

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; SIR ARCHIBALD C. CAMPBELL, BART., M.W. GRAND MASTER OF SCOTLAND; AND THE GRAND MASTERS OF MANY FOREIGN GRAND LODGES.

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CONTENTS.

LEADERS	117
United Grand Lodge	117
Provincial Grand Lodge of Leicestershire and Rutland	119
Provincial Grand Chapter of Norfolk	119
CORRESPONDENCE—	
Election of Grand Treasurer	120
Suspension of Lodges	120
The Late Festival R.M.H.I.	121
Instruction Meetings v. Instruction Lodges	121
The Star in the East	121
Reviews	121
Notes and Queries	121
REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS—	
Craft Masonry	122
Instruction	124
Royal Arch	125

REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS (Continued)—	
Mark Masonry	125
Ancient and Accepted Rite	126
Knights Templar	126
Red Cross of Constantine	126
Rosicrucian Society	126
Greece	126
China	126
First Annual Supper of the Chiswick Lodge of Instruction, No. 2012	127
The Quebec Difficulty	127
Consecration of a Masonic Hall in South Africa	127
The Theatres	127
Obituary	127
Masonic and General Tidings	128
Lodge Meetings for Next Week	iii.

THE Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge took place on Wednesday last, under the presidency of Bro. W. W. BEACH, Prov. G.M. for Hants and Isle of Wight. There was a very large attendance. H.R.H. the Prince of WALES was re-elected and proclaimed Grand Master for the ensuing year amid enthusiastic acclamations of loyal devotion. The election for Grand Treasurer then took place under the new law by voting papers. Bro. J. W. WOODALL was elected by a large majority, securing 749 votes, his competitors, Bro. JAMES WILLING and Bro. CAMA, receiving 424 and 89 respectively. We must refer our readers to our report for the rest of the business of this important meeting of Grand Lodge. According to the votes there would seem to have been 1262 brethren present. We need not now go into the "pros and cons" of an annual election, as there is and may be a difference of opinion on the subject, but, recognizing it as a "fait accompli," it is well as we record the past to look as to the future. Grand Lodge has now elected a London and a provincial brother in succession as Grand Treasurer, and we confess we can see no reason why next year some brother of position as representing distinct dependencies and our colonial brethren, should not be elected as Grand Treasurer. The London lodges only represent a small numerical section comparatively of our Masonic lodges and we are quite certain of this that our London brethren, despite their many claims for respect and prestige, have no desire to monopolize Grand Lodge honours. Such an election would be a happy commentary on the Cosmopolitanism and large-heartedness of English Freemasonry.

THE election of Bro. J. W. WOODALL as Grand Treasurer by a large majority settles the vexed question for another twelve months.

THE more we think about Monsieur ANDRIEUX's recent attack on Freemasonry, the more we seem persuaded of its futility and folly. The world is tired of exposures and attacks on our peaceful and useful Order. Persons will not see who rush into print, thinking that curiosity has so much influence over the minds of men, so that anything which tends to lift up the veil which hangs over Masonic secrecy is always welcome, that there must be a limit to even human inquisitiveness and mortal credulity. Since 1724, one hundred and sixty years ago, we have been inundated with pretended revelations and pseudo-explanations of Freemasonry. What effect have they all had? None! positively less than none, if that be possible. A French Abbé, bolder than his English contemporaries, declared that he had "exposed" and "crushed" Freemasonry about 140 years ago. And yet Freemasonry survives. The assailants of Freemasonry may be divided into two great classes,—those who profess to be Freemasons themselves, those who declare they are not Freemasons, but have become possessed of the papers of some defunct, if mythic, Freemason. The goat and the branding are not more absolutely false and ridiculous than their lame stories, their mendacious asseverations. In the first case the writer comes before the world, *on his own confession*, a self-asserting breaker of Masonic and human obligations, and he can neither long expect the credence, much less the sympathy, of the world. In the second case, if he pretends to explain, what he confessedly knows nothing about himself, on the faith of another's evidence, who is nameless, unknown, and non-existent, he is either palming off a deceit, or suggesting a deliberate imposture to his hearers and readers; and thus it is, that between this "Scylla and Charybdis," all such affected revelations and arrangements of Freemasonry have failed of their object, fallen short of their aim, and have been rejected by the common sense, common honesty, and common truthfulness of the world in which we live. Had M. ANDRIEUX, for instance, confined himself to the assertion that French Freemasonry in the main is neither reasonable, tolerant, nor of "sens commun" just now, he would have found few to disagree with him. Had he gone on to say that many of its customs were ridiculous, hurtful, and bad, "per se," we should gladly have repeated his words. But when he goes on, as we understand his professed attack, to proclaim all Freemasonry unsound and mischievous, because he argues "from a particular to an universal," we join issue with him at once, and

beg him to remember what he ought not to have forgotten, in the plenitude of his wisdom and experience, that abuse of a thing does never take away actually the use of it, and that all he can fairly say to French Freemasonry is, to retrace its steps and re-adopt the sounder teaching and ceremonials of a better day. Monsieur ANDRIEUX cannot think that Freemasonry generally cares anything at all for childish imputations or heated incriminations. In America, where that great army of faithful brethren has lived down "the lie" of the MORGAN Episode; where fanaticism and ignorance to-day are even quoting Scripture, like a certain Satanic personage is said sometimes to do, to prove the abstract and concrete wickedness of Freemasonry proper; and where our brethren are marching on steadily and steadfastly, a "great host, unappalled and unwavering," we know how idle such attacks have proved to be, and how Freemasonry can and will trample all such foes and all such antagonists beneath its feet. And so it will ever be. Wherever its true and healing principles are rightly professed, wherever its living reality of loyalty and Charity is verified and demonstrated, wherever its great banner of tolerant brotherhood is displayed, there we find a phalanx of good men and true, trying to "leave the world better than they found it," asserting the sacred right of a conscientious individualism, and aiding successfully in the advance of the human race, as pioneers in the great and glorious struggle of civilization, light, right, and truth.

WE call attention to some extracts from Canadian contemporaries elsewhere relative to the Quebec difficulty. The GRAND MASTER of the Quebec Grand Lodge is only at the beginning of his difficulties. We know quite enough of our Canadian and Quebec brethren to feel assured that they dislike arrogance, bullying, and "bunkum" as much as we do, and that such a foolish exhibition of impotent anger can be productive, even in their minds as in ours, but of one sensation,—sorrow and humiliation at such a Masonic (un-Masonic?) exhibition. The Montreal English Freemasons have done nothing to deserve this petty thunder of irritative intolerance, and we think, as we feel sure, our brethren will also hold in Canada, that, happily for our race, the days of Bulls, Excommunications, Boycotting, and the spirit of persecution, as well as abject intolerance, are over for ever, and produce no result save derision and contempt among men and Masons.

THE magnificent total of £17,600 for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution Festival suggests many reflections, alike creditable to our Craft, and most pleasant in the present, still more hopeful for the future. £17,600 constitute a large sum of hearty good will, and witness markedly to the unchanged and vital Charity of our great Order. That 300 London lodges should have sent over £9000, considering the small proportion they bear to all our other lodges on the register of the Grand Lodge of England, whether provincial or colonial, is a fact deserving of serious realization. The London lodges cannot be too much commended for their remarkable efforts for Charity, and we are glad to see the Earl of Carnarvon Lodge so strikingly "to the fore." After so munificent an expression of Masonic liberality and good-will we shall expect a considerable addition necessarily, especially to the number of widows to be elected in May. But we cannot go with those who advocate a constant election of candidates, without any additional source of income to meet the demand, except that which arises from the annual Festival. Such a policy seems to us neither provident nor common sense, and might speedily land the Institution in financial difficulties.

UNITED GRAND LODGE.

THE Quarterly Communication of United Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England was held on Wednesday evening in the Temple. Bro. W. W. B. BEACH, M.P., Provincial Grand Master for Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, presided, and more than 1200 were present. The Grand Officers, Past Grand Officers, and members of Grand Lodge who attended were

Bros. Major W. H. Smyth, P.G.M. Lincolnshire; Samuel Rawson, P.D.G.M. China; Col. A. Adair, Past P.D.G.M. Somersetshire; Lord Cremorne, G.S.W.; Alderman Fowler, M.P., G.J.W.; V. A. Williamson, P.G.W.; Sir J. B. Monckton, P.G.W.; the Hon. W. W. Vernon, P.G.W.; Maj.-General Hon. Somerset J. G. Calthorpe, P.G.W.; Rev. H. A. Pickard, P.G.C.; Rev. Ambrose W. Hall, P.G.C.; Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G.C.; Rev. J. Sedgwick, D.D., P.G.C.; Rev. W. O. Thompson, P.G.C.; Rev. J. E. Cox, D.D., P.G.C.; Rev. Thos. Cochrane, P.G.C.; Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, P.G.C.; Rev. Spencer R. Wigram, P.G.C.; Rev. R. J. Simpson, P.G.C.; Horace B. Marshall, G. Treasurer; F. A. Philbrick, O.C., G. Registrar; Thomas Fenn, Pres. Board of Gen. Purposes; Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, G. Sec.; E. E. Wendt, D.C.L., G. Sec. for German Correspondence; Baron de Ferrières, M.P., G.S.D.; F. Davison, G.S.D.; Jas. Smith Eastes, G.J.D.; E. Letchworth, G.J.D.; H. Dumas, P.G.D.; Robert Grey, P.G.D.; W. A. F. Powell, P.G.D.; T. H. Devonshire, P.G.D.; Jabez Hogg, P.G.D.; J. M. Case, P.G.D.; Raphael Costa, P.G.D.; Captain N. G. Philips, P.G.D.; James Glaisher, P.G.D.; Brackstone Baker, P.G.D.; J. Pearson Bell, P.G.D.; Henry Maudslay, P.G.D.; Lieut.-Col. H. Somerville Burney, P.G.D.; J. E. Saunders, P.G.D.; Chas. Minton, P.G.D.; Hugh D. Sandeman, P.G.D.; J. Rucker, P.G.D.; Ralph Gooding, M.D., P.G.D.; Frank Richardson, P.G.D.; Horace Jones, G. Supt. of Works; John Gibson, P.G. Supt. of Works; Sir Albert W. Woods (Garter), G.D. of C.; A.

Richards, D.G.D. of C.; Griffiths Smith, G.A.D. of C.; R. Turtle Pigott, P.G.A. D. of C.; Magnus Ohren, P.G.A.D. of C.; Capt. A. Bott Cook, P.G.A.D. of C.; Raymond H. Thrupp, P.G.A.D. of C.; J. Lewis Thomas, P.G.A.D. of C.; Major E. Looock, G.S.B.; Joshua Nunn, P.G.S.B.; W. R. Woodman, M.D., P.G.S.B.; John Messent, P.G.S.B.; G. Toller, P.G.S.B.; Capt. George Lambert, P.G.S.B.; W. R. Nettleship, P.G.S.B.; Chas. Greenwood, P.G.S.B.; Lieut.-Col. Jas. Peters, P.G.S.B.; J. W. Matthew, G. Std. Br.; Lieut.-Col. S. E. Taylor, G. Std. Br.; Edgar Bowyer, P.G. Std. Br.; E. M. Lott, G. Org.; W. Ganz, P.G. Org.; C. E. Willing, P.G. Org.; H. G. Buss, A.G. Sec.; James Brett, P.G. Purst.; Thomas Cubitt, P.G. Purst.; L. F. Littell, P.G. Purst.; C. W. Cottebrune, P.G. Purst.; S. Foxall, P.G. Purst.; Henry Garrod, A.G. Purst.; F. Binckes, P.G. Stvd.; W. Bristow, P.M. G. Stewards Lodge; Bradshaw Brown, 1; John Batley, P.M. 2; W. H. Perryman, P.M. 3; H. J. Brown, 4; W. Holroyd, P.M. 9; W. Browne Kidder, 12; W. J. Aker, P.M. 13; Herbert Dicketts, P.M. 23; Jubal Webb, P.M. 55; Major A. Torkington, P.M. 60; Joseph Clever, P.M. 171; Harry Tipper, J.W. 185; W. Hopekirk, P.M. 179; Geo. Everett, P.M. 177; H. T. Rickwood, P.M. 192; Chas. F. Hogard, P.M. 205; John White, P.M. 228; James Terry, P.G.S.W. Norths and Hants; H. Lovegrove, P.M. 1919; James Willing, jun., P.M. 1987; T. Hastings Miller, P.M. 1964; E. H. Thiellay, P.M. 2060; Rev. H. Cummings, P.P.G. Chap.; J. E. Shand; Burdett-Coutts, W.M. 2030; A. Brown, W.M. 1962; W. Claridge, P.M. 1962; N. Green, P.M. 1962; A. McDowall, P.M. 1962; J. W. Woodall, P.P.G.S.W. N. and E. Yorks; Rev. W. C. Lukis, W.M. 837; Geo. E. East, P.M. 458; T. B. Whytehead, P.M. 1611; Wm. Stott, P.M. 61; R. P. Brindley, P.M. 1221; H. Smith, P.G. Sec. W. Yorks; H. Green, Asst. P.G. Sec.; J. Woodhouse, P.M. 928; T. C. Walls, P.M. 1512; T. H. Powell, W.M. 771; J. Wordsworth, P.M. 1019; H. W. Hemsworth, P.M. 1193; J. Brooks Smith, D. Prov. G.M. Gloster; J. S. Cumberland, W.M. 1611; J. Wanless, W.M. 200; T. W. Marwood, P.M. 312; J. E. Le Feuvre, D.P.G.M. Hants and Isle of Wight; John L. Mather, P.G.D.C. Herts; A. M. Broadley, P.D.D.G.M. Malta; Capt. Colvill, P.G.S.W. Cornwall; Sir Fred. Milner, M.P., W.M. 1611; Dr. George Mickleby, P.M. 449; A. F. Godson, D.P.G.M. Worcester; T. J. Ralling, P.G. Sec. Essex; Tudor Trevor, 2069; W. Shalden Smith, W.M. 2016; M. C. Peek, Prov. G. Sec. N. & E. Yorks; W. A. Scurrah, J.W. 2048; J. Vincent Cottrell, S.W. 1837; H. F. Bing, P.M. 1597; H. Lardner, George Kenning, P.G.D. Middx.; D. P. Cama, P.M. 1159; George Powell, P.M. 1185; W. J. Johns, P.G. Treas. Cornwall; W. Lake, P.G. Reg. Cornwall; John Heaton, P.M. 1260; Jas. Pain, 1339; Jas. Stevens, P.M. 1216; G. Ward Verry, P.M. 1421; F. T. C. Keeble, P.M. 1426; H. H. Shirley, 1491; Nelson Reed, P.M. 1572; S. H. Parkhouse, P.M. 1642; A. Pendlebury, P.M. 1056; W. Dodd, P.M. 1194; W. H. Lee, P.M. 1524; Berry, J.W. 1695; J. Hoit, S.W. 856; Jos. Harling, W.M. 30; Thos. Smith, P.M. 30; W. Ansell, P.M. 30; S. Richardson, W.M. elect 183; Phillips, W.M. 1986; Stokes, 1986; and others.

GRAND SECRETARY having read the minutes of the Quarterly Communication of 3rd December, 1884, the same were put and confirmed.

The next business being the election of a M.W. Grand Master for the ensuing year,

Bro. FREDERICK HASTINGS GOLDNEY, Grand Treasurer and Past Senior Grand Warden Wilts, in proposing the re-election of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales as Most Worshipful Grand Master, said: Most Worshipful Grand Master, Grand Officers, and Brethren—I have the honour to be entrusted this evening with the high privilege of proposing his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales for re-election as Grand Master for the ensuing twelve months, and I approach the subject with the fullest confidence that it will meet with your hearty and unanimous approbation. It is of the greatest advantage to a Society like ours, so large and influential, and composed of men of every class and of all countries, that it should be ruled over by one who unites in his own person exalted rank, sound judgment, and abilities which command respect and admiration, and that, unswayed by political motives, and uninfluenced by religious faction, he may be above the thoughts of envy, and beyond the reach of rivalry. Such an one, brethren, we have pre-eminently found in our Grand Master, for his Royal Highness has added to his illustrious birth and great natural abilities the ornaments of a generous education, perfected by a cultivated acquaintance with the liberal arts and sciences. Born to reign over a great empire and a loyal people, he has yet more intimately attached himself to his future subjects by the bonds of Freemasonry. The eleven years of his Royal Highness's Grand Mastership will be for all time happily distinguished by the unprecedented increase of the Craft, both as regards numbers and social status, and also by the extraordinary benevolence of the brethren, who during that period have contributed to the three principal Masonic Charities alone a sum exceeding £350,000, proofs, indeed, were any required, of the beneficial effects of his most excellent rule. I call upon you, therefore, brethren, to accord by acclamation the re-election of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales as Grand Master for the ensuing twelve months.

DR. PAUL, P.M. 46, in seconding the motion, said: Most Worshipful Grand Master and Brethren—I have the privilege and the honour to second the proposition of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, but alter what has been said so eloquently by my esteemed brother on my left, I will merely say that His Royal Highness has done great service to the Craft. (Cheers.) We all know how Masonry has flourished under his auspices, and we know also how he has done his best to promote its interests. Under these circumstances I have the utmost possible pleasure in seconding the motion that His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales be our Most Worshipful Grand Master for the ensuing year.

The Acting Grand Master put the motion, which was then carried unanimously amidst loud cheers.

SIR ALBERT W. WOODS (Garter), G.D.C., thereupon proclaimed His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales Grand Master of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England.

The next business being the election of Grand Treasurer, Scrutineers were appointed and entrusted, and there was then collected the balloting papers, the candidates being Bros. D. P. Cama, James Willing, jun., and John Woodall Woodall. The Scrutineers then retired, and the brethren proceeded with the rest of the business.

The report of the Board of Benevolence for the last quarter having been adopted, the following grants recommended by the Board were confirmed:

The widow of a brother of the Islington Lodge, No. 1471, London	£50 0 0
The widow of a brother of the Old Dundee Lodge, No. 18, London	100 0 0
The widow of a brother of the St. Mary's Lodge, No. 63, London	50 0 0
A brother of the Zion Lodge, No. 1798, Manchester	50 0 0
A brother of the Lodge of Tranquillity, No. 185, London	80 0 0
A brother of the St. Luke's Lodge, No. 144, London	50 0 0
A brother of the Lodge of Benevolence, No. 489, Bideford	100 0 0

The following report of the Board of General Purposes was taken as read, received, and ordered to be entered on the minutes:—

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

To the United Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England.

The Board beg to report that their attention having been called to a printed circular issued by a lodge, inviting the members to disclose their votes on a ballot which had been taken for a candidate for initiation, and which had resulted in five black balls appearing against him, the Master,

Wardens, and Secretary were summoned to attend and produce their warrant and books, and it having been proved that the circular was drawn up by the Secretary, and issued by a resolution of the lodge at the recommendation of the Master and Secretary, thus wholly nullifying the principle of the ballot, the Board resolved that the said lodge be suspended for a period of three months, and the lodge was and remains suspended accordingly.

The Board further resolved—That the Master and Secretary, being both experienced Past Masters, be censured for instigating and recommending the lodge to issue such circular, and they were censured accordingly.

A question having arisen as to the effect of this sentence of suspension, it was resolved—That the suspension for any period of a lodge means the suspension of its warrant, during which time the lodge cannot meet or perform any of its Masonic functions. The suspension of any particular brother involves an entire incapacity on his part to exercise any rights or duties as a Mason, or to participate in any Masonic privileges during the period such suspension remains in force.

It will be recollected that in March, 1880, a sum of £3000 was voted by the Grand Lodge for the purpose of painting and decorating the interior of the building. Of this sum about £1300 was expended in the autumn of that year, when the work was unavoidably suspended. The Board have to report that the painting and decorating of the whole of the rooms, together with the grand staircase and corridors, have now been completed, by their order, under the personal superintendence of the Grand Superintendent of Works, at a cost within the sum voted for that purpose.

(Signed)

THOMAS FENN,

Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.,

President.

17th February, 1885.

To the report is subjoined a statement of the Grand Lodge accounts at the last meeting of the Finance Committee, held on Friday, the 13th day of February ult., showing a balance in the Bank of England (Western Branch) of £2697 14s. 11d., and in the hands of the Grand Secretary for petty cash, £100, and for servants' wages, £100, and balance of annual allowance for library, £13 17s. 6d.

Bro. THOS. FENN, President of the Board of General Purposes, in moving the adoption of the report of the Board of General Purposes, said the only matter in the report which required a resolution of Grand Lodge was that which referred to the suspension of lodges and the effect of that suspension on the rights and privileges of the individual members of the lodges suspended. Hitherto, by the interpretation put upon the suspension of a lodge, it was held that it included all the members of the lodge. This was abundantly proved by the report of the Grand Lodge and the minute of the Board of General Purposes; but as they did not always follow this interpretation, it was attended with great difficulties, and in some cases with great injustice. It had become the practice of late years for brethren to belong to more lodges than one, and it might happen that a brother might be fully and actively engaged in Masonic work in a lodge or on a Committee of the Board of the various Masonic Charities, and he might find himself suspended from all his Masonic functions because he happened to be a member of a distant lodge—a lodge which he rarely attended, and in which he took very little part. It had been suggested that, while suspension should attach to all the other members of the lodge, exception should be made in favour of those brethren who belonged to other lodges; but this was evidently unjust, because in many cases the penalty would fall on those who were comparatively innocent, while those who had been doing wrong in the lodge which had been suspended might escape the penalty altogether. The Board had therefore considered that it would be far better to interpret the suspension of a lodge as a suspension of its warrant, thereby preventing the lodge meeting or performing any Masonic functions, while those brethren on whose wrong doing the lodge had been suspended might be dealt with individually, according to their respective deserts. Grand Lodge was not called upon to enact a new law, but merely to give an interpretation of an existing law, which was suggested by the Board of General Purposes. He therefore begged to move that the third paragraph in the report of the Board of General Purposes be adopted.

