

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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OUR readers will find elsewhere a full account of the Masonic proceedings at Peterborough on Wednesday. The weather was favourable, and consequently there was a strong gathering of visitors from all parts, but especially of the brethren who were to play so conspicuous a part in the ceremony. It is to be regretted that the sad death of the Duke of ALBANY should have prevented his brother the Prince of WALES, Grand Master, who had marked out for himself the leading rôle in the important function of the day, but his Royal Highness could not have chosen an abler, worthier, or more popular a Deputy than the Earl of CARNARVON, and it goes without saying that his lordship fulfilled his duty as only he knows how to fulfil it—in a manner that commended itself to all present.

THE Annual Festival of the English Grand Lodges suggests many reflections, and all of the most pleasing kind. It is almost wonderful to contrast the position of the English Grand Lodge to-day and what we know of it in its revival and development in the first two decades of the last century. Even in 1813, at the time of the felicitous Union, thanks to the good sense and conciliatory policy of the two Royal brothers, the Duke of KENT and the Duke of SUSSEX, the progress of the Craft, though sure perhaps, had been slow. About 700 lodges then represented the results of nearly 100 years. Within the next 50 years the Craft rapidly progressed in numbers and influence, and in this second half of the nineteenth century we see a still more rapid growth, and a still more striking development. There are those who always find fault with everything; and our social friend "PETER GRIEVOUS" is not unknown in Freemasonry. According to them, Masonic lodges are far too rapidly increasing, and our "materiel" is deteriorating. We believe, on the contrary, in the law of progress, and we doubt very much if any one age or generation is the best judge of the one which preceded it, or of the one about to succeed it. We therefore think that what suits each epoch is for the best after all, and that we may gladly hail the distinct advance and expansion on every side of us of our useful and philanthropic and humanizing Order. Never at any time was the Grand Lodge of England so flourishing, so united, and so peaceful. We have just revised our admirable Book of Constitutions, destined to outlive our own, and we may hope another generation. Our Grand Lodge beneficence is marked by the very careful and considerate distribution of our Board of Benevolence. The Grand Lodge of England stands high in the opinion of contemporary jurisdictions, and in the regard of even the great and curious world without, in that, eschewing unwholesome excrescences and deprecating unnecessary changes, though it is always ready to adapt itself to passing requirements or seasonable amelioration, it stands by the old and gracious landmarks of Freemasonry; its motto, Loyalty and Charity; its great and distinguishing features, recognition of T.G.A.O.T.U., relief of a world-wide Brotherhood; in fact, in all and through all, under all circumstances and amid revolving years, reverencing God and sympathizing with mankind.

THE fact that Grand Lodge found itself at home again in its well known and cherished Hall on its Grand Festival, was a matter of deep contentment and rejoicing to all loyal English Freemasons. We rejoice to think that the good sense of the Craft stood simply yet firmly by the wise and needful arrangement of effective restoration. Greater schemes would have involved enormous expense, without, as far as we can see, any adequate returns, or any counterbalancing advantages, and would have seriously affected the financial equilibrium of Grand Lodge for years to come, and have paved the way, we feel convinced, for many complaints, many discussions, and many heart-burnings. As it is we are all pleased and all satisfied. We find our old Hall, with slightly more room, a very charming and well proportioned building, and when internally completed a thoroughly satisfactory rallying point for English Freemasons. It is quite large enough for

ordinary meetings; when abnormal gatherings take place, abnormal accommodation must then be found elsewhere. When the lease of BACON'S Hotel expires, we shall be in a better position to know what we really want, and what we have to do! If we decide to "make tracks" and set up our "Tabernacle" elsewhere, we can do so, as our property in Great Queen-street will always fetch its value. If on the other hand we make up our minds to cling to the old "roof tree," associated as it is with the onward and we may say triumphant progress of our time-honoured and cherished Craft, we can do so. With what we possess of land, and what we could acquire if need be, we could obtain all the accommodation required for our still increasing Body. A library, a museum, a reading room, a waiting room, and a smoke room,—yes a smoke room, increased accommodation for our Secretariat, if need be a larger hall, and even a supper room and a music room, are all within the reach of our attainment. We can wait patiently until then, and those of us who are alive can well hail them with thankfulness and pride the renovated home and centre of English Freemasonry.

WE think great credit is due to our authorities for the thoroughly satisfactory manner in which thus far the work of restoration of our good old Hall has been carried on. Will it be taken ill if we venture respectfully to urge upon those who control such matters not to overdo the internal colouring, and neither to make the Hall too gaudy, or render it too heavy and sombre? It will be refreshing for us all to find a light and graceful Hall, equally appropriate and pleasant when unlighted by artificial brilliancy, as when lighted up for the normal meetings of Grand Lodge.

ONE question connected with the Grand Lodge of Quebec seems to have received a distinct solution. The enabling or legalizing act has not been passed by the Legislature, and the Grand Lodge of Quebec remains in the disagreeable and inenviable position of being a body and organization unrecognized and indeed outside the purview of the Laws of the Land. We always feared from the moment we mastered the legal bearings of the case, that this must prove to be the result, and as there never was any doubt on the subject in England so we have from the first in the *Freemason* recommended to our brethren in the Grand Lodge of Quebec moderation and caution. Unfortunately our advice has been scouted and our remarks have been taken in evil part. Side issues have been raised, sentimental views protruded, until we are placed in this dilemma, that until this legal disqualification be removed we cannot recognize the fundamental authority claimed by the Grand Lodge of Quebec in any form. The English lodges in Montreal are now fully justified, their legal position, as we have always contended, validated and strengthened before the Masonic world, and the folly of the "facilis descensus Averni" course pursued by the champions of the Grand Lodge of Quebec made patent to the most careless critic. The American Grand Lodges must be severely affected by this stern reality of facts. If there is one point in their position which they have held to and claimed for it, it is *legality*. To suppose that if a society is illegal by the laws of the land, they would claim for Freemasonry a "dispensing power," so as to make Masonically lawful what is legally illegal, would be to assume a paradox, and do despite to the true Masonic feeling and common sense of our American brethren. Such a theory could only hold fuel to the fires of that contemptible and fanatic faction in the United States, which again to-day, as in times past, is seeking to fan the flames of persecution against American Freemasons. We therefore again, as their "amici curiæ," advise our Quebec brethren to consider their real position. There is no feeling on this side of the water adverse to our good friends in Quebec and Canada; but principles are principles, and right is right, and law is law, and the English Grand Lodge is the last body in the world to be bullied, or intimidated, or "boycotted," as it in no sense deserves the ingratitude of its own offshoots whether near or far off, just as it does certainly merit the approval and confidence of all its descendant and contemporary jurisdictions everywhere at this hour.

WE rejoice to hear that the number of Stewards for the Girls' School Festival is now increased to 277. We beg again respectfully to urge upon all our readers the need and duty of giving a warm and sympathetic support to this excellent Institution of ours. If any doubt the reality or effectiveness of the system pursued at Wandsworth, let them pay a visit to the Girls' School, and we can answer for them beforehand that they will come back gratified, delighted, and impressed. We think that the Anniversary Festival will manifest in marked measures the untiring zeal and energy of our warmhearted Fraternity. There is one point connected with the Steward-

ships for our Charities which is recent in practice, and excessively trying to the Secretaries, to which we think well to draw special attention. A brother sends in his name to the Secretary; weeks pass on, he receives an application, perhaps a reminder for the Stewards' fee, and then, without "rhyme or reason," he writes to request the Secretary to withdraw his name. This is a somewhat inconsiderate act on the part of our good brother, and we feel sure that on a little consideration he will feel it to be so himself. We understand that this "modern instance" frequently happens now, that the Girls' School is suffering from this very fact markedly, and we therefore beg to raise our respectful protest against, as it seems to us, an *indefensible innovation*, with the hope that to make up this somewhat serious "backing out of others," some worthy readers of ours may send in their names to Bro. HEDGES at once. We repeat such erratic proceedings are very hard on our Secretaries and the Charities.

WE regret extremely that the imperative claims on our space this week are such that we have been compelled to hold over much valuable matter, and especially that our readers who will have been anticipating the pleasure of studying the POPE'S Bull against Freemasonry translated into the vulgar tongue, must put off its realization for a little longer. Our regret in this particular instance is enhanced by the fact of the translation being the work of our good Bro. HAWKINS, of the Province of Oxfordshire. But no doubt he and others will give us credit for possessing the will, if not the power, to please them all.

WE think it well to call attention to the discussion going on as regards the Guild Legends elsewhere in our pages, inasmuch as there can be little doubt other forms still are extant amid our lodge "properties," forgotten and stowed away, and also because the very controversy, friendly as it is, serves as a striking commentary on the reality and importance of Masonic Archaeology too long unscientifically and apathetically treated by us all.

WE are much struck and touched by a little item in the West Yorkshire list of subscriptions for the Charities. Years ago it was our happiness and privilege to take part in the consecration of the Pentalfa Lodge, Bradford. To Bro. W. FOSTER, founder and first W.M., the lodge owed a very great deal, while his personal kindness and genial nature made him many friends. We note appreciatively that his son, Bro. HERBERT ANDERSON FOSTER, has endowed the chair of the Pentalfa Lodge with £105, in memory of his worthy and lamented father, for the Girls' and Boys' Schools. Others may well go and do likewise.

SPECIAL GRAND LODGE AT PETERBOROUGH.

LAYING THE CHIEF CORNER STONE OF THE CATHEDRAL TOWER.

The foundation stone of the central tower of Peterborough Cathedral was laid on Wednesday last with full Masonic ceremony. In response to the invitation of the Dean and Chapter, it was announced in March of this year that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales had expressed his willingness, as Grand Master of the English Freemasons, to take the chief part in laying the stone. The death of the Duke of Albany, however, compelled the Grand Master to give up the engagement for the date originally chosen, and as the Dean and Chapter and the Restoration Committee for various cogent reasons could not suffer any delay, the Prince himself appointed the Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Carnarvon, to attend on his behalf and lay the stone with full Masonic ritual. Preparations were made accordingly, and the ceremony, which has been long anticipated, took place on Wednesday. The weather was most favourable, and the ample display of bunting, which has been associated with religious feelings in modern times only, looked very pretty in the bright sunshine. From an early hour the streets were thronged, and train after train brought its contingent of Freemasons and spectators. A special Grand Lodge was held by the M.W. the Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Carnarvon, in the Fitzwilliam Hall, and there were present the following Grand Officers:—

Bros. Earl of Carnarvon, Pro G.M., as G.M.; Viscount Holmesdale, as D.G.M.; Lord Cremorne, G.S.W.; the Lord Mayor of London, G.J.W.; Rev. Canon Tristram, G. Chap.; Rev. Dr. Robbins, G. Chap.; H. B. Marshall, G. Treas.; F. A. Philbrick, G. Reg.; Capt. N. G. Philips, P.G.D., as Pres. Bd. Gen. Purps.; Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, G. Sec.; Baron de Ferrieres, G.S.D.; F. Davison, G.S.D.; Jas. S. Eastes, G.J.D.; E. Letchworth, G.J.D.; Horace Jones, G. Supt. of Wks.; Sir Albert Woods (*Garter*) G.D.C.; Griffiths Smith, Asst. G.D.C.; Major Locock, G. Swd. Br.; J. Matthews, G. Std. Br.; Henry Garrod, Asst. G. Purst.; W. Kelly, P.P.G.M. Leicester and Rutland; J. A. Rucker, P.G.D.; G. Toller, P.G.S.B.; G. Plucknett, P.G.D.; T. Fenn, P.G.D.; R. Turtle Pigott, P.A.G.D.C.; Rev. Dr. Cox, P.G. Chap.; Rev. C. W. Arnold, P.G.C.; George Lambert, P.G.S.B.; H. C. Else, P.G.D.; Edgar Bowyer, P.G. Std. Br.; Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G. Chap.; J. W. Messent, P.G.S.B.; and C. W. Spencer Stanhope, P.G. Chap.

The brethren assembled in the same building, and a Provincial Grand Lodge was opened. Ultimately a magnificent Masonic procession, including about 800 Craft Masons, was formed and left the hall in the following order:—

Band of the Coldstream Guards.

Two Tylers with drawn swords.

Visiting Brethren.

Members of lodges belonging to other provinces.

Representatives of lodges of the Province of Northants and Hunts, viz., De La Pré Lodge, Northampton; Eleanor Cross Lodge, Northampton; Wentworth Lodge, Wellingborough; Chicheley Lodge, Thrapston; Lodge of Merit, Stamford; Perseverance Lodge, Kettering; Lodge of Fidelity, Towcester; St. Peter's Lodge, Peterborough; Socrates Lodge, Huntingdon; Pomfret Lodge (preceded by its banner), Northampton. The Provincial Grand Lodge of Northants and Hunts, with the Standard of the

Provincial Grand Master

(His Grace the Duke of Manchester, K.G., &c).

The Architect with plans.

A cornucopia with corn borne by the Master of a Lodge.

Two ewers with wine and oil borne by Masters of Lodges.

Assistant Grand Pursuivant (Bro. Henry Garrod).

Past Grand Pursuivants.

The Grand Pursuivant (Bro. W. Stephens),

The Assistant Grand Secretary (Bro. H. G. Buss).
Past Grand Organists.
The Grand Organist (Bro. Professor E. M. Lott).
Trowel, borne by a Past Master. Mallet, borne by a Past Master.
Past Grand Std. Bearers, Past Grand Swd. Bearers.
Past Assistant Grand Directors of Ceremonies.
Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies (Bro. A. Richards).
Past Deputy Grand Directors of Ceremonies.
Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies.
Grand Director of Ceremonies, Bro. Sir Albert W. Woods (*Garter King-at-Arms*).
Grand Superintendent of Works (Bro. Horace Jones) bearing a plate with the inscription for the chief corner stone.
Past Grand Deacons.
Grand Secretary for German Correspondence (Bro. E. E. Wendt, D.C.L.).
Grand Secretary (Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke), with the Book of Constitutions.
President of the Board of General Purposes.
Past Grand Registrars.
Grand Registrar (Bro. F. A. Philbrick, Q.C.), bearing the Great Seal.
Past Grand Treasurers.
Grand Treasurer (Bro. H. Brooks Marshall) bearing a Phial containing the coins to be deposited in the Stone.
Past Grand Chaplains.
Past Grand Wardens.
Past Provincial and District Grand Masters.
Provincial and District Grand Masters.
Visitors of distinction.
The Corinthian Light borne by the Master of a Lodge.
The Column of the Junior Grand Warden borne by the Master of a Lodge.
The Junior Grand Warden (the Lord Mayor of London) with the Plumb Rule.
Grand { Banner of Grand Lodge } Grand
Steward { borne by the Master of a Lodge. } Steward
The Doric Light, borne by the Master of a Lodge.
The Column of the Senior Grand Warden, borne by the Master of a Lodge.
The Senior Grand Warden (Bro. Lord Cremorne), with the Level.
Junior Grand Deacons (Bros. James Smith Eastes and Edward Letchworth).
The Grand Chaplains (The Rev. Canon Tristram and the Rev. Dr. Robbins), bearing the Sacred Law on a Cushion.
The Deputy Grand Master (The Rt. Hon. the Earl of Lathom), with the Square.
The Ionic Light, borne by the Master of a Lodge.
Grand Standard Bearers (Lieut.-Colonel Taylor and Bro. J. A. Matthews).
The Grand Sword Bearer (Bro. Major E. Locock).
THE MOST WORSHIPFUL PRO GRAND MASTER, THE EARL OF CARNARVON (acting for the Grand Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales).
Senior Grand Deacons.
(Bro. Baron de Ferrieres, M.P., and Bro. F. Davison).
Two Grand Stewards.
Grand Tyler (Bro. Henry Sadler).

In the Market-place the Masonic procession was headed by the Mayor of Peterborough (Alderman Barford) and the members of the Corporation. All then slowly marched to the cathedral. The 1st Northamptonshire Rifle Volunteers kept the road clear up to the central door of the western front of the sacred edifice. The Very Rev. the Dean of Peterborough, with the Canons and members of the Restoration Committee, there received the Earl of Carnarvon, the Pro Grand Master, and his lordship, preceded by the Corporation, was conducted to the dais reserved for him and members of the Grand Lodge. As the brilliant procession passed along the spacious nave between the red-coated ranks of the Northamptonshire Engineers, who formed the guard of honour, the scene was very impressive. Still, the spectacle was not nearly so gorgeous and beautiful as when all the allotted positions had been taken up and the ceremony began. Wherever one turned, there was a richness of colour, a strength of contrast, and an arrangement of groups that most forcibly appealed to one's sense of the picturesque. The best possible arrangements had been made to accommodate the vast gathering, among which were the Marquis and Marchioness of Exeter, the Dowager Marchioness of Huntly, Earl and Countess Fitzwilliam, Earl and Countess Carysfoot, Lady Decies, Lady Villiers, Lord Burghley, M.P., Viscount Holmesdale, M.P., Lord Cremorne, Lord John Manners, M.P., Lord and Lady Alwyn Compton, the Deans of Chichester and Ely, the Lord Mayor of London and the Lady Mayoress, Lord Folkestone, Sir A. Woods, Sir R. Knightley, M.P., the Hon. J. W. Fitzwilliam, M.P., the Hon. C. W. Fitzwilliam, M.P., the Hon. C. R. Spencer, M.P., Mr. S. G. S. Sackville, and Mr. G. L. Watson (Pocklingham Castle). The service was commenced with the choir chanting Psalms cxxii. and cxxxii., after which the Dean read the prayers, at the conclusion of which the Dean requested the Earl of Carnarvon to lay the stone.

Lord Carnarvon said that in the absence of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales he would proceed to that duty. Having taken up his position, the vessels of corn, wine, and oil were deposited on a pedestal, and the stone was then raised, when the Earl of Carnarvon gave the usual address. The Grand Chaplain, Canon Tristram, offered up a special prayer. The Earl of Carnarvon declared it is his will and pleasure that the corner-stone of that building should be laid. The Grand Secretary read the inscription on the plate. It was—"The chief corner-stone of the north-east pier of the central tower was laid by the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, Pro Grand Master, on behalf of his Royal Highness Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, Most Worshipful Grand Master, in full Masonic form, on Wednesday, the 7th of May, 1884. J. J. S. Perowne, D.D., Dean." The Grand Treasurer deposited the phial containing the coins in the cavity prepared for it, and the plate was placed on the lower stone by the Grand Secretary. The stone was then laid, being lowered into position after three distinct stops. Having tested the work by the implements of the Craft, the Provincial Grand Master found the stone to be well laid, and the corn, wine, and oil were then scattered and poured on the stone with the usual ceremonies and remarks explaining the emblematical significance of those acts. The architect was presented to the Pro Grand Master, and the latter having inspected the plans and delivered them to him, desired him to proceed without loss of time to the completion of the work. The Bishop offered up prayer, and a collection was made while the band of the Coldstream Guards played the march from "Athalie." The Bishop of Peterborough pronounced the Benediction, and the singing of the National Anthem, with the band accompanying, brought the ceremonies to a close, and the brethren returned to the Fitzwilliam Hall, where the Grand Lodge was closed. In the afternoon a luncheon was served under the presidency of Deane Perowne. After the loyal toasts

The Marquis of EXETER proposed "The Bishop and Clergy."

The Bishop of PETERBOROUGH, who was received with loud and continued cheering, replied in an eloquent speech and then proceeded to propose the toast of "The Earl of Carnarvon," who, he said, was present that day on an occasion the cause of which they greatly regretted, and yet they felt that every possible reparation had been made to them by his Royal Highness, who, in consequence of that family and national affliction which they all deplored, was unable to be present with them. His Royal Highness had deputed a most noble, most fitting, and most welcome representative—

the noble Earl who presided over the Body of Free and Accepted Masons. The noble Earl was free to come to Peterborough as often as he pleased, and he was a most accepted and acceptable guest. The noble Earl presided over a body which was worldwide in its extension, and truly boasted to have been from its inception until now—a brotherhood. In the old days when that brotherhood existed, and when men fought fiercely and savagely with weapons for carnal strife, it was a great matter to have in the world a uniting and cementing brotherhood, and thus however violently men might strive elsewhere there was a common platform on which they could meet. He did not believe that such an institution was less valuable now, when men, at least in this country, had ceased to fight with material weapons, but when he feared they had not ceased to fight with that envenomed weapon the tongue. Whatever tended to draw men together was a real good and blessing where it existed. He could not help thinking that in our political life we might be better for a little taste of Masonic brotherhood. (Cheers.) What an advantage it might be to the nation and to those who governed us, if instead of some of the different customs of Parliamentary procedure in our day, we could substitute the rules and customs of a Masonic lodge. (Laughter.) He would not venture to say one word as to any possible improvement in that House of which the noble earl was an ornament, and of which he himself was an unworthy member. They all understood that in the House of Lords everything was perfect, courteous and brotherly, for the assembly was one in which every man was every other man's second cousin. (Great laughter.) It was not so as regarded the other House of Parliament. (Laughter.) He fancied how advantageous and peaceful it would be if when a man rose instead of saying "Mr. Speaker," he would say "Most Worshipful Grand Master," and yield him the obedience that the members did willingly give to their masters; if instead of the Government bench they had it senior and junior warden, and the Opposition were represented by the senior and junior deacons, and the fourth party by the tyler. (Loud laughter and cheers.) It would be a political service if a speaker when he rose, for instance, to reply to some cheerful and gracious speech on the part of the existing Home Secretary, instead of addressing him as the Home Secretary called him "Brother Grand Secretary." How charming we should all get on with no vacation oratory, for it was not the duty of Masons to go about the country speaking. (Laughter.) Be that as it might it was his duty to propose to them one of the leaders of that time-honoured, and ancient institution, the Earl of Carnarvon—(cheers)—who had strong personal claims upon their acceptance and welcome. The noble earl had special claims upon men of all politics, and all classes in the country, and he had in him what he feared was becoming increasingly rare among English public men—the courage of his convictions. (Cheers.) However sincerely attached he might be to the party which he belonged to, he had shown on one memorable occasion at least that there was something a public man loved more than the success of his party, or the approval of his party, and that is the approval of his own conscience. (Cheers.) Those instances were so increasingly scarce that their rarity made them fear that the English statesman might some day or other degenerate into the English politician. Between the two there was a wide and deep gap, and he was thankful to Lord Carnarvon for having shown us that it was quite possible to take an active and keen part, in politics, and not forget the responsibility to conscience, and the duties of an English statesman and an English nobleman. (Loud cheers.)

The Earl of CARNARVON, on rising to reply, was enthusiastically received. He said that he felt greatly the honour and cordial welcome that they had been pleased to give him, and if he might say so, he felt it was a delight that those words of welcome should have been made to him by one whom he honoured and prized so highly as the right rev. prelate who presided over that diocese. When he listened to him, he felt, at least, the satisfaction that the illness from which he had been so mercifully raised up had taken nothing from him of his old eloquence, of his old wit, and of his personal kindness. His first duty that day in the few remarks he had to offer was to discharge the commands of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and to express for him his deep regret that in consequence of that great family bereavement to which allusion had been made, he could not be present there that day. He had deputed him to attend, and so far as the shadow could do duty for the substance he had endeavoured to fulfil the task which the Grand Master himself should have executed. He would have attended them both in his capacity of Prince of Wales and also as the Grand Master of the Freemasons. The Bishop of Peterborough had given so minute a history and so accurate a description of all that concerned Freemasons, and of all that went on within the secret lodge, that he had deprived him of one-half of the speech which he had otherwise intended to have made to them. (Laughter.) The Bishop had done, he humbly thought, only justice to the Craft; but there was also another point of view to which the Bishop did not advert. There was a connection, and the closest connection, between the work which the Freemasons had done that day and their craft. Freemasonry was no new art or profession. Those cathedrals to which the Bishop had alluded had in by gone ages owed much to the chisel, mallet, compass, and square of the Freemason. During the Middle Ages all through Europe, from end to end of the great Continent, they might trace the footsteps of Freemasonry. They could read their eloquent and artistic record in the face of the great cathedrals, and in the foliage of the windows, in the delicate carving of the buildings, in the capitals of the columns they might have alike their history and their work. They numbered amongst their ranks in former times many Royal personages, and if the Prince of Wales had been present that day he would have simply discharged a duty which in former times many of his Royal predecessors might have executed. It was impossible for anyone like himself to take part in that ceremony and not to recall as he gazed upwards upon the architecture of that cathedral some of its early history. It was impossible not to think how, in the earliest days the Peterborough Minster rose on the edge of the fens; how subsequently it grew through all the dull period of the Saxon times till he believed it acquired the name of the "Golden Borough." It was impossible not to think that it went on growing steadily through those rugged but noble times, which made England as we know it now. And now there came the restoration of that building. Times were very much changed. Our Saxon and Norman ancestors built that cathedral, but still the same instincts were there, and the character of the country and the people was still the same. He thought, as he had looked upon the architecture of that building, that in the consolidation and combination of all the different styles the early Norman, the early English, and the perpendicular, each fusing with a certain harmony in each other, there was, as it were, a type of our English history and society. Those times had gone by, and the days in which we lived were very different. Some would tell them, indeed, that we were travelling

on towards the ignoble gulf in which all that past was to be lost and forgotten. Others would tell them, and he thought more truly, that they were passing through an important phase, such as we had passed through before, in which as he firmly trusted, the true instincts of the English people would prevail, and would remember the great past of England, and that possibly a still greater future was at hand. That was the true spirit in which, he believed, they were called upon to face the period in which we lived, and in that spirit he could not doubt of a successful issue. He had had placed in his hands a toast to which he knew they would do honour. He passed from things material to persons, and from those venerable walls to those whose duty it was to watch over, preserve, and restore them. He then proposed "The Health of the Dean and Chapter and the Restoration Committee."

