

THE FREEMASON.

The Organ of the Craft, a Weekly Record of Progress in

FREEMASONRY, LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

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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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THE Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of Scotland provide that “No clothing purporting to be Masonic shall be worn in Grand Lodge, or any subordinate lodge, except that appertaining to St. John's Masonry, which alone is recognised and acknowledged.” The fact itself is well known wherever Scottish Masonry is practised, as it and St. John's Masonry have long been synonymous terms. Notwithstanding so clear and emphatic a statement, we read in the “Evening Herald,” New Zealand, November 20th, 1885, that at the annual installation of the R.W.M. of a lodge in that colony, under the Scottish Constitution, “Bro. ——— was attired in the magnificent regalia of one of the higher branches of the Craft.”

Now, whatever does such a paragraph mean? Surely that the brother wore clothing contrary to the laws of his Grand Lodge! We trust that the report is an erroneous one, and that the writer of the notice mistook *Provincial* Grand clothing for that of the “higher degrees” (so called). We shall be glad of an assurance from our friends in New Zealand that this view of the matter is the correct one, for if otherwise, a very grave question is opened up, as no one who is worthy to enjoy the privileges of the Craft would thus openly violate the laws of his Grand Lodge. Brethren, even in this country, are much too apt to disobey the laws as respects jewels, the “Mark,” and others, being frequently worn in lodges, though contrary to the Constitutions. As respects clothing, we are not aware that ever the Regulations are violated, save as to the wearing of the Royal Arch collar and jewel by Provincial Officers, who clearly should not do so in Craft lodges.

WE regret very much to announce the decease of Bro. ROBERT RAMSAY, M.D., one of the most prominent, zealous, and enthusiastic Freemasons in Canada. His death was occasioned by a fall, in which he broke one of his legs, and subsequently developed heart disease. Dr. RAMSAY was a son of the Rev. Canon RAMSAY, and was born in London (England) in 1841, his initiation dating from the year 1866, his mother lodge being the “Tyrian,” Cleveland, Ohio. As Grand Representative of the Grand Lodges of Nebraska and Ohio, and as a frequent contributor to the Masonic journals in Canada and the United States, his name was familiar to all reading Masons in America, and though he was unfavourable to the action of our Grand Lodge in relation to the Quebec difficulty we were always most ready and willing to acknowledge his zeal and conspicuous ability on behalf of our ancient and honourable Society. Only lately he was the recipient of the decoration of a “Knight Commander of the Temple” from H.R.H. the Prince of WALES, as Grand Master, and down to the time of his death was Secretary-General of the Rosicrucian Society, and the Swedenborgian Rite for Canada, as also connected with various other Masonic and pseudo-Masonic Bodies, in which he took a lively interest.

Bro. the Hon. J. R. CLYMER, 32°, is a foeman worthy of one's pen. When clothed Masonically and in his right mind, he must be a very intelligent writer, while, as regards the courtesy with which he meets any antagonist he may have to encounter, he is an exemplar to be followed. It was not to be expected that he would pass unnoticed our editorial of 19th September last, in which we questioned the accuracy of certain statements made by him in the course of his address at Bucyrus, Ohio, on the 24th June preceding. His reply in the December number of the “Masonic Review” of Cincinnati, Ohio, is before us, and, though we may say at once that it is a very effective illustration of the retort courteous, we cannot pay him the compliment of suggesting that it has strengthened his case materially. The more serious portion of his argument will be found in the concluding paragraphs of his very readable paper, and, dealing with his principal statements slightly out of the order in which he has placed them, we must take the liberty of pointing out, firstly, as regards his belief that LOCKE and

SHAKESPEARE were Masons, that the burden of proof in the case of every kind of allegation rests with those who make them, not with those who deny or oppose them. We have before now remarked that it is departing with a vengeance from the accepted course of argument when a person audaciously makes an assertion which it is not in his power to support by any evidence worthy of being so designated, and, on the accuracy of his assertion being challenged, calmly turns round and invites his challenger to prove him wrong. This is what Bro. CLYMER has done. He asserted in his address at Bucyrus that JOHN LOCKE and WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE, among others, were Freemasons. We rejoined that “a doubtful letter in the case of the former, and a few Masonic expressions culled from the plays of the latter” were about all the evidence adducible in favour of his assertion. In reply, Bro. CLYMER does not attempt to upset our statement; he does not produce anything beyond the evidence we have allowed him; but he maintains that “it is incumbent” upon us to “prove by evidence that JOHN LOCKE and WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE were *not* Freemasons”—which is, of course, an impossibility. As regards SHAKESPEARE, he does adduce as evidence that in an “old Masonic book,” which was published in New York in 1797, four apparently-named SHAKESPEARE lodges were included in a “list of *Foreign and Domestic Lodges.*” But even if all these four lodges had been named SHAKESPEARE—as a matter of fact only one was so named, the other three being respectively the St. Paul's Lodge, held at the Shakespeare Tavern, Birmingham; the Beaufort, held at the Shakespeare, Princes-street, Bristol; and the St. Alban's Lodge, also held at the Shakespeare Tavern, Birmingham—that would not prove that SHAKESPEARE was a Mason any more than does the fact that there are two lodges now on our roll—the Duke of Edinburgh, No. 1182, Liverpool, and the Duke of Edinburgh, No. 1259, London—named after the Duke of EDINBURGH prove that his Royal Highness is a Freemason, the truth being that he is the one son of our QUEEN who has not sought admission into our Society. As regards the Masonic song by JAMES BISSET of the above “St. Alban's Lodge, Birmingham,” it has a strong family likeness to Bro. CLYMER's address—that is to say, it contains an assertion about SHAKESPEARE having been a Mason, but not a scrap of proof in support of it. However, it is no business of ours to prove Bro. CLYMER is wrong. All we can do—and that we do with infinite pleasure—is to counsel him to drop these two great men from his list of Masonic worthies the next time he feels disposed to trot it out in public; at all events, until he can bring forward something like respectable evidence in support of his assertion that they were members of our Fraternity.

But the strong point in Bro. CLYMER's reply to our criticisms has reference to his list of the 51 so-called English Grand Masters prior to 1717, which he very kindly tells us was derived through the *Voice of Masonry* of Chicago, from *our own* columns, in which it appeared in the year 1870; and he triumphantly invites us to acknowledge that such “tableau”—as he is pleased to call it—“was a literary forgery, first conceived, formulated, and published” by this journal, “to deceive a credulous and unsophisticated Masonic public.” We have looked into the *Freemason* for 1870, and there certainly is the list. It was no “literary forgery, first conceived, formulated, and published” by us, however, but was sent by a correspondent, signing himself “PYTHAGORAS,” in answer to a request for such a list by another correspondent, “W. G. D.,” who appears to have attached so little value to it that in a subsequent letter he enquires of “PYTHAGORAS” why he did not “place CAIN first on the list of Grand Masters, and call him brother, seeing that he was the first on record who built a city, which he called Enoch (Gen. iv., 17).” Our personal responsibility consists in having permitted “PYTHAGORAS” to satisfy the curiosity of “W.G.D.” Had Bro. CLYMER turned to our volume for 1870, he would not have committed the further capital error of ascribing to us the authorship of a list for which not we, but one of our correspondents of that period, was responsible. This is another instance of the danger we refer to elsewhere of people adopting statements made by others without being at the pains of verifying them. As to our article of September last, it remains unaffected by Bro. CLYMER's reply. He has neither refuted our case nor advanced his own. Try again, Bro. CLYMER, and may greater good fortune attend you! We shall be delighted beyond expression if you can establish that “tableau” of English Grand Masters, and prove—what has never been proved as yet—that LOCKE and SHAKESPEARE were both of them Freemasons. Only when you return to the charge, as, doubtless, you will do in some future number of the “Masonic Review,” please avoid describing us as “venerable.” Commend, if it pleases you, our “vigorous Saxon, elegant Latinity, and kindly spirit;” sympathise with us in “the deep sense of annoyance” which overcame us when we read your address at Bucyrus; but do not

dream of suggesting that we have yet entered upon that stage of existence which legitimately entitles us to be spoken of in such terms. No, Bro. CLYMER, you are a charming representative of the imaginative school of Masonic writers, and courteous withal. Nothing in the way of evidence or argument ever affects your generous enthusiasm for the Craft, or disturbs your equanimity. Praise us, if you will; convict us of error, if you can; but please postpone describing us as "venerable" for at least a score or two of years. Do this, and your reward shall be a key to "*un-Locke*" your present serious "*mis-Understanding*" of the nature and value of evidence, which every sound student of our history has unhesitatingly declared to be worthless.

FROM time to time we hear of the good feeling manifested by our American brethren towards members of the British Craft in distress. Failing to obtain employment, they have soon found their means exhausted, and starvation for themselves and families almost "staring them in the face," when, happily, their necessities have been relieved by one of the several Masonic relief societies, situations have been procured, and many a heart has thus been made happy and thankful. Recently a brother we knew well went to Philadelphia in search of employment, full of bright hopes and anticipations, but all were shattered, and he became literally penniless, and his clothes had become "rags." He was fed and clothed by a brother who was to him an entire stranger, save as belonging to our beneficent Fraternity, and by him was assisted to seek work elsewhere, and he is now doing well.

THIS month we have heard of an instance of similar kindness towards a brother in distress in another State. He had come from Yorkshire with his wife and family, seeking employment, but was unsuccessful, becoming quite destitute. In his despair he applied to a lodge for aid from the members in procuring him a situation, *not for charity*. The case was urgent, and the assistance of the Grand Master was sought, who, being a most benevolent as well as zealous Freemason, at once took him into his own employ, until something better offered. We must not say more, as the information comes to us privately; but as this is only one out of many in which this distinguished brother has helped our brethren in their dire distress, no matter from what country, we cannot but express the hope that he will be even more than "twice blessed," and that the Craftsmen who have been so opportunely and generously assisted will unite their prayers with ours for the richest blessings to be his constant portion.

IT will be remembered that a special Prov. Grand Lodge was held at Durham on 21st August, 1885, for the installation of the R.W. Bro. SIR HEDWORTH WILLIAMSON, Bart., P.G.W., as Provincial Grand Master, by the R.W. Bro. Earl of LATHOM, Deputy Grand Master of England. The official document is now being circulated by the indefatigable Provincial Grand Secretary, Bro. ROBERT HUDSON. It must have been highly gratifying to the new Provincial Grand Master to witness such an assembly of Craftsmen to greet him on his accession to office, no less than 500 brethren being present on the occasion. The appointment of the W. Bro. the Rev. Canon TRISTRAM, LL.D., P.G.C., as Deputy Provincial Grand Master, who has been connected with the Society for some 40 years, was most popular, as was also the reappointment of the Provincial Grand Secretary.

THE report also deals with the annual meeting, held at Bishop Auckland on 27th October, 1875, and some of the statements made then, and now printed for circulation in the province, are so remarkable as to deserve a reconsideration at the present time. There are now 31 lodges in the province, the oldest being No. 48, Gateshead, warranted in 1735 (having a prior existence, however), and the youngest is No. 2104, Stockton-on-Tees, dating only from last year. The income for the year was some £500, including £69 11s. *dividends from Consols*, the balance in hand being slightly over £200, all of it, but £50, being distributed at the meeting for the various charitable purposes, always so warmly supported by the brethren. The report of the Charities Committee, of which Bro. C. S. LANE, P.P.G.D., is Chairman, is most satisfactory, exhibiting a substantial balance in hand, with interest from capital invested, and seven children being educated at an annual cost of some £70. The capital amount of £388 appears to us quite sufficient, the subscriptions being thus used for educational purposes without any deductions. Numerically, the province is still on the increase, there having been 1999 subscribing members in 1882; 2011 in 1883; and 2239 in 1884, notwithstanding the more stringent rules as to "*arrears*" in the new Constitutions, being a result more favourable in many respects than some other provinces.

CONSECRATION OF THE LODGE OF THE QUATUOR CORONATI, No. 2076.

This new lodge was consecrated on Tuesday afternoon, the 12th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, by Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, Grand Secretary. A warrant of constitution was granted to the lodge in 1884, but as the W.M. named therein—Bro. Sir C. Warren, G.C.M.G., had then embarked for service in South Africa, the ceremony of consecration was necessarily postponed until his return to this country. The lodge has been established for the association of brethren interested in literary pursuits, and for the prosecution of archaeological studies, more especially with regard to the history and antiquities of Freemasonry.

The Grand Secretary was assisted in the ceremony by Bro. T. Fenn, President of the Board of General Purposes, as S.W.; Bro. R. Gooding, P.G.D., as J.W.; Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, P.G.C., as Chaplain; Bro. Frank Richardson, P.G.D., as Director of Ceremonies; and Bro. H. Sadler, Grand Tyler.

The founders of the lodge—the greater number of whom were present—were Bros. Sir C. Warren; the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, P.G.C.; W. J. Hughan, P.G.D.; R. F. Gould, P.G.D.; Walter Besant, P.M.; G. W. Speth, P.M.; W. H. Rylands; J. P. Rylands; and Major S. C. Pratt, Royal Artillery.