The motion having been seconded, was put, and carried "nem. con."

The following report of the Special Building Committee was taken as read, received, and ordered to be entered on the minutes:—

REPORT OF SPECIAL BUILDING COMMITTEE.

To the United Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England.

The Building Committee, in continuation of their report to Grand Lodge of the 4th of December last, now beg to submit as follows:—

In that report reference was made to certain works, not of mere restoration, but of necessary and substantial improvements, including the re-opening of the old Gallery, the various new exits in case of fire, the ventilation, the removal of the dangerous flues, the extra expense on pictures, &c., &c., &c., none of which were of course covered by the monies received from the insurances, and the Committee promised to report to Grand Lodge on the 4th of March the amount required to meet the extra expenditure thus incurred.

The works being now almost completed, the Committee have been able to balance the various accounts, and they have thus ascertained that a sum of £800 beyond the monies received from the insurance offices will be sufficient to defray the entire cost of the restoration, whereby the Order will be once more placed in possession of their ancient Hall, with increased accommodation, with its portraits restored, with its decorations renewed, and with many modern improvements.

The Committee therefore recommend to Grand Lodge that a vote of £800 be made for the above purpose.

(Signed)

JOHN B. MONCKTON,

Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.,

Chairman.

16th February, 1885.

Sir JOHN B. MONCKTON, P.G.D., Chairman of the Committee, in moving the adoption of its report, said the brethren would remember that at the last Quarterly Communication the Building Committee reported the expenditure of the insurance money and the necessity that arose for making some further expenditure in respect of what might be called extra work. The brethren could now see for themselves in the first place that the old gallery, which had never before been opened, had been opened; in the second place the dangerous flues had been removed, the ventilation of the hall attended to, further exits of considerable importance at the dais end of the hall had been made in case of fire or other accident; and a very important item which was not seen that evening as it would be at Grand Festival, the portraits, had been restored. But the sum obtained from the insurance of

these pictures was not quite sufficient for the purpose. The pictures were insured for only £50 each, and he need hardly say it was not possible to get them restored, or rather repainted, in an artistic and excellent manner for that amount. The artistic brethren who had undertaken the work had very kindly done it at the sum of £100 per picture. There were 10 of them involved. The difference would be £800, and the Committee thought that the work of restoration of the hall had been most excellently carried out under the Grand Superintendent of Works, Bro. Horace Jones, in an artistic and admirable manner. The Committee, therefore, came to Grand Lodge in full confidence that they would say the work had been splendidly done by the Grand Supt. of Works, and that they would grant the sum of £800 asked for.

Bro. RAYNHAM W. STEWART, P.G.D., in seconding the motion, said he was quite certain that if the brethren looked round them they would agree that what had been done could not have been done better, and that if asked they would have granted double the amount of money.

The report was adopted.

The Auditors' report was taken as read and received, and ordered to be entered on the minutes.

The following appeals were then laid before Grand Lodge by Bro. PHILBRICK, O.C., Grand Reg:—

By Bro. Henry Godbier, P.M. of the Victoria in Burmah Lodge, No. 832, Rangoon, against a decision of the District Grand Master of British Burmah ruling that a complaint made by Bro. Henry Godbier against the W. Master relative to confirmation of minutes was frivolous and vexatious.

By the same Bro. Henry Godbier, P.M. of the Victoria in Burmah Lodge, No. 832, Rangoon, against a decision of the Deputy District Grand Master in charge of the District of British Burmah declining to give a separate ruling on a second complaint made by Bro. Godbier against the W. Master and the lodge, on the ground that the ruling of the District Grand Master had covered both cases.

By Bro. Rustomji Cowasji Jaboolee, P.M. of the Cyrus Lodge, No. 1359, Bombay, against a censure passed on him by the District Master of Bombay for printing and circulating documents connected with a complaint which he was submitting to his lodge.

By Bro. Samuel George Davison, S.W. of the Lodge Emulation, No. 2071, Sydney, against the ruling of the District Grand Master of New South Wales, forbidding the election of a second W. Master, in consequence of the warrant not having arrived from England, and the lodge working under dispensation.

The first and second of these appeals were dismissed as frivolous and vexatious, the third was allowed, with a direction suggested by Bro. POCOCK, W.M. 1891, that there should be communicated to the District Grand Master the reason—that the brother censured by the District Grand Master had no notice of the complaint and was not called upon to explain. The fourth appeal was also allowed, with an addendum that the District Grand Master thought he was doing his duty, and wished to regard the supreme authority of Grand Lodge. The circumstances of the case were that the District Grand Master of New South Wales having granted a warrant for the Lodge of Emulation pending the granting of a warrant by the Prince of Wales, the lodge was consecrated, and the Master installed. When the Grand Lodge warrant arrived in the colony the first year of the lodge had passed, but before the day of election of a new Master the District Grand Master forbade the election, and it was against this ruling the Senior Warden appealed.

Immediately after the appeals had been decided, the Scrutineers entered Grand Lodge, and Bro. ROBERT GREY, P.G.D., Chairman of the Scrutineers, announced the following result:

Bro. D. P. Cama	...	...	89
Bro. James Willing, jun.	...	...	424
Bro. John Woodall	...	...	749

Bro. BEACH then declared Bro. Woodall duly elected Grand Treasurer.

A brother handed into Grand Secretary a protest against certain proceedings which Bro. Willing alleged against some supporters of Bro. Woodall.

Bro. BEACH said he had already declared Bro. Woodall elected.

Grand Lodge was then closed in due form.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND.

CONSECRATION OF THE LODGE OF THE GOLDEN FLEECE, No. 2081.

A special meeting of this Provincial Grand Lodge was held at Freemason's Hall, Leicester, on Monday, the 16th ult., for the purpose of consecrating the Lodge of the Golden Fleece, when there was a numerous attendance of local and visiting brethren. In the unavoidable absence of the R.W.P.G.M., the Earl Ferrers, the chair was taken by the Deputy Prov. Grand Master, W. Bro. Samuel S. Partridge, who proceeded to open the Provincial Grand Lodge, assisted by Bros. Wm. Kelly, P.P.G.M.; Geo. Toller, jun., P.G.S.B. Eng., acting as D.P.G.M.; Dr. G. T. Willan, Prov. G.S.W.; Joseph Barber, Prov. G.J.W.; Rev. W. Langley, M.A., Prov. G. Chap.; R. Waite, Prov. G. Treasurer; R. S. Toller, Prov. G. Registrar; Rev. C. Henton Wood, M.A., Prov. G. Secretary; W. A. Musson and R. Michie, Prov. G. Deacons; J. Metcalfe, Prov. G.S. of Works; J. Young, Prov. G.D. of C.; A. McIvor Tindall, Prov. G.S.B.; B. A. Smith, Prov. G. Std. Br.; T. B. Laxton, Prov. G.O.; Geo. Matt, Prov. G.P.; Lionel P. Chamberlain, Prov. G.A.P.; and H. Pickard Brown and F. B. Wilmer, Prov. G. Stewards.

The following P. Prov. Grand Officers were likewise present, viz.: Bros. C. E. Stretton, P.P.G.S.W.; Miles J. Walker, P.P.G.J.W.; Rev. J. Bird, M.A., P.P.G.C.; S. Cleaver, P.P.G.S.D.; J. O. Law, P.P.G.J.D.; E. Taylor, P.P.G.A.D.C.; E. H. Butler, P.P.G.S.B.; and J. Hassall, P.P.G.A.P., together with a large number of P.Ms., Wardens, and brethren of the several lodges in the provinces.

Amongst the visitors may specially be mentioned the R.W. Bro. Col. Le Gendre Starkie, P.G.W. England, Prov. G.M. West Lancashire.

Letters of apology for inability to attend were received from W. Bros. Capt. N. G. Philips, P.G.D.; J. F. H. Woodward, P.G. Sec. Middlesex; Rev. S. J. W. Sanders, P.P.G.C. Norths. and Hunts.; Captain J. G. F. Richardson, P.P.G.S.B.; J. Terry, Sec. R.M.B.I.; F. Hedges, Sec. R.M.I.G.; and several others.

The PROV. G. SECRETARY read the petition for and warrant of the new lodge, and at the request of the Prov. G.M. the ceremony of solemnly constituting and dedicating the Lodge of the Golden Fleece was admirably and impressively performed by the newly-appointed Dep. P.G.M., Bro. S. S. Partridge.

A most excellent oration was delivered by Bro. the Rev. WALTER R. HURD, Chap. 1391, Vicar of Oadby, near Leicester.

The musical portion of the ceremony was very ably rendered by a Masonic choir, under the leadership of the Prov. G. Org., Bro. W. H. Barrow, F.C.O., Org. 523, presiding at the instrument.

On the consecration being concluded, Bro. Edward Watson, P.P.G.J.D., I.P.M. 1391, was installed by Bro. Partridge as first W.M., and he was duly proclaimed and saluted. Bro. Alfred Chamberlin, P.P.G.O., P.M. 1391, was elected as Treasurer, and, together with the following brethren, invested as officers of the new lodge for the ensuing year, viz.: Bros. E. P. Steeds, S.W.; W. H. Lead, J.W.; John B. Waring, Sec.; Rev. W. R. Hurd, Chap.; John L. West, S.D.; Geo. Jessop, J.D.; Christopher C. Woodcock, P.P.G.R., D.C.; and J. G. Parr and W. H. Swingler, Stwds. Bye-laws were temporarily adopted for governing the lodge, three candidates were proposed for initiation, and several joining members. The W.M., in submitting votes of thanks to the Consecrating and Installing Officers, the acting Chaplain, and other brethren who had kindly attended to inaugurate the Lodge of the Golden Fleece, proposed the following as honorary members, viz.: R.W. Bro. W. Kelly, P.P.G.M., F.R.H.S., the "Father of Masonry" in this province; and W. Bro. S. S. Partridge, Prov. D.G.M. Thanks were also accorded to the J.W. for his generous gift of a handsomely bound and complete set of lodge books.

On the lodge being closed, and the Provincial Grand Lodge resumed, Bro. PARTRIDGE called attention to the forthcoming election of Grand Treasurer, and moved that the Prov. Grand Lodge heartily approves the candidature of a provincial brother for the office, and recommends W. Bro. John Woodall Woodall, P.M., P.P.G.S.W. North and East Yorkshire, to the support of the brethren of the province. The proposition was seconded by W. Bro. TOLLER, and carried unanimously.

After the Prov. Grand Lodge had been closed, a banquet was served under the presidency of the Prov. D.G.M., when the usual toasts were duly honoured, and a very enjoyable day brought successfully to a close.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF NORFOLK.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Royal Arch Chapter for the Province of Norfolk was held at the chapter room of the Cabbell Chapter, No. 807, at the Masonic Club, No. 47, St. Giles-street, Norwich, on Monday, the 23rd ult., under the presidency of the M.E. Comp. the Right Hon. Lord Suffield, K.C.B., R.W.P.G.M. Norfolk, and the Grand Superintendent. Among those present were

Comps. Hamon Le Strange, P.Z., P.G.H.; Col. C. E. Bignold, P.Z., P.P.G.H.; J. Boyce, P.Z., P.G.S.B.; Jas. Dunsford, P.Z., P.G.D.C.; J. C. Chittock, M.E.Z.; Sir F. G. M. Boileau, H.; F. Mills, S.E.; G. B. Kennett, I.P.Z.; C. R. Gilman, C. A. B. Bignold, H. Bullond, Chas. Thorn, R. J. Mills, T. Howell, and K. Roberts, of 52; R. Martins, P.Z., P.G.P.S.; E. J. Bonfellow, P.Z., P.P.G.A.S.; and T. C. Blanchflower, of 100; Rev. H. Wimple, 102; Sir W. H. B. Ffolkes, Bart., M.P., Z.; W. Patrick, P.Z., P.G. Treas.; G. W. Page, P.Z.; R. H. Aldham, J.; J. S. B. Glasier, W. G. Sherringham, and G. B. Ffolkes, of 107; Geo. Baxter, P.Z., P.G.S.N.; G. W. G. Barnard, C. W. Bacon, and Chas. Sexton, of 213; George Green, P.Z., P.G. Stwd.; J. B. Bridgman, P.Z., P.G. Stwd.; E. Baldwin, P.Z., P.G.S.E.; A. J. Berry, P.Z., P.G. Std. Br.; T. J. Mackley, Z.; J. J. Hunt, H.; J. H. Guyton, and J. W. Browne (*Freemason*), of 507. Among the visitors were Comps. F. C. Atkinson, 302, and J. S. Anness, 376.

The Provincial Grand Chapter having been opened in ancient form, the companions were admitted and the minutes of the last Provincial Grand Chapter held November 27th, 1882, were read and confirmed. The roll of chapters in the province was called, and every chapter was found to be duly represented.

The PROV. GRAND TREASURER then read the report of the Audit Committee, which showed the finances of the province to be in a flourishing condition, and they recommended £20 should be given to the Educational Fund recently established in Norfolk, £5 5s. to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, and £5 5s. to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Widows, which after some discussion was adopted.

The report of the Prov. Grand Registrar shewed an increase of members in the province during the past two years.

The M.E. Superintendent then appointed his officers for the ensuing year as follows:

Comp. Sir F. G. M. Boileau, Bart.	...	...	Prov. G.H.
" Sir W. H. B. Ffolkes, Bart., M.P.	...	...	Prov. G.J.
" E. Baldwin	...	...	Prov. G.S.E.
" J. B. Bridgman	...	...	Prov. G.S.N.
" J. B. Kennett	...	...	Prov. G.P.S.
" G. W. Page	...	...	Prov. G. 1st A.S.
" C. R. Gilman	...	...	Prov. G. 2nd A.S.
" William Patrick (<i>re-elected</i>)	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" J. C. Chittock	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" Geo. Green	...	...	Prov. G. Swd.Br.
" T. J. Mackley	...	...	Prov. G. Std. Br.
" James Dunsford	...	...	Prov. G.D. of C.
" S. N. Berry	...	...	Prov. G. Org.

Comps. G. W. G. Barnard, Chas. Thorn, J. J. Hunt, Rob. Baldry, Chas. J. Bond, F. Mills, and R. J. Mills } Prov. G. Stwds.

A letter was read from the Rev. C. J. Martyn, M.E.G.S., (Suffolk) regretting his inability to be present, but giving the companions of Norfolk an invitation to the P.G. Chapter of Suffolk, assuring them of a hearty welcome.

"Hearty good wishes" were then given by the Visiting Brethren. His Lordship then expressed his great pleasure that every chapter had been duly represented, which was always satisfactory. He was also very pleased with the satisfactory reports from the Audit Committee, as well as the P.G. Registrar's account of the members in the province. His Lordship said that great credit was due to those having the management of these matters, especially in the financial way, as it enabled them to give to the Masonic Charities which so well deserved their support.

The Provincial Grand Chapter was then closed in ancient form.

A banquet was held in the evening, at the Masonic Rooms, at which his Lordship presided. Many companions were present, and the usual Royal Arch, Loyal, Masonic, and general toasts were given and duly acknowledged.

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To Correspondents.

The following communications stand over—

CRAFT LODGES—
 Royal Oak, 871; Brownrigg, 1638; West Smithfield, No. 1623.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER—
 Strict Benevolence, 97.

BOOKS, &c., RECEIVED.

"Hull Packet," "Masonic Review," "Loomis' Musical and Masonic Journal," "The Gem," "Masonic Home Journal," "Masonic Chronicle," "Jewish Chronicle," "Keystone," "Broad Arrow," "Sunday Times," "Citizen," "Bulletin du Grand Orient de France," "Newcastle Daily Journal," "Masonic Truth," "El Taller," "Piano, Organ, and Music Trades Journal," "Freemasons' Journal," "Court Circular," "Liberal Freemason," "Orient," "Allen's Indian Mail."



SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 1885.

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.]

ELECTION OF GRAND TREASURER.

To the Editor of the "*Freemason*."

Dear Sir and Brother,
 Permit me through your columns to thank the brethren for the great compliment paid, in electing me to the office of Grand Treasurer. Trusting that my conduct in the discharge of that office, will be such as to merit the approbation of the Craft.—I remain, Yours fraternally,

JOHN W. WOODALL.

St. Nicholas House, Scarborough.

To the Editor of the "*Freemason*."

Dear Sir and Brother,
 Will you permit me through your columns to thank the 424 brethren who attended Grand Lodge to support me by their vote on Wednesday—more especially those who came from afar?—Yours in fraternity,

JAS. WILLING, JUN.

Rock Hall, Cricklewood, London, N.W.,
 March 5th.

SUSPENSION OF LODGES.

To the Editor of the "*Freemason*."

Dear Sir and Brother,
 Just one word more upon this subject. In your last issue you say that I do not comprehend the difference between the right and wrong "ruling" of the Board of General Purposes. Allow me to repeat that I have made no mistake. All my statements have been correct, and the "ruling" I mentioned was in writing to the Master of the suspended lodge.

But at last we agree. You say: "The actual ruling of the Board is as we anticipated." I say it is, but it was not until the last meeting of the Board. It is gratifying to know that the ventilation of this matter in your columns has brought about such very satisfactory results, and so relieved the Craft of the effects of what was a very injurious "ruling." Of course the brethren of the suspended lodge belonging to other lodges have had to suffer for two months through the error, but luckily they have been the only sufferers, and are now relieved.—Yours fraternally,

A LOVER OF JUSTICE.

March 4th.

THE LATE FESTIVAL R.M.B.I.

To the Editor of "The Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

In your excellent account of the Festival of the above Institution, you state (page 108,) "Bro. George Bland, as Steward for the King's Friends Lodge, No. 293, Nantwich, heading the array with £73 15s." I was Steward for the Combermere Lodge of Union, No. 295, Macclesfield. I feel that it is due to the brethren of my lodge and of the sister Macclesfield Lodge, the Lodge of Unity, No. 267, who supported me with their contributions, that the correction should be made.—Yours fraternally,
GEORGE BLAND, W.M. 295.
Macclesfield, 2nd March, 1885.

INSTRUCTION MEETINGS, V. INSTRUCTION LODGES.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

The meetings of the brethren of a lodge in their own Masonic Hall for practice in the Ritual, I hold, is not an instruction lodge, within the meaning of the Book of Constitutions, 158 to 161. If the same brethren held such meetings for instruction in a public place, an hotel for example, my opinion is that it would be illegal to hold such meetings without the sanction of a regularly warranted lodge, or other lawful authority. Will you give an opinion on this matter? The members actually referred to practically have the sanction of the lodge, so far as that the meetings are presided over by the W.M. and the officers of the lodge, but they take no minutes. It is very desirable that it be clearly understood what is and what is not meant by instruction lodges; and I am one of those who like to uphold the Book of Constitutions, and as a P.M., set an example.—Yours fraternally,
JUSTITIA.

THE STAR IN THE EAST.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Some few years ago, when I was in China, I remember a circular being received from the Grand Secretary relative to the light in the East in the Third Degree, and ordering the same to be discontinued. The W.M.'s candle, which ought never to go out, was then placed at the back of the W.M.'s chair, and until I arrived in England I have never seen the lamp used since. Will you kindly let me know through your valuable journal the date of that circular, and if it is regular for any lodge to use a lamp for the Star in the East.—Yours fraternally,
London, Feb. 20th. M.M., 525.



DEBRET'S PEERAGE, BARONETAGE, KNIGHT-AGE, AND COMPANIONAGE. The 172nd year of publication. Edited by ROBERT H. MAIR. Personally revised by the Nobility, 1885. London: Dean and Son, Publishers, 160A, Fleet-Street, E.C.

The Royal Edition of Debrett is one of the handsomest, as it is likewise one of the most complete and accurate, works of reference of its kind with which the public is annually favoured. The fact of its having been issued during a term of 172 years is evidence enough of its merits, even without any other recommendation that could be urged in its behalf. But, though so venerable an annual, "Debrett," instead of obeying a well-known law of Nature and shrinking, or, at all events, presenting always the same features, grows more important, and offers a rare abundance of new matter with each successive re-publication. This, however, is little more than might have been expected. Those who figure in its pages, when they find no pains are spared in order to insure as near an approach as possible to completeness and accuracy, take a personal interest in what is said of them, and we are not surprised to hear, on the authority of the Editor, that during 1884 upwards of 20,000 correspondents furnished him with information as to births, deaths, and marriages, promotions, &c., while over 17,000 have personally corrected or approved the proofs that were submitted to them for inspection. This, as Dr. Mair very justly says, "indicates the extraordinary interest that our nobility and their relatives take in having family events correctly recorded," and he rightly adds, "in future years this interest may prove of paramount importance to their descendants, by enabling them to discover evidence for legal or genealogical purposes, and to obtain clues that would otherwise be wanting. The constant requisition for old editions of 'Debrett' affords ample proof of its recognised value for referential purposes." Considering what has been said of former editions, we are somewhat puzzled to offer any new remarks. That every year "Debrett" of necessity becomes more accurate, especially having regard to the personal supervision which it undergoes, and to which the Editor has very properly called attention, is a matter which goes without saying. Mistakes are inevitable, but their repetition is not, and between Dr. Mair's supreme oversight and the assistance rendered him by his correspondents, there seems to us to be small chance of the perpetuation of even one. However, if we can say little that is new, we may do our readers the service of pointing out some of the special features of "Debrett." Thus, it is the only work of its kind in which any attempt is made to give the residences of junior members of the families of Peers and Baronets and their collateral branches, male and female; the clubs and places of education of males; the issues of females whose fathers were descended from a first Peer or Baronet in the male line; special indexes to the surnames of Peers' children, &c., &c. Information is also given as to Peerages that have become extinct or dormant, and there are also biographical notices of the companions of the various orders of knighthood. From this, at all events, the reader will be able to form something like an approximate idea of the character of "Debrett," or rather of its special claims on the patronage of the public, but to form a just conception of its merits one must look into the work itself and see how admirably it is compiled; how ample the information, and yet in how condensed a form it is presented; how well

executed are the armorial illustrations; and in fact, generally, how complete in all respects is the Royal Edition of this well known and almost indispensable work of reference. We must congratulate Messrs. Dean and Son, the publishers, as well as the Editor on the re-issue for the current year of this important volume.

