

THE FREEMASON.

The Organ of the Craft, a Weekly Record of Progress in
FREEMASONRY, LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

Reports of the Grand Lodges are Published with the Special Sanction of

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, THE M.W. GRAND MASTER OF ENGLAND; HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF ABERCORN, M.W. GRAND MASTER OF IRELAND;
THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF MAR AND KELLIE, M.W. GRAND MASTER OF SCOTLAND; AND THE GRAND MASTERS
OF MANY FOREIGN GRAND LODGES.

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CONTENTS.

LEADERS	303	CORRESPONDENCE (Continued)—	
The Table of Precedence	304	Joining Members	309
The Festival of Wednesday Next: its Chairman and his Province.....	304	On Things in General.....	309
The Forthcoming Visit of the M.W. the Grand Master to York	305	A Masonic Club	309
Provincial Grand Lodge of Norths. and Hunts	305	Reviews	309
Provincial Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Surrey.....	306	Notes and Queries	309
Consecration of the Aldersgate Chapter, No. 1657	306	Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution.....	310
Provincial Masonic Directories	307	Laying a Corner Stone with Masonic Honours at Bolton.....	310
New Zealand.....	307	Presentation of a Testimonial to a Liver- pool Brother	310
CORRESPONDENCE—		REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS—	
Order of Precedence	308	Craft Masonry	311
Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution.— The Election of Committee.....	309	Instruction	312
Rebuilding the Temple	309	Royal Arch	312
		Mark Masonry	312
		Knights Templar	312
		Masonic and General Tidings.....	313
		Lodge Meetings for Next Week	314

CALM reflection does not satisfy us, nor we fancy any of our readers, with the results of the last Quarterly Communication. We confess to-day, as we peruse the published account coolly and impartially, to a sense of imperfection and incompleteness, to a realization of confusedness, which we think must gravely strike all who are jealous of the dignity, anxious for the "prestige" of Grand Lodge. Firstly as regards the minutes. Our excellent Bro. SANDEMAN was clearly in his right in alluding to the fact of the alteration which he mentioned, protesting against it from his point of view, and intimating his intention of calling the attention of Grand Lodge to the most serious point involved, though he could not, of course, found, if he did seek to found, any sort of motion on the confirmation of the minutes. For not only is it never wise to "travel beyond the record," but it was as clearly out of order, except by way of notice or motion, to raise so important a question then and there! We do not quite follow Bro. MCINTYRE in his view of "mere correctness of minutes," as there are certain acts done in Grand Lodge yearly which absolutely require *confirmation* by the Book of Constitutions; but we apprehend that our esteemed Grand Registrar's opening words are made to carry more than they will bear. It was only "pro hac vice," that he meant to say, no case of needful confirmation came before Grand Lodge, and therefore Bro. SANDEMAN had no "locus standi." With the limitations above expressed, we agree with him. Our worthy brother, the GRAND REGISTRAR, was not quite so happy or discriminating as is his wont, in what he went on to say as to the point of privilege. We have already conceded that since 1816 several changes have been made in the order of precedence, but we apprehend they have always been *submitted to, and approved of by Grand Lodge*, except where Grand Lodge has delegated to the Board of General Purposes the duty of making certain needful alterations in the verbiage of that special portion, and the sequence of the officers in rank. The table of precedence of 1815 and 1816, which was, if we understand Bro. WILLIAMS rightly, *submitted to, and approved of by, Grand Lodge*, is not identical, either in verbiage or order, with the now ruling form. From time to time alterations have been effected by the Board of General Purposes, by authority of Grand Lodge, and perhaps not submitted formally to Grand Lodge. Yet a late point deserves attention. When the PRESIDENT of the BOARD of GENERAL PURPOSES was granted rank in Grand Lodge (a comparatively modern appointment), is it not the case that such precedence was granted by *motion in Grand Lodge*, and not by a mandate only? This point is most important, and deserves the closest study and attention. We regret also the apparently hurried way in which the proposal for the new buildings was brought before Grand Lodge. Grand Lodge was, in fact, asked to hand over to the Board of General Purposes the spending of a very large sum of money, (an hitherto unheard of proposal in Grand Lodge), without plans or estimates, except an approximate one, and which was in no sense likely to be "within the mark." This clearly arose from a little want of consideration, and hence as an obvious consequence, there was brought about a hasty and unsatisfactory appointment of a committee, which, with every respect to its members, and with every deference to the great body of Grand Lodge, can hardly be assumed, with the most indulgent criticism, to represent the expert knowledge or energy of Grand Lodge. We naturally preferred, as we said, the proposal of the President of the Board of General Purposes to the resolution of a "Free Lance;" but we should have deemed it a more politic and thoughtful suggestion if the Board of General Purposes had themselves proposed a *special Building Committee*. What the result will be Time can only show us; but we feel pretty sure before hand, that such a Committee, so hastily formed, is too much *weighted* from the beginning to educe a satisfactory settlement, or meet the legitimate wishes of our Order, in respect, above all, of a matter requiring the greatest skill to carry out to the permanent convenience and contentment of English Freemasons.

WE regret very much for various reasons the apparent mistake which has struck out Bro. J. SAMPSON PEIRCE from the special Committee. His professional acquirements and his technical knowledge would have enabled him to render signal services we feel sure to Grand Lodge and the Craft.

WE are very glad that our distinguished Bro. the PRO GRAND MASTER called attention to the canvassing for the Boards. This course of procedure has become a downright nuisance. This last time every one was bored with lists and "tips" and "cards," "et hoc genus omne," until many brethren declared that this "touting" for position was not only an unmitigated nuisance in itself, but a discredit to Freemasonry, and an indignity to Grand Lodge. It is customary we are aware in like bodies to have a "House List," for which much may be said "pro and con;" but if you allow a "House List" you must also allow an "independent list," and if you allow "an independent list" you must also permit several "independent lists" and even "personal cards" of invitation and request. On the whole, therefore, we think it would be well and fair to all alike if the GRAND DIRECTOR OF CEREMONIES issued an order that no such papers should be circulated by anyone inside or outside Grand Lodge. It is quite clear that with the exception of the *agenda paper* and the *lists ordered by authority* no one brother has a right to issue a general or individual directory or supplicatory list; and we feel sure that it only requires a little firmness on the part of our authorities to put a stop to a state of things utterly derogatory to the decorum and character of Grand Lodge. We are so old in Masonry that we remember a time when *no* lists were issued at all. We admit that "times change and we change with them," but we are truly rejoiced to note and record, that our distinguished Bro. the PRO GRAND MASTER has expressed his entire disapproval of any such practice by any body or any brethren.

ONE of the most agreeable incidents of last Grand Lodge was the warm reception accorded to Bro. JOHN HAVERS. Those of us who remember his great services to English Freemasonry, the advice and aid he so long afforded his GRAND MASTER, the skilful manner in which he arranged all the matters connected with the Grand Lodge restoration, &c., in 1863, will rejoice to think that despite years and infirmities, the latter many and serious, he is still willing to help Grand Lodge in its present emergencies, and give to our Craft the inestimable advantage of his "Masonic knowledge and his wise counsels." We shall trust that Bro. HAVERS means yet to do a little more for Grand Lodge and for us all. It seems to us that owing to various conflicting causes, and from a certain "concatenation of atoms," the rebuilding of Freemasons' Hall will demand much calm judgment and much skilful handling. If Bro. HAVERS could be induced to come forward once more and give his invaluable assistance to the Special Committee and the Board of General Purposes, we feel convinced that not only would our highest authorities warmly hail his presence and his support, but he would confer an additional favour on that Craft, and on that great and distinguished body, the Grand Lodge of England, to both of which he has rendered such unexampled service through a long and distinguished Masonic career.

WE wish to express our earnest hope that the question of the alterations in the table of precedence as regards the District Grand Masters and the Grand Chaplains may yet be reconsidered. As regards the former, the question may become a very serious one in our colonies, and though District Grand Masters may sometimes take high rank for short services and the like, yet that matter can surely be arranged without ignoring the whole constitutional position of the District Grand Master as a representative of the Grand Master and of *co-equal rank* with the Provincial Grand Master. In respect to Grand Chaplains, the change is alike, we venture to think deferentially, unwise and uncalled for. With such men as the Dean of YORK as Past Grand Chaplain, it seems most extraordinary to take an opportunity of "putting them down several pegs" that is to say below the Executive Officers. We cannot profess to understand the reason or meaning of the alteration.

MANY of our readers will hear with much regret of the departure from amongst us of Bro. JAMES MASON, P.G.S.B. He formerly took an active part in the work and business of Grand Lodge, but has comparatively retired for many years, and has recently succumbed to a long, and painful, and trying illness. He was a very zealous and attached member of our Order.

THE TABLE OF PRECEDENCE.

BY MASONIC STUDENT.

Some questions having arisen in reference to this subject, it seems well to call attention to certain salient points respecting it. I may add that what follows is based on Northouck's edition of the Constitutions of 1784 and Williams's of 1815. There seems to have been no recognized or authoritative table of precedence until the one published by authority of Grand Lodge, as the Book of Constitutions, 1815, by Bro. Wm. Williams, Provincial Grand Master for Dorsetshire, and who held the copyright of same for three years. Indeed, as the Grand Officers in the last century were so few, the whole matter resolved itself into a very easy solution.

In 1724, at the procession in Merchant Taylors' Hall, June 24th, the Stewards, preceded by Bro. Clinch, and followed by the Grand Secretary, and three Masters of lodges, bearing the three great lights, were succeeded by Past Grand Wardens, Past Grand Masters, the two Grand Wardens, and the Grand Master. In 1721 the only officers of Grand Lodge were the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, the two Grand Wardens, and one Grand Steward. In 1722 a Grand Secretary was appointed. In 1723 six Grand Stewards. For three years one Grand Steward is appointed annually and in 1728, twelve. In 1729-30 the Grand Treasurer is appointed, and in 1733 a Grand Sword Bearer. And thus it remained until 1784, except that in 1775 the office of Grand Chaplain was *revived*, so it is said, and, though afterwards in abeyance, was again filled up in 1781, and a Grand Architect was appointed temporarily in 1776. In those times the Grand Chaplain seems to have taken the *lowest position* of all the Grand Officers,—after Grand Sword Bearer. Our excellent Bro. Col. James Peters will be pleased to hear of the great antiquity of his honourable office.

After the Union the following officers were dealt with in the Book of Constitutions for 1815:

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. The Grand Master. | 12. Past Grand Treasurer. |
| 2. Past Grand Master. | 13. Grand Registrar. |
| 3. Deputy Grand Master. | 14. Past Grand Registrars. |
| 4. Past Deputy Grand Master. | 15. Grand Secretary. |
| 5. Prov. Grand Master. | 16. Past Grand Secretaries. |
| 6. Past Prov. Grand Master. | 17. Grand Deacons. |
| 7. Grand Wardens. | 18. Past Grand Deacons. |
| 8. Past Grand Wardens. | 19. Grand Superintendent of Works. |
| 9. Grand Chaplains. | 20. Grand Director of Ceremonies. |
| 10. Past Grand Chaplains. | 21. Grand Sword Bearer. |
| 11. Grand Treasurer. | 22. Grand Organist. |

The Grand Stewards.

The Table of Precedence then came under the one heading "General Regulations for the Government of the Craft established by the Grand Lodge;" but the paragraph beginning "By one solemn act of Union" in our present Constitutions are not in the Edition of 1815.

If we compare the present Book with the Constitutions of 1815, we shall find additional officers, a different collocation of passages, and altered verbiage to some extent, effected no doubt in successive revisions by the Board of General Purposes. But when Bro. Williams says in his "preface to the corrected edition," the laws enacted for the regulation of the Craft on the 23rd August, 1815, having in pursuance of the plan then proposed and of subsequent resolutions of Grand Lodge been revised, and several amendments having been made therein, the sheets in which any alteration occurred have been reprinted, &c., what does he mean? Does he intend to convey that *all* those regulations were passed in Grand Lodge, or that the table of precedence drawn up by the authority of the Grand Master was only "*read for information*" and the rest was passed by Grand Lodge. As the Book was published by "authority of the United Grand Lodge" it has some importance on the present little controversy. But we must leave the "Crux" to more authoritative brethren to decide.

THE FESTIVAL OF WEDNESDAY NEXT: ITS CHAIRMAN AND HIS PROVINCE.

The last of the great Masonic Festivals for the current year—that of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys—will be held at the Crystal Palace on Wednesday next, under the presidency of Viscount Holmesdale, the highly respected and popular Provincial Grand Master of Kent, and from what we hear on all sides there appears to be every reason to believe it will prove to be the greatest of the many great successes which Bro. Binckes, in his long career as Secretary, has had the good fortune to achieve. That such a success is most desirable—we may go further and say most necessary—for the welfare of the School admits of no question. It has been greatly enlarged during the past few years, but from circumstances into which it is unnecessary we should stop to enquire, the Institution is quite unable to meet the heavy demands that are constantly being made upon its resources. We are very far from saying that it should always be in a position to receive within its hospitable walls all the children whose names are submitted and placed on the list of approved candidates by the executive; but it happened at the last election, as it has happened at several previous elections, that the number of candidates was very largely in excess of the number of vacancies to be filled. In these circumstances, it has long been evident to those best qualified to form an opinion that a substantial endeavour, a kind of "long pull, a strong pull, and a pull altogether," should be made in order to increase the school accommodation so that, for many years to come at all events, it may be able to accord its benefits to the majority at least of those who are compelled to seek them. To this end it has been determined on erecting a preparatory school sufficiently large to accommodate in time 100 boys. The cost of this additional school has been estimated at £8000, and towards this a sum of £3000 has already been subscribed. One of the principal objects of the festival of Wednesday next is to raise the remaining £5000 and, with a view to encouraging the brethren to give promptly, as well as with their accustomed liberality, all who send or have sent donations to the Preparatory School Building Fund prior to the 31st December of the present year will be entitled to double the usual number of votes. There are those who have questioned the wisdom of offering this special attraction, but something of the same kind has been done in other cases of a somewhat similar character, and at all events, if it is worth while making a supreme effort to raise so large a sum as £5000 over and above what is required for the normal expenditure of the year, the policy of offering special privileges in return for special donations must appear to most of us as not unreasonable. This is one reason which inclines us to anticipate the announcement of a brilliant success on Wednesday next.

There are others of course which occur to us and will occur to all our readers, but they may be dismissed more promptly. They are the known popularity of the Chairman, the strength and importance of the province he has ruled so long and so ably, the smallness of the School's invested property as compared with that possessed by the other institutions, and last, but not least, the zeal and energy of Bro. Binckes, to whom the Craft is chiefly indebted for the immense aggregates of subscriptions and donations announced during these latter years at the festivals of all our charities.

But our next duty—and the duty is a pleasure likewise—is to lay before our readers a short account of Lord Holmesdale's career. In describing his lordship as "the highly-respected and popular Provincial Grand Master of Kent," we have been guilty of no exaggeration. He is a frequent and always a welcome visitor at the lodges in his province, so that the brethren who are so fortunate as to hail him for their chief may be said to know him personally as well as by repute. He was appointed to his high office by the late Earl of Zetland in 1860 at the unanimous desire of the then existing lodges in Kent, and that he has discharged the duties of that office in no half-hearted perfunctory manner may be judged from the one fact that during the twenty-three years of his Provincial Grand Mastership the number of lodges in his province has been almost trebled: in 1860 it numbered seventeen lodges; now there are, in round numbers, 50. But to give details, Viscount Holmesdale, eldest son of Earl Amherst, is yet in the very prime of life, having been born in the year 1836. After being educated at Eton, his lordship received his commission in May, 1854, as ensign and lieutenant in the Coldstream Guards. The year following he was promoted lieutenant and captain, and in 1862 retired from the service on his marriage with Lady Julia, only daughter of the last Earl of Cornwallis. He had the good fortune to be present with his regiment during the greater portion of the Crimean war, and for his services, in the course of which he was severely wounded; has received the medal and clasps and other decorations. He was first returned to Parliament in 1859 for West Kent, which he represented continuously till 1868, when he was chosen to represent the new constituency of Mid Kent. In 1880, just previous to the retirement of the late Earl of Beaconsfield's administration, he was raised to the Upper House by the style and title of Baron Amherst. He was initiated into Freemasonry in the year 1856, in the Westminster and Keystone Lodge, No. 10, and joined the *Invicta Lodge*, No. 709, Ashford, in 1860. On the resignation by the late Bro. C. Purton Cooper, Q.C., of the Provincial Grand Mastership of Kent, his lordship was, at the unanimous wish of our Kentish brethren, as we have said, appointed by the late Earl of Zetland, M.W.G.M., to succeed that learned brother. His installation took place at the New Falcon Hotel, Gravesend, on the 20th October, 1860, in the presence of some 300 brethren, or about half the number constituting the then strength of the province, the officiating Master being the late R.W. Bro. Thos. H. Hall, Past Grand Registrar of England and Prov. Grand Master of Cambridgeshire. At the banquet which followed in the Assembly Rooms, Harmer-street, Bro. Dobson, Deputy P.G.M., in proposing the health of their newly-installed chief, addressed the following remarks to his lordship personally, and the experience of 23 years has shown that the confidence with which they were uttered has been verified to the letter: "My lord, you are a young man and a young Mason, but the members of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Kent look with perfect confidence to you in every respect. We believe you have Masonic principles at heart; we know you have all the courage of an Englishman; we therefore anticipate that while your conduct will be firm and dignified to every member of the province, yet that those qualities will be combined with that courtesy which always becomes an English nobleman, and with that kindness which always characterises an English gentleman." We have said these anticipations have been verified to the letter—how worthily may be gathered from the particulars we published at the time in these columns of the grand gathering held at Rochester, on the 13th July, 1881, to celebrate the 21st anniversary of his lordship's appointment to the Provincial Grand Mastership of Kent. On that occasion he was presented with three magnificent silver vases, value five hundred guineas, and a handsome gold bracelet for Lady Holmesdale. His patent of appointment as Provincial Grand Superintendent of Kent bears date the 20th March, 1877. He was advanced to the Degree of Mark Mason in the Carnarvon Lodge, No. 7, on the 17th May, 1860. At the time of his installation as Provincial Craft Grand Master of Kent he held the high office of Deputy Grand Master of the Mark Grand Lodge of England and Wales, &c., and in 1863 succeeded the Earl of Carnarvon in the Grand Mastership of that Degree. It only remains for us to add that Lord Holmesdale is a supporter of all our Masonic Institutions, being a Life Governor of the two Schools, as well as of both the Male and Female Funds of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution.

