

THE FREEMASON.

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

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

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, THE M.W. GRAND MASTER OF ENGLAND; HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF ABERCORN, M.W. GRAND MASTER OF IRELAND
SIR ARCHIBALD C. CAMPBELL, BART., M.W. GRAND MASTER OF SCOTLAND AND THE GRAND MASTERS
OF MANY FOREIGN GRAND LODGES.

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"THE Queen and the Craft" is, very properly, the first toast at every Masonic gathering. It is natural, therefore, that "the Craft" should be among the first to welcome the more frequent reappearance in public of "the QUEEN," with whom it so proudly yet so justly associates itself. We all know the Queenly office is no sinecure and that there is not one of her MAJESTY'S subjects throughout the length and breadth of the United Kingdom, whose time and strength are so seriously and unceasingly taxed by the cares and responsibilities of their position. Hence her recent participation in certain events of great public interest has been the subject of universal rejoicing. When her MAJESTY opened the new Parliament in January, the route followed by the Royal procession was lined by thousands and thousands of people, who vied with each other in demonstrating their loyalty. On Wednesday the foundation-stone of the new Medical Hall on the Thames Embankment was laid by the QUEEN, surrounded by many members of her family, and attended by Ministers of State and high Court Functionaries, as well as by the heads of the two Royal Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons, for whose especial use the Hall is being erected, and again the route followed by Royalty was densely thronged with people, all anxious to obtain even a passing glimpse of her MAJESTY, and give her a hearty welcome. There is nothing very wonderful in this. The QUEEN, during the whole of her long and brilliant reign, has always been the most popular personage in the United Kingdom, its Colonies and Dependencies, and her popularity was never greater than it is at the present time. We say again that Masons must, necessarily, be among the first to rejoice at the affectionate welcome which on the special occasions we have mentioned has been accorded to the QUEEN, and we sincerely trust the public may have many more opportunities, both in the nearer and more remote future, of demonstrating its attachment to the Throne and the lady who has occupied it for so many years to such excellent purpose. The loyalty of our Society is unimpeachable; but it will be beneficial rather than harmful if, in these troublous days, we can find a way of expressing it rather more emphatically than usual.

It is not our practice to give unusual prominence to the claims of any particular candidate for the benefits of one or other of our Institutions. But in accordance with a certain trite old saying, there is no rule without an exception, and we consider we are fully justified in commending to the notice of those among our readers, who have votes at their disposal, the case of the boy RICHARD TURNER GROOMBRIDGE, whose father, a member of the well-known publishing firm of GROOMBRIDGE, of Paternoster-row, and an active and useful Mason of some fifteen years standing, dropped suddenly dead at Westbourne Park Station, on the 29th August of last year, leaving a widow and four young children to mourn his loss. The circumstances of his death, as they were described at the time, were very distressful, but they are still more so now that we know his widow and orphans are under the necessity of seeking assistance in order to help them on their way through life.

We cannot congratulate Bro. EMRA HOLMES on the perspicuity of his reasoning in the letter we published of his last week on the subject of Canadian Templar Masonry. We agree with him that the Great Priory of Canada has "freed itself from the control of Convent General;" that is to say, a mutually arranged separation between the two bodies has taken place. We have heard from more than one quarter, and therefore will not dispute his statement, that the Great Priory of Canada "claims absolute jurisdiction" over Templar Masonry throughout the Dominion, and we have no reason to doubt that "the Scottish Knights do not seem to see their way clear" to accept this claim, which we presume is what is intended by the somewhat clumsy expression "to give up their independence or allegiance to Scotland." So far we have no objection to Bro. HOLMES'S representation of the circumstances. But as it by no means follows that because A is white, therefore B must be black, so it is not