PROVINCIAL CALENDARS.

THE LANCASTER MASONIC CALENDAR FOR 1885, Lancaster. Bro. H. LONGMAN, Market-street.

We have issued the second issue of this really useful local pocket calendar, which in a concise form contains dates of meetings and lists of officers of the various lodges, chapters, conclaves, &c., held in the town whence it is issued. It contains also a vast amount of useful local information besides that already enumerated, such for instance as the number of votes held by each lodge for the Aged Freemasons' Institute; that for the Widows; and for the Boys' and Girls' School, &c., and with this in his possession, a brother has practically everything relating to Freemasonry in his own district at his "finger's end" so to speak. The value of the work is considerably enhanced by a very comprehensive compendium of "Masonic Notes," which have a peculiar interest to the members of the Craft, dating back to the consecration of the Lodge of Fortitude, in 1789. The calendar is of handy size, containing 32 pp., and whether regarded for the correctness of its information or for its neatness of workmanship, is equally creditable to our worthy Bro. Longman, P.M., P.P.G.S. of W., &c., the compiler and publisher, and to whom we believe it is a labour of love.

WILTSHIRE MASONIC CALENDAR FOR 1885.

We have been favoured by our esteemed friend and brother, W. Nott, with a copy of this very useful and handy compendium of Masonic information for the good Province of Wiltshire. It is admirably printed and lucidly arranged, and Bro. Nott deserves no little credit for his careful editing and admirable marshalling of facts and figures. It is now the fifth annual edition. There are ten lodges in Wiltshire and five chapters. They have now 426 members of the province, and 1497 charitable votes, showing a great increase in successive years. We regret to note the absence of the provincial balance-sheet, as it is not for foolish curiosity that such a return is asked for, but to ascertain, if possible, the whole general returns and charitable work of contemporary English Freemasonry.



MASONIC SYLLABUS.

"S.R.B.'s" letter in your issue of the 28th February contains one of the most practical requests possible. The project is feasible, though difficult, owing to the scarcity of some books of great importance. Another difficulty will be that almost every book supports a different theory. But first of all Bro. "S.R.B." should inform us whether French or German works should form part of the course of reading and study. I presume a dozen books at most should cover the whole field; but I find that my list of works which I have studied, and from which I have made extracts, and which all have some direct connection with the subject, approaches 400! So the choice is difficult. The text book, when completed, will undoubtedly be Gould's History of Freemasonry, but even this cannot suffice the earnest student—no one work ever will.
G. W. SPETH.

LES CHEVALIERS DE L'ORIENT.

I have read all that Bro. Speth has said on this head. But I do not see that he advances his case much. He admits that all the French authorities, and he might have added Findel, are against him, and that he himself stands alone in this contention. He seems to rest on Tschoudy,—but Tschoudy is, I said before, not a safe authority, and a manuscript concocted at St. Petersburg, May 6, 1758, is, critically considered, worthless. Tschoudy founded a somewhat similar chapter himself at Metz, and is in my humble opinion, a very unsafe guide to follow. A curious little point crops up. Kloss gives us the names of the French members of this chapter in 1766, and calls them members of the Grand Lodge of France. But not one of these names is to be found in 1771 as in any way connected with the Grand Lodge of France. If this be so, then the presumption is, as Kloss honestly admits, there may have been two Grand Lodges under the same G.M., and which he also seems to think joined together in 1762, when Pirlet, probably, founded the "G. Conseil de Chevaliers," &c. The college of De Valois, if a real body, was undoubtedly an ephemeral body, and was defunct, as Kloss admits himself, in 1762. Daruty's argument about Pirlet deserves attention. He does not sign Stephen Morin's Patent in 1762, and probably then was founding or re-founding the Conseil des Chevaliers, &c. Kloss speaks doubtfully as regards Pirlet, though he gives 1756 as the exact date of the Chevaliers—mainly on Tschoudy's alleged manuscript authority. Bro. Speth talks of De Valois as a Mason: was he so? I can find no trace of him anywhere. There was a De Valois said to be Grand Master of The Templars, but all I can find is a "College de Valois" which emanated from the Conseil de Empereurs! See Handbuch. No French writer mentions De Valois personally. Perhaps Bro. Speth can give us some reference to his "personality." If these laws of 1758 of the Chevaliers at St. Petersburg are signed De Valois, I should at once feel sure they were apocryphal, which I am much disposed to do even now. Can Bro. Speth give any reference to them except on "the dicitur" of Kloss, who does not tell us where they are. This very week a MS. List of Officials and Venerables of the F. G. Lodge of 1765 has fallen into my hands, and I will call attention to it next week.
A. F. A. W.

MASONIC TOBACCO BOX.

We are indebted for the following account of a rare Masonic relic to the kindness of Bro. Lamb Smith, of Worcester, who, we think, is right in his conjecture that it

will prove interesting to the readers of this journal. This Masonic tobacco box is of brass; oval in form, and its dimensions are 5½ in. by 2½ in. by 1 in. in depth. The particulars of its history and appearance are as follows:—

It was given by the Duke of Perth at the defeat of the Pretender, in 1746, to a lady, who afterwards became the great grandmother of the present owner, and has been handed down in their family as a Masonic relic, and as the box of the Hon. John Drummond, who, in 1685, became Earl of Milford. This is consistent with "Burke's Peerage," as he was the only member of the Perth family who had a right to heraldic bearings, coupled with an esquire's helmet. The Masonic insignia are on the lid; the armorial bearings on the bottom of the box.

THE INSIGNIA.

Three columns form the centre of box, with a double scroll at each end formed; towards the centre, from the top of the left-hand scroll is suspended a square, and from the centre of the scroll cross-keys. The left-hand column is marked E, and on the top is the sun with rays. In the centre hangs a square badge, with Hebrew characters. On the base stands the Volume, square, and compass. The second, or centre, column is marked S. It has a moon with rays on the top, with three stars and a comet on the left, and seven stars on the right. On the centre hangs a dial, with one hand pointing to 12. On the base a mallet, square, and 24 in gauge. The third column, marked W, has on the top a bust of a man with rays. On the centre hangs a badge similar to one on the E, and on the base a scroll of paper, a square, and rule. On the right scroll, to match that on the left, hangs compass, quadrant, and sun in centre; from centre of scroll hangs the cross-pens. The columns are attached by a loose rope, or chain, and from the centre, between E and S, hangs a circular-pierced jewel, the letter G being the prominent feature. (I here were some of them in the last Exhibition.) On the ground below stands a smooth ashlar. Suspended between S and W is a circular jewel, with what seems to be an ephod in the centre and the letter G. (I have never seen a jewel such as this.)

On the bottom of the box is the coat-of-arms, with an esquire's helmet above; a crest; dog; motto, "Gang Warily."

J D

1670

The box was photographed some time since by T. E. Seed, Weston-super-Mare, and I have a photo now before me.
L. S.

THE GRANDE LOGE DE LA FRANCE.

Clavel seems to think that in its initial years it was also called G.L. Provinciale of France, or, Provincial G.L. of France, but there seems to be no warrant for the statement. Bro. Speth seems to doubt if there be any evidence of any "Statuts" emanating from G. L. Anglaise. Rebold affirms that it was so termed in 1736, and that in that year it adopted Scottish Masonry. A statement without the shadow of foundation. As Findel truly says, we are indebted to a German source for its earliest Statutes. As the Statutes of 1755 do not profess to be those of a G. Lodge, but of "the Respectable Lodge." I am myself not aware of any printed form emanating from "the G.L. Anglaise, so-called, though Findel seems to say so, that some were printed about 1744. Those of 1771 are of the G. L. de la France." But the "consensus" of all writers, including Kloss and Daruty, gives to the G.L. Francaise the original name of "G.L. Anglaise," and Findel seems to assert that it so called itself specifically for the first time in 1744. It would be well to see what is the heading of the Statutes translated or reproduced in the "Zeitschrift." The Statutes of 1755 have not been printed, as far as I am aware in French, as originally given, thus far. Kloss translates those clauses he makes use of, though it is a great pity he did not give us the actual French. The copy he used is of a doubtful parentage. It is professedly of a High Grade chapter, and in possession of a Frankfort lodge, not copied until 1761, on parchment, with Masonic illuminations, and among them the Bridge of the Knight of the East, pointing unmistakably to a High Grade chapter and its real origin. It may still be at Frankfort. I do not myself believe much reliance can be placed upon these "Statuts," further than as an emanation from the Chapitre de Clermont. They certainly had nothing whatever to do with the Grand Lodge of France properly so-called, and it is a "chimera of chimeras" to perpetuate such a blunder.

MASONIC STUDENT.

530]

I have seen Bro. Speth's communication of last week. I do not perceive that what he says much affects the question between us, with all due deference to him. Everything rests upon Kloss. There is no French publication which contains these laws in French, and Kloss himself does not anywhere give us the original French, or preserve for us the original words. As everything loses by translation, this system of handling documents is most unskillful, and uncritical, and unfair to the student, as a good deal may turn, and must turn, on a particular word in the original language. I am not aware that either the document translated in the Zeitschrift, which was Kloss's sole authority, or the 1755 Statuts, are available for study. With all respect for Bro. Speth, Kloss does not say he had himself seen the minute book of the "Lodge de la Chambre du Roi" in 1745, and refers the readers to the Altenburgh Zeitschrift for 1836. His history of French Freemasonry was written in 1852. He does not even say he had himself seen the Statuts of 1755 once in the possession of the Lodge "Einigkeit," and his description may be hearsay; but we may assume in this case, being at Frankfort himself, that he had seen them. In the former case he does not use a single word to show that the minute book had ever been seen by him, and therefore his authority rests on the Zeitschrift, which produces in 1836 an authority of 1745, very nearly 100 years before. Where is that minute book now? When we can see these evidences, and study them in the original language, we shall be in a better position to realize their importance, critically, than we can now. It is remarkable that these two sets of laws are not recognized by any work I am aware of as emanating from the G. L. Francaise. They probably have been put together from Varentraapps and La Teirce's compilations. At present, for any purposes of critical discussion or historical evidence, they cannot be safely adduced or relied on. Indeed, assuming the Articles of 1745, Versailles to be genuine and authentic, they utterly upset the theory of the Scottish develop-

ment of 1755. In 1745 the Scots Masons were disavowed, in 1755 they are dominant, so dominant that they may sit uncovered in lodges, and are superior to all Craft authority though in Craft lodges, and these laws are sealed with the Scottish seal. What Scottish seal? Evidently the seal of a Scottish Body; not of the G. L. Francaise. Daruty's argument is, I venture to think, unanswerable, that as there is no real evidence of the G. L. of France ever being over-mastered by the Scottish Masonry, the G. Loge of 1761 is a High Grade Body, the descendant and development of the Respectable Loge of 1755. The whole of Bro. Speth's argument turns, then, upon the alleged infallible authority of Kloss, who having stated, (on no evidence that I am aware of), that the Grand Loge of 1761 is the Grand Loge of France, though the Statutes themselves seem to prove the exact contrary, as sealed with the Scottish seal, they provide for the supremacy of Scots Masonry in everything, and put forward conditions unknown and alien to Craft Masonry, and preserved in no other body of Craft Regulations in existence! Bro. Speth may have some other irrefragable evidence in reserve,—if so, he has not yet produced it. Kloss, Kloss, is the beginning and end of my worthy confrere's argument, and as it is more than doubtful if ever Kloss saw the Minute Book of the Loge of Versailles, and even admitting he saw the Einigkeit parchment volume his evidence "cannot go further than it will go." Where these documents are now no one seems to know. I hope Bro. Speth's idea is true, as I understand his words, that they are still available for students. As I said before, until we can see the original French in their German dress, I confess they are to me of most dubious authority, and really of questionable authenticity. I have heard from Bro. Findel, but too late to alter this note this week; will resume it therefore next.

A. F. A. W.

523 continued]

THE COUNTRY STEWARDS' LODGE.

"That your memorialists have too much reason to fear their memorial was not generally understood by their brethren who composed the Communication at which the minute was rescinded, and they have good grounds for apprehension that by some accident the real sentiments of the Grand Loge were not obtained at that Communication which can alone consistently account for the rejection of that, which the former Grand Loge had with such marked and decided majority granted.

"Your memorialists are induced by these considerations once more to trouble the Grand Loge with the application, and if the same shall appear to have been rejected by mistake, or from motives incompatible with the pure and genuine principles of Masonry, which deals, or should deal even justice to all, they will, influenced by such principles, grant that the present and succeeding members of the Country Stewards' Lodge be permitted to line their aprons with green silk."

It was then moved by Brother Wingfield, Master of the Country Stewards' Lodge, and seconded by Brother Jones, Senior Warden of the same, "That the Prayer of the said Memorial be complied with." Whereupon an amendment was moved by Brother George Downing, Esq., Prov. Grand Master for Essex, seconded by R. Brettingham, Esq., Junior Grand Warden, to omit all the words of the said motion after the word "That," and substitute the words "the consideration of the Prayer of the said Memorial be postponed until His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Grand Master, the Right Honbl. the Earl of Moira, Acting Grand Master, or Sir Peter Parker, Baronet, Deputy Grand Master, shall preside in the Chair of the Grand Loge." And on the Question being put on the Amendment and the Numbers counted, the Senr. Grand Warden reported there were

Against it	...	...	76
For it	...	...	64

Majority against the amendment 12. The Question on the Original Motion was then put, and the Numbers being counted, the Senr. Grand Warden reported the same

For it	...	...	73
Against it	...	...	53

Majority for the Motion, 20.
Feb. 8th, 1797.

The minutes of the last Grand Loge being read, a motion was made by Brother Millett and seconded by Brother R. Brettingham, Esq., Junr. Grand Warden, "That the Minutes of the last Grand Loge be confirmed, except that part relating to the Memorial of the Country Stewards' Lodge, and the granting a Green Apron to be worn by the Past and future Stewards of the Country Feast. Upon which Debates arose, but it being found difficult to ascertain the Sense of of the Grand Loge by the holding up of Hands, a Division was proposed, but from the Confusion, tumult, and irregularity which took place thereon, the Grand Master in the Chair found himself under the necessity, at a very late hour (at the general request of the Grand Officers and many other brethren), of closing the Grand Loge and Adjourning the whole of the Business."

In the foregoing incident we have a most curious and striking example of the truth of the well-known saying—"History repeats itself," for little more than sixty years before a scene of a similar nature had been enacted in the Grand Loge, having the very same abrupt termination, arising from opposition to some extraordinary privileges which had been granted to the Grand Stewards at the previous meeting. As this incident is fully described in the "Four Old Lodges," by Bro. Gould, and also in Bro. Hughan's more recent work—"Origin of the English Rite of Freemasonry"—I will not encroach on your space by repeating it here, although I cannot forego the opportunity afforded me of recording my admiration at the tenacity with which our old brethren cling to their original customs with regard to clothing, as well as other matters of possibly greater importance—their stern determination to resist any departure from the original plan of Freemasonry, however eloquently introduced and ably supported.

Grand Loge Minutes, 12th April, 1797.

The minutes of the Grand Loge held 8th February, and the minutes of the Grand Loge held on 23rd November last, were read, Whereupon a Motion was made by the Right Honble. the Earl of Moira, Grand Master, in the Chair, seconded by George Porter, Esq., Senr. Grand Warden, acting as Deputy Grand Master—"That the Memorial of the Country Stewards' Lodge, presented to the Grand Loge in November last, and the Resolution thereon, do not stand part of the minutes of the said Grand

Lodge." And on the Question being put and the Numbers counted, the Senr. Grand Warden reported there were

For the Question (? Motion)	...	...	149
Against it	...	...	54

Majority 95

A Motion was made by Brother John Dowling, of the Country Stewards' Lodge, and seconded by Brother James Chapman, of the same Lodge—"That the Grant of the Grand Loge in November, 1789, of a Green Collar and Medal to be worn by the members of the Country Stewards' Lodge be rescinded." And on the Question being put it passed in the Affirmative.

7th February, 1798.

The following Memorial was presented to the Grand Loge by Brother Jones, Master of the Country Stewards' Lodge, and read, viz.:-

To the Grand Master, Officers and Brethren assembled in Quarterly Communication. The Memorial of the Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Country Stewards Lodge, No. 449. Sheweth: That by a Resolution of the Grand Loge in Quarterly Communication dated 25th November, 1789, the Members of the Country Stewards' Lodge were permitted as a mark of distinction to wear a Medal suspended by a Green Collar. That at the Quarterly Communication held in April, 1797, a Member then present moved "That the Resolution above mentioned should be rescinded," which was put and carried. That the motion for rescinding the first Resolution was made without the previous consent or knowledge of the Country Stewards' Lodge. Your Memorialists, therefore, Pray that the Resolution made in April, 1797, may be rescinded, and that the Grant of the Privilege to wear the Collar and Medal may be restored to the Members of the Country Stewards' Lodge.

Signed JOHN JONES, R.W.M.
A. SHIRREFF, J.W.
JAS. WINGFIELD, P.M.
(and fourteen others.)

(To be continued.)



Craft Masonry.

ROYAL SOMERSET HOUSE AND INVERNESS LODGE (No. 4).—The installation meeting of this fine old lodge was held at Freemasons' Hall, on the 23rd inst., when Bro. Frederick West, P.M., G.S., P.P.G. Reg., was installed into the chair of K.S. by Bro. H. Mackintosh, P.M., P.G.S., the Secretary of the lodge, by whom the ritual was very ably recited. The officers appointed and invested for the coming year were Bros. E. B. Cousens, S.W.; H. B. Hughes, J.W.; Rev. H. Lansdell, D.D., P.M., P.G.S., Chap.; J. Chynoweth, P.M., P.G.S., Treas.; Dr. H. J. Mackintosh, P.M., P.G.S., Sec.; Dr. G. Weldon, S.D.; H. S. Pollon, J.D.; Rev. E. Weldon, I.G.; R. G. Hall, P.M., P.G.S., D.C.; W. Ganz, P.G.O., Org.; and C. Speight, Tyler.

At the close of the ceremony of installation of the Master, the W.M. presented in the name of the lodge to Bro. Whitmore, the I.P.M., a handsome P.M.'s jewel, which had at the previous lodge been awarded to him by a unanimous vote of the lodge, as a mark of their personal esteem, and of their appreciation of the manner in which he had performed the duties of his office.

Bro. Whitmore having acknowledged the compliment, the lodge was closed in ancient form. The brethren subsequently dined together in the adjoining tavern, and on the cloth being drawn after dinner, full justice was done to the customary list of loyal and Masonic toasts, which were proposed by the Chairman, and heartily received by the brethren present.

In proposing "The Health of the Grand Officers" the Worshipful Master said that in a Society so vast as Freemasonry it was necessary that those who were chosen to preside over the Craft should be those who had done good suit and service to the Society at large. From time immemorial the Grand Officers had always received from their subordinates honour and support in their laudable undertakings. They were made welcome in all Masonic assemblies, and nowhere did they receive higher honour than in that grand old lodge, No. 4. The Grand Officers at the present time were those in whom the Craft had confidence; the Craft had the privilege of being presided over by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales; for Pro Grand Master they had the Earl of Carnarvon, a statesman who had done good service to the country; then they had a very popular nobleman, the Earl of Lathom, for Deputy Grand Master; and besides they had the general body of present and past Grand Officers, many of whom were present that evening. Many of the Grand Officers were members of that lodge, including Bro. McIntyre, who for many years ably filled the office of Grand Registrar. They had in the lodge more modern Grand Officers in Bros. Devonshire and Ganz, who had done good service as officers of the lodge. In addition to their own Grand Officers they were honoured that evening by the presence of the Grand Secretary, Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke; Bros. Hutton, P.G.D.; Long, P.G.D.; and Thomas, P.G.D.; which last was a colleague with the speaker in another lodge, and the one to whom he owed his appreciation of Masonic life. They had also present Bro. Bowyer, who, with their own Grand Officers, completed the list. He was sure they would not expect him to call upon all of them to respond, and he therefore proposed to call Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke and upon Bro. Thomas to act as Senior Counsel for the Grand Officers.

The Grand Secretary, in responding, said that their W.M. had just very truly said that this toast was a very important one, comprising as it did gentlemen in every station in Masonic life who had done good suit and service to the Order. He therefore felt the honour of being called upon to return thanks for this toast. The Grand Officers felt highly gratified at the compliment their Masonic brethren always paid them on these festive occasions, and he (Col. Clerke) believed and trusted that they would always deserve that recognition at the hands of the brethren. They were always pleased to witness the success of the lodges under the English constitution, young

or old, more especially such an old lodge as this. It was with great pleasure that the Grand Officers were there that evening to witness once more the interesting ceremony of installation, as this lodge had worked it by immemorial antiquity. He had been informed that the ceremony was very admirably performed by their good Bro. Mackintosh, and he specially regretted that he was late, because it was his special desire and hope to see the good and worthy brother, now presiding, installed into the chair of K.S. Bro. West had not only been installed that evening, but he also had the distinguished position of Grand Stewards' Treasurer. He would not detain them longer, but would conclude by thanking them for the very kind reception given the Grand Officers that evening.

Bro. Thomas also returned thanks, premising that the eloquence of the Grand Secretary left him but little to say. He had had the exceeding pleasure of initiating Bro. West into Masonry; but had he known that he was then introducing into Masonry one who would be the Master of this old, historic lodge, he might have taken more care than he had taken in that ceremony. Bro. West was Treasurer in another lodge to which the speaker belonged, and he was quite sure that no one could take greater care of the lodge funds than Bro. West. The services Bro. West had rendered were considerable, and therefore he (Bro. Thomas) took no little credit to himself for having been Bro. West's father in Masonry.