Dean PEROWNE having replied, Earl FITZWILLIAM proposed "The Mayor and Corporation," and the Mayor of PETERBOROUGH briefly responded.

The proceedings closed with the band playing the National Anthem.

SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER.

The Quarterly Convocation of Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of England was held on Wednesday evening, at Freemasons' Hall, Comps. John Havers presided as Z.; Dr. Wendt, as H.; and J. A. Rucker, as J. The were also present

Comps. Col. Creaton, P.P.G.S.; Edgar Bowyer, G. Std. Br.; George Lambert, D.C.; Wm. Ganz, Org.; H. Maudsley, P.G.S.B.; John Sampson Peirce, P.G.A.S.; Rev. Thos. Robinson, P.G.A.S.; J. M. Case, P.G.D.C.; C. Greenwood, P.G.D.C.; H. T. Dumas, P.G.S.B.; J. Glashier, P.G.A.S.; J. Lewis-Thomas, P.G.S.B.; Capt. N. J. Philips, P.G.S.N.; W. F. Nettleship, P.G.S.B.; Frank Richardson, P.G.A.S.; Chas. A. Murton, P.G.A.S.; Peter de Lande-Long, P.G.S.; R. Turtle Pigott, D.C.L.; Geo. Drysdale, Z. 7; J. Scott Mutch, Z. 13; E. M. Lott, P.H. 507; Henry Garrod, P.H. 507; W. H. Perryman, P.Z. 1348; H. H. Hodges, P.Z. 771; H. Massey, P.Z. 619; S. Brooks, H. 975; E. Child, H. 538; N. M. Ruff, Z. 95; F. Adlard, P.Z., 214; Henry Lovegrove, Z. 72, 1549; S. P. Cotterson, P.Z. 79, Z. 548; W. Ansell, Z. 147; J. H. Benthon, P.Z. 481; G. A. Allan, Z. 991; E. D. Anderton, P.Z. 331, P.G.S.E. Cornwall; Lord Onslow, Z. (United); Joseph Clear, P.Z. 12; E. G. Bruton, P.Z. 340; J. T. West, H. 538; Neville Green, P.Z. 1524; C. H. Köhler, H. 1381; E. Locoock, P.Z. 712; W. Dodd, P.Z. 1149; A. F. Godson, Z. 280; Griffiths Smith, P.Z. 21; Baron de Ferrieres, J. 28; J. H. Matthews, H. 8; A. Richards, P.Z. 46; James S. Eastes, P.Z. 503, 709; Lord Cremorne, J. 6; E. Letchworth, P.Z. 2; F. Davison, P.Z. 10; and W. Lake, Z. 1589 (*Freemason*).

Comp. HAVERS announced that his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales was M.E.Z. of Grand Chapter, and that he had made the following appointments:

Comp. The Earl of Carnarvon Pro G.Z.
 " The Earl of Lathom G.H.
 (The vacancy caused in the third chair by the death of the Duke of Albany, was left vacant.)

Comp. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke G.S.E.
 " The Earl of Onslow G.S.N.
 " Lord Cremorne G.P.S.
 " Baron de Ferrieres, M.P. G. 1st A.S.
 " Frederic Davison G. 2nd A.S.
 " Horace Brooks Marshall G. Treas.
 " F. A. Philbrick, Q.C. G. Reg.
 " J. S. Eastes G. Swd. Br.
 " E. Letchworth G. 1st Std. Br.
 " A. Richards G. 2nd Std. Br.
 " Griffiths Smith G. 3rd Std. Br.
 " Major E. Locoock G. 4th Std. Br.
 " J. H. Matthews G.D. of C.
 " E. M. Lott G. Org.
 " H. G. Buss G. Asst. S.E.
 " Henry Sadler G. Janitor.

All the above officers were duly invested. On the motion of Col. CREATON, the report of the Committee of General Purposes was taken as read and received, and ordered to be printed on the minutes.

The Committee reported that they had examined the accounts from the 16th January to the 15th April, 1884, both inclusive, which they found to be as follows:

To Balance, Grand Chapter...	£1246	7	7	By Disbursements during the		
" " Unappropriated				Quarter...	£221	8
" Account	209	7	4	" Balance	1458	8
" Subsequent Receipts	429	5	6	" Unappropriated Account	205	3
	£1885	0	5		£1885	0

Which balances are in the Bank of England, Western Branch.

The Committee likewise reported that they had received the following petitions:

- 1st. From Comps. Thomas Samuel Curteis, as Z.; William Henry Cronk, as H.; Adam Young, as J.; and six others for a chapter to be attached to the Knole Lodge, No. 1414, Sevenoaks, to be called the Knole Chapter, and to meet at the Old Assembly Rooms, London-road, Sevenoaks, in the county of Kent.
- 2nd. From Comps. Thomas Forrester, as Z.; Robert Irving, as H.; Joseph Malcolm Kerr, as J.; and seven others for a chapter to be attached to the Ellesmere Lodge, No. 730, Chorley, to be called the Earl of Lathom Chapter, and to meet at the Masonic Rooms, Town Hall, Chorley, Lancashire (Western Division).
- 3rd. From Comps. Joseph Clever, as Z.; Louis Hirsch, as H.; Robert Berridge, as J.; and six others for a chapter to be attached to the Amity Lodge, No. 171, Greenwich, to be called the Amity Chapter, and to meet at the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, in the City of London.
- 4th. From Comps. Robert Nendick Banks, as Z.; Wm. Masters, as H.; Thomas Emmott Skidmore, as J.; and eight others for a chapter to be attached to the Sincerity Lodge, No. 428, Northwich, to be called the Sincerity Chapter, and to meet at the Angel Hotel, Northwich, in the county of Chester.
- 5th. From Comps. Benjamin Lamb Wells, as Z.; Thos. Wells, as H.; George Lawrence Shackles, as J.; and seven others for a chapter to be attached to the Alexandra Lodge, No. 1511, Hornsea, to be called the Alexandra Chapter, and to meet at the Masonic Hall, in the East Riding of the county of York.
- 6th. From Comps. John James Meakin, as Z.; James Sudren, as H.; Wm. Dumville, as J.; and six others for a chapter to be attached to the Lodge of Harmony, No. 935, Salford, to be called the Starkie Chapter, and to meet at the Masonic Hall, Adelphi-street, Salford, Lancashire (Eastern Division).
- 7th. From Comps. John Henwood Thomas, as Z.; Henry Massey, as H.; Thomas Minstrell, as J.; and six others for a chapter to be attached to the Gallery Lodge, No. 1928, Brixton, to be called the Gallery Chapter, and to meet at the Brixton Hall, Acre-lane, Brixton.
- 8th. From Comps. Stephen Barton Wilson, as Z.; Chas. Belton, as H.; Frederick Binckes, as J.; and seven others for a chapter to be attached to the Royal Naval Lodge, No. 59, London, to be called the Royal Naval Chapter, and to meet at Freemasons' Hall, London.

The foregoing petitions, being in all respects regular, the Committee recommended that the prayers thereof be respectively granted.

The Committee also recommended that a petition from the Principals and members of the Royal Albert Chapter, No. 907, London, praying for a charter of confirmation, the original being lost, be granted.

On the motion of Col. CREATON charters were granted for the eight chapters for which the petitions were recommended.

Col. CREATON moved: That in accordance with the recommendation of the Committee the following grants be made to each of the Masonic Charities; the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, £500; the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, £500; and the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, £500; also that a sum of £500 be expended on the purchase of an organ, to be presented by Grand Chapter to Grand Lodge, to replace that destroyed in the recent fire. These resolutions were carried nem. con.

The complaint from the Grand Superintendent of Northumberland against a member of No. 24 Chapter, and the appeal against the sentence of suspension by the said companion were fully discussed, with the result that the recommendation of the Committee that the Grand Chapter do not hear the appeal until the companion makes due submission to the Grand Superintendent of his province for the contempt of his authority was confirmed.

Comp. JOHN HAVERS announced that in addition to the Prince of Wales, the Earl of Carnarvon, and the Earl of Lathom, the Prince of Wales had appointed Comps. Col. Creaton, Robert Grey, and Turtle Pigott, D.C.L., to be on Committee of General Purposes. Comps. W. Perryman, J. Lewis-Thomas, E. Letchworth, G. Lambert, J. Clever, and Sampson Peirce were elected on the Committee of General Purposes by Grand Chapter.

Grand Chapter was then closed.

HISTORY OF THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

(Continued from page 220.)

The Grand Lodge of Emergency adjourned till the 19th October, when the same Grand Officers, with the exception of Bros. Perry, Leslie, and Knapp, being present as well as Bro. Clarkson, G. Treas., "the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Emergency of 11th Instant were read and confirmed, except as to that part of withdrawing the Motion for a Donation of Two hundred Guineas to the Masonic Charity, and it was thought expedient after much debate thereon to adopt that as a Motion to be ingrafted upon the Proceedings of that Meeting; which being put for confirmation from the Chair passed unanimously in the affirmative." The resolution was duly confirmed at the Grand Lodge held on 6th December, but without waiting for such a formality, the particular manner in which it had been agreed to celebrate the auspicious event of his Majesty being on the eve of entering upon the fiftieth year of his Reign was made the subject of reference in the address of congratulation to the King from Grand Lodge. The following are the terms of the reference: "The blessed consequences of the Protection that we have received from your Majesty are, that we have reached a degree of unexampled prosperity, and have shared in the Universal happiness of your Empire. The past feeling of our sensibility to this blessing leads us to commemorate the event of your Majesty's entering into the fiftieth year in a way that shall keep it constantly present to the Recollection of those amongst us who may in all time to come require the aid and solicitude of paternal care." It only remains for us to add with reference to this event, so honourable to our brethren of the "Ancient" Fraternity, that in the Grand Treasurer's Accounts for the 4th Quarter of the year 1809 there appears amongst the payments an entry dated 6th December of £210, "Cash paid the Treasurer of the Masonic Charity as a Donation to commemorate the fiftieth year of His Majesty's Reign, and thereby to enable the Governors of that Institution to increase the number of Objects under its Protection to Fifty.—By order of the Grand Lodge."

This act of liberality, coupled with a very successful Anniversary Festival held at the Crown and Anchor Tavern on the 5th March, 1810, when a sum of £140 10s. 6d. was raised, enabled the Governors not only to make the needful provision for the increased number of boys, but also to purchase a further £200 Navy Five per Cent. Annuities, making the total Stock belonging to the Institution £500 Navy Five per Cent. But notwithstanding this, while the total receipts, including the balance forward, amounted to £598 13s. 9d., the total expenditure, including £203 for the purchase of the said additional £200 Stock, only reached £560 11s. 5d., leaving a balance to carry forward to the credit of the Institution of £38 2s. 4d.

The year 1810-11 offers little matter for comment, the principal feature worth mentioning being a further donation of 100 guineas, voted by Grand Lodge on the 5th December, 1810. The Anniversary Festival, on the 29th April, 1811, yielded £110 14s. 6d.—but of this £50 was on account of a benefit at the Woolwich Theatre—and the total receipts, including balance from previous account, £322 1s. 10d., while the expenditure was £316 14s. 8d., there being then a small balance of £5 7s. 2d. over, but happily on the right side of the account. The next year (1811-12), thanks yet again to Grand Lodge, which on 4th December, 1811, voted another contribution of 200 guineas, produced £455 7s. 10d.—the second principal item being £88 4s., proceeds of Anniversary Festival on the 13th April, 1812—the actual proceeds reached £103 8s. 6d.; but the "odd" money in "plate," amounting to £15 4s. 6d., appears to have been overlooked, and is not brought to account till the year 1812-13. The expenditure was £353 9s. 4d., of which £133 16s. 5d. was in respect of clothing, £127 17s. 1d. for tuition and books, and there were two premiums paid of £5 each, £10, making the total outlay on the boys £273 13s. 6d. The expenses of management amounted to £54 0s. 10d., being made up of £29 16s. for salaries of Secretary, Collector, and Messenger, and £34 4s. 10d. for printing, postages, advertisements, use of room; the remaining £15 15s. being for Children's refreshment at Anniversary Dinner, expenses of said dinner, and Bibles. Thus the year's account ended with a balance in the Treasurer's hands of £101 18s. 6d., and when—not to weary our readers with more figures—18 months later the Union between the two Masonic Societies was accomplished, and the Boys' Charity, laying aside its distinctive character of an "Ancient" Institution, passed under the protection and patronage of the United Grand Lodge of England, the Executive must have had the satisfaction of feeling that their labours had not been in vain as regards the financial portion of their work, the amount in Bro. Leslie's hands for

the use of the Charity, notwithstanding there had been a further increase in the number of boys on the establishment, being no less than £207 7s. 8½d.

In the preceding paragraph we have been at the pains of enumerating the several heads of expenditure for the year from Midsummer Day, 1811, to Midsummer Day, 1812, so that our readers might have the opportunity of knowing, in the first place, how the funds of the Charity were bestowed, and, in the next place, how economically they were administered. But the difficulty we have heretofore laboured under of having to write a connected story out of disconnected and sparse, albeit official, materials, happily terminates with the close of the year 1811, and from 27th January, 1812, we have the minutes of the Institution to guide us. It is to be regretted, perhaps, that the information they contain is not more ample, many matters of interest, of the occurrence of which we have certain knowledge, being altogether omitted. But though the steering apparatus with which we are now provided may not be the most perfect of its kind, it is better than none at all, and it will be chiefly our own fault if we cannot complete our narrative without serious interruption. We shall occasionally stop in order to express an opinion on the policy pursued by those in authority, but otherwise, as there are few deficiencies to make good, there will seldom be need for us to cast about in different directions for information material to our purpose. The minutes contain all this, and our chief anxiety henceforth will be so to construct our story as to make it acceptable reading in the twofold sense of agreeable as well as authentic.

But to resume our story. The figures for 1811-12 look well enough on paper to us who study them after so long an interval, but the Committee then in charge of the Institution understood them better, and were well aware that, in spite of the outward complexion of affairs being so favourable, there was a something wanted in order to make firm the foundations of the Charity. Grand Lodge had contributed both frequently and generously, and the Festivals had been fairly productive; but funds from other sources had not been received to any great extent. Hence, in the opinion of those most competent to judge, the adoption of some unusual course had become inevitable. This much had been decided at the Quarterly Meeting of Governors and Subscribers held in the early days of January, 1812, and an extraordinary meeting of the Committee was therefore fixed for the 27th of the same month, at the Virginia Coffee House, Cornhill—the usual meeting place, when "it was unanimously resolved that the Masters and Wardens of the subscribing lodges and those brothers who are disposed to become subscribers be requested to meet the Governors, &c., of this Institution at the above house on Friday, the 28th of February next, at 7 o'clock in the evening, for the purpose of taking into consideration the present state of the Charity, and to devise such means as will enable the Committee to carry the intentions of the Founders more fully into effect." The General Meeting was accordingly held as arranged. The chair was taken by Bro. the Rev. Henry John Knapp, D.G. Chaplain, and there were present the Treasurer (Bro. Robert Leslie, G. Sec.), with Bros. Corcoran, Barron, Palmer, Gilbert, Shervill, Bruce (W.M. 63), Groat (245), Page (245), Clark (225), Hazell (194), Mellish (194), Peck (258), Cranfield, Gibbs, Stevens (255), Crawley (8), Spiers (8), Mills (268), Jefferson (268), Hill (194), Cohen (7), Ponter (194), Pitman (255), McCann (244), Bunter (194), Broadfoot (306), Graham (306), Southby (258), Barron (244), Lewis (245), Clark (23), Alce (255), Mapp (195), E. Harper (G. M. L.), Beswick (77), Oliver, Secretary (W. Hancock), and Collector (B. Aldhouse). The result will be best stated in the words of the original record:

It was resolved that it appears to this meeting that there are at present Cloathed and Educated by the Charity 50 Boys, and that there are upwards of 20 Candidates waiting for admission, but that its finances will not now permit any increase on the present number.

That, without the co-operating aid of some permanent Fund to be raised by the Masonic Body at large, the kind and liberal views of the Founders of the Charity, and the most anxious wishes of its best supporters cannot be realised, inasmuch as the resources of the Institution, which arise from voluntary subscriptions and donations, have for a long time past (although dispensed with the greatest frugality) been found insufficient for Cloathing and Educating the Children at present on the establishment without the aid and assistance of R.W. Grand Lodge, which it has on every occasion most promptly and liberally granted, and for which this meeting returns to the Grand Lodge its most sincere and grateful acknowledgments.

Resolved also that if, on the Registry of every new made Mason, a small sum were ordered by the Grand Lodge to be paid towards the support of the Charity, in addition to the fee paid to the Grand Lodge Fund, the advantages which the Institution would derive from the adoption of such a measure throughout the Craft at large would in a very few years enable the Committee to provide for the Infant Sons of their Deceased and Indigent Brethren in a manner most congenial to the wishes of the Governors and Subscribers in general, and more suitable to the ample resources and exalted character of the Ancient Craft.

Resolved therefore that these resolutions be most respectfully submitted to the R.W. Grand Lodge at its next Quarterly Communication, imploring it to take the same into its most serious consideration, and to adopt such measures to aid the objects of this meeting as the R.W. Grand Lodge, in its superior wisdom, may deem most advisable.

Curiously enough, though the needs of the Charity, as thus set forth, were clearly of the most extreme urgency, there is no further mention of the subject in the minutes, not even so much as a record of thanks to Grand Lodge for the very efficient measures of relief which, in accordance with the suggestion contained in the third resolution, it at once adopted and, as soon as the necessary requirements permitted, had carried into effect. We are therefore under the necessity of referring to the Grand Lodge minutes for the completion of the incident, and there we read that, when the memorial from the Governor and Subscribers of the Institution, embodying the above resolutions had been presented, "it was thereupon Moved and Ordered unanimously that in aid of the said Charity all and every of the Warranted Lodges in and adjacent to the Cities of London and Westminster do and shall upon the Initiation and Register of every new-made Brother from and after the 4th of June receive and pay the sum of five shillings independent of and with the sum now paid to the Grand Lodge as usual; and that all and every the Country, Military, and Foreign Lodges holding Warrants from and under this R.W. Grand Lodge upon the Initiation and Register of every new-made Mason in the Books of the Grand Lodge shall receive and pay the sum of 2s. 6d. for the benefit and in support of the said Charity, independent of and with the sum of 5s. now paid to the Grand Lodge upon the Register of new-made Brothers, and that they make a Return to the Grand Lodge of all such new-made Masons upon or near to every St. John's Day according to Regulation." This Resolution was passed by Grand Lodge on the 4th March, 1812, and although at its next meeting on 3rd June, when in common with the rest of the minutes it was submitted for confirmation, it was "moved by Bro. Gorlon, of No. 159, and seconded by Bro. Richard Varney, of No. 37, "That the consideration of the said motion do stand over for six months." Upon the question being put the amendment was negatived, and the resolution confirmed, but in the following somewhat improved form as regards phraseology: "Resolved and Ordered—That from and after the date hereof Every Lodge in and adjacent to London and

Westminster shall contribute and pay Five Shillings and every Country, Foreign, and Military Lodge shall in like manner pay Two Shillings and Sixpence, which sums shall go in aid of the Institution for Clothing and Educating the Sons of Indigent Freemasons." To the adoption of this proposal it is mainly due that the finances of the Charity were in such a satisfactory state when the Union of the Ancients and Moderns took place eighteen months later, and as the system was continued by the United Grand Lodge in respect of our two Schools, each one receiving a moiety of the sums thus annually raised, and is still in force, only in the form of a fixed annual grant of £150, it is but right we should adjudge to this Grand Lodge the credit of having placed this Charity, whose very existence seemed at one time to be in the extremest peril, on a sure and lasting basis. It should be stated that the assistance thus suggested by the Committee of the Boys' Institution, and adopted by the Atholl Grand Lodge, was continued in its original form till the year 1838, when the ever-varying annual payment was commuted into the fixed grant of £150, which has regularly ever since been contributed by Grand Lodge towards the Boys' Charity. It may also be worth while mentioning that the wisdom of this policy has never once been questioned since the date of its inauguration, and that only once—in the days anterior to 1838—did any lodge endeavour to escape payment, and then the attempt was made on perfectly legitimate grounds, and with every observance of respect for the ordinances of Grand Lodge. The case in question occurred within twelve months of the law being enacted, and is noticeable chiefly as a matter of curiosity. In the Grand Lodge minutes of the 3rd March, 1813, mention is made of a memorial from the Atholl Lodge, No. 131, Newcastle-upon-Tyne—which later on during the same year became No. 15, or rather was allowed to revive the warrant of that lodge, and is now the Newcastle-on-Tyne Lodge, No. 24. It is described as having been signed by the "Master, officers, and members thereof to the number of 50," and as setting forth "That having it in contemplation to establish a school in Newcastle upon a similar plan with that in London, to clothe and educate the sons of their deceased and indigent brethren, they therefore pray to be exempted paying the fee of half-a-crown upon the registry of every new made Mason to go in aid of the Masonic Institution, agreeably to the law of 3rd June last, to be by them applied in lieu thereof towards the funds of their intended Charity." The motion resolved upon and ordered in reply was prompt, reasonable, and dignified, and was to the effect "That the resolution of the Grand Lodge of 3rd of June in regard to the Masonic Charity should not be infringed upon; but when a proper representation of the actual establishment of a similar Institution be made to this Grand Lodge, that then the Grand Lodge, feeling itself so disposed to forward the benevolent intentions of the Atholl Lodge, No. 131, will be happy to promote the objects now in view by pecuniary assistance." This is the one instance within our knowledge of an attempt being made to be excused from compliance with the law of June, 1812, for maintaining the Boys' Charity, and, as we have said already, the attempt was made in a legitimate manner, on reasonable grounds, and most respectfully.

It is high time, however, that we reverted to the Minutes with a view to extracting from them such matters as appear to us to possess exceptional interest. The reader will have no difficulty in picturing to himself what the bulk of these records are like. The majority of them relate to petitions for admission in the Charity. Others concern the arrangements for clothing the boys and placing them at school. Sometimes a boy is reported for absence and he is reprimanded, or, if the case be a flagrant one, he is dismissed. Then on leaving, many of the boys are apprenticed, and in nearly all cases where the apprenticeship is entered upon with the approval of the Committee, a sum not exceeding £5 is granted. Occasionally, instead of a premium, there is a grant for clothing or for the purchase of tools. But these are matters of frequent record. Then a portion of the Committee of Management is elected annually—at the Quarterly Meeting in July—and twice a year—in January and July—an election of new boys is held, but only in very rare cases need these be referred to, or made the subject of comment. The great event of the year—the Anniversary Festival—will only occasionally be noticed, for the best of reasons, that only now and again is mention made of it by the Secretary. But though the minutes of the different meetings have all of them a very strong family likeness, we sometimes come across a feature which is noteworthy. For instance, in the case of the Festival held in 1812, we get some idea of the arrangements and cost as well as of the proceeds. Thus we learn that Bro. Isaac Lindo, the first Grand Junior Warden of the United Grand Lodge and afterwards Treasurer of the Institution, was the Chairman of the Board of Stewards, while Bro. Thomas Harper, the Deputy Grand Master, who was invited to take the chair in the absence of the Duke of Atholl, was its Treasurer. We are also told that the sum agreed upon to be deposited by each Steward towards the expenses of the dinner was two guineas; that the dinner tickets were 13s. each and the wine tickets 5s. 6d., and that Messrs. Simpkin and Jackson, of the Crown and Anchor Tavern, agreed to provide dinner for the guests at 5s. 6d., and wine according to a certain tariff, and dinner for the children and musicians at 1s. 6d. a head; that the boys were to learn a hymn and be taught to sing it by Mr. Hudson; that "Stone of Shoe-lane" was to provide the band at 10s. 6d. per musician; and that the Stewards were "to wear the Grand Stewards' jewels and to go round the dinner room with the children previous to the hymn being sung." This much, as well as that Bro. Harper presided in compliance with the invitation noticed, and that the Festival yielded £84 6s. 6d., is recorded in the Minute book, while the following excerpt relating to the event, from the columns of the *Star* newspaper, will serve to show that even in those stirring days a corner could occasionally be found in the daily press for the doings of the Ancient Craft.

On Monday—April 16—was celebrated, at the Crown and Anchor Tavern, the anniversary of the Masonic Institution for Clothing and Educating the sons of deceased and indigent Ancient Freemasons, of which the Duke of Atholl is the active Patron and Protector. His Grace is at present in Scotland, and was, consequently unable to attend; but when it shall be reported to him with how much enthusiasm his health was drunk, in testimony of the advantage the Charity has derived from his countenance and parental support, he will, we doubt not, participate in the regret that he could not be present on the occasion. The Deputy Grand Master, Thomas Harper, Esq., was in the chair. There are at present 50 Boys on the Establishment, who are wholly clothed and educated; forty-seven of them were introduced after dinner, and their interesting appearance called into action that benevolence which is the cornerstone of Freemasonry. A very liberal collection was made, and many of the company became Annual Subscribers. The day passed off with that harmony and conviviality which is so characteristic of this Ancient Order, and the most fervent spirit of loyalty manifested itself after drinking His Majesty. "God save the King" was well sung by Messrs. Dignum, C. Smith, and Shaw, in which the company, up-standing, heartily joined chorus, and produced an electric effect. "The Prince and Old England for ever," which followed the health of the Prince Regent, was likewise excellently sung by Mr. Dignum. It is but justice to observe, that the dinner and wines were of the best quality, and did ample credit to the house.