After the lodge had been formally opened,

The GRAND SECRETARY, in addressing the brethren, said that many distinguished and zealous students of Masonic history having started the idea of banding themselves together in a lodge where they could have better opportunities of discussing the various matters in which they were specially interested, had petitioned the Grand Master about a year ago, and that His Royal Highness had readily acceded to their request. The members of the new lodge had selected a worthy brother, who was distinguished as a soldier as well as a Mason, to preside over them—Sir Charles Warren—through whose absence on military duty in South Africa until recently, the consecration had to be delayed to the present time, when the brethren were happily met to give effect to the warrant of the Grand Master.

At the conclusion of this address,

Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. WOODFORD, P.G.C., delivered the oration (of which we give a *précis*), and said that

He congratulated the Grand Secretary on the consecration of another lodge, believing that if their principles and outcome were realistic, the more Masonic lodges were increased the better. For English Freemasonry especially was not merely a social assembly or a friendly aggregation, or for the purpose of going through a cherished ritual, but had something higher to offer to mankind. It proclaimed reverence to God and love for man, obedience to all lawfully constitutional authority, a hatred of persecution, and universal toleration. And just as it avowed loyalty for the throne, a love of order, peace, and legal and constituted rights for all classes, so it disavowed any tendency to those hurtful movements whether of social, political, or agrarian communism which ended in sweeping away alike the claims of property and the savings of industry. All humanitarian efforts, and all charitable questions came under its special sanction, and it was ever favourable to the advance of cultured civilization, and the diffusion of science and light. In that happy revival of "*Masonic Letters*" which our age had seen, the old, the quaint, the interesting legends of the past had become the subject of study and enquiry. Among those, whether of mediæval, or Roman, or eastern origin, few were so impressive and appropriate to Freemasons as that of the Quatuor Coronati. When then a peculiar name was sought for a lodge with peculiar objects, this name was adopted because it seemed to convey clearly, not only the teaching of Masonic duty, but shadowed out the intense need there was for a cultured study of old Masonic traditions. Bro. Gould had so ably dilated on the subject, in his invaluable "*History of Freemasonry*," that he (the orator) need only give a passing allusion to the subject. Whether the Craft view of the Legend was then correct relying on one set of authorities, or there was a fuller explanation to be found in the union of the Quatuor Coronati and the Quinque Sculptores, based on another, mattered little, the same duplex teaching was discoverable, and fully harmonised with the idea of the founders of the lodge. The orator alluded to the fact, most interesting in itself, that about 600 years after the first recognition of the Legend, apparently in the seventh century, the Quatuor Coronati appear as the Patron Saints of the German Steinmetzen, and are recognised in the Masonic Poem—our, so far, earliest Craft Legend in England—as good Masons "as on earth shall go." It was therefore most natural when a name was sought for their lodge,—both new and striking,—that the name also of Sir Charles Warren should be hailed and appropriated as first Worshipful Master of the new lodge. Both as a representative of literature and an embodiment of duty, no one could offer higher claims for the office, no one could be a better guarantee for the success of the experiment. Some could well remember how "*Underground Jerusalem*" still appealed to their memories and sympathies alike as students and Freemasons, and the heartfelt emotions of all had gone with their distinguished brother in high commands and dangerous enterprises. One of the peculiarities of this new lodge would be the reading and printing of papers, and the orator trusted that in this somewhat new course, success would attend the efforts of those who, in fervent love for their Craft, wished to lead up to a more cultured study of Masonic evidences, to a more enlarged use of libraries and museums, and all that could impart reality, stability, intellectuality to that great and useful Order, whose professions were professions of Toleration and goodwill, whose labours were emphatically labours of love.

The ceremony of consecration was then regularly proceeded with, and, on its completion, Bros. Sir C. Warren was installed as Master of the lodge; the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford was invested as acting I.P.M.; W. H. Rylands, as S.W.; R. F. Gould, as J.W.; and G. W. Speth, as Secretary. Bro. Walter Besant was unanimously elected Treasurer.

After the delivery of the addresses, the WORSHIPFUL MASTER in proposing a cordial vote of thanks to the Consecrating Officer, said: I am a strong believer in the antiquity of Freemasonry, and I can conceive that when the mediæval basis is fully ascertained we shall find that it rests upon a more antique foundation. I do not believe much in the originality of the views of men, and I can scarcely think that the present forms and ceremonies were devised in the eighteenth century or even in the Middle Ages. Take for instance the "Seven Ages" of man, we find it based on Horace and again in our early work. I am of opinion that the arrangements for the lodge are derived from the worship in temples which existed in Phœnicia before the building of Solomon's temple. I refer especially to the temple of Tyre—how it came into use in this country is a mystery. The very arrangement as a lodge seems to show this. Any person elaborating a Masonic temple in the Middle Ages would never dream of putting the Master in the east, just where the chief door of King Solomon's temple was, but would have placed him in the west to observe the rising sun; but it so happens that in the older temples the great image or symbol of the sun was placed in the East. There are many other points which confirm the view. I think at present we shall have plenty of work in assisting to elaborate the history of modern Masonry, but what I wish at the outset to show is that we have no desire to upset ancient traditions. I am a firm believer in them. What we want is to clear them up, to confirm them, and with the assistance of the Grand Officers we hope to do so. Our only duty, and a very pleasant duty, now to perform is to return a vote of thanks to the consecrating officers for the admirable manner in which they have conducted the ceremonies this afternoon, and also for their uniform kindness and consideration in giving us assistance in constituting this lodge. I have a great faith in the benefits that the human race derives from Freemasonry, and I think that with the assistance of the officers of the Grand Lodge this lodge will supply a want that has been much felt. The lodges under our constitutional law are admirable organisations, and our charities are fully developed, but every Mason has a craving to know something definite about the Craft, and this has never as yet been properly grappled

with. This lodge will be the platform where literary Masons can meet together to assist each other in developing the history of the Crafts; much has already been done by the brethren in this way individually, but we can confidently expect more when they can work together. I am only a novice in such matters, but I can believe that when the brethren here present have rolled away the mist that now surrounds the subject we shall be astonished at the result obtained.

The vote of thanks to the Consecrating Officers having been seconded by the acting I.P.M., was carried unanimously, and acknowledged in graceful terms by the GRAND SECRETARY.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER next moved, and Bro. WOODFORD seconded, a cordial vote of thanks to the Committee of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement for kindly lending the furniture and jewels, which were used at the ceremonies of the evening. This motion was carried "nem. con.," and

Bro. FENN said it would give much pleasure to communicate the resolution passed by the lodge of the Quatuor Coronati to the other members of the Committee (Emulation).

The following brethren were proposed as joining members: Bros. Wm. Simpson, 860, Fellow of the Royal Institute of Painters, Hon. Associate R.I.B.A., author of "Meeting the Sun, a Journey all round the World," "Arkite Ceremonies in the Himalayas," "An Artist's Jottings in Abyssinia," and a frequent contributor to the "Transactions" of the Learned Societies; W. M. Bywater, P.M. 19, author of "The History of the Royal Athelstan Lodge, No. 19," and "Some Notes on Lawrence Dermott;" Major F. G. Irwin, P.M. 153, P.P.G.W. Andalusia, formerly editor of the "Sapper," and noted for his large collection of medals and Masonic works—a contributor for more than a quarter of a century to the journals of the Craft; T. B. Whythead, P.M. 1611, P.P.G.S.W. North and East Yorkshire, author of "History of the Mark Degree," "The Connection between the Knights Templars and the Freemasons of York," "Freemasonry in York in the Seventeenth Century," "Some Ancient York Masons, and their Early Haunts," "Notes of Some of the Older Rosicrucians," &c., also of numerous articles in the Masonic journals, both at home and abroad; E. L. Hawkins, P.M. 357 and 478, Prov. G. Sec. and P. Prov. G.W. Oxon, author of "History of Freemasonry in Oxfordshire," "The Red Apron Lodges," "Freemasonry in Massachusetts," and who has also published a translation of the "Pope's Encyclical—De Secta Massonum," and an edition of "Aristotle's Ethics"; and J. Ramsden Riley, P.M. 387, P.P.G.D. of Ceremonies W. Yorkshire, author of "History of the Airedale Lodge, No. 387," "A Record of the Progress of Freemasonry in Yorkshire," and "The Yorkshire Lodges," also a well-known writer in the columns of the *Freemason*.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the Holborn Restaurant.

In proposing "The Health of the Grand Officers," the WORSHIPFUL MASTER said: Were I to enlarge upon this toast I should only anticipate the few observations with which I have to introduce the toast next in order, as all the visiting Grand Officers assisted at the consecration. Inasmuch, however, as it will devolve upon the Grand Secretary to reply for the Consecrating Officers, I shall associate with the present toast Bro. Thos. Fenn, President of the Board of General Purposes, who has also filled the offices of Assistant Grand Dir. of Cers., and of Grand Deacon, and whose labours, pre-eminently at the dedication of Freemasons' Hall, at the installation of the Grand Master, at the ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of Truro Cathedral, and for a long series of years in connection with the Emulation Lodge of Improvement, are well-known and appreciated by the Craft.

Bro. FENN, in acknowledging the toast, said: Worshipful Master—Knowing that a Grand Chaplain must necessarily be present at a consecration, I did not expect to be called upon to respond to this toast. I presume I am selected as one of those Grand Officers who you have honoured by a vote of thanks for having assisted in the consecration of your lodge, and who on that account may be considered the real "Quatuor Coronati" of the evening. There is, however, a slight difference between us and the great originals—we cannot in any way be considered martyrs, and we are not *five*. But Bro. Gould, in his interesting chapter on the Quatuor Coronati, has solved a very difficult problem in arithmetic by proving—and I think it must be admitted satisfactorily—that four are five, so that in that respect we may be allowed to resemble them. As I understand that this lodge has been formed to settle knotty points in Masonic history, this problem will probably be one of your subjects of discussion. There is also another subject of interest to you in this same chapter. Bro. Gould has there arrived at the conclusion that these four martyrs, or five martyrs compressed into four, had nothing whatever to do with Masonry, so that the "raison d'être" of the name you have adopted for your lodge should be a subject to engage your earliest attention. I notice from what fell from Bro. Woodford in his address that there is a difference of opinion between himself and Bro. Gould, so that you are already provided with ample matter for lively argument, which, no doubt, will be very interesting to the members, and result, let us hope, in a satisfactory solution of some of those doubts which have lately disturbed the Craft. We shall know perhaps before long, with some degree of certainty, whether Sir Christopher Wren was a Grand Master, or whether he was no Mason at all. In thanking you on the part of the Grand Officers for the compliment you have paid them, they will, I am sure, join with me in expressing a hope that in all your discussions you will be guided by a true Masonic spirit, and, to use the words of the great Bard of Avon—

Do as adversaries do in law—
Strive mightily; but eat and drink as friends.

The GRAND SECRETARY then proposed "The Health of the W.M.," and, in doing so, dwelt on the former services of Bro. Sir C. Warren, both as a Mason and when in charge of the Jerusalem exploration expedition, in which latter capacity he brought to light so much of peculiar interest to students of Masonic tradition and ritual. He also alluded to his recent distinguished services in Bechuanaland, and heartily congratulated the lodge in having been able to secure him as their first W.M.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER said he was very pleased and proud to be made the first W.M. of the Quatuor Coronati Lodge, which he thought had a distinct and useful work before it, which would act to the benefit of the Craft generally. He entirely approved of the principle on which it was founded. The W.M. remarked further that he had been much pleased also with the Oration, as he thought the legends of the past in their connection with Freemasonry claimed the close attention of Masonic students. He had himself, he confessed, rather turned his attention to the far Oriental legends, and had not as yet studied the mediæval legends; but he thought the study of both would subserve the interest of Masonic culture. He was of opinion that

the arrangement of lodges, for instance, was much older than was generally believed, and it was very probable, he thought, that the Jewish Masons had derived the idea of managing a lodge from the Phœnician temples, which were west and east, instead of the temple being, as it was, east and west. But, he repeated, all these matters and many like them could be studied by the adepts of this new lodge. The W.M. went on to say that he saw the difficulties before the lodge, which were many and peculiar. It was possible that some brethren would be offended who were left out, and others, who might seek to press in, without possessing those qualifications which the founders of the lodge desired to set up as a test of membership. He hoped, however, that the Quatuor Coronati would resolutely grapple with and overcome these and all other difficulties, and any help he could give, either at home or abroad, was at their service. In 1861 it was proposed to establish a military lodge with very much the same design, but yielding to the advice of the Grand Secretary of that day, the scheme was abandoned. In 1869 a Masonic Discussion Society was sought to be founded, but the idea also fell through. In 1872 (said the W.M.), with our Treasurer, Bro. Besant, and others, I endeavoured to form a Masonic society, by means of which papers on Masonic subjects might be read and printed, but this project also had to be given up; and therefore it afforded me peculiar gratification to become a founder—and by the kindness of my brethren—the first Master of the lodge which, under such happy auspices, has been consecrated this day.

The next toast—that of "The Consecrating Officers"—was then proposed in happy terms by the W.M., who specially alluded to the great kindness and courtesy exhibited at all times by the Grand Secretary.