To attempt to give a description of the rise and progress of Freemasonry in this delightful county—"the Garden of England" as it has been again and again designated—that should be worthy of the province and this journal would occupy more space than is at our disposal. Nor, having regard to the fact that a very serviceable history of Kentish Masonry has already been published, does it seem desirable. But following up our custom of late we must not deny ourselves the pleasure of furnishing just a few particulars. Of course much of what was once purely Kentish Freemasonry—we are alluding to such homes of the Craft as Greenwich and Woolwich—belongs now-a-days to the metropolitan district, but leaving out of the question the lodges that meet in those localities, it will be found that Kent is one of our great strongholds, while one-fifth of its lodges can trace back their history to years anterior to the celebrated Union of 1813. It has one very distinctive feature. The provincial lodge which stands highest on the roll of Grand Lodge meets within its borders—the Royal Kent Lodge of Antiquity, No. 20, Chatham, which was constituted originally as a London lodge in the year 1723, but in 1750 migrated to the Bunch of Grapes Tavern, Chatham, and has retained its connection with that important military centre ever since. The next in order of seniority is the Industrious Lodge, No. 31, Canterbury, which is the result of an amalgamation in 1819 of former Lodge No. 24 of the "Ancients," founded originally at Bristol in 1753, with the then No. 416, previously No. 326 "Moderns," dating from 28th November, 1776. Other lodges of early creation are Freedom, No. 77, Gravesend, constituted 1751; Union, No. 127, Margate, of the year 1763; Harmony, No. 133, Faversham, of 1764; all which were of "Modern" origin and have received centenary warrants; and Emulation Lodge, No. 299, Dartford, also "Modern," together with the following lodges constituted by the "Ancients," namely:—Prince Edwin, No. 125, Hythe, 1771; Adams, No. 158, Sheerness, 1778; United Chatham Lodge of Benevolence, No. 184, Brompton, 1787; and Peace and Harmony, No. 199, Dover, 1791. Seven other lodges date subsequently to the Union, but prior to the appointment of Lord Holmesdale as Grand Master

of the province, namely: Royal Navy, No. 429, Ramsgate, 1835; Sym-
pathy, No. 483, Gravesend, 1842; Belvidere, No. 503, Maidstone, 1844;
Temple, No. 558, Folkestone, 1848; St. John and St. Paul's, No. 615, Erith,
1853; Invicta Lodge of Ashford, No. 709, Ashford, 1857; and Wellington,
No. 784, Deal, 1859. These make up the list of 17 lodges in existence
when Lord Holmesdale became Provincial Grand Master, and the next
senior lodges are the Sydney Lodge, No. 829, Sidcup, consecrated 30th
November, 1869, and the Holmesdale, No. 874, Tunbridge Wells, of the
year 1861. Since then, no less than 31 lodges have been added to the roll
of the province, among them being three that were consecrated in 1866,
three in 1867, and two in 1868; three in 1872, two in 1875, three in 1877,
two in 1881, and three last year. Twelve of these 31 have been warranted
since the Prince of Wales became Grand Master. As regards Royal Arch
Masonry, Lord Holmesdale, as Provincial Grand Superintendent of that
Degree, has under his authority some 15 or 16 chapters; while in Mark
Masonry, though his lordship is not the Provincial Grand Master, the De-
gree is flourishing, the number of lodges being 13. But mere numbers
alone show not the strong hold which Freemasonry has on this important
province. Let the reader who would judge of Kentish Masonry at its best
turn to the published lists of our Institutions, and in them they will find that
with hardly an exception—and then only in the case of those of latest crea-
tion—the lodges in the province are liberal supporters of our Charities. This
is, indeed, to their credit, a credit in which not the least conspicuous part is
borne by their able and respected chief.

**THE FORTHCOMING VISIT OF THE M.W. THE
GRAND MASTER TO YORK.**

The Masonic ceremonial of laying the memorial stone of the York Institute
of Art, Science and Literature has been fixed for Wednesday, the 18th July
next. York during that week will be in a condition of great excitement,
for a series of events will take place of great importance. The meeting of
the Royal Agricultural Society, which will be held on the Knavesmire (the
race course), will be a gigantic affair, in addition to which there will be an
important dog show, &c. The Grand Master of England will attend the show
as the guest of Sir Geo. Wombwell, Bart., and will stay in York for probably
three days. Besides visiting the show his Royal Highness has promised
to attend a gathering at the York Fine Art Exhibition which is being pre-
pared for his reception in the most lavish manner.

But the important day will be the one above mentioned, when the Prince
has graciously consented to lay the memorial stone of the new Institute, now
being erected in Clifford-street, with Masonic honours. For this event great
preparations are being made. The enclosure within which the ceremony will
take place will be arranged to accommodate between 2000 and 3000 persons,
and will be roofed in with canvas, and the price of reserved seats for the general
public will be one guinea. The temporary structure will be designed to
represent a mediæval castellated building and will present a most imposing
aspect, and will be profusely garlanded and decorated.

As soon as the announcement was made of the intention of the Grand
Master to lay the stone in his official Masonic capacity the Provincial
Grand Master of North and East Yorkshire and his Deputy proceeded to
nominate a local committee with a view to carrying out the necessary
preliminary details. This committee is as follows: Bros. T. B. Whytehead,
(corresponding chairman); M. C. Peck, Prov. Grand Sec.; M. T. Colling-
wood, Prov. G.D.C.; R. H. Peacock, Prov. G.A.D.C.; G. Kirby, W.M.
236; M. Millington, W.M. 1611; E. J. de Salis, W.M. 1991; J. S.
Rymer, P.M. 236 (Sheriff of York); J. Todd, P.M. 236; J. S. Cumberland,
1611. The committee has proceeded actively with its work and the pre-
parations are as forward as is possible. The York Assembly Rooms have
been secured for the meeting of Prov. Grand Lodge under the Earl of
Zetland, and those who are acquainted with that beautiful structure,
designed by the Earl of Burlington, will readily judge how admirably
suited to the occasion is their classical style and elegance of adornment.

The Grand Lodge will be opened in the Guildhall, a noble old mediæval
apartment, lighted through stained glass windows, and rich in historic
memories. The procession will have about a quarter-of-a-mile of streets to
traverse, a distance that will be scarcely sufficient for the number of brethren
whom we hear are likely to attend. The streets will be decorated in the
most magnificent way, for the inhabitants of the ancient capital of the
north are resolved on sparing nothing to do honour to their Royal guest.

After the ceremony and return of the procession to the Guildhall, Bro. the
Lord Mayor of York will give a luncheon to a hundred of the most distin-
guished Masons in the State Room of the Mansion House, which is now being
specially redecored for the occasion. The State Room is a very beautiful
and stately apartment, and contains many portraits of Royal personages
who have visited York at various times and partaken of civic hospitality.
It will be as well for us to mention that no brother will under any circum-
stances be permitted within the enclosure to view the ceremony without a
ticket. These tickets will be sold at 5s. for the benefit of the Institution of
Art, Science, and Literature, and we shall announce their issue as soon
as they are offered for sale. The whole arrangements are of course in
the hands of the Grand Secretary, Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, and the Grand
Director of Ceremonies, Sir Albert Woods (*Garter*), with whom the local
committee are in correspondence.

**PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF NORTHS.
AND HUNTS.**

The annual meeting was held at St. Peter's College, Peterborough,
under the banner of St. Peter's Lodge, 442, Peterborough, on the
7th inst. The Provincial Grand Master, his Grace the Duke of Manches-
ter, not having attended Provincial Grand Lodge for the last six years, it
was hoped that he would have been present on this occasion, but at the last
moment, to the general regret and disappointment, his Grace was unfortu-
nately prevented attending. His place was most efficiently taken by the
Deputy Prov. G.M., Bro. Butler Wilkins.

The Board of Benevolence and Charity Organisation Committee met at
the College at 12 o'clock, where the usual business was transacted, and
several grants made to the Masonic Charities and to brethren of the pro-
vince. Bro. T. M. Percival, P.M. 445, was appointed Provincial Trustee
in the place of the late Bro. R. Howes.

Provincial Grand Lodge was opened in due form, the acting Prov. G.M.
being supported by Bro. Jno. Marson as acting Deputy Prov. G.M.; Bro.
E. Vergette, P.M. 442, filled the chair of Prov. G.S.W. temporarily; Bro.

Henry Brown, P.M. 1764, occupying the chair as Prov. G.J.W. The
attendance was smaller than usual (not more than 80 being present), owing,
no doubt, in a great measure to the absence of the Prov. Grand Master.

The DEPUTY PROV. GRAND MASTER having expressed the regrets of
the Duke of Manchester at his inability to be present, the usual business of
Provincial Grand Lodge was transacted, and the following brethren were
duly invested as officers of Provincial Grand Lodge for the ensuing year:

Bro. H. Pank, P.M. 442	...	...	...	Prov. G.S.W.
" F. Marlow, W.M. 455	...	...	...	Prov. G.J.W.
" Rev. A. H. Cole-Hamilton, 1911	...	...	...	Prov. G. Chap.
" Rev. J. T. Hayes, 607	...	...	...	Prov. G.A. Chap.
" T. U. Stanton, P.M. 360	...	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" F. T. Dufty, 360	...	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" F. G. Buckle, P.M. 442	...	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" J. Wood Ingram, W.M. 377	...	...	...	Prov. G.S.D.
" W. House Linnell, W.M. 455	...	...	...	Prov. G.J.D.
" W. H. Simpson, 607	...	...	...	Prov. S. of Wks.
" Geo. Ellard, P.M. 360	...	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" J. T. Smith, 442	...	...	...	Prov. G.A.D.C.
" H. Spoor, 1764	...	...	...	Prov. G. Swd. B.
" W. Renshaw, 737	...	...	...	Prov. G. Purst.
" Brook Sampson, 1911	...	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" H. Watson, 466	...	...	...	Prov. G. Std. B.
" H. A. Robinson, 360	...	...	...	} Prov. G. Stwds.
" G. Wadsley, 373	...	...	...
" G. C. Castor, 442	...	...	...
" G. E. Moyes, 466	...	...	...
" A. E. Parsons, 607	...	...	...
" T. P. Dorman, 1764	...	...	...

Various questions concerning the Craft having been dealt with, the
resignation of Bro. Griffin as Director of Ceremonies was referred to. A
vote of thanks was accorded him for the efficiency with which he had dis-
charged the duties of that office for several years; and great appreciation
was expressed of his assiduity and success in working for the Masonic
Charitable Institutions. The thanks of the lodge was also given to Bro. the
Rev. C. Daymond, for the use of the Collegiate buildings for the meeting.

Bro. the Rev. C. DAYMOND in reply said their thanks were due to the Col-
legiate Committee, who very readily acceded to the application. They had not, he
said, forgotten that the foundation-stone of those buildings was laid by the
Prov. Grand Master for that time.

Bro. H. J. ATKINS, P.M. 1764, who had been appointed Prov. Grand
Steward for the year for the Masonic Charities, thanked the lodge for the
handsome grant made towards a nucleus for the fund of the province—
Benevolent Institution, 20 guineas; Boys' School, 30 guineas; Girls', five
guineas. He referred to the liberal contributions given to his predecessors
in their Stewardships for the Aged and Decayed Institution, and trusted
the brethren would rally round him, and enable him to carry up such a list
as would be a credit to the province and substantially useful to the institu-
tions. He hoped to visit the various lodges during the year and lay the
claims of the charity before them.

Bro. PANK, with the permission of the acting P.G.M., brought before
Grand Lodge the Peterborough Cathedral Restoration Fund, and gave
notice that at the next annual meeting he would propose that a sum be
voted from the Provincial Grand Lodge towards the fund.

The D.G.M. having stated that the Grand Master had appointed the
next annual meeting to be held at Northampton, under the banner of the
Eleanor Cross Lodge, and other business having been transacted the lodge
was closed in due form.

Subjoined is a list of the brethren present:
St. Peter's Lodge, 442—Bros. W. Dixey, W.M.; John Wheeler, S.W.; Stephen
Bamber, J.W.; H. Pank, Treas.; Edward Crisp, Sec.; Thomas Harrison, S.D.; John
T. Smith, J.D.; Thos. Rutherford, D.C.; Samuel Willett, I.G.; J. W. Kirby, Org.;
F. G. Buckle, P.M.; W. J. Pilcher, P.M., P.P.J.G.W.; Edward Vergette, sen.,
P.P.G.S.W.; John B. Vergette, J. M. Cook, George C. Castor, John H. Green, R.
Payling, H. J. Todd, Henry Kempton, A. M. Pentney, John Simpson, and others.
Pomfret Lodge, 360—Bros. Butler Wilkins, P.M., D.P.G.M.; T. U. Stanton, P.M.,
P.G. Treas.; George Ellard, P.M., P.G.D.C., Sec. 1764; Frederick J. Ains, W.M.,
P.P.G.S.B.; Frederick J. Dufty, J.W.; John James Hart, S.W., P.P.G.P.;
Alfred Cockerill, Prov. Steward; A. C. Pearson, H. A. Robinson, E. Roberts,
and Wm. Kirby. Socrates Lodge, 378—Bros. John Marson, P.M., P.P.G.S.W.; J. Wood
Ingram, W.M.; George Hawley, P.M.; W. H. Smith, P.M., P.P.G.R.; George E.
Wadsley, I.G.; James Hawtin, P.G.S.W.; and Arthur Bunting, S.W. Fidelity
Lodge, 445—Bros. Thomas M. Percival, P.M., P.P.G.J.D.; W. H. Linnell, W.M.; H.
Packer, P.G.S.B.; and S. Snedker. Perseverance Lodge, 455—Bro. F. Marlow, W.M.
Merit Lodge, 466—Bros. Hy Morton, P.M., P.P.G.J.W.; Wm. H. Watson, P.G.S.;
Horace Wright, P.M., P.P.G.S.D.; G. E. Moyes, 88 and 466; W. Ward, P.M.,
P.P.G.S.B.; J. Bentham, P.P.G.P.; James Etchells, P.P.G.O.; and Alfred Coulson.
Chichel Lodge, 607—Bros. A. Eames Parsons, W.M. and Treas.; Geo. Siddons, jun.,
J.D.; Rev. J. T. Hayes, and Henry Rose. Wentworth Lodge, 737—Bros. Wm.
Renshaw, W.M.; John Slinn, P.M., P.P.G.R.; and Luke Knight, P.M., P.P.G.J.D.
Eleanor Cross Lodge, 1764—Bros. Henry Hill, W.M., P.P.G.O.; Hy. J. Atkins, P.M.,
P.P.G.D.; Hy. Brown, I.P.M., P.G.J.W.; Henry Spoor, S.W.; T. P. Dorman, and
S. S. Campion. De la Pré Lodge, 1911—Bros. Rev. S. Wathen Wigg, W.M., P.P.G.C.
of Norths, Hunts, Leicester, and Rutland; Rev. A. H. Cole-Hamilton, A.P.G.C.,
S.D.; and Brook Sampson, Sec., Org. 1764. The visitors included Bro. Speechly,
W.M. 359, S.C.; Alfred Hamson, I.P.M. 469, P.P.G.S. of W.; W. H. Sampson, W.M.
236; Chas. Downall, Dublin; E. L. Shelton, P.M. 1366, Highgate; and others.

The banquet was held at the Angel Hotel, when a recherché repast was
served by Bro. J. Clifton. The room was most tastefully decorated. The
Deputy Prov. Grand Master occupied the chair, and was supported
on his right by Bro. E. Vergette, sen., P.P.S.G.W., on his left by Bro.
J. U. Stanton, Prov. Grand Treas., and by the principal Provincial Grand
Officers.