As regards the last Festival held under the "Ancient" regime—that of the year 1813—we are told in the Minutes little else than that his Grace the Duke of Atholl, Patron, presided, and that chief among the guests who supported him was his Royal Highness the Duke of Kent, Prov. G. Master of Canada, who only a few months later was installed Grand Master in succession to the Duke of Atholl, and yet a few months later, having carried out the purpose he had prescribed himself, gave place to his brother of Sussex as Grand Master of the united Fraternities. Beyond these two facts, and that the Anniversary took place on the 18th May and resulted in a subscription list amounting to £134 10s., the Minutes of the Institution say nothing. Yet we find on reference to the archives of the "Atholl" brethren that advantage was taken of the intended presence of his Royal Highness at the banquet to call a special meeting of Grand Lodge so that the members of the "Ancient" Fraternity might have the opportunity of paying the honours due to so illustrious a brother. As but little is known of the Duke of Kent's doings as a Mason, and as it is generally supposed that his Royal Highness only allowed himself to be chosen and installed Grand Master of the Ancients in order that he might hasten the much-desired union of the rival Grand Lodges, we shall doubtless be forgiven if we travel slightly out of the way for the purpose of describing what occurred at this preliminary assembly. The Duke of Atholl, G.M., occupied the throne and among the distinguished brethren present were Bros. Thomas Harper, D.G.M.; James Perry, P.D.G.M.; James Agar, P.D.G.M.; Archibald Herron, G.S.W.; Jeremiah Cranfield, G.J.W.; Past Grand Wardens Robert Gill, Benjamin Plummer, John B. Roache, Thos. Scott, Thos. Mahon, Wm. Oaks; W. C. Clarkson, G. Treas.; Robert Leslie, G. Sec.; Edwards Harper, Dep. G. Sec.; Rev. H. J. Knapp, Dep. G. Chap.; and Robert McCann, G.S.B. The account then states "A Special Grand Lodge was accordingly formed and the Grand Lodge received His Royal Highness upstanding, after the Custom of Master Masons. His Grace the Duke of Atholl being on the throne, congratulated the Grand Lodge and the Fraternity on this cordial visit of our illustrious brother, and paid a very high and just compliment to the active zeal and lively interest which H.R. Highness had always manifested for the Fraternity." What follows, however, is indicative of something more than a mere formal connection on the part of the Prince with the "Ancient" Craft, for we are told that "His Royal Highness made an eloquent reply to the most noble and R.W. Grand Master and expressed in the warmest terms his unchangeable affection for and attachment to Masonry according to the Ancient Institution, and to the Grand Lodge of England in which those principles were so purely and correctly preserved. His Royal Highness further said that upon every occasion he should be happy to co-operate with them in exerting themselves for the preservation of the rights and principles of the Craft, and that however desirable an union might be with the other Fraternity of Masons, it would only be desirable if accomplished on the basis of the Ancient Institutions and with the maintenance of all the rights of the Ancient Craft." Grand Lodge was then closed in ample form, and the Duke and his Royal guest, with a "numerous Company of Governors and friends to the Masonic Charity," sat down to a sumptuous banquet and "to the funds of the said Institution Our Most Noble Grand Master as well as our Royal and illustrious brother contributed very liberally, and the day was spent with the utmost harmony and conviviality."

One more extract must be made from the archives of this Grand Lodge. At its regular meeting on the 1st September of the same year, "it was upon motion by Bro. Hancock, P.M. No. 5, seconded by Bro. McCann, G.S.B., ordered—that the sum of £100 be subscribed from the fund of Grand Lodge in aid of the fund of the Institution for Clothing and Educating the Sons of Deceased and Indigent Freemasons," and the payment of the said amount is minuted in the Stewards' Lodge meeting of the 17th November following. Thus almost the last act done by the Atholl Grand Lodge was to present a further donation of £100 towards the funds of a Charity which it had largely supported in the earlier years of its existence, and which, without the generous continuance of that support on an extended and regular plan, there is too much reason to fear would have experienced the same fate that has overtaken many other, perhaps legally praiseworthy, schemes of benevolence, and that too, notwithstanding its apparently favourable condition and prospects. At all events, this new plan worked so well that at the election in July, 1813, when the six regular vacancies had been filled by ballot from the approved list of 17 candidates, a motion was made, seconded, and carried "That the number of children to be Clothed and Educated by the Charity be increased from 50 to 55, and that five more candidates be now elected from the list." Thus at the close of the year, or as nearly as possible fifteen years and a half after its establishment by Bro. Burwood and his United Mariners, the Charity had increased ninefold, from six to 55 children. However, we have now reached the great event which marks the limit of the first period of our history—the Union of the rival fraternities and as henceforth all distinctions between "Ancient" and "Modern" Craftsmen are effaced, we shall probably be doing an act of justice if we close this chapter by placing before our readers in the form of a summary or table the successive contributions made to the Boys' Institution by the "Ancient" or "Atholl" Grand Lodge. They are as follow, viz. :—

1803	First Subscription to Institution made on recommendation of Stewards' Lodge, 16th March	£10 10 0
1804	Second Subscription to Institution, Stewards' Lodge, 20th June	10 10 0
1806	Donation by Grand Lodge, 3rd September	100 0 0
1808	" " 2nd March	100 0 0
1809	" " 8th March	100 0 0
"	" " 19th October, to enable the Governors to increase the number of Boys from Forty to FIFTY in honour of 50th Anniversary of George III.'s accession to Throne	210 0 0
1810	Donation by Grand Lodge, 3rd December	105 0 0
1811	" " 4th December	210 0 0
1813	" " 1st September	100 0 0
Quarterly sums paid under Law of 3rd June, 1812, requiring every London Lodge to pay 5s., and every Country, Military, and Foreign Lodge 2s. 6d., on register of every new-made Mason :		
1812	Quarter to September	£34 17 0
"	" December	53 12 6
1813	" March	59 2 6
"	" June	45 10 0
"	" September	55 15 6
"	" December	79 5 0
		328 2 0
Total Contributions of every kind		£1274 2 0

(To be continued).

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

CHIEF PATRONESS:
HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

GRAND PATRONS:
H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., &c.,
M.W.G.M., *President.*
H.R.H. THE PRINCESS OF WALES.

THE NINETY-SIXTH ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL

of this Institution will take place
AT FREEMASONS' TAVERN, GREAT QUEEN-ST.,
LONDON, W.C.,

On *WEDNESDAY, the 21st MAY inst,*
under the Presidency of the
Rt. Hon. THE LORD BROOKE, M.P.,
R.W. PROV. G.M. ESSEX.

President of Board of Stewards:
W. Bro. F. A. PHILBRICK, Q.C., P.G.D., D.P.G.M. Essex.

Treasurer:
W. Bro. BURDETT-COUTTS, W.M. 2030.

Chairman of Ladies' Stewards:
W. Bro. CHARLES HAMMERTON.

Brethren willing to serve the office of Steward are
very greatly needed, and will much oblige by forwarding
their names as *early as possible* to the Secretary, who will
gladly give any information required.

F. R. W. HEDGES, Sec.
Offices—5, Freemasons' Hall,
Great Queen-street, London, W.C.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS,

WOOD GREEN, LONDON, N.

GRAND PATRON:
HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

PRESIDENT:
HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G.,
M.W.G.M.

EIGHTY-SIXTH ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL.

The **RT. HON. THE LORD MAYOR,**
R.W. BRO. R. N. ALDERMAN FOWLER,
M.P.,

GRAND JUNIOR WARDEN,

Who has kindly consented to preside, has fixed the date for
TUESDAY, the 27th day of JUNE, 1884,
AT THE
CRYSTAL PALACE, SYDENHAM.

Dinner Tickets—Ladies 15s., Gentlemen 21s., including
Admission to the Palace.

The services of brethren as Stewards are earnestly
solicited.

FREDERICK BINCKES. (P.G. Stwd.) V. Pat.,
Secretary.

6, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.,
5th May, 1884.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

ELECTION—MAY, 1884.

The Votes and Interest of the Governors and Subscribers are
earnestly requested on behalf of

JOHN L. TOWNING,
P.M., AGED 63½ YEARS!

Bro. Towing was initiated in Lodge Harmony, 372, Budleigh
Salterton, in 1870, held all the offices, was installed W.M. in 1876,
and is still a subscribing member; also a member of the Sun Chap-
ter, 106, Exmouth. Bro. Towing was a Trinity Pilot at the Port
of Exeter for 39 years. He invested his savings in the shipping trade,
and for many years he paid over £700 per annum for wages, but
owing to the great depression in that trade, the high rate of insurance,
and many sad mishaps, he lost all, and for the last six years has
been much afflicted by an internal complaint, and was obliged to
resign his profession, for which services he receives £14 a year, being
the only income he receives from any source, and is totally incapable
of any kind of labour. He has brought up a family of six children;
his wife is 62 years of age, whose father, grandfather, and brother
were Freemasons, and he is obliged to seek, and trusts he may obtain,
an Annuity from the above Institution.

The case is strongly recommended by

Bro. A. ROBERTS, I.P.M., 372; Bro. W. PALMER, P.M., 372;
" R. F. KINGDOM, P.M., 372; " H. C. ADAMS, P.M., P.P.G.R.
" W. E. ELPHINSTONE-STONE, " G. J. BISHOP, P.M.,
P.P.G.S.W. of Devon, " P.P.G.S.B.;
P.M., and P.Z., 106; " E. BISHOP, P.M., S.E., 106;

Bro. THOMAS HINE, 3, Morton Crescent, W.M., 372, Representa-
tive at Committee of Petitions, by whom Proxies will be received,
or any information given.

Every Subscriber of 5s. is entitled to a Vote.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

Mrs. Vowles desires to thank her many and exceedingly
kind friends for their votes recorded in favour of her
daughter,

ROSE ETHEL VOWLES,

and to tender to them, one and all, her deep and grateful
acknowledgements of this and former kindnesses.

Rob Roy Terrace, Forest-road, May 1st.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

MAY ELECTION, 1884.

FOURTH APPLICATION. 713 VOTES CARRIED
FORWARD.

Votes and Interest are solicited on behalf of
MARY SMITH,

Widow of the late Bro. William Smith, Optician, who was Manager
for 34 years to the late Bro. J. R. Stebbing, P.M., P.D.P.G.M.
He was a subscriber to the Masonic Charities for 12 years; served
as Warden in the lodge of "Peace and Harmony," 359, Southamp-
ton; was a member of the "Royal Gloucester" Lodge, Southamp-
ton; and a Provincial Grand Officer.

The case is strongly recommended by

* W. Bro. Sir Frederick Perkins, P.M. 130, P.P.S.G.W. Hants
and Isle of Wight.

Bro. Rev. Ambrose Hall, M.A., G. Chaplain, Goldings, Penywern
Road, Earl's Court, W.

* Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., P.G.W., Prov. G.M. Hants,
Oakley Hall, Basingstoke.

* Bro. Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, M.A., P.M., P.G.C., 25A Norfolk
Crescent, Hyde Park, London, W.

* W. Bro. J. J. Pope, P.M. 179, 1305, P.Z. 742, 1305, King's Road,
Chelsea, London.

* W. Bro. W. N. Heysham, 502, Rugby, 6 Alpha Road, Regent's
Park, London, N.W.

W. Bro. Richard Eve, P.P.G.S.W. Hants and Isle of Wight, and
V.P. of Institution, Oxford Villa, Aldershot.

* W. Bro. James Pain, P.M., P.Z. 1339, 121 Walworth Road,
London.

* W. Bro. W. Waters, P.M. 359, P.P.G.S.D. Hants and Isle of
Wight, Albion Place Southampton.

W. Bro. C. Hammerton, V. Pres., P.M., 1339, Stockwell, S.W.

W. Bro. A. J. Miller, P.G.S.W. Hants, 18 High Street,
Southampton.

* W. Bro. H. E. Francis, 1339, P.P.G.D. Surrey, 22 Cowley Road,
Brixton, S.W.

* W. Bro. J. M. Klenck, P.M. 1339, 1686, P.Z. 1336, &c., 25
Bishopsgate Street Without, London, E.C.

* W. Bro. W. H. Boswell, P.M. 1339, 33 Leyton Square, Peckham,
London, S.E.

Bro. J. W. Curtis, 733, 46 Church Street, Lisson Grove,
London.

* By whom Proxies will be thankfully received, and by the
Widow, Mrs. Smith, 8 Bevois Hill, Southampton.

To save time, brethren having Votes at their disposal, kindly
forward direct to **JAMES PAIN, 121, Walworth-road.**

ROYAL ASYLUM OF ST. ANNE'S SOCIETY SCHOOLS

FOR

ORPHAN AND OTHER NECESSITIOUS CHILDREN
of Parents who have moved in a superior station of life.

FOUR HUNDRED CHILDREN are now under the
Society's care.—TWENTY will be Elected at the Half
Yearly Court on 13th June.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES
has graciously consented to lay the
FOUNDATION STONE OF THE NEW
SCHOOLS AT REDHILL,

On *WEDNESDAY, 9th JULY next.*

Subscriptions and Donations earnestly solicited and
gratefully acknowledged by the Lord Mayor, M.P.,
Treas.; Messrs. DIMSDALE, FOWLER, and Co., Bankers,
50, Cornhill; Messrs. BARCLAY and Co., 54, Lombard-st.,
or by **R. H. EVANS, Secretary,**

At the OFFICE—58, GRACECHURCH-ST., E.C.

RAGGED SCHOOL UNION.

THE FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY
will be held in
EXETER HALL,

On *Monday Evening, May 12th, 1884,*

at Six o'clock. 750 old scholars will receive prizes from the
PRESIDENT, THE EARL OF SHAFTESBURY.

They will also form a choir and sing a selection of pieces.
Admission by Ticket.

FUNDS URGENTLY NEEDED

to sustain these centres of Gospel light and beneficence
amongst our Ragged Poor.

JOHN KIRK, Secretary.

Office, Exeter Hall, W.C.

FIELD LANE REFUGES AND RAGGED SCHOOLS.

THE 42nd ANNUAL MEETING

Will (D.V.) be held

On *WEDNESDAY, MAY 28th,*

AT HOLBORN TOWN HALL, GRAYS-INN ROAD.

Chair to be taken at 6 o'clock by the

EARL OF SHAFTESBURY, K.G.

Funds urgently needed.

PEREGRINE PLATT, Secretary,

Vine-street, Clerkenwell-road, E.C.

THE ASYLUM FOR IDIOTS, EARLWOOD, REDHILL, SURREY.

Under the Patronage of Her Most Gracious Majesty
THE QUEEN.

Total number of Inmates in the Asylum ... 503

Entirely supported by Voluntary Subscriptions... 375

FUNDS ARE URGENTLY NEEDED TO MEET
CURRENT EXPENSES.

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ment.

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"SALUTATION,"

NEWGATE

STREET,

LONDON, E.C.

E. LIEBMANN, PROPRIETOR
(Urban Lodge, No. 1196).

This Establishment has been recently entirely

RE-BUILT AND RE-DECORATED.

Amongst special features it offers are

A SPACIOUS MASONIC TEMPLE,

WITH

RECEPTION AND PREPARATION

ROOMS,

COMMODIOUS LODGE ROOMS

AND

BANQUETING HALLS.

PRIVATE ROOMS FOR ARBITRATION MEETINGS,

PROCEEDINGS, &c., &c.

Accommodation for

ELECTIONS TO CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS

Also every convenience for

BALLS, WEDDING BREAKFASTS,

SOIREES,

AND EVENING PARTIES.

CUISINE OF THE HIGHEST CHARACTER.

THE WINES

Have been most carefully selected, and will be found
perfect as regards condition.

The Proprietor will be happy to supply particulars as to
Tariff, Scale of Charges, &c.

LODGES intending to move from their present
abode will do well to apply as early as
possible to

E. LIEBMANN, PROPRIETOR

(Urban Lodge, No. 1196).

"SALUTATION,"

NEWGATE

STREET,

LONDON, E.C.

MEMORY.—The LOISETTIAN SCHOOL of PHYSIOLOGICAL MEMORY, the instantaneous art of never forgetting, uses none of the "localities," "keys," "pegs," "links," or "associations," of mnemonics. Prospectus post free, giving opinions from actual study of the system of Mr. RICHARD A. PROCTOR, Dr. ANDREW WILSON, and others. Any book learned in one reading. Day and evening classes in "Never Forgetting" and for cure of "Mind-Wandering." Taught thoroughly by post.—Professor Loissette, 37, New Oxford-street (opposite Mudie's library).

SPECIALLY INTERESTING TO FREEMASONS.

GEORGE MACKAY, 49A, Union Passage, Birmingham, at the request of many Masons, has now published his most remarkable Masonic Illumination. The size of the original is 48 by 36 inches, and is probably one of the most beautiful Specimens of Pen and Ink Etching ever produced. Detailed particulars sent on receipt of stamped directed envelope.

Copyright Photographs, Cabinet size ... 2s.
Ditto ditto 15 by 12 inch ... 5s.
The original can be seen at any time at above address; is also a choice and large collection of all varieties of Fine Art property, China, Weapons, Old Plate, Antique Jewellery, Ivory Carvings, Old Carved Oak and other Furniture, and Bric-a-brac of every description.

FREE GRANTS OF LAND IN CANADA.

160 acres in Manitoba and the North-West Territories.
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IMPROVED FARMS AT REASONABLE PRICES IN THE MARITIME PROVINCES, QUEBEC, ONTARIO, AND MANITOBA.

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Apply for Pamphlets (sent gratis and post free) containing full information respecting the investment of capital, advantages offered to farmers, land regulations, demand for labour, rates of wages, cost of living, assisted passages, &c., to J. G. Colmer, Secretary of the Office of the High Commissioner for Canada, 9, Victoria Chambers, London, S.W.; or to John Dyke, Agent of the Canadian Government, 15, Water Street, Liverpool.

TO Lodges, Chapters, Encampments, &c.—FOR SALE (quite new) two Town-made Brass Candelabra, each nine lights, with plate glass fittings; one Brass Curtain Pole, 16ft. 6in. long, with Hooks and Rings complete; one Polished Oak Reading Stand.—Apply, W.H.B., *Freemason* Office, 16, Great Queen-street, W.C.

Educational.

DULWICH HOUSE SCHOOL, VICTORIA ROAD, UPPER NORWOOD, S.E. (Within seven minutes' of the Crystal Palace).

PRINCIPAL: Mr. J. K. BARNES, LONDON UNIVERSITY. (Late Upper Fifth-Form Master, Bedford Modern School, Harpur Foundation.)

RESIDENT STAFF: Classics: Mr. W. P. EVANS, M.A. (2nd Class Classical Tripos, 1877.) (Late Foundation Scholar, Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge.)

English Language and Literature: The PRINCIPAL. Mathematics and Science: P. Z. ROUND, B.A. (Mathematical Tripos, 1882.) (Late Scholar St. Katharine's College, Cambridge.)

Modern Languages: The PRINCIPAL. VISITING STAFF: Modern Languages: Monsieur EUGENE FASNACHT. (Late Senior Modern Language Master, Bedford Modern School. Editor of Macmillan's Foreign Classics.) Science: Rev. J. G. WOOD, M.A., F.L.S., and Prof. C. P. MORRIS, Geology and Phys. Geog.; and such other qualified and experienced Masters as the requirements of the Pupils may demand. References kindly permitted to

Rev. R. B. Poole, B.D., Bed. Mod. School, Bedford. Alex. Vaughn Young, M.A., Tettenhall College, Staffordshire.

G. M. Hicks, M.A., 5, South-row, Blackheath, S.E. E. F. Ashworth Briggs, M.A., L.L.M., 15, New Street, Daventry.

Rev. A. Lloyd, M.A., Norton Rectory, Bury St. Edmunds. C. L. Peel, Esq., C.B., Woodcroft, Cuckfield, Sussex. Major Ed. Green, St. Mary's, Bedford. J. D. Rodger, Esq., College Lawn, Cheltenham. C. P. Mason, B.A., F.C.P., Dukesell, Streatham Hill, S.E.

HIGH-CLASS PRIVATE SCHOOL THEOBALD'S PARK, WALTHAM CROSS, LONDON, N.

PRINCIPAL: Rev. J. OSWALD JACKSON, Assisted by Five Masters.

Limited number of Gentlemen's Sons; motherly care for delicate pupils; individual teaching for backward ones; playground of six acres.

First Class Honours gained at last Cambridge Local Examinations, with Distinction in Mathematics.

References kindly permitted to Rev. Dr. Reynolds, Principal of Cheshunt College, Herts. Rev. Charles E. Mayo, M.A., Nottingham. Sir Thomas Chambers, M.P., Recorder of London. Richard Toller, Esq., Solicitor, Leicester. George Kenning, Esq., Little Britain.

AN IMPORTANT FACT!

£10 and upwards carefully invested in Options on Stocks and Shares is the safest and most popular way of rapidly making money on the Stock Exchange by the non-liability system. Explanatory Book (new edition) giving full details, gratis and post free.—Address, GEORGE EVANS and Co., Sworn Brokers, Gresham House, London, E.C.

MACKAY'S LEXICON OF FREEMASONRY.

Messrs. CHARLES GRIFFIN & CO., Publishers of Mackey's Lexicon of Freemasonry, think it right to caution Freemasons and others against giving orders for this work to any persons representing themselves as their Agents.

Messrs. GRIFFIN & Co. have given no authority to any person to collect moneys for them for the above work.

CHARLES GRIFFIN & CO., 12, EXETER-STREET, STRAND, LONDON.

BACON'S CENTRAL HOTEL, ADJOINING FREEMASONS' HALL, GREAT QUEEN STREET, LINCOLN'S INN FIELDS, LONDON, W.C.

BRO. THOMAS BACON begs to solicit the kind patronage of Brethren visiting London.

The Craft is aware that it was supposed that the Grand Lodge would purchase the lease of his hotel, a statement to which effect was inserted in all the leading newspapers.

He is sorry to say the report is operating much against his business, as many of his friends and the public, thinking his hotel closed, have gone elsewhere.

He therefore trusts that his Brother Freemasons in the country will support him, and the more so as he has been a tenant of Grand Lodge for half-a-century.

To Correspondents.

The following communications have been received, but are not inserted in this issue owing to want of space:—Translation of the Pope's Encyclical letter—"De Secta Massonum."

CORRESPONDENCE—1.P.M. 731. CRAFT LODGES—Mariners, 168; St. John's, 280 (S.C.); Pattison, 913; Amhurst, 1223; Savile, 1231; Prince Leopold, 1445; Sir Charles Bright, 1793; Mozart, 1929; Raymond Thrupp, 2024. LODGES OF INSTRUCTION—Faith, 141; Westbourne, 733.

BOOKS RECEIVED, &c.

"Canadian Craftsman," "New York Daily News," "New York Dispatch," "Natal Mercury," "Court Circular," "City Press," "Broad Arrow," "Citizen," "Voice of Masonry," "Hall Packet," "Masonic Chronicle," "Jewish Chronicle," "Time," "Tricycling Journal," "Die Bauhütte," "Forbes' Directory and Bulletin (Rome)," "Washington Chronicle," "La Chaîne d'Union," "El Taller," "Kneph," "Allen's Indian Mail," "Victorian Masonic Journal," "Keystone," "Melbourne Argus," "Northampton Mercury."



SATURDAY, MAY 10, 1884.

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.]

RE-NUMBERING OF LODGES.

To the Editor of the "*Freemason*." Dear Sir and Brother, Allow me space to say how grateful I feel for Bro. W. J. Hughan's answer to a letter by Bro. J. W. Turner, of Huddersfield. Had I answered that letter, I fear it would scarcely have been in the same courteous and suitable manner; it seems to me so exceedingly absurd any one going out of his way to cause trouble and annoyance. Those who remember, as I do, the years it took us to become accustomed to the new numbers of lodges, will agree with Bro. Hughan it requires some stronger reason than the advocate has given for such a disturbance of our Masonic memories. It is positively mischievous unless necessary. I cannot quote figures, but I am ready to admit that in 1863 it had become desirable, and I am prepared to say at present there is not the slightest necessity for re-numbering lodges.—Yours fraternally,

HENRY SMITH, Prov.G. Sec. West Yorks.

THE BOYS' SCHOOL ELECTION.

To the Editor of the "*Freemason*." Sir,—I should be glad to avail myself of your columns as the medium by which to convey my sincere thanks to all those members of the Masonic Order, and others, who by their votes or personal efforts have helped the candidature of my son, Edward, in the late election for the Boy's School, and thereby contributed to bring to a successful issue a cause which at first, on account of the shortness of time in which to work it, did not promise so satisfactory a result. Such a result, indeed, could not have been obtained save by the most untiring exertions of those who so kindly and so warmly interested themselves for me. Many of those kind friends, being personally unknown to me, I cannot thank individually; to them then, especially, I would offer these few lines, in the hope that they may be accepted as the expression of deep gratitude for the services so readily rendered me.—I am, Sir, yours obediently, Portsmouth, May 1.

THE LATE BRO. GEORGE BUCKLAND.

To the Editor of the "*Freemason*." Sir,—I am requested by the Committee to inform you that the entertainment given at St. George's Hall, on 26th March last, proved most successful, the gross receipts being £343 14s. 6d., which, after deducting the cost of advertising, &c., viz., £37 10s. 4d., leaves a sum of £306 4s. 2d. for the benefit of the widow.—I am, Sir, yours obediently, JOSEPH D. LANGTON, Hon. Sec.



335] **THE CESTRIAN LODGE.**
Can any one move the W.M. and brethren of the Cestrian Lodge to have a search made amid their papers, as it is just possible something may still be there about the "Wren MS."? Can Bro. Whythead help us? I know he will if he can. MASONIC STUDENT.