Bro. Whitmore, I.P.M., then rose and said that, as the gavel was now in his hands, the brethren would at once gather that the next toast was "The Health of the W.M." He had very little to say about this toast, although he might have much; but what he had to say he would divide into two parts—first past and then present. With regard to the past, the following was a list of a few of the offices which the W.M. had held and some of which he held still: He was P.G. Registrar for Surrey; P.M. and Treasurer of the Granite Lodge; and in the Royal Arch he was P.G. Treasurer; P.Z. 463, East Surrey; and P.Z. 1328, Ionic. Bro. West was besides Grand Steward and Treasurer to the Board of Stewards. With regard to the present, things spoke for themselves; he was held in the highest esteem and in the highest respect in No. 4 Lodge. They did not only look up to him at present, but had done so almost from the time of his entering the lodge. Bro. West, at his own wish, undertook the duties of Secretary upon joining the lodge, and he had held every office in No. 4 since. He was sure that Bro. West would fill the chair of K.S. during his year of office as well as he had fulfilled every other office. He wished Bro. West a very happy year of office, not only on his own behalf, but on the part of all the brethren of the lodge.

Bro. West, on rising to return thanks, said that the kind way in which this toast had just been proposed, and the reception that had been given to it, made it difficult for him to express his gratitude for the most cordial welcome the brethren had given him on this auspicious occasion. He assured them that he accepted office with sincere feelings of the responsibility it entailed, and he thought nobody could take upon himself the high office of Master of such a lodge as this without feeling that he had not only the honour and reputation of the lodge to keep up, but he had to maintain the traditional history of the lodge pure and unadulterated. This lodge was one of the two lodges which worked by immemorial constitution. Bro. Whitmore, their Immediate Past Master, had been kind enough to say a lot of nice things about him, and he (Bro. West) hoped some of them were true. If in the offices he had already filled he had managed to give satisfaction to the brethren, it would be his endeavour to do the same in the more important office he had now to fulfil; if he could leave the chair feeling that he had not tarnished its lustre he should be satisfied. He should do his best to carry out the duties, and he was confident that all the officers would assist him in his endeavours.

The Worshipful Master then proposed "The Health of the Visitors," coupling with it the names of Bros. Hutton, Wallace, and Fooks.

Bros. Hutton and Wallace briefly acknowledged the compliment.

Bro. Fooks, in replying, said that if the worthy brethren who preceded him had a matter of difficulty before them, he found his task was very easy, for that which they had so well said he could add but little to. They had been there as visitors to partake of a sumptuous banquet. All of them—himself among the number—were not able to be present at the working, that solemn ceremonial, which touched the hearts of them all, and taught again and again how little they were and what great things they might do. Bro. Fooks added that he had but little to say. As the brethren had in their banquet there to their material bodies given comfort, so had they to their inner life and sentiment given very great encouragement. The photoplasm from which this pre-historic lodge was produced led Masons to consider the highest mysteries of the Great Architect of the Universe, which true Masons endeavoured, though vainly endeavoured, to penetrate and understand. On behalf of the visitors he thanked them in all love and kindness for their reception there that evening, and he hoped that they might take away those principles of brotherly love, relief, and truth which the worshipful brother who preceded him had eloquently alluded to.

"The Healths of the Past Masters," "The Treasurer and Secretary," and "The Working Officers" were duly proposed and honoured before the Tyler's toast closed the proceedings.

Among the P.M.'s present were Bros. Alfred Meadows, M.D., P.M., P.G. Stwd.; Rev. G. W. Weldon, M.A., P.M., P.G.S.; Horace Browne, M.A., P.M., P.G. Reg. Cantab, P.G.S.; Mackintosh, M.D., P.M., P.G.S.; also Bros. R. G. Hale; Wm. Lumley; A. G. Velsy, P.G. Reg. Essex; Jas. Ford, 58; G. J. Rowe, P.M. 1185; G. N. Emmatt, W.M. 1035; John Davidson, W.M. 1820; C. Donaldson, M.D., 1731; W. B. Pattison, 1678; A. J. Norris, 569; C. W. C. Hutton, P.G.D., P.M. 96; J. L. Thomas, P.G.A.D.C.; E. Swanborough, P.M. 1319; J. S. Cousens, W.M. 227; Edgar Bowyer, P.G. Sid. Br.; Walter C. Jackson, P.M. 10 and 708; C. Chester, P.M. 99, P.G.S.; Shadwell H. Clerke, G. Sec.; W. C. Fooks, P.M. 229, P.G.S.W. Kent; Peter de Lande Long, P.G.D.; G. H. Wallis, C.E. (Mayor of Eastbourne); J. Jeffreys 1706; R. C. Mount, P.P.G.S.W.; F. Cambridge, 1706, G. Org. Surrey; John Steadman, 1765; and E. C. Massey.

FAITH LODGE (No. 141).—A meeting of this old lodge was held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street,

on the 24th ult. Among those present were Bros. R. F. Jordan, W.M.; Fromholtz, S.W.; E. Hopwood, P.P.G.S.B. Middx., acting J.W.; W. Carter, P.M., Treas.; W. Stuart, P.M., Sec.; Hudson, I.G.; Hakim, W.S.; Steng, D.C.; Charles Dairy, P.M.; Rumball, P.M.; Heaphy, P.M.; F. C. Walls, P.P.G.S.B. Middx., P.M.; Cobham, P.M., and others. The visitors were Bros. R. Bowen, J.D. 65; Hollyman, 27; R. White, 1107; and R. Cursons, 1681.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bros. Maskell and Lange were passed to the Second Degree, the ceremony being well performed. The ballot was taken on behalf of Bro. R. Cursons, 1681, as a joining member, and it proved to be unanimous. The sum of ten guineas was voted to the Boys' School, and directed to be placed on Bro. Steng's list as a Steward at the coming Festival. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet, which was well served.

METROPOLITAN LODGE (No. 1507).—A regular meeting was held at Anderson's Hotel, Fleet-street, on the 18th ult. Bro. G. Edwards, W.M., presided, and there were present Bros. H. Lovegrove, P.M., &c., S.W.; G. W. Knight, J.W.; T. C. Edmunds, S.D.; J. Dimsdale, J.D.; G. F. Bates, I.G.; and a number of brethren. Bros. Puxty and Ball were raised, and Bros. Coles and Pfeifer were passed. Some discussion on various matters followed, and the lodge was closed in peace and harmony.

HENRY LEVANDER LODGE (No. 2048).—A regular meeting of this lodge was held on Saturday, the 28th ult., at the Railway Hotel, Harrow. Bro. H. Lovegrove, W.M., was supported by Bros. C. J. Axford, S.W.; W. A. Scurrah, J.W.; C. P. McKay, P.M., Sec.; and several brethren and visitors. After the reading and confirmation of the minutes, two gentlemen were balloted for, and one (Mr. Wilkin) being in attendance, was duly initiated into the Order. Bros. Smith, Barfoot, McKay, Worrall, and Reece, were raised to the Third Degree.

At the completion of another very successful meeting the brethren dined together, and a pleasant evening was spent. The lodge was in mourning out of respect to the memory of the late Bro. H. Levander.

BOLTON.—Anchor and Hope Lodge (No. 37).—The usual meeting was held on Monday, the 2nd inst., at the Swan Hotel, at 6 o'clock. Present: Bros. F. W. Pacey, W.M.; John Booth, P.M.; Jas. Poyntz, S.W.; John Hardcastle, J.W.; Hy. Lomax, S.D.; Jas. Naylor, J.D.; Robt. Nightingale, I.G.; I. W. Roiley, Tyler; G. P. Brockbank, P.M., G. Stvd. Scotland; Johnson Mills, P.M.; John Morris, P.M., Prov. G.S. Works; R. K. Freeman, P.M.; E. M. Garstang, P.M.; Thos. Hyson, P.M. 348; W. Forrest, Thompson, Murphy, Robinson, Golding, Gillibrand, Clarke, and Mather. Visitor, Bro. J. F. Skelton, W.M. 146.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Lodge having been opened in the Third Degree, Bros. Murphy and Thompson were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Masons by the W.M. The working tools of this degree were explained by Bro. Mills. Lodge having been closed to the First Degree, Mr. Thomas Barnes was proposed as a candidate for initiation, balloted, and elected, and was duly initiated by the W.M., and the working tools of the degree were explained to him by Bro. Brockbank. A portion of the Ancient Rules and Charges having been read by the S.W., the lodge was closed in due form.

GATESHEAD-ON-TYNE.—Lodge of Industry (No. 48).—The usual monthly meeting of this old and thriving lodge was held at the Industry Masonic Hall, on Monday, the 23rd ult., when there was a numerous attendance of brethren. The lodge was opened by Bro. John Moul, I.P.M., in the absence of the W.M., supported by the following members and visitors: Bros. C. J. Banister, P.M., P.G. Std. Br.; Robt. Whitfield, P.M.; John Wood, P.M.; M. Corbitt, P.M., Treas.; J. G. Smith, P.M.; M. H. Dodd, P.M.; James McCulloch, P.M.; A. Rhagg, S.W.; A. Simpson, as J.W.; M. Corbitt, P.M., as Sec.; W. Dalrymple, S.D.; W. Brown, J.D.; W. F. Raeburn, I.G.; R. Ferry, Org.; T. Thompson, Stvd.; J. Curry, Tyler; T. Tucker, J. Davison, W. Whitfield, C. Case, W. Richardson, M. R. Wright, J. Bulmer, R. Tate, John T. Harrison, J. Patterson, H. B. Greene, W. Towers, T. Swan, J. C. Lawson, W.M. 424; R. W. Cummins, P.M. 424; G. N. Patterson, I.G. 424; H. Nixon, Stvd. 434; A. M. Loades, P.M. 24; J. T. Ridley, Sec. 406; W. M. Lyons, J.W. 406; R. Simpson, 406; G. Hardy, P.M. 1643; W. S. Armstrong, S.W. and W.M. elect 1346; T. R. Jobson, 1664; James Livingstone, 1712; J. Appleyard, 413, and others.

After the preliminary business had been disposed of, Bro. Henry Barnett Greene was passed as a fellow Craftsman by the acting W.M., and the working tools were explained by the S.W. The elections for the ensuing year were afterwards proceeded with, and Bro. A. Rhagg was unanimously elected as W.M.; and Bro. M. Corbett, P.M., as Treas. of the Finance Committee, Bros. R. Ferry, as Org.; and Joshua Curry, as Tyler. Bro. R. Whitfield, P.M., took the opportunity of pointing out to the brethren that the present year was the 150th anniversary of the lodge since it received its warrant in 1735, and suggested that something special should mark the celebration of such an eventful occurrence.

After receiving the good wishes of the visiting brethren the lodge was closed, and a goodly muster of members and visitors adjourned to the refreshment room, and spent the remainder of the evening in harmony.

SUNDERLAND.—Palatine Lodge (No. 97).—The regular meeting of the above lodge was held on Thursday evening, the 12th ult., at the Masonic Hall, Park-terrace, the W.M., Bro. J. R. Pattison, presiding. Among those present were Bros. J. C. Moor, I.P.M., P.P.J.D.; R. Singleton, S.W.; W. B. Ferguson, J.W.; J. J. Clay, P.M., P.G.D. of C., D.C.; G. C. Watson, P.M., P.P.G.J.D., Sec.; C. M. Wake, S.D.; J. G. Nasbet, J.D.; W. A. O. Sutcliffe, I.G.; T. Campbell, S.S.; Jas. Nicholson, J.S.; W. Beattie, P.M.; J. Dobson, W.M. 80; J. Potts, P.M. 94, P.P.G.D.; Rev. W. Bowlan,

S.W., W.M. elect 1664, P.P.G. Chap. Northumberland; J. Atkinson, W.M. 661; T. Shepherd, P.M.; J. Scorfield, P.M. 661; W. Scott, W.M. elect 661; J. Sedcole, W.M. 1119; J. Nelson, I.P.M. So; J. G. Kirtley, W.M. 949; and others.

The lodge was duly opened by the W.M., Bro. J. R. Pattison. The ballot having been successfully taken at the previous meeting for Mr. George Eunson, the candidate was duly introduced and initiated into Masonry by the W.M., Bro. Pattison. Bro. Wm. Campbell was afterwards passed to the degree of a F.C. by the I.P.M., Bro. J. C. Moor. The lodge was suitably draped in mourning, owing to the decease during the past month of Bro. Henry Tonkinson, P.M. and Treasurer, one of the most valuable members of the lodge, who by his genial bearing and pleasant, manly disposition had earned the regard of all the brethren. The vacant Treasurer's chair was suitably draped; the collar and jewel of the office hung over the front of it. Suitable reference was first made to this mournful event by

The W.M., who said: Brethren, it is my mournful duty to-night to remind you of the great loss we have sustained since our last lodge was held. I was unable to be present on that occasion, owing to illness, a circumstance I shall always regret, since that proved to be the last opportunity we ever had in this world of seeing and conversing with our deeply lamented Bro. Henry Tonkinson. During the course of the Friday night following that meeting our esteemed brother was stricken down with paralysis, with the result which we all sincerely deplore. In Bro. Tonkinson I feel that I have not only lost a brother Mason, but a friend, with whom I have been on the most affectionate terms from boyhood. I am very sure that his loss will be long felt in the Palatine Lodge. I submit to you the following resolution, which will be supported by several of the brethren:—
"That this lodge deeply laments the decease of Bro. Henry Tonkinson, P.M. and Treasurer, and hereby resolves that the following letter of condolence be forwarded to the widow of our late brother:—

"Palatine Lodge, No. 97, Sunderland,
February 12th, 1885.

"Dear Madam,
"We, the Worshipful Master, officers, and brethren of the Palatine Lodge of Freemasons, in general lodge assembled, beg to express our deep sorrow at the bereavement occasioned by the sad and sudden death of your beloved husband, our esteemed and deeply lamented Past Master and Treasurer, and to offer you and each of the members of your family our sincere and heartfelt sympathy with you in your sorrow.

"By his unvarying kindness, and the great interest he evinced in all matters pertaining to the welfare of our lodge, he gained the esteem and affection of the brethren.

"We therefore respectfully offer our sincere condolence and sympathy, and pray earnestly that the Almighty may support and comfort you, and the members of your family, in your grief and affliction.

"I remain, dear Madam, yours sincerely,
"JOSEPH ROBSON PATTISON."

Bro. E. D. Davis, P.P.G.J.W., said: A high authority taught us that "Man is born to sorrow," and in the Province of Durham we have of late had reason to fully realise the profound truth conveyed in this observation. Not very long since we lost our highly respected P.G.M., Bro. John Fawcett, who was alike invaluable as a Mason and irreplaceable as a man. The sudden demise of our lamented P.G. Sec., Bro. Crookes, followed soon after. Then an esteemed and beloved member of the Royal Family, who had done us the honour of a visit, was, without the briefest warning, removed from the scene of his labours. We had scarcely recovered from the effect of this severe shock when our late highly-respected P.G.M., the Marquis of Londonderry, was called from us. Now the Palatine Lodge in particular has greater cause to mourn in consequence of the heavy loss they have sustained by the sudden death of Bro. Henry Tonkinson, P.M. and Treasurer. He felt assured that the sorrow with which his heart was charged was reciprocated by every brother present. The services of their late brother could scarcely be estimated in any spoken eulogiums; his genial presence in the lodge, his assiduity in duty, his ever-willing and valuable help endeared him to all. Their thoughts must necessarily be turned to the heavy sorrow which had fallen upon their late brother's family. He felt assured that there was not a brother present who would not willingly mitigate or alleviate that sorrow if he could. It was impossible to picture the members of that bereaved family looking at the empty chair of the head of that household without forcibly realising the anguish of their reflections. He thought that if the expression of the profound sympathy of the brethren there assembled could be conveyed to the family of their late lamented brother it might afford a solace to, if not an alleviation of, their poignant sorrow. His own emotions were too deep to permit him to extend his remarks. He felt confident that the brethren understood his present feelings, and trusted that the expression of their profoundest sympathy would afford to those so sorely afflicted the highest consolation they could offer.

Bro. J. C. Moor, I.P.M., seconded the motion of the W.M. After the eloquent address of Bro. Davis, few further words were needed, as all endorsed the remarks that had been made. Their late Bro. Tonkinson had become endeared to them all; his presence at their meetings was always a pleasure to the lodge; his valuable help in the transaction of the business of the lodge they much prized. It had been a pleasure to him (Bro. Moor) to be Secretary during Bro. Tonkinson's Mastership, and when he in turn became Master, it had been a pleasure and a source of congratulation to all that Bro. Tonkinson was elected Treasurer. He was present in the best of health at their last lodge meeting, and none of them could for a moment have anticipated such a sad and sudden loss as his death had occasioned—a loss that would long be painfully felt in the Palatine Lodge. At his funeral the W.M. and officers and brethren had assembled; a wreath, in token of their regard had been placed upon his remains by the W.M., and the touching expression of condolence and sympathy with his widow and family would be a fitting mark of the grief which all felt at that bereavement which was common to them all, but which would be especially keen to his relatives. The resolution was then carried amid solemn silence.

The lodge was afterwards closed in due form. "An honoured memory" was afterwards silently observed, and the vocal harmony was dispensed with at the after proceedings.

MANCHESTER.—Lodge of Affability (No. 317).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, on Thursday, the 5th ult. Present: Bros. J. W. Edwards, W.M.; R. R. Lesenden, S.W.; J. Garside, J.W.; W. Nicholl, P.M., Treas.; Edward Smith, Sec.; W. B. Akerman, S.D.; G. C. Frühling, J.D.; John Bladon, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., D.C.; J. R. Lever, P.M., Org.; Edward Wehl, I.G.; Isaac Pearson, and C. V. Anger, Stwds.; J. Sly, Tyler; W. J. Cunliffe, I.P.M.; Jas. Wilson, P.M.; H. Walmsley, P.M.; J. Dawson, P.M.; M. B. Yates, J. E. Middlehurst, Thos. Sumner, E. Wormleighton, C. E. Rottmeyer, J. Bradshaw, and others.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed. The ballot was taken successfully for Bro. G. Gooden, as a re-joining member, and subsequently for Mr. Basil Marco Vuitchoff, who was elected and initiated into Freemasonry by Bro. Wm. Nicholl, P.M. Bro. Charles Edward Daber was passed to the Second Degree by the W.M., who performed the ceremony most creditably, being his first essay. Bro. John Bladon, P.M., P.P.G.A.D.C., delivered the E.A. charge to both candidates, and the lodge was shortly afterwards closed in peace and harmony.

SOUTHAMPTON.—Southampton Lodge (No. 359).—The installation of Bro. E. Gayton, S.W. of the past year, as W.M., took place at the Masonic Hall, on the 21st ult., in the presence of a numerous gathering. A Board of Installed Masters included W. Bros. T. Dartnall, W.M. Royal Gloucester; H. Webb, W.M. 359; J. Ireland, W.M. Albert and Edward; C. J. Phillips, M. Miles, J. Robertson, G. J. Tilling, all of 130; J. D. Barford, G. Dymott, E. T. Howell, G. P. Perkins, T. P. Payne (who conducted the ceremony), J. P. Hine, C. Cox, H. P. Aslatt, and Henry Lashmore, all of 394; and W. Berry, 1780. The visitors also included Bro. Lavington, W.M. elect, 857; and G. Brannon and F. Waterworth, of the Albany Lodge.

Before retiring from the chair, Bro. Barford, in feeling terms, proposed a vote of condolence with the widow and family of the late Bro. Passenger, a former P.M. of the lodge, which was seconded by Bro. Lashmore, and carried in silence.

The newly-installed W.M. distributed the collars as follows: Bros. Barford, I.P.M.; E. T. Howell, P.M., S.W.; R. Brannon, J.W.; J. Lemon, P.M., Treas.; Rev. S. Scott, Sec.; C. Appleford, S.D.; C. H. Bee, J.D.; H. P. Aslatt, D.C.; Francis, I.G.; and Harrington and Vane, Tylers.

At the conclusion of the ceremony the brethren sat down to a banquet, provided by Bro. Dartnall, after which the usual Masonic toasts were proposed, and the health of the newly-installed W.M. cordially drunk, many "Hearty good wishes" being tendered him for a pleasant and successful year of office.

STOCKTON.—Philanthropy Lodge (No. 940).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall on Thursday afternoon, the 19th ult., when Bro. G. Lazonby, S.W., W.M. elect, was installed as W.M. for the ensuing year. Bro. R. Ashton, W.M., presided, among those supporting him being Bros. A. C. Knowles, P.P.G.S.D.; T. Bradley, P.G.A.S.; Jackson, P.P.G.D.; A. S. Fowler, P.P.G.S.D.; R. S. Hopper, P.P.G.D.; W. J. Watson, P.P.G.D.; F. J. Craggs, P.M.; T. Walton, P.G.S.D.; J. C. Moor, P.M. 97, P.G. J.D.; J. Reed, W.M. 1418; D. H. Watson, P.M. 509; H. E. O. Muller, P.P.G.O.; T. Bowron, P.P.G.S. of W.; J. Hunton, P.P.G.D.; J. Quincey, P.M.; J. Wetherall, J.W.; G. F. Allan, W.M. 509; T. Atkinson, 312; Hewitson, 342; G. T. Walker, Sec. 1802; and others.