"The Queen and the Craft" and "The M.W. the Grand Master of
England, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G.," were loyally honoured.
"The M.W. the Pro Grand Master of England, the Right Hon. the Earl
of Carnarvon; the D.G.M., the Earl of Lathom; and the Officers of Grand
Lodge," having been given from the chair,

Bro. F. G. BUCKLE gave "The R.W. the Provincial Grand Master,
his grace the Duke of Manchester, and the Deputy Provincial Grand Mas-
ter, Bro. Butler Wilkins." (Applause.) Referring to the duke's regrettable
absence, he said a man in his position had so many calls upon his time that
it was extremely difficult for him to get to Grand Lodge; and no doubt his
grace felt that his presence was not so essential on account of the vitality of
the lodges and the able service of his excellent Deputy. His grace had
been most happy in his choice of a Deputy. (Applause.)

The DEPUTY PROV. GRAND MASTER, in responding, said that the cause
of the Grand Master's absence was a pressing business engagement, which
rendered it impossible to get down at the last moment. Had his grace been

present he should have had the pleasure of representing to him the great progress which Masonry in the province had made since he was last amongst them—some six years ago—that two new lodges had been founded, and that the working of the lodges had greatly improved. At the same time he would have had to say that faces with which they had been familiar they regretfully missed from amongst them.

"The Provincial Grand Officers, Present and Past," having been honoured, Bro. PANK responded, making some practical observations, also expressing the regret of many of the brethren at the absence of the Provincial Grand Master, and that it had been so long since his grace had been amongst them.

Bro. J. U. STANTON gave "The Royal Masonic Charitable Institutions, viz., the Girls' School, the Boys' School, and the Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons." He knew how much they regretted that Bro. Jas. Terry, the Secretary for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, was not amongst them that day, as he had been for some years past on similar occasions, and then proceeded to give them an interesting sketch of the grand work these Institutions were doing, giving instances of the practical good that had come within his own personal knowledge. The small province of Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire had done nobly. The good they did was beyond their conception. Two years ago, when he had the honour of representing the province as Steward, thanks to their liberality, he was fourth highest on the list, and the present year that amount was exceeded by Bro. R. H. Griffin, who acted as their Steward. They had attained such a position that any candidate supported by them was almost sure of success the first time. (Applause.)

Bro. H. J. ATKINS in replying expressed the hope that the lodges would help him as liberally as they had done his predecessors; and he would do his best to secure as large, if not a larger sum, for the noble Institutions which were the outcome of Masonic benevolence. By these Charities they helped their aged brethren, the widow, and the orphan—not by pauperising them, but by maintaining their self-respect while helping them, and in the case of the boys and girls, preparing them by a sound education for an honourable and useful career. Nothing could give them greater happiness than thus to contribute to the peace and comfort of the declining years of aged brethren, or to provide for deceased brothers' widows; or to the maintenance and education of the orphans they left behind them. (Applause.)

"The Visiting Brethren" was duly responded to by Bro. E. L. SHELTON, P.M. 1366, who apologized for the absence of Bro. James Terry, and stated the pleasure it gave him to belong to a lodge with which Bro. Terry was so closely connected.

The ACTING PROV. GRAND MASTER gave "The Worshipful Masters and Brethren of the various lodges in the Province," which was severally responded to by the Worshipful Masters and brethren present.

Bro. J. T. SMITH gave "The Ladies," which was responded to by Bro. E. CRISP.

The Tyler's Toast concluded the business of the evening.

The whole meeting passed off in a most satisfactory manner, its success being in a great measure attributable to the efficient manner in which Bro. George Ellard performed his duties as D. of C., being well assisted by Bro. J. T. Smith.

The harmony of the evening was greatly enhanced by the excellent singing of Bros. W. J. Pilcher, H. J. Atkins, J. J. Hart, J. W. Ingram, Wheeler, J. Clifton, F. G. Buckle, George Ellard, J. U. Stanton, and others. Bros. Brook Sampson (piano), R. Croft (harmonium), J. T. Smith (cornet), accompanied and also contributed solos.

PROVINCIAL GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF SURREY.

CONSECRATION OF THE EWELL CHAPTER, No. 1851.

The companions of the Royal Arch Degree assembled in considerable force on Saturday last, at the Sun Hotel, Kingston-on-Thames, for the double purpose of transacting the business consequent upon the annual meeting of their Provincial Grand Chapter, and to assist in the consecration of a new chapter, which will raise the total on the roll of the province to nine. The Grand Superintendent, the M.E. Comp. Gen. J. S. Brownrigg, C.B., P.G.W., presided, and he was supported by Comp. the Rev. C. W. Arnold, M.A., P.G.C., who filled the chair of H., and Comp. the Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg, P.G.C., who officiated as J.

Amongst those who attended were Comps. C. Greenwood, P.G. Dir. of Cers., Prov. G. Scribe E.; Magnus Ohren, P.G.A.D.C., Prov. G.J.; H. J. P. Dumas, P.G.D.; Charles Greenwood, jun., Prov. G. Sec. Surrey; Leigh-Bennett, Prov. G. 1st Assist. Soj.; H. E. Frances, Prov. G. 2nd Assist. Soj.; F. A. Manning, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; Vincent, Boucher, W. W. Morgan, and others.

After Provincial Grand Chapter had been formally opened, the consecration of the new chapter, the Ewell, No. 1851, was proceeded with, the Grand Superintendent, M.E. Comp. General Brownrigg, officiating as Consecrating Officer, assisted by Comps. the Revs. C. W. Arnold and J. Studholme Brownrigg.

After the Presiding Officer had addressed the companions on the nature of the meeting, the acting Scribe E. explained the steps that had been taken by those interested in the formation of the chapter. The Consecrating Officer having signified his approval, gave the necessary directions that the ceremony should proceed, and the petition and charter were formally read. After inquiry had been duly made, and assent given that the Principals named in the charter were still approved, the acting J. was called on for an oration, which was delivered by Comp. Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg in his usual felicitous and impressive manner.

The consecration ceremony was then completed with full ceremonial, and the three Principals duly installed as follows: Comps. Arthur E. Taylor, P.M. 1201, 1851, P.Z. 1201, M.E.Z.; William Howard Paddle, P.M. 1851, H.; and George William Saul, P.M. 1201, J. The companions who had not yet attained the Principals' chairs were then re-admitted, and the remaining officers were invested: Comps. E. A. Baber, Prov. G. Sword Bearer, S.E. and Treas.; G. N. Pochin, S.N.; H. H. Room, P.S.; and T. Bowler, Janitor.

After the customary recognition of the services of the Consecrating Officer and his assistants had been tendered, accepted, and acknowledged, the business before Provincial Grand Chapter was proceeded with. The roll of chapters in the province was called, and each proved to be well represented. The report of the Finance and Audit Committee was received and

adopted, and then came the election of Treasurer, this resulting in the re-appointment of the ever-popular Comp. Price, who, however, was unavoidably absent.

The officers were then invested as follows:

Comp. Rev. C. W. Arnold, M.A., P.Z....	...	Prov. G.H.
" H. J. P. Dumas, P.Z. 410	...	Prov. G.J.
" Charles Greenwood, P.Z. 410	...	Prov. G. Scribe E.
" Leigh-Bennett, H. 370	...	Prov. G. Scribe N.
" F. Buckland, P.Z. 889	...	Prov. G. Pr. Soj.
" Rev. W. W. Martin, Z. 370	...	Prov. G. 1st A. Soj.
" D. Thompson, Z. 1556	...	Prov. G. 2nd A. Soj.
" E. A. Baber, P.Z. 452	...	Prov. G. Swd. Br.
" W. W. Paddle, H. 1851	...	Prov. G. Std. Br.
" J. H. Askham, Z. 1564	...	Prov. G. Dir. or Cers.

In addressing the companions, the Grand Superintendent expressed his intense gratification at the progress Freemasonry was making in the county of Surrey. The whole of the twenty-seven lodges were working in a satisfactory way, and the new chapter inaugurated that day made up the total in the province to nine. General Brownrigg acknowledged and fully recognised the zeal displayed by his assiduous Deputy, the Rev. C. W. Arnold, who spared no time or pains in carrying out the work of the province. The services of Comp. Greenwood were also gracefully alluded to by the Grand Superintendent, who next stated that it was with extreme reluctance he had to announce that in consequence of a long-standing engagement he should be compelled to leave, much as he could have desired to join them at the banquet table.

The general business was then proceeded with, completed, and Provincial Grand Chapter closed.

A capital dinner was supplied by the Bros. Bond, the proprietors of this old-established hostelry, and ample justice done to the good things provided. Comp. Arnold presided, and the customary toasts received full attention.

CONSECRATION OF THE ALDERSGATE CHAPTER, No. 1657.

It affords us great pleasure to be in a position to furnish particulars of a new Royal Arch Chapter which will work in connection with the Aldersgate Lodge, No. 1657. The warrant of that lodge dates no further back than 1876, and its consecration did not take place till the 29th January of the year following. But the services it has rendered to the Craft are out of all proportion to the paucity of years it has been in existence, a fact that is due to the circumstance of its being able to point to a succession of such zealous and able Masters and officers as Bros. John Derby Allcroft, Grand Treasurer; the Rev. P. H. Ernest Brette, D.D.; A. J. Altman, George Kenning, P.G.D. Middx.; Alfred Brookman, and Dr. Benton. It is not therefore surprising that in due course a petition for a warrant for an Aldersgate Chapter should have been presented to the Supreme Grand Chapter, and the prayer of the petitioners granted. The result of these preliminary measures was seen on Thursday evening, when a strongly representative gathering of Royal Arch companions met together at the Castle and Falcon, Aldersgate-street, under the presidency of M.E. Comp. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, G.S.E., and the Aldersgate Chapter, No. 1657, was formally consecrated, and its Three Principals designate installed according to ancient usage.

The meeting was in all respects a satisfactory one, whether we have regard to the high rank and eminent services of those on whom devolved the duty of consecrating the chapter, or the sterling worth of those who were installed as Principals or subsequently appointed and invested as officers. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, as M.E.Z., was fortunate in having as coadjutors in his important function the assistance of Comps. J. M. P. Montagu, Prov. G. Sup. of Dorsetshire, and the Rev. R. J. Simpson, P.G. Sojr., who occupied respectively the chairs of H. and J., while Comp. Frank Richardson, P.G. Sojr., acted as D. of C. Chapter having been opened with the accustomed formalities, and the companions of the new chapter arranged in order, Colonel Shadwell H. Clerke addressed those present on the importance of the occasion which had called them together, and expressed a hope that the good seed sown that day would in time bear good fruit. The intermediate steps having been observed, the Consecrating Officer entered on the duties of his office, and having performed them in a manner worthy in all respects of his high rank and long and varied experience, the chapter was constituted in ancient form and the duty of installing the Principals designate was proceeded with, this part of the evening's labours being carried out in a manner equally capable and worthy of appreciation. These officers are as follow: Comps. J. Derby Allcroft, Grand Treas., M.E.Z.; Rev. P. H. E. Brette, D.D., H.; and Alfred Brookman, J.; all worthy Past Masters of the parent lodge. The following were then appointed and invested, namely: Comps. George Kenning, Treas. (elected); F. Crockford, S.E.; S. White, S.N.; E. Y. Jolliffe, P. Soj.; J. Larkin, Asst. Soj.; and Parkinson, Janitor.

Comp. ALLCROFT then rose and expressed the pleasure he felt at having received the benefits of installation at the hands of so able and distinguished a companion as Grand Scribe E., and having expressed his thanks to Comp. Col. Clerke and the E. Comps. J. M. P. Montagu, Rev. R. J. Simpson, and Frank Richardson, for the part they had severally and so ably fulfilled that evening, proposed their election as honorary members of the Aldersgate Chapter.

The proposition having been seconded and carried with acclamation, Comp. Col. CLERKE rose and returned thanks on behalf of himself and his fellow consecrating officers, and in doing so, remarked on the gratification it had given him to inaugurate their chapter and install their principals. Sundry propositions having been handed in, chapter was closed with the usual observances and the companions adjourned to the banquet room, and spent a most pleasant evening, the usual loyal and Royal Arch toasts as well as those of the M.E.Z., the Consecrating Officers, &c., being duly given and honoured.

PROVINCIAL MASONIC DIRECTORIES.

Of late years a pleasing evidence of the activity of Provincial Grand Lodges has been the issue annually of Masonic Directories. Their designations have been many, but amidst the diversity of titles, the unity of their design renders the name "directory" sufficient to include the whole series. On the whole "Calendar and Directory" appears to be in favour, but as some do not contain any particulars sufficient to justify the former, we have placed all under the second title.

Some provinces issue excellent reports, based upon the minutes of the Provincial Grand Secretaries and the statements of Provincial Grand Treasurers; but these ought not to supersede, but only be supplemental to the issue of the local Directories, which containing as they do the *personnel* of the provinces are invaluable for reference by the authorities.

I believe the first of the Directories issued for or by any Provincial Grand Lodge was in 1837, the editor being the lamented Bro. R. J. Spiers, Deputy Provincial G.M. of Oxfordshire, and as mine for Cornwall was commenced in 1870 and has been continued to this year, it is now the oldest of the existing series. There are some 17 in all published, the majority having an immense quantity of information collected after considerable labour, and generally most carefully compiled. It occurs to me that all the editors do not quite realize the primary object of such publications, for if they did the contents would always embrace the special wants of Provincial Grand Lodges. What is really needed is to enable the Provincial Grand Master to know who are the Past Masters, the Master and Wardens and Secretary of each lodge in his jurisdiction, the years of service of the first mentioned, and the addresses of the Masters and Secretaries of the several lodges, so as to facilitate communication and correspondence with the Provincial Grand Secretary. On each page devoted to a lodge these particulars should be given, as well as the offices held in Provincial Grand Lodge by any of the brethren, years of appointment, &c. At a glance then, the Prov. G.M. can see who are the most eligible, all things considered, for "collars;" and if the number of members is placed on the same page so much the better. I do not see the need of giving the names of the other officers of each lodge, because generally they are not members of the Prov. Grand Lodge, and detract from the value of the information by adding particulars of no use for provincial purposes; still if *additional*, and not instead of the former, "all's well."

1.—CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

This typographical little gem is edited and published by Bro. W. P. Spalding, of Cambridge, but Masonically the particulars afforded are not at all commensurate with the beauty of its "get up"; but doubtless as time rolls on, the enterprising editor will do better. It furnishes a copy of centenary warrant of No. 88, Cambridge, which is a step in the right direction, but much of the cost of the publication has been devoted to the calendar portion, and might with advantage be transferred in the next edition to the strictly Masonic part.

2.—CORNWALL.

This Directory has been compiled by me on the lines already indicated, and time has served to prove the value of the information so afforded. Formerly the Prov. Grand Lodge paid the expenses of the printing, and distributed the copies *pro rata* to the lodges, but by suggestion of the Prov. G.M. the sum of sixpence was charged per copy, and has resulted in a profit to the funds, though it consists of never less than 70 pages. No cost is incurred for binding, however, so it is not so handsomely issued as some of its contemporaries. Laws of Prov. Grand Lodge, Anunity and Benevolent Fund (over £3000 invested) and Table of Precedency of the Prov. Grand Lodge, are usually annual features of the publication, and full statistical tables *re* votes and members. It is the successor of one edited by me for Devon and Cornwall, 1865-8.

3.—DERBYSHIRE.

Bro. W. Naylor, of Derby, is the editor, assisted by Bro. F. Campion, and Messrs. H. H. and W. Bemrose, the publishers. It lacks the years of services to the Past Masters, and does not give the Provincial rank (if any) to each, but it is a neat and handy compilation. Bro. Naylor should give the list of votes for the central Masonic charities, also a statistical table so as to complete his laudable enterprise, and should the cost exceed the subscription in consequence, it might be sewed, instead of being so nicely bound, just as we find it necessary to do in Cornwall.

4.—DORSETSHIRE.

Edited by Bro. J. A. Sherren, of Weymouth, and published by Messrs. Sherren and Sons. It contains an extraordinary amount of matter; in fact, almost too much for the main purpose of the publication, and must have involved great labour in its compilation. The editing is well done, and the subscribers have every reason to congratulate themselves on the possession of so much for a trifling outlay. It furnishes a complete list of *all* the members of each lodge, distinguishing the Past Masters thereof and Past and Present Provincial Grand Officers, and similar information is afforded in the Royal Arch and Mark Degrees, &c., as also lists of charity votes, only the total is not given of the latter, as is desirable. Laws of Dorset Masonic Charity Fund and analysis, exhibit the interesting fact that nearly £1500 have been subscribed for that society since its formation in 1880.

5.—DURHAM.

Durham is the last to be issued of the series, and makes its debut as June is ushered in. It is a most compact and useful publication, well edited by Bro. Dr. C. D. Hill Drury, of Darlington, and printed by Bro. R. Ferry, of Sunderland. The years of service of the Past Masters are given, but not those of Provincial Grand Lodge appointments. The addresses of the Secretaries and those of the Charity Representatives are steps in the right direction, and the rolls of lodges and chapters, with dates of all the meetings for the year, are elaborate compilations, and I hope will be duly valued by the brethren of the province, as the work is considerable. I congratulate Dr. Drury on his excellent start, for he is far ahead of many of his confrères already. He should give the Treasurer's accounts in 1884.