In the course of a very interesting response, Bro. Col. SHADWELL H. CLERKE remarked that so much having been said during the evening about the founders of the lodge representing *nine* martyrs, the Consecrating Officers must, in a certain sense, be regarded as their executioners.

To the toast of "The Officers," which concluded the proceedings, Bro. GOULD replied, and said that rather more than a year ago a petition for a charter was sent in; but whilst lying in the Grand Secretary's office, the W.M. designate was ordered to South Africa. Sir C. Warren had suggested that some other brother should take his place as Master. This course, however, the lodge declined to adopt. The members were content to wait patiently until the lodge could be consecrated. Nor were they without compensation for the delay. In the first place they were presided over by the worthy and distinguished brother they had chosen as Master, and secondly the very delay itself was sufficiently conclusive of the fact, that the lodge owed its existence, not to any sudden impulse or transient enthusiasm, but to the deeply rooted belief of a small body of brethren interested in literature and archaeology, that their favourite studies would derive a fresh impetus from the formation of a lodge like that of Quatuor Coronati. Bro. Gould said he had only a few words to add. Last year, in proportion as the affairs of South Africa appeared to prosper, so did those of the new lodge seem to decline. It almost looked as if Sir Charles Warren would be detained at the Cape, if not for the term of his natural life, at least for a good slice of it. But "it is an ill wind that blows no one any good," and however unfortunate it may have been for South Africa to lose the services of so capable and resolute a soldier and administrator, what has been their loss, has been our gain; and I can assure the brethren present that the officers of the lodge enter upon the active discharge of their duties, with every feeling of confidence and reliance, under the sway of the able and distinguished brother who so worthily fills the chair.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF SHROPSHIRE.

CONSECRATION OF THE BROWNLOW LODGE, No. 2131.

A Provincial Grand Lodge was held at the Town Hall, Ellesmere, on Monday, the 4th inst., by Bro. Offley Wakeman, Bart., for the purpose of consecrating the above lodge. The brethren present were:

Bros. W. E. Harding, P.G.J.W.; the Revs. W. Humphreys and J. B. Meredith, P.G. Chaps.; J. P. White, P.G. Treas.; V. C. L. Crump, P.G. Reg.; W. H. Spaul, P.G. Sec.; J. Maclardy, P.G.S.D.; W. Lascelles Southwell, P.G.J.D.; Thomas James, P.G.S. of W.; T. Warren Thompson, P.G.D. of C.; R. A. Craig, G. J. Morgan, P.G. Std. Br.; J. Sewell, P.G.O.; R. Brayne, P.G. Sec.; J. Machin, P.G.A.P.; T. B. Hyde, Tyler; J. Smith, J. Ginders and J. Blockley, P.G. Stwds.; J. F. Edisbury, P.G.J.W. North Wales; E. Andrew, P.P.G.W.; Thomas Roberts and W. Putman, P.P.G.D.; A. T. Akeroyd, P.P.G.O.; W. B. Newnes, P.P.G. Tyler; C. K. Benson, P.P.G.P. North Wales; the Rev. H. K. Southwell, 357; A. C. Williams, 721; J. W. Lawrence, 2131; E. W. Prevost, 592; W. Belton, W.M., A. C. Townsend, J.W., and W. J. Ogg, all of 117; Kyffin G. Salter, and Geo. Bonner, of 1124; J. H. Parsons, I.P.M., J. Whitridge, P.M., J. England, S.W., J. H. Tomb, and C. J. Fotherby, all of 1432; B. Bastow, W.M. 1575; J. H. Cooksey, W.M., Thos. Pratt, P.M., Sec.; and H. E. Roberts, S.W., all of 1621.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was opened, and letters were read from the Deputy P.G.M. and a number of other brethren apologising for their absence. All the lodges of the province were represented.

The draft bye-laws for governing the P.G. Lodge were submitted by the Committee to draw them up, and, after a few amendments, were approved.

The R.W.P.G.M., assisted by the P.G. Secretary, then proceeded to consecrate the Brownlow Lodge, No. 2131. The lodge was opened in the Three Degrees, and Bro. Rev. W. HUMPHREYS, P.G. Chaplain, delivered an oration, in which he congratulated the R.W.P.G.M. that his first official act since his installation should be to consecrate a new lodge, also that Masonry was increasing in the province. This was a matter of congratulation in these days of controversy, as the Masonic lodge was common ground on which men of all creeds and politics could meet as brothers.

Prayer having been offered by the Rev. J. B. MEREDITH, P.G. Chap., and the censer with incense having been carried round the lodge, the lodge was solemnly consecrated by the R.W.P.G.M.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was then closed. The R.W.P.G.M., assisted by Bro. V. C. L. Crump, P.G. Reg., and Bro. T. Warren Thompson, P.G.D. of C., installed Bro. E. W. Prevost the first W.M. of the Brownlow Lodge, who, after the ceremony was completed, invested the following officers: Bros. A. T. Akeroyd, S.W.; W. J. Ogg, J.W.; K. G. Salter, Treas.; the Rev. H. K. Southwell, S.D.; the Rev. H. Poole King, J.D.; and J. W. Lawrence, I.G. The names of some gentlemen were proposed for initiation. The bye-laws were approved, and, after "Hearty good wishes," the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the Bridge-water Hotel, where a banquet was excellently served by Bro. Lawrence.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and it was announced that the R.W.P.G.M., Sir Offley Wakeman, Bart., had consented to preside at the Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls in May, 1887, at the Freemasons' Hall, London. It was also said that the Masonic Charities distributed last year amounted to over £64,000.

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To Correspondents.

The following communications stand over:—

CRAFT:

- Derwent Lodge, No. 40. Social Lodge, No. 93. Eastern Star Lodge, 95. Friendship Lodge, No. 206. Hundred of Elloe Lodge, No. 469. Isle of Axholme Lodge, No. 1482. Covent Garden Lodge, No. 1614. Albert Edward Lodge, No. 1780.

INSTRUCTION:—

- Wanderers Lodge, No. 1604. Ubique Lodge, No. 1789. Masonic Welcome to Bro. Lord Carrington, P.G.W., at the Antipodes.

BOOKS, &c., RECEIVED.

"Court Circular," "Gloucester Journal," "Light," "Citizen," "El Taller," "Isle of Wight County Press," "Allen's Indian Mail," "Freemasons' Journal" (New York), "Masonic World," "Sunday Times" (New York), "New York Dispatch," "Jewish Chronicle," "New Zealand Freemason," "American Eagle," "Sunday Times" (London), "British and Colonial Printer and Stationer," "Hull Packet," "Freimaurer Zeitung," and "History of Lodge No. 43, Lancaster, Pa."



SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 1886.

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.]

"HEARTY GOOD WISHES."

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother, I have observed in certain lodges of late, and with regret, a hesitation on the part of visitors to address those greetings to the W.M., which it has been, for the past 30 years to my knowledge, the general custom amongst Freemasons to offer just previous to the closing of the work in lodge.

On enquiry I learn that a doubt has been expressed as to the propriety of any individual brother visitor, not himself the Master of a lodge, presuming to convey "Hearty good wishes" in the name of the lodge from which he hails, it being assumed that he has no direct authority from his lodge to do so; and that this doubt is influencing some brethren who prefer to follow a lead without reasoning for themselves as to the direction towards which it tends.

It appears to many of my Masonic friends, and to myself, somewhat late in the day to make innovations, in respect of a practice which, though not especially ordained, is, nevertheless, a "lex non scripta" amongst Masons, having very much to recommend it, and, as far as one can surmise, nothing objectionable in its performance, and it will certainly require the exercise of considerable authority, and the exposition of strong reasons, to secure a general acquiescence in this proposed departure from Masonic etiquette.

If there were the slightest interference with any prerogative possessed by our "rulers in the Craft" an argument for the abrogation of the custom might exist, but there is none such. The equality of Freemasons, "qua" Freemasons, places all present in a lodge (except merely in respect of official duty then in course of performance) on a level; and one brother has as much right as another, nay, it is even his bounden Masonic duty to be courteous to his hosts, and to offer his salutations on behalf of himself and his usual lodge companions. How the reverse proposition can be maintained I know not, and should be glad to learn positively on what grounds the abandonment of the visitor's pleasant greeting is sought for.—Yours truly and fraternally,

JAMES STEVENS, P.M., P.Z.

Clapham, Jan. 16.

AN APPEAL.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother, After nearly two years' severe illness, the G.A.O. T.U. has graciously restored me to health, and since, my almost exhausted resources were further depleted by the cruel burglary at my residence on Christmas Day, I am once more desirous, able, and willing to obtain some employment to assist my broken fortunes. I trust, therefore, that some of the many brethren I have known in my happier and more prosperous days will be able to come to my rescue.—Yours faithfully and fraternally,

CHARLES J. PERCEVAL, P.M. 1607.

S, Thurloc-place, S.W.



THE CANADIAN NORTH-WEST AND THE ADVANTAGES IT OFFERS FOR EMIGRATION PURPOSES. By Prof. HENRY TANNER, M.R.A.C., F.C.S., &c., &c., &c. George Kenning: Freemason Printing Works, 16, Great Queen Street, London, W.C. 1885.

We wish the space at our disposal permitted of our entering more fully into the merits of Bro. Professor Tanner's admirable description of the Canadian North-West and its advantages as a field for emigration. In the first place, Bro. Tanner's mode of handling his subject is worthy of all praise. His style of writing is both clear and concise, and he marshals before his readers all the facts he has to bring forward in such excellent order, and explains them all so clearly and thoroughly, that it is impossible to read his pamphlet through without coming to the conclusion that the country he describes is in every respect suited as a home for our able-bodied surplus population. Those who find themselves hard driven to eke out even a precarious living here will do well to consult this account of Bro. Tanner's, which is written, be it remembered, by one of our trustworthiest authorities in all that relates to agriculture, as well as by one who has a personal knowledge of what he writes about. Bro. Professor Tanner has traversed this Canadian North-West, he has made the most careful and minute enquiries on the spot into the results of the agricultural enterprise thus far achieved in these distant, but hospitable, regions. Moreover, he writes impartially, and if there are any facts which are sufficiently well established to be worth recording, but which at the same time somewhat detract from the general brightness of his picture, he does not hesitate to give them in full and, where necessary, without qualification. In fact, this is, after all, the chief merit of Bro. Tanner's essay, that he describes things precisely as they are. If the prospects of a particular district are not such as some other people would have us believe, he says so unhesitatingly. If he feels justified in considering that this or that district has greater advantages for the intending emigrant than have been usually ascribed to it, he explains, fully, the reasons which have impelled him to that belief. That he is an enthusiastic admirer of the North-West of Canada, as a field for emigration, is beyond all question, but he has too much sense to mislead people into the idea that all they have to do is to set out for Manitoba, or a neighbouring region, and their fortune is at once assured. In short, the pamphlet is written by one who is a complete master of his subject, and is intended for men of sense who have an aptitude for hard work, and intend to put that aptitude to the best account. For these reasons we are glad of the opportunity of bringing it as prominently as possible under the notice of our readers.



642] ANOTHER MASONIC MS.
I have great pleasure in announcing the discovery of another copy of the "Old Charges." This time it is not an early transcript, but an unusual one in some respects, and not complete, though apparently all that was intended to be copied. It is inserted in "The Book M; or, Masonry Triumphant," Newcastle-upon-Tyne, MDCCXXXVI., and consists of 10 leaves, closely written by the original owner of the book—"Wm. Jubb"—so it is about the year 1736, but possibly earlier, as the leaves are inserted. Bro. Herbert Crossley, Sec. 61, sent the book to me for examination from the Lodge Library, so I have named the copy "The Probitary MS." accordingly, and will report again thereon as time permits.

W. J. HUGHAN.

643] FREEMASONS AND THEATRES.
According to the scarce work by Cole on the "Constitutions," 1751, "On Friday, the 27th day of September, 1728, the Right Hon. the Lord Kingston, Grand Master of the Antient Society of Free and Accepted Masons, bespoke a play, viz., the second part of King Henry IV., to be acted on the Monday following at the Theatre Royal, for the entertainment of the brethren, and ordered a new prologue to be spoken on that occasion; as also a scene to be alter'd, for introducing the Enter'd Prentices Song, as publish'd in the Constitutions, which was done accordingly, and all the Freemasons in the pit and boxes join'd in the chorus, to the entire satisfaction of the whole audience." It is singular that Lord Kingston was not proposed as Grand Master until two months after the date mentioned, viz., November 26th, and installed on December 27th, 1728, so it may refer to 1729.

W. J. H.

"An Epilogue for the Free-Masons, spoken by Mrs. Younger, at the Theatre in Lincoln's Inn Fields, April 27th, 1732," is also given by Benjamin Cole, 1751, as also "An Epilogue by Mrs. Raulins, spoken by Mrs. Horton, at the Theatre Royal in Drury-lane," not dated. The last of these concludes as follows:

"Ye marry'd Ladies, 'tis a happy Life,
Believe me, that of a Freemason's Wife,
'Tho' they conceal the secrets of their Friends,
In Love and Truth they make us full Amends."