After other business, the W.M. elect was presented by Bro. R. Ashton, W.M., to the Installing Master, Bro. A. C. Knowles, P.M., P.P.G.S.D., by whom Bro. Lazonby was duly installed in the chair. The newly-installed W.M. afterwards invested the following officers: Bros. R. Ashton, I.P.M.; J. Pearson, S.W.; C. Allan, J.W.; A. S. Fowler, P.M., P.P.G.S.D., Treas.; I. H. Hart, Sec.; W. R. Hunton, S.D.; T. F. Pearce, J.D.; F. Smith, Org.; Thomas Bradley, P.M., P.P.G.D., P.G.A. Sec., D. of C.; A. Atkinson, I.G.; S. Fox and J. Rudames, Stwds.; and J. Trenholm, Tyler.

Illuminated addresses on parchment were afterwards presented to the retiring W.M., Bro. Ashton, and to the Treasurer, Bro. J. Hunton, P.M., P.P.G.D., on his retiring from the office, after fulfilling the duties with every satisfaction for some years past.

Bros. Ashton and Hunton suitably acknowledged the presentations.

The meeting afterwards terminated, and the annual festival was in the evening held in the banqueting hall, Bro. Lazonby, W.M., presiding.

BATTLE.—Abbey Lodge (No. 1184).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, on Thursday, the 19th ult. Present: Bros. B. H. Thorpe, P.P.G.D., P.M., W.M.; Wm. Lamborn, P.P. G.P., acting I.P.M.; the very Rev. E. R. Currie, P.G. Chap., S.W.; Chas. Armstrong, J.W.; the Rev. C. F. B. Hawkins, M.A., Chap.; H. G. F. Wells, P.P.G.P., P.M., Treas.; R. Hughes, Sec.; J. Fielding, Org.; H. Kimm (Freemason), S.D.; J. B. Foord, J.D.; T. J. Walder, I.G.; Fred Jesson, Tyler; Chas. Martin, W. C. Till, J. B. Foster, W. T. Jordan, W. A. Raper, J. M. Farr, P.P.G. S.B. Essex, and others.

The report of the Committee appointed at the last meeting to take steps for the decorative improvement of the hall was received and discussed, and the proposed arrangements were approved. When finally carried out these improvements will make the hall one of the best in the province. There being no particular business before the lodge, some of the ceremonies were rehearsed for the instruction of the brethren. Bro. Foord, J.D., announced his intention of presenting the lodge with a banner for the W.M.'s chair, an announcement which was received with much pleasure and satisfaction.

All business being ended, the lodge was closed in due form.

HAMPTON.—Hemming Lodge (No. 1512).—A meeting of this lodge was held at the Lion Hotel, on the 20th ult., when there were present, among others, Bros. H. Jones, W.M.; Spearing, S.W.; John Hammond,

P.P.G.D. Middx., P.M., acting J.W.; E. Hopwood, P.P.G.S.B. Middx., P.M., Treas.; W. Hammond, P.P.G.D. Middx., P.M., Sec.; Hollands, S.D.; Eales, J.D.; Ransford, I.G.; T. C. Walls, P.P.G.S.B. Middx., P.M., D.C.; J. C. Jessett, P.M., W.S.; T. Moody, I.P.M.; W. Davies, A.D.C.; and others. W. Bro. Raymond H. Thrupp, D.P.G.M. Middx. &c. (Hon. Mem.), was also present.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. Jones vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Moody, P.M., who ably passed Bro. A. F. Scholding to the Second Degree, and initiated Mr. Thomas Culverwell into Craft mysteries. A distressed member of the lodge having been relieved to the extent of three guineas, apologies for non-attendance were received from Bros. Ockenden, P.M., Hiscox, P.M., Wheatley, J.W., and several others. The lodge was then closed. There was no banquet.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—Hotspur Lodge (No. 1626).—This lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. W. T. Wilson, assisted by the officers of the lodge, at Freemasons' Hall, Maple-street, on Thursday, the 26th ult. Two candidates for initiation came up for the degree, viz., Messrs. J. Graham and R. C. S. Wood, who were most impressively initiated into the Order by the W.M., giving them a full explanation of the tracing board; the J.W., Bro. J. J. Forster, explained the working tools of the degree, and delivered the charge most effectively to the newly-admitted brethren.

V.W. Bro. C. J. Banister, P.G.S.B. England, visited the lodge and was saluted in due form, and returned thanks for the honour. He also complimented the W.M., P.M.'s., and the various officers of the lodge on the admirable manner in which each officer delivered his part of the ritual.

Three candidates were proposed for initiation. The Worshipful Master, in most appropriate terms, and with great kindness, presented to Bro. Robert Armstrong, P.P.G.S.W., a very handsome barometer, thermometer, &c., combined, in massive old oak frame, with a silver goblet, which had been subscribed for by the brethren of the Hotspur Lodge as a mark of their esteem on his approaching wedding, which will take place early next month.

Bro. Armstrong, rising to reply, proved to demonstration the hold he had upon the affections of all the brethren, and his reply was truly Masonic. "Hearty good wishes" were offered by many visiting brethren and the lodge was closed.

The brethren assembled in the dining hall, where, under the presidency of the W.M., Bro. W. T. Wilson, the loyal and Masonic toasts were given and received, and the evening was spent in harmony and good fellowship by over 50 of the members and their visitors, many of the brethren being unable to stay after the lodge was closed.

BOLTON.—St. George's Lodge (No. 1723).—The usual meeting was held on Wednesday, the 25th ult., in the Commercial Hotel, when there were present Bros. E. G. Harwood, W.M.; John Barrett, S.W.; A. Cosgrave, J.W.; Geo. Ferguson, P.M., Treas.; N. Nicholson, P.M., Sec.; J. W. Taylor, P.M., D.C.; B. Derham, I.G.; J. W. Royley, Tyler; J. Morris, P.M.; G. P. Brockbank, P.M.; W. Blain, P.M.; Thos. Higson, P.M.; W. Court, P.M.; Rob. Latham, P.M.; W. Newell, Smith, Pendlebury, Naylor, Jas. Lever, Brierley, Arden, and Parkinson.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, and Bro. Lever was passed to the degree of Fellow Craft by Bro. Latham, the working tools being explained to him by the S.W. The Secretary read a letter from the Treasurer of the Ball Committee (Bro. G. P. Brockbank), stating that from the surplus funds the sum of £20 had been paid to the credit of this lodge with the East Lancashire Systematic Institution, constituting the W.M. for the time being a Vice-President of the Institution. On the motion of Bro. Brockbank, it was resolved that the lodge become a subscriber annually of £1 1s. in aid of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, in response to circular issued by Bro. Binckes, Secretary to the School. The circular for the evening exhibited a large amount of work to be done; but, owing to the illness and absence of some of the officers, the programme was considerably curtailed. The lodge was closed in peace and harmony.

HUDDERSFIELD.—Albert Edward Lodge (No. 1783).—The ordinary monthly lodge meeting was held in the Freemasons' Hall, Fitz William-street, on Thursday evening, the 26th ult., when there was a good attendance of P.M.'s, visiting P.M.'s, visitors, and brethren. The lodge was opened in due form by the W.M., Bro. B. Oxley, and the minutes of last lodge meeting were read and confirmed. The names of J. McKesy and J. W. Rayner were submitted to the ballot, and they were duly elected, and afterwards initiated into the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry by the W.M. and officers, who each and all went through the ceremony apportioned to them in a most creditable manner, being the first lodge meeting after installation. The rest of the business having been dispatched, the lodge was closed in peace, harmony, and concord.

The banquet was afterwards held in the large dining room, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts being interspersed with song and harmony by brethren of the lodge. The toast of "The Visiting Brethren" was replied to by Bros. Rollinson, 53 (S.C.); J. Armitage, S.W. 521; and other visiting brethren. A very pleasant and enjoyable evening was brought to a close by the usual last Masonic toast.

TEDDINGTON.—Sir Charles Bright Lodge (No. 1793).—A meeting of this lodge was held at the Clarence Hotel, on the 25th ult. Among those present were Bros. Charles Stevens, W.M.; T. C. Walls, P.P.G.S.B. Middx., S.W., W.M. elect; Collier, J.W.; Handel, Treas.; R. Forge, P.P.G.D.C. Middx., P.M., Sec.; Warner, S.D.; Hickinbotham, J.D.; Finch, I.G.; Porter, Org.; Hill, D.C.; Owen, A.W.S.; J. Hurst, P.P.G.P. Middx., P.M.; J. Piller, P.M.; T. Goodchild, P.M.; Blanchard, Barns, Simmonds, Middleweek, Chandler, Rose, and others. Among the visitors were Bros. Woodward, P.G.S. Middx. (pro tem.); C. Webb, P.M. 174; Beard, P.M. 946; W. P. Webb, P.M. 1381; Spearing, S.W. 1512;

Poupart, 9; H. Smith, 15; Scattergood, S.D. 753; W. Mason, 1328; Plummer, 1558; Hewett, 1614; Mayo, 1614; Dr. Benthall, 1971; Bailey, 1732; Kipp, 1997; Hughes, 2012, and others.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. H. J. Rose was impressively raised to the Third Degree by the W.M. The report of the Audit Committee was received and adopted. The D.P.G.M. of Middx., Bro. Raymond Thrupp, P.A.G.D.C., having been announced, he was received with the customary honours. Bro. Walls having been presented by Bro. C. Stevens, was ably inducted into the chair of K.S. by the W.D.P.G.M., assisted by Bros. Goodchild, P.M., as S.W.; Woodward, P.M., as J.W.; Forge, P.M., as D.C.; and Piller, P.M., as I.G. The officers appointed and invested were Bros. Collier, S.W.; Warner, J.W.; Handel, Treas.; Forge, Sec.; Hickinbotham, S.D.; Finch, J.D.; Hill, I.G.; Porter, Org.; Owen, D.C.; Blanchard, A.W.S.; and Gilbert, Tyler. The Installing Officer concluded the ceremony by ably delivering the addresses. A vote of thanks to him was carried with acclamation and ordered to be entered on the minutes.

A Past Master's jewel having been presented to the W.M., the lodge was duly closed and the brethren adjourned to the banquet. Upon the removal of the cloth the usual toasts were given. Bro. Thrupp responded for "The Grand Officers;" Bros. Thrupp and Forge for "The Prov. Grand Officers;" Bros. C. Webb, W. P. Webb, Beard and Poupart for "The Visitors;" Bros. Hurst, Forge, Piller, Goodchild and Stevens for "The Past Masters;" Bros. Handel and Forge for "The Treasurer and Secretary;" and Bro. Warner for "The Officers." The proceedings, which were throughout most successful, then terminated.

RUGELEY.—St. Augustine's Lodge (No. 1941).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Shrewsbury Arms Hotel, on the 17th ult. In the absence of the W.M., Bro. George Buttery, I.P.M. 1039, presided, and was supported by Bros. W. Ormson, I.P.M.; Murray, Wigan; and the officers of the lodge. Bro. Taylor, Staffordshire Knot Lodge, was balloted for as a joining member and accepted. Bro. W. Stanford was raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M., in an effective style by the acting W.M.

Twenty-seven brethren were present, and at the close a supper was partaken of, at which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given.

ALDERSHOT.—Army and Navy Lodge (No. 1971).—The regular lodge was held on the 18th ult., and Bro. Grier, P.M., P.G.S.D., presided for Major-General Reilly, who was detained in France through indisposition. There was rather a thin attendance, caused by the unsettled state of affairs in Egypt and the Soudan, several brethren having been placed under orders to proceed without delay to Suakim. Bros. Mullins, acted as S.W.; Foster, as J.W.; Lapham, S.D.; Ray, J.D.; Mead, I.G.; Croisdale, P.M., Sec.; and Burns, Tyler.

After the transaction of the usual formal business, the W.M. feelingly alluded to the circumstance of so many of their members having been so suddenly called away on active service in the field, and hoped they would be spared to return home, and to be again associated with them for Masonic work; and it is needless to say that this found an echo in the hearts of all the brethren present. It was also unanimously resolved to present to Bro. Captain Croisdale, P.M., P.P.G.S.D., a "Masonic ring," accompanied by a vote of thanks, inscribed on vellum, as a mark of their esteem, and as a slight recognition of the untiring zeal he had evinced in the discharge of his Masonic duties. Bro. Capt. Croisdale expected to proceed to Hong Kong, China, on the 25th inst. There being no other business, the lodge was closed.

CLACTON-ON-SEA.—St. Osyth's Priory Lodge (No. 2063).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Royal Hotel on Friday, the 20th ult., when there were present Bros. Sir J. H. Johnson, W.M.; W. J. Nunn, P.M., S.W.; W. M. Foxcroft, P.M., J.D.; W. T. Hook, J.D.; W. Cattermole, I.G.; H. Foner and T. H. Baker, Stwds.; and 26 other brethren, including several visitors from the Arnold Lodge.

Lodge having been opened in due form, and minutes of last meeting confirmed, Bros. Demaid, West, Grosvenor, Graham, and Lewellyn were raised to the Sublime Degree of a M.M., the ceremony being performed by the S.W., Bro. W. J. Nunn, P.M., assisted by Bros. R. H. Ives, W.M. 51, and J. T. C. Turner, P.M. 51. Bro. Turner also ably performed the ceremony of passing Bro. J. Starling, Messrs. Allen, Watson, and Aberdeix were then balloted for, and, being unanimously elected, were admitted into the Order, the ceremony being performed by Bro. W. J. Nunn, and the charge impressively given by Bro. Turner.

A vote of thanks was then accorded by acclamation to Bros. Ives and Turner for their kind and valuable assistance in the ceremonies of the evening, which vote was ordered to be recorded on the minutes.

The lodge was then closed and the brethren retired to banquet, after which the usual toasts were given, interspersed with songs and recitations by Bros. Dr. Wheler, King, Grosvenor, Foxcroft, and F. J. Nunn.

The W.M., Sir J. H. Johnson, in proposing "The Health of the Initiates" made a most excellent and impressive speech.

The Newly-Admitted, in responding, expressed their high appreciation of the honour conferred upon them that evening, and hoped to be able to follow the excellent advice given them by the W.M. in proposing their health. The proceedings appear to have given the greatest satisfaction and enjoyment to all present.

PORTSMOUTH.—Temperance Lodge (No. 2068).—A meeting was held on Monday, the 23rd ult., at the Soldiers' Institute, High-street. Present: Bros. T. Ward, W.M.; E. O. V. Haldane, P.M., acting I.P.M.; J. Palmer, S.W.; G. Reading, J.W.; G. F. Bevis, Treas.; Pithers, P.M., Sec.; P. H. Emanuel, S.D.; W. Robinson, J.D.; W. G. Robinson, D.C.; Q. Ceconni, I.G.; C. G. Adam, Stwd.; W. Muller, Stwd.; G. Carter, Tyler; Wodchouse, P.M., P.P.G.S.B.; E. Naylor, P.M., W.M. 938; and Griffiths. Bro. Beckley was a visitor.

The minutes of the constitution of the lodge were read

and confirmed. Wor. Bros. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., P.G.M.; J. C. Le Feuvre, D.P.G.M., and General Sir George H. S. Willis, K.C.B., were elected honorary members. Nine joining members were elected, and also seven candidates for initiation. Five joining members and four candidates for initiation were proposed. Votes of thanks were accorded to the Decoration and Banquet Committees, to Bro. A. L. Emanuel, P.M., for his exertions in promoting the constitution of the lodge, and to Bro. Griffiths, who acted as Hon. Secretary. No other business was done, and the lodge was closed in due form.

INSTRUCTION.

CONSTITUTIONAL LODGE (No. 55).—A meeting of this lodge was held on the 24th ult., at the Bedford Hotel, Southampton Buildings, W.C. Present: Bros. Fox, P.M., W.M.; Tacon, S.W.; Main, J.W.; W. M. Simpson, Sec.; Cornu, S.D.; Bond, J.D.; Green, I.G.; Dodson, P.M., Preceptor; Tate, P.M.; Larchin, P.M.; Gush, P.M.; Gardner, P.M.; Richardson, Kearne, Marsden, and others.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The First Section of the Lecture was rendered by Bro. Tate, P.M.; and the Second Section by Bro. Dodson, P.M. Bro. Marsden, being a candidate for passing, having answered the usual questions, was entrusted and passed to the Degree of F.C. Bro. Larchin worked the Third Section, and Bro. Drury the Fourth Section. It was proposed and seconded that the Fifteen Sections be worked on the 14th and 21st April. Bro. Larchin, P.M., kindly consenting to preside. Brethren are cordially invited to attend this lodge at their new lodge room, it being one of the most commodious and well-ventilated rooms in London.

FAITH LODGE (No. 141).—The weekly meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, the 17th ult. The W.M., Bro. Marsh, was supported by Bros. Mason, S.W.; Swain, J.W.; Cottebrune, Preceptor; Cross, Secretary; Bassington, Treas.; Grist, S.D.; Green, J.D.; Morse, I.G.; Montague, Mount, Cobham, Festa, Adams, Von Joel, and Weeks.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, and the ceremony of initiation rehearsed, Bro. Festa being candidate. Bro. Cobham answered the questions for the Second Degree, and was duly intrusted. The ceremony of passing was rehearsed. Bro. T. Adams was unanimously elected a member of the lodge. The S.W. was unanimously elected W.M. at the next meeting.

All Masonic business being ended, the lodge was closed in perfect harmony. At the meeting of the Masonic Charities' Association, afterwards held, Bros. Bassington and Jutsum gained the ballots.

CLAPTON LODGE (No. 1365).—A meeting was held on Friday, the 20th ult., at the Lord Stanley, Sandringham-road, Hackney, when the Fifteen Sections were worked. Bro. J. Pinder, P.M. 15, 1672, and 1979, acted as W.M.; Bro. Holloway, P.M. 1158, S.W.; Bro. Moon, 1685, J.W.; Bro. Finch, P.M. 1365, I.P.M.; and Bro. C. Diamond, 1327, Sec.

The Sections were worked as follows: First Lecture—First Section, Bro. Dunstan, 1326; Second, Bro. Larchin, P.M. 45; Third, Bro. Diamond, 1327; Fourth, Bro. Brasted, P.M. and P.Z. 1524; Fifth, Bro. Christian, S.W. 863; Sixth, Bro. Larchin, P.M. 45; and Seventh, Bro. Gush, P.M. 45. Second Lecture—First Section, Bro. Bunker, S.D. 1158; Second, Bro. Kimbell, S.W. 1445; Third, Bro. Draper, 917; Fourth, Bro. Christian, S.W. 860; and Fifth, Bro. Draper, 917. Third Lecture—First Section, Bro. Church, 1365; Second, Bro. Holloway, P.M. 1158; and Third, Bro. Brasted, P.M. and P.Z. 1524.

Bro. Finch, P.M. 1365, proposed, and Bro. Diamond, 1327, seconded, that a hearty vote of thanks be recorded on the minutes to Bro. Pinder, P.M., for his kindness in working the Fifteen Sections on that occasion. Carried unanimously. Bro. Pinder, P.M., proposed, Bro. Finch, P.M., seconded, and carried unanimously, that a vote of thanks be recorded on the minutes to those brethren who had assisted the W.M. on that occasion. The lodge was then closed in due form.

HYDE PARK LODGE (No. 1425).—A meeting of this lodge was held on the 23rd ult., at the Fountains Abbey, 111, Praed-street, Paddington, W. Present: Bros. D. Stroud, W.M.; J. H. Wood, S.W.; R. P. J. Laundry, G. Read, P.M. 511, Treas.; H. Dehane, P.M. 1543, Sec.; Preceptor; J. T. Mickelburgh, P.M. 1425, S.D.; G. A. Laundry, J.D.; W. J. Mason, I.G.; J. Greenway, Stwd.; P.M.'s Bros. W. H. Chalfont, 1425; and W. Craig, 1423; Bros. W. Middleweek, C. J. Morse, F. Chandler, E. F. Ferris, J. Laurence, J. Stephens, H. Curtis, C. S. Mote, and J. Lichtenfeld.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes were read and confirmed. After the usual preliminaries the ceremonies of initiation and raising were rehearsed, Bros. Morse and Ferris candidates respectively. The Second Section of the Second Lecture was worked by Bro. Read, assisted by the brethren. Bro. Wood was elected W.M. for next meeting. The lodge was then closed.

A meeting was also held on the 2nd inst., when the following were present: Bros. J. H. Wood, W.M.; W. J. Mason, S.W.; J. Laurence, J.W.; G. Read, P.M. 511, Treas.; H. Dehane, P.M. 1543, P.P.G.S.D. Essex, Sec.; P. J. Humfress, S.D.; C. S. Mote, J.D.; T. Friend, I.G.; J. Cruttenden, Stwd.; G. P. Festa, P.M. 1900; W. H. Chalfont, P.M. 1425; Jubal Webb, W.M. 55; J. F. Cliburn, H. Dobbin, W. Middleweek, N. D. Francis, C. Coleman, H. Robinson, and W. Death.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremonies of initiation and passing were rehearsed, Bros. Middleweek and Coleman being the candidates respectively. Bro. Mason was elected W.M. for the next meeting, and, after a unanimous vote of thanks had been recorded to Bro. Dobbin for his constant courtesy and kindness to the brethren attending the lodge, the lodge was closed in perfect harmony.

UBIQUE LODGE (No. 1789).—A meeting was held on Friday, the 20th ult., at the Crown and Anchor, 79, Ebury-street, when there were present; Bros. Green,

W.M.; Glover, S.W.; Grist, J.W.; Boulton, P.M., Preceptor; P. Coughlan, Sec.; Gilbert, S.D.; Hume, J.D.; Wade, P.M., I.G.; Chilcott, C. White, P.M.; and Edwards.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Gilbert being the candidate. The ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. C. White being the candidate. Bro. Chilcott, 1624, was unanimously elected a joining member. Bro. Glover was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week. All Masonic business being ended, the lodge was closed with perfect harmony.