6.—GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

To state that the "Calendar and Directory" of this province is printed by John Bellows, of Gloucester, is quite sufficient to prove its typographical merit—for that is of the highest order—and Bro. R. Vassar Smith, of Great Malvern, being the editor, leaves nothing to be desired. It

is, what it is called, a directory for the province, and so is mainly edited on the method adopted in the principal calendars enumerated. A list of Stewards to the Charities from 1875 is presented, and the amounts raised by each, the information being most elaborate and interesting. There are but 617 members in the 14 lodges, yet 1882 witnesses 2017 votes in the province, and from 1875 over £4300 have been raised for our "Girls" and "Boys," and £852 for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. Well done, Gloucester!

7.—HAMPSHIRE AND ISLE OF WIGHT.

This "Masonic Calendar" is remarkable for its large and elaborate tables, folded carefully, but not in so easy and accessible a form as when printed on the ordinary pages, though I am bound to say that the duties of the editors (Bros. G. F. Lancaster, of Gosport, and J. Ridd Hayman) must have been exceedingly heavy in this department. In these extensive tables are given the Provincial Grand Officers from 1833 to 1883 of the Craft, Royal Arch, and the Mark Degrees, and full particulars of the *personnel* of each of the lodges. Lists of the votes accompany the work, and descriptions of Masonic, and so-called Masonic, Degrees are so voluminous as to include even a notice of those whose officers and members are unknown save to the participants! The book was published at the excellent printing works of the *Hants Telegraph*.

8.—HERTFORDSHIRE.

The "Provincial Grand Lodge" appears as the publisher of the Masonic Calendar for this province, the editor being Bro. John E. Dawson, of Watford. If my memory serves me correctly, the first editor was Bro. Carter, of Hertford, when issued privately. There are abundant particulars of the ordinary kind in its 76 pages, and list of votes (*i.e.*, subscribers) to the Masonic Charities; but the total under each division is not inserted. I doubt the utility of so much space being devoted to the "Calendar" and pages for engagements, for, to my mind, more useful intelligence might be given, or that portion be omitted, and the price reduced from one shilling to sixpence.

9.—KENT.

Bro. T. S. Warne, of Rochester, the editor of this *model directory*, has only to give a list of the votes for the Masonic Charities in his province to place his compilation in the front rank. It contains 134 pages of closely printed matter, and entirely follows the views I have expressed as to the best form for Masonic calendars. It is entitled the "Freemason's Manual," and is well deserving of such a designation, and the printer and publisher (Bro. J. D. Terson, of Dover,) has supported the editor by doing his part exceedingly well. Statistics are not neglected, nor indeed ought desirable affecting the interests of the 49 lodges and 2782 members. Kent and Cornwall work on the same lines as to this matter.

10.—LANCASHIRE (EAST).

This is a calendar containing the maximum of matter in the minimum of space, for in only 29 pages there are to be found for all the 92 lodges, 39 chapters, and also other bodies, their places, days, and hours of meeting for each month of the year, besides other information of value compiled by the editor, Bro. John Chadwick, of Manchester, the careful printer being Bro. O. C. Crompton, of Bury. As it aims at an extensive circulation its size is small, and its cost in proportion, but it is no slight task to produce such a handy little book.

11.—LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND.

Bro. S. S. Partridge, of Leicester, the editor, always does his work well, and so his calendar is not only useful because of its varied contents, but the accuracy of its numerous details may be depended upon. Its list of votes is ably arranged, and by it I find that the 456 members have 610 votes in the central Masonic Charities. From 1877 the province has devoted some £1600 to our noble Charities, and in one of the tables it is stated that during the last five years (1878-82) the general contributions for the same purpose throughout England and Wales amounted to over £225,000, exclusive of the £41,895 voted by the Lodge of Benevolence during the same period. As a calendar it is the essence of neatness and perspicuity.

12.—OXFORDSHIRE.

This province, as I have indicated, published the first Prov. Calendar in England, but it lapsed for a time, until Bro. W. R. Bowden, of Oxford, came to the rescue, and he is now the accepted editor and publisher of a most useful "Calendar and Directory," for that province. It has several excellent features, especially the list of all the Provincial Grand Officers from 1833 to 1883, but I fear it cannot clear the expense of issue at one shilling each, any more than that of Kent and some others, who furnish so much inside the covers of their invaluable publications. The P.Ms. and P.Zs. of the lodges and chapters are given from *their foundation*, and though we prefer the system adopted by other provinces mentioned, there can be but one opinion as to the excellence of this "labour of love."

13.—SOMERSETSHIRE.

Bro. C. L. Fry Edwards, of Wrington, edits this useful "Calendar and Directory," which deserves a large circulation in the province, as the many particulars afforded ought surely to command the general support of the brethren. There is a calendar or table of the installation meetings, but we notice that there are no totals to the votes held for the several Charitable Institutions, neither are the members of the different lodges totalled. The work is effectively printed at the offices of the *Weston-Super-Mare Gazette*.

14.—SUSSEX.

Considering that there are 25 lodges in this province, I am surprised to see such an insignificant "Masonic Almanac" as the representative of so many brethren. True, there are capital annual reports issued by the Prov. G. Secretary, but I do not think the latter in any way are intended to supersede a fitting directory for the province, and so I hope that Bro. C. J. Smith, the editor (of Brighton) will be so heartily supported by the Sussex brethren as to induce him to make the issue of 1884 more of the character of its contemporaries.

15.—WARWICKSHIRE AND STAFFORDSHIRE.

These two provinces unite in publishing under Bro. Edmund Worrell's protecting wing, the "Calendar and Diary," the editors being Bros. Worrell, of Birmingham, for Warwickshire, and Dr. Derry, for Staffordshire. Typographically it is almost the equal of Gloucestershire, and Masonically it leaves but little to be desired. It has several distinctive features, one especially being deserving of notice, for the reports of the Worshipful Masters on the state of their lodges for the year ending 30th June, 1882, all carefully tabled and printed, are deserving of general imita-

tion, containing as they do the number of members of their lodges in 1881, initiations, &c., since; resignations, deaths, &c., subscribing members at date named, and full analyses of all the donations for charities during the same period, the total of the latter amounting to some £1500, being more than a pound per member for the year, exclusive of the sums voted by the Prov. Grand Lodge. I miss the names of the Past Masters, however, as we have in the other chief Calendars, neither is there any particulars of the votes held in the Masonic Charities. Still its a lot for a shilling!

16.—WILTSHIRE.

Bro. William Nott, of Devizes, the editor of this "Calendar and Official Directory," has acted in that capacity for three years, and I hope he receives his full share of support for his useful labours. Though in not quite so handsome a dress as some of its compeers, it is not behind any in its contents for the size of the province, and with respect to the Charities the information supplied is considerable. The votes for the "Girls" and "Boys" for *both* elections are added, and thus swell the total very much; the custom, however, is simply to give those for the one election. Allowing for this, there are some 800 votes (instead of over 1200) being almost double the number of members, which is most creditable to all concerned.

17.—YORKSHIRE.

Bro. T. B. Whythead, of York, has now for the seventh year edited and published the "Masonic Guide" for both provinces of Yorkshire. It is the smallest of the series, but though diminutive in size it is a veritable *multum in parvo*, and it is really a marvel how so much has been condensed into its few pages. It is not at all creditable to two such large provinces, having together 93 lodges, and nearly 5000 members, that no comprehensive directory is issued, for although Bro. Whythead has for so many years ably thrown himself "into the breach," he would, I feel sure, be amongst the first to support me in asking for a much more pretentious work for the information of the many brethren. Sometimes Bro. Whythead has even presented illustrations with the "dear wee calendar," and as the last of our series and least of the several directories, I am glad to see that it holds its own well amidst its larger brethren.

The average number of members to each lodge, so far as I have been able to judge from the particulars afforded, varies considerably, being approximately as follows: Hertfordshire, 36; Wiltshire, 40; Warwickshire, 43; Somersetshire and Gloucestershire, 44; Derbyshire, Leicester and Rutland, and Staffordshire, 45; East Lancashire and Sussex, 46; West Yorkshire, 47; Cornwall and Dorsetshire, 50; Kent 57; N. and E. Yorkshire, 65; and Durham, 79. Out of a general total of 23,646 members and 473 lodges, the average to each lodge is 50. If all the returns were in I anticipate the general average would be nearer 40 per lodge, as some of the foregoing are exceptionally high. W. J. HUGHAN.

New Zealand.

NORTHERN PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE (S.C.)

The adjourned quarterly communication of this Prov. Grand Lodge was held on April 12th last. Prior to the entrance of the Grand Lodge, the Lodge St. Andrew was duly opened, and raised to the Third Degree by the R.W.M., Bro. Slator, and his officers. The Grand Lodge was then admitted and received with customary honours. Bro. A. Dewar, acting P.G.M., presided. Bro. Niccol occupied the Grand Senior Warden's chair, and Bro. Austin that of the Grand Junior Warden. After the Grand Lodge had been duly opened Bro. Niccol reminded the acting P.G.M. and brethren that this was an adjournment of the Prov. Grand Lodge meeting. The adjournment took place to suit the convenience of the R.W.M., Bro. the Hon. F. Whitaker, and this night was fixed to suit his convenience. Bro. Whitaker, however, communicated with him expressing his deep regret that he would be unable to attend, as he would have to be present at the dinner given by His Excellency the Governor. It would be for the Prov. Grand Lodge to decide whether they should proceed with the business or adjourn until next evening. He was not in a position to say that the R.W.M. would be even then able to attend. It was decided to proceed with the business. Bro. Slator took his place as Prov. Grand Secretary. The business was then gone on with, and as a special recognition of the services rendered by Bro. T. Rawdon, Prov. Grand Tyler, the Prov. Grand Lodge unanimously voted that his regalia should be presented to him. The business occupied the Prov. Grand Lodge until a late hour.

The following is the full list of officers for the ensuing year:

Bro. Hon. F. Whitaker	...	...	Prov. G.M.
" Dr. Johnstone	...	...	Prov. Dep. G.M.
" W. Anderson	...	...	Prov. Sub. G.M.
" A. Dewar	...	...	Prov. G.S.W.
" M. Niccol	...	...	Prov. G.J.W.
" Rev. F. Gould	...	...	Prov. G. Chap.
" James Slator	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" Elliott	...	...	Prov. G.A. Sec.
" R. Kaye	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" Powles	...	...	Prov. G.S.D.
" T. Ellison	...	...	Prov. G.J.D.
" H. A. H. Hitchens	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" Luxford	...	...	} Prov. G. Marshls
" W. Wilkinson	...	...
" J. M. McLaren	...	...	Prov. G. Architect
" F. Roberts	...	...	Prov. G. Jeweller
" T. Rawdon	...	...	Prov. G. Bible B.
" T. W. Briggs	...	...	Prov. G. Swd. B.
" Dr. H. Walker	...	...	} { Prov. G. Org. and Dir. of Music.
" T. L. Murray	...	...
" Cutten	...	...	} Pres. Board of Prov. G. Stwds.
" F. Bulford	...	...
" Tonge	...	...	} V.-Pres. Board of Prov. G. Stwds.
" F. Bulford	...	...
" Tonge	...	...	Prov. G.I.G.
" Tonge	...	...	Prov. G. Tyler.

The following were elected as the Provincial Grand Committee: R.W.P.G. Master, Substitute Master, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Secretary, Treasurer, Junior Deacon, R.W.M. Sir Walter Scott Lodge, and R.W.M. Manukau Lodge.

Note.—ALTERATION OF DATE OF FESTIVAL.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS,
WOOD GREEN, LONDON, N.

Patron:
HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.
President:
HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G.,
M.W.G.M.

THE EIGHTY-FIFTH
ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL,
Will be held at
THE CRYSTAL PALACE, SYDENHAM,
On WEDNESDAY, 20th JUNE, 1883.

THE
Rt. Hon. Viscount HOLMESDALE,
R.W. PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER OF KENT,
IN THE CHAIR.

BOARD OF STEWARDS:
PRESIDENT:
R.W. Bro. Col. LE GENDRE NICHOLAS STARKIE, *Vice-President of Institution*, Provincial Grand Master of East Lancashire.
HONORARY PRESIDENTS:
R.W. Bro. Lieut.-Col. Sir HENRY EDWARDES, Bart., *Vice-Patron of Institution*, Provincial Grand Master of West Yorkshire.
R.W. Bro. Col. MALET DE CARTERET, *Vice-President of Institution*, Prov. Grand Master of Jersey.
V.W. Bro. Rev. A. F. A. WOODFORD, P.G. Chaplain, *Vice-President of Institution*.
W. Bro. THOMAS W. TEW, J.P., G.S.D., Deputy Prov. Grand Master of West Yorkshire.
ACTING PRESIDENTS:
W. Bro. JAMES SMITH EASTES, Deputy Prov. Grand Master of Kent.
W. Bro. EDGAR BOWYER, Grand Standard Bearer, *Vice-Patron of Institution*.
VICE-PRESIDENTS:
Vice-Patrons and Vice-Presidents of the Institution—Present and Past Grand Officers—Present and Past Grand Stewards Present and Past Provincial Grand Officers.
HONORARY TREASURER:
W. Bro. HORACE BROOKS MARSHALL, C.C., W.M. No. 1949, *Vice-Patron of Institution*.
With 338 Brethren representing the Metropolitan and Provincial Lodges.

The services of Brethren as Stewards are still most earnestly solicited.
TICKETS—Ladies 16s; Brethren 22s. (including admission to the Palace).
Dinner will be on the Table at Five o'clock, and, including Dessert and Wines, will be provided by Messrs. Bertram and Roberts.
Brethren to appear without Masonic Clothing. Morning Dress.
Particulars and every information on application to the Honorary Secretary,
FREDERICK BINCKES, (P.G.S., V. Patron),
Secretary of the Institution.
Office:—6, FREEMASONS' HALL, W.C.
15th May, 1883.

ELECTRICITY.—A quantity of Electrical and Scientific APPARATUS to be disposed of. Suitable for Institutions, Schools, Private Gentlemen, or for Presentation. Full particulars on application, by letter addressed to S. G., at the office of the *Freemason*, 16, Great Queen-street, W.C.

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IN STOCKS AND SHARES
WITH A MINIMUM RISK
To operate on the Stock Exchange profitably or, in other words, increase one's capital, limited though it be, may suggest itself as not very easy of accomplishment. Quick perception, however, tempered with experience and a true knowledge of the influences in force, will, in many cases, render the process comparatively simple. To purchase a stock or security of any description might not always prove judicious and safe, even were the position and prospects in the particular case the most sound and promising, because an immediate improvement, or, indeed, the maintenance of the prevalent market value would be improbable, if not impossible, so long as the account remained a weak one, or one showing a heavy preponderance of weak operations for the rise. In like manner a stock might be intrinsically worth little or absolutely nothing, but from the fact of it having been largely over-sold the price remains apparently firm.
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SURREY.—PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS.

THE R.W. BRO. GEN. STUDHOLME BROWN RIGG, C.B., PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER.

Notice is hereby given that a PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE will be held at the OATLAND'S HOTEL, WALTON-ON-THAMES On Thursday, the 28th day of June, 1883, at 1.30 o'clock in the afternoon.
N.B.—Morning Dress.
By command,
CHARLES GREENWOOD, P.M., P.G.S.B., Prov. Grand Sec.
61, Nelson-square, Blackfriars-road, S.E.,
June 14th, 1883.
A dinner will be provided at the Hotel; application for Tickets (15s. each) to be made to Dr. G. B. BRODIE, 3, Ches terfield-street, Mayfair, W.

PROVINCE OF MIDDLESEX.

R.W. COL. SIR FRANCIS BURDETT, BART., Provincial Grand Master.
A PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE Will be held in the NEW ROOMS, MITRE HOTEL, HAMPTON COURT, On Saturday, June 30th, at 2.30 precisely.
By command of the Prov. G. Master.
H. C. LEVANDER, P.G.D.,
June 6th, 1883. Prov. Grand Secretary.

ROYAL ORDER OF SCOTLAND.

A MEETING of THE PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE & CHAPTER OF LONDON will be held early in July, under the Presidency of V.W. COL. SHADWELL H. CLERKE, P.G.M.
Candidates for the Degree are requested to communicate at once with the P.G. Sec.,
Bro. FRANK RICHARDSON,
28, Golden-square, W.

INTERIOR OF GRAND LODGE AFTER THE FIRE, 4th May.

Photographed June, 1883.
THE ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION. Photographed June, 1883.
THE ROYAL MASONIC SCHOOL FOR GIRLS. Photographed June, 1883.
THE ROYAL MASONIC SCHOOL FOR BOYS. Photographed June, 1883.
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147, STRAND.
Published by G. KENNING, 16, Great Queen Street, London, W.C.

BRITISH EQUITABLE ASSURANCE COMPANY, 4, Queen-street-place, London, E.C.

Capital—A Quarter of a Million Sterling.
TWENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT, MAY, 1883.
NEW BUSINESS.
2070 Policies issued for £400,375
New Premium Income £11,986
BUSINESS IN FORCE.
26,099 Policies, Assuring £4,825,317
REVENUE OF THE YEAR.
Premiums.....£140,809
Interest, &c.£35,131
ACCUMULATED FUND.
Laid by in the year.....£69,772
Accumulated Fund on 31st January, 1883 (equal to 73 per cent. of the net premiums received upon policies in force) £873,102
Average Reversionary Bonus for 27 years about 1¼ per cent. per annum.
MUTUAL ASSURANCE WITHOUT MUTUAL LIABILITY.