In proof that Provincial Grand Masters held meetings and appointed officers, a speech printed by Cole may be cited, as it is declared to be by "the Right Worshipful Edward Oakley, architect, M.M., late Provincial Grand Senior Warden, in Carmarthen, in South Wales, and was delivered in London on 31st December, 1728. This Provincial Grand Lodge was the first formed.

W. J. H.

644] ANCIENT R.A. MEDAL.
I believe, with Bro. James Newton, that the copper medal, similar in design to that of the "Nine Worthies," described and illustrated in my "Origin of the English Rite of Freemasonry," is the first of the kind which has been

noted of that medal. Major Irwin's impression has no legend or date, as with the one mentioned by Bro. Newton. The one owned by the latter has the legend only "Amor Honor, Justitia," while another in the possession of Bro. J. S. Cumberland bears the date "Anno Lap. 5767," and the legend "Veritas est intas," [sic.] and "Virtuti et Silentio." The year 1767 may refer to the formation of the Grand R.A. Chapter by "Charter of Compact," 22nd July, 1767, or to the year the medal was struck. The official medal of the "Nine Worthies" was not used until 1802 apparently, and then by the "Atholl Masons" only; but the design was evidently well known long before then. Bro. T. Lamb Smith has a very fine impression of a medal in silver, oval in shape, with the field cut out, and having the same design as the foregoing, the year of origin being 1791. As all my works are out of print, I append a description of the official jewel, which does also to describe all the others, save as to the legends.

W. J. HUGHAN.

"MEDALS OF THE NINE WORTHIES."

"The jewels are of silver, nearly circular in shape, and of special and striking design. The loop, for a ribbon to be attached, is connected with a hand holding the medal. *Obverse:* Building in course of construction; two men are assisting in the raising of a block of stone suspended by a rope, and steadied by a man below, holding another rope; whilst a labourer is ascending a ladder, carrying materials on his back. On other side, on raised ground, is a man wearing an apron, with square in hand, and another, evidently the Master Mason, who is pointing to the structure. Pickaxe, crowbar, and other tools are at foot. *Inscription:* 'One of the Nine Worthies.' *Reverse:* Three arches resting on the edges of tessellated pavement, the two outside open sufficiently to admit a labourer, who, suspended by a rope round his waist, is standing on the smallest arch, and seeking to loosen the keystone with a crowbar. In the front are two pillars raised on three steps; operative tools lie around, and other emblems peculiar to the Third Degree and the Royal Arch. On one side is level, below the moon, and on the other the *plumb rule*, below the sun. *Legend:* 'Sit lux et lux fuit.'"—P. 97 Hughan's "English Masonic Rite."



Craft Masonry.

STRONG MAN LODGE (No. 45).—A meeting was held on Thursday, the 7th inst., at Masons' Hall Tavern, E.C., when there were present Bros. Henry T. Nell, W.M.; L. S. Fountaine, S.W.; R. E. Hunt, J.W.; H. Follett, P.M., Treas.; J. N. Heale, Sec.; F. C. Herbert, S.D.; T. C. Cubbon, I.G.; J. Smethurst, Stwd.; E. Mallett, Tyler; F. W. Driver, M.A., P.M.; G. G. Symons, P.M.; S. Wood, E. H. Dove, W. F. Bruty, W. H. Liddall, A. Mace, and C. F. Dowsett. The visitors were Bros. H. Richardson, 1364; J. A. Collins, 1693; W. H. Bromley, 228; J. Pash, 569; and J. H. Castle, 34.

Lodge having been opened, and the minutes of previous meeting read and confirmed, the ballot was taken on behalf of Messrs. A. Whitby, A. M. Whitby, and Wm. Smith, and proved unanimous in favour of these gentlemen, and, being in attendance, they were duly initiated into the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry, according to ancient custom. Bros. Bruty and Sammes were next passed to the Degree of F.C.

Lodge having been closed, the brethren sat down to a banquet, supplied by Bro. S. Wood, during which the usual loyal toasts were given and heartily responded to.

In giving the toast of "The P.M.'s," the W.M. regretted that several were laid aside by sickness, in which all the brethren sympathised, and hoped soon to see them with the brethren again.

"The Initiates" were given, and most ably responded to, two of them—a case of father and son—being initiated at the same time.

The evening was kept fully alive with capital songs and music, and a most enjoyable evening comfortably, pleasantly, and profitably spent.

VITRUVIAN LODGE (No. 87).—A meeting of the members of this lodge was held on Wednesday, the 13th inst., in their new quarters, at the Bridge House Hotel. Bro. W. R. Davis, the W.M., presided, and was supported by a numerous attendance of brethren—visitors and members of the lodge—including Bros. Thos. Minstrell, S.W.; Birch, J.W.; Bale, P.M.; Smyth, P.M.; Hamer, P.M.; Whiting, P.M.; Thurkle, P.M., Treas.; Stuart, P.M., Sec.; Janaway, P.M.; J. M. Moore, John Wyatt, Watkins, Lambourne, Chamberlain, Nicholls, Nightingale, Woodliffe, Waterer, Woods, Barnard, Carter, and Comfort.

The ceremony of passing was most efficiently performed, and Bro. Minstrell was unanimously elected W.M. for the year ensuing. Bro. Thurkle was re-elected Treasurer, and the Audit Committee were appointed.

Bro. Bale said it was his pleasing duty, as the I.P.M. of the lodge, to propose that the usual P.M.'s jewel should be presented to their Master, Bro. W. R. Davis, for the very admirable manner in which he had performed the duties of his office during the year. Whilst their W.M. had been in the chair he had shown in every way that he had the interests of the brethren and of the lodge at heart. After the very able way he had performed his duties, the W.M., as every one else would do, would feel it very keenly indeed if his services were passed over without acknowledgment. It was a great pleasure to him to make the motion he had, because he believed that they never had a Master more deserving of the honour than their present Master. Bro. Hamer, P.M., seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

After the transaction of other business lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet room. The usual loyal and Craft toasts followed.

In the course of the proceedings, Bro. Bale, P.M., said, by the kindness of the W.M., who had allowed him to take the initiative in that matter, he had now a duty to perform, which they would all recognise as one of a most pleasing

character. It related to their dear old friend, Bro. Thurkle who had been their honoured and respected Treasurer for very many years, and he had to ask his acceptance—and he did this with very great pleasure indeed—of the testimonial, which was placed before him, of their great respect and esteem for him. It consisted of an illuminated address, nicely emblazoned, and framed in an elegant gilt frame, and a silver tea service, consisting of a teapot, sugar basin, tongs, and cream jug upon a Chippendale tray. As their old friend would see, the teapot was suitably engraved in commemoration of the occasion, and all the articles bore Bro. Thurkle's monogram. By the inscription Bro. Thurkle would see what they thought of him, and he (Bro. Bale) could only hope that Bro. Thurkle would accept these articles as an expression of their goodwill towards him, for the kindness and urbanity he had always displayed towards them in his capacity of Hon. Treas. It would be most gratifying to Bro. Thurkle to know that these articles had been purchased by subscriptions, obtained without a single effort at canvassing. On the contrary; when it was first mooted that they should show their gratitude to Bro. Thurkle for his long and continued services to the lodge, subscriptions were at once forthcoming. Everything which was given was given freely and willingly. In asking Bro. Thurkle's acceptance of the articles they could only hope that T.G.A.O.T.U. would spare him and his family many long years to have their use, and that He would enable him to continue those valuable services to the lodge which he had so faithfully rendered in years gone by.

Bro. Thurkle said he was unable adequately to thank them for their kindness and kind words which had accompanied the gift. He heartily reciprocated the wish that the Great Architect would give him health and strength to continue his services to the lodge for many years to come, and he hoped that when they were called hence that they might meet in the Grand Lodge above, where the world's Great Architect lives and reigns for ever.

Other toasts followed, and a very pleasant evening was passed.

PANMURE LODGE (No. 720).—A regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Balham Hotel, Balham, S.W., on Monday, the 18th inst., the W.M., Bro. George Treves, presiding. The whole of the officers were present, viz., Bros. J. D. Arnold, S.W.; A. Leonard, J.W.; Geo. Lambert, P.M., Treas.; T. Poore, P.M., Sec.; F. Purkiss, S.D.; Dr. Lewis Jones, J.D.; A. A. Wood, I.G.; S. Ash and G. Allen, Stewards; C. Thomas, Tyler; James Stevens, P.M.; C. Everist, P.M.; E. Mitchell, P.M.; J. A. Bell, J. Finch, W. Jones, and others. The visiting brethren were Bros. S. Richardson, W.M. Unity; Edwin George, W.M. Marquis of Ripon; and F. W. Driver, P.M. Strong Man.

After the confirmation of the previous minutes, Mr. Jas. Burridge, already approved of by ballot, was introduced, and in a very creditable manner initiated into the Order, the ceremony being completed by the delivery of the charge by the W.M. A junior member of the lodge, Bro. Bell, gave the lecture on the tracing board in the First Degree, and materially assisted to maintain the reputation for good working which this lodge has always enjoyed. In the course of the routine business at the closing the W.M. referred to his proposed Stewardship at the ensuing Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and solicited support, which was readily accorded. "Hearty good wishes" having been, in accordance with good old custom, offered to the W.M. by the respective visitors, the lodge was closed in due form.

Dinner was served in the usual liberal and unostentatious style which has always characterised the efforts to please of Bro. George Lilley, P.M., the proprietor of the Balham Hotel, whose absence from the lodge on this occasion, owing to his late unfortunate and very severe accident, was specially referred to and very deeply regretted. The brethren generally expressed their gratification to learn that Bro. Lilley is now convalescing, and may be soon expected to resume active duty, and this his many Masonic friends outside the Panmure Lodge may be also pleased to hear. After the cloth was cleared the W.M. ably discharged his duty in presenting the loyal and Masonic toasts. His own health was drunk most cordially, and, in his response, he congratulated the lodge on its continued progress.

The Initiate, Bro. Burridge, in well chosen sentences acknowledged the compliment paid to him, and remarked that arrangements made by him to enter the Panmure Lodge ten years ago had been unfortunately disturbed. He had often regretted this, and the fact that though now located at Westgate-on-Sea he had after all been made in Fulham, would show that his regret was accompanied by an earnest intention to receive the light of Freemasonry. He could but say now that if he could have conceived that the teachings of the Order and its ceremonial introduction were of so sacred a nature his regret for the delay would have been increased tenfold. He should never forget the impression made upon his mind on that occasion.

To the toast of "The Visitors" Bros. S. Richardson, F. U. Driver and Edwin George respectively responded, and each stated his gratification with the work in the lodge and his subsequent entertainment.

The usual compliments were paid to the Past Masters, the Secretary and Treasurer, and the Officers, and were each briefly acknowledged.

In the course of the evening Bro. G. S. Graham looked in, and in his usual genial manner placed his musical attainments at the service of the brethren, and accompanying the several singers, greatly added to the harmony and enjoyment of the social gathering. With the time honoured Tyler's toast the present proceedings of the meeting were brought to a close.

CAPPER LODGE (No. 1076).—The usual monthly meeting of the above lodge took place on the 14th inst., at the Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, City. Bro. W. H. Harris, W.M., occupied the chair, supported by the following brethren: Bros. W. Nivins, I.P.M.; H. B. Holliday, P.M.; T. Day, P.M., P.P.G. Supt. of Wks. Essex; F. Bryan, P.M.; T. Vincent, P.M., P.P.G. Officer Herts; H. Taplay, P.M.; R. McCarthy, P.M.; J. Mitchell, P.M.; W. Watkins, S.W.; C. D. Mears, J.W.; J. Dorton, P.M., Treas.; J. Pitt, Sec.; W. Temple, S.D.; J. Still, J.D.; A. S. Dale, I.G.; W. Crow, Stwd.; J. Tytheridge, Director of Ceremonies; M. Sherwin, Org.; F. Ward, J. White, M. Stockvis, W. Robinson, J. Grice, G. W. Parkhurst, W. J. Calfcott, R. Harris, R. Brown, H. Green, J. Mansall, W. Cramp-

horne, B. Spencer, W. Taylor, and J. Sully, all of the lodge; H. Bonner, 73; and C. Jolly, S.W. 1472 (*Freemason*).

The only work before the lodge was the raising of Bro. B. Daw, which was admirably done by the W.M. and his officers.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to an excellent banquet, and ultimately the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were honoured.

Bro. Nivins, in proposing the toast of "The W.M.," said they had seen that evening how capable their W.M. was of carrying out his duties to their satisfaction, and such as the Capper Lodge required. He wished Bro. Harris a happy and prosperous new year, and the lodge every success.

The W.M., in response, thanked them cordially for the handsome manner in which they had responded to the call of Bro. Nivins, and could assure them that if they would only rally round him nothing should be wanting on his part to uphold the dignity and increase the prosperity of the Capper Lodge. At their next meeting he should have more work to do, as there were three candidates, and the more they gave him to do the better he should like it.

The next toast was "The Visitors," who were accorded a hearty and flattering reception, which we know from experience is nothing new at this lodge.

