
Liverpool, at 8.

THURSDAY, JULY 15.

Lodge 203, Ancient Union, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 6.
" 343, Concord, Queen's Arms, Church-st., Preston.
" 425, Cestrian, Masonic Rooms, Eastgate-row,
Chester, at 4.
" 605, Combermere, Seacombe Hotel, Seacombe, at 6.
" 1299, Pembroke, Rawlinson's Ho., West Derby, at 5.

FRIDAY, JULY 16.

Lodge 1350, Fermor-Hesketh, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 6.
Duke of Edinburgh Lodge of Instruction (1182), Masonic
Hall, Liverpool, at 7.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EAST LANCASHIRE.
For the Week ending Saturday, July 17, 1875.

MONDAY, JULY 12.

Lodge 467, Tudor, Red Lion Hotel, Mumps, Oldham, at 6.

TUESDAY, JULY 13.

Preceptory, Almeric de St. Maur and Geoffrey de St. Omer;
Palatine Hotel, Manchester, at 4.
Chap. 1055, Derby, Knowsley Hotel, Cheetham, Man-
chester, at 6.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 14.

Lodge 54, Hope, Spread Eagle Inn, Rochdale, at 7.
" 116, Royal Lancashire, Swan Hotel, Colne, at 7.
" 146, Antiquity, Bull's Head Inn, Bolton, at 7.
" 191, St. John, Knowsley Hotel, Bury, at 7.
" 204, Caledonian, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester,
at 6.
" 277, Friendship, Freemason's Hall, Oldham, at 6.
" 325, St. John, Freemasons' Hall, Salford, at 6.30.
" 852, Zetland, Albert Hall, Salford, at 6.
" 1218, Prince Alfred, Commercial Hotel, Mossley
at 6.30.

THURSDAY, JULY 15.

Lodge 42, Relief, Albion Hotel, Bury, at 7.
" 268, Union, Queen's Arms, Ashton-under-Lyne
at 7.
" 283, Amity, Swan Inn, Haslingden, at 7.
" 344, Faith, Bull's Head Inn, Radcliffe, at 6.30.
" 345, Perseverance, Old Bull Hotel, Blackburn,
at 6.30.
" 346, United Brethren, Royal Oak Inn, Clayton-le-
Dale, at 6.30.
" 369, Limestone Rock, Swan Hotel, Clitheroe, at 7.
" 462, Bank Terrace, Hargreaves Arms Hotel, Ac-
cington, at 7.
" 816, Royds, Spring Gardens Inn, Wardle, near
Rochdale, at 6.30.
" 1011, Richmond, Crown Hotel, Salford, at 6.
Chap. 204, Caledonian, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester,
at 6.

FRIDAY, JULY 16.

Lodge 152, Virtue, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester, at 6.
" 993, Alexander, Midway Hotel, Levenshulme, at 6.

**MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND
VICINITY.**

For the week ending Saturday, July 17, 1875.
All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, JULY 12.

Lodge 102, St. Mark, 213, Buchanan-street.
" 204, St. Paul, Whip Inn, Ayr.
" 205, Garthland, St. Winnoch, Eagle Inn, Loch-
winnoch.
" 219, Star, 12, Trongate.
" 307, Union and Crown, Masonic Hall, Barrhead.
" 362, St. Clair, 25, Robertson-street.
" 384, Athole, Washington Hotel, Kirkintulloch.
" 403, St. George, Oddfellows' Hall, Helensburgh.
" 541, Marie Stuart, Masonic Hall, Crosshill.

TUESDAY, JULY 13.

Lodge 177, St. James, Masonic Hall, Coatbridge.
" 230, St. Barnabas, Black Bull Hotel, Old Cumnock
" 413, Athole, 213, Buchanan-street.
" 419, Neptune, 35, St. James's-street.
" 426, Prince of Wales, Mas. Hall, High-st. Renfrew
" 441, Glasgow, 22, Struthers-street, Glasgow.
Chap. 69, St. Andrew, 170, Buchanan-st.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 14.

Lodge 178, Scotia, 170, Buchanan-street.
" 333, St. George, 213, Buchanan-street.
" 510, Maryhill, 167, Main-street, Maryhill.
Chap. 113, Partick, St. Mary's Hall, Partick.

THURSDAY, JULY 15.

Lodge 27, St. Mungo, 213, Buchanan-street.
" 12, Greenock Kilwinning, Town Hall, Greenock.
" 31, St. Mary's Coltness, Scott's Hall, Wishaw.
" 321, St. Andrew's, Public Hall, Alexandria.
" 471, St. Johns, Stane Inn, Shots.
" 551, Clydesdale, Royal Hotel, Larkhall.

FRIDAY, JULY 16.

Lodge 524, St. Andrew's, Masonic Hall, East Kilbride.
" 554, St. Andrew, Masonic Hall, Coatbridge.

**MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND
VICINITY.**

For the Week ending Saturday, July 17, 1875.

MONDAY, JULY 12.

Lodge 145, St. Stephen's, Writers' Court, High-st.
TUESDAY, JULY 13.
Lodge 1, St. Mary's Chapel, Waterloo Hotel, Waterloo
place.