A LADY desires re-engagement as BOOK-KEEPER, or would take the Management of a branch business; understands Stationery, Fancy, &c. Age 35.—G.E.D., 70, Overstone-road, Hammersmith, W.

WAREHOUSE LAD Wanted at GEORGE KENNING'S, 1195, 196, and 197, Aldersgate-street, E.C.

WINE SHIPPERS and DISTILLERS.—A Mark and R.A. Brother is open to represent a good and well-known firm, London or Country, or would accept Agencies; age 32; married; highest references; security.—"Veritas," care office of *Freemason*, Great Queen-street, W.C.

To Correspondents.

The following have been received but stand over until until next week for want of space:
St. Hilda's Lodge, No. 240, United Military Lodge, No. 1536. Provincial Grand Chapter of Oxfordshire.

BOOKS, &c., RECEIVED.

"The Royal Cornwall Gazette," "The Citizen," "Allen's Indian Mail," "Die Bauhütte," "The Court Circular," "de Espana," "The Voice of Masonry," "Keystone," "The American Freemason," "Boletin Oficial del Gr. Or." "The Jewish Chronicle," "The Canadian Craftsman," "The Hull Packet."



SATURDAY, JUNE 16, 1883.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even 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.]

ORDER OF PRECEDENCE.

Dear Sir and Brother,—
To the Editor of the "*Freemason*."
The report of the proceedings at the last Quarterly Communication on the above subject will be read with amazement by the Craft at large.

That it is within the prerogative of the M.W.G.M. to vary at his will and pleasure the order of precedence of the Grand Officers is a doctrine so monstrously absurd and mischievous that it almost take one's breath away to hear it seriously propounded.

If there is one thing more than another on which Masons are sensitive—I can speak from experience—it is precedence. Sir, it is making "ducks and drakes" of the Constitutions to say that the order of precedence is not fixed and unchangeable except at the will of Grand Lodge itself. Where is the thing to end? Is it to stop at the precedence of Grand Officers? Will it be within the prerogative of the Grand Master to vary the precedence of the officers of a private lodge? And if the Grand Master is entitled to vary precedence, I presume Provincial and District Grand Masters in their respective provinces will be entitled to a similar privilege. Sir, it is appalling to contemplate the fearful "muddle" the Craft will be landed in if this doctrine is to hold good.

I am afraid, sir, the Craft at large will come to the unpleasant conclusion that our M.W.G.M is being badly advised. There is something more in this matter than appears on the surface. It struck me so at the time this "new departure" was made. Is it a "feeler" put forth by the revisers of our Constitutions to see how the thing would "take" before incorporating it in their amended draft? Who is responsible for this "new departure?" That it has not been done at the instance of our M.W.G.M. we may be morally certain. Who then are the instigators of this ill-conceived movement? It is right the Craft should know.—Yours truly and fraternally,

A PROVINCIAL G.D.C.

To the Editor of the "*Freemason*."

Dear Sir and Brother,—
From your wide field of observation and extended sources of information concerning all that effects our Craft it will be no news to you that the brethren throughout our lodges are deeply stirred by the words spoken by the Grand Registrar in Grand Lodge on Wednesday, the 6th inst., as reported—and very accurately reported—in your last number.

But to feel deeply upon any subject is of but little use unless the feeling finds expression. Let that expression be of course as temperate as possible—courteous and forbearing to the last degree—but there must be utterance if anything is to be done. I therefore trust you will allow me through your columns to call upon all those brethren who are now only thinking to themselves or saying privately to one another "how monstrous this theory of Bro. McIntyre's is"—how utterly opposed to the regulations for the government of the Craft "as set forth at pages 16 and 17 of the Book of Constitutions" to send to you such expressions of their feeling and opinion so that the Grand Registrar and the other executive officers who are known to hold similar views as to the nonentity of Grand Lodge in respect to power over its own laws and landmarks may see clearly how very dangerous to the peace of the Order is the path which they are treading.

It is the more necessary that a very strong expression of opinion should be outspokenly expressed, seeing that the line of action which has for some time been silently followed by the chief executive officers has now been by the Grand Registrar openly and daringly declared from the dais of Grand Lodge. The gage of absolute despotism (such as I am sure, and our brethren throughout the world feel sure, the Grand Master himself would utterly repudiate) has been deliberately thrown down by Bro. McIntyre. Let it, I say, be as deliberately taken up by all who, while rejoicing in the fact of being ruled by such a Grand Master as is now our honoured head are still bent upon an adherence to our CONSTITUTIONS.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.—
THE ELECTION OF COMMITTEE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In your issue of the 2nd inst., under the heading "Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution," a brother signing himself "P.M." attacks me on a question of my fitness to serve on the Committee of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and speaks disparagingly of my nominator.

Permit me to say that my nominator was the respected W.M. of my mother lodge—the Egyptian, No. 27,—which is a vice-patron of the Institution, a position that few lodges have attained to. It was impossible for me to have a better qualified nominator. The Egyptian Lodge has been one of the staunchest supporters of the Benevolent Institution, and "P.M." by insulting its Master is not in my opinion furthering the interests of the Institution.

When "P.M." ventured to recommend the Craft to oppose my election he must have forgotten or been ignorant of the fact that in June last year I was at the head of the poll when Grand Lodge elected its members of the Board of General Purposes, and that I occupied the same proud position on the poll when in December there was an election in Grand Lodge of a Junior Vice-President of the Lodge of Benevolence. I trust I may be pardoned for referring to these matters, but I feel proud of the honour Grand Lodge thought fit to confer on me.

Your correspondent "P.M.'s" appeal to the Craft to leave me "alone" has been answered in a way that he little expected. As regards his statement that when I had the honour of being a member of the Committee I rarely attended, I beg to say he has been misinformed. I attended rather too often to please some brethren, and had I been less anxious to discharge my duty as one of the representatives of Grand Lodge on that Committee you would not have heard from "P.M.," nor have been troubled with this communication.—Yours fraternally,

CHARLES ATKINS,
P.M. 27 and 1260.

Clapton, 12th June.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

My attention has just been called to a letter inserted in your issue of the 2nd inst., and signed "P.M.," in which it is stated that the brother who nominated another brother for the Committee of Management was not even a subscriber of five shillings a year to the Institution. Now, sir, I beg most respectfully to set our old friend "P.M." right. I have for eight years past given something every year to one or the other of the Charities; for the last five years two guineas a year, but my money has gone through other brethren. I have been each of the last four years one of five brethren in my lodge putting two guineas each, and then drawing for a Life Governorship, in which up to the present time I have been unfortunate.

As my name appears in full on the agenda paper, I shall esteem it a favour if you will insert this letter, in justice to me and the lodge I have the honour to represent.—Yours fraternally,
W.M.
June 9th.

P.S.—I see by your issue of to-day's date that the brother nominated has been elected, as our American cousins say, by a large majority.

REBUILDING THE TEMPLE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Some brethren have commented on my name having been put forward at Grand Lodge on Wednesday, the 6th inst., but I venture to think that my active experience for many years of the arrangement and cost of buildings to accommodate large numbers of persons would have been of some use to the committee, while I was perhaps the only one of the brethren nominated who had actually planned a building for Masonic purposes. I venture to suggest that the Building Committee should limit the competition either to the members of Grand Lodge or, at least, to 20 members of the Craft, as a competition advertised in the professional journals would be unnoticed by the best architects, who rarely, if ever, enter the lists in an open competition.

It would be rather awkward to have an architect who was not a member of the Craft, and there is no doubt at all excellent designs could be obtained from the many able and distinguished architects who are members of Grand Lodge. Nobody knows better than the Grand Superintendent of Works and Bro. J. Gibson (one of the ablest living architects) that ordinary advertised competitions are very rarely taken notice of by the leading architects.—Yours fraternally,
HENRY LOVEGROVE.

21, Budge-row, Cannon-street, E.C.

JOINING MEMBERS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I have always held, rightly or wrongly, that joining members can only be elected at one of the regular meetings of the lodge. The proposition can be made at a lodge of emergency, but it appears to me that the name must appear in the summons for and the ballot be taken at the next regular meeting, no notice of emergency altering this rule. During the last few months I have known of elections at emergency meetings, and I should like to know that I am right.—Yours, &c.,
P.M. AND SEC.

ON THINGS IN GENERAL.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

1. After the very sensible proposal and decision in connection with the rebuilding of the "Temple" and the formation of a Building Committee, I venture to suggest that a similar Building Committee be formed by the Life Governors of the Boys' School for the purpose of undertaking the erection of the Preparatory School. The House Committee is a shifting body, and I am not aware of the fact that any member of it is competent to select a suitable plan or judge of its arrangements; probably the majority would not be able to tell a plan from a section.

2. Now that the Provincial Grand Lodges are meeting, may I repeat my suggestion that the arrangements be made so that the dinner is charged for at say six or seven shillings per head, and the wine being left to the individual. I am not an abstainer myself, but I know many who are, and I venture to assert that such a change would double the number of those remaining to the banquet, as others besides those above referred to object to paying a guinea for a cold collation and often very inferior wine.

3. Why should not our committees of the various Institutions be elected by voting papers instead of requiring us all to go to the offices in Great Queen-street to fight for paper? Surely if the election of children to important positions for their school life can be done by voting papers such a simple matter as the election of a committee could be conducted in the same way, and our country brethren would then have a voice in the election. I consider that the struggle for voting papers was more like the entrance to the pit of a theatre than anything so dignified as a number of Masons electing a committee.—Yours, &c.,
OBSERVER.

A MASONIC CLUB.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Allow me to offer through your columns a suggestion to those in authority in our Order who are now considering, and no doubt with anxious care, the subject of the reconstruction and rearrangement of the great hall and other buildings in Great Queen-street belonging to the Grand Lodge. A great opportunity is now afforded for an extension of the accommodation available for the comfort and enjoyment of the brethren, and I would suggest, as one of these arrangements, the establishment of a Masonic Club, restricted to members of the Order, and based on lines somewhat similar to the Law Society Club in Chancery-lane, which is limited to members of the Incorporated Law Society.—I am, yours very fraternally,
P.M.
June 7th.



WILLIAM MORGAN. WHAT THE FREEMASONS SAY. By Bro. ROBERT MORRIS, LL.D. Robert Maroy, 4, Barclay-street, New York, U.S.

The story of William Morgan curiously enough has never had the slightest interest for the English Masonic mind. It has never been dwelt upon thoughtfully nor seriously regarded. It has been held to be a consummation of trickery and dirtiness combined, unreliable in fact, unmeaning in outcome, and unworthy the thoughtful treatment or careful attention of upright and reflecting Freemasons. Yet in America exactly the reverse has been the case. Wm. Morgan, worthless loafer as he was, and in all probability a spurious Mason to boot, has been made the watchword of political factions, and the shibboleth of party excitement. Battles have been lost and won over a lying delusion and for an unhallowed name. For a long time the Craft in the United States had to meet a most direct, deliberate, and venomous persecution, which partially in some localities quenched their enthusiasm and impeded their advance, and no doubt in a general way has dwarfed the "tout-en-semble" of American Freemasonry in its entirety to a very perceptible extent. But as all iniquity and injustice have an end here in the good Providence of T.G.A.O.T.U., so Freemasonry in America seems to have gained new life from such passing shadows and petty libels, and to be moving forward with giant strides in a sure and safe ratio of loyal and salutary progress. But a new antagonist appears on the scene. Lo and behold a pseudo-religion attacks Freemasonry on the most perverse and irrational and irreverential grounds. The "testifying" of certain illiterate quasi religious teachers (so called), the viperous remarks of the "Cynosure," and a blatant chorus of ignorance and impertinence denounce Freemasonry openly before American citizens; and anti-Masonic candidates are run for State office, and an anti-Masonic President is put forward. Of course in America and England those who look below the surface of things, and above the level of the utterances of political mountebanks, or the frenzy of party violence, know at what value to discount such declamations, and to assess such manifestations. They are absolutely worthless,—"Nehushtan" is their name. They but represent the customary weakness, the ignorance and intolerance of poor humanity, and remind us forcibly of that tendency of fanaticism always to persecute, of that so-called superstition which ends in "Fetish," of that development of cruel and hateful idiosyncrasy which massacred unoffending Jews in the middle ages, simply because they were Jews, and handed over Jews and Christians alike, (happy indifference), to the murderous zealots and the "tender mercies" of the Inquisition under the degraded banner of a so-called St. Dominic. In America we concede perforce to American Freemasons alike a better acquaintance with the facts of the case, their needs and necessities, the "pros and cons," than we can possibly profess to enjoy in England. No doubt, therefore, the publication is required in the

exigencies of the hour, and the needs of the Craft; otherwise we should have been inclined to "let well alone," and treat all such attacks and assailants with silent contempt, to pay no heed either to novel incriminations or revived calumnies. Everything connected with Morgan seems to have been mismanaged from first to last. He was himself a "pariah" of society, utterly loathsome to contemplate, a trickster, and an impostor. His pretended experience was a deception and a lie on the very face of it, and how any sensible Freemason could have ever feared anything he could profess to expound passes our comprehension. Any such attempt to silence writers by bribing them away, never pays, and is a grave mistake in policy as well as in morality. The falsehood can only endure for a short time. Truth will eventually prevail, and in the moral government of the G.A.O.T.U. no deliberate iniquity or trickery is permanently prosperous. That any, even the lowest form of political aberration, could have sought to make a hero of such a scoundrel, only shows to what shifts men are sometimes put to here who leave truth and honour far behind, and with the exception of a great deal of short-sightedness and inexperience and imprudence, timorous counsels and hasty resolves, all thinking persons will come to the conclusion, that no more serious charge can be laid to the score of Governor Clinton, Bro. Cheesborough, and others, whose names are connected with the Morgan affair. We have always regretted even the migration into Canada, we regret it still, and trust that this untoward episode will remain as a useful warning against ever deviating one jot or tittle from the straight and narrow path of legality and honour, justice and truth. We must add that Bro. Robert Morris seems to have done his editorial portion admirably, and under no better auspices could this Defence of Masonry come forth than under the veteran and respected name of Robert Maroy.

THE MAGAZINES.

We take them up to-day feeling more and more how great is the tax they constitute on our time and thought, and how greatly they certainly affect the entire outcome of contemporary thought, study, and criticism.

"Temple Bar" gives us instalments of "Belinda," "Tone Stewart," "Katty the Flash," and "Uncle George's Will," which ends, as was to be foreseen, quite "apropos." The "Reminiscences of Lord Stratford de Redcliffe," "General Chanzzy," and "Seen under Different Aspects" make up a good number.

"The Century" is specially remarkable this month for its illustrations in such articles as "Living English Sculptors," "Father Junipero and his Work," and "The Great South Gate." We can heartily commend the number.

"All the Year Round" is strong this month with "Mr. Scarborough's Family," "Geoffrey Stirling," which is brought to a close, and "Jenifer." We can also praise "Monsieur Pasteur" and "The Bishop's Repentance."

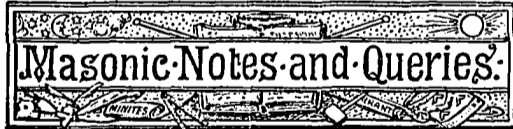
"Longman's Magazine," to our mind, does not show any increased strength. "Tamzin's Choice," a Cornish story, seems to show "geist" and power. "Thicker than Water" proceeds. The other articles are good magazine contributions.

"The Antiquary and the Bibliographer" come to us recommended by pleasant lucubrations and old world reminiscences. They will be appreciated by all who in this whirling age have time or attention for such thoughts and such things.

"Bulletin du Grand Orient de France," though only for February, is before us. We fear that, in addition to its abnormal position, the good old bulletin of French Freemasonry is becoming slow. Bro. Grimaux, the able Secretary, will, we feel sure, rectify matters.

"Le Monde Maçonique," under Bro. Rocher's editorship, has much interest for French Freemasons, in that Bro. Rocher gives them that variety of Constitutions which in the last few years has weakened French and startled Cosmopolitan Freemasonry. What can you do with a body whose Constitution is always changing? The "litera scripta" which Bro. Rocher prints, shows all of us who are capable of thought and discrimination the "facilis descensus Avernus" still ever opening before French Freemasonry.

"The Masonic Review," edited by Bro. H. D. Moore, Cincinnati. No. 4, Vol. 59, comes before us to-day with every claim for a careful perusal. Its contributions are various and interesting, and much to the Masonic point, and it is carefully and ably edited. We wish that in England American Masonic serial literature was more read and encouraged.



193] AN OLD BOOK.

Can any one tell me anything about Bro. W. Meeson, who published at Birmingham in 1775 a book entitled, "An Introduction to Freemasonry," &c. It was printed by "Pearson and Rollason." Bro. Meeson dubs himself simply "M.M.," and says he publishes the work, because he does not "find many that are very useful, besides those which contain the historical part of Masonry, and the Constitutions and the Charges." "Other matters," he continues, "seem to be buried in silence." He accordingly divides his work into three parts. 1. To Entered Apprentices; 2. to Journeymen and Masters; and 3. to Masters only. He makes in fact his teaching partly moral and partly geometrical. Kloss mentions it at p. 33, No. 303, but gives a second edition apparently as published in London, by Baldwin, 1776, though he does not say so distinctly. Bode republished it apparently also in 1778, but whether in English or German it is not said. BOOKWORM.