Bros. Bonner and Jolly returned thanks. The toast of "The Past Masters" was responded to by Bro. Nivins, who pithily recorded his experience of the valuable assistance rendered him during his year of office by the P.M.'s, and which he and they would only be too glad to extend to the present W.M., and, in fact, to any of the brethren who might require it.

Bro. Watkins responded for "The Officers," and assured the W.M. that he and his colleagues would do all in their power to make his year a successful and harmonious one, and then the Tyler's toast concluded a hearty and enjoyable evening.

KENSINGTON LODGE (No. 1767).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Saturday, the 16th inst., at the Kensington Hotel, Russell Gardens, Kensington, when the following brethren were present: Bros. C. A. Walter, J.W.; J. W. Barker, P.M., Treas.; George Read, P.M., Sec.; J. H. Taylor, P.M.; J. Metcalfe, P.P.G.S. of W. Leicestershire and Rutland, P.M.; Lewis Bryett, P.M.; R. H. Williams, S.D.; Arthur Barclay, J.D.; F. J. Oliver, Org.; A. Norman, I.G.; J. Wiggins, Stwd.; Robt. Schofield, P.M., Tyler; several lay members of the lodge, and the following visitors: Bros. J. R. Hubbard, 463; W. W. Snelling, S.D. 1541; G. Ellard, W.M. 1764; W. C. Williams, J.W. 1585; H. J. Rose, 1891; S. Cochrane, 3; C. Woods, 865; J. Rewcastle, 1892; H. G. Heywood, 865; D. P. Cama, W.M. 2105; S. W. Keene, 898; C. J. Foakes, P.M. 1891; J. Banks, 834; A. H. Strong, S.D. 1585; W. H. Causton, P.M. 1726; H. H. Room, W.M. 2090; J. F. H. Woodward, Prov. G. Sec. Middx.; W. Bassett, S.D. 1892; C. W. Cunningham, 1612; Jermyn Boyd, P.M. 23, P.G. Stwd.; John A. Gartley, I.P.M. 205; T. W. C. Lentz, W.M. 23; C. E. Soppett, P.G. Stwd.; G. C. Harding, P.M. 1238; W. W. Morgan, jun., and others.

After the transaction of some formal business and the passing of a brother to the Second Degree, Bro. C. A. Walter was installed as W.M., and he appointed the following officers: Bros. Williams, S.W.; Barclay, J.W.; Barker, P.M., Treas.; Read, P.M., Sec.; Norman, S.D.; Oliver, J.D. and Org.; Wiggins, I.G.; J. Mackay and C. Heath, Stwds.; and Schofield, P.M., Tyler.

After the addresses and other parts of the installation ceremony had been given, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to banquet. The usual toasts followed, the first being that of "The Queen and the Craft." The Queen, the W.M. said, was admired by all for her good qualities and for her desire to advance the interests of those under her rule. In proposing "The Health of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," the W.M. felt the brethren would express the heartiest feelings in connection with the toast, as the Prince of Wales was really the one member of the Craft of whom all the brethren were especially proud. He wished it was in the power of the Grand Master to be more frequently present at Masonic meetings, to personally witness the enthusiasm of the brethren when his name was mentioned.

The next toast was that of "The Pro G.M., the Deputy G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past." They had no Grand Officer then present; but they were honoured with the company of two Past Grand Stewards and the present Provincial Grand Secretary of Middlesex, with whose names the W.M. coupled the toast.

Bro. Woodward expressed his thanks for the compliment which had been paid him, and for the hearty way in which the Grand Officers, Present and Past, had been toasted. It had been a great pleasure to him, as he was sure it was to his Provincial Grand Master, Sir Francis Burdett, when the present Master of the Kensington Lodge was invested as one of the Wardens of the Province of Middlesex. From what he knew of their present Master he felt that the work of the lodge would be properly carried on during the ensuing year. Bro. Woodward said that one great thing which struck him in connection with Freemasonry—and he had travelled through 11 different countries of the world—was, that you could meet in Freemasonry men, relations, and friends whom it was impossible to meet in any other institution in the world. He had been entertained by members of the Craft in different countries, and had at all times great pleasure in being present at Masonic gatherings.

Bro. Soppett followed, thanking the brethren for the compliment of being associated with the toast of the Grand Officers. He briefly reviewed the system under which he and his fellow Grand Stewards were appointed, and their status at the end of their year of office. As a member of the Royal Kensington Lodge, he looked upon that of which he was a guest as a brother or a sister, and felt especial pleasure—as one of the founders and the present father of the Royal Kensington—in making the acquaintance of brethren so intimately associated so far as name was concerned. The members of the Royal Kensington Lodge had often wondered what the Kensington Lodge was like. Now, from personal observations, he should be able to report to his brethren, and he hoped the two lodges would learn to know more of each other in consequence. He could truly say that for working and hospitality the Kensington Lodge was not to be excelled.

Bro. Jermyn Boyd also replied. He was gratified that he had had the opportunity of witnessing the proceedings of that day. He could but endorse the remarks of his brother Grand Steward, and bear testimony to the excellent way in which the W.M. had been placed in the chair by Bro. Read, the Secretary.

Bro. Read then assumed the gavel. Had the I.P.M. of the lodge been present he would, no doubt, been better able to submit the toast of "The Worshipful Master," but in his absence he would do his best. As the first Master of the Kensington Lodge, Bro. Read had had especial opportunities of judging of the ability of the present ruler. He could truly say that Bro. Walter was a thoroughly good Mason. In any case of benevolence no one could be found more ready to render any assistance that lay in his power, and as ruler of the lodge for the coming year, he felt he would add to his already acquired reputation.

The Worshipful Master thanked the brethren most sincerely for the kind manner in which they had drunk to the last toast. He felt he should have a successful year, as he had good officers, and a united body of members. The brethren of the lodge had supported him hitherto, and would, no doubt, do so now that he was at the head of the lodge.

The toast of "The Visitors" followed, the W.M. giving the guests a most cordial welcome, and assuring them that his lodge looked upon the large number of visitors as one of the most pleasing points of the day's proceedings. Most of the visitors replied.

Bro. Room, who was the first to respond, had hardly remembered he was a visitor until reminded of the fact by the W.M. coupling his name with the toast. He saw around him so many brethren with whom he was intimately associated—old friends and new—that he felt as if he was in one of his own lodges. He was particularly pleased that he had been present that day, as he had seen the installation ceremony worked in such a manner as could not be excelled. In the course of two months' time it would be his duty—if he was spared—to install his successor in the Hammersmith Lodge, and he felt that he could not do better on that occasion than copy the working of Bro. Read, as displayed that day—so far as he was able. He could not have had a better lesson than he had received in the Kensington Lodge, for which, and for a most hospitable reception, he heartily thanked the brethren.

Bro. Ellard desired to add his tribute of praise to the Secretary of the lodge for the way in which he had discharged the duties of Installing Master. As Director of Ceremonies of the province of Norths and Hunts for the past six years, Bro. Ellard had attended very many installations, but he had never seen the ceremony so ably rendered as it had been that night.

Bro. Foakes felt an especial interest in the lodge, his voice having been among the first heard in it at the time of its consecration. He was, indeed, pleased to witness the prosperity it was enjoying.

The Worshipful Master proposed "The Health of the Installing Master," and

Bro. Read, in replying, said he had heard so much praise of his working that night as to be almost overcome by the flattery of the brethren. If he had performed the work of installation as ably as their praise led him to believe, he was truly pleased. He felt that it was because he always strove to do his very best that the compliments had been so numerous. He trusted he might always deserve the same kind feelings as had been expressed towards him that day. He really felt that so many kind expressions must really come from the hearts of those who uttered them, and he sincerely thanked them all for their kindness.

The Worshipful Master felt the next toast was one which would give the brethren equal pleasure with the last—it being that of "The P.M.'s." They all knew that the longer the lodge was in existence the more P.M.'s they got, but it was an especial pleasure to him that so many of his predecessors in the chair had been able to attend and support him on the present occasion.

Bro. Barker tendered his sincere thanks for the toast, to which he hoped to have to respond for many years to come.

Bro. Metcalfe followed, expressing the pleasure he felt at being present, and in seeing so grand an assembly of visitors and members.

Bro. Taylor said his greatest pleasure would be to do anything he could for the W.M. or any of the brethren, and he felt that all the P.M.'s were actuated with feelings of a similar character.

"The Health of the Treas. and Sec." was next drunk.

Bro. Barker felt an especial pleasure in replying on this, the fourth installation at which he had been honoured as Treasurer of the lodge. He referred to what the lodge had been able to do in the past on behalf of the Charities, and hoped they would be able to continue, even if not to increase, their grants to the Institutions. He should like to give at least 30 guineas each year to the Charities, even if by so doing the members had to content themselves with one banquet less.

Bro. Read assured the brethren he performed the duties of Secretary with especial pleasure. He considered the office the proudest position in the lodge next to that of Master, excepting, perhaps, that of Treasurer; but that was an honour of a somewhat different character. He trusted the brethren would support their Treasurer, who would act as a Steward at the next Festival of the Boys' School, and that the contributions he would take up would be worthy of the Kensington Lodge.

The toast of "The Officers" was next honoured, and was replied to by the respective brethren.

After this came "The Charities," for which, the W.M. said, all true Masons were proud to do anything in their power.

Bro. Norman replied, recounting what had been done on behalf of the widow of an old member. The Masons had come forward and helped her at a most critical time, and the result was that the house in which she resided had been secured for her, while a sufficiency had been saved to keep her and her child. This was a practical illustration of Masonic Charity, and he trusted that when he could recount so satisfactory a result it would stimulate his hearers to further acts of benevolence, and convince them that the Charity professed by Freemasons was something more than a mere name.

The Tyler's toast was subsequently given, and the proceedings brought to a conclusion.

Some excellent songs were given during the evening by members of the lodge and visitors, and the benefit of having

a practical Organist in the lodge was amply demonstrated. The result was, to our thinking, much more enjoyable than if we had to listen to the better—but, at the same time, much less homely—utterances of professionals.

LONDON RIFLE BRIGADE LODGE (No. 1962).—The installation meeting of this excellent working lodge was opened on Friday, the 5th inst., at Anderson's Hotel, under the Mastership of Bro. Arthur Haig-Brown, I.P.M. 174. There was a large attendance of members of the lodge and a full muster of officers, besides the following visitors: Bros. J. Margetts, 1598; J. J. Berry, P.M. 554 and 1278; G. Blake, W.M. 507; H. C. Jefferys, P.M. 902; George D. Bundy, P.M. 902; John J. Taffs, P.M. 186; W. Simpson, 1604; W. Gardiner, 1604; H. Massey, P.M. 619 and 1928; James Salmon, W.M. 2077; J. D. McDougall, P.M. 90 and 788; J. Llewellyn Jones, P.M. 1460, P.P.G.D. Middx.; Fred McDougall, P.M. 3; F. W. Frigout, J.D. 171; Alf J. Pritchard, P.M. 162; Thomas Joyce, I.P.M. 507; J. Sergeant Stacy, S.W. 1572; Chas. Fountain, P.M. 1517; Ernest Frederick Debenham, 28; R. Stark Wilkinson, 1445; and W. T. Wyatt, 26.

The agenda before the W.M. consisted of a passing, two initiations, and the installation, a programme which gave the assembled brethren ample opportunity of seeing what a valuable presiding officer the lodge had had during the past year. Bro. Haig-Brown initiated Mr. Octavius Lionel Haines, of O Company, London Rifle Brigade, and passed Bro. Latham to the Second Degree. The second candidate for initiation did not present himself, and Bro. Haig-Brown immediately after the passing proceeded to install Bro. Walter McDougall, S.W., as Master of the lodge for the ensuing year. The whole of the ceremonies were rendered to perfection. Bro. A. McDowall, P.M., Treas., acted as D.C., and the brethren followed his lead in true military style. The officers invested were Bros. A. Haig-Brown, I.P.M.; A. H. Sandle, S.W.; W. J. Tasman, J.W.; A. McDowall, P.M., Treas.; W. C. Claridge, P.M., Sec.; L. V. Walker, S.D.; J. C. Tilt, J.D.; John Green, I.G.; J. Woodley-Smith, Org.; H. F. Bing, M.C.; R. H. Tayton and G. Gregory, Stwds.; and J. S. Lackland, Tyler.

After the installing officer had delivered the addresses the W.M. presented him in the name of the lodge with a beautiful P.M. jewel, which had been unanimously voted by the brethren in recognition of his eminent services to the lodge during his year of office. The brethren after the closing of the lodge adjourned to banquet, and subsequently honoured the routine toasts.

After "The Queen and the Craft;" "The M.W.G.M.;" "The Pro G.M., &c.," had been drunk, Bro. Haig-Brown, I.P.M., proposed "The W.M.," and in so doing said the brethren had that evening heard in the installation ceremony the qualifications which were expected of the W.M. of any lodge. They would all agree that Bro. McDougall met all those requirements; but fortunately for the brethren it did not end there. Many of them had known him a long time, some of them a short time, but the longer they knew him the more they respected him. He was now in the proud position of W.M. of the London Rifle Brigade Lodge, and they welcomed him and wished him every success and God speed during his year of office. To doubt that he would properly carry out the duties of his office would be unfair to him. The brethren felt perfectly certain that, having placed him in the chair, his duties would be performed to the credit of the lodge. Although the lodge was a young lodge, it was well known in the Craft, and the members of the lodge hoped, and felt certain, that the lustre which was attached to the London Rifle Brigade Lodge would be in no degree tarnished during the year of office of Bro. McDougall. All the brethren would unite in wishing him a very happy and prosperous year of office, and health and strength to carry out the duties connected with the various work of his position. When his year of office should be expired they also hoped he would still have health and strength to take up his position among the P.M.'s for many years to come, to enjoy the brethren's appreciation of his services while W.M.