A meeting was also held on the 27th ult., when there were present Bros. Glover, W.M.; Grist, S.W.; Wade, P.M., J.W.; Boulton, P.M., Preceptor; J. Gibson, Treas.; P. Coughlan, Sec.; Gilbert, S.D.; Hayes, J.D.; Taylor, I.G.; J. Purnell, Luckhurst, Foscutt, C. White, P.M.; Edwards, Green, sen., Green, jun., and F. Purnell.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Purnell being the candidate. The ceremony of raising was next rehearsed, Bro. Gibson being the candidate. Bro. Grist was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and all Masonic business being ended, the lodge was closed in perfect harmony.

WANDERERS LODGE (No. 1604.)—A meeting was held on Wednesday, the 25th ult., at the Victoria Mansions Restaurant, Victoria-street, S.W. Present: J. Gibson, W.M. and Treas.; Montague, S.W.; Coughlan, J.W.; Musson, Sec.; Mimms, S.D.; Ray, J.D.; Evans, I.G.; Weeks, Tyler; Wray, P.M., Preceptor; Jones, P.M.; Flatterly, P.M.; Boulton, P.M.; Cross, P.M.; Brindley, W.M. 1604; May, Fraser, Hayes, Grist, Somerville, Ogg, Woolstein, Salter, Hume, Morgan, Green, W.M. 1687; Heil, Wynn, Forscutt, Clarkson, and Holland.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last lodge meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree. Bro. Wynn answered the questions leading to the Third Degree and was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and the ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. Wynn being the candidate. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree. Bro. Wray, P.M., Preceptor, moved that the ceremony of consecration be rehearsed by V.W. Bro. Terry, P.M., P.P.G.S.W. Herts, Secretary of the Royal Benevolent Institution, to be followed by a banquet, on the 22nd April. This was seconded by Bro. Brindley, W.M. of the mother lodge, and carried unanimously. The following brethren were appointed a committee to carry out the arrangements: Bros. Gibson, Brindley, Wray, and Coughlan, and Bro. Musson, Secretary, ex officio. Full Masonic regalia to be worn at the banquet mentioned above. Bro. Jones, P.M. 1624, was duly elected a joining member of this lodge, and replied to the remarks of the W.M. in very happy terms. Bro. Montague, 820, was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and nothing further offering for the good of Freemasonry, the lodge was closed in due form.

COVENT GARDEN LODGE (No. 1614.)—At the usual weekly meeting, held at the Bedford Head Hotel, Maiden-lane, Covent Garden, W.C., on the 26th ult., there were present Bros. Laundry, W.M.; G. Coleman, S.W.; Cumming, J.W.; Bethesilt, S.D.; Dowling, J.D.; J. Woodward, I.G.; Clark, P.M., acting as Preceptor; G. Reynolds, Sec.; E. W. Smith, Fowles, Maxted, T. A. Dickson, Shannon, Stroud, and Weeks.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. G. Reynolds having offered himself as a candidate for initiation, the W.M. rehearsed the ceremony. Bro. E. W. Smith having offered himself as a candidate to be passed to the Second Degree, and having answered the usual questions in a satisfactory manner, the W.M. rehearsed the degree of F.C.

Bro. G. Coleman was unanimously elected W.M. for the meeting to be held on Thursday evening, the 12th inst., being proposed by Bro. Clark, P.M., and seconded by Bro. Cumming, J.W. The W.M. elect was pleased to appoint his officers in rotation. The lodge did not meet on Thursday evening, the 5th inst., that being the evening appointed for the annual supper to be held at the Criterion. A vote of thanks, to be recorded on the minutes, was unanimously voted to Bro. Laundry, W.M., for the able manner in which he had occupied the chair for the first time in the lodge of instruction, and also for the clear way he had worked the First and Second Degrees.

This was proposed in a few kinds words by Bro. Clark, P.M., and seconded by Bro. Fowles.

Nothing further offering for the good of Freemasonry, the lodge was closed in ancient form with peace and harmony, and adjourned.

Royal Arch.

MANCHESTER.—Chapter of Affability (No. 317).—The bi-monthly meeting (and installation of Principals took place on Thursday, the 19th ult., in the Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street. There were present Comps. J. E. Steward, Z.; James Wilson, H.; Charles Oldham, J.; R. R. Lisenden, S.E.; W. J. Cunliffe, S.N.; J. W. Edwards, Treas.; John Garside, acting P.S.; James Dawson, P.Z., P.G. 1st. Asst. Soj.; H. L. Rocca, P.P.S.; G. C. Frühling, Joseph Kirby, Harry Smith, H. Walmesley, W. Nicholl, P.Z. Visitors: John Ballard, P.Z. 126; J. Marshall, P.Z. 1387; and others.

The chapter was opened in the usual manner, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The installation of the three Principals was then proceeded with, the installing companions being J. E. Steward, Z., and James Dawson, P.Z., P.G. 1st. Asst. Soj. The following companions were subsequently installed into their respective positions, James Wilson, Z.; Charles Oldham, H.; W. J. Cunliffe, J.; and they were duly proclaimed and saluted. The officers invested were Comps. W. Hardcastle, S.E.; J. W. Edwards, S.N.; H. Walmesley, Treas.; John Garside, P.S., who appointed W. B. Akerman, 1st, and Jesse Tynun, 2nd, Asst. Sojs.; and James Sly, Janitor. After the addresses had been delivered by Comp. James Dawson, the auditor's report on the balance sheet was taken, and was of a most satisfactory character, the report was adopted,

and there being no further business, the chapter was closed in peace and harmony. The companions dined together, and the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were honoured.

LANCASTER.—Rowley Chapter (No. 1051).—The regular meeting of this chapter took place on Monday, the 16th ult., the Principals present being Comps. Wilde, Z.; Hall, H.; Bayley, J.; Longman, P.Z.; Duff, P.Z.; and others. After the routine business had been disposed of, the Treasurer presented his accounts for the past year, and the same having been audited, were passed, and the chapter declared to be in a very good financial position. The election of officers for the ensuing year then took place, and resulted as follows: Comps. Capt. Garnett, M.E.Z.; Bayley, H.; R. Stanton, J.; Gregson, S.E.; Stanley, S.N.; Dr. Dewhurst, P.S.; Simpson, P.Z., Treas.; and A. K. Allinson, Janitor. The chapter was then closed in due form.

WARRINGTON.—Gilbert Greenall Chapter (No. 1250).—The third anniversary of this successful chapter was held on Tuesday, the 24th ult., in the Masonic Rooms, Sankey-street, under the presidency of E. Comp. T. H. Sutton, M.E.Z.; E. Comp. J. H. Galloway, H.; and E. Comp. S. Wallhead, J. After the minutes of the last convocation had been read and confirmed, Comp. P. J. Edelsten, P.P.G. Std. Br., P.Z. 148, 1250, proceeded to install the three Principals, viz.: E. Comps. J. H. Galloway, M.E.Z.; S. Wallhead, H.; and Comp. W. Taylor, J., in accordance with the usual rites and ceremonies of the Order, which was done in a most efficient and impressive manner. The M.E.Z. then invested the following officers: Comps. T. H. Sutton, I.P.Z.; W. H. Jenkins, S.E.; J. Shillcock, S.N.; A. G. Webster, P.S.; R. Heaton, Treas.; and T. Domville, Janitor.

The retiring M.E.Z. was then presented on behalf of the chapter with a handsome P.Z.'s jewel, which was acknowledged in suitable terms.

The business of the chapter being concluded, the companions adjourned to banquet, presided over by the M.E.Z., Comp. J. H. Galloway. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to, interspersed with various songs, rendered in a superior manner and accompanied by Comp. Legge. After spending a very pleasant evening the companions separated.

LEY SPRING CHAPTER (No. 1598).—This chapter held its first meeting in its new home, viz., Anderson's Hotel, Fleet-street, on Wednesday, the 18th ult., the companions present being Comps. W. H. Myers, M.E.Z.; W. McDonald, H.; F. H. Spiller, J.; P. A. Bianchi, P.Z., Treas.; Walter C. Claridge, P.Z., S.E.; J. Seigenberg, P.S.; C. H. Spiller, 1st A.S.; W. Sampson, 2nd A.S.; Brady, Lewis, and Ayling.

The chapter was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous convocation were duly read and confirmed. Comp. G. Ward Verry, P.Z., who was one of the founders, and until lately Treasurer of the chapter, was unanimously elected an honorary member.

The chapter was shortly afterwards closed, and the companions adjourned to the "Ladies'" Room to dinner, when the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, the companions thoroughly enjoying themselves in their new quarters.

INSTRUCTION.

NORTH LONDON CHAPTER OF IMPROVEMENT (No. 1471).—A convocation of this chapter was held at the Alwyne Castle Tavern, St. Paul's-road, Cannonbury, N., on Thursday, 26th ult., when there were present Comps. H. E. Dehane, Z.; J. Knight, H.; F. Brasted, J.; J. E. Sheffield, S.E.; W. Radcliffe, S.N.; S. George, P.S.; T. C. Edmonds, A.S., Preceptor; Walter George, and T. E. Taylor.

The minutes were read and confirmed, and the ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, Comp. W. George candidate. A vote of thanks was unanimously recorded on the minutes for the able manner Comp. Knight had performed the duties of J. for the first time. It was also resolved that a letter of condolence be written to the family of the late Comp. John Eldridge. The chapter was then closed.

Mark Masonry.

PRINCE LEOPOLD LODGE (No. 238).—This lodge met at Anderson's Hotel, Fleet-street, on the 18th ult. Among those present were Bros. T. C. Walls, P.G. Swd. Br., P.P.G.W. Middx. and Surrey, acting as W.M., in the unavoidable absence of Bro. J. H. Dodson, F. Farrington, S.W.; W. C. Farrington, J.W.; T. R. Richnell, P.P.G.S.B. Middx. and Surrey, P.M., Treas.; Codd, acting Sec.; Harding, S.O.; W. H. Saunders, S.D.; Dodd, J.D.; Alfred Tisley, P.G.S.D. Middx. and Surrey, P.M.; and others.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken on behalf of Bro. Prover, M.A., and it being unanimous, he was duly advanced to the degree of a M.M.M. The election of W.M. for the year ensuing resulted unanimously in favour of Bro. F. Farrington. Bro. T. R. Richnell was also unanimously re-elected Treas.; and Bro. Smith re-elected Tyler. The accounts were directed to be audited on the same day as the installation meeting in April next. A letter from Bro. W. Wiggiston, P.G.S. of Wks., Sec., was read, pleading serious illness as the cause of his non-attendance, which announcement was received with regret.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment. The usual toasts followed, and the proceedings terminated at an early hour.

ALDERSHOT.—Aldershot Military Lodge (No. 54).—A large and influential meeting was held on Thursday, the 19th ult. Bro. Stone, W.M., P.G.M.O., presided, supported by Bros. Pomeroy, S.W.; Harrison, J.W.; Taylor, M.O.; Robertson, S.O.; Rix, J.O.; Mullins, Prov. G. Chap.; Hitching, R. of M.; Thompson, S.D.; Thomas, J.D.; Lehmann, D.C.; Adnett, Organist; Cope, I.G.; and Burns, Tyler. There were also present Bros. Eve, P.M., P.G.S.W.; Hacker, P.M., P.P.G.W.; Captain Croisdale, P.M., P.P.G.S.D.; and a great number of other brethren.

The lodge having been opened and the minutes confirmed, the W.M. advanced seven brethren to the honourable Degree of M.M.M., the ceremony being performed in a very able and impressive manner. The next and most important business of the evening was the presentation of a very handsome and costly silver salver to Bro. Capt. R. Croisdale, P.M., P.P.G.S.D., &c., who is under orders to proceed to Hong Kong, China.

The presentation was made by Bro. Eve, P.M., P.P.G.W., &c., who said it gave him very great pleasure to be the humble means on behalf of the members of the lodge of expressing their thorough appreciation of the manner in which Bro. Capt. Croisdale had always done his duty as a Mason in every degree to which he had the honour to belong, and the regret the brethren had that his duty to his Queen and country necessitated his severing for the present that harmonious companionship he had for many years enjoyed. He had an additional pleasure in being there that evening, and having the honour of making the presentation, because the cost, whatever it might be, of the salver was defrayed by the subscriptions of individual members of the Masonic Fraternity who knew his worth, and that must be far more gratifying to Bro. Capt. Croisdale's feelings than any vote from the lodge funds could possibly have been. He wished their worthy brother every happiness during his sojourn abroad, and trusted it might please the G.O.O.T.U. to bless him with health and strength, and that he might return to Aldershot, and find that his work was good and his example followed.

Bro. Capt. Croisdale, in responding, said he was sure the brethren would feel that he meant what he said when he stated that he could not find words to adequately express his thanks to Bro. Eve for the too flattering terms in which he had been pleased to speak of his services, and to the brethren for the hearty manner in which they received them, and he only hoped that he might always deserve their good wishes, and that he might yet be worthy of the esteem in which, as their very handsome present that evening had proved, they held him. He trusted that he might be spared to return to Aldershot to renew that Masonic acquaintanceship from which he had derived so much pleasure. He thanked the brethren very heartily for the very handsome and costly present they had made him, which he could assure them would be always viewed by his family and himself with feelings of very great pleasure and pride. He earnestly hoped that their lodge would continue to flourish, and that they would never cease to endeavour to make the glorious principles of Mark Masonry the standard of their daily lives and actions, and concluded with a heartfelt wish that the G.O.O.T.U. would sanctify their efforts and bless them in their results.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren retired to the banquet room and partook of an excellent banquet. The W.M. presided, supported by his officers and P.M.'s. Some very excellent songs were sung by Bros. Eve, Hacker, Blades, Cope, Greenwood, Hall, Hitching, and others. The proceedings terminated by the brethren joining hand-in-hand and singing most heartily "Auld lang syne," and earnest heartfelt wishes from each and all that their esteemed Bro. Capt. Croisdale and his family might have a pleasant voyage, and that the G.O.O.T.U. would bless and preserve them in health and strength to return to their native land.

WOOLWICH.—Excelsior Lodge (No. 226).—The usual quarterly meeting of the above lodge took place on Friday, the 20th ult., at the Masonic Hall, William-street, under the presidency of Bro. T. Holleyman, W.M., P.P.G.A.D.C. Kent, supported by the following officers and brethren: Bros. C. Coupland, P.M., Treas., P.P.G. S.W. Kent; W. A. Weston, P.M., P.P.G.J.D. Kent; A. Penfold, P.M., P.P.G.M.O. Kent; Capt. Eugene Sweny, P.M., P.M. 44, P.G.J.W. Kent; C. Spinks, S.W., P.P. G.A.D.C. Kent; T. D. Hayes, J.W., P.P.G. Swd. B. Kent; E. Palmer, M.O.; W. Moulds, S.O., P.P.G.I.G. Kent; T. Ovenden, J.O., P.P.G. Std. Kent; G. Kennedy, Sec., P.P.G.A.S. Kent; J. Bilton, R.M., P.G. Std. B. Kent; J. Whiteheart, S.D., P.G. Std. Kent; C. Jolly, I.G., P.P.G.O. Kent; T. Cooper, Std.; W. Popplestone, D. of C.; E. West, J. Aillud, G. Nichols, A. W. Canning, C. Wood, 173; and A. Walkley, who acted as Tyler. The only work before the lodge was the advancement of Bro. J. Hunter, 1536, and the ceremony was admirably performed by the W.M. and his officers.

At the refreshment board the usual loyal and M.M. toasts were duly honoured, that of "The Queen and Mark Masonry" drawing from the W.M. the remark that just now, when war abroad and discontent at home prevailed, it was only right that the loyal and affectionate regard all true Masons had for the person of her Most Gracious Majesty should be evinced unmistakably upon every possible occasion, especially at their meetings; and he was proud to say that her Majesty the Queen had none more devoted to her and her throne than the Freemasons of Woolwich, and he believed wherever the tenets of Freemasonry were taught and carried out. The toast was drunk with enthusiasm.

Bro. Penfold proposed "The W.M." in eulogistic terms, and Bro. Holleyman suitably responded.

The other toasts, such as "The Past Masters," "The Advancee," "The Officers," &c., followed.

In proposing a special toast of "Our Gallant Army in Egypt," the W.M. dwelt eloquently on the splendid qualities of General Wolseley and those under him. Lord Granville had recently stated in the House of Lords that one of the most distinguished soldiers on the Continent, in speaking of the British soldiers in the Sudan, said "they are not only soldiers, they are heroes." As a military lodge they had contributed to those heroes, and then and there were present several who not only expected to be called upon, but were ready if called upon to go at an hour's notice. He and those at that table were enjoying themselves, and he asked them to drink to "Our Army in Egypt" with honours. The toast was drunk with cheers, and after "The Masonic Press" had been toasted, and our representative had returned thanks, the Tyler's toast and "God Save the Queen" closed the proceedings.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—Northumberland and Berwick-on-Tweed Lodge (T.I.).—This lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. J. S. P. Bell, assisted by his officers, at the Freemasons' Hall, Maple-street, on Wednesday, the 25th ult. Two candidates were balloted for, and accepted for the degree. V.W. Bro. C. J. Banister, P.G.M.O., was received and saluted in due form. Several visitors were present, including the W.M. of the Tristram Mark Lodge. The degree was worked admirably

by the W.M., Bro. J. S. B. Bell, Prov. G. Std. Br., and all the officers of the lodge, which called forth the commendations of the visitors.

Business over, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the dining hall, under the presidency of the W.M., who gave the loyal and Masonic toasts. V.V. Bro. Charles James Banister responded for "The Grand Officers," Bro. J. S. B. Bell for "The Provincial Officers," and Bro. Staunn for "The Visitors" in a very able speech. A very pleasant and enjoyable evening was spent.

Ancient and Accepted Rite.

INVICTA CHAPTER (No. 10).—A regular meeting was held at 33, Golden-square, on the 20th ult., when, in consequence of the illness of Bro. C. W. Thompson, 30°, the chair was taken by Bro. W. M. Bywater. Bros. Self and Gilman were perfected, the ceremony being most impressively rendered. There were present Bros. R. B. Croft, Dr. Mickleby, J. Read, G. Powell, H. Lovegrove, W. G. Lemon, J. Woodford, J. Starling, Major Dunbar, W. M. Bywater, J. Heard, and others.

NEWCASTLE - ON - TYNE.—Royal Kent Chapter (No. 8).—This chapter was opened in due and solemn form by Bro. John James Wilks, M.W.S., assisted by the officers, at Freemasons' Hall, Maple-street, on Friday, the 27th ult. The minutes of the last chapter were read and confirmed. Ill. Bro. C. J. Banister, S.G.I.G., 33°, and I.G. North-Eastern District, was admitted under an arch of steel, and properly saluted. Bros. James Deighton Dixon and John Usher, being in attendance, were perfected by the M.W.S. with great care, and proclaimed members of the Order. It was resolved, on the motion of Bro. S. Bell, that each subscribing brother should be presented with a copy of the rules and regulations of Supreme Council. Ex. and Perfect Bro. Thomas M. Watson, M.W.S. elect, was presented by the G.M. to the M.W.S., Bro. John James Wilks, who impressively installed him into the chair, and he then appointed his officers for the year. The Treasurer presented a very satisfactory balance sheet. Two candidates were proposed for the Degree. Business of the chapter over it was closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to the dining hall, where an excellent and substantial banquet awaited them, presided over by the M.W.S. The loyal and Masonic toasts were effectively proposed, and carefully responded to by the M.W.S., Ex. and Perfect Bro. Watson, Ill. Bro. Col. James Monks, 30°, Bro. Henry Hotham, J. J. Wilks, C. R. Fry, H. Maddison, and others. Ill. Bro. C. J. Banister had to leave the hall before the ceremony was concluded. A very pleasant evening was spent by the brethren.

DARLINGTON.—St. Cuthbert's Chapter (No. 96).—This chapter was opened in due form by Bro. Henry Maddison, M.W.S., assisted by his officers, at Freemasons' Hall, Archer-street, on Wednesday, the 13th ult. Ill. Bro. Charles James Banister, S.G.I.G., 33°, and I.G. North-Eastern District, was admitted in due form and properly saluted. This being the meeting to elect the M.W.S., Ex. and Perfect Bro. C. R. Fry was unanimously elected to that office, and Ex. and Perfect Bro. H. Maddison was elected Treasurer (in the place of Bro. C. R. Fry) for the year ensuing.

After the business of the chapter was over, the brethren retired to the banqueting hall, where a most excellent repast was partaken of, and enjoyed by all present, separating after spending a very happy evening.

Knights Templar.

DARLINGTON.—St. Cuthbert's Preceptory (No. 139).—The preceptory was opened by the Em. Preceptor, Sir Kt. John James Wilks, assisted by the officers, at Freemasons' Hall, Archer-street, on Tuesday, the 17th ult. The V. Em. Provincial Prior, Sir Kt. Charles James Banister, Past Grand Captain of England, &c., was received in due form and saluted. The Em. Preceptor, P.E.P. Sir Kt. T. B. Whythead, and several of the sir knights of the Ancient Ebor Preceptory, York (with their elegant banner presented to that preceptory by the American sir knights three years since), were announced as, wishing to visit the St. Cuthbert's Preceptory, were admitted under an arch of steel, and saluted in due and proper form. Sir Kt. John Bailey, Em. Preceptor elect, was presented by P.E. Preceptor, Sir Kt. C. R. Fry, to the Em. Preceptor, Sir Kt. John James Wilks, who installed him into the chair of his predecessors with great care, and after being saluted appointed his officers. The Treasurer, Sir Kt. C. R. Fry, presented a satisfactory balance sheet. "Hearty good wishes" were given by the visiting sir knights, and the preceptory was closed, the Pro Prior and Em. visitors retiring under an arch of steel.

Dinner was served in the banqueting hall under the presidency of the Em. Preceptor, Sir Kt. John Bailey, supported on his right by the Pro Prior, Sir Kt. Simpson Brown, and others, and on his left by Sir Kt. T. B. Whythead, and the other visiting sir knights. The loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and cordially responded to, and when the time came for the York sir knights to return home, regret was expressed that the time had been so short. Some excellent songs were given between each toast, and a happy evening came to an end at 11 p.m.