194] RANK IN GRAND LODGE.

As a matter of history, can anyone tell us, whether in appointment to rank, since 1830 say, such rank has not been approved of by motion in Grand Lodge.

QUERIST.

195] ROYAL LANCASHIRE LODGE, COLNE.

As the Royal Lancashire Lodge it was founded in 1762. Some of the founders probably met together regularly for years before that date at the Hole in the Wall at Colne, and James Shackleton would be one of those Masons. Such

meetings might have been held under the "Ancients," but it is more likely that the members worked without warrant or dispensation. Is James Shackleton nowhere mentioned in the minutes of the opening proceedings or in the 1762 warrant? I am much interested in the border lodges of Yorkshire; that on the Lancashire side is as yet an almost unopened mine of research to the Masonic inquirer, and "Mancunium" should make good use of his opportunity. A careful scrutiny of the Colne Lodge minutes may prove very valuable.
J. RAMSDEN RILEY.

BROWNE'S "MASTER KEY."

I am extremely obliged for Bro. Hughan's kind offer. Through the very clear directions of Bro. Speth (whose painstaking on my behalf were simply beyond mere thanks), and my old friend Bro. Brackstone Baker, P.M., P.G.D. England (who is never so happy as when he can be Masonically useful), I was enabled readily to work out the apparent difficulty. I fully appreciate Bro. Hughan's kindness, however.
J. RAMSDEN RILEY.

GRAND LODGE REPORTS, &c.

As many are aware, the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of England are preserved in generally quarterly publications known as "Reports." They are invaluable for reference, but I am sorry to have noticed that few lodges comparatively are as careful of them as they deserve. They are sent to the Master of each lodge as issued, as well as to the "Grand Officers," &c., and members can be supplied with copies for five shillings annually. From early times to 1869 these reports were printed in large or small folio size, and so were not in a convenient form, but from 1869 they have been printed in octavo size. From the "union of December 27th, 1813," to December 6th, 1882, the whole series may be classed into five volumes. Vol. 1, folio, 27th December, 1813, to 2nd December, 1868. (Those to June 1814 being of a smaller size than the remainder.) Vol. 2, Svo., 3rd March, 1869, to 4th September, 1872. Vol. 3, Svo., 4th December, 1872, to 6th December, 1876. Vol. 4, Svo., 3rd January, 1877, to 3rd December, 1879. Vol. 5, Svo., 17th January, 1880, to 6th December, 1882. The new volume begins with 1883, and each volume from No. 3 is pagéd consecutively, those previously having separate pagination for each "Quarterly Communication." It would complete the sixth volume in a desirable manner if at the proper time a title page were issued. The reports of the Grand Chapter were in folio before 5th August, 1868, and from that date are in Svo. Each however is pagéd separately. The present volume might end with 1883, and then thereafter be pagéd continuously.
W. J. HUGHAN.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

A meeting of the Committee of Management was held at Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday. Present: Bro. Col. J. Creaton, in the chair; Bros. James Brett, Frederick Adlard, G. Bolton, W. H. Goodall, Charles Belton, James Moon, Raynham W. Stewart, Edgar Bowyer, W. F. Marlis, Henry Moore, C. G. Dilley, L. Stean, Wm. J. Stephens, C. H. Webb, Chas. Atkins, Thos. W. Bush, J. A. Fairfield, A. H. Tattershall, Chas. Lacey, E. F. Dix, Julius Qu'tmann, G. L. Moore, C. J. Perceval, Thos. Cubitt, Jabez Hogg, J. Terry, Secretary, and E. C. Massey (Freemason).

The minutes of the meeting of 9th May having been read and verified, the SECRETARY reported the deaths of three male annuitants, viz., Bros. Manger, Harrex, and Matthew Cooke, and one female annuitant, Mrs. Betty Moorhouse, since last meeting.

The Committee decided that in accordance with previous practice the three vacancies thus created should be at once filled up by the three brethren next in order on the poll being made immediate annuitants.

Bro. TERRY also reported that Bro. Wirtzfeld, one of the successful candidates at the election on the 15th ult., had died on the afternoon of that day, and it was resolved to fill this vacancy also with the highest unsuccessful candidate.

The SECRETARY mentioned that as many as 19,000 voting papers were issued from the office in connection with the last election, and that the Scrutineers' task had been a very heavy one, there having been over 90,000 votes recorded.

The SECRETARY reported that he had received from the John Hervey Memorial Fund four cheques amounting in all to £26 7s. 6d., which, in terms of the object of the Fund, had been distributed amongst the two male and two female unsuccessful candidates standing highest on their respective lists. The Secretary submitted certificates from the architect, Bro. Griggs, entitling the contractors to payment of £250 for work done at the Institution, and one for payment of £5 to G. R. Smith for painting.

Applications were considered from the widows of Bros. Harrex and Matthew Cooke, and a moiety of their deceased husband's annuities was granted them.

The following brethren were elected to serve on the Finance and Audit Committee, viz., Bros. John Bulmer, W. J. Marlis, A. H. Tattershall, Wm. Stephens, and T. W. C. Bush.

The House Committee, as constituted last year, was re-elected, viz.: Bros. Bowyer, Farnfield, Cubitt, Stewart, and Perceval.

On the motion of Bro. STEWART, it was resolved that the customary summer entertainment be provided for the residents at the Institution at Croydon, and that it be remitted to the House Committee to give effect to the resolution.

The SECRETARY reported that in accordance with the instructions of the Committee, he had written letters of condolence to the widows of the late Bros. Duff Filer, Gallant, and Hales, and had received an acknowledgment written by Bro. Buss on behalf of Mrs. Duff Filer, which he he read to the Committee.

Four petitions were considered and closely scrutinised, and after considerable discussion all were received, and the names added to the list of candidates for election.

In reply to an enquiry by a brother who had not been present when the matter was formally reported the Secretary stated that the monies due from the two Stewards whom he sometime since found it necessary to report to the board had now all been received by the Institution; but he added that there were two others—one of them a clergyman—from whom he had been unable to obtain the monies collected by them, and that unless previously received, he would have to report their names to the Committee at the

meeting. In the meantime the Committee instructed Bro. Terry to communicate with the Grand Masters of the provinces to which these brethren belonged.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman closed the proceedings.

LAYING A CORNER-STONE WITH MASONIC HONOURS AT BOLTON.

On Saturday afternoon last, the 9th inst., about 250 brethren assembled at Tong, Bolton, to take part in the ceremony of laying the corner-stone of a new church to be dedicated to St. Augustine. The stone was laid by Bro. Col. Le Gendre N. Starkie, R.W. Prov. Grand Master East Lancashire, and Masonic formalities were observed throughout. A period of 60 years has elapsed since similar proceedings were observed in Bolton, and the consequence was that on Saturday the vicinity of the new church buildings was thronged with spectators, and the greatest excitement to witness what transpired prevailed. A procession was formed of musicians, firemen, working masons, teachers, scholars, choirs, and clergy, the Masonic brethren, in Craft costume and insignia, bringing up the rear.

The R.W. Prov. Grand Master was met at Firwood Hall, the residence of Mr. F. Hardcastle, one of the donors of the site, and accompanied by a select party, including the Mayor and ex-Mayor of Bolton, both members of the brotherhood, and the Rev. Canon Powell, Rural Dean, was conducted to the site of the church. Here the service was choral as well as Masonic in character. Bro. Col. Starkie was presented with a costly trowel, bearing a suitable inscription, and a mallet made from bog oak dug out of the foundations was also given to him, after which he addressed the assembly and then laid the corner-stone of the building.

In the course of a stirring address the R.W. PROV. GRAND MASTER said that although they were not Operative Masons, they had from time immemorial been associated with the erection of buildings to be raised for the benefit of mankind, the adornment of the world, and the glory of the Great Architect of the Universe. They as Masons had among them, unseen from the eyes of men, secrets that may not be unveiled, and which no man had discovered, but those secrets were lawful and honourable, and neither repugnant to the laws of God nor the laws of man. They were entrusted to the Masons of ancient days, and they had been faithfully transmitted to the Masons of the present, whose duty it was to convey them to latest posterity. Unless their Order had been honourable and their calling just, they would never have lasted all these centuries, nor would they have had and still have so many illustrious brothers in their Order ready to promote their laws and further their interests. (Cheers.)

Subsequently the brethren sang "Prosper the Art" and the "National Anthem" (Masonic version). The brethren present lunched together ere they separated.

PRESENTATION OF A TESTIMONIAL TO A LIVERPOOL BROTHER.

There are few more popular Freemasons in the broad and comprehensive Province of West Lancashire than Bro. Hargreaves Gill, and no more pleasant musical instrument than his "Fairy Bells" could be imagined, a special charm being given to their dulcet tones by the fact that they have very frequently been sounded in the sacred cause of Masonic and other Charities, and often "within our ancient lodges" have they given sincere delight. General regret was recently felt both in and outside Masonic circles that Bro. Gill was about to leave Liverpool for the purpose of settling down in Blackburn (still, however, keeping within the province over which Bro. the Earl of Lathom presides with so much acceptance as Provincial Grand Master), and it was resolved by a large number of friends and brethren to pay him a parting compliment in the shape of a grand concert.

This took place at Hope Hall, Liverpool, in May last, when volunteer artistes gave their services with pleasure, and the public gave their patronage most liberally. As the result of this hearty co-operation and desire to do fitting honour to Bro. Gill, a substantial sum was realised, and the presentation of this, along with other tokens of esteem, took place at the Star and Garter, Queen's-square, Liverpool, where he was entertained on Wednesday, the 6th inst., at a parting dinner, provided in first-class style by Bro. C. Buchanan, S. 1609, the proprietor. Bro. W. H. Jewitt, Chairman of the Concert Committee, presided at the dinner and after proceedings, and amongst others present were Mr. E. Andrew, Treasurer; Mr. T. Trevitt, Secretary; Bros. J. E. Beer, W. H. Vernon, J. Skeaf, E. J. Callow, W. Ramage, D. Cumming, J. B. MacKenzie; Messrs. A. Andrew, T. Davies, M. Pritchard, W. A. Owens, J. Mitchell, F. A. Clayton, and J. Burgess.

After the toast of "The Queen and Royal Family,"

The CHAIRMAN said he had much pleasure in proposing the toast of the evening, "The Health of Mr. Hargreaves Gill." (Applause.) He was so well known and so much respected that it required no words of his (the Chairman's) to recommend the toast to their hearty acceptance. As Mr. Gill was about to take up his abode in Blackburn, it was thought that a complimentary concert should be given to him on the occasion, and this had proved a great success. The whole of the artistes had given their services, and as the result of that concert they were enabled to present Mr. Gill with a purse containing thirty sovereigns along with an illuminated address (subscribed for by friends outside the Committee), and through him a dining-room timepiece to Mrs. Gill, who had always shown much sympathy with her husband's charitable efforts. These had been very numerous during his residence in the city, and they all sincerely regretted his removal to another place where he (the Chairman) was sure Mr. Gill would soon rally round him a host of friends. To know him was to appreciate him, and the many sterling qualities of his character would soon secure many friends. He was sure they would all join in wishing him the greatest success in Blackburn, and he (the Chairman) hoped that the address and clock presented to Mr. and Mrs. Gill would long remind them of their warm-hearted friends in Liverpool.

Mr. T. TREVITT, Hon. Sec. of the Concert Committee, then read the address, which was a most artistic work, and Mr. E. ANDREW, Treasurer, in an exceedingly neat speech, highly complimentary to Bro. Gill, then handed him the purse of sovereigns, the address, and the clock for Mrs. Gill.

Bro. HARGREAVES GILL, in acknowledging the gift, said: Believe me when I say that I wish I had words to express all I feel at the present moment when I say "thank you." I feel it comes far too short for your great kindness to me, which is far more than I deserve. I hope you will believe that I am speaking from my heart, and conveying to you feelings which cannot well be expressed in mere words. I can assure you that it is a source of pleasure to find that in parting from friends that one is to some extent valued, and in some degree regretted after he goes. During my long residence in Liverpool I have formed many friendships, and although I have left the city as a resident, I sincerely trust those friendships may never decay. The complimentary concert you gave me at Hope-street, resulting in the handsome sum you have handed to me this evening; the beautiful address, which will ever be regarded by me as a heirloom of great value; and also the beautiful timepiece, which you send by me as a present to my dear wife; these and other frequent experiences of your friendly favours will ever be looked upon by me as substantial tokens of your friendship, the remembrance of which will only expire with me when I am no more. Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, with a full heart and much sincerity I again thank you for your many years of kindnesses, which I may fairly say has reached their climax this evening in gifts of which I am justly proud. Before sitting down I will ask each one of you to kindly accept from me my photo as a pleasing memento of this pleasant occasion. (Applause.)

Several other toasts were given during the evening, Bros. SKEAF and RAMAGE responding on behalf of the artistes who gave their services, and a very pleasant evening was spent.

GENERAL LIFE AND FIRE INSURANCE.

The forty-fourth annual general meeting of the proprietors of this company was recently held at 103, Cannon-street, under the presidency of Sir Andrew Lusk, Bart., M.P. The report of the proceedings during the past year which that gentleman submitted received the unanimous approval of those present. Its statements, indeed, were, all things considered, eminently satisfactory. The premiums for fire insurances had risen from £68,000 in 1880 to £74,000 in 1881, and to £86,000 last year, but the losses had risen to 65½ per cent. of the premiums; yet, in spite of this, they were, owing to the arrangements which the directors had thought it desirable to make, in a better position now than ever to meet their engagements. In the Life Assurance branch of their business they had been remarkably successful. As many as 1759 new proposals had been submitted, while the claims in respect of deaths amounted to £63,000, or less than the estimated mortality. The reserve fund had been increased from £687,000 to £742,000, and as a result of the trading during the past quinquennial period, there was a surplus of £107,159. Of this £60,528 was divisible among the participating shareholders, while as to the balance it was proposed to add £5,600 to the Fire Fund, and out of the remainder to declare a dividend of 10 per cent. for the ensuing year, what was still left being sufficient to provide similar dividends until the next quinquennial valuation. The report and the proposals it contained were accepted. The retiring directors were unanimously re-elected, and after according votes of thanks to the directors and to the secretary and staff, the meeting terminated with the usual compliment to the Chairman.

KNOWLES'S "SPECIAL" FIRE, GARDEN, AND CONSERVATORY ENGINES.

With all our wonderful appliances and organisation for the extinction of fire—and their serviceability is being illustrated almost daily—there is, undoubtedly, one want that has yet to be supplied. Our fire engines grapple more or less successfully with the most tremendous conflagrations, but in a large number of cases these conflagrations would never require to be grappled with, if there were at hand on the premises a well-made, portable, and at the same time powerful, engine which could be called into requisition before the flames had had time to make any headway. Many lives have been sacrificed, and property of immense value has been destroyed, for the want of some such apparatus. This want Mr. George Knowles, of 72, Finsbury-pavement, E.C., and 54 and 55, Blackfriars-road, S.E., is prepared to supply. The fire engines he manufactures, which, by the way, when fitted with the necessary hose, may be used for garden and conservatory purposes, are admirably calculated to arrest a fire at the outset. The greatest care has been taken in their construction. The rails are of the best sheet iron, afterwards galvanised and japanned on the outside. The pumps are of excellent workmanship, the several parts being screwed together instead of soldered, so that they ever require cleaning they can easily be taken to pieces. They are especially designed for public and private buildings of every description and are intended to be filled with water and placed on the landings of staircases, as they are easily moved from one part of a building to another, and when set to work, throw a powerful jet of water. Those who are so fortunate as to have provided themselves with one of them will have no difficulty in coping with an outbreak of fire at the very beginning, and by arresting its spread to other parts of the building reduce the damage to property, to say nothing of the risk to human life, to a minimum. Moreover the knowledge that such an engine is available will give to the occupants of a house or building a sense of security they are far from possessing now. One other feature in connection with Mr. Knowles's engine must be mentioned, namely, their inexpensiveness, one for a moderate-sized suburban villa costing no more than £110s., while one suitable for a large mansion or hotel can be purchased for £3. Such an engine would be a valuable addition to the fittings of a Masonic hall.

THE FIRE AT FREEMASONS' HALL.—Bro. Bedford Lemere & Co., have taken some excellent photos of the Temple after the fire—from cabinet size upwards. Supplied only by G. Kenning, 16, Great Queen-street, at 1s., 2s., 4s. each, post free on receipt of stamps or P.O.O.—[ADVT.]

HOW TO SECURE GOOD HEALTH.—MARTIN'S CURATIVE MAGNETISM.—Health secured, Health restored, and Health promoted by the use of this Natural Agent, now so extensively used. See Press opinions, testimonials, and fullest particulars in 48 page pamphlet, which is sent gratis to all by John Hugh Martin, Inventor and Maker of the Improved Appliances, 272, Regent-circus, London, W.—[ADVT.]



Craft Masonry.