The Worshipful Master, in acknowledging the toast, said he thoroughly appreciated the manner in which he had been placed in the chair. He took a thorough interest in the working of the lodge. He hoped and wished for the success of the lodge, and although perhaps he might not be so efficient as some of the previous Masters, he would endeavour to the utmost to be so. Nothing would be lacking on his part, and he hoped they would look over any imperfections, knowing that it would be his endeavour to hold the position to the satisfaction of the brethren.

The Worshipful Master next proposed "The Initiate," whom they all welcomed. They felt confident that in after years he would never regret having taken upon himself the obligations he had entered into that evening. He (the W.M.) hoped Bro. Haines was thoroughly impressed with the ceremonies of the evening, and with the manner in which they were performed.

Bro. Haines, replying to the toast, said he had not long been a member of the London Rifle Brigade; but since he had been a member he had found good fellowship and kindness in all the members he had met. He must thank the brethren of the lodge for accepting him as one of their body, and he hoped it would never be his lot to bring discredit either on the London Rifle Brigade or on the lodge.

In proposing "The Health of the Visitors," the W.M. enumerated every name on the list, and gave them all a hearty welcome.

Bro. Salmon, W.M. 2077, who was the first to reply, said he happened to be the youngest installed Master in the room with the exception of the W.M. He had had an opportunity that evening of listening attentively to the installation, and following the beautiful ceremony as rendered by the I.P.M. Bro. Haig-Brown was known not only as a good Mason, but as a good neighbour. He and Bro. Haig-Brown resided within a stone's throw of each other, and there was no man in or out of Masonry he more respected. He had enjoyed himself very much, and was deeply indebted to the I.P.M. He had rarely enjoyed either a banquet or an installation ceremony more than he had that night. Every brother admitted that the ceremony had been most admirably rendered; he had never heard it done better. He was more than surprised, and he should look to Bro. Haig-Brown to coach him up before the time came for him to perform the same ceremony himself.

Bro. J. J. Berry, P.M. 544 and 1278, also replied, and said he had not only been present at the consecration of the lodge, but at every installation in the lodge since. Bro. Salmon had referred to the working of Bro. Haig-Brown,

and had said he was surprised at it. Well, he (Bro. Berry) was not at all surprised; but he was very much pleased. Bro. Haig-Brown had worked with him in lodges of instruction, and had qualified himself as a good worker. For a lodge established only five years the manner in which the ceremony of installation had been worked reflected great credit upon the officers of the London Rifle Brigade. He did not usually comment upon the work, because he had heard praises bestowed sometimes truthfully, many times untruthfully; but he had been pleased to see the manner in which the signs were given in the lodge, which told a very good tale for a volunteer regiment and for the brethren of the lodge.

Other brethren also responded, and among them Bros. Simpson, 1604, and L. Jones, 1460.

The Worshipful Master, in giving "The Health of the I.P.M. and Installing Master," said the brethren all heartily thanked Bro. Haig-Brown, who so kindly and ably performed the duties of Installing Master. Personally, he had to thank him, and he thoroughly appreciated the ceremony. The other brethren also appreciated it. It was very essential that all these duties should be performed impressively, so that the brethren should thoroughly understand and appreciate the ritual the Installing Master had to draw to their attention.

Bro. Haig-Brown, I.P.M., said he had had but one object in view since he started as a founder of the London Rifle Brigade Lodge, viz., to do his humble best to promote the interest of the lodge, and to keep it in its proud pre-eminence in Freemasonry. It was a very young lodge; but it was not unknown. Several older lodges existed; but many of those were not so well known or respected. He hoped it would never cease to hold its proud position. The brethren had been pleased, through their W.M., to bestow upon him a P.M.'s jewel. He looked upon it with very great pleasure, for he felt it had not been given him as empty praise, which he had had the misfortune to see in some lodges where the W.M. had really done nothing. He had endeavoured to do his best for the lodge, and was proud to feel, now that his term of office had expired, that his efforts had met with the approbation of the brethren; that they felt the lustre of the lodge had not in any way been dimmed. Bright as it might be in the present, he hoped it might be still brighter in the future; that it might rise in eminence in the Craft. For 12 months he should be the I.P.M.; but he hoped to remain a P.M. among the brethren for a long time. It would not be his fault if he were compelled to retire from the P.M.'s chair; but as long as he was a P.M. among them he should feel it a pleasure and a privilege to be one.

The Worshipful Master next gave "The Treasurer, the Secretary, and the Charities." He was sure the toast of the Treasurer would meet with the hearty response and gratitude of the brethren for his taking care of their large balances. The brethren knew those balances were in safe keeping, and that he would take care that no intruder should relieve him of any of his responsibility. With regard to the Secretary, the wonderful work he did for the lodge was something marvellous. It was not only in the lodge, but outside as well, that the Secretary had to work. There was a great deal of detail connected with a Masonic lodge, and the Audit Committee could prove that the figures were all considered. All the brethren thoroughly appreciated the services of those two brethren. The small words which he uttered in favour of them inadequately represented the appreciation of the members of the lodge. In speaking of the Masonic Charities, he might say that Bro. Claridge was going up as Steward for the Boys' School, so that he extended his services beyond his position as Secretary by doing his best for the Masonic Charities. He hoped the brethren would give him any votes for the Boys' School, or any subscription.

Bro. McDowall, P.M. and Treasurer, said he was very pleased to have a continuance of the brethren's confidence. During the last 12 months the lodge had somewhat progressed. Twelve months ago they were certainly in arrear as far as the banquet was concerned; but they had gradually made it less, and it was now very small indeed. He felt sure that at the end of the present Master's year, instead of having a very small balance on the wrong side, they would have a balance to the credit. It had been very satisfactory indeed to him to find affairs had been managed in that way by the W.M. in the chair and the I.P.M. Of course, the Treasurer had a great deal to do with the funds, but if affairs had not been so well managed the deficit would not have diminished so much. He hoped that at the end of the next 12 months the brethren's confidence in him would not be displaced.

Bro. Claridge, P.M., Sec., said he was so often before the brethren that it was difficult for him to find something new to say, but he must really thank the W.M. for his very kind remarks as to the office of Secretary. He would go on to the subject of Charity. In putting the W.M. in the chair they knew they were keeping up the Charities. Bro. Green, P.M., was the first to go up as Steward, and he took up the handsome sum of £200. Bro. Treasurer had followed, and during the four years the lodge had been established they had, with the aid of the lodge and the benevolent association connected with it, carried to these Masonic Charities over £600. He had the honour to appear before the brethren that night as Steward for the Boys' School. When he came into the room that night he had 60 guineas on his list; he then had five, and by the time the Festival came off he believed and hoped it would be doubled, thereby showing to the brethren and visitors that the London Rifle Brigade Lodge, although a young lodge, was doing the work it behoved all lodges to do, viz., to support the Charities. He was endeavouring to work a case which was a very distressing one, that of a son of a Mason who had made himself Life Governor of the Institution, and who had, therefore, done his part. He had also made two of his children Life Governors. He was a member of the Israel Lodge, and was connected with the firm of Messrs. Reid, the brewers. He was taken suddenly ill and died. On the next summons he should ask the brethren to support this case, which was so distressing that he could not find language to lay it before the brethren. The brother was only 33 years of age, and he left seven children, the youngest seven days old. The brethren were trying to run two children at once, for the reason that the boy was 10 years old, and only had one chance. The girl was eight, and therefore had more chances. When these things came before the brethren, even at a late hour after dinner, they brought many thoughts to the mind, and showed the necessity of the great Charities of the Order. It would be ridiculous for him to attempt to show their necessity.

Whether it was the old people, the boys, or the girls, there was a necessity for the Institutions. He was sure the members of the London Rifle Brigade Lodge, as well as all the brethren with whom he came in contact, would help him.

The S.W. and the I.G. responded to the toast of "The Officers," and the Tyler's toast concluded an evening which was thoroughly enjoyed by all the brethren present.

HONOR OAK LODGE (No. 1986).—The election meeting of this lodge was held at the Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge, on Wednesday the 13th inst. W. Bro. H. M. Williams opened the lodge, supported by his officers, Bros. H. Stokes, S.W.; J. W. Hartley, J.W.; W. Hopekirk, P.M., and Treas.; John Hammond, P.M., P.P.G.D. Middx., Sec.; H. Hooper, S.D.; A. Darch, P.M., J.D.; J. Fuller, as I.G.; F. France, D.C.; J. H. Worstencroft, A.D.C.; W. H. Simons, Org.; G. R. Langley, Asst. Sec.; and C. Shepperd, Tyler. There were also present Bros. C. H. Phillips, I.P.M.; J. W. Hiscox, P.M.; Arter, Bennett, Mordey, T. Letchford, J. Letchford, R. L. Lawson, W. H. A'Reilly, E. Bye, sen., and other members. The visitors were Bros. S. Richardson, W.M. 183; J. Harling, W.M. 30; James Stevens, P.M. 720, 1216, 1426, C. Wise, P.M. 1158; W. H. Williams, P.M. 104; John Mason, P.M. 309, P.P.G.S.D. Middx.; G. W. Knight, S.W. 1567; E. C. Hiscox, S.W. 1159; Sydney Hill, Org. 1216; E. Schultz, 1745; J. Nunnerley, 1815; J. Pike, 1586; J. Sutton, 1558; and E. Bye, jun., 141.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read by the Assistant Secretary, and confirmed. A ballot was taken for the initiation of Mr. Wm. Taylor Cue, which was declared clear. Bros. C. W. Bennett and W. W. Arber proved proficiency, and were passed to the F.C. Degree. Mr. Cue being then in attendance was introduced and initiated into the mysteries of the Order. The respective ceremonies were very ably rendered by the W.M., and were made more than usually impressive by the perfect working of the several officers, and the appropriate musical accompaniments by Bro. Sidney Hill, who officiated as Organist. The election of Bro. Henry Stokes, as W.M. for the ensuing year, by unanimous vote of the lodge (which was a foregone conclusion, that worthy brother enjoying the highest esteem of every member), was announced amidst acclamation; as was also the re-election of W. Bro. Hopekirk, P.M., as Treasurer. Bro. C. Shepperd was elected Tyler. On the proposition of W. Bro. C. H. Phillips, I.P.M., a Past Master's jewel, of the lodge pattern, was voted for presentation to the retiring W.M., Bro. Williams, as a well-deserved recognition of valuable services, and a zealous and faithful discharge of the duties of the chair during the past year. The bye-laws of the lodge were then read by the Assistant Secretary, Bro. G. R. Langley, who prior to the closing of business made a very earnest and feeling appeal to the brethren for assistance on behalf of Richard Turner Groombridge, a candidate for election to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and a son of the late Bro. Groombridge, publisher, of Paternoster-row. The special nature of this case made Bro. Langley's appeal one which deserved and received the sympathy of the brethren, and in the result promises of material support were given, both as regards lodge votes and those of individual members. "Hearty good wishes," that good old form of expressing the courtesy of guests towards their hosts, and of cementing Masonic friendships and the bond of union between our several lodges, having been exchanged, the lodge was closed in due form.

Shortly afterwards the brethren re-assembled for dinner, and on the clearance of the cloth, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were briefly given from the chair.

"The Health of the W.M.," proposed by Bro. C. H. Phillips, I.P.M., was drunk with great cordiality, and the toast was ably responded to by Bro. Williams, who modestly transferred a portion of the laudatory remarks of the proposer to his officers, for their combined exertions in perfecting the ceremonial and other work of the lodge during his term of office, and so enabling him to vacate the chair of K.S. with credit to himself, and satisfaction to all the members.

"The Initiate" was also well received, and, after the E.A. song in his honour, sung by Bro. James Stevens, had been heartily "chorused," Bro. Cue expressed his great satisfaction with the introduction into Freemasonry he had that evening received, and the hope that the solemnity of the ceremony might continue to influence his future career as a member of the Order.

"The Masonic Charities"—a toast which is far too frequently placed too low down in the list to receive that attention which its importance demands—was next given by the W.M., who referred to his intention to act as one of the Stewards at the approaching Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and solicited support. He knew the present need of that Institution for generous assistance this year to maintain its power to help those of our Order who had borne the "heat and burden of the day," and who now in their old age required the careful and substantial sympathy of their former associates. He was very pleased to see Bro. John Mason, the esteemed Collector for the Institution, present as a guest, and would couple his name with the toast.