a necessary consequence, as Bro. HOLMES would have us believe, that because the Great Priory of Canada claims to exercise "absolute jurisdiction" over Templary in the Dominion, and "the Scottish Knights do not seem to see their way clear" to conceding that claim, the former is justified, while the position of the latter is "false and anomalous." Probably Bro. HOLMES has never previously heard—or if he has, he seems to have quite forgotten—that between a conclusion and the premisses from which it is drawn there is in logic, whatever there may be in Canadian Templary, a certain chain of reasoning, which is based on the premisses and justifies the conclusion. But between Bro. HOLMES'S statements of fact, which in this case are the premisses, and the assertion of his opinion, which is the conclusion, there is absolutely nothing. It may be that he has no arguments to adduce, that he considers arguments superfluous, or that he has experienced an insuperable difficulty in justifying his conclusion, and does not care to say so. But whatever may have been the motive for his silence, he says nothing to warrant his opinion, and then has the presumption to think that our readers will agree with him. However, we will not be so uncomplimentary to the latter as Bro. HOLMES has been. We have no doubt they will support the right view, when it is made clear what the right view is. The facts are as Bro. HOLMES has stated, with this important one to be added—The Scottish Templar Encampments in the Dominion of Canada derive their Constitution from the Chapter General of Scotland, which has never had anything to do either with Convent General or with the Great Priory of Canada, which, till lately, was one of its constituent parts. If they see fit to cast in their lot with the Great Priory of Canada, we dare say the Chapter General of Scotland will absolve them from their allegiance, and the point in question will arrange itself; but if they do not see their way clear to the adoption of this course, then, the position of things being precisely what it was before the dissolution of the connection between Convent General and the Great Priory of Canada, there will be no alternative but for it to remain so. In other words A and B having dissolved partnership by mutual arrangement, C, which never had anything to do with either, being a branch establishment of D, remains as it was before. This is the whole case, stated fairly and without prejudice, and when our readers have given the matter full consideration, we presume to think they will not be of the same opinion as Bro. HOLMES.

We understand that the list of 100 subscribers for Bro. JOHN LANE'S "Masonic Records" is now rapidly filling in, and, as soon as completed, the MS. will be placed in the hands of the printers. We take this opportunity, therefore, to urge on Bro. LANE the desirability of enlarging the edition of his valuable work, so as to considerably reduce the cost per copy, and thus much increase its circulation and, consequently, its usefulness. We are persuaded that many brethren would be glad to avail themselves of the privilege of subscribing, provided a reduction were made, to whom the present price is prohibitive, and, besides which, the importance of the "Masonic Records" is such, that a very limited edition (as the one contemplated) would restrict its circulation to the fortunate few who were wise enough and prompt enough to enrol their names as subscribers prior to the book being printed. We mention this matter in time, being strongly in favour of the suggestion now made, which has not only occurred to ourselves, but several Masonic students have expressed the same opinion, hence we feel assured that Bro. LANE will not hesitate to respond accordingly.

THE brethren at Brixham have done well. It is not every lodge, consisting only of some 60 members, that would have the courage to undertake the erection of a new Masonic Hall. Experiments in bricks and mortar are generally expensive, and the building, of which the foundation-stone was laid so unostentatiously during the closing days of February, is estimated to cost between £300 and £400, while not improbably before the work is out of hand the figure of £500 will have been reached. To have undertaken this responsibility shows there must be a large amount of zeal among the Brixham Freemasons, and we hope their scheme will be carried through successfully. In the long run, too, it will, no doubt, prove to be an act of economy. The lodge will not only enjoy the satisfaction of having a home of its own, but there will be no rent to pay, and the saving thus effected will soon make good the original outlay. There is also another reason for congratulating the lodge at Brixham. It is often a matter of great difficulty, especially in small country places, to secure quarters where the brethren will be able to enjoy that degree of privacy which is so desirable. It is on this account that so many brethren object to lodges meeting in hotels and taverns, namely, that, in order to reach the quarters set apart for their accommodation, the members must run the gauntlet of the general public. However, there will be no objection on this score when the new Masonic Hall at Brixham is ready

for occupation, and when that happens, we trust it will be found that the zeal of the members and the sympathy of their friends will have been such as to start them on their further journey free of all financial encumbrances.