336] **SIR CHRISTOPHER WREN.**
With reference to "P.S.W. 302's" note, I looked in at Mr. E. W. Stibbs's, 30, Museum-street, on Saturday, and found that in "Knight's London" the passage referred to occurs. A Mr. Weir writes therein an account of the Building of St. Paul's, and mentions that Herder (not Heider) in one of his "fugitive pieces" states that Sir Christopher Wren was member of a convivial society, with forms of secrecy and initiation, and rules of regulation, and hence the true origin of "St. John's Masonry." This meeting is said to have taken place at a tavern in St. Paul's Church-yard. Is not this a "find" for our worthy Bro. Gould? ANTIQUITY.

337] **CAGLIOSTRO'S HISTORY OF FREEMASONRY.**
In the "Maçonnerie Egyptienne du Grand Cophte" the following legend of Masonic history occurs, which I hope Masonic students will note: "Freemasonry has for its fathers Enoch and Elias (Elijah). After having been invested with sublime power, which was granted them by the Divinity, they implored His goodness and His mercy in favour of their neighbours, and that they might be permitted to make known to other men His greatness and the power He has accorded to men over all the beings who surround His throne. Having obtained this, they formed 12 subjects, whom they termed Elect of God, one of whom, known to you, was called Solomon. This king philosopher, himself inspired, sought to imitate and to walk in the steps of his two masters by forming a society of men proper to preserve and propagate that sublime knowledge which they had acquired. He succeeded by conciliating the other Elect, and agreeing to select each two subjects, of whom they formed 24 companions, the first being Boaz. These 24 companions had afterwards the liberty of each electing three, whom they named apprentices, which made two Supreme Chiefs, 12 Masters or Elect of God, 24 Companions, and 72 Apprentices. From these last the Templars are descended, and from one of these Templars, a fugitive in Scotland, the Freemasons, who were in the beginning of the number of 13, afterwards became 33. Such are the origin and affiliation of Masonry." We may smile at this extraordinary mixture of anachronism and absurdity; but I quote it mainly to prove to others the radical audacity and knavery of Joseph Balsamo, and the trash which was positively once accepted by educated men, and still apparently finds dupes and believers. MASONIC STUDENT.

GOULD'S HISTORY OF FREEMASONRY. VOL. III. FOURTH NOTICE. BY MASONIC STUDENT.

Before I go on, I wish to call attention to an admitted duty of recognition and gratitude, namely, in respect of the illustrations of Bro. Gould's work. They are very effective indeed; and as I notice the name of Bro. W. H. Rylands, I am glad to call attention to this, among other proofs of the great promise of this rising young archaeologist, as well in Freemasonry as in Egyptology. One of the most important chapters in Bro. Gould's third volume is that which deals with the Guild Legends. We owe to a non-Mason, Halliwell Phillips, in 1840, the introduction to a scientific and critical treatment of the Masonic Poem, and from that time to the present the enquiry and study have gone on, beginning with the additional MS. (Bro. Matthew Cooke), continued with Bro. Hughan's invaluable "Old Charges," and ending for the present with that now long list which appears in Bro. Gould's history. Bro. Gould has quoted certain "canons" of textual criticism, bearing mainly on Scriptural MSS., and has sought to apply them to our now lengthened collection of Guild Legends. It is here where I first diverge and dissent respectfully from Bro. Gould's method of classification and treatment of this most important subject. In the abstract the idea seems very good and sound; in the concrete we soon discover that we cannot fully, perfectly, or safely apply such canons to our Guild Legends without soon finding ourselves in a happy state of doubt and difficulty. If Bro. Gould's tests of historical value and textual soundness are accepted, we shall lose performance some of our most characteristic legends. "Lodge possession" is an element no doubt in testing the value of a MS., but it is not the only one, and is probably a very deceptive one at the best. For, at this moment, with the exception of a certain and select number, we know not of most of the lodge MSS. how they came into the possession of the lodge or when; and in the case of some, the lodge or Grand Lodge possession is quite modern, and previously the history of the MS. becomes again that of private possession. Though the "canon" be good as a rule, it must have its exceptions, as all rules have, and must not be pressed too closely, or used too dogmatically.

We may assume that from 1686 to any rate, MSS. legends, as Anderson pointed out, have been known to Freemasons, and probably our own Grand Lodge has always had one or two, but we must not even rely on this fact too much, as the argument may be turned both ways. I say this, because the "private possession" view is held to tell so strongly against the Harleian 1942, for instance; whereas with very few exceptions all the present known MSS. go back to "private possession," and the time when any became the property of a Grand Lodge or a private lodge, if uncertain, as is really the case, proves nothing. I may observe now that the "roll" form would seem the oldest form of the Constitutions and probably used at the admission of members. It is the "Pergamentum Membranaceum" doubtless of Ashmole and Plot. But yet, strange to say, the oldest known forms are not rolls, but books. Of the 31 legends to which it is necessary now to

call attention, 16 are in roll form, and of these 11 are on parchment, seven on paper. The rest are lodge records or in a book form. It is equally remarkable that the largest proportion by far are of the seventeenth century, and some are of the eighteenth, actually 11 of the seventeenth century and five of the eighteenth, a very remarkable fact. It seems to me to shew how little we can theorize on such peculiarities of manuscript forms. Of all these forms Bro. Gould claims only 13 as of and belonging to "lodge possession," and even of these the number may be reduced materially, and when we add 20 others printed as MS. forms, either clear transcriptions of distinct exemplars, or most probably prepared for antiquarian purposes, we see at once how much caution must be exercised in basing dogmatic theories on "lodge possession" as a test either of the value of a MS. or a relative importance of the text. And when I add that the two oldest MSS. are altogether omitted, it seems to be, I confess, that "ab initio" this peculiar grouping of MSS., though highly ingenious and effective "prima facie," may lead us to certain consequences which neither experts can commend nor criticism approve. Further it is to be noted, that some forms have been stitched together on paper in the form of a roll, others are in book form, smaller or larger. Some constitute a simple MS. written indifferently on paper without special form at all, and one or two seem either copied from a book or prepared for printing. The earliest known form, the Masonic Poem, is in the form of a little book, and is evidently copied from other forms. Bro. Gould thinks probably "prose," I venture to differ, and believe from Roman-French poetic verses and perhaps Latin rythmical adages. "He may fynde wryten yn old Boke" are the words of the Poem; "Elders that were before us had their charges written in them, as we have now in our chargys . . . as we have seen them written in latyn and in Frenche bothe," are the words of Cooke's MS. The Masonic poem is certainly quite early fifteenth century, but on Casley's, Wallbran's, and Halliwell's authority I venture to say late fourteenth century. Casley does not say "late fourteenth century," he says simply "fourteenth century," a very grave point. There are in all probability four "ordinaciones," "ordinances," "forms," "orders," perhaps what are elsewhere termed "Orders of Antiquity," as I separate the legend of the "Ars Quatuor" from the rules of "polite behaviour," of which the counterpart may be found in "Myrc" and "Urbanitatis." Myrc copied from "Pars Oculi" avowedly, and if ever we find "Pars Oculi," we shall probably discover it to be an adaptation of a Roman-French or older Latin form. Some Latin verses are known to exist, and have been published, which contain certain "adages and directions of politeness," and others may yet be found.

Of the early history of the "Regius MS." nothing is known as connecting it with our Order. But no one can read it without seeing in it the "germ" of all the later Constitutions, as expanded prosaically from poetical and terser formulæ. It is so far unknown what other forms this Monastic writer probably saw or transcribed from in the fourteenth century. But this fact is most important to note in itself, as shewing the antiquity of such forms. The legend of the "Ars Quatuor," &c., is unique, and I know of no parallel passages or any other form approaching to it. The claim in the fourteenth century that the "Quatuor Coronati" were "gode Masonus" seems to point not only to a long standing tradition, but to an existing and recognized organization. Cooke's, or the Additional MS. is on the borderland of prose, though still in poetic form. It is the intermediate legend between the pure rythmical form of the "Regius" and the distinct prose of the Lansdowne, Grand Lodge, and Dowland forms. The writer was probably also in one of the Monastic orders, and he had seen other forms or charges, as I have already remarked, in Latin and French. The date of the Cooke MS. is now put up by Bro. Bond to early fifteenth, but it has always seemed to me, as to others, later than the poem,—by many years. The argument of Bro. Cooke's for its much greater lateness, that the transcriber had probably seen Caxton's printed copy of the "Polichronicon" is now given up as an error. The writer probably took his references, on the contrary, from MS. authorities. Peter Comestor, from whom he quotes, is the Master of History, the "Meistre d'Histoire" (not Herodotus, as suggested by Bro. Cooke), and those who have studied old wills know that the "Livre de Meistre d'Histoire" or "Maistre d'Histoire" is more than once left specifically to some legatee. Whether from his own inner consciousness or other authorities, the transcriber of this legend varies from the poem, and expands the legend considerably. It is clear he does not mention York by name, but talks of the "cyte," which was once held to refer to York. More careful study, I think, leads to this conclusion,—that up to the end of the fifteenth century the evidence of the available MSS. points to a variable place for the Annual Assembly. We cannot doubt that the Additional MS. represents the traditions and preserves the legends of a Masonic Guild. The two next sixteenth century Constitutions are Lansdowne and Grand Lodge, and if the archaisms of Dowland really represent a sixteenth century form too, though we have not yet the original, then we have three pretty much about the same time. Bro. Gould points to the peculiarity of the Lansdowne in common only with the Antiquity, that it makes "Windsor," not "York," the scene of Edwin's initiation.

I cannot agree with Bro. Gould that we are arbitrarily to take out "Windsor" and put in "York," or "vice versa," and can only suppose as the great mass of the MSS. adhere to York, that "Windsor" is a fault of the transcriber, and the transcriber of the Antiquity in 1686 had probably the Lansdowne or some derived form before him. And here, as a convenient break occurs, I stop to-day. I may add I doubt if we can advance to the one "original form" theory at all at present. The Constitutions being lodge properties, will vary, as I before ventured to remark, according to the education, the prejudices, the local views the transcribers possessed; and it will be hopeless, as well as unsound, to lay down an "ex post facto" view of textual criticisms and specific evidences to endeavour to make the legends uniform and entirely agree with each other.

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.]

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The General Committee of this Institution was held on Saturday last at Freemasons' Hall, Bro. Raynham W. Stewart, Past Grand Deacon, in the chair. The other brethren present were Bros. Wm. Roebuck, Edgar Bowyer, Robert Berridge, Wm. Paas, James Moon, F. W. Ramsay, M.D., C. H. Webb, Alfred Williams, F. Adlard, L. Ruf, John M. Stedwell, Thomas Cubitt, Arthur E. Gladwell, Horace Brooks Marshall, Grand Treas., Rev. Richard Morris, D.D. (Head Master), R. J. Taylor, R. Barham, C. F. Matier, Richard Tyrrell, C. F. Hogard, George P. Gillard, Joyce Murray, Charles Belton, E. Baxter, A. M. Broadley, H. S. Goodall, H. Venn, H. Massey, and F. Binckes, Sec.

The minutes of the last meeting and of the Quarterly Court, were read and confirmed.

Bro. RAYNHAM W. STEWART said it now became their duty to carry out the recommendation that had been made with reference to the Preparatory School. As they could not get on without money he would now propose that they should sell out £5000 stock to enable them to buy the property named, or rather complete the purchase, and begin the work immediately.

Bro. ALFRED WILLIAMS proposed and Bro. TAYLOR seconded the sale of £5000 stock.

Three petitions were then considered, and the children for whom they were presented were placed on the list for the October election.

Outfits of £5 each were granted to four former pupils of the Institution now in situations, and £10 to one other ex-pupil. One application for an outfit was deferred.

The House Committee for the ensuing year were nominated by Bro. Henry Green and seconded by Bro. C. F. Matier.

The Audit Committee was also nominated. No new names were proposed. Bro. Matier wished to resign, but Bros. Goodall and Berridge requesting that he would reconsider his determination, he placed himself in the hands of the Chairman and Secretary.

The Committee then adjourned.

THE PROVINCE OF CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORLAND.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

The half-yearly preliminary meeting of the Craft Masons of this province was held in the County Hall, Carlisle, on Wednesday, the 16th ult., under the banner of the Bective Lodge, No. 1532, when the province was well represented by Present and Past Provincial Officers. In the absence of the R.W. Prov. G.M., the Right Hon. the Earl of Bective, M.P., the chair was occupied by Bro. John Holme, P.M. 129, P.G.S.W., who was supported as follows: Bros. J. Nicholson, P.M. 371, P.P.G.S.W., as D.P.G.M.; Col. F. R. Sewell, P.M. 1002, P.G.S.W.; W. Sandwith, P.M. 119, P.G.J.W.; J. F. Kirkconel, P.M. 1267, P.G. Reg.; George J. McKay, P.M. 129, P.P.G.S.W., P.G. Sec.; J. J. Robinson, W.M. 1089, P.G.S.D.; Dr. Braithwaite, W.M. 1267, P.G.J.D.; George Dalrymple, P.M. 872, as P.G.D.C.; W. B. Cowman, P.M. 872, P.G. Swd. Br.; J. Frears, Org. 119, P.G. Org.; W. L. Towerson, P.M. 1267, P.G. Purst.; Jas. Graham, Tyler 1532, P.G. Tyler; W. Kirkbride, P.M. 339, P.P.G.S.W.; P. de E. Collin, P.M. 371, P.P.G. Reg.; James Gardiner, P.M., P.P.G. Reg.; A. Walters, P.M., P.P.G. Swd. Br.; J. Pearson, W.M. 339; J. Bewley, W.M. 310; Ed. Tyson, P.M. 119, P.P.G.A.D.C.; W. Court, P.M. 310, P.P.G.D.C.; W. Tattersall, P.M., P.P.G. Reg.; Thomas Atkinson, P.M. 872, P.P.G.D.C.; F. Hodgson, P.M.; Thomas Brackenridge, Ed. Clarke, P.M. 1267, P.P.G.J.D.; J. C. Hunter, P.M. 962, P.P.G. Purst.; J. Patterson, S.W. 962; J. Mills, P.M. 1390, P.P.G.S.D.; W. Bradley, P.M.; W. Carlyle, P.M. 1400, P.P.G. Swd. Br.; R. L. Court, 310; F. Scott, J. Abbott, J.D. 371; M. Bunyan, J.W. 310; M. Compton, 310; Charles Gowan, S.W. 1089; Thomas Milburn, W.M. 371; J. H. Deason, 1532; J. Wood, P.M. 962, P.P.G. Swd. Br.; Charles J. Nanson, 310; and others.

The minutes of the Annual Provincial Grand Lodge held at Egremont, under the banner of Kenlis Lodge, No. 1267, were read and confirmed, and the Treasurer's statement of accounts were passed, showing a balance to the credit of the province.

The ACTING PROV. GRAND MASTER then said there was a duty that devolved upon him to discharge, which he was sure would have the heartfelt sympathy of not only the brethren present, but that of the province, at the irreparable loss her Majesty the Queen, H.R.H. the M.V. the Grand Master, and H.R.H. the Duchess of Albany had sustained by the sad and untimely death of H.R.H. the Duke of Albany, and it was with a sense of duty, affection, and loyalty that he moved that the following addresses be forwarded from that province for their gracious acceptance; also that the province be placed in mourning for a period of six months.

Bros. J. Nicholson, P.P.G.S.W.; Col. F. R. Sewell, Prov. G.S.W.; and P. de E. Collin, P.P.G. Reg., having supported the motion, Bro. G. J. MCKAY, Prov. G. Sec., read the addresses, which were each signed by the Earl of Bective, Prov. G.M., and Bro. Geo. J. McKay, Prov. G. Sec., and were as follows:

"To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty.
"We, the Freemasons of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Cumberland and Westmorland, in open lodge assembled, humbly approach your Majesty with the assurance of our loyal devotion to your Majesty's person and throne. We desire to express our most respectful sympathy with your Majesty in the heavy affliction which has befallen your Majesty, her Royal Highness the Duchess of Albany, and the Royal Family in the untimely death of our lamented brother his Royal Highness the Duke of Albany, K.G., &c. We desire also to express our deep sense of the loss which the nation at large has sustained by the decease of his Royal Highness, and more especially our participation in the regret felt by those interested in the progress of Masonry, of arts, and of science, in which his Royal Highness took so sincere, sustained, and beneficial an interest. We pray that the blessing of the Great Architect of the Universe may rest on your Majesty and the Royal Family at all times, and especially in this season of deep sorrow."

"To his Royal Highness Albert Edward Prince of Wales, K.G., &c., &c., &c., Most Worshipful Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of England.

"We the Freemasons of Cumberland and Westmorland, in Provincial Grand Lodge assembled, ask permission to approach your Royal Highness with our sincere and heartfelt sympathy, at the untimely death of your highly gifted and beloved brother, his Royal Highness Prince Leopold, Duke of Albany, K.G., Past Grand Warden of England. We are deeply conscious of the loss which the nation at large has sustained, and in an especial degree by the brethren of the Masonic Order, of one who had always evinced so earnest a desire to promote every effort that had for its object the benefit of his fellow-men, and whose name will long be held in affectionate remembrance throughout her Majesty's extensive dominions. We humbly pray that the Great Architect of the Universe may alleviate this blow to your Royal Highness and the Royal Family, and to renew our warm expressions of our fidelity and loyalty to your Royal Highness, as head of our Order, and heir apparent of this realm."

"To her Royal Highness the Duchess of Albany.

"May it please your Royal Highness,—We, the Freemasons of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Cumberland and Westmorland, in open lodge assembled, desire to express our fraternal and heartfelt sorrow at the loss of our much lamented brother your late husband, his Royal Highness the Duke of Albany, whose kindly interest conspicuous in all matters tending to promote the welfare and prosperity of our Order, by whom he was so much admired and loved, may, we trust, prove some consolation in the hour of your deep sorrow."

The Committee appointed last autumn to consider a scheme for local education reported that, after due deliberation and in view of the trifling support offered by the lodges of the province, the proposition was found to be untenable, and had resolved itself into a recommendation for each lodge to follow the example of Union Lodge, 129, Kendal, and further the cause of education apart from provincial support.

Several important alterations of the Provincial by-laws were read and passed unanimously, when Bro. WALTERS, P.M. 371, moved as a recommendation to the R.W. Prov. G.M., and Bro. COLLIN, P.M., seconded, that the next meeting of Prov. Grand Lodge be held under the banner of Perseverance Lodge, 371, Maryport. Prov. Grand Lodge was then closed, and the brethren dined at the County Hotel.

PROVINCIAL GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER.

The annual convocation of the above chapter was subsequently held, under the banner of the Union Chapter, No. 310. The Grand Superintendent being absent, M.E. Comp. John Holme, P.Z. 129, presided as Z., supported as follows: Comps. P. de E. Collin, P.Z., P.P.G. Reg., II.; J. Nicholson, P.Z. 371, P.P.G.J., as J.; George J. McKay, P.Z. 129, P.G.S.E.; W. Sandwith, P.Z. 119, P.G.S.N.; A. Walters, Z. 371, P.G.A.S.; Colonel F. R. Sewell, P.P.G. Reg.; W. Court, P.Z. 310, P.P.G. Swd. Br.; George Dalrymple, P.Z. 119, P.P.G. Swd. Br.; James Gardiner, P.Z. 327, P.P.G. Reg.; Ed. Tyson, P.Z. 119, P.P.G.D.C.; Thomas Atkinson, P.Z., P.P.G.A.S.; W. B. Cowman, S.N. 119; F. Hodgson, H. 119; J. Mills, 119; W. Bradley, 371; George Murchie, S.E. 310; Charles J. Nanson, J. Abbott, 371; H. Court, S.N. 310; W. Bewley, P.S. 310; Edward Clarke, Z. 119, P.G. Swd.; J. Wood, 119; Charles Gowan, 119; R. L. Court, 310; J. Copeland, S.N. 129; W. Carlyle, 119; M. Compton, 127; and others.

The minutes of the former convocation were read and confirmed and the Treasurer's statement of accounts passed, which showed the province was in a good financial state. The Acting Prov. Grand Master then appointed the following companions as his officers for the ensuing year: Comp. John Barr, P.Z. 119 ... Prov. G.H.
" Wm. Sandwith, P.Z. 119 ... Prov. G.J.
" Geo. J. McKay, P.Z. 129 (re-appointed) ... Prov. G.S.E.
" Col. F. R. Sewell, 371 ... Prov. G.S.N.
" W. Tattersall, 371 ... Prov. G.P.S.
" J. R. Barron, 371 ... Prov. G. 1st A.S.
" Edward Clarke, Z. 119 ... Prov. G. 2nd A.S.
" R. J. Nelson, 129 (re-elected) ... Prov. G. Treas.
" J. F. Kirkconel, 119 ... Prov. G. Reg.
" W. B. Cowman, S.N. 119 ... Prov. G. Swd. Br.
" J. Wood, 119 ... Prov. G. Std. Br.
" Tom Dixon, 119 ... Prov. G.D.C.
" J. J. Coverdale ... Prov. G. Org.
" J. Lowthain, 310 (elected) ... Prov. G. Janitor.
Comp. Fletcher Hodgson, H. 119; H. } Prov. G. Stwds.
" Court, 310; J. H. Hogg, 129 ... }

The PROV. GRAND S.E. afterwards intimated that he had some difficulty to learn from the annual returns made from a few of the chapters as to who were holding office, and it was desirable that the S.Es. should fill up the forms as complete as possible.

Similar votes of condolence were passed as in Prov. Grand Craft Lodge, to her Majesty, and her Royal Highness the Duchess of Albany.

There being nothing further the Provincial Grand Chapter was closed in form with prayer.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF EAST LANCASHIRE.

The annual meeting was held on the 1st instant, at the Town Hall, Rochdale. Excellent arrangements had been made for the gathering by the brethren belonging to the lodges in the town, and the attendance, though the weather was most unfavourable, was very good, there being between 300 and 400 brethren present. Provincial Grand Lodge was opened about one o'clock by the Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Col. Le Gendre N. Starkie, who was accompanied by his Deputy, Bro. George Mellor, and a large body of past and present officers of the province, together with representatives of Grand Lodge and the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and the Prov. Grand Lodges of West Lancashire, West Yorkshire, Cheshire, Derbyshire, and Berks and Bucks. In consequence of the recent death of the Duke of Albany the brethren appeared in mourning.

The Prov. Grand Secretary, Bro. J. CHADWICK, called over the roll of lodges, when it appeared that of the 93 lodges in the province only two, and those situated in distant parts of Lancashire, were unrepresented.

The Prov. Grand Treasurer, Bro. J. RIGBY, presented the balance-sheet, which showed that at the commence-

ment of the financial year there was a balance in the bank of £261, contributions from lodges during the year amounted to £430, and various other receipts brought up the total to £691. The expenditure side of the account showed that a donation of £262 10s. had been made to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and two donations of £50 and £51 respectively to the East Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution, and that after the payment of grants of benevolence and the necessary expenses of the province there remained a balance in the bank of £79. The accounts were passed, and the thanks of the province were, upon the motion of the Prov. Grand Master, accorded to the Treasurer.

For the office of Prov. Grand Treasurer for the ensuing year two candidates were proposed, viz., Bro. J. Oakden, 298, and J. Leech, 300. Upon a show of hands the numbers appeared so evenly divided that a division was taken, and the votes were returned as follows: Oakden, 134; Leech, 119. It was then intimated that by inadvertence several votes had been counted twice, and a second division was taken, when the numbers recorded were 127 for each candidate. The Prov. Grand Master gave a casting vote in favour of Bro. Leech, who was declared elected amid much applause.

The Provincial Grand Officers for the ensuing year were invested as follows:

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Bro. George Mellor (reappointed) ... | Dep. Prov. G.M. |
| " James Maclaren, 62 ... | Prov. G.S.W. |
| " J. H. Sillitoe, 645 ... | Prov. G.J.W. |
| " Rev. W. R. Clayton, 191 ... | Prov. G. Chap. |
| " Rev. E. Parker ... | Prov. G. Asst. C. |
| " J. Leech ... | Prov. G. Treas. |
| " J. Chadwick (re-elected) ... | Prov. G. Sec. |
| " J. T. Worth, 367 ... | Prov. G. Reg. |
| " A. W. Siddall, 268 ... | Prov. G.S.D. |
| " J. T. Newbold, 1012 ... | } Prov. G.J.Ds. |
| " T. H. Glendinning, 1055 ... | |
| " J. Morris, 146 ... | Prov. G.S. of W. |
| " John Roberts, 204 ... | Prov. G.D.C. |
| " H. Grundy, 42 ... | Prov. G.D.D.C. |
| " J. W. Abbott, 1030 ... | Prov. G.A.D.C. |
| " B. Collins, 54 ... | Prov. G. Swd.Br. |
| " R. Pilkington, 1392 ... | } Prov. G. Std. Brs. |
| " J. Andrew, 1219 ... | |
| " S. Myerscough, 298 ... | Prov. G. Org. |
| " R. Ashworth, 286 ... | Prov. G. Purst. |
| " W. Davies, 54 ... | Prov. G.A.P. |
| Bros. J. Dearden, J. Wilkinson, and T. Livesey ... | Prov. G. Stwds. |

The R.W.P.G.M., re-investing Bro. John Chadwick as Prov. Grand Secretary, took occasion to speak in terms of high praise of the admirable and satisfactory manner in which he had performed the laborious and important duties appertaining to his office. Col. Starkie proceeded to say that he had no doubt Bro. Chadwick's services had been thoroughly appreciated by the brethren belonging to the numerous lodges in the province as they were by him (Col. Starkie), and to mark his appreciation of them and the confidence he reposed in the P.G. Sec., he felt great pleasure in presenting him with a gold jewel, which he (the colonel) had purchased at his own expense.