Red Cross of Constantine.

PREMIER CONCLAVE.—A meeting of this old and distinguished conclave was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on the 2nd inst. Among those in attendance were Sir Knights Shirley, M.P.S.; T. C. Walls, V.E.; Dr. Mickleby, S.G.; George Kenning, P.M.P.S., acting I.G.; Dr. Pridmore, Prelate; H. J. Lardner, Prefect; Thomas Cubitt, P.M.P.S., Treas.; John Mason, P.M.P.S., Recorder; W. Lake, Herald; J. W. E. Macartney, M.P., P.M., P.S., &c.; E. H. Thiellay, P.M.P.S.; Marsh, P.M.P.S. (hon. member); Hardy, R. J. Ward, and others. Sir Knights Broadley, P.M.P.S., Dep. In. Gen. Tunis and Malta; and Heard, were visitors. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken upon behalf of Bro.

Captain Williamson, J.P.; P.M. 529; A. Tisley, W.M. 889, for installation, and it proved to be unanimous. The ballot was also taken on behalf of Sir Knight Broadley, D.I.G. Malta and Tunis, &c., as a joining member, and it also proved to be unanimous. Bro. Macartney, jun., who had been previously balloted for, was then duly and impressively installed a Knight of Rome and Constantine by the M.P.S. The election of M.P.S. for the year ensuing resulted unanimously in favour of Sir Knt. T. C. Walls, A.G.A., &c. Sir Knt. Mickleby was unanimously elected V.E.; Sir Knt. T. Cubitt re-elected Treasurer; and Sir Knt. Gilbert re-elected Sentinel. Upon the motion of Sir Knts. Macartney, M.P., and Cubitt, a Past Sovereign's jewel was unanimously voted to the M.P.S., in recognition of his valuable and efficient services during the past year. Letters of apology for non-attendance having been read from Bros. Williamson and Tisley, the conclave was duly closed, and the sir knights adjourned to a well-served banquet, presided over by the M.P.S. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given from the chair and duly responded to. Much satisfaction was expressed at the prospect of the Order having a permanent home in London, conveniently situated near the Freemasons' Hall, where the business of the Grand Conclave can be carried on, and where subordinate conclaves can meet.

Rosicrucian Society.

YORK.—York College.—The annual and obligatory meeting of this active college was held on Saturday, the 21st ult., in the rooms of the Eboracum Lodge, Queen's Hotel, York. There were present on the occasion the following: Fratres T. B. Whythead, Hon. IX.°, Ch. Adept of Yorkshire; J. W. Woodall, IV.°, as Suffragan; J. M. Meek, V., Celebrant; J. Todd, V.°, Deputy and Prov. G. Sec.; W. H. Cowper, II.°, Sec.; W. Fraser, I.°, as P.A.; T. M. Barron, III.°, as S.A.; C. R. Fry, III.°, as T.A.; T. Trevor, III.°, O.A.; J. J. Wilkes, II.°, Conductor of Novices; S. Wilson, III.°, Herald; Major McGachen, I.°, G.J.; Dr. B. L. Mills, I.°, Med.; T. J. Wilkinson, VI.°; J. L. Atherton, II.°; G. Simpson, I.°; G. Althorpe, I.°; C. J. Monckman, I.°; C. D. H. Drury, I.°; W. B. Dyson, I.°; and others.

After the confirmation of the minutes the roll of members was called, and a ballot was taken for Bro. G. L. Shackles, P.M., of Hull, which was successful. Several certificates were delivered, and the Treasurer's accounts were audited, showing a balance in favour of the college in spite of the heavy expenses incurred in holding the Masonic exhibition in York during the previous February. The election of officers took place, when Fra. Tudor Trevor was chosen as Celebrant, and Fra. J. M. Meek, as Treasurer; after which Fra. Meek proceeded to induct his successor into the chair of Celebrant. The Chief Adept then delivered his annual address, in the course of which he took up the early traditional history of the Rosicrucian Order from the publication of the "Fama Fraternitatis" in 1614, to the end of the 17th century, when the name had almost died out. He told the story of Christian Rosenkreutz, and related something of the works of John Valentine Andrea, and attempted to explain something of the real objects of his writings. He quoted authors on the subject, including De Quincy, Sloane, Vaughan, &c., and alluded to the later Rosicrucian Order in Holland. He showed how the term "Rosicrucian" became a generic name for scientific investigators of many kinds, and how almost any pseudo-philosopher could at one period set up a reputation as a Rosicrucian by means of a retort, a handful of crucibles, and a stuffed crocodile. He then mentioned the theories of some writers with regard to the connection between Freemasonry and Rosicrucianism, and suggested that there was no ground for the suggestion of the descent of the Craft from the Society, and that the error probably arose from the similarity between the names of Rose Croix and Rosicrucian, adding that the etymology of the titles was entirely different. He stated the opinions of authorities on many of these points, and entered into many minor points of discussion bearing upon the old Society and its real meaning. Coming down to the present time, the Chief Adept gave an account of the condition of the modern Society in various parts of the world. He said that with regard to the York College it had been founded in 1879, and since that period over 80 members had been admitted, nearly all of whom were Past Masters, and most of them brethren of distinction in the Craft, and the present roll of subscribing members numbered over 60. He reminded them of the objects of the Order, and alluded to the great studies that had been and were being made in Masonic literature, alluding to the great labours of Bros. Hughan and Gould, and other writers. As an example of how points of interest in Masonic history might be dealt with, he quoted from Bro. Bywater's newly-published sketch of and apology for Dermott, the Grand Secretary of the "Ancients," and Bro. Hughan's last work on "The Origin of the English Rite," and concluded by an appeal to the brethren of the province to justify their existence as a body by doing good work in the cause of Masonic archaeology. After the close of the address some minor matters were disposed of, a brother was proposed as a candidate, a number of apologies for absence were read, and the M.C. was dissolved.

The fratres afterwards assembled at high tea, and the rest of the evening was passed in Masonic converse.

Greece.

ZANTE.—Star of the East Lodge (No. 880).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, the 19th ult. Present: Bros. J. Margari, W.M.; L. Candachiti, S.W.; O. Renzo, J.W.; M. Dicopulo, Chap.; A. Strusa, Treas.; A. Maropulo, Sec.; J. Tricardo, S.D.; P. Marzocchi, J.D.; A. Calzetti, D.C.; C. Condoni, I.G.; D. Leonarditi, Tyler; G. Carvella, P.M.; D. Sicuro, P.M.; and F. Carrer, P.M. This prosperous lodge celebrated the annual Festival of St. John, on Monday, the 19th ult. There was an unusually numerous gathering of members and visitors, and the ceremony was throughout of a solemn and impressive character.

The lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. Margari, after which the ceremony of the installation of Bro. Candachiti, as the new W.M., was proceeded with. Before handing his mallet over to Bro. Candachiti, Bro. Margari addressed

him in complimentary and touching words, which were responded to in equally proper terms. The newly-installed W.M. then appointed and invested the officers for the ensuing year as follows: Bros. O. Renzo, S.W.; J. Tricardo, J.W.; Dicopulo, Chap.; Strusa, Treas.; C. Coskina, Sec.; R. Marzocchi, S.D.; Condoni, J.D.; S. Mercati, D.D.; P. Marzocchi, I.G.; and Leonarditi, Tyler.

Before closing the lodge the brethren removed to another hall, where a substantial repast was in attendance.

The toasts of the "King of the Hellenes," and that of "The Prince of Wales," as M.W.G. Master of England, were proposed by the W.M., and acknowledged with enthusiasm.

Bro. Margari, P.M., then rose and proposed the toast of "The Newly-installed W.M." He displayed, in striking eloquence, those real sentiments which disclose an elevated mind, and a man aware of having, at all times, performed his duties, both as a citizen and as a Freemason.

His allocution was responded to by Bro. Candachiti, W.M., who delivered a most able speech, alike distinct and impressive. He declared that he would henceforth hold himself aloof from any abstract idealism as regards the Order; that he intended to pursue a new path, and direct his energies towards a fresh Masonic action in Greece. In a speedy but accurate survey of Freemasonry as conducted in the different parts of Europe, such as in England, in Italy and in Greece, he demonstrated that Freemasonry—although constituting an only and indissoluble union, in substance—can adopt several means for reaching the principal scope of its ministry, the contribution to the intellectual and moral improvement of society; and such means that would be consistent with the social ambient in which the Order has been summoned to work. After disclosing his own conceptions on the subject, he reserved the same for subsequent meetings of the lodge, when he would coalesce all those means which he deemed necessary, in order to uphold the credit and prestige of Freemasonry in this country, by studying its requirements and promote its welfare.

Several other toasts concluded the proceedings.

China.

On the 17th January, the Perseverance Lodge gave a picnic at the grounds of Kowloon, of R.W. Bro. C. P. Chater, D.G.M., which he had kindly lent for the occasion. Tennis, rounders, croquet, and quoits were indulged in as amusements, and a photograph of the whole company, and another of the members of the lodge only, were taken. At a dinner held in the bungalow, W. Bro. P. Jordan, W.M., presided, and the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, interspersed with songs, &c., and a most pleasant evening was spent. The grounds were brilliantly illuminated with lanterns, and a display of fireworks also took place. We trust that the members of other lodges will follow the example given by the Perseverance lodge.

We hear that the Freemasons of Shanghai are taking steps to open a school, and that over Tls. 1000 has already been subscribed for the purpose. But a much larger sum is yet required. The project is one that deserves to be successful, and there is no doubt that if the true principles of the Craft guide the support the members individually and collectively give, the Masonic fraternity will have a school on which they will be able to look with pride. So far as the outside world is concerned they have little to be proud of in Shanghai, at present, and a good school would be a worthy ornament.

DISTRICT GRAND LODGE OF NORTHERN CHINA.

A regular communication of this District Grand Lodge was held at the Masonic Hall on Wednesday evening, the 7th January, there being a large attendance of members of the Grand Lodge and visitors.

R.W. Bro. THORNE, District Grand Master, announced that he had received a letter from the Grand Lodge at home accepting his resignation; but, by request of W. Bro. Miller, D.D.G.M., R.W. Bro. Thorne consented to preside over this meeting, and to install the District Grand Officers for the ensuing year.

The following officers were then appointed, and, with the exception of two or three who were absent, duly invested with their insignia of office, W. Bro. Short having previously been re-elected to the office of Dist. G. Treasurer:

- Bro. J. I. Miller (in charge) Dep. Dist. G.M.
- W. C. Howard Dist. G.S.W.
- Lalcaca Dist. G.J.W.
- The Rev. F. R. Smith Dist. G. Chap.
- W. H. Short Dist. G. Treas.
- A. Johnsford Dist. G. Reg.
- J. M. Cory Dist. G.P.B.G.P.
- R. D. Starkey Dist. G. Sec.
- D. M. Davis Dist. G.S.D.
- J. Stewart Dist. G.J.D.
- J. Morris Dist. G.S. of W.
- O. Middleton Dist. G.D.C.
- J. Findlay Dist. G.A.D.C.
- G. R. Wingrove Dist. G. Swd. Br.
- A. M. A. Evans Dist. G. Std. Br.
- R. A. Gubbay Dist. G. Std. Br.
- G. B. Fentum Dist. G. Org.
- A. P. Macgregor Dist. G. Purst.
- R. W. Astill Dist. G.A. Purst.
- J. S. Ezekiel } Dist. G. Stwds.
- G. M. Hart }
- Jas. Jones }
- C. Merritt } Dist. G. Tyler.

W. Bros. Evans, Gubbay, and Findlay were elected members of the District Grand Board of General Purposes. Before the lodge was closed, the following resolution was proposed by W. Bro. MILLER, seconded by W. Bro. HOWARD, and carried with acclamation:—"That this District Grand Lodge cannot separate without expressing its deep sense of the benefits it has received from R.W. Bro. Thorne, its first District Grand Master, in performing the arduous duties appertaining to its foundation; and now beg to offer him the heartfelt thanks of all members of the Craft for his constant and watchful care of their interests during his seven years of office. The members of the District Grand Lodge pray that the G.A.O.T.U. may long spare him health and life to continue his services to the Craft of which he has been so long an ornament."

FIRST ANNUAL SUPPER OF THE CHISWICK LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, No. 2012.

The first annual supper took place on Saturday, 28th ult., at the Bolton Hotel, Chiswick, and a goodly muster assembled. Bro. Gardner, Treas., in the chair, and Bro. Strong in the vice. Amongst those present were Bros. E. Gilbert, Prov. G.S., P.M., P.Z.; F. R. Hayes, W.M.; W. Mann, P.M., P.Z.; Jackson, P.M.; Johnson, P.M.; Horsfall, P.M.; V. Wing, W. Dowling, H. Furze, J. Sims, Craiggs, Fruen, Hoodless, W. Williams, A. Williams, E. M. Coombe, Walden, Seers, Meyer, Tilbury, Backer, Rowling, Gomm, Tipper, Dameron, Milburn, Durrant, Muir, and several others.

The cloth being removed, the usual loyal toasts were given and drank with enthusiasm.

The CHAIRMAN, in responding to the toast of his health, said that he was proud to occupy the position he did on the present occasion, and thanked them for speaking of him in the kind manner they had. It gave him great pleasure to find such a muster as they had to-night, and trusted on future occasions that they would have equally good meetings. Since he had been connected with the lodge he had tried to make it a success, and he hoped that he had succeeded, and trusted he should continue to do so. He was sure that they all thought it was, and he could assure them that both the mother lodge and the lodge of instruction, now both in a prosperous condition, had subscribed to the Charities, and he was happy to say that he had the honour to be a Steward at the great Benevolent Festival, and a magnificent sum of £17,500 was subscribed, and asked them one all not to forget that the first principle in Freemasonry was Charity. He then gave them the toast of the evening, viz., "The Lodge of Instruction," coupling with it the name of the Secretary, Bro. A. Strong.

Bro. STRONG, in responding, said the lodge was started the latter end of May, 1884, and since then they had had between five and six hundred attendances, exclusive of the evening when the consecrating ceremony was rehearsed, when there were present over 90 M.M.'s. They had received £16, and had subscribed £5 to the Boys' School. Their expenses had been rather heavy; but they were out of debt, and the treasury had a balance in hand. He assured them that those who were not members of the lodge if they came they would acquire quickly under the able tuition of their worthy Preceptor, Bro. Ayling—who, he was sorry to hear, was not well enough to be present—that knowledge of the working it was necessary for every Mason to possess.

The toast of "The Visitors" followed, and was responded to.

The SECRETARY then proposed "The Health of the Treasurer," which was drunk with musical honours.

The TREASURER, in returning thanks, said that, by the manner in which the toast had been given and received, he had given the brethren satisfaction. It was what he had tried to do, and trusted that as long as he remained their Treasurer they would have the same amount of confidence in him that they had shown that evening. As regarded the funds, he thought before the 12 months had expired they would be able to hold the first ballot for life subscribership to one of the Charities, and reminded them that it was only by constant attendance that they could make themselves eligible to take part in it, and advised those who had not made themselves eligible to do so.

Songs and recitations were interspersed, and after the toast of "Bro. Wright, the Host," "God save the Queen" was sung. There being several Scotch brethren present, who had seemingly enjoyed themselves, a verse of "Auld lang syne" was sung in Highland style, and so ended a very happy meeting.

THE QUEBEC DIFFICULTY.

We cull the following extracts from our Canadian contemporary, the *Montreal Times*, of February 16th:—

"Apropos to the edict recently issued by the Grand Master of Quebec discrediting all Masons holding of the Grand Lodge of England, it is stated that, in defiance of it, and recognising its injustice, impropriety, and futility, a number of prominent Quebec Masons have manifested their hostility to the command by visiting several English lodges in this city, where were amply demonstrated towards them fraternal feelings of Freemasonry.

"It is further understood that the Grand Master of Quebec, who issued the edict, has since that time sought for an official interview with the District Grand Master of England in this city.

"It has been remarked as very remarkable that, although the Grand Lodge of Quebec approved the Grand Master's edict—by a narrow majority—the Grand Lodge unanimously adopted a resolution of sympathy and condolence with the widow of an English Freemason."

In the *Toronto Freemason* for February appear the two following letters:

"Hamilton, Jan. 30th, 1885.

"Dear Sir and Brother,
"In answer to your question—1st. Will the Grand Lodge of Canada become involved in the Quebec-England controversy? I would say, not necessarily. That will depend greatly on the shape matters may assume. It, however, is a question that the Grand Lodge alone can decide.

"2nd. What is your opinion on Quebec's edict of non-intercourse? The edict of the Grand Master of Quebec has just reached me. It is addressed to the brethren in obedience to the Grand Lodge of Quebec, and affects them alone. The recognition which was accorded by the Grand Lodge of Canada, at the date of the agreement with the Grand Lodge of England, to the lodges referred to, is still in force, and we have one lodge in our jurisdiction holding allegiance to the Grand Lodge of Ireland, whose work is considered by us regular and legal. I think it would be premature for me at present to express an opinion on the edict.—I am, my dear Bro. Cowan, yours fraternally,
HUGH MURRAY, G.M."

"London, Jan. 28, 1885.

"Dear Sir and Brother,
"Your letter to hand, and in reply I may say to the first question that I cannot tell what the Grand Lodge of Canada may do in the Quebec-England controversy, but I hope those in authority at present will be as wise as

those that have gone before, and keep out of the trouble, as it is not a matter that concerns us in the least, and as a matter of fact we owe Quebec very little indeed.

"2nd. My opinion of edicts of non-intercourse with Masons, ordered by G. Lodges, are often very absurd, as I think the present is. Masons ought to find some other method to arrange their differences, and I question very much the power of any G.L. to command its members to obey any such edict. Should the G.L. of Canada unfortunately adopt such a course the same remarks will apply to her.

"I want you to understand that I have written of the A. F. & A. M.; the Mark Master business I have not considered.

"The other they got as a legacy from the Grand Lodge of Canada, and I hold they have no right to change the conditions, or only by acts of kindness and moral suasion, as it is sometimes called.—Yours fraternally,
"JAS. MOFFAT, P.G.M."

CONSECRATION OF A MASONIC HALL IN SOUTH AFRICA.

The foundation-stone of a new hall for the Sir Charles Warren Lodge, the Diamond Fields, South Africa, having been laid last October, and the building being completed, the impressive ceremony of consecrating it as a lodge was performed by the P. District Grand Master, R.W. Bro. Giddy, on the afternoon of Wednesday, the 4th February.

The building, which is from the design of Bro. C. Abarrow, the W.M. of the lodge, has no pretensions to an elaborate exterior, but shows good workmanship throughout. The entrance, which is at the west end, admits you into an ample ante-room, to the left is a robing room, while to the right, through an archway, is the library, the books of which were chosen by Bro. Sir Charles Warren when the lodge was started six years ago. The lodge room, which is capable of holding over 200, is lofty, with an arched ceiling springing from a caved cornice, under which are the small ventilating windows, admitting a subdued light through tinted glass. The east wall is divided into three arches, springing from columns of the Tuscan order, while a dado runs round the lodge. The walls and ceilings throughout are tinted pale blue, with the mouldings, &c., brought out in a darker shade. The whole of the work and fittings were entrusted to Bro. Langford, who has carried them out in a most thoroughly workmanlike manner.

After the brethren had assembled, and the W.M. had opened the lodge in the Three Degrees, the P. District Grand Master addressed the brethren on the nature of the meeting, when prayer was offered by the Chaplain.

The lodge was then adjourned and marshalled in procession, under the direction of Bro. Connolly, P.M., D.C., to the Wesleyan Church, where Divine service was conducted, and an address given by Canon Gaul.

On the return to the lodge the P.D. Grand Master continued the ceremony of consecrating the lodge, the music being presided over by Bro. Wylie, P.M.

The W.M. having thanked the visiting brethren of the Cosmopolitan, Octahedron, Richard Giddy, Peace and Harmony, Athole, and other lodges for their attendance and co-operation, the lodge was closed in due form, and this interesting meeting terminated.



Miss E. Farren, the popular actress at the Gaiety, will start in June on a provincial tour, returning to her old theatre at Christmas.

On March 14th or 21st, the new Japanese opera by Gilbert and Sullivan will be produced at the Savoy. We believe the company will not be greatly altered.

Mr. David James opens the Opera Comique at Easter. He has had a pit made and the house redecorated, and appointed Bro. H. Warren Wright as his acting manager.

The Avenue re-opens under Miss Violet Melnotte's management with a farcical comedy, entitled "Tact," in which Mr. Chas. Groves, Mr. Walter Everard (always funny), Mr. Odell, Miss Sophie Larkin, and the Manageress appear.

Miss Mary Anderson has written her autograph in a collection which Bro. Lieut. Hy. Wright is making of the signatures of men and women in all ranks and professions of life. So interested was Miss Anderson with the book that she requested she might keep it for a few weeks, and has been entertaining her friends with it.

The new drama by Sims may be expected at the Adelphi on the 4th prox.; it is said to be a startling one. Mr. Wilson Barrett, to an interviewer of the *Daily News*, said he (W. B.) thinks G. R. Sims has not yet been seen at his best; perhaps the forthcoming drama is the one Mr. Barrett anticipated. "In the Ranks" is still doing good business. The Bros. Gatti must have made a fortune.

Bro. J. L. Toole tells a good story, which is worth repeating. When visiting Carlisle with his company he and several of his ladies and gentlemen strolled into the Cathedral to service, and found only two persons there. They quickly increased the congregation, and on coming out Bro. J. L. Toole informed the verger whom he was, and said as he and his company had done so much for Carlisle Cathedral, he expected Carlisle would respond to him; and so it did, for the theatre was crowded at night.