JOHN CARPENTER LODGE (No. 1997).—This lodge assembled for the first meeting since its consecration on Friday, the 8th inst., at the Albion, Aldersgate-street, when Bro. Henry E. Knight, the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, presided. There were also present: Bros. A. W. Stead, S.W.; Thomas Noton, J.W.; Jas. Pinder, Sec.; E. J. Honeychurch, S.D.; Frank Taylor, J.D.; C. J. Wilkinson, I.G.; A. Norris, W.S.; C. F. O. Warne, P.M., as I.P.M.; Joshua Garland; A. F. Inman, 1622; and Bro. E. C. Massey (*Freemason*).

The names of a large number of joining members and proposed initiates appeared on the summons, but, as not more than five could, by constitution, be initiated in one evening, the initiation of several candidates had to be deferred to a future occasion. The gentlemen balloted for were Messrs. Richard Webb Saker, Frederick Inskip, John Barrow, Mount Brown, and Charles Lamb. The ceremony was performed by Bro. the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor in a manner worthy of his old reputation as a working Freemason, and he was well supported by his officers, in spite of some defects which will doubtless disappear entirely when the team have worked together a little longer under the rule of so efficient a Master as Bro. Knight.

After some formal business the lodge was closed, and Bro. the Lord Mayor, having a prior engagement, was obliged to leave.

The brethren subsequently dined together under the presidency of Bro. May, deputed by Bro. the Lord Mayor to be chairman, and on the removal of the cloth the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed from the chair and duly honoured by the brethren present.

The enjoyment of the evening was much enhanced by the musical contributions of several of the members of the lodge, which appears to embrace a good deal of talent in that direction.

HASTINGS.—Derwent Lodge (No. 40).—The usual monthly meeting of this old lodge was held at the Castle Hotel on Monday, the 11th inst., Bro. John Pearce, W.M., presided, supported by his officers: Bros. E. W. J. Hennah, I.P.M.; W. H. Russell, S.W.; J. Plowman, J.W.; G. F. Wood, Sec.; T. H. Hallett, S.D. and Org.; H. F. Crossthwaite, J.D.; T. Markwick, I.G.; R. J. Reed, Stud.; Leslie, Tyler; Thomas Trollope, M.D., P.P.G.S.W., P.M. 40, 1842, 1820; Charles W. Duke, P.P.G.J.D., P.M., W.M. 1184; F. Rossiter, P.M., D.C.; C. M. Norris, P.P.G.S.B., P.M.; John Hirst, P.P.G.J.D. Hertfordshire, P.M.; T. H. Cole, P.M.; Arthur Wells, P.M.; J. Kenwood, W. Hudson, Roddis, J. Bray, Jennings, J. Hunter, W. S. Allen, T. H. Case, J. B. Sargent, I.P.M. 1184.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been submitted and the candidate for initiation not being in attendance, the Secretary, Bro. G. F. Wood, brought forward his notice of motion, and stated that six members having volunteered to advance the lodge £5 5s. each, moved that their offer be gratefully accepted, and that this amount of 30 guineas be devoted to supplement the sum already voted to complete the payment necessary to constitute the lodge a Vice-President of the Boys' School (in memoriam of late Bro. George Wellard, for 34 years Treasurer), which was carried unanimously. After a few well directed remarks from Bro. T. Trollope, P.M., and Bro. C. W. Duke, P.M., the lodge was closed in due form.

The brethren then adjourned to a well served supper. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts having been given and duly responded to, and some excellent singing rendered by Bros. W. H. Russell, C. W. Duke, J. Hunter and others the brethren separated, having spent a most enjoyable evening.

MANCHESTER.—Fortitude Lodge (No. 64).—On Friday, the 8th inst., the Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom, R.W.D.G.M., was installed W.M. of this lodge at the Queen's Hotel. Bros. Col. Le Gendre N. Starkie, R.W.P.G.M. East Lanc.; George Mellor, V.W. D.P.G.M. East Lanc.; H. S. Alpass, P.G. Sec. West Lanc.; and Chadwick, P.G. Sec. East Lanc., were present. The lodge is composed of Prov. Grand Officers, of whom there were upwards of 50 in attendance. The retiring W.M., Bro. Thomas Chorlton, P.P.G. Reg., acted as Installing Master, and his lordship was presented by Bros. Stephen Smith, P.P.G.D.; R. McDowall Smith, P.P.G. Treas., being Director of Ceremonies; Burrows, P.P.G.D., S.W.; and Henry A. Bennett, P.P.G.W., J.W., respectively.

CHESHUNT.—Gresham Lodge (No. 869).—The twenty-third installation meeting of this lodge was held on Saturday, the 9th inst., at the historic old hall, named Cheshunt Great House, Cheshunt Park, Herts. The W.M., Bro. Walter E. Gompertz, jun., Prov. G.J.D., opened lodge at the time appointed, and initiated three gentlemen into the light of the Order, and then installed his successor, Bro. W. R. Dixon, the S.W. As he was placed in the chair a very handsome banner, with the arms of the lodge, the gift of the newly installed Master, was unveiled and presented by him to the lodge. He then appointed and invested Bros. T. S. Holland, S.W.; H. Hughes, J.W.; F. D. R. Copestick, P.P.G.S.B., P.M., Treasurer; W. E. Gompertz, P.P.G. Purst., P.M., Secretary; Rev. Charles E. Mayo, M.A., P.P.G.C., Chaplain; H. A. Johnson, S.D.; A. Clegg, J.D.; J. Humphrey, I.G.; W. S. Jackson, Org.; G. S. Bigley, P.M., D.C.; Charles A. Gompertz, W.S.; Marsh, Tyler. The visitors were Bros. the R.W. J. F. Halsey, M.P., Prov. G.M. Herts; James Terry, P.P.G.S.W. Herts; George Kenning, P.M. 1657, Past G.D. Middlesex; Geo. Micklethorp, P.M. 449, P.P.G.W. Herts; Henry W. Gompertz, P.M. 1364; G. Moss, W.M. 1851; Durat, P.M. 1768; Thos. Jackson, P.M. 1475; E. R. Storr, P.M. 22; Rev. Chas. Roberts, Chap. 706; G. Cordwell, P.M. 13; T. Jones, W.M. 1507; S. White, S.W. 1657; Charles Wilson, 3; Lardner, J.D. 101; Heale, P.M. 45; and J. L. Ports, 509. The usual banquet took place, at which the W.M., Bro. Dixon, presided, and the customary loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured.

PLUMSTEAD.—Pattison Lodge (No. 913).—The monthly meeting of the above lodge took place on the 7th inst., at the High Schools for Boys, Brook Hill, Bro. H. Mason, W.M., in the chair, assisted by a large attendance of officers, Past Masters, visitors, and brethren of the lodge. After the lodge work had been fully carried out, Bro. Edmunds, S.W., was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing twelve months, and Bro. E. Denton, P.M., P.P.G.P. Kent, and H. Mabbett, were severally re-elected Secretary and Tyler. It was resolved by a unanimous vote that a Past Master's jewel of the value of ten guineas should be presented to Bro. Mason, as a token of the esteem in which he is held by the brethren, and to mark their approval of the manner in which he had carried out his duties as W.M. The lodge was then closed, and after supper an hour or two was spent in harmony and social converse.

SUNDERLAND.—Williamson Lodge (No. 949).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, the 11th inst., in the lodge room, St. Stephen's Schools, Monkwearmouth. The lodge was opened in due form by the W.M., Bro. Chas. Cobham, who was supported by the following officers: Bros. Kirtley, S.W.; Hewson, J.W.; H. Horner, S.D.; G. W. Errington, J.D.; Simpson, I.G.; J. Barlow, Sec.; R. Shadforth, P.M., Treas.; and Welburn, Tyler. Upon the dais, supporting the W.M., there were Bros. C. McNamara, W.M. 97; A. T. Munroe, P.M., D. of C.; G. Porteous, I.P.M., 949, P.G.O.; M. Frampton, P.M.; J. Hudson, W.M.; J. Smart, P.M. 94; J. Kinmond, P.M. So; Morton, W.M. 1970; Leech, P.M. 97; Gray, P.M.; and Hall, P.M. 949. Mr. Emil Gerhard Von Hovling was initiated into Masonry by Bro. Munroe, P.M., and Mr. Robert Carr Robinson was initiated by Bro. McNamara, after which Mr. Bell was initiated by the W.M., Bro. Cobham. After other business the lodge was closed in harmony.

COCKERMOUTH.—Skiddaw Lodge (No. 1002).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held on the 5th inst. in the Masonic Rooms, Station-street. The lodge having been opened in due form by Bro. H. Peacock, W.M., and the minutes of the last meeting confirmed, Mr. F. A. Cooper, who had been duly balloted for as a candidate, was admitted and initiated into the ancient mysteries and privileges of the Craft. The Degree was given by the W.M., who delivered the charge with great effect. It was proposed and unanimously passed that a letter of condolence be sent to the widow of the late Bro. John Armstrong, S.D. There being no other business the lodge was closed.

LIVERPOOL.—Neptune Lodge (No. 1264).—The annual installation meeting of the members of this lodge, was held at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, on Monday the 4th inst., when there was a numerous attendance of members and visitors. The lodge was opened by Bro. C. Fothergill, the retiring W.M., and amongst his official supporters were Bros. T. H. Arden, P.M.; J. Pemberton, P.P.G.S. of W.; A. Cotter, P.M.; J. S. Warden, S.W.; W. Fish, J.W.; P. B. Gee, Treas.; J. Tickle, Sec.; J. Ashworth, S.D.; G. Crute, J.D.; H. Ravenscroft, J.G.; J. Shaw, T. L. Fraser, Stwds.; and P. Ball, Tyler. Amongst the visitors were Bros. A. Child, 1756; E. Beavan, 823; J. Skeaf, P.P.G.O.; Dr. A. Samuel, P.M. 1350; J. B. McKenzie, P.M. 1609; T. W. Careful, P.M. 823; J. Cantor, 1609; R. J. L. Kynaston, W.M. 1393; J. T. Callow, P.P.G.T.; W. Savage, W.M. 1609; J. Williams, P.M. 119; A. Bucknall, W.M. 667; &c. The W.M. elect was presented by Bros. Arden and Gee, P.Ms., and after the usual honours the following officers were invested for the ensuing year: Bros. C. Fothergill, I.P.M.; George Crute, S.W.; John Tickle, J.W.; P. B. Gee, P.M. Treas. (re-elected); James Ashworth, Sec.; W. Fish, S.D.; Samuel Fraser, J.D.; A. B. Ewart, Organist (reappointed); A. Cotter, P.M., M.C.; Evans Lect, I.G.; W. Jones, S.S.; Wm. Kohn, J.S.; E. B. Ironsides, A.S. Bro. P. Ball was re-elected Tyler. The brethren dined together at the conclusion of the ceremony, the catering being excellently managed by Bro. A. Vines, P.P.G.D.C. A capital musical programme was well rendered by Bro. Skeaf, P.P.G.O.; Jos. Cantor, T. Foulkes, A. Child, W. E. Stone, A. B. Ewart, J. Handford, and others. We ought not to omit mentioning that the W.M. presented the I.P.M. with a handsome P.M.'s jewel on behalf of the lodge in very flattering terms, and the gift was suitably acknowledged.

NORWICH.—Walpole Lodge (No. 1500).—The meeting for the installation of Bro. S. J. Carman as W.M. of this lodge, which was held on Thursday, the 7th inst., at the Masonic Club, 23, St. Giles-street, was highly successful, as will be seen by the list of brethren present given below. Many brethren came from distant lodges, and there were also a fair assemblage of the officers of the province, which was no doubt due to the popularity of this lodge and the respect and esteem with which both the retiring W.M., Bro. G. J. B. Jay, and the newly-elected Master are held. The lodge was opened at about six o'clock, p.m., by Bro. G. B. Jay, who was assisted by his officers as follows: Bros. John Harper, P.M., P.G.P.; S. J. Carman, W.M. elect, S.W.; M. J. Bailey, J.W.; C. E. Stevens, S.D.; G. S. Smith, J.D.; Jesse Weyer, I.G.; Thos. Lord, P.M., P.S. of W., D.C.; R. H. Gissing, P.G. Sd., Sec.; Geo. Brittain, P.M., P.P.G.O., Treas.; E. Hollidge, Tyler. Among the brethren present in addition to those in office were Bros. T. J. Mackley, P.M., P.P.A.G. D.C.; A. Bullard, P.M., P.P.G.A.D.C.; Quartermaster F. Mills, P.M., P.P.G.S.B.; A. N. Mann, F. Crowe, C. J. Campling, W. W. Warner, G. S. Beck, E. Howard, J. Hoberough, W. R. Tidnam, J. Cox, T. Wolveredge, J. C. Butcher, E. Ellis, J. H. H. Cooper, Fred. Morgan, H. C. Norrham, and others. Among the visitors were Bros. J. B. Aldis, P.M., P.P.G.J.D., P.G. Sec.; H. J. Barwell, P.M., P.P.G.S.D., P.P.G. Sec.; Chas. Cubitt, P.M., P.P.G.R.; C. A. B. Bignold, 52; H. J. Brookes, G. B. Robertson, J. H. Brockbank, P.G. Stwd.; C. L. Holden, and J. Morse, 93; C. E. Sexton, W.M., and S. A. Matthews, 213; R. Bales, 304; G. Baxter, P.M., P.P.G.A.D.C., P.P.G.D.C.; R. A. Mudge, A. Sidell, and J. W. Browne (*Freemason*), 807; G. W. G. Barnard, W.M. 943; F. Taylor, 990; W. H. Doughty, W.M. 996; J. E. Dixon and J. Atkinson, 1330; J. Tuck, P.M. 1842; G. W. Rogers, W.M. 1808; R. Hobson, and E. Newman.

The lodge having been regularly opened the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The cere-

mony of installation was then proceeded with, and was most ably performed by Bro. J. Harper, who rendered the charges in a most excellent and impressive manner.

The Worshipful Master then appointed the following brethren as his officers for the ensuing year: Bros. G. B. Jay, I.P.M.; M. J. Bailey, S.W.; C. E. Stevens, J.W.; Geo. Brittain, P.M., Treas.; G. S. Smith, S.D.; Jesse Weyer, J.D.; Thos. Lord, P.M., D. of C.; A. N. Mann, Org.; R. H. Gissing, Sec.; John Cox, I.G.; C. J. Campling and W. R. Tidnam, Stewards; and E. Hollidge, Tyler; and with appropriate speeches of congratulation or advice duly invested them. Some further desultory business appertaining to the business of the lodge having been transacted, "Hearty good wishes" were given by the visiting brethren, and the lodge was duly closed with prayer, peace, and harmony.

After a short interval the brethren assembled in the banqueting room, where a most recherché banquet had been prepared, at the conclusion of which the usual loyal, Masonic, and general toasts were given and acknowledged.

The Worshipful Master in giving the toast of "The P.G. Officers," congratulated himself in having so many distinguished officers present, and called upon Bro. Brittain to respond for the past officers, and Bro. J. B. Aldis, P.G. Sec., for the present officers.

Bro. Brittain duly acknowledged his portion of the toast.

Bro. J. B. Aldis in responding for the present officers, complained of his personal inability to perform his duties in so able a manner, or to properly fill the shoes of the late Secretary, Bro. H. G. Barwell, inasmuch as those duties had been carried out by that brother in an admirable manner, but he (Bro. Aldis) hoped that by the aid of Bro. Barwell's shoehorn he would ultimately perform them with satisfaction to the brethren of the Province of Norfolk. He (Bro. Aldis) had often visited the Walpole Lodge, and he could testify that their working was second to none in the province, and concluded by wishing the W.M. a successful year of office.

The next important toast was that of "The I.P.M., Bro. G. B. Jay," who unfortunately had been afflicted with so serious an illness as to prevent him attending to his duties in the lodge. The toast was warmly received. In the course of his speech the Worshipful Master observed that he was sure the brethren would be glad to see Bro. Jay amongst them again, as all had regretted his absence at the lodge and at the social board, where his eloquent speeches had diffused lustre to their meetings; and although the I.P.M., Bro. Harper, had performed the duties of W.M. in a most able and efficient manner, the want of the W.M. had been felt by all. The W.M. then presented Bro. Jay with a Past Master's jewel, bearing a suitable inscription, and an illuminated address, a real work of art. The W.M. after handing them to Bro. Jay proceeded to say that he hoped Bro. Jay would accept them as a token of the respect and esteem of the brethren of the lodge, assuring him that the presents did not half convey their feelings on the subject. It was the wish of the lodge that Bro. Jay might be spared by the G.A.O.T.U. for many years to come to wear the jewel amongst them, and that his posterity might look with pride upon the presents, and carefully preserve them as the memento of their eyes.

Bro. Jay in response, delivered a very eloquent and impressive speech, in the course of which he observed that having been absent through illness for such a length of time he felt almost in the light of a visitor, but their kindness and the manner in which they had received the toast of his health assured him that he was mistaken, that he was no visitor but one of their own subscribing members. Though he had been absent from them, he had received such kind messages of sympathy as to assure him that they had not allowed him to be absent from their minds, and these consolations together with their kind present had more than rewarded him for his humble efforts in the welfare of the lodge. During his recent affliction he had more than once appreciated the goodness and virtue of Freemasonry. It was his experience that in the seclusion of the sick chamber where one had time for thought, one learned the important lessons conveyed in Freemasonry, a sort of social will o' the wisp that gave comfort and consolation in the hour of affliction, and illumined the darkness spread over the valley of the shadow of death. He hoped he should follow in the footsteps of the Past Masters of the lodge and concluded by thanking the brethren for their past and present kindnesses, trusting that the G.A.O.T.U. would spare him for years to come to spend his time amongst them.