This act of generosity was received with loud applause by the brethren, and Bro. Chadwick acknowledged the compliment in appropriate terms.

The office of Prov. G.S.D. was conferred upon Bro. Lieut.-Col. Sowler, who was, owing to important duties, unavoidably absent, and upon the Prov. Grand Secretary announcing that a letter of apology had been received from Bro. Sowler, the R.W. Prov. Grand Master decided that the office remain vacant, and the brother who had fulfilled the duties thereof during the past year should continue doing so during the ensuing 12 months.

The Prov. Grand Secretary presented his report on the condition of the Order in East Lancashire, which showed that there were 3536 subscribing members in the province, as against 3625 last year. The report was adopted, as was also the report of the Charity Committee.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER then moved that an address of condolence with the Queen and the Duchess of Albany on the loss they have sustained by the death of the Duke of Albany be forwarded in the name of the Freemasons of East Lancashire. He said that in the death of H.R.H. England had lost a bright and noble Prince who had by his life and conduct centred within himself the affection of all classes of society. He was endeared to them as Freemasons, by his love for the Order, and esteemed by them as an ornament to Freemasonry.

The motion was agreed to.

It was resolved on the motion of Bro. C. R. N. BESWICK-ROYDS, P.P.G.S.W., that the sum of £50 be contributed from the Prov. Grand Lodge Fund in aid of the East Lancashire Systematic Masonic Educational and Benevolent Institution. The motion was seconded and carried, and after some other formal business had been transacted, Provincial Grand Lodge was closed.

A procession was then formed, and the brethren attended service at the parish church, at which a sermon was preached by the Prov. Grand Chaplain, and an offertory taken on behalf of the Masonic Charities. Subsequently there was a banquet at the Town Hall, Col. Starkie presiding.

PROVINCIAL GRAND MARK LODGE OF WEST YORKSHIRE.

The half-yearly meeting of this body was held at Sheffield on the 23rd ult., under the banner of the Britannia Lodge, No. 52, when there was a very good muster from the Province. The Britannia Lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. Unwin, P.G.S.W., and his officers at 4.15 p.m., and at 4.30 the R.W. Prov. G.M.M.M., Bro. C. L. Mason, accompanied by his Deputy, Bro. the Rev. W. C. Lukis and other officers, entered the room, when the Provincial Grand Lodge was duly opened and the usual salutations given.

The R.W. PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER thanked the brethren for their kind salutations and hearty reception, and having referred to the adhesion of the Prince of Wales to the Mark Degree, and the creation of H.R.H. to the rank of Past Grand Master, then spoke of the loss the Order had sustained in the death of the Duke of Albany. He (the Provincial Grand Master) believed their lamented brother took a great interest in Freemasonry, and had his life been spared he would have raised the prestige of the Craft still higher; but upon this they must not dwell; might they say with all reverence and respect, "Requiescat in pace," "till the day dawn and the shadows flee away." He should ask

them later to pass a vote of condolence to Her Majesty the Queen and also to the widowed Duchess. After a passing reference to the origin of the Mark Degree, and its connection with the Royal Arch in Scotland, the Prov. Grand Master proceeded to speak of the position of Mark Masonry under the English Constitution as follows: The present Grand Mark Lodge was formed in June, 1856, and comprises several lodges which have worked the Degree for about a century. Its growth, at first slow, has of late rapidly increased, and there are now between 300 and 400 Lodges working under the English Constitution. At the same time, I am sorry to say that there has not been very great increase in our own Province, but rather, may I say, a backward tendency. We have on our roll in West Yorkshire nominally eight lodges: two working under warrants of confirmation time immemorial, viz., No. 14, Prince Edward, Eastwood, warrant of confirmation dated 28th May, 1862; T.I., Old York, Bradford, warrant of confirmation dated 8th November, 1873; and six other lodges, viz., Nos. 53, Britannia, Sheffield, warrant dated 21st January, 1861; 58, Fearnley, Halifax, 13th October, 1862; 110, Integrity, Wakefield, 11th March, 1870; 111, Copley, Leeds, 20th June, 1870; 127, Portal, Dewsbury, 25th January 1871; 137, Truth, Huddersfield, 9th August, 1871. So that during the last thirteen years we have had no increase in the number of lodges. At the present time the Prince Edward Lodge has 22 members and 22 P.Ms., Wardens, and Overseers; Britannia, 94 members and 14 P.Ms., Wardens, and Overseers; Fearnley, 37 members, 20 P.Ms., Wardens, and Overseers; Integrity, no return; Copley, 45 members, and 15 P.Ms., Wardens, and Overseers; Portal, no return; Truth, 23 members, and 14 P.Ms., Wardens, and Overseers; Old York, 59 members, and 16 P.Ms., Wardens, and Overseers. Now, although nominally we have eight lodges on the roll, practically we have only six lodges; and from the balance-sheet attached to the summons convening this meeting we find two of these had no additions last year to their number. Brethren, why this apathy? Is the degree worth nothing? Has it no symbolical teaching? I know there is in Freemasonry, like everything else, a time of ebbing and one of flowing. Trade is bad, and it is said Masonry is a luxury, and the higher degrees greater luxuries, so that we must deny ourselves, and wait for brighter and more prosperous days. There are others who ignore the degree altogether; but these I will dismiss without a word. Masonry is a science, and the several degrees are successive steps: "She does not unfold her mysteries to all who seek her shrine." It hath been said of our Degree, "It assists in strengthening the social affections, it teaches us the duty we owe to our Brethren in particular, and the whole family of mankind in general, by ascribing praise to the meritorious and dispensing rewards to the diligent and industrious." May I ask, and ask not in vain, for the kind co-operation of the brethren in resuscitating the dormant lodges in this province, either by rekindling new life into their dying energies, or by the transfer of their warrants to districts where the degree is more understood and appreciated, so that when my term of office shall expire I may hand over to my successor a roll of active lodges, worked by zealous and loyal Mark Master Masons. Having thanked the brethren of the Britannia Lodge for their kindness in making the preparation for and hearty welcome of Provincial Grand Mark Lodge that day, the Prov. Grand Master called attention to the last anathema that had been hurled against them as Freemasons. They were told that "Freemasonry, which is ever assuming more terrible proportions, aims at the ruin of the throne, the altar, and of the public welfare." The classification of Freemasonry, socialism, and communism under one category, and the declaration that their common object is the subversion of all civil society and the destruction of religion, was as far as regards Freemasonry such an utter disregard for all truth, that the language used in the encyclical about to be issued seemed incredible. They, as Freemasons, knew better than that. Did the teaching of "the correction of irregularities and the subjugation of our passions" lead to the dishonour of God, the sovereign, or the welfare of society? Those charges had been made before, and they would be made again. Resting assured in the dignity and grandeur of their Order, and firm in conscious rectitude, let them quietly pursue their course, unimpeded by such attacks, so that they might be enabled in all truth to say, "Have we mark'd well, Great Overseer, A work to last beyond our time? Each his allotted task fulfilled? The glory and the praise be Thine." The Prov. Grand Master then again very feelingly spoke of the great loss which the Order had sustained by the sudden death of H.R.H. the Duke of Albany, M.W. Past G.M.M.M., and moved that the condolence of the Provincial Grand Lodge be forwarded to Her Majesty the Queen and also to H.R.H. the Duchess of Albany, and that the same be entered on the minutes.

This was forcibly seconded by the W. Deputy Provincial Grand Master, supported by other brethren, and carried unanimously. The following are copies of the votes:

"To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty."

"We, the Mark Master Masons of West Yorkshire, in Provincial Grand Lodge assembled, respectfully approach your Majesty desiring to express the very profound grief we feel at the loss your Majesty has sustained by the sudden and unexpected removal from amongst us, by the inscrutable will of the Great Overseer of the Universe, of your Majesty's illustrious son, H.R.H. Prince Leopold, Duke of Albany, K.G. We remember with gratitude the great interest H.R.H. the Duke of Albany manifested in the prosperity of the Order to which we belong; and regret that he has enjoyed for so short a period the high and distinguished office he held as Most Worshipful Past Grand Mark Master Mason of England and Wales, the Colonies and Dependencies of your Majesty's Dominions. In expressing our condolence, we fervently pray that the Great Overseer of the Universe may endue your Majesty with fortitude to support the heavy trial which has so suddenly overtaken you: and that He may vouchsafe to you a continuance of that health and strength which conduce to the happiness and welfare of all your Majesty's most devoted and faithful subjects."

"To Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Albany."

"We, the Mark Master Masons of West Yorkshire, in Provincial Grand Lodge assembled, respectfully approach your Royal Highness with an expression of our sincere sympathy with you in the irreparable loss your Royal Highness has sustained by the untimely death of your beloved husband, our deeply lamented Most Worshipful Past Grand Mark Master Mason, H.R.H. the Duke of Albany, K.G. We remember with pleasure that his

Royal Highness was the first of the Royal Princes who joined our Order, and the great interest he at all times manifested in its welfare. In offering our condolence, we trust that it will please the Great Overseer of the Universe to support and comfort your Royal Highness in this your sad bereavement."

The addresses were signed on behalf of the Prov. Grand Lodge by the Prov. Grand Master.

Bro. Monckman, P.P.G.W., on behalf of the Old York Lodge, T.I., having invited the R.W. Prov. G.M.M.M. to hold the annual meeting at Bradford, in October next, the Prov. Grand Lodge was duly closed, and the brethren spent an exceedingly pleasant evening together, until the time arrived for the various trains to take them to their respective homes.

CONSECRATION OF THE BROOKE LODGE, No. 2005, CHINGFORD.

The consecration of the Brooke Lodge took place at the Forest Hotel, Chingford, on Tuesday last, when Lord Brooke, the Prov. Grand Master for Essex was announced as the consecrating officer, and Bro. Frederick A. Philbrick, the Dep. Prov. Grand Master, as the installing officer. Unfortunately the exigencies of his parliamentary duties prevented Lord Brooke being present, and under the circumstances the whole of the presidential duty of inaugurating the new lodge fell upon the Dep. Prov. Grand Master, who however was, as might be expected of him, fully equal to the occasion, and performed the entire ceremony in a most perfect manner, assisted by Bros. Richard Clowes, as S.W.; W. Sowman, as J.W.; Rev. C. H. Roberts, as Chap.; Thomas J. Dalling, as S.D.; J. J. Cavile, as J.D.; A. Lucking, as D.C.; and J. W. Hair, P.P.G. Reg., as Tyler. The musical arrangements were under the direction of Bro. Carl Reichelmann, assisted by Bros. E. J. Bell, Charles Beckett, James Brown, and A. L. Fryer.

During the ceremony the acting Chaplain, the Rev. C. H. ROBERTS, delivered an oration, in which he said that there seemed but little doubt that an oration on the principles of Freemasonry formed an important item in the ceremony of the consecration of a new lodge. Perhaps at no period of its existence had the Order been of greater prominence than it was now, not only from the fact of the exalted social position of their M.W.G.M., but by the unerring proof of its reality shown in the increase of the numbers of our lodges and members, and the support given by them to our most excellent Charitable Institutions. We must not forget, however, that Freemasonry was attracting the attention of the whole world, and disparaging remarks were made against it which, even if true of any foreign ritual, could not with truth be urged against English Freemasonry. There might be many brethren who would consider the knowledge in their own heart that the calumnies were false was sufficient, and that might be so in one sense, but not in another; sufficient because Masons were independent of external judgment, but not sufficient unless Masons learned how the surmise originated, and were willing to be taught a lesson thereby. Brethren must not forget the reverence they owe to the Most High, and must always remember that our lodges are dedicated to Him. There could not be too much caution exercised in encompassing this object. In a new lodge extra precautions were necessary, as many were ready to rush into a new lodge so as to obtain rapid promotion. He urged them to learn its particular lesson from each article of the lodge furniture, and that the sacred writings be taken as a guide to our faith. Ever remember, said the rev. brother, the five points of friendship in deed as well as in word. Let us ensure pious behaviour in lodge, nor let there be any contradiction thereto by the conduct outside its walls. Thus, brethren, we shall promote the true welfare of our Order, then will the Most High bless us in our work; our secret arts and hidden mysteries will be more precious to us, and our more careful lives may show the world we are controlled by a Supreme Being, to whom one day we must render an account. Let us go on with boldness to benefit one another and thus enrich ourselves, and may the world know thus much of our mysteries that a Freemason is a good man because a God-fearing one; that a Mason is one to whom the burdened heart may pour forth its sorrows, to whom the distressed may prefer their suit; whose hand is guided by justice, and whose heart is expanded by benevolence. Freemasonry will thus be a blessing to its members, an ornament to the world, and an honour to its first great founder.

Having concluded the consecration ceremony, Bro. Philbrick installed the Master designate, Bro. Wm. Herbage, first Master of the Brooke Lodge, and concluded by delivering the customary addresses to the Master, the Wardens, and members of the lodge. Bro. Herbage then invested his officers as follows: Bros. J. R. Johnson, S.W.; J. Saddler Wood, J.W.; Jos. Clever, P.M. 171, Treas., and I.P.M.; A. Simner, Sec.; Charles F. Pardon, S.D.; G. H. Finch, J.D.; Henry Perrett, I.G.; Van Essen, M.C.; J. Langton, W.S.; and W. Williams, A.W.S.

After the banquet which followed the inauguration of the lodge the W.M., Bro. HERBAGE, in proposing the first toast made a feeling reference to the death of the Duke of Albany, and expressed the wish that the Queen might return from the Continent in renewed health to reign over us for many years to come, and to continue to be Patroness of the Craft. "The M.W. the Grand Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," met with a hearty reception, and the W.M. in proposing the next toast said: Brethren, I have another toast to propose which I am sure will be received with enthusiasm by you; it is "The Right Worshipful Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Carnarvon; the Deputy G.M., the Earl of Lathom; and the rest of the Grand Officers Present and Past." I am sure of this, that all of us who have the privilege of going to Grand Lodge can testify most heartily to the zeal and ability with which they do their duty and set an example to the officers of the Craft. I will not expatiate on their merits, but ask you at once to drink to their health, for I can say with confidence that they "came of a gentle, kind, and noble stock."

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER: Brethren, I have now a toast to propose that I am sure must be called the toast of the evening—"The R.W. Prov. Grand Master, the Right Hon. Lord Brooke, M.P.; and the Dep. Prov. Grand Master, Frederick A. Philbrick, Q.C., and the rest of the Prov. Grand Officers Present and Past." I feel that in the first place we are very much indebted to his lordship for allowing us to assume his name as the title of our lodge and also to use his arms, and the kindness that we have

received from his lordship by his consenting and intending to be present at the consecration to-day. But from unavoidable circumstances he has been unable to attend, and our Bro. Philbrick will more fully I have no doubt explain the reasons that have prevented his lordship being present with us this evening as he intended to be and, even up to the last moment, hoped to be. We know that his lordship, since his installation by the late lamented Duke of Albany, has endeared himself to the Craft and to the brethren of this province, and we feel that his lordship, in undertaking as he has done the presidency of the Girls' School Festival next month, has evinced a desire to promote the good of the Craft. As to Bro. Philbrick, you have all seen the way in which the Dep. Prov. Grand Master has performed the ceremonies of consecration and installation. We feel very happy that we have such a Deputy. It is most essential, because the urgency of business might prevent anyone attending to such duties. We feel most deeply indebted to him for the way in which he has done the work. As regards our coming into the province, I would say that we are especially indebted to the recommending lodge—that is the Chigwell Lodge—and I would point out the brotherly kindness we have received from that lodge. We are specially indebted to the I.P.M., Bro. Child, and Bro. G. Corble, the Secretary of the lodge, for the way in which these brethren have held out the hand of friendship to us. We feel especially indebted to Bro. Corble for his great kindness to us on this occasion. I would now refer to our Bro. Philbrick. His services to-day will be treasured in the memory of all of us, and the efficient way, the able way, in which those ceremonies were worked, the impressive way in which the discourses were delivered, have made an impression on our minds that time will not efface. As to his other qualities, I am sure you must know them well, because his name is a household word in Freemasonry, and his attainments in the profession he adorns command our most sincere respect. If I might be allowed a quotation, I would say that of our Prov. Grand Master—

"Our hearts

Of brother's temper do receive you in,
With all kind love, good thoughts and reverence."

Of Bro. Philbrick I might say—

"'Tis much he dares;
And to that dauntless temper of his mind,
He hath a wisdom that doth guide his valour
To act in safety."

I ask you to drink to the health of Lord Brooke, and his Deputy, Bro. Philbrick.

Bro. PHILBRICK: Worshipful Master, Wardens, and Brethren: I feel more than I ever felt in rising in an Essex lodge in an embarrassed position, primarily owing to the unexpected nature of the position I find myself in, and also owing to the great kindness which you have expressed, Worshipful Master, but which I feel that I have received from the brethren of the Brooke Lodge and the visitors. Until a comparatively short time since—some time after noon had struck to-day—I was under the happy idea that the programme which you had intended should be carried out, and had announced, would be able to be carried out in the presence of our respected and beloved Provincial Grand Master, and I know it is a severe disappointment to him not to be present among us to-night. At I think about a quarter to one, or some such time to-day, while I was before the Railway Commissioners, in the House of Lords, a note was put into my hands by his lordship's private secretary, stating that he was placed in an awkward predicament by the Government having announced a morning sitting to discuss the Cattle Bill, and as his constituents were much annoyed at his absence from the discussion on a former occasion, he would be obliged to be in his place. The note also enclosed a four-line party whip, which necessitated his presence in the House that evening. He would do his utmost to be with the lodge, but would wire from the House to say how matters were going, and he thought they were sure to divide before the dinner hour. That was in substance very much what I said in the lodge room, and I had to rely on the kindness of the brethren when I presumed to do that ceremony which unexpectedly I had to do. Since coming to table I have had a telegram dated from the House of Commons at 6.15, "Cattle Bill still under discussion and division going on, still hope to be able to be with you." We see at once that the force of circumstances has been too strong and have prevented his coming. In the first place I regret it, because we do not see the face of one we esteem. I regret it very much upon account of myself, because one never does more than one can help. I am sure of this, we all should have been delighted to welcome his lordship among us; we all expected and we all miss the geniality and the kind welcome with which he always greets his Essex brethren. I think we all know how sincerely he is vexed at having to disappoint us, and I hope we are magnanimous enough to make the proper excuses for his absence, because the loss is our own; and we shall best evince our sincere loyalty towards him by considering that it is a matter in which he is as deeply interested as ourselves; and I know that nothing would have given him greater pleasure than to have consecrated the lodge bearing his name and using his arms. Perhaps I may be pardoned for saying one word more of Lord Brooke, and I can assure you that since he has been in the position of Prov. Grand Master, not alone have we had the happiness in Essex of seeing three lodges added to the roll, but lodges which are sources of strength as we believe to the Order. Last but not least the child brought to light to-day has within it elements of strength and vitality, and appears to carry out the principles on which Masonry is founded, and for which this lodge received the warrant of the Grand Master. The increase to the roll of lodges is comparatively a small thing; we can get numbers at the cost of strength, but strength does not always mean efficiency. In this case I am glad to believe it does, from a conversation I had with our Prov. Grand Master, and if he were here he would express the same idea—we have here in this lodge, as we have had in the recently erected lodges of the province, great hopes of success for the future. There are some brethren who hear me who can remember the time when the position which Freemasonry took was far different from that which it holds at present. Your Worshipful Master has feelingly referred to the growth of Freemasonry by the Grand Master taking the throne of the Order at the time when our then Grand Master, from motives which we all understand, but cannot sympathise with, retired from the position. It was an answer to that bigotry which excluded him from the throne of our Order when the heir to the greatest throne in the

world thought it well to take the throne thus vacated, and it was noble for our brethren to rally round and support the Prince of Wales when he became Grand Master of Freemasons. When any one applies to me and says, "What is the use of Freemasonry? Are your secrets real secrets?" You meet for that purpose, and play at some pretended mystery or for some good fellowship which others can equally enjoy who do not profess the mystic tie, I think we can point to many whose lives and persons are honoured; but we can point to the Heir Apparent to the throne as being the chief and exponent of the principles we profess, and therefore I think it is a proud position in this province for its Provincial Grand Master, and still a happier one for us subordinate officers, to assist in the consecration of a lodge like this, and in the putting into full Masonic career those whom the Grand Master has entrusted with the working of the lodge. We have heard the long list of those seeking to be initiated and to join the lodge, and in the list there is a record of names of which any lodge might be proud; and we know that on the principles in which this lodge is started the position of Masonry will be respected, and those who are recruits will be men whom you are happy to initiate in the principles of the Order, and without which no Mason ought to let a brother come into his lodge. If we had been a little more particular in this respect it would have been better for us, and I hope that I am not exclusive when I say that I will not admit any man to the lodge whom I cannot grasp by the hand, and I should be sorry to see a member of my lodge whom I should not like to see in my private house. And now I have said enough on this matter, because I know it is a topic on which the W.M. feels as keenly as I do, and as do those who with him have the distinguished honour of being founders of this lodge, and I see that the Brooke Lodge will be second to none in the province in carrying out faithfully and zealously the great principles of brotherly love, relief, and truth on which the Order depends. Let me assure you that in what I have done it was a labour of love to do anything I could to assist in the formation of the lodge. I have had the pleasure of knowing your W.M. for some time. I was glad, when I saw the petition acceded to by the Grand Master, to know who had been named as the first Master; and I feel sure that as a character takes its keynote from its first start in life, so the reputation of the Brooke Lodge in its character has taken its keynote from the character of its Master, and that its concerns will be so started and so guided into the good path of Masonry that those who have to administer its affairs will find that its founders have started it on a good career, and will make the lodge a permanent success. Let me thank you very much for the expressions of kindness you have made for the services I have had the privilege to render. We do not christen a baby every day; but when we do we like to see an offspring that bids fair to achieve its full proportions and starts in life with a vigorous crew, and under such guidance as its miniature years will require and which will ensure its being properly brought up in the paths of nature and science. Nay, I will not limit you to the Second Degree—I will say being brought up to the full stature of a man, Masonically speaking. For the Grand Officers I can only say as their representative, we bid you in God's name a hearty welcome; we entreat you to stand firm to the great principles of our Order; we entreat you to remember the grand ritual of to-day. It is a matter which can be carried to a serious end, and permit me to say an end well worthy the ambition of the proudest man among us; it is a matter which is a legitimate cause of pride to its founders if that lodge be true to the principles of the Order. That this lodge may be so is our earnest prayer, and that the success you desire to achieve is our sincere desire. I thank you most heartily.

Bro. PHILBRICK proposed the next toast, "The W.M.," the work the W.M. had done that evening would satisfy them that he would carry out his work with satisfaction to himself and to the lodge. Nothing could be more genial and pleasant than the way in which he had presided on this occasion, and he asked them to drink his health and wish him a pleasant Masonic career. He had one word to say on another topic. Their good Prov. Grand Master was going up to take the chair at the Festival of the Girls' School, and he (Bro. Philbrick) trusted that as a province they would support him, to testify their respect for the head of the province and also to promote the great cause of charity.

Bro. HERBAGE said he felt at a loss for words with which to express what he felt. The hearty way in which his health had been proposed called for a corresponding effort to maintain the dignity of the lodge and in everything to maintain the dignity of the Craft. They would all endeavour to make that, the Brooke Lodge, a strength to the province of Essex and to the Craft in general. The members had already thought that it would be a right thing to do to send one of their members to represent the lodge at the Girls' Festival. He knew that much was not expected from a young lodge, and he himself would have much pleasure in representing the lodge on that occasion. He thanked them all for their kind wishes; he felt that he was in accord with the brethren, and looking round upon the present members of the lodge and that illustrious assembly he would say he thanked them sincerely; and conclude by quoting from Henry V.—

"We carry not a heart with us from hence
That grows not but in fair consent with ours,
Nor leave not one behind that doth not wish
Success and conquest to attend upon us."

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER next proposed "The Health of the Visitors," coupling with it the names of Bros. Glass and Martin, quoting the lines—

"These unknown friends to 's welcome; for it is
The way to make us better friends, more known."

This toast having been replied to by Bro. GLASS in a really humorous speech, and by Bro. MARTIN, the WORSHIPFUL MASTER proposed "The Health of the Officers," with the lines—

"Their years but young, but their experience great,
Their heads unmelting, but their judgment ripe;
And in a word (for far behind their worth
Comes all the praise I now bestow)
They are complete in feature as in mind
With all good grace to grace a gentleman."

This was replied to by the S.W. and J.W., and the Tyler's toast terminated the proceedings.

The following were among the visitors present: Bros. F. Dowell Grayson, W.M. 100; G. Dodd, W.M. 1086; W. D. Merritt, I.P.M. 1000, Prov. G.A.D.C.; Jno. Glass, W.M. 453; Geo. Corble, P.M. 453, P.P.G.J.W.; Jno.

Belcham, P.P.G. Purst.; Fred Crockford, P.M. 815; J. J. Kern, P.M. 1139; J. W. Langton, 1139; J. R. Wakefield, 1601; A. J. Desire, 453; H. T. Gibley, 453; A. Buck, P.P.G.S.W.; J. G. Cavile, Prov. G.J.D.; Jno. Corble, J.W. 453; Jas. Godwin, P.P.G.A.D.C.; J. A. Brown, 1072; E. J. Bell, 1319; A. L. Fryer, 1624; C. G. Critchey, 1685; C. Reichelmann, P.M. 515; T. J. C. Cramphorn, W.M. 1024; J. Van Essen, D.C. 171; Horace Roberts, D.D., Prov. G. Chap.; C. Osmond, W.M. 51; H. Hobson Finch, 134; W. Williams, 90; C. J. G. Eveniss, S.D. 1540; J. Laidlaw Cross, P.M. 90; Smith, I.P.M. 1839; R. Clowes, W. Sowman, Chas. H. Roberts, Andrew Durrant, Thos. J. Dulling, P.M. 51; A. Lucking, J. W. Hair, P.P.G. Reg.; and E. C. Massey. The lodge was furnished by Bro. George Kenning.