Bro. Mason, in response, acknowledged the service about to be rendered by the W.M., and, in a very able and forcible speech, emphatically pressed the undoubted necessity for a strengeffort to maintain the efficiency of the particular Charity with which he is connected. The falling off in number of Stewards this year as compared with the last—being no less than some 60 or 70—the late increase of liability, and the present increase in the number of candidates for election, were subjects of great anxiety to his Committee, their Secretary, Bro. Terry, and himself, and he trusted that, whilst time afforded the opportunity—for there was yet an interval of six weeks before the Festival—the laudable example of the W.M. and members of the Honor Oak Lodge would be emulated by many other lodges.

For the extremely cordial welcome given by the W.M. to "The Visitors" individual responses were made by those present, one and all expressing the pleasure the proceedings of the evening had afforded them.

The remaining toasts of "The Past Masters," "The Officers," and the Tyler's toast were duly proposed and acknowledged, and the brethren then separated.

The musical arrangements were under the direction of Bro. W. H. Simons, the Organist of the lodge, who sung

two or three of his best songs in fine style, and was assisted by Bro. Sidney Hill, Organist 1216, and by the vocal efforts of Bros. Darch, James Stevens, and others.

COWES.—Medina Lodge (No. 35).—At the meeting of this lodge on Thursday, the 14th inst., Bro. H. C. Manners, S.W., was installed W.M. The ceremony was performed by Bro. T. W. Faulkner, P.P.G.J.W., in a most impressive manner, and the working throughout was excellently done. After taking the chair the W.M. expressed his thanks to the lodge for the honour they had conferred on him, and proceeded to invest his officers for the year as follows: Bros. R. Robertson, I.P.M.; H. C. Damant, S.W.; F. Rutland, J.W.; T. W. Faulkner, P.P.G.J.W., Treas.; G. A. Mursell, P.G.S.D., Sec.; J. Lettich, S.D.; A. Lee, J.D.; J. C. Airs, P.M., D.C.; H. Wheeler, P.M., Reg.; A. Barfield, P.P.G.J.D., Charities Committee; F. Ransome, Org.; R. Cullingford, I.G.; T. M. Taylor and A. Perry, Stewards; and Young, Tyler.

It was unanimously decided to present the I.P.M., Bro. Robertson, with a P.M.'s jewel in recognition of the services he had rendered during his year of office. There was a large attendance of members of the lodge and visiting brethren, among them being in addition to the officers Bros. O. Haxthausen, P.M.; F. W. Dyett, W. Snellgrove, S. S. Wheeler, G. Chambers, C. Stock, W. Trew, E. Poland, F. Osborne, F. C. Hayes, and G. A. Brannon, 151; Geo. Pack, P.M. 175; M. J. Speir and S. A. Wiltshire, 245; G. Brown, 328; C. J. Huntoun, 940; J. C. Hopwood, S.D. 1457; R. Kirk, W. Dodson, H. Robinson, and G. Dickenson, S.D. 1681; T. Wilkins, 1780; John Bailey, W.M.; A. Greenham, S.W.; and J. H. Brown, 1884.

After the lodge was closed a large number of the brethren partook of a banquet provided at the Fountain Hotel, to which ample justice was done. Due honour was given to the first toasts "Queen and the Craft" and "The Prince of Wales, M.V.G.M.," the W.M.'s references to the personal qualities of his Royal Highness, which were well-known to many present, meeting with enthusiastic approval.

The Worshipful Master proposed "The Earl of Carnarvon, Pro G.M., and the Grand Lodge of England;" "R.W. Bro. Beach, and the Prov. Grand Officers, Present and Past." He paid a high eulogium to the Prov. Grand Master for his great services to the Craft, and his unfailing courtesy, and coupled with the toast the names of Bros. Mursell, P.G.S.D.; Barfield, P.P.G.J.D.; and Pack, P.P.G.J.D.

The toast was duly responded to by the brethren named, who fully endorsed the high praise given to the R.W. Bro. Beach, and bore testimony to the great services which were rendered by other high officers, notably Bros. Le Feuvre and Shaldon Smith.

Bro. Faulkner was also called on to respond, and remarked that he had the honour of being the last Grand Warden of the Province of the Isle of Wight.

The toast of "The Worshipful Master" was ably submitted by Bro. Faulkner, who said Bro. Manners had been most regular in his attendance at lodge, and had proved himself very attentive and earnest in the discharge of his duties. He cordially wished him a prosperous year of office.

Bro. Manners expressed his thanks for the way in which the toast had been proposed, and for the enthusiastic reception that the brethren had given it. He felt that he was scarcely entitled to all the praise Bro. Faulkner had given him; but they might rely on his doing his best to serve the lodge and carry out his duties in a proper manner.

Bro. Pack proposed "The I.P.M. and Medina Lodge, No. 35," and spoke of the value to the lodge of the services of an experienced body of Past Masters. He was in a position to bear testimony to the services of Bro. Robertson, and it was with particular pleasure that afternoon he heard the lodge give expression to the regard in which they held him by voting him a Past Master's jewel.

Bro. Robertson, in responding, referred to the improvements which had been carried out in the construction of their lodge room during his year of office, the completion of which had given him great satisfaction. His best services would continue to be at the disposal of the brethren.

"The Visitors" was submitted in cordial terms by Bro. Mursell, who said no lodge in the province felt greater pleasure in receiving and welcoming visiting brethren than Medina, No. 35.

The toast was responded to by Bros. Pack, 175; Brannon, 151; Brown, 1884; Hopwood, 1457; Huntoun, 940; Wilkins, 1780; G. Brown, St. John's Lodge; Wiltshire, 245; and Dickinson, Robinson, Dodson, and Kerr, of 1681, who all expressed appreciation of the hearty welcome accorded them.

The Worshipful Master proposed "The Installing Master and the Past Masters of the Lodge." The W.M. referred to the excellent manner in which that day's ceremony had been performed by Bro. Faulkner, whom they regarded as the patriarch of their lodge, and expressed his thanks for the valuable services rendered by him and other Past Masters.

Bro. Faulkner said he was sure there were other Past Masters in the lodge who, if they cared to undertake it, could do the installation ceremony as well as the W.M. had been pleased to say he (Bro. Faulkner) had done it that day. It was 30 years since he had been initiated in the Medina Lodge, and he should continue to do his best to maintain their good opinion of him.

Other respondents to the toast were Bros. Haxthausen and Airs—who spoke of the benefit derived from the lodge of instruction they had established—Barfield, Mursell, Wheeler, and Robertson.

Bro. Faulkner, in submitting the toast of "The Masonic Charities," eulogised the great services in the work of charity that had been rendered by that veteran in the cause, Bro. Barfield, whom Bro. Mursell seemed determined to emulate.

Bro. Barfield, who wore the collar of the three Charities, adorned with 24 clasps, entered very fully in his reply into the working and needs of the several Charities. In the course of an interesting speech he said in June last 242 girls were being educated in a thoroughly useful and practical manner at a cost of over £9000 per annum. In addition to this the Trustees had been able to purchase a house and strip of land, which would prove to be a valuable investment; 220 boys were being educated in the Boys' School at a cost of £10,000, to make up which sum the Trustees had to rely almost entirely on subscriptions, as

Wray as joining members, and Bro. David Foulkes as re-joining member, and declared successful in each case. Bro. Ephraim Harris, P.M., explained the first tracing board, and then assumed the chair of K.S., and passed Bro. J. W. White to the Second Degree, after which Bro. H. L. Rocca, P.M., P.F.G.J.D., explained the second tracing board, and subsequently closed the lodge. The brethren passed a very pleasant evening around the social board.

**BALL OF THE ROYAL SAVOY LODGE,
No. 1744.**

This lodge gave a grand ball on Wednesday, the 13th inst., at Freemasons' Grand Hall, which was largely attended by members of the lodge and visitors, together with the ladies who are indispensable on such occasions, who were all dressed in most becoming and fashionable costumes, which graced many a pretty face.

The following were the Committee to carry out the arrangements, and in every respect most faithfully did they perform their duties: Bros. J. W. Smith, W.M., President; C. J. Knightley, Vice-President; H. W. Field, Treasurer; H. Dickey, Hon. Secretary; G. Mordey, R. Ross, D.C.; W. M. Stiles, I.P.M.; W. A. Scurrah, and J. Willing, jun., P.M. Stewards: Bros. W. H. Barling, J.D.; J. Bishop, T. Crane, G. Clarke, R. Dipple, J. Greenfield, P.M.; J. Glynn, C. H. Holland, I.G.; C. Horton, G. Hyams, W. Jaques, S.D.; R. Nadenik, E. Perry, W.S.; Dr. J. Powdrell, J. C. Smith, J.W.; and J. Terry, P.M.

At midnight, after the first part of the programme was over, the company adjourned to supper, which was a hot one and well served, in the Crown Room and the Glee Room, to which ample justice was done to the abundant hospitality of the Royal Savoy Lodge.

In the Crown Room the supper tables were presided over by President Bro. J. W. Smith, W.M.; Hon. Sec., Bro. H. Dickey; Committee, Bros. Jas. Willing, R. Ross, W. M. Stiles, G. Mordey; Stewards, Bros. W. H. Barling, T. Crane, E. Perry, W. Jaques, J. Bishop, C. H. Holland, R. Nadenik, Dr. J. Powdrell, and J. C. Smith. In the Glee Room, Vice-President, Bro. C. J. Knightley; Treasurer, Bro. W. H. Field; Committee, W. H. Scurrah; Steward, J. Glynn.

We are confident that all who had the pleasure of an invitation wish it may be an annual one. We think such festivities are of much good, as they bring the members of a lodge and their friends more together, and make Masonry not only tolerable with the ladies, but thoroughly approved, and the principles and tenets of the Craft upheld by the fair sex. Dancing was kept up with enthusiasm, the company dispersing about five o'clock on Thursday morning, after an evening's thorough enjoyment.

BANQUET OF THE PATTENMAKERS' COMPANY.

The livery dinner of this ancient Guild took place at the Holborn Restaurant on Thursday, the 14th inst. Bro. Capt. George Lambert, F.S.A., P.G.S.B., the genial Master of the Company, occupied the chair, and among the principal guests were Bros. the Right Hon. Lord Mayor Staples; Admiral the Hon. Sir H. Keppel, G.C.B.; Admiral Sir W. Hewitt, V.C., K.C.B.; Sheriff Clarke; Major-General Sir Charles Warren; Sir J. McGarel Hogg, Bart., M.P.; Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, G. Sec.; Col. Howard Vincent, M.P.; Capt. Phillips, P.G.D.; H. D. Sandeman, P.D.G.M. Bengal; Clout (Warden); Major Joseph, Master of the Gold and Silver Wyre Drawers' Company; Barrow Emanuel, M.A.; James Terry, Sec. R.M.B.I.; Richard Clowes; W. M. Bywater, P.M. 19; R. Spice; Charles Greenwood, P.G.S.B.; A. J. Beer; C. W. Hudson; W. H. Pannell; F. F. Peacock; D. P. Cama; Magnus Ohren, P.G.A.D.C.; F. Stohwasser; E. Jackson Barron; R. Hervé Giraud, P.G.D.; T. Shipp; Brackstone Baker, P.G.D.; Edgar Bowyer, P.G. Std. Br.; George Kenning; Col. Harding, G.A.D.C.; A. F. Godson, D.P.G.M. Worcestershire; the Rev. O. Thompson, P.G. Chap.; Rev. Dr. Maguire; Dr. Mickley; Capt. Thornhill, F.R.G.S.; Capt. Bowyer; and Youle (Clerk).

After an admirable dinner, served in the style in vogue at the Holborn Restaurant, the Chairman proposed the usual loyal and patriotic toasts, that of the "Navy, Army, and Reserve Forces" being acknowledged by Bros. Admiral Sir H. Keppel, Admiral Sir W. Hewitt, and Major-General Sir C. Warren.

In responding for the toast of his health, the LORD MAYOR, having reciprocated the kindly feeling expressed by the Master, said when he first entered the room he thought by the display of flags and banners that they were coming to some military entertainment, but another glance showed him that the decorations on the banners were rather the types of the victories of the great commercial city of which the Master had spoken than of any warlike body. Referring to the victories which the Corporation had won from its earliest days, his lordship said the first victory might be said to be at the time of William the Conqueror, when they obtained from him the triumph of allowing every man to be equal before the law, which had not been the case previous to his arrival. They obtained a victory over the oppressions of the nobles, a victory over the tyranny of kings, victories over disease, victories over famines, victories over insurrections from within and troubles from without, victories over dishonest men, and victories in point of fact which had brought the City of London to that which it now was. What might be regarded as their last victories were the victories of cleanliness, purity, good air, and good water over, the deficiencies of our forefathers. (Cheers.) The Master had remarked, in one of his speeches, that they were able to sit down and enjoy this festivity in peace. Was not that a victory of London? (Hear, hear.) The Corporation and the great City companies had possessed a great force in the country, which had been exercised for the general benefit, and not for any advantage of their own. Holding the responsible position of representative of the City of London, he was proud to refer to these triumphs. (Cheers.) He was elected Lord Mayor by the suffrages of his fellow-citizens, and he hoped he would hand down the office, which was one of great dignity, unsullied to his successors, and that a long line of Lord Mayors might still receive from time to time, the hospitality of the Pattenmakers' and other livery companies. (Cheers.)