Bro. Jay then in eulogistic terms proposed "The Health of the Newly-Installed Master," which was received most enthusiastically.

The Worshipful Master in response thanked the brethren for the kind manner in which they had received him and the toast of his health, observing that there was only one regret he had experienced that evening—that was in not having had the opportunity of investing his lamented father with the badge of the office of Treasurer, which office had been filled by him for so many years, but it had pleased the G.A.O.T.U. to remove him to himself, and he (the W.M.) must bow to the divine will. He concluded by assuring the brethren that it should be his constant pleasure to carry out the duties of his office to their satisfaction and promote the peace and harmony of the lodge.

Other toasts followed and were duly acknowledged. Several excellent songs were pleasingly rendered by Bros. W. L. Holden, H. J. Brooks, and J. H. Brockbank (Norwich Cathedral), and Bro. C. J. Campling ably officiated as accompanist.

We congratulate Bro. Carman and the officers on their appointments, and wish them a pleasant year of office.

YORK.—Eboracum Lodge (No. 1611).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Monday at the Masonic Rooms, Queen's Hotel. The W.M., Bro. M. Millington, was in his place, and was supported by his Wardens, Bros. J. Blenkin and A. T. B. Turner, and the following Past Masters, Bros. T. B. Whytehead, J. S. Cumberland, C. G. Padel, J. T. Seller, G. Balford, and Major McGachen, 1991, and by a number of brethren and visitors from the other York lodges and from Hull. A successful ballot was taken for a candidate. Bro. C. Tuff was then passed to the Second Degree, and Bro. W. Stephenson and E. Thackeray were raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason, the whole of the work being done by the W.M. with great accuracy. Bro. Whytehead next presented to the library a series of Masonic works, also a book from Bro. W. J. Hughan, and a very beautiful and perfect copy of Bro. Bartolozzi's engraving of Bro.



We are gratified in being able to state that the health of Bro. Alderman and Sheriff De Keyser is still improving. He is expected to return from Ostend to-morrow (Saturday), and to resume partially, it not wholly, his official duties.

We have been requested to announce that the Duke of Edinburgh Lodge of Instruction has altered its night of meeting from Friday to Thursday in each week at the Bricklayer's Arms, Narrow-street, Limehouse, E.

The installation meeting of the Battle Lodge, No. 1184, will be held at the Masonic Hall, Battle, on Thursday, the 21st inst., when Bro. A. D. Womersley, W.M. elect, will be installed into the chair of K.S. by Bro. C. W. Duke, P.P.G.D., P.M. 40 and 1184.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Albany, K.G., Past Grand Warden, and Provincial Grand Master for Oxfordshire, was on Tuesday last installed Grand Superintendent of the Royal Arch for the same province. There was a large and distinguished gathering of Royal Arch Masons on the occasion. A full report will appear in our next.

The Grocers' Company have voted £100 to the funds of the London School of Medicine for Women, Henrietta-street, Brunswick-square.

Mr. J. S. Balfour, M.P. for Tamworth, has been elected the first Mayor of the newly-incorporated borough of Croydon.

Dr. de Chaumont, F.R.S., on behalf of the Commission, and Dr. Buchanan, F.R.S., as representing the Government, will hold a special inquiry into the health of the population on the banks of the Thames in the neighbourhood of the main drainage outfall, in connection with the investigations of the Royal Commission on Metropolitan Sewage Discharge.

The marriage of Colonel the Hon. Alexander Stewart, R.H.A., brother of Bro. the Earl of Galloway, with Miss Adela Loder, youngest daughter of Mr. Loder, M.P., of Whittlebury Lodge, Northamptonshire, was celebrated by special license at St. George's, Hanover-square, on Tuesday afternoon.

The exhibition and loan collection of Irish lace at the Mansion House will be opened on Monday, the 25th inst., at four o'clock, by the Duke of Connaught, who will be accompanied by the Duchess. It will remain open from ten to eight o'clock daily until Saturday, July 7th.

We regret to learn that Mr. W. Spottiswoode, President of the Royal Society, is suffering from a severe attack of fever, the consequence of a recent visit to Rome.

A painful circumstance in connection with the London Hospital Sunday Fund collection is an attempted fraud by persons who have issued a circular to various churches in Lambeth and elsewhere, stating that collectors would be sent to receive Hospital Sunday money. The intimation of the fraud was first received by the Secretary of the fund, Mr. H. N. Custance, from the Upton Baptist Chapel, and a copy of the circular was immediately dispatched to the head offices of the Metropolitan and City Police.

Prince Albert Victor, eldest son of the Prince and Princess of Wales, is expected to stay a short time at Sandhurst before proceeding to Cambridge.

The Marquis of Londonderry, Prov. G.M. Durham, arrived in London on Monday in order to attend to his Parliamentary duties. The Marchioness and Lady Aline Vane Tempest arrived on Wednesday from Wales for the remainder of the season.

The military guard at Somerset House which has been doing duty there for the past three months was dispensed with for the first time on Sunday last. The building will, however, still be carefully watched by the police. The sentries who have been for some time doing duty at the Royal Courts of Justice were withdrawn on Saturday morning last. The duties there have been principally discharged by the Guards and the Manchester Regiment of Foot, while the Coldstream Guards have had the care of Somerset House.

At the Assembly Rooms, Kensington, on Wednesday afternoon, Mrs. Pratt Barlow's annual sale on behalf of the Poor Clergy Relief Corporation was opened by Lady Brooke. In declaring the bazaar, or sale, open, on behalf of Lady Brooke, Lord Brooke, Prov. G.M. Essex, referred to the objects and claims of the corporation on the public. During the past year about £7000 had been given away to the poorer clergy in times of temporary distress, brought on by sickness or otherwise. A prolific cause of such distress was the depression in agriculture, many clergymen having no other source of income than that coming from land. This sale had been an annual one for over 20 years, during the last eleven of which it had been conducted by Mrs. Barlow.

A meeting of the Liverpool Masonic Hall Committee was held on the 8th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, under the presidency of Bro. Dr. J. Kellett Smith, P.P.G.R., chairman. Several resolutions were adopted having reference to the completion of the furnishing and decorations of the hall, which is expected to take place in about a fortnight. The tender of Bro. George Kenning, Liverpool and London, for the supply of three handsome chairs for the Principals in the Chapter Room, was accepted by the committee. Bro. W. Woodhouse, the house steward, tendered his resignation of that position, and this was accepted by the committee. It was agreed to hold a special meeting of the General Committee next Friday evening to consider the appointment and duties of a new house steward.

It ought to be generally known that *Rose's Lime Juice Cordial* supplies a delicious cooling drink in water—effervescing in all mineral waters—wholesome and refreshing in summer. Purchasers should order *Rose's Cordial*. Wholesale Stores, 11, Curtain Road, London, and Leith, N.B.—[Advt.]

A Provincial Grand Lodge of the Province of Berks and Bucks will be held at Windsor on Monday next, under the presidency of the R.W. the Prov. Grand Master, Sir Daniel Gooch, Bart., M.P. A banquet will take place at the Town Hall at three o'clock.

On the evening of the 9th inst., the annual dinner of the Newspaper Press Fund was held at Willis's Rooms, the Chancellor of the Exchequer presiding. The company numbered about 160.

A Civil List pension of £70 per annum has been conferred upon Mrs. Scott Russell, the widow of the engineer and inventor, in consideration of her late husband's services to the science of naval architecture.

Bro. James Stevens, P.M., P.Z., has been elected by the members of the United Pilgrims Lodge of Instruction as Installing Master on the occasion of rehearsal of the ceremony of installation of W.M., at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, on Friday, the 22nd inst.

Miss Isabella Bewick, the last member of the family of Thomas Bewick, the famous artist and wood engraver, died on the 8th inst., at the advanced age of 93 years. She was buried on the 8th inst., in the family vault at Ovingham, near Newcastle-on-Tyne, where her father, who died in 1828, is also buried.

A Masonic Ball took place at the New Examination Schools, Oxford, on Tuesday evening last. Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Albany were present, and joined heartily in the evening's festivity. Upwards of 600 brethren and ladies attended, and the "tout ensemble," when the whole company had congregated in the spacious and magnificent halls, was gorgeous in the extreme.

Our late Bro. Major-General G. S. Burnaby, M.P. for North Leicestershire, whose recent death at the comparatively early age of 53 has been received with so much regret and sympathy not only in the constituency he represented but also generally, was a Past Provincial Grand Junior Warden of Leicestershire and Rutland, and Immediate Past Master of the Howe and Charnwood Lodge, No. 1007, Loughborough. In the latter capacity he was a member of the Committee of General Purposes of his Provincial Grand Lodge. The late General had seen service during the Crimean war.

The ceremony of installation will be rehearsed in the United Pilgrims Lodge of Instruction, No. 507, at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell Mew-road, on Friday, the 22nd inst., and the Preceptor, Bro. James Stevens, has been elected W. and Installing Master for the occasion.

On Monday the Prince of Wales presided at a meeting at Marlborough House of the Executive and Finance Committees of the Royal College of Music. Among those present were Prince Christian, the Archbishop of York, and the Duke of Westminster.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Surrey will meet on Thursday, the 28th inst., at the Oatlands Hotel, Walton-on-Thames, at 1.30 p.m. A dinner will take place at four o'clock.

Bro. the Lord Mayor gave a banquet on Wednesday evening at the Mansion House, which was attended by the Archbishop of Canterbury and Mrs. Benson, and several of the bishops, both home and colonial, together with Field-Marshal Lord Napier of Magdala, G.C.B.; and other distinguished guests.

Mr. A. A. Knight, the President of the Mission, writes: "Last year some of your readers were generously led to help us to provide a day's excursion into Epping Forest for 700 poor girls and boys who attend our Hackney Juvenile Mission Ragged School. The Committee hope to be able to take at least as many children this summer, and provide them with a substantial meal as usual, and would be glad if your readers will assist and practically participate with them in this pleasure by sending contributions towards this twelfth annual "day in the country" to either H. M. Heath, Esq., 54, Cazenose-road, Stamford-hill; J. Newman, Esq., 117, Cheapside; W. C. Green, Esq., 380, Hackney-road, E., or to yours faithfully,—ATHRO ALFRED KNIGHT, Earlswood House, South Hackney, E."

By the kind permission of the Duke of Westminster, a concert was given at Grosvenor House on Saturday afternoon last by the pupils of the Royal Normal College and Academy of Music for the Blind at Norwood. Amongst the large and fashionable company were Bro. the Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress. The concert was conducted by Dr. F. J. Campbell, the principal, who, during an interval, took occasion to dwell upon the great advance the college—the work of which was by no means confined to the teaching of music—had made in usefulness and public favour, and compared the excellent performance of that day with their primitive efforts in the same place a few years ago. So great was the proficiency of some of the pupils that Herr Richter had engaged one of them, a most talented young pianist, to take part in a concerto at a forthcoming concert, under his conductorship. The number of inmates of the college had more than doubled during the last year, and was now 146. No fewer than 100 pupils, who had entered in an utterly uneducated state, were now earning their own livings, and in many cases something more. The performance was throughout of a most excellent character and individual criticism would be useless when all who took part acquitted themselves so creditably.

It is certain the Queen's Physician, Dr. Fairbank, has written strongly recommending LENTILLA, or IONIC DAILY FOOD. It cures Indigestion, Heartburn, Constipation, Liver and Stomach Complaints, &c., besides having such wondrous nourishing properties. Makes Soups, Porridge, Custards, Puddings, Biscuits, &c. Tins, 1lb. 1s. 6d., ½lb., 10d. Barrels, 28½s., 30s.; 1½lb., 16s. Of all Chemists, —Proprietor, H. J. Deacon, Beckenham, Kent.—[ADVT.]

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Let the Sick take Heed.—The stomach is the commissariat of the physical system. It furnishes the material sustenance of every organ. If disordered the whole body languishes; but however severely it may be affected, its tone and vigour may always be restored by a course of these Irresistible Pills; biliousness, indigestion, liver complaints, and other disorders of the stomach can easily be cured by the use of Holloway's Pills. Thousands attest this assertion, and no sufferer who has ever tried them will deny their supreme efficacy. In every case of stomach disease, from the mildest case of dyspepsia to the disorder of both liver and stomach, from the nausea of the free liver to the vomiting accompanying ulcerated stomachs, these Pills immediately relieve, and, by perseverance, effectually cure.—[ADVT.]

R.W. Bro. the Earl of Lathom, D.G.M., was on the 8th inst., installed W.M. of the Fortitude Lodge, No. 64, at the Queen's Hotel, Manchester.

Bro. W. Kuhe, P.G.O., instead of holding his concert this year as usual at the Floral Hall, will give it at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Sassom, 1, Belgrave-square. An admirable programme, with a strong array of vocal and instrumental talent, is announced for the occasion.

Owing to the next State concert being fixed for Wednesday, the 27th inst., the Royal Botanic Society's fête has been postponed from that date to the following evening, Thursday, the 28th instant.

The installation meeting of the Frederick Lodge of Unity, No. 452, will be held at the Masonic Hall, High-street, Croydon, next Tuesday afternoon, at three o'clock, Bro. Charles M. Ohren is to be installed as the new Master, and a Past Master's jewel will be presented to Bro. J. C. F. W. Rogers, the outgoing Master.

The Baroness Burdett-Coutt's second garden party of the season will take place on Wednesday next, the 20th inst., instead of the day following as originally announced. The commissioners and jurors of the International Fisheries Exhibition will be received by her ladyship.

Bro. General Lord Wolseley is expected to arrive in England in the course of a few days from Moscow, where he has been attending the coronation of the Czar Alexander III.

We are requested to announce that the Prosperity Chapter of Improvement will resume its labours at the Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., this (Friday) evening, at six o'clock.

The Lebanon Lodge, No. 1326, hitherto held at the Lion Hotel, Hampton, will for the future meet at the Railway Hotel, Feltham.

The Fifteen Sections will be worked on Tuesday at the Sir Hugh Myddelton Lodge of Instruction, 1602, held at the Crown and Woolpack, St. John's-street-road, near the Angel, Islington. Bro. D. Moss, S.D. 1275, is to preside, and Bros. H. G. Gush, S.W. 1541, to be S.W.; A. W. Fenner, P.M. 1227, J.W.; and R. Pearcey, P.M. 1227, Preceptor. Brethren are earnestly invited, this being a special invitation to the brethren of the Upton Lodge of Instruction, 1227.

The installation meeting of the Evening Star Lodge, No. 1719—a lodge which was established specially for the convenience of gas engineers—will be held at Freemasons' Hall, on Tuesday, the 26th inst. Bro. Magnus Ohren, P.G.S.B., F.C.S., Assoc. M.I.C.E., already a Past Master of Lodges Nos. 33, 452, and 1601, will be the new Master.

The installation meeting of the Duke of Connaught Chapter, No. 1524, was held at Anderton's Hotel, on Wednesday, when Comp. F. Brasted was installed as M.E.Z.; Comp. F. Berry, as H.; and Comp. Neville Green, as J. Comp. W. H. Lee, P.Z., performed the ceremony.

By command of the Queen, a State Concert was given at Buckingham Palace on Wednesday evening. The Prince and Princess of Wales, the Prince and Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, the Hereditary Prince and Princess of Saxe-Meiningen, the Duke of Cambridge, T.R.H. the Duchess and the Duke of Teck, constituted the Royal Party.

A rifle match will take place on Friday evening, the 22nd inst., at Caterham, between teams of eight members of the South Middlesex Lodge, No. 353, and the London Rifle Brigade Lodge, No. 1952, which, being a great novelty, is causing great interest, both in Masonic and volunteer circles. Both of the above teams contain some well-known shots—two of the London Rifle Brigade Lodge team, Bro. Neville Green, the I.P.M., won the bronze medal given by the National Rifle Association, and Bro. W. S. Fraser won a medal given to the county of Middlesex at the recent meeting of the Middlesex Rifle Association.

An action, Diggins v. Crowden and Garrod, to recover compensation and damages, fixed originally at £3000, for personal injuries, was tried on the 4th inst. The defendants denied their negligence, and said that the accident happened owing to a latent defect in the stone step. Plaintiff called on the defendants, Bros. R. H. and Jas. Crowden, at their former premises in Falcon-square, Aldersgate-street, on business, and on descending the steps of the counting-house entrance, a piece broke off from one of the steps, causing the plaintiff to fall and twist his leg, injuring it very seriously, and ultimately shortening it by 1½ inches. He was in bed for nine weeks, and was unable to come downstairs for four months and attend to his business. A letter from defendants was read in court expressing their sympathy with the plaintiff's sufferings, &c., and offering to pay any expense he had been put to through the accident, at the same time denying all legal responsibility in the matter. The plaintiff, however, insisted on his claim, and the case was originally tried 12 months since in the Bail Court; but the jury was discharged, being unable to agree to a verdict. The case occupied the court nearly five days, and the jury having been locked up for 25 minutes found the negligence not proved, and returned a verdict for the defendants.

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