CONSECRATION OF THE ST. GEORGE'S LODGE, No. 2025, PLYMOUTH.

This lodge, the intention of whose founders is that it shall be conducted on strictly temperance principles,—a movement we understand which has met with considerable favour in the "Three Towns," and indeed in the province generally,—was duly consecrated with considerable eclat by the R.W. the Grand Master of the province, Bro. Lord Ebrington, M.P., on the 23rd ult., in the presence of a very large gathering of representatives of our ancient Order, at the St. George's Hall, Stonehouse, which building had been engaged under the impression that the company would be such as to be far beyond the capabilities of accommodation of any of the existing lodges in Plymouth, and the result fully justified this precaution. All the arrangements preliminary to the day of meeting were admirably carried out by the W.M. designate, Bro. G. R. Barrett; the Secretary, Bro. J. Gifford, and others who have interested themselves in the work. The lodge-room and its approaches were decorated with great taste, R.W. Bro. the Earl of Mount Edgcombe, Prov. G.M. Cornwall; W. Bro. L. P. Metham, P.D. Prov. G.M., and other brethren having placed their conservatories at the disposal of the committee in order that there might be no lack of judicious decoration and ornamentation. The new lodge had the advantage of being started into existence with an unusually large number of members, and these were considerably added to during the day's proceedings.

By the time appointed for the commencement of the ceremony, the large hall was well filled by brethren from all parts of the province and several visitors. The Prov. Grand Master presided, his lordship being supported by R.W. Bro. the Earl of Mount Edgcombe, Prov. G.M. Cornwall, who acted as D.P.G.M.; W. Bros. the Rev. W. Whittle, P.M. 156, P.P.G. Chap. and Prov. G.S.W.; G. W. Davie, P.M. 251, P.P.G.J.W.; the Rev. T. W. Lemon, P.M. 189, P.P.G. Chap., who acted as Prov. G. Chap. *pro tem.*; and John Brewer, P.M. 251, Prov. G. Sec. Our space is too limited to name all the brethren who signed the attendance book, but amongst those present we noticed the following Present and Past Prov. Grand Officers: Bros. J. E. Curteis, P.M. 189, P.P.G.S.W.; H. Luff, P.M. 376, P.P.G.S. of W. Suffolk; E. T. Fulford, P.M. 1254, Prov. G.T.; T. S. Bayly, P.M. 189, P.P.G.T.; Leonard D. Westcott, P.M. 70, P.P.G.S. of W.; C. H. Cooper, P.M. 105, Prov. G.J.D.; J. W. Cornish, P.P.G.T.; A. Brickwood Hutchings, Mayor of Devonport, P.M. 803, P.G.D.C.; E. J. Knight, P.M. 202, P.P.G. Purst.; J. D. Barker, W.M. 70, P.P.G. Org.; W. H. Gilman, P.M. 1099, P.P.G.D.C.; H. F. Willey, 1284, P.G.S.D.; R. H. Rae, P.M. 189, P.P.G.S.D.; S. Jew, P.M. 105, P.P.G.T.; H. Cole, P.M. 1091, P.P.G.S.D.; D. Box, P.M. 156, P.G.R.; J. Du Pre, P.M. 70, P.P.G.D.C.; E. Aitken-Davies, P.M. 1099, P.P.G.S. of W.; H. F. Smith, P.M. 954, P.P.G.S. of W.; G. Merrifield, P.P.G.S. of W.; J. Hele, Mus. Bac., P.P.G.O. Cornwall; J. W. Murray, P.M. 1402, P.P.G.D.C.; G. Whittle, I.P.M. 156, Sec. 1855, P.P.G.O.; W. B. Maye, P.M. 710, P.G.D.C.; Josiah Austin, P.M. 1099, P.P.G.O.; J. P. Heath, P.M. 39, D.P.G.D.C.; J. S. Swann, P.M. 847, P.G.S.B.; E. G. Dyke, P.M. 1247, P.P.G.O. Cornwall; J. Lynn, P.M. 230, P.P.G.S.B.; F. Hooper, P.M. 1212, P.P.G.D.C.; J. R. Lord, P.M. 1247, P.P.G.S.B.; J. Rendle, P.M. 1247, P.P.G.S.B.; J. M. Hiffley, P.M. 223, P.P.G.A.D.C.; J. B. Gover, P.M. 70, P.P.G.A.D.C.; J. H. Westlake, P.M. 666, P.P.G. Purst.; R. Cawsey, P.M. 230, Prov. G.S.; T. Parkhouse, P.M. 1125, Prov. G.A.D.C.; G. Huxham, P.M. 1254, Prov. G. Stvd.; P. L. Blanchard, 444, Prov. G. Tyler; and others. Bro. P. Howard Davis, J.W. Wolsley Lodge, 1993, Manchester, which was established last year on temperance principles, was present among the visitors.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER said he was sure it would be their wish and their pleasure to give precedence to the motion of which he had given notice, although it did not appear in the original agenda paper. That motion was to the effect that the Provincial Grand Lodge should pass votes of condolence with her Majesty the Queen and the Duchess of Albany on the death of H.R.H. the late Prince Leopold, Grand Master of Oxfordshire. A fraternity which prided itself as much on its loyalty as on its antiquity was not likely to be behind the rest of the people of England in expressing that feeling for the Royal Family, whether in weal or woe, which had been so gratefully acknowledged by the Queen in her recent beautiful letter, in which her Majesty mentioned how much the sympathy of her people had comforted the Duchess of Albany and herself in their terrible bereavement.

The Earl of MOUNT EDGCOMBE, Prov. G.M. Cornwall, seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously, and the Prov. Grand Master was requested to draw up the address of condolence.

The warrant authorising the constitution of the lodge having been read, and the usual preliminaries observed, Bro. Croydon, P.M., delivered an oration to the brethren on the subject of Freemasonry, in which he dwelt on the great importance of a strict observance of its rules and the loyal maintenance and upholding of its principles. The anthem "Behold how good and joyful it is for brethren to dwell together in unity" was next sung by the choir to music specially composed for the occasion by W. Bro. John Hele, Mus. Bac., P.P.G. Org. Cornwall, after which the first part of the dedication prayer was offered by the Prov. G. Chap. Then followed the impressive ceremony of consecration with corn, wine, and oil, this being done in turn by the Prov. Grand Master, the acting D.P.G.M., and the Prov. G.S.W. Then followed the second part of the dedication prayer, and the usual forms having been observed by the W.M. and Wardens, the anthem "I have surely built thee an house to dwell in," was sung

sung by the choir, and the Prov. Grand Master declared the lodge duly constituted and dedicated.

Before the Prov. Grand Lodge was closed the P.G.M. said he desired to express his thanks to the R.W. Prov. Grand Master of Cornwall for his presence that day; and for so kindly undertaking to fill the office of D.P.G.M. (Applause.) Their thanks were also due to the brethren who had done so much to decorate the room, as well as to those who had undertaken the musical portions of the ceremony. He hoped they might accept those two things as an augury that the new lodge would be a thoroughly harmonious one, and one whose path would be strewn with flowers. (Applause.)

The Earl of MOUNT EDGUMBE said it was a great pleasure to him to be present on an occasion of so much interest to the Province, and he sincerely trusted that the feeling of harmony which had hitherto existed between the two provinces of Devon and Cornwall would be continued without interruption in the future. (Applause.)

The Provincial Grand Lodge was then closed in due form, and the installation of Bro. G. R. Barrett as the first W.M. was proceeded with by Bro. Croydon, P.M., and at its conclusion Bro. Barrett appointed and invested his officers as follows: Bros. C. Croydon, I.P.M.; J. Lynn, S.W.; E. Aitken-Davies, J.V.; Rev. W. Evans Darby, Chap.; J. Austin, Treas.; James Gifford, Sec.; J. S. Sloggett, S.D.; J. T. Bond, J.D.; J. Griffin, D.C.; C. G. Withell, A.D.C.; A. Brickwood Hutchings, Org.; W. Cann, I.G.; J. R. Plimsaul, S.S.; H. M. Bing, J.S.; F. Crouch, J.S.; and J. Gidley, Tyler.

Before the lodge was closed the newly-elected W.M. briefly addressed the brethren, and expressed a hope that by strict and regular attention to the duties of his position he should justify the honour that had been conferred upon him. He pointed out that the movement which led to the formation and constitution of Lodge St. George had been fully justified by the success which had attended it, and nothing could be more satisfactory than the fact that, following on the lines of the new Wolsley Lodge which was started in Manchester last year, no less than seventy lodges conducted on temperance principles had either been started in different parts of the country, or warrants had been applied for. (Hear, hear.) All this tended to prove that they had done the right thing in striking out this new path in Plymouth, and he looked forward with confidence to the success of Lodge St. George. (Applause.)

Bro. HOWARD DAVIS followed with some remarks in the same direction, and spoke of the great success which had attended the Wolsley Lodge in Manchester.

The lodge was then closed, about 120 of the brethren subsequently meeting at a banquet in the Congregational Hall, Courtenay-street, Plymouth. Bro. G. R. Barrett, the W.M., presided, and apologised for the absence of the Prov. G.M., who had been obliged to leave by train for London. The usual loyal and masonic toasts were proposed from the chair.

Bro. the Rev. W. WHITTELY, P.G.S.W., responded for "The Provincial Grand Officers, past and present, and the Grand Lodge of Devonshire." He congratulated the W.M. on the proud position which he occupied that day, and on the manner in which the ceremony of consecration had been carried out. He congratulated them also on the excellent gathering that he now saw around him, a gathering worthy in every respect of the body to which they belonged. Freemasons had not been considered worthy by some in high quarters, for not very long since they were not only told what they were, but also what they ought to be as Freemasons. (Laughter.) But in spite of all that was said against them, they had the satisfaction of knowing that they were engaged in a great and good work.

The W.M. then read letters from several brethren who were unable to be present at the ceremony. Amongst them was a letter from Bro. General Lord Wolsley, who wrote: "I beg to thank you very much for your letter. I only regret that my official engagements put it out of my power to be present on the occasion, more especially as I see that your new lodge is formed on temperance principles, in which I take the greatest interest, and has been founded on similar principles to those of the lodge which bears my name at Manchester, whose brethren it would give me additional pleasure to meet again." (Applause.) Letters of regret at inability to be present were also read from Bros. Edward Clarke, M.P.; P. Stewart MacIver, M.P.; J. H. Puleston, M.P.; Admiral Glasse; Dr. W. B. Richardson, C.B., F.R.S.; and other brethren.

Bro. HOWARD DAVIS, who with Bro. THOMPSON responded for "The Visitors and the W.M.'s of the Three Towns," referred prominently to the success which had attended the Wolsley lodge in Manchester. So successful, he said, had it been that those who were the first to throw stones at it were also amongst the first to shout victory when victory came. (Laughter.) The movement, he was glad to say, was spreading amongst the Masonic body all over the country, and lodge after lodge was lifting its head and proudly bearing the banner of temperance. (Applause.) In the first twelve months of its existence the Wolsley lodge held no less than twenty-one working meetings. In order to get through the work it became necessary at times to hold, as many as three meetings in a single month, and the W.M. for that year himself admitted thirty-nine brethren. He thought they would admit that was very good work for one man, and he hoped that the success which had attended the Wolsley lodge at Manchester would be fully shared in by the brethren at Plymouth.

"The health of the W.M." was drunk with great cordiality and suitably acknowledged, and the other toasts were "The Consecrating Officers," "The Officers of Lodge St. George," and "The Masonic Charities."

During the evening valuable musical services were rendered by Bros. J. Hele, J. Rendle, W. Hearder, H. Barter, E. C. Dyke, and Firks, and recitations were given by Bros. J. Kinton Bond and E. A. Lyons, to the great enjoyment of all present.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Invalids distracted by indigestion and discouraged in their search for its remedy should make trial of this never-failing medicine. A lady, long a martyr to dyspeptic tortures, writes that Holloway's Pills made her feel as if a burden had been taken off her. Her spirits, formerly low, have greatly improved; her capricious appetite has given place to healthy hunger; her dull, sick headache has departed, and gradually so marvellous a change has been effected, that she is altogether a new creature, and again fit for her duties. These Pills may be administered with safety to the most delicate. They never act harshly, nor do they ever induce weakness; they rightly direct deranged, and control excessive, action.—[Advrt.]

CONSECRATION OF THE KINTORE MARK LODGE, No. 333.

An important addition to the roll of lodges in the degree of Mark Masters was made on Tuesday, the 20th ult., by the consecration of the Kintore Lodge at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, S.E., under most favourable auspices, and in the presence of a large number of Grand Officers and other distinguished members of the Order. It was expected that the proceedings would be honoured by the presence of the Right Hon. the Earl of Kintore, M.V. G.M.M.M. elect, who had taken great interest in the formation of the lodge which bears his name, and had promised to attend. Unfortunately, however, his lordship, who had travelled from Scotland expressly, took a severe chill on the journey, and was thus prevented from attending a meeting where his absence was deeply regretted. The R.W. Bro. Sir Francis Burdett, Bart., Prov. G.M. for Middlesex and Surrey, who had undertaken to perform the consecration ceremony, was also unexpectedly detained elsewhere, and deputed R.W. Bro. Frederick Binckes, P.G.W. and Grand Secretary, to officiate on his behalf, and Bro. Binckes was supported by (amongst others who did not sign the attendance book) R.W. Bros. A. M. Broadley, P.P.G.M. of the Mediterranean; Frederick Davison, Grand Treasurer, D.P.G.M. Middx. and Surrey; the V.W. Bros. H. C. Levander, G.R. of Marks; James Stevens, P.G.J.O.; the V. Bros. H. Lovegrove, P.G.I. Wks.; F. H. Cozens, P.G. Org.; Thomas Poore, P.G. I.G.; T. C. Walls, P.G.W. Middx. and Surrey; J. Mason, Clements, and others. The founders of the lodge, seven in number, viz., Bros. G. H. Newington Bridges, 22; Thos. Edmonston, 22; J. Hepburn Hastie, 104; Chas. Fountain, 104; Philip Dakers, 41; B. R. Bryant, P.M. 22; and W. H. Thomas, 104, were present; as were also Bros. W. H. Saunders, S.D. 238; R. J. Voisey, S.W. 22; Geo. Waterall, 104; Thompson, Old Kent T.I.; W. Siddall, 104; Goss, 22, and others; and in attendance for advancement were Bros. G. Norrington and J. R. Routledge, of Lodge 1669; Capt. C. H. Nevill, H. C. Ingram, and R. A. Marshall, of Lodge 1216; G. J. Venables, of Lodge 1530; W. G. Temple, of Lodge 194; and J. S. Terry, of Lodge 507.

The brethren assembled punctually at the hour named in the summons, and awaited in the Temple the commencement of the interesting proceedings of the day. The pedestals and furniture of the Temple were most tastefully draped in crape, relieved by silver cord and corner knots to pedestals and cushions; and in accordance with the mandate of the Mark Grand Lodge the stipulated mourning was worn by all present in memory of his late Royal Highness the Duke of Albany, Past Grand Master of the Order.

A Mark lodge having by special dispensation been opened by Bro. B. R. Bryant, P.M. 22, Bro. Walls acting as S.W., Bro. Lovegrove as J.W., and Bro. T. Poore as S.D., the candidates for advancement as above named were introduced and duly advanced into the Order, the admirable working of Bro. Bryant deserving especial mention for its perfect and eloquent style of delivery. With such able assistance as that rendered by Bro. Poore as Deacon and Bro. Cozens as Organist, the whole ceremony was without fault or blemish, and formed a most interesting introduction to the more important business which followed. The Grand Officers having been received in due form the R.W. Bro. Binckes, P.G.W., Grand Sec., assumed the chair of A., and appointed the following brethren to assist him, viz.: the R.W. Bro. Broadley, Orator; Bros. T. C. Walls, S.W.; H. Lovegrove, J.W.; and Jas. Stevens, Master of Cers. He then proceeded with the ceremony of consecration in ancient form, most impressively rendering the invocation and dedication. The following oration by Bro. Broadley was listened to with earnest attention, and at its conclusion was received with Masonic applause: R.W. Sir and Brethren,—We are assembled here to-day in accordance with our traditional rites and ceremonies to place one more stone on the ever-rising fabric of Mark Masonry. If anything could lend a greater interest to the fact that our labours this evening will result in the addition of another Mark Lodge to the muster roll of the Order, it must, I think, be found in the circumstances surrounding the origin of the lodge we are now about to consecrate. The Kintore Lodge of Mark Master Masons is destined to commemorate and perpetuate the accession to supreme office in the Mark Degree of one whose skill, energy, and assiduity in the past confidently inspire us with the highest hopes for the future of Mark Masonry during the time he will rule over its fortunes and guide its destinies. The elevation to the Grand Mark Mastership of so distinguished a member of the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter of Scotland as Lord Kintore is no unimportant epoch in our history, for we feel that it cannot but more closely strengthen and cement the union of Mark Masters on both sides of the Tweed. An oration or address has from a remote period in the history of our Craft formed part of the consecrating ceremony which precedes the solemn dedication of our lodges. I know of no more difficult task than an attempt to compress any general disquisition on the fruitful theme of Freemasonry into the short space which this oration or address should with propriety occupy, and I must be pardoned if I shrink from so ambitious an effort and limit the few remarks I shall trouble you with to what I conceive to be the characteristic and distinctive features of the Mark Degree. I assert without fear of contradiction that the history of the rise, progress, and prosperity of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons finds no parallel, or indeed anything like a parallel, in the annals of the Craft. There is one at least amongst us to-day who can look back through the vista of 27 years to the time when that Grand Lodge was first called into existence, and I will venture to say that its present prosperity and unrivalled vitality have surpassed the most sanguine expectations of the most enthusiastic of its founders. To what, then, must we attribute the signal and peculiar success of the Mark Grand Lodge? We owe much, no doubt, to the individual energy and high administrative ability of its successive rulers, as well as to the untiring labours and dauntless activity of the Grand Secretary, that veteran in the ranks of Mark Masonry—Bro. Binckes—but it seems to me that there must be something more than ability and activity to account for the proud position our Order has come to occupy. For myself, I have no difficulty in finding this secret of success in the inherent value and peculiar interest of the degree itself. It is precisely of two features of the inherent value and peculiar interest of the Mark Degree that I purpose speaking to you this evening. I allude to the wholly unequalled archaeological associations which

surround it, as well as to the practical and cosmopolitan nature of its symbolic teaching. I conceive that both the one and the other have contributed not a little to the general popularity of our Order. I may be pardoned if I endeavour to make my meaning clear to you by an allusion to my own personal experiences as a humble worker amongst Mark Masons beyond the seas. My lot happened to be cast on ground richer perhaps than any other in the Masonic traditions of the remote past—Tunis, Carthage, Malta, the Knights of St. John, Egypt. What time-honoured memories each of those well-known names are capable of calling into existence. It is on such classic sites as these that we can appreciate perhaps better than anywhere else the legends which are treasured up in the teachings of the Mark Degree. It has often been my privilege to explore with Masonic brethren from a distance the ruins of the wondrous city of Carthage—at once the marvel and the terror of the day of her zenith—where even yet one can view the traces of those ancient Tyrian builders, our fathers and ancestors in Masonry, our operative prototypes, to whose genius we owe directly or indirectly those art treasures which are the boast of all ages and the patterns for all time. The creators of these wondrous fabrics, the architects and sculptors of these exquisite stones, have engraved their names in undying characters, and have moreover individually distinguished each man his work by means of that cipher which even to this day is practised—I mean the Mason's mark. Brethren, our legends come to us from the period of the erection of that stately edifice which crowned the Mount of God in Jerusalem, and we are told that in the process of building that Temple the sound of workmen's tools were not heard. Why? Because the stones were all cut, marked in the quarries, and the marks guided the builders, who with square, trowel, and plumb-line of wood, fitted the stones joint to joint until the last keystone was lowered into its place amid the plaudits of the crowds of admiring masons. Descending through history and examining the ancient temples, military erections, and domiciles of the several ages, we still find masons' marks in use amongst the builders, and whether we examine the ruined cities of Jordan, the walls of Jerusalem, the palaces of Venice, the cathedrals of England and the Continent, the wall of Hadrian, the mosques of Constantinople, still the same silent, yet speaking, story comes to us—the story of the fraternity of builders, whose marks, handed from father to son, record on the old stone the deeds of those who wrought them. There is no break in the story, which continues even to this day, on which we have met as Mark Masons, to perpetuate the principles which guided our forefathers. Each mason had his mark, which he indented on his completed stone, and the plan or tracing board, committed by the master builder to the overseer's care, is referred to to guide the masons in the progress of their work. Each mason is known to his overseer by his mark, just as he was in the days when Hiram, the widow's son, wrought in the quarries of Mount Moriah. So much for the Operative side of the history of Mark Masonry, and the archaeological associations which distinguish our Order. But at the same time it can hardly be contested that as Speculative Mark Masons we have an origin coeval with that of our Operative brethren. The workers in stone of the present day have lost their Speculative knowledge, which is preserved by us. The Operative and Speculative bodies of Masonry became divorced about the time that the spoliation of the monasteries in England by the eighth Henry caused the building profession to fall into comparative disrepute. The monks had been the great patrons of the Freemasons, and, their patronage removed, the occupation of the architectural fraternity was well-nigh gone. But the speculative teaching, though dormant, was not lost, and was revived, as we believe, by our brethren at the commencement of the eighteenth century, who found it amongst the treasures which they banded themselves together piously to preserve, and which has come to us from them through various channels—to be at length condensed and perfected in the ritual which we now practise under the Grand Mark Lodge of England. At the present moment the Grand Mark Lodge of England occupies so splendid a position that any Mason may indeed be proud to be enrolled under its banner. It enjoys the fraternal recognition of every orthodox body working the Mark Degree, and it can boast of a succession of Grand Masters second in social rank, as well as in Masonic knowledge, to none in the world. No teachings could be purer than those inculcated by its symbolism; none could certainly be more cosmopolitan. Charity, hospitality, constancy, and courage under difficulties, perseverance—such, my brethren, are the practical lessons taught us each time that we witness the beautiful ceremonial of the Mark. Can we wonder, then, at our success? The brightness of the present, the calm survey of the past, the cheering prospects for the future, should unite every one of us in our determination to do our duty in upholding the best interests of this ancient and honourable Order. Brethren, I cannot do better than conclude with the words of one of the oldest Mark rituals—"While virtue is your ruling principle, hope will always find a residence in your bosom. Under the frowns of fortune keep this consolation in your mind, that he who has a due faith in the dispensations of his beneficent Creator and a becoming charity for his fellow-creatures will be sure of receiving that just reward which is the consequent attendant on good and virtuous actions."

Bros. Davison and Levander assisted the Consecrating Officer in distributing the consecrating elements, accompanied by grand honours and appropriate choral service under the direction of Bro. Cozens. The constitution of the Kintore Lodge having been thus completed, the W.M. designate, Bro. G. H. N. Bridges, was presented to Bro. Binckes for installation. On the completion of that ceremony the investiture of officers for the year was made in the following order, viz.: Bros. T. Poore, acting I.P.M.; Thomas Edmonston, S.W.; J. H. Hastie, J.W.; C. Fountain, M.O.; P. Dakers, S.O.; B. R. Bryant, P.M. 22, J.O.; C. H. Nevill, Sec.; J. W. Routledge, R.M.; G. Norrington, S.D.; H. C. Ingram, J.D.; G. J. Venables, I.G.; R. A. Marshall, D.C.; W. G. Temple, W.S.; J. S. Terry, C.S.; and T. B. Potter, Tyler. The election of Treasurer was deferred to the ensuing regular meeting. The addresses to Master, Wardens, Overseers, and brethren having been delivered by the Installing Master, the W.M. addressed his lodge in feeling terms expressive of thankfulness for the happy inauguration of the lodge, and his hope that order, peace, and harmony might ever be associated with its proceedings and its future progress. In recognition of the services which had been rendered by the Grand Officers on this occasion he

proposed that thanks be recorded and honorary membership be offered to Bros. Binckes, Broadley, Davison, Levander, Stevens, Walls, Lovegrove, and Poore. This was unanimously agreed to, and Bro. Binckes thanked the lodge on behalf of himself and the several brethren named.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the dining hall and partook of a liberally provided and well served banquet. At dessert the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given with commendable brevity, and were responded to with equal consideration for the convenience of the visitors, who had long journeys before them. Reference was made to the loss which the Order of Mark Masonry had sustained by the lamented death of the Duke of Albany; and the mourning which that loss had occasioned had its effect upon the customary hilarity with which the introduction of a new lodge is associated. Nevertheless, a very pleasant evening was enjoyed by all present, and the W.M.'s hope that good luck would attend the members seven (represented by the founders) and the thrice lucky threes (represented by the number of the lodge) was cordially endorsed by members and visitors alike.

The lodge was furnished by Bro. George Kenning. We are requested to state that a Mark lodge of instruction, working under the sanction of the Kintore Lodge, will be held at the Stirling Castle Hotel, Camberwell, on alternate Friday evenings, and which will be supported by well known and skilled professors of the ritual of the degree, with Bro. T. Poore, P.G.I.G., as Preceptor.

PRESENTATION TO R.W. BRO. KELLY, P. PROV. G.M. LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND.