At the Gaiety, on Wednesday, was produced a new five-act play and a matinee by Mr. Appleton, in which Miss Minnie Bell appeared as the heroine. One of the actors informed us that he considers it a strong play and will be seen again.

We hope to have something to say in another issue concerning Mr. Burnand's new burlesque at the Gaiety, "Mazeppa." We only hope that with it the palmy days of this popular house will revive.

"The Lady of the Locket," a new Venetian opera, was to be produced just before our going to press. The cast includes Miss Florence St. John, Mr. J. L. Shine, Mr. C. Ryley, Miss Susie Vaughan, sister of Miss Kate of that ilk, Miss Agnes Barnett, and Miss Lesley Bell. We hope this will spell "fortune" to the as yet unlucky "Empire" theatre. Bro. Harry Hitchins has been appointed acting manager, than whom a better choice could not have been made. The entertainment is to consist of burlesque, light opera, ballet, and spectacular display.

On Saturday afternoon, the 28th ult., a very fashionable audience assembled at the Criterion Theatre to witness an amateur performance, which was given in aid of the fund for restoring Wolferton Church, near Sandringham, the seat of the M.W. Grand Master. The Prince and Princess of Wales were present. The pieces represented were Lady Arthur Hill's pretty operetta, "The Lost Husband," and Douglas Jerrold's comedy, "The White Milliner," the latter chosen probably because it gives an opportunity of a number of ladies well known in Society appearing as milliners' apprentices. The cast, which was almost exclusively an amateur one, included Lady Greville, Miss Wyndham, Mrs. Godfrey Pearce, Mr. Gardner, and Mr. Colnaghi. The performance went off very well, and will be repeated to-morrow (Saturday), under the patronage of the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, for the wives and children of the soldiers in the Sudan. As the pit was turned into stalls, and as there would be no salary list, a goodly sum ought to be netted for both objects. There was a time—not so long ago—when the Church would not recognise the Stage; happily, those days are now gone by, and now the Church seeks support from the Stage.

Bro. Alexander Henderson has entirely changed the character of his house. The Comedy was built and opened in 1879, and up till now comic opera has been the entertainment given, in spite of the theatre's title. Few theatres have done better or been more popular, and now, for some reason or other, we presume want of originality in authors and composers, operatic music is banished, and we hear comedy is to take its place. But we don't think it can last long with the present programme. Mr. Burnand's "Family Ties" was worth seeing in 1877, and "Nemesis," the burlesque, in 1873, but neither are of much interest now. M. Marius is still very funny in his original character in the former piece, but we found it difficult to sit it out. In "Nemesis" Mr. Arthur Roberts is excellent, and sings some new topical songs, but he is the redeeming feature in the extravaganza. Miss Lottie Venne is always a favourite and looks pretty in everything, but we wish she would not always simper and smirk. We have been to the Comedy scores of times but have never seen such a poor entertainment as the present, and we hope it will soon be changed.

On Saturday last the Strand reopened—Mr. J. S. Clarke and Bro. E. Terry having the first and second mortgage on the house—with "Jo," the well-known drama from Dickens's "Bleak House." Some years ago it created a great sensation at the Globe—every one went to see it. Miss Jenny Lee (Mrs. J. P. Barnett) still gives her wonderful impersonation of the crossing sweeper. Those who have lived in London and studied its people will vouch for the truthfulness of her portraying the life and vicissitudes of a London street arab. After her long absence in the Antipodes Miss Jenny Lee brings back with her a vigour and freshness which not only pervaded every word and action, but struck at once to the heart and feelings, and created a sympathy for poor "Jo." Many were the sobs heard in the Strand on Saturday night. Who could help not having a dry "e'e" who has a heart which must be moved by such acting. Miss Jenny Lee may be assured that her treatment of "Jo" will find a large amount of favour in London still. Mr. Bucket is still the stern but tender-hearted detective. Miss Dolores Drummond is also still the Hortense, the French maid, Mr. Wilmot, the Chadband, and Miss Katie Lee the dirty slut of Snagsby's. We believe "Jo" is only to be represented for a few weeks, so one ought to take time by the forelock.

Obituary.

BRO. WILLIAM STEPHENS, G. PURSUIVANT.

We have, almost at the moment of going to press, received the sad and unexpected news of the death at Auckland, New Zealand, only a few days since, of Bro. William Stephens, Grand Pursuivant, and we are sure his very numerous circle of friends will unite with us in this expression of regret at his loss. Bro. Stephens had for many years taken a very active part in Masonry, and his zeal at length had its reward in his elevation to the rank of a Grand Officer.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

BUCKLEY.—On the 29th January, at Barrackpore, Calcutta, the wife of R. B. Buckley, Esq., of a son.

GABRIEL.—On the 1st inst., at Mill-hill-road, Acton, the wife of T. E. Gabriel, of a son.

MARRIAGE.

WALL—WALL.—On the 28th ult., at St. George's Church, Canterbury, Walter George Wall, of Liverpool, to Charlotte, daughter of the late G. Wall, of Canterbury.

DEATHS.

SHANKS.—On the 26th ult., at St. John's Hill House, New Wandsworth, S.W., of rheumatic fever, G. J. H. C. Poulett Shanks, the beloved and only son of Major Shanks, K.M., aged 19 years.

WOOD.—On the 1st inst., at Franklin House, South Norwood-hill, Surgeon-Major William Edward Wood, aged 68.



We have been favoured with a letter from Bro. Hugh D. Sandeman, 33°, Grand Secretary-General of the Supreme Council, 33°, Ancient and Accepted Rite, informing us that there is under the jurisdiction of the said Council no such body as "Dykes Conclave," a meeting of which was reported in our columns last week. We are sorry the error should have occurred; but a second glance at the titles of the officers mentioned will show that the "Dykes Conclave" was misplaced, and should have appeared under the heading "Red Cross of Rome and Constantine."

Bro. Lord and Lady Monson have arrived in town from Burton Hall, Lincoln.

Bro. the P.G.M. Essex, and Lady Brooke, and her sister Miss Maynard are staying at Cannes.

Bro. the Rt. Hon. Cecil Raikes, M.P., has come to 38, Eccleston-square, for the season.

Bro. Lord Charles Beresford is the subject of a chromographic portrait in "Life" of last week.

Bro. the Dep. G.M. has arrived at his town residence in Portland-place, from Lathom House, Ormskirck.

The Very Rev. Bro. the Dean of York, P.G. Chap., attended a meeting of the Cathedral Commissioners last week.

Bro. the Earl and Countess of March are residing at Molecombe, where Miss Craven, the Countess's sister, is staying with them.

"Vanity Fair" for last week contained a portrait by "Spy" of Bro. Sir Thomas E. Colebrooke, Bart., M.P., P.G.M. Lancashire.

Bro. Sir Frederick Milner, Bart., M.P., was amongst the company who went to Gravesend to see the Scots Guards set sail for the Soudan.

Bro. Sir Theodore Martin will edit the speeches and addresses of the late Bro. the Duke of Albany, which the Queen wishes to have published.

Bro. the Bishop of Peterborough has addressed a letter to his clergy, through his Archdeacon, on the subject of prayers for our soldiers now in the Soudan.

Bros. the Solicitor-General and Edward Clarke, Q.C., M.P., hold briefs in the Earl of Durham's suit for the nullity of his marriage with Miss Ethel Milner.

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales dined on the 2nd inst., at St. James's Palace, with Bro. Lord Carrington, P.G.S.W., and the Honourable Corps of Gentlemen-at-Arms.

The Queen and the Prince and Princess of Wales have graciously consented to become patrons of the Triennial Musical Festival, which will be held in Chester in July.

Bro. the Lord Mayor was presented by the Prime Minister at the Levée on Monday last, and Bro. Alderman and Sheriff Whitehead and Sheriff Phillips by the Home Secretary.

Bro. the Lord Mayor presided at a meeting held at the Mansion House on the 27th ult., to protest against the proposed scheme now before Parliament for a subway from the Marble Arch to Cornhill.

Bro. H. C. Richards conducted the prosecution in a murder case at the Lewes assizes last week, and the next day was counsel for the prisoner in a similar case, and held a brief in the Nightingale case in London.

Lady Tenterden, widow of the late P.G.M. Essex, entertained at her residence in Portland-place, last week, the Baroness Burdett-Coutts, the Earl of Leven and D. L. Melville, and Sir Lyon and Lady Playfair.

Bro. F. Seager Hunt was among the guests at the annual dinner on the 26th ult., at the Westbourne Restaurant of the Paddington inspectors and guards in the employ of the Great Western Railway Company, and returned thanks for the visitors.

Bros. Earl Granville, the Marquis of Hartington, M.P., the Right Hon. G. O. Trevelyan, M.P., Sir Charles Dilke, Bart., M.P., and the Right Hon. J. G. Shaw-Lefevre, M.P., attended the Cabinet Council, held at the Premier's residence in Downing-street, on Saturday last.

A Court of Governors of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution was appointed to be held at 7 p.m., on Friday, the 6th inst., for the election of candidates on the Foundation and Combined Fund, to receive the Treasurer's accounts for 1884, and for the transaction of other business.

The installation meeting of the Honor Oak Lodge, No. 1086, will take place on Wednesday next, the 11th inst., at the Moore Park Hotel, Honor Oak (London, Chatham, and Dover Railway), when Bro. H. Maunders Williams, S.W. and W.M. elect, will be installed as W.M. by Bro. C. H. Phillips, the retiring W.M.

We have been requested by Bro. the Rev. C. Henton Wood, M.A., Prov. G.S. Leicestershire and Rutland, to state that the Lodge No. 2081, recently consecrated at Leicester, is not "The Golden Fleece, Leicester," as described by us, but "The Lodge of the Golden Fleece." We trust the founders of the new lodge have not been very seriously exercised in their minds over our very slight, but in their estimation, it seems, important inaccuracy. We will in future exercise a greater degree of that caution which is so highly prized by the brethren.

The Prince and Princess of Wales, Prince Edward of Wales, the Duke of Cambridge, Prince Waldemar of Denmark, and Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar attended the regimental ball given by the Honourable Artillery Company at their head-quarters, Finsbury-square, on Wednesday evening. The Royal party were received by Bro. Lieut.-Col. the Duke of Portland and other members of the Ball Committee. Dancing was kept up till a late hour the following morning, supper, which was served in the Albert and Long rooms, alone intervening between the beginning and close of the festive gathering. The guests numbered over 1100.

The Grand Council of the Imperial, Ecclesiastical and Military Order of the Knights of the Red Cross of Rome and Constantine, have secured suitable premises in which to conduct the business of the Order, at 16 and 16a, Great Queen-street, opposite Freemasons' Hall.

Bro. Westcott has been appointed auditor of the National Liberal Club.

The personality of the late Bro. the Marquis of Cholmondeley has been sworn at £205,000.

Bro. Alderman and Sheriff Whitehead completed his 52nd year on Monday, the 2nd inst.

Prince Edward of Wales has been elected President of the Town and County of Cambridge and Isle of Ely Rifle Association.

Bro. Alderman Sir R. Hanson, G. Stwd., was present at the weekly meeting on the 27th ult., of the London School Board.

The bust in Westminster Abbey to the memory of Bro. Robert Burns will be formally unveiled at 4 p.m. this (Saturday) afternoon.

At the wish of the Officers and Clerks' Committee, Bro. Lieut.-Col. T. Davies Sewell will temporarily fulfill the duties of Mace-bearer.

Bro. Edward Clarke, Q.C., M.P., was counsel for the plaintiff, and Bro. W. Grantham, Q.C., M.P., for the defendant, in the recent libel case, Legge v. Graham.

Bro. Sir J. and Lady McGarel Hogg and Bro. Sir Thomas Brassey, K.C.B., M.P., were among those present at Sir A. D. and Lady Hayter's reception on the 21st ult.

Bro. Alderman Sir H. E. Knight, who is Treasurer of the Club, was present at the annual dinner at the Albion, Aldersgate-street, on the 27th ult., of the Cripple-gate Ward Club.

On the proposition of Bro. Lord Fitzhardinge, Bro. W. Hicks-Beach was on Thursday, the 28th ult., elected Master of the Coltswood Hunt in place of Mr. Arthur Sumner, resigned.

Bro. Sir E. Malet, H.M.'s Ambassador at Berlin, has returned to England, where he will remain until after his marriage with the Lady Ermyngtrude Russell, which is fixed to take place on Thursday, the 19th inst.

Prince Edward of Wales dined with the Cambridge University Welsh Society on Saturday evening last, being the Eve of St. David's, and returned thanks for the toast of the Prince and Princess of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family.

Bro. Hyde Clarke presided at the annual meeting, on Saturday last, of the Newspaper Press Fund. The report, which was of a satisfactory character, was adopted. It was said that Bro. Dr. W. H. Russell had promised to preside at the next annual meeting.

The first piles of the London Riverside Fish Market, Lower Shadwell, were driven on Wednesday, the 25th ult., by the Duke of Westminster, who was accompanied by the Duchess, and the Baroness Burdett-Coutts, Bro. Burdett-Coutts being also present.

Bros. the Marquis of Hartington, Lord Richard Grosvenor, P.G.W., Lord Kensington, the Right Hon. G. O. Trevelyan, the Right Hon. Sir Charles Dilke, Bart., Sir Thomas Brassey, K.C.B., and Sir Farrer Herschell, Q.C. (Solicitor-General) were among the guests at the Speaker's first Parliamentary full-dress dinner on Wednesday evening.

Bro. Lord Claud J. Hamilton, M.P., presided at the Great Eastern Hotel on the 27th ult., at the thirteenth annual festival of the Provident Surgical Appliance Society, and Bros. W. T. Marriott, Q.C., M.P., and R. Clowes were among the guests. The subscriptions slightly exceeded £870.

Comp. F. Brown will work the ceremony of installation of Principals, at the White Hart, Abchurch-lane, on Tuesday, the 10th inst., commencing at half-past five; the same will be worked on the second Tuesday in April and May by Principals and Past Principals who are members of the chapter.

The Prince of Wales held a levée at St. James's Palace on Monday in the name and on behalf of the Queen, presentations to his Royal Highness being by her Majesty's desire, considered equivalent to presentations to the Queen. Among those presented were Bro. the Lord Mayor, Bro. Alderman and Sheriff Whitehead, and Sheriff Phillips.

Bro. Alderman Fowler, M.P., G.J.W., and Bro. Puleston, M.P., were among the guests at the seventy-second anniversary festival at the Albion on the 25th ult., of the London Orphan Asylum, Watford, the former proposing the health of the Chairman, and the latter the Corporation of London. The subscriptions announced were close on £5000.

Bro. the Lord Mayor gave a grand banquet in the Egyptian Hall of the Mansion House on Wednesday, the 25th ult., to the Masters of the City Companies and their ladies. Among the guests were Bro. Alderman Stone, P.G.J.W., and Mrs. Stone; Bro. Alderman Sir H. E. and Lady Knight; Bro. Alderman and Mrs. Staples; Bro. Alderman and Sheriff Whitehead and Mrs. Whitehead; Bro. Alderman and Mrs. Isaacs; Bro. Alderman Savory; Bro. Alderman and Mrs. Gray; Bro. Under-Sheriff and Mrs. Crawford; Bro. C. G. Nottage; Bro. Sir John and Lady Bennett; Bro. H. A. Joseph, C.C., and others. Bro. Chaplin Henry had charge of the musical arrangements.

£20.—Tobacconists commencing.—A pamphlet (80 pages) How to open respectfully from £20; three stamps. H. Myers & Co., Cigar and Tobacco Merchants, Euston-rd., London. Telephone No. 7541.—[ADVT.]

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—The diseases common to our rigorous climate which endanger the constitution will always exist, though many may be mitigated and their effects removed by timely and appropriately applied. Holloway's Pills are acknowledged far and wide to be the most effective purifier of the blood, the most certain regulator of disordered organs, and the safest and surest agent that can be prescribed. This medicine is applicable to all alike, young and old, robust or delicate; it increases the appetite and regulates the bowels. After the disorder is subdued, occasional doses of these Pills will prevent any relapse, and, moreover, secure, promote, and intensify the good results which flow from perfect purity and regularity.—[ADVT.]

Bro. the Marquis and the Marchioness of Waterford left town on Saturday last, for Quenby Hall, Leicestershire.

Bro. Sir Charles Graves-Sawle, Bart., and Lady and Miss Graves-Sawle have arrived from Cornwall, at their residence in Eaton-place.

The Prince and Princess of Wales visited the Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly, on Friday afternoon, the 27th ult., for the purpose of having a special view of Munkacsy's picture of "Calvary."

The annual supper of the Covent Garden Lodge of Instruction, No. 1614, was held on the 5th inst., at the Criterion, Piccadilly, and passed off successfully, a large company being present.

The Prince and Princess of Wales, accompanied by their son, Prince George, and their three daughters, were present at the 700th anniversary service in the Temple Church on Sunday last.

The Prince of Wales visited the Stock Exchange on Monday afternoon, the 23rd ult., for the purpose of inspecting the new building erected for the use of the members, and met with a most enthusiastic reception.

Bro. the Duke and Duchess of Connaught will go to Germany to visit the Prince and Princess Frederick Charles of Russia, on their return from India, to be present at the marriage of the Duchess's eldest sister, Princess Henry of the Netherlands.

The 53rd anniversary festival of the Linen and Woollen Drapers' Institution was held at Freemasons' Tavern on the 27th ult. Sheriff Phillips presided, and among those who supported him were Bros. Alderman and Sheriff Whitehead, Baron H. de Worms, M.P., J. D. Allcroft, Past G. Treas. &c. The sum announced was close on £2737.

Among the Officers of State in attendance on the Prince of Wales at the levée on Monday were Bros. the Earl of Breadalbane (Treasurer of the Household); Lord Kensington, M.P. (Comptroller of the Household); the Earl of Cork (Master of the Buckhounds); Lord Methuen (Lord in Waiting); and Lord Suffield (Lord of the Bedchamber in Waiting to H.R.H.)

The Prince of Wales attended a meeting of the Standing Committee of the Trustees of the British Museum, on Saturday morning last, and in the afternoon, accompanied by the Princess, Prince George, and his three daughters, was present at an amateur performance in aid of the funds for the restoration of Wolferton Church, near Sandringham.

We regret to hear that our esteemed and energetic Bro. E. F. Storr, P.M. and Treas. 22, &c., was prevented from attending to his duties in Grand Lodge last Wednesday evening, in consequence of a severe attack of acute bronchitis. His medical adviser found it necessary to call in the assistance of Sir Andrew Clark, who forbids him to leave the house without permission.

Mr. Charles Bertram, the celebrated pretidigitateur, had the honour of again appearing before their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, at Marlborough House, on Friday the 20th ult. This is the sixth occasion that Mr. Bertram has appeared before their Royal Highnesses in 12 months. As a fashionable conjuror and manipulator of playing cards, Mr. Bertram is unrivalled.

The Kensington Museum authorities have added to the Bethnal Green Museum some charming pictures from the collection of Bro. J. Storey, P.M. 1107, P.G. Supt. of Wks. Kent, &c. Fourteen of the works are from the brush of Mr. M. E. Dockree; some of them may be well known to frequenters at the Royal Academy and other West-end exhibitions. No doubt these works will be more enjoyable to visitors at the museum as they are so well placed that every part of the manipulation and rich mellow colour of this earnest landscape painter can be seen to advantage.

The following dinners took place at the Freemasons' Tavern during the week ending Saturday, February 28th, 1885: Monday—Royal Somerset House Lodge. Tuesday—Tuscan Lodge; Royal York Chapter; St James's Union Chapter. Wednesday—Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution; Evening Star Lodge. Thursday—Grenadiers Lodge; Mount Moriah Lodge; Girls' School Club; Bedford Chapter. Friday—Linen and Woollen Drapers' Institution; Jerusalem Lodge. And the following for the week ending Saturday, March 7th, 1885: Monday—Joppa Lodge; Lodge of Unions; Regularity Chapter; Caxton Lodge; Premier Conclave. Tuesday—Albion Lodge; Royal York Lodge; Old Concord. Wednesday—London Morayshire Club; Grand Officers' Mess; La Tolerance Lodge. Thursday—Smeatonian Society; St. James's Chapter; St. Andrew's Lodge; Victoria Rifles Lodge; Caledonian Society. Friday—Fidelity Chapter; Royal Kensington Lodge; Odd Volumes. Saturday—Phoenix Chapter.

American drinks are so popular in this country that they may almost be looked upon as an institution. Of their many merits, when well made, there can be no doubt, and Messrs. Dows, Clark, and Co., of Frith-street, Soho, who supply the materials and implements for their production, are the recipients of abundant testimony to the excellence of their goods. Their Grand Duchess Ice Soda Water Machine at the last Exhibition, was a model of simplicity and elegance; their flavouring essences are of the best quality; and their materials for the concoction of their favourite beverages are as durable as they are handy. Should the approaching summer at all rival in heat that of last year, there is certain to be as great a demand for the agreeable compounds purveyed by this firm, and in all probability a still greater demand for the materials used in making them.

EVERY DAY BRINGS TESTIMONIALS TO DR. LOCOCK'S PULMONIC WAFERS.—Mr. Hadfield, 246, Ribblesdale-lane, Preston, writes, February 15, 1885:—"I always feel a pleasure in offering Dr. LOCOCK'S WAFERS, knowing that they are a genuine article, having had proof of it in a great many cases. One lady declared that she never had anything to do her so much good in her life. I have a great sale for them, and could send no end of testimonials." Asthma, Consumption, Bronchitis, Coughs, Colds, Shortness of Breath, Phlegm Pains in the Chest, and Rheumatism are instantly relieved, and rapidly cured by the Wafers, which taste pleasantly. Sold at 1s. 1d., 2s. 6d., 4s. 6d., and 11s. per box by all Druggists.—[ADVT.]