The toast of "The Houses of Parliament" having been proposed, and acknowledged by Col. DUNCAN, M.P., and Bro. Col. H. VINCENT, M.P., Bro. the LORD MAYOR gave "Prosperity to the Pattenmakers' Company," and associated with the name of its Master (the Chairman, Bro. Captain Lambert), of whose services in many capacities, but especially in connection with this Company, his lordship spoke in most eulogistic terms. The CHAIRMAN having replied briefly, but in his usually happy manner, proposed "The Masters of the City Companies," which was duly honoured and acknowledged, and Bro. Warden CLOUT, the Master elect of the Pattenmakers, having replied for "The Wardens," and Mr. C. J. SHOFFER for "The Visitors," the list was closed with the health of "The Clerk," to which Bro. YOULE briefly replied.

Some excellent vocal and instrumental music, under the direction of Miss Mary Belval, was given during the evening, Bro. Chaplin Henry being one of the artistes. It may also be mentioned that Bro. T. J. Hamp, the courteous and able manager of the Restaurant, was presented by the chairman before the banquet came to an end with an elegant Masonic silver cigar case in commemoration of the event, and bearing the following inscription:—"To Mr. T. J. Hamp, for his kind and polite attention to the Court and Livery, from Capt. George Lambert, F.S.A., Master of the Pattenmakers' Company, March, 1884-5, 1885-6."

ANNUAL MASONIC BANQUETS.

**BANQUET OF THE SINCERITY LODGE, No. 189,
PLYMOUTH.**

The annual Christmas banquet in connection with the Sincerity Lodge, No. 189, Plymouth, was held on Wednesday, the 13th inst., at Bro. Walter's, Farley Hotel. An excellent dinner was provided. The W.M., Bro. Edwin Prout, presided, and was supported by Bros. Col. Healy, I.P.M., P.D.G.S.W.; George R. Barrett, P.M. 189, 1255, 2025, P.G.S.D.; T. S. Bayly, P.M. and Treasurer 189, P.P.G. Treas.; E. L. Maunsell, P.S.O.; J. Griffin, P.M. 70, 2025, P.G.J.D.; E. A. Davies, P.M. 1099, P.P.G.S. of Wks.; the Rev. T. W. Lemon, M.A., P.M. and Chap. 189, P.P.G. Chap.; A. Brickwood Hutchings, Mayor of Devonport, P.M. 2025, P.G.O.; A. Latimer, P.M. 189; C. Croydon, P.M. 189; W. Ollis, P.M.; George Hawken, P.M. 189; A. S. Hendry, P.M. 189, who kindly filled the J.W.'s chair; J. Dampney, P.M. 189; F. Codd, P.M. 189; J. Gifford, P.M. 105, and Sec. 2025; George Jackson, P.M. 189; A. W. White, P.M. 1136; J. F. Burns, W.M. 202; C. Dunsterville, S.W. 189; J. Ward, S.D. 189; Frank R. Thomas, J.D. 189; J. B. Moulder, jun., I.G. 189; Charles F. Hocking, S.S. 189; S. H. Phillips, J.S. 189; W. M. Robins, 189; E. J. Rattenbury, R.N., 189; R. D. Howland, 711, Port Elizabeth; F. G. Pinkham, 105; E. A. New, 189; and T. Veale, 230. The W.M. apologised for the absence of the esteemed Secretary, Bro. R. H. Rae, P.M., P.P.G.S.D., and the genial J.W., Bro. G. A. Broome, from indisposition. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured. Two excellent violin solos were given by Bros. Codd and Hendry. Some capital songs were rendered by Bros. Hocking, Howland, Pinkham, Rattenbury, Moulder, Thomas, Veale, Dunsterville, and Robins, and exceedingly good recitations by Bros. Croydon, Hawken, and Dampney. Bro. A. Latimer, P.M. 189, ably accompanied on the pianoforte. A most pleasant evening was spent.

**BANQUET OF THE EBRINGTON LODGE, No. 1847,
MILLBAY.**

The annual banquet of the Ebrington Lodge, No. 1847, was held on the 13th inst., at the Imperial Hotel, Millbay, Bro. W. H. W. Macey, W.M., presiding. There were also present Bros. R. Hurrell, I.P.M. 1847; J. H. Stevens, P.M., Sec.; G. Ellery, W.M. 159; H. Mortimer, I.P.M. 159; B. S. Johns, P.M. 159; Fred. R. Goodear, I.P.M. 223; H. B. M. Millan, Henry Trethewy, P.M. 159, 202; W. H. Williams, J.W.; Fred. Barnadell, 105; B. Michell, Chap. 1847; A. C. Titherly, D.C.; Robert Selmon, J.W. 159; John Griffin, 131; W. Radmore, 159; J. Merrifield, 1847; Thomas Pooker, J.D. 156; Thomas May, W.M. 1099; Henry Rogers, S.W. 1099; G. Firkins, 1847; J. Masters, A.D.C.; J. Masters, P.S.W.; J. B. W. Fox, 223; J. H. Blackell, P.M. 1099; H. G. Harding, I.G.; T. Geach, S.W.; W. J. Newell, 156; G. Sweet, I.G. 1847; T. Teague, J. Moore, P. Brendon, 105; J. T. Rooke, J. Tyacke, 105; E. Pinhey, 159; Charles A. Nicholson, P.M., Treas. 1847; A. R. Lethbridge, P.M. 1847, P.G.S. of Wks.; James Lose, P.M.; Richard Lose, P.M.; Wm. Kennedy, J.D. 1205; Wm. Sutton, J. Moat, 159; W. Cutcliffe, 156; J. A. Moxey, M. R. Moxey, 1284; E. Richards, 131; H. Luscombe, 155; and W. Sweet, S.S. 1212.

After the loyal and some of the Masonic toasts had been disposed of, Bro. J. Lose, P.M., gave "The W.M. of the Ebrington Lodge, Bro. W. H. W. Macey." He said he had known Bro. Macey for a great number of years, and from his experience of him he believed he would fulfil the duties of his office with the utmost facility and good judgment.

The *Worshipful Master*, after replying to the toast of his health, called upon Bro. Stephens to give "The Health of Bro. R. Hurrell, I.P.M."

Bro. Stephens said there was no need for him to eulogise Bro. Hurrell. Those who knew him valued his services to the lodge and Masonry better than he could tell them. He had never failed to carry out the duties which had devolved upon him while in the chair of the lodge, and he had done his utmost, though yielding to none, to please everyone. But while proposing his health a more pleasing task fell upon him—that of presenting Bro. Hurrell with a testimony of the esteem in which they held him. The timpiece which he now gave in the name of the lodge to his brother was the unanimous gift of the members. He had fairly won it, and he (the speaker) hoped that he would long live to enjoy it. The presentation consisted of a handsome marble timpiece with gilt fittings, surmounted by a bronze bust, and bearing the following inscription:—"Presented by the brethren of Lodge Ebrington, 1847, to Bro. Robert Hurrell, P.M., in appreciation of his Masonic zeal during his year of office, January 13th, 1886."

Songs and selections of music were given during the evening, among the contributors to this portion of the entertainment being Bros. James Lose, Kennedy, Rickeard, C. Sutton, W. H. W. Macey, and others. A very enjoyable evening having been spent, the company separated at midnight.

**MASONIC TESTIMONIAL TO THE REV.
W. WHITLEY.**

In making the presentation at Plymouth recently of a gold watch to W. Bro. the Rev. W. Whitley, on behalf of the brethren of the Three Towns, W. Bro. WM. DERRY, who presided on the occasion, remarked that, unfortunately for them, by the removal of Bro. Whitley to London they had suffered a great loss. During his residence among them he had been a very active Mason, and had done much to widen the borders of Masonry. He had gone through the various offices in Lodge Harmony with the greatest credit to himself and benefit to the lodge. He promoted the institution of the Lodge St. Maurice, 1853, at Plympton, and officiated as its first Master. He had promoted the institution of the Lodge Prudence, 1550, in Plymouth. He had occupied the office of P.G.S.W. to the satisfaction of all the brethren of the Provincial Grand Lodge, and gained the warm esteem of the P.G.M., Lord Ebrington, who would have been present that evening but that his Parliamentary duties prevented. Bro. Whitley had been heart and soul in the Masonic educational movements in the province. He had been a member of the Committee for the Relief of the Deserving Poor, and through his exertions much good had been done by that body. He had never allowed a case which had been submitted to him to pass by without careful inquiry and judicious treatment. On the 23rd of last month, through his exertions in London, the Board of Benevolence had been induced to make the somewhat unusually large grant of £100 towards the relief of a worthy brother of the province who, through illness, had become distressed. The town had, through the Mayor, presented a testimonial to Bro. Whitley for his exertions on the Committee of the Mendicity Society of the town, and as a mark of the general high esteem in which he was held by his late fellow townsmen. Masons felt they could but follow that excellent example, and as a mark of their recognition of his services to the Order and their esteem, he (Bro. Derry) was deputed to present him with that handsome watch. He hoped Bro. Whitley would be long spared to wear it, and he was sure that whenever he had occasion to use it he would have before him a pleasing remembrance of his absent brethren in Devon.

Bro. GOVER also bore testimony to the valuable services rendered by Bro. Whitley in the province. Not only had he been active in that lodge, but throughout the lodges of the Three Towns.

W. Bro. WHITLEY, with much feeling, expressed his warm appreciation of the kindness shown him by the brethren. He should never forget it. He should always continue a member of Harmony Lodge, and ever bear in mind his pleasing connection with Devon, and be ready at any time to give what services he could for the benefit of the province.—*Western Morning News*, Jan. 16th.

Obituary.

BRO. MAJOR GENERAL SIR PETER SCRATCHLEY.

The above distinguished officer died suddenly at sea, on the northern coast of Queensland, on the 2nd December last. He was seized with malarial fever whilst cruising off the coast of British New Guinea a week previously, and the case was considered so serious that the medical officer advised an immediate return southwards to Australia. Major General Scratchley was in 1884 appointed her Majesty's High Commissioner for the British Protectorate of New Guinea, and was at the time of his death performing the duties of his office. Sir Peter was the youngest son of the late Dr. Scratchley, of the Royal Engineers. He served in the Crimea, and throughout the Indian Mutiny, accompanying an assault party in the final siege and capture of Lucknow. In the year 1860 the Victorian (Australia) Government applied home for an officer of Engineers to superintend the erection of defences, and General (then Captain) Scratchley was selected for the post. He entered with much zest into the volunteer movement of the colony, and received the honorary appointment of Lieut.-Col. of the Volunteer Engineers. It was during this period that our departed brother became a member of the Masonic Fraternity, he being initiated in the Meridian Lodge of St. John, 729 (E.C.), Melbourne. In 1864 he returned to England, and as a recognition of his Indian services was promoted to the rank of Major. After holding several important positions under the War Office, he was commissioned to advise the Agent-General of Victoria in the purchase of arms and munitions of war. In 1877 he became Lieut.-Col., and the following year accompanied Sir Wm. Jervois on an official mission to Australia. Subsequently Col. Scratchley retired from active service with the rank of Major-Gen. As stated, Gen. Scratchley again went to Australia as High Commissioner of New Guinea, and was created K.C.M.G. by her Majesty in May last.

The remains of our distinguished brother were landed in Melbourne, where Lady Scratchley resides, on the 15th of December, and two days later the interment was conducted with full military honours in the St. Kilda cemetery. In the cortège were two battalions of the Victorian Militia and a battery of field artillery, whilst Sir H. B. Loch, Governor of the colony, was present, together with military representatives from Queensland, New South Wales, South Australia, and Tasmania, Knights and Companions of SS. Michael and George, foreign consuls, and other dignitaries.

Bro. Sir Charles Warren was presented, on Friday, the 15th inst., at a meeting of Cape Merchants, with a handsome testimonial in recognition of his recent services in Bechuanaland. Our distinguished brother has since been promoted by the Queen, for the same services, to be Major-General in Egypt with the command of the forces at Suakin.

Owing to her recent indisposition the Princess of Wales was unable to accompany his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales on his visit to Eaton Hall, or to be present with him at the opening of the Mersey Tunnel. The Prince too, in consequence of the Queen opening Parliament in person, was under the necessity of breaking his visit by returning to town immediately after the ceremony. But his Royal Highness was to return to Eaton Hall to-day (Friday), and prolong his visit till Monday next, instead of terminating it as originally intended to-morrow (Saturday).

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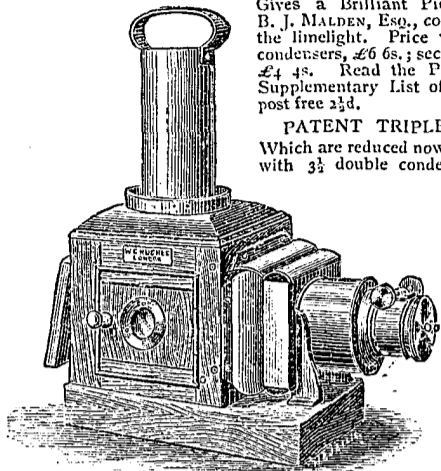
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