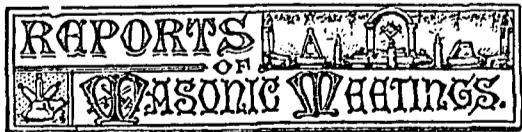
As we briefly announced in our last, a gathering of brethren of this province took place in the Masonic Hall, Leicester, on the 29th ult., to do honour to their Past Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Wm. Kelly, F.S.A., F.R.H.S., &c., the occasion being the presentation to that distinguished brother of his portrait, subscribed for by the brethren of the province, and painted by Bro. J. Luntley, of Nottingham, and which will be hung in the hall in place of the one that has for many years graced those walls, but which was not considered to have been a faithful representation of Bro. Kelly. The artist in this instance has, however, produced what is generally acknowledged to be an admirable likeness, and the painting, which has cost 50 guineas, has been placed in the elaborate Masonic frame which formerly contained the now discarded portrait.

Upwards of 40 brethren assembled at a grand banquet in the Masonic Hall, and the proceedings were altogether of a very interesting character. W. Bro. George Toller, jun., P.G.S.B., D.P.G.M., occupied the chair, and Bro. R. Michie, W.M. 279 (the oldest lodge in the province), and Bro. F. J. Baines, P.M. 523 (the second oldest lodge in the province), P.P.G.S.D., filled the vice-chairs. The following other brethren, in addition to the guest of the evening, were amongst those present: Bro. Rev. W. Langley, P.P.G.S.W.; C. Stretton, P.P.G.S.W.; C. E. Stretton, P.P.G.S.W.; Miles T. Walker, P.P.G.J.W.; J. Orlando Law, P.P.G.J.D., P.M. 279; C. Gurden, Prov. G.A.D.C.; G. Oliver, P.P.G. Purst., P.M. 1007; R. Taylor, P.P.G.S. of Works; Jas. Luntley, the artist; and others. Letters of apology for non-attendance were read from R.W. Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl Ferrers, Prov. G.M.; W. Bro. Rev. C. Wood, P.P.G.C.; J. Young, Prov. G.D.C.; and others. During the banquet a congratulatory telegram was received from the Howe and Charnwood Lodge, No. 1007, then holding its meeting at the Bull's Head, Loughborough.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were first duly honoured, and the CHAIRMAN then rose to propose "The Health of their honoured guest, R.W. Bro. Kelly," the toast being received with great enthusiasm. In a very able speech Bro. Toller sketched the highly distinguished Masonic career of Bro. Kelly, mentioning incidentally some of the very many useful and valuable services which during a period of nearly 50 years the esteemed brother has rendered to the Craft throughout the province, and concluded by presenting the portrait of Bro. Kelly in the name of the subscribers, coupled with a request that it might be permitted to hang on the walls of the Masonic Hall. The uncovering of the portrait was the signal for loud and long continued applause, and the health of Bro. Kelly was heartily drunk by all, accompanied on all sides with cordial greetings and many good wishes for the long life and happiness of Bro. Kelly.

R.W. Bro. KELLY acknowledged the compliment in a deeply interesting speech, in which he reviewed at length his associations with Freemasonry in the province, and gave numerous historical reminiscences of the progress of the Craft.

Votes of thanks to Bro. Clement E. Stretton, who had so ably and so effectively acted as Secretary to the Portrait Committee, and to Bro. G. Toller, jun., the Chairman, followed, and those brethren having suitably acknowledged the toast, the proceedings, which had been pleasantly varied by very excellent songs, concluded shortly afterwards, all agreeing that the gathering had been not only of a deeply interesting, but also of a most enjoyable character.



Craft Masonry.

COVENT GARDEN LODGE (No. 1614).—The April meeting of this lodge, being the closing meeting of the session, was held at the Criterion, Piccadilly, Bro. G. Coleman, W.M., presiding, supported by Bros. J. Jacobs, S.W.; H. W. Kedgley, J.W.; W. Bourne, Sec.; T. A. Dickson, S.D.; B. Solomons, J.D.; J. Figgis, I.G.; S. Jacobs, P.M.; W.S.; G. Reynolds, Asst. W.S.; W. H. Gulliford, I.P.M.; and C. Kedgley, P.M.; also Bros. Ripley, A. Ralph, W. Unwin, T. Snow, J. Starling, Frank Gulliford, Cousins, J. Woodward, T. Wilson, S. Hewett, G. H. Reynolds, W. F. Thorpe, A. Paekham, L. Isaacs, A. Freeman, and G. Hudson. Visitors: Bros. G. Thomas, 1294; S. Renaut, 1623; A. Goodchild, P.M. 704; G. Fulcher, 569; Ford, 1348; H. Higgins, P.M. 1381; A. Harris, 1297; J. Thurlie, 261; H. Robinson, 1681; R. E. Cursons, 1681; W. Bedham, 733; J. Lowes, 1924; and T. Butt, 700.

The lodge was opened in the Three Degrees. Bro. G. C. Bond, 704, was unanimously elected a joining member. Bros. J. Starling, W. Unwin, T. Snow, and J. Bellamy were raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M. The sad intelligence of the death of Mrs. Holden, wife of the respected Chaplain of the lodge, was announced, and great regret and much sympathy was expressed, the Secretary being directed to address a letter of heartfelt condolence to Bro. Holden. The W.M. having received the "hearty good wishes" of the visiting brethren the lodge was closed.

When speaking to the usual loyal toasts after the banquet the W.M. made a touching reference to the death of H.R.H. the Duke of Albany, which elicited marks of profound appreciation from all the brethren.

At the close of the session the brethren of the Covent Garden Lodge cannot but express their sense of the kindness in which they have always been treated by Bro. Madell, the manager of the Criterion, and the arrangements he has made for their comfort.

BATH.-Royal Cumberland Lodge (No. 41).—The last regular meeting of the session was held at the Masonic Hall on the 1st inst. The lodge was opened by Bro. Rubie, P.P.G.J.W. and W.M., assisted by Bros. R. B. Cater, P.M., as I.P.M.; Ashley, P.M., P.P.G.J.W. and Treas.; E. J. B. Mercer, P.M., P.P.G.S. of W., as Sec.; F. Wilkinson, P.M., P.P.G.S. of W., and D. of C.; Past Masters T. Wilton, P.P.G.J.W. (Mayor of Bath); T. B. Moutrie, P.P.G.S.W.; Capt. Peel Floyd, P.P.G. Reg.; Collins, 1587; Dr. Hopkins, 41, 43, 958 and P.P.G.S.W. Warwickshire; and Bros. Ames, S.W.; W. Peach, J.W.; T. E. Wilton, S.D.; W. L. Baldwin, J.D.; Reynolds, as I.G.; Foote, Org.; J. G. Wilton, and Bartlett, Stewards; and Bigwood, Tyler. Many members were present, and as visitors Bros. Humphries, 906; and H. F. Freeman, 906.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, and those of the lodge of instruction were read by the J.W. After the usual preliminaries Bro. W. G. Carey was raised to the Degree of M.M. by the W.M., assisted by Bro. Dr. Hopkins, who communicated the signs and narrated the traditional history. The explanation of the working tools was given by the S.W. The lodge having been brought down to the First Degree, Bro. Radway, P.M., P.P.G.S.W. and Secretary, entered in time to take part in the discussion of the propositions of the permanent Committee in accordance with an arrangement made at the previous meeting of the lodge. At the request of the W.M. the Secretary read the recommendations as follows, first, however, stating that the same course had been adopted by the Albert Edward Lodge, No. 906, and would probably be taken by the Royal Sussex Lodge, No. 53, at a meeting to be held on May 5th, though at present there is some difference of opinion as to the extent of the change: (1) "That the initiation fee be raised from five to seven guineas"; (2) "That the joining fee be raised from two to three guineas"; and (3) "That any brother desirous of taking the Second or Third Degrees shall pay for one degree two, and for two degrees three guineas; and if he desires to become a subscribing member of the lodge he shall pay one guinea additional." After some discussion, the proposed alterations in the bye-laws were unanimously agreed to, and the Secretary was directed to submit them to the Prov. Grand Master for his sanction. The W.M. announced an invitation to attend a meeting of Grand Lodge on the 7th inst. to lay the foundation-stone of the tower of Peterborough Cathedral. Bro. Ashley, Treas., mentioned that at the recent election of candidates for the Boys' School the youth from Somerset, whose father had been a member of this lodge, had obtained admission. No further business offering the lodge was closed.

BRENTWOOD.—Lodge of Hope and Unity (No. 214).—This lodge met at the White Hart Hotel, on the 24th ult., when there were present Bros. Thomas Burtonshaw, W.M.; F. W. T. Terry, S.W.; J. C. Quennett, J.W.; P.Ms. A. Wright, Sec.; Geo. Cooper, Treas.; W. J. Burgess, W. W. Brown, A. W. Wallis, and J. C. Earle; Bros. Frank Landon, F. B. Page, F. Turner, H. G. Hobson, John Nickisson, and Cecil Quennett.

The S.W. having announced that he was a Steward for the approaching festival of the Girls' School the sum of five guineas was voted from the lodge funds. The brethren were all in Masonic mourning, and a vote of condolence was passed to H.R.H. the Grand Master on account of the death of H.R.H. the Duke of Albany, the same to be entered on the minutes and a copy forwarded to the Grand Secretary.

All business being ended, the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet, served by Mrs. Mason, the landlady of this hotel.

DRIFFIELD.—Sykes Lodge (No. 1040).—On Wednesday week this lodge celebrated its 20th anniversary by the installation of W. Bro. W. H. Porrit, P.M., P.P.G.J.W., as the W.M. for the ensuing year. W. Bro. J. P. Bell, M.D., J.P., P.G.D., D.P.G.M. North and East Yorks, performed the ceremony in an impressive manner. The W.M. then installed the following brethren as his officers:—Bros. Henry Holgreaves, I.P.M.; G. Bielby, S.W.; James Bordass, J.W.; James Elgey, P.M., Treas.; Esau Wilson, P.M., Lecture Master; John Bains, Chaplain; James Scott Wilson, P.M., P.P.G.P., Sec.; John William Robinson, S.D.; Walter Highmoor, J.D.; G. S. Highmoor, D.C.; James Elgey, P.M., Almoner; John Tate, Org.; Henry Watson, I.G.; Thos. House and Wm. Overend, Stwds.; George H. Potts, Tyler.

The brethren afterwards dined together at the Bell Hotel, under the presidency of the W.M. The usual loyal and other Masonic toasts were duly honoured, and a very pleasant evening spent. The musical arrangements were under the direction of Bro. C. W. Cheeseman, P.M. P.P.G.O.

LIVERPOOL.—Antient Briton Lodge (No. 1675).—The annual installation meeting of the members of this lodge took place at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, on Tuesday evening, the 29th ult., and the whole of the proceedings proved of a most enjoyable and successful kind. No. 1675 is an offshoot of the Toxteth Lodge, No. 1356, and was formed originally for the accommodation more especially of Cambrian brethren, and, though by no means strictly confined to such, it still largely consists of natives of the Principality, while its prosperous condition and energetic working reflect high credit upon its projectors and on the retiring W.M., Bro. W. E. Coxon. A repre-

sentative and influential gathering was the result of his summons yesterday, and the lodge room in Hope-street was crowded to witness the installation of the W.M. elect, Bro. John Hughes, S.W. The chair was taken by the W.M., who afterwards gave place to Bro. R. Wylie, P.M., P.P.G.S.D., by whom the ceremony was effectively performed. He was supported by Bros. Hugh Jones, J.P.M.; Thomas Evans, P.M., P.P.G.S.D.; T. H. W. Walker, J.W.; J. R. Bottomley, P.M. Treas.; and W. C. Cowell, Sec. Among the visitors were Bros. Wm. Brassey, W.M. 823; Edward George, W.M. 1356; Edward Paull, I.P.M. 1356; W. Evans, I.P.M. 594; A. Barclay, P.M. 1182; J. W. Williams, P.M. 1356; James Keet, P.M. 1356; John Ashley, S.W. 1356; Dr. F. J. Bailey, P.P.G.S.D.; J. P. Bryan, P.G.O.; J. Skeaf, P.P.G.O.; C. Wadsworth, W.M. 292; Reginald Young, P.P.G.S.D.; R. Martin, P.M. 1182; B. B. Marson, P.P.G.S.B.; John Leisk, W.M. Depute, 89 (Lerwick); A. Woolrich, P.M. 1356; and T. O. Rea, W.M. 1182.

The following officers were appointed and invested for the ensuing year: Bro. W. E. Coxon, I.P.M.; Hugh Jones, P.M., D.C.; J. H. W. Walker, S.W.; J. Williams, J.W.; J. R. Bottomley, P.M., Treas. (re-elected for the third time); W. H. Rowlands, Sec.; C. R. Fitton, Asst. Sec.; John Lewis, S.D.; R. Jones, J.D.; S. J. Hughes, I.G.; George Yates, Org. (re-appointed); F. Sleight, S.S.; W. Plumb, J.S.; D. Williams and E. H. Dixon, A.Ss. From the statement of account it appeared that there was a satisfactory balance in hand, notwithstanding that the sum of £100 5s. had been contributed to the various Charities.

At the conclusion of the lodge the brethren dined together, dinner being well served by Bro. Casey, House Steward. After the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, "The W.M." was proposed by Bro. R. Wylie, P.P.G.S.D., and heartily honoured. Bro. Bottomley, P.M., proposed "The Health of the I.P.M., Bro. W. E. Coxon," to whom the W.M. presented on behalf of the lodge a handsome Past Master's jewel, and on the part of the private members Bro. Beaumont presented a beautiful timepiece in bronze with accompanying vases. Bro. Coxon acknowledged both gifts. A very enjoyable musical programme was rendered by Bros. D. J. Davies, D. Williams, J. J. Jones, O. J. Rowlands, W. H. Stone, W. Ramage, Robert Jones, and others.

INSTRUCTION.

HYDE PARK LODGE (No. 1425).—A meeting was held on Monday, the 5th inst., at the Fountains Abbey Hotel, 111, Praed-street, Paddington, W. Present: Bros. J. Laurence, W.M.; H. Purdue, W.M. 834, S.W.; C. S. Mote, J.W.; G. Read, P.M., Treas. and Preceptor; H. Dehane, P.M., Sec.; M. J. Green, S.D.; F. Chandler, J.D.; R. E. Cursons, I.G.; W. Death, Stwd.; Capt. A. Nicols, I.P.M. 1974; S. Smout, P.M. 1642; W. H. Chalfont, I.P.M. 1425; H. Gilbert, C. J. Morse, A. J. Chapman, J. Lichtenfeld, J. Brazell, J. Cruttenden, S. Stretch, jun., S. J. Humfress, A. Hardy, H. Robinson, J. Stephens, D. Stroud, J. Chapman, and T. C. Thomson. Visitor: Bro. J. F. Cliburn, 834.

Lodge was opened in due form with solemn prayer, and the minutes were confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, Bro. A. Chapman was examined. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree and the ceremony of raising rehearsed. The lodge was closed down to the First Degree. Bro. Cliburn answered the questions leading to the Second Degree. The Second Section of the lecture was worked by the W.M. assisted by the brethren. Bro. Purdue was elected W.M. for next week, and Bro. Cliburn was elected a joining member. Lodge was closed in perfect harmony and adjourned.

COVENT GARDEN LODGE (No. 1614).—The usual weekly meeting of this lodge was held at "The Cranbourne," Upper St. Martin's-lane, W.C., on the 1st inst., when there were present Bros. Frank Gulliford, W.M.; C. Ralph, S.W.; G. H. Reynolds, J.W.; Ford, S.D.; G. Coleman, J.D.; W. C. Smith, I.G.; W. H. Richardson, Preceptor; G. Reynolds, Sec.; Farwig, P.M.; Wilkie, Jones, Vaughan, W. H. Gulliford, P.M.; Green, and Shannon.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed. Bro. Farwig, P.M., worked the First Section, and Bro. W. C. Smith the Second Section of this Lecture. The W.M. rehearsed the ceremony of initiation, Bro. Wilkie Jones candidate. Lodge called off and resumed, and opened in the Second Degree, when Bro. Farwig, P.M., worked the First Section of this Lecture. Lodge then resumed to First Degree. Bros. Wilkie Jones, Spoo, and Vaughan, 1348, were elected joining members. Bro. C. Ralph, S.W., was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed his officers in rotation. A vote of thanks was passed to Bro. Frank Gulliford for the able and efficient manner in which he had fulfilled the duties of the chair for the first time in that lodge of instruction. Bro. G. Coleman, in seconding, said that as W.M. of the mother lodge it gave him great pleasure to see the young members perfecting themselves in the ritual. Bro. Gulliford made a suitable reply. A collection was taken on behalf of the widow of a late brother, and handed to Bro. Green, who returned thanks for her, and the lodge was closed in due form. Bro. G. Reynolds gave notice that the second ballot in connection with the Charitable Association would take place immediately after the next meeting.

LANGTON LODGE (No. 1673).—A regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Mansion House Restaurant, Queen Victoria-street, on Thursday, the 24th ult. Bro. J. T. Tanqueray, the worthy Preceptor, took the chair, and worked the third ceremony in a manner which proved how fully competent he is to enlighten the minds of his brethren in respect to our ritual. The other offices were filled by Bros. Burne, S.W.; Hallows, J.W.; Seton, S.D.; Morriss, J.D.; Fowke, I.G.; and J. D. Langton, Sec. Among the others who were present were Bros. Cleminson, Steingraber, Romieu, and Anderson. We may remind our readers that this lodge of instruction meets at the Mansion House Restaurant every Thursday evening at six till eight o'clock, and that the work is in strict accordance with the "Emulation" working.

EARL OF LATHOM LODGE (No. 1922).—The weekly meeting of this lodge was held on the 30th ult., at the Station Hotel, Camberwell New-road, when there were present Bros. Stokes, W.M.; Johnson, Preceptor;

Parkhouse, S.W.; Sutton, J.W.; Paton, Sec.; Fitzer, Spencer, Baker, Sadler, Woods, Treacher, Mackie, Eidmans, Lane, Mattock, Sims, and Brown.

The lodge was opened in due form and the minutes of the previous lodge meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Preceptor worked the Second and Third Sections of the Lecture, assisted by the brethren. The ceremony of initiation was then rehearsed, Bro. Mackie acting as candidate. Bro. Brown was admitted a joining member. Bro. Parkhouse was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed his officers in rotation. The W.M. rose for the third time and receive the "good wishes" of the brethren. Cordial votes of thanks, the same to be entered on the minutes, were accorded to the W.M. for the able manner in which he had occupied the chair for the first time, and to Bro. Treasurer for his present to the lodge of an electroplated square. All Masonic business being ended the lodge was closed in peace and harmony.

Mark Masonry.

BATH.—Royal Cumberland Lodge (T.I.)—The annual meeting was held at the Masonic Hall on the 22nd ult. The lodge was opened by Bro. C. W. Radway, assisted by Bros. C. Wilkinson, I.P.M.; R. B. Cater, P.M.; F. Wilkinson, S.W.; Lawson Howes, J.W.; Dr. Hopkins, Past G.W., P.M. 26 and 74, Chap.; John Dutton, P.M., Treas.; J. J. Dutton, P.M., D. of C.; F. W. Dingle, Sec.; E. J. B. Mercer, M.O.; C. W. Penly, S.O.; W. Peach, J.O.; J. Knight, S.D.; Bethell, as J.D.; Sparrow, Org.; Rice, I.G.; and Bigwood, Tyler. Many members were also present, and as visitors Bros. W. H. Scott, P.P.G.S.W., and Sumsion, P.P.G.S. of W.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, after which the Treasurer presented his accounts, duly audited, showing a favourable balance of £9, which were passed. The W.M. appropriately addressed the brethren on the great loss the Order had sustained by the lamented death of the Duke of Albany, P.G.M., and read the circular commanding a general mourning, which, however, had been anticipated by those present, who appeared properly clothed, and the directions from headquarters as to the furniture of the lodge in this respect had been obeyed. Letters of apology for absence were read from the R.W. Bro. R. C. Elise, Prov. G.M., Bros. Braham, P.M., and Williamson.

Bro. L. Howes was presented as W.M. elect to the W.M. for the benefit of installation, by whom the ceremony was well and efficiently performed, with musical accompaniments under the direction of the Organist. The following appointments to office were made: Bros. Radway, I.P.M.; F. Wilkinson, S.W.; Dingle, J.W.; Mercer, Sec.; John Dutton, Treas.; Dr. Hopkins, Chap.; Penly, M.O.; W. Peach, S.O.; Williamson, J.O.; Knight, Reg.; J. J. Dutton, D.C.; W. H. Young, S.D.; Rice, J.D.; Bull, I.G.; Sparrow, Org.; and Bigwood, Tyler. Bro. Dr. Hopkins closed this portion of the proceedings by delivering the addresses to the W.M., Wardens, Overseers, and brethren. The W.M. thanked the brethren for the honour conferred upon him, and pledged himself to a faithful discharge of his new duties, though fully cognizant of his responsibilities from his experience in another branch of the Craft. On the proposition of the J.W., seconded by Bro. Cater, P.M., a vote of thanks was passed to Bros. Radway and Dr. Hopkins for their efficient services in the installation ceremony, by whom the compliment was duly acknowledged. A similar vote was passed to the visitors for their presence.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the Castle Hotel for the annual supper.

SUNDERLAND.—Union Lodge (No. 124)—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday afternoon, the 24th ult., at the Masonic Hall, Park Terrace. Bro. T. M. Watson, W.M., Prov. G.S.D., presided, and was supported by Bros. F. Maddison, P.M., P.G.I.W.; W. Coxon, S.W., W.M. elect; M. Frampton, P.P.G.S.O.; R. Kinmond, J.W., P.G.S.B.; R. Hudson, P.G. Sec. Durham; J. S. Pearson, P.P.G.S.O.; W. Liddell, P.P.G.M.O.; W. Brandt, P.P.G.J.D.; T. A. Hunter, P.P.G.O.; M. H. Dodd, M.O.; H. H. Pinkney, J.D.; H. Wrightson, I.G.; W. Pinkney, Sec.; and Brown, Tyler.

The minutes of the last regular lodge having been confirmed, and Bro. Emmerson, P.M. 661, P.P.G.P. Durham, balloted for and elected, the W.M. elect, Bro. W. Coxon, was presented by Bro. T. M. Watson to the Installing Master, Bro. M. Frampton, by whom the ceremony was ably performed, assisted by Bro. John Wood. The newly-installed W.M. then appointed and invested the officers for the ensuing year as follows: Bros. T. M. Watson, I.P.M.; R. Hudson, S.W.; M. H. Dodd, J.W.; R. Kinmond, M.O.; T. Pinkney, S.O.; J. R. Pattison, J.O.; H. S. Halvorsen, Reg. of Marks; M. Frampton, P.M., Treas.; J. C. Moor, Sec.; H. Pinkney, S.D.; H. Wrightson, J.D.; Wm. Logan, I.G.; G. Porteous, Org.; and J. W. Brown, Tyler.

The annual banquet was afterwards held at the Palatine Hotel, Bro. W. Coxon, W.M., in the chair, and Bro. R. Hudson, S.W., in the vice-chair. After a substantial repast, the W.M. proposed the toasts of "The Queen" and "The Prince of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family." He then proposed "The Health of Lord Henniker, the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Mark Masonry, and the Officers of the Grand Lodge," which was heartily received. He next proposed "The R.W. Prov. G.M., Bro. the Rev. Canon Tristram, and the Officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge." He did not think he had met a brother who had Mark Masonry so much at heart as their Provincial Grand Master had, and he had no doubt he would have been present had not his duties detained him elsewhere. Bro. Hudson, S.W., had suggested that they should have a lodge of instruction. He entirely concurred with the suggestion, and had no doubt it would be easily carried out and prove very beneficial. Bro. F. Maddison and J. Wood suitably responded.

Bro. T. M. Watson, I.P.M., next proposed "The Health of the W.M.," who in responding expressed his gratitude to Bro. Watson for the kind manner in which he proposed the toast, and the brethren for the manner in which they had received it. He should use his best exertions to maintain the high prestige of the Union Lodge. He then proposed the toast of "The Immediate Past Master, Bro. T. M. Watson," which was very heartily received.

Bro. Watson respond, and after other toasts the proceedings terminated.

Rosicrucian Society.

RESIGNATION OF THE TREASURER-GENERAL.

A meeting of the High Council was held at 8A, Red Lion-square, W.C., on the 24th ult., the following fratres being present: Col. Sir Francis Burdett, Bart., Hon. Vice-Pres.; W. R. Woodman, Supreme Magus; William Dodd, Sec.-General; W. J. Ferguson, S°; J. R. Foulger, Hon. O°; and Thomas Massa, Hon. S°. The chair was taken by Col. Sir Francis Burdett.

The SECRETARY-GENERAL stated that owing to the illness of Fra. Buss, he was desirous of tendering his resignation, and that this meeting had been summoned to receive the same and to appoint a frater to succeed him.

The SUPREME MAGUS desired that a vote of thanks be recorded to Fra. Buss, who had faithfully served the office of Treasurer-General since the year 1867, when the Order was resuscitated; and sincere regret at his resignation; also the most earnest and hearty good wishes for his speedy recovery.

This being unanimously carried, the SUPREME MAGUS proposed Fra. James Lewis-Thomas as Treasurer-General, to act as the Treasurer to the High Council, another Treasurer to be appointed to the Metropolitan College, thus separating the double office held by Fra. Buss so well and truly.

This was seconded by the SECRETARY-GENERAL and carried unanimously.

A committee was appointed to meet the following morning to audit the accounts of the H.C., also to act with a committee to be appointed by the Metropolitan College in auditing the accounts of that college, and the meeting was adjourned. The balance-sheet will be printed as usual.

METROPOLITAN COLLEGE.—The quarterly convocation was held at 8A, Red Lion-square, W.C., on the 24th ult., there being present R.W. Fra. Col. Sir Francis Burdett, Bart., Hon. V.P.; M.W. Fra. W. R. Woodman, S.M., P.M.G.; R.W. Fras. W. J. Ferguson, M. of T.; J. Lewis Thomas, Treas.-Gen., P.M. of T.; W. Dodd, Sec.-Gen.; V.W. Fra. J. R. Foulger, 2nd A.; W. Fras. W. Wynn Westcott, M.B., C. of N.; Major Penrose Dunbar, T.B.; George Mickley, M.D., G. of T.; and Fras. Thomas Massa, W. G. Lemon, and John Gilbert, Acolyte. The chair was taken by Fra. Woodman, S.M. (at the request of the M. of T., who was unavoidably detained), and the vice-chair by Fra. Col. Sir Francis Burdett, Hon. V.P. The M.C. was opened in due form and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, Bro. J. J. Thomas, 753, being present was admitted to the grade of Zelator in due form, the chairs of the Antients being filled by Fras. Foulger, Mickley, Dunbar, and Lemon, Fra. Dodd, Sec.-Gen., acting as C. of N. A ballot for the M. of T. and the Dep. M. of T. then took place, and proved unanimous in favour of Fras. Capt. Geo. Lambert and J. R. Foulger, but the former being absent his installation was deferred until next meeting. Fra. Donald M. Dewar, whose recent and somewhat sudden decease cast a shadow over the meeting, was the first on the list for election as M. of T., and all who knew his kindly and genial character expressed deep regret at the loss of our brother and the vacancy in our ranks caused thereby.

Fra. Ferguson, the M. of T., having now arrived, took the chair, when Fra. Dodd, Sec.-Gen., stated that there had been a meeting of the High Council, presided over by Fra. Col. Sir Francis Burdett, immediately previous to the present meeting, at which they had received with the deepest regret the resignation of Fra. Buss as Treas.-Gen., an office which he had most faithfully and lovingly discharged, though overwhelmed with other work since the year 1867, when the Order was resuscitated, and which he now laid down only through illhealth. A most cordial and unanimous vote of thanks and "hearty good wishes" was there accorded to him, and the Supreme Magus proposed Fra. J. Lewis-Thomas as Fra. Buss's successor as Treas.-General, and to act as Treasurer to the High Council.

This appointment having been duly made it was necessary to appoint a Treasurer to the Metropolitan College, an office which Fra. Buss had combined with that of Treasurer-General and which he was now for the same reason compelled to resign. The Secretary-General then proposed Fra. Woodman as Treasurer in place of Fra. Buss resigned; this was decided by a ballot in the affirmative, and an expression of the deepest sympathy was recorded at the illness of Fra. Buss, who from his high Masonic position in the Craft was almost universally known and respected, and had by his generous kindness and truly Masonic character ingratiated himself with all the brethren and the fratres of this Order more especially. Fra. Woodman in accepting the office of Treasurer to the Metropolitan College thanked the brethren for their confidence, and hoped that the Master of the Temple would kindly relieve him of the acting Secretaryship which he had temporarily resumed some time ago, by appointing to it Fra. Dr. Wynn Westcott, who had offered to undertake the duties of the office.

A committee was proposed to co-operate with the committee appointed by the H.C., especially in auditing the accounts of the Metropolitan College. On due consideration, the addition of Fra. Lewis-Thomas, the newly-appointed Treas.-Gen., and who is the Immediate P.M. of T., was deemed sufficient.

The M. of T. then appointed Fra. Dr. Wynn Westcott Secretary. Upon requisition duly made and seconded, the following fratres were appointed to the undermentioned offices: Fras. E. H. Thiellay, Primus; J. W. Ellison Macartney, M.P., Secundus; G. A. Rooks, Tertius; Robt. Roy, Quartus; T. C. Walls, Quintus; John Collinson, Sextus; Thomas Massa, Septimus; W. Wynn Westcott, Preceptor; J. E. Anderson, C. of N.; Major Penrose Dunbar, Org.; H. J. Lardner, T.B.; George Mickley, Herald; S. Liddell Mathers, G. of T.; G. Cockle, Medallist; and John Gilbert, Acolyte.

Letters of apology were received from Fra. Macartney, M.P., detained in Ireland; Fras. Levander, Hughan, Buss, Thiellay, Rooks, Roy, Walls, Curteis, and in fact from a large number of fratres who faithfully communicated with the Secretary on the occasion of this the obligatory meeting.

An old member of the Order was voted £22s. out of the funds, which amount was considerably augmented afterwards by the fratres, and there being no further business the M.C. was closed in due form and, the fratres adjourned to their customary banquet.

Knights Templar.

LEEDS.—Fidelity Preceptory (No. 114)—The last regular meeting was held at Carlton Hill on the 22nd ult. The preceptory was opened in due form by Sir Knt. John Barker, E.P., assisted by his officers, and the ordinary routine business was transacted. A Priory of Malta was subsequently opened, and Sir Knt. C. H. Pickersgill duly installed a knight of the Order, after which the priory was closed, and the sir knights sat down to slight refreshment.

Scotland.

The memorial stone of a new public hall and reading and recreation rooms which is at present in course of erection at the sole expense of the Countess of Breadalbane, was laid a few days ago by Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Breadalbane, G.S.W., with full Masonic honours. The building is already considerably advanced, and stands near the picturesque gateway leading from Kenmore to Taymouth. The hall will present rather a unique appearance, it being intended to do the walls in panels composed of characteristic specimens of the various woods grown on the estates, with varnished beams and plaster roof. The furniture of the reading room will be in many respects noteworthy. One of the large writing-tables is made from the wood of an ancient pear tree, supposed to be 300 years old, which was blown down during the gale which wrecked the Tay Bridge. It was under this tree, tradition says, that the Great Montrose pitched his tent when on his career of conquest he swept through Breadalbane, but halted here for a little to besiege Sybilla's Isle, which was held against him by a party of Campbells.

A large number of brethren assembled at the hall, where the lodge was opened by the R.W.M., the Earl of Breadalbane, in the First Degree. Thereafter a procession was formed, and headed by the Earl's private band and pipers, marched to the new building. The route was lined with spectators. The procession then halted, and the brethren opened right and left, leaving room for the R.W.M. and office-bearers to pass up between. After prayer by the Rev. J. B. Mackenzie, Chap. 276, a bottle containing copies of several newspapers, a number of coins, and also a scroll of parchment was placed in a cavity underneath the memorial stone, which was laid in due and ancient form, being tried with plumb, level, and square. Everything being pronounced satisfactory the Earl sprinkled it with corn, wine, and oil. At this stage Bro. McKwen conducted the Countess from the Estate Office to the platform on which the ceremony took place. The Earl having replied to a very complimentary reception of his name, the Rev. J. B. Mackenzie in an eloquent speech, presented the Countess with the silver trowel with which the stone had been laid. The brethren were subsequently entertained at luncheon by the Earl.

THE PAPAL ENCYCLICAL.

Once more, it seems, Papatheatrical thunder in the form of an Encyclical is to be hurled at the devoted heads of Freemasons, irrespective of time, circumstances, or nationality; and while those members of the most loyal order on earth can only wonder at pitying and gaze on unconcernedly such an exhibition of ill-advised, puerile, and altogether unjustified outpouring of "infallible" wrath, it is interesting to note the opinions held by those journals not actually connected with our Order. The *Liverpool Mercury*—a newspaper occupying a deservedly leading position in Lancashire, and one which has secured much admiration from the Craft in the Province of West Lancashire, as a result of much good Masonic service and support—thus spoke last Saturday of the Pope's new outburst of misdirected condemnation: "It would appear to be really true that the Pope is preparing for publication an encyclical directed against Freemasonry. A few days ago a Vienna paper gave what professed to be a summary of the contents, but it was not generally credited. Now, however, the statement is positively made from Rome that such an encyclical is about to be despatched to every part of Christendom, and that the Pope will therein call the attention of Sovereigns to his assurance that Masonry is as much their deadly enemy as it is the enemy of the Church. The difficulty is to discover what motive the Holy Father can have in raking up the old conflict at this particular juncture. There are no signs in the air that Freemasonry is disturbing itself particularly about the concerns of Church or State. There is no reported revival of the Carbonari or other associations of the kind, nor is there any object they could accomplish, since the temporal power is gone and Italy united under a constitutional form of government. Freemasonry may have lent itself in the past, in some parts of Europe, to revolutionary schemes and doctrines, or rather may have been used by revolutionists as a convenient cloak for their underground operations; but there is surely no pretence of the kind now. To charge the Order with warfare against religion, as an Order, is to convey an erroneous impression. Individuals who are atheistic—and they unfortunately abound all over the Continent—would war against Revelation under any circumstances, but it does not follow that their connection with Masonry would necessarily convert the society into an organised propaganda of Materialism. This would not be true even of French Masons, who have dispensed with a belief in God as a condition of membership; and it would decidedly not be true of English Masons, who are recruited from all sections of politics. The Pope seems to be aiming his shafts at a class of men who are Masons by accident; otherwise he would hesitate to tell us that the Order aims at the ruin of the throne, the altar, and the welfare of Society; that it detests princes and dupes the people; that it promotes civil marriages and keeps virtue in check; and that it confines education to scientific instruction. When we see charges like these set forth we rub our eyes and wonder if we are dreaming. The Pope tells us, too, that 'the separation of Church and State is monstrous,' and this proposition explains a great deal. The whole tendency of modern society is to effect the separation of Church and State. In no enlightened country nowadays is the connection held in popular favour. But the Holy Sec refuses to take account of mental and social development. That which suited ancient and mediæval times must suit still, or the world is wandering from the right path. It is wonderful that the logic of progress cannot invade the Vatican; and, more wonderful still, that a man of so much learning and common sense as Leo XIII. should so little understand the forces with which he is voluntarily seeking an open quarrel."



Bro. the Rev. Dr. P. H. E. Brette, of Christ's Hospital, has been re-elected Examiner for the eleventh time by the Senate of the University of London.

Brethren desiring to be present at the Consecration of the University of London Lodge may obtain cards of admission by applying to the Secretary, Bro. Spratling, 72, Wickham-road, Brockley, S.E.

The present W.M. of Ancient St. John's Lodge, No. 3, of Kingston, Canada, boasts that his father, grandfather and great-grandfather were also Masters of the same Lodge; and he has a son who may become Master.

Bro. George Kenning has been awarded Two Gold Medals, Two Silver Medals, and Four Diplomas of Honour by the Jurors of the Calcutta International Exhibition.

In our notice of Bro. Eastes's Masonic career last week, we should have said that as D.G.M. Master of the province of Kent, he is vice-patron of all the Institutions, not vice-president.

The late Duke of Albany says the *Fortnightly*, in a pre-nuptial will bequeathed his collection of autographs to the Bodleian Library, and the Duchess has offered to carry out this bequest. Had he died childless, the Prince wished his library to go to the unattached students of Oxford.

Bro. John Mason, Sec. and P.M. of the Elliott Lodge, No. 1567, was on Saturday last presented with a very handsome gold watch and chain, subscribed for by the members in recognition of his services to the lodge and the esteem in which he is held by the brethren. We hope to give an account of the interesting proceedings in our next.

Comp. T. C. Walls, T.I. Master of No. 1 Council of Royal and Select Masters, has been appointed by the M.P. Grand Master, Comp. the Rev. Canon G. R. Portal, Grand Recorder of the Order in England and Wales and the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown, (North America excepted), *Vice Comp.* D. M. Dewar, deceased.

A meeting of the mother lodge of Royal Ark Mariners, moored to St. Marks' Lodge, No. 1, under the authority of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England, &c., will be held at the Masons' Hall, 8A, Red Lion-square, W.C., on Tuesday, the 20th inst., at 5 p.m. punctually. Any regularly advanced Mark Master Mason is eligible as a candidate for elevation. Communications should be addressed to the Scribe, Bro. E. H. Thiellay, 8A, Red Lion-square, W.C.

Bro. the Lord Mayor, who is a member of the Senate of the University of London and of the Council of University College, entertained on Wednesday last at dinner the Examiners of the University of London and the Professors of University College to meet Earl Granville, K.G., the Chancellor of the University of London, and the Earl of Kimberley, President of University College. Among the guests were Bros. F. A. Philbrick, Q.C., G. Reg.; Sir Farrar Herschell, Q.C., M.P.; Cooper Forster, F.R.S., P.G.D.; Dr. Ralph Gooding, P.G.D.; Dr. Savage; Professor Althaus; Rev. Dr. P. H. Ernest Brette; Dr. Curnow; — McConnell; Dr. Brodie Sewell; Dr. Sanson; and Sydney Jones.

It is the duty of every Mason to be silent on all things that transpire in the lodge, that nothing may be known by the profane. We would admonish all brethren to be careful of their everyday walks in life, to let their conduct be such that it may at all times be imitated, and in so doing the silence will be inculcated. We do not like to see a member of the Order take every opportunity that may offer to impress upon others that he is a Mason. The institution teaches silence, and does not send their members forth to the world to say that he is a Mason; they are not so sadly in want of new material as to advertise in this way for more. A silent tongue and listening ear are admonitions that a candidate first receives, and he should ever bear in mind that it should be a watchword through life.—*Masonic Trowel*.

An example has been set by the Aire and Calder lodge, Goole, which might well be followed by others. The ceremony of dedication of the new Lodge Room of No. 458 was conducted by the W. Bro. Thomas W. Tew, J.P., the popular Dep. Prov. G.M. of West Yorkshire, on the 14th December last, and on the completion of his official duties as dedicating officer, the members had the pleasure of listening to an oration by that distinguished brother, which is an excellent model for brethren to follow holding a similar position, as it deals with the main principles of the craft in relation to lodge duties, and gives a succinct account of the origin and history of No. 458. The programme and oration have been published by Bro. H. T. Gardiner, in a neat and handy form, and we hope it will be circulated throughout the province, for its contents are such as to deserve for them a large number of interested readers. It seems the lodge was formed in 1839, and will thus soon reach its jubilee, its career having been prosperous and its future is apparently secured as the members are united and happy. *So mote it be.*

On the evening of the 2nd instant, a most successful concert was given at the Highbury Quadrant Hall, by the students of the Highbury and Islington Organ School and College of Music. Miss Berry Stephens who is the principal and certainly a most rising young professional has much to congratulate herself upon, several of her pupils singing with a taste and finish that would have done credit to any vocal academy in London. We can only say we tender our most hearty congratulations to Miss Stephens upon the care and attention she must have bestowed in the production of such an array of talent as was placed before her most fashionable audience (upwards of 1000 persons) on this occasion. Seeing Dr. Stainer's sacred Cantata "The daughter of Jairus" was to be performed, and the name of so young a lady as Miss Stephens down as wielding the baton was to us a novelty and somewhat excited our curiosity, we have though decided now that in these days of progress the ladies are certainly capable of more than we had ever given them credit for.

The Beaumont Lodge, No. 2035, was consecrated at Kirkburton on Thursday. We hope to give a report of the proceedings in our next.

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales has graciously consented to become a patron of the Temporary Home for Lost and Starving Dogs, and the Earl of Onslow has accepted the presidency of the institution.

As a bit of good news for Bro. Hedges, we are told that the West Yorkshire list for the Girls' School Festival amounts, up to date, to close on £500, and we should not be surprised if by the time of closing the list that sum was considerably increased.

The ceremony of installation of Principals was rehearsed on Tuesday evening, at the Metropolitan Chapter of Improvement, at the Jamaica Coffee House. The presiding and consecrating officers were Comps. Thos. Maidwell, H. Webb, and J. S. Fraser. The ceremony of exaltation was afterwards performed.

Although in another column we gave some particulars of Bro. Griffiths Smith's Masonic work and status, we omitted his name from the list of grand officers in our Grand Lodge report. It should have appeared as G. Assist. Director of Ceremonies, and Bro. Richards as G.D.D.C.

The following dinners, &c., have been held at the Freemasons' Tavern during the present week:—Monday, May 5th—Lodge of Joppa, Lodge of Unions. Wednesday, 7th—St. Mary's Hospital, United Lodge, Grand Chapter Club, French Cooks' Ball. Thursday, 8th—Lodge of Regularity, Pilgrim Lodge. Friday, 9th—Britannic Lodge, Bedford Lodge. Saturday, 10th—Phoenix Lodge.

The *Æolus* Waterspray and General Ventilating Company, Limited, whose business has passed into the hands of the late engineer of the company, Mr. R. Oakley, 235, High Holborn, have recently applied their system with complete success to the Royal Academy, under the direction of Mr. Norman Shaw; the Beckenham Town Hall, under Mr. George Vigers; and the Banqueting Hall of the Mercers' Company, under Mr. G. Barnes Williams. Mr. Oakley has just received instructions from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners to apply the same system to the church of St. Peter, Limehouse, under the direction of Mr. Ewan Christian.

The Census Return of 1881 in reference to the employment of women give some remarkable particulars, and brings into clearer light the advance of the sex during the last decade. There were 3,403,918 women employed in 1881, and of these 1,258,285 were engaged in domestic service. During the decade eighty-nine women were graduated as medical practitioners, school teachers increased 34 per cent. in numbers, 614 women were returned as in literary callings, though in 1871 no females were returned; musicians increased from 7056 to 11,376; 2368 actresses are now on the boards, against 1693 in 1871; there are 1880 female painters now, whereas there were but 1069 in 1871, and 7162 women have given themselves to religious work, whereas the total in 1871 was but 5068.

We were present, not long ago, at the installation of the officers of an old and prominent Masonic lodge in one of the cities of New England. The brothers appointed respectively to the offices of Senior Deacon and Junior Deacon, and who were duly installed, were two of the most prominent members of the lodge, one of them the Mayor of the city, the other a Judge of the Supreme Court of the State. Both had held high Masonic positions, yet they were ready and willing to serve their lodge in subordinate places and duties. The organization is to be congratulated on having such material to fill its offices, and upon the readiness of those thus ably qualified to represent it in the not unimportant services that devolve upon the Deacons of a Masonic lodge.—*Freemasons' Repository*.

Was the Rev. John Wesley a Freemason? Evidence is accumulating to prove that he was. In the *Keystone* of March 22nd, 1884, we stated that the *Philadelphia Press* alleged that the Rev. D. W. Bull, of Transfer, N.J., had in his possession certain Masonic relics of the Rev. John Wesley. Since then we have communicated with Bro. the Rev. D. W. Bull, who is now resident at Walnut, Ill., and under date of March 26th ult. he writes us: "I had, a few months since, faded receipts purporting to be those of the late J. Wesley, but they are no longer in my possession. Thinking them to be useless, I burned them, with other rubbish, on leaving Transfer, N.J., my former address. His apron I lent to a brother Mason. That is also much faded. All the emblems of the degrees are stamped in, in now remember where he was 'raised,' but it was the year colours. It is made of white muslin or calico. I do not 1745, in Ireland." We shortly expect to be able to present other corroboratory evidence, of an official character, to prove that the Rev. John Wesley was a Mason.—*Keystone*.

The Rev. E. Husband, referring on Sunday night to Freemasonry, remarked that he was more especially led to make some remarks, because he had been reading in the newspapers during the past week of the *Pope's New Encyclical*, which is, we are told, a long document denouncing Freemasonry. He was sorry that his Holiness had not something better to teach the world than such out-of-time doctrine. He spoke that night not as a Mason, but as an outsider, although he was not outside through any want of belief in the truth and beauty of Masonry. He admired Masonry, not chiefly for its grand ritual or antiquity, but chiefly because of the truth which underlined its doctrines, that is of helping each other, showing acts of brotherly kindness one towards another, and of kindness between man and his brother man. He had noticed this especially when travelling through foreign lands. If two Masons happened to meet each other they were not strangers, although strangers in the flesh. Masonry taught them that if they passed a brother in trouble or fallen through circumstances of sickness or calamity, they should go to that man and offer him the hand and try to lift him up. That was the religion of the gospel, although seemingly not that of the Vatican. In this way we showed the spirit of Christ when we helped one another, and we were thus doing the will and work of God.—*Folkestone Chronicle*.

A delicious cooling drink is supplied in *Rose's Lime Juice Cordial*, with water or blended with spirits. It is highly medicinal, assisting digestion. Recommended by the *Lancet*. It is entirely free of alcohol. Purchasers should order *Rose's Cordial*. Wholesale Stores, 11, Curtain-road, London, and Leith, N.B.—[ADVT.]



Until such time as the new burlesque is ready for the Gaiety, the late Bro. Byron's comedy and burlesque—"Uncle" and "The Bohemian G'yril"—are being played, and attracting as many as they did five years ago. Special interest is given to them on account of Bro. Royce once more taking his place on the stage after his long illness, and resuming with Bro. Terry the title rôles for which they are so well fitted.

Mr. Charles Wyndham on his return to the scene of his old haunts has had no reason to feel aggrieved at his reception. We never witnessed a more hearty and favourable reception than that given to our distinguished light comedy player than that with which he was greeted at the Criterion on the first night of his arrival after his magnificent tour in America. For the present "Brighton" is the piece he is playing and it comes with renewed freshness to every one, be they actors or audience. We ought to add that the Criterion is like a new theatre, and much credit is due to Mr. Verity for the bold alterations he has made. There are new means of exit and ingress, an opening has been constructed by which, although the theatre is subterranean, the sun shines into the pit, and the system of ventilation is perfect. We noticed the coolness of the temperature by the thermometers placed about the house. Electric light is used for illumination, and what was once the most stuffy of the London places of amusement is now the coolest and pleasantest of lounges. The prevailing colour in the decoration is gold, and the seats are covered with a terra cotta tinted stuff. We only hope that now the sun literally shines into every part of the house many sunny days are in store for this popular home of farcical comedy.

The Globe's new opera, "Dick," cannot be said to be striking in originality or to be a work of great merit; nevertheless it is likely to occupy the stage for some time. It is well played, and mounted in exquisite style. The story of Richard Whittington has furnished the basis of many pantomimes and nursery tales, yet it seems not to be worn out. Messrs. Murray and Jakobowski have dressed it in a new form, and in two acts have produced a very pretty comic opera, one scene being laid at Highgate and the other at Morocco. The legend has not been very closely followed, but the patrons of this form of art are not too exacting. Dick is the apprentice lad of Alderman Fitzwarren, and has fallen in love with his master's daughter Alice. The Emperor of Morocco wishing to add to his numerous wives comes to Highgate, where Alice is at school, and carries her off. Dick follows his sweetheart to Morocco, and in the disguise of a girl is taken into the household as a companion to Alice. Alderman Fitzwarren gains entrance as a Dervish, and by frightening the Emperor through his superstitions obtains his daughter's pardon, afterwards consenting to Alice's marriage with Dick, although he had meant her to marry one of his brother aldermen, an old man and his partner, that he might keep the business in his own hands. As we revere old institutions we cannot agree with certain hits at the Corporation of London. The make-up of one of the chorus men as Bro. Sir John Bennett is excellent, and as we saw the worthy knight in the stalls looking on, it was almost difficult to say which was the original. Mr. J. L. Shine, as Alderman Fitzwarren, sings an adapted song as to how he became successful by a "Merry Brown" alias nimble penny. Miss Camille Dubois is Dick, and sings and acts extremely well. Miss Ethel Pierson as Alison could not be better. We shall certainly hope to hear this lady frequently in comic operas. Miss Alice Holt and Mr. Warde gained vast applause by their clever dancing. The libretto is good all round; the liveries are bright and pretty. The stage effects are in good order, the second act—the interior of the Moorish palace, with the occupants of the harem—making a splendid scene.

The directors of the Alhambra have no cause to regret their having closed the house for a few weeks. The alterations they have made are all of them of the right sort, and the theatre is again more like what it was in former days. The coldness has been relieved by a plentiful decoration of maroon colour and gilt. The promenade has been materially enlarged, the boxes been made more comfortable, the iron doors have given way to handsome wooden ones containing stained glass. The saloons have been refitted, the ventilation improved, draughts abolished, and altogether the house is a delightfully comfortable lounge. But what suits the British public best of all, "popular prices" have been introduced. "The Beggar Student" has been chosen with much judiciousness for the reopening. In Vienna and the States of America it has met with much success. "The Lady of Lyons" furnishes the story, which has much dramatic effect, but, of course, the comic opera does not follow Lord Lytton's work very closely. One goes to the Alhambra to admire dancing, to be enchanted with scenic effects and thrilled with music. Miss Fanny Leslie is Claude, the beggar student, and most efficiently she fulfils her task. In her latest character she loses none of the old popularity she won at this house in other operas. Miss Marion Hood (the Countess Laura) and Miss Verona (Stephanie) won much applause also. Mr. Fred Leslie, who has now returned from the States, takes the part of Ollendorf, which he sustains with all his accustomed ability. Messrs. Hallam, Aynsley Cook, and Honey are the other chief actors, and all add greatly to the success of the charming opera. The ballets are arranged in M. Bertrand's old style of magnificence, and doubtless it is owing to the lovely dancing of Mlles. Palladino and Pertoldi, and the efficient and large chorus, together with the Rosa troupe, that "The Beggar Student" has been so well received. M. Jacobi has composed some pretty music for the ballets. The "military" and "public fair" ballets of the usual elaborate Alhambra kind will help to popularise the opera. At the end of the piece on the first night there were loud calls for the principal artistes, which were renewed when Bro. Holland, the caterer for the million, came on hand-in-hand with Mr. Jacobi to receive his well-merited deserts.