THE case mentioned by "P.M." in our Correspondence columns last week only shows that the best ordered arrangements occasionally fail of their purpose. Our readers are no doubt aware that the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, and Scotland exercise concurrent jurisdiction in the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown. As a rule the plan works admirably, and the instances are almost innumerable in which the lodges and brethren meet and assist each other in carrying out their several functions in the most perfect harmony. In the Australian Colony of Victoria the government of the lodges holding under the three Constitutions has been entrusted to one and the same brother; but, though this is a solitary case, the same friendly spirit prevails generally wherever English, Scotch, and Irish lodges work side by side together. But from what our correspondent "P.M." described last week, the course of Masonic harmony does not appear to run quite so smoothly in Bermuda as it does elsewhere. To judge from his statement there must be a little jealousy between, at all events, some members of the Scottish Fraternity and their English brethren. Otherwise we are at a loss to understand how, in the absence of the usual recommendation from the Scotch lodge already existing and the Scotch Provincial Grand Master, a new lodge under the Scotch Constitution should have been warranted. The circumstances appear to be a little mixed. The Master of English Lodge No. 1890—the Broad Arrow, St. George's—on being stationed at Hamilton, where another English Lodge—the Atlantic Phoenix, No. 224—is located, applied for, and obtained from the Grand Lodge of Scotland a warrant for a new Scotch Lodge, No. 726, on the Scotch roll, in spite of the absence, as we have said, of any recommendation on the part of the already existing Scotch Lodge, No. 200, and the Scotch P.G.M. A reasonable explanation may perhaps be found in the fact that the said Master of English Lodge, No. 1890—Bro. Surgeon-Major CAMPBELL—is, as his name betokens, of Scotch extraction, and though he may not on that account have loved the English Craft less, he must naturally have loved the Scotch Craft more, and so sought and obtained a warrant for the new Lodge, No. 726, S.C. We prefer this explanation of the circumstances to the one we hinted at in the first instance, that Bro. CAMPBELL was prompted in the course he adopted by motives of jealousy. But whichever of the two explanations may be right, it will occur to most of our readers that, assuming the circumstances are such as they have been described by "P.M.," the facility with which a warrant may be obtained from the Grand Lodge of Scotland is exceptionally great. Probably further inquiries may elicit from Bro. LYON, the Grand Secretary of Scotland, whose anxiety for a well-ordered system of government is universally recognised, that, notwithstanding Bro. CAMPBELL failed to obtain the recommendation of the Scotch Masonic powers that be in Bermuda, there were good and sufficient reasons for acceding to his petition and issuing the new warrant No. 726. Let us hope, too, that any slight feeling of dissatisfaction that may have been engendered among our English brethren by the success of Bro. CAMPBELL'S application will speedily disappear, and that the members of the two Constitutions will in the future, as they have done elsewhere in the past, be found working together in harmony.

MASONIC BIBLIOGRAPHY.

In [No. 630] "Masonic Notes and Queries," October 10th, 1885, Bro. Hughan gave an interesting account of the new work on "Masonic Bibliography" by Bro. Reinhold Taute, the publisher being Bro. J. G. Findel, of Leipzig. In the article the work was promised to be completed about December, and to consist, when finished, of 240 pages, so as to include some 2700 articles. Part 2 is now before us, and the pledge has been fulfilled, the articles numbering in all about 2800.

This extraordinary collection belongs to the "Carl Zu Den 3 Ulmen" Lodge, at Ulm, and the preparation of this valuable account of the character and contents of such a vast Masonic library has been undertaken by Bro. Taute, the labour having involved several years of study, research, and preparation for the publication of the catalogue. It is, however, much more than a catalogue, for it abounds with critical and bibliographical notes and references, so much so as to render it a necessary work for all Masonic students. The aim of the compiler has been to supply the titles of works down to 1844, omitted by Dr. Kloss in his great work of that year, and to furnish particulars of the numerous volumes issued since to the present time.

There are, as may be expected, some errors, and also some omissions of consequence, for there is no library, however great, which can have copies of all the scarce books on Freemasonry; but, allowing for all such lapses, the "Masonic Bibliography" by Bro. Taute is a monument of zeal and accuracy. It has been printed at the *atelier* of Bro. Findel's, at Leipzig, in a manner that is most creditable.

The titles of all the works on Freemasonry and cognate subjects are given "verbatim et literatim," so that to brethren unfamiliar with the German language these exact reproductions of the title pages will prove a most attractive feature, and the excellent table of contents and comprehensive index will be of great help in facilitating an examination of its pages, as well as be of great value in consulting the work from time to time.

The sale, necessarily, will be limited, for there are never many who are interested in bibliography generally, though for the writer the subject has a great charm; and the two parts being issued at 12s. complete, and may be had from Bro. J. G. Findel, Leipzig, from whom we have been pleased to hear that Bro. Hughan's appreciative notice has led to several copies being applied for from brethren hailing from England and the United States.

We are surprised to find there are no Engraved Lists of English Lodges in the collection, and of Bode's Almancks, 1776-8, only the first is recorded.

Of Masonic magazines at home and abroad there are many, and all departments of Masonic literature appear to be well represented; even the "High Degrees," occult, and other studies being carefully noted; so that Taute's "Bibliography of Freemasonry" will, therefore, take its stand as the supplement to Kloss of 1844. We hope now that Bro. Carson will soon complete his "magnum opus," for his "Masonic Bibliography," as far as it is published, gives promise of great excellence and value.

COUNCIL REGISTER OF ABERDEEN, 1398-1570.

The records comprised in the Council Register of Aberdeen, which include the proceedings of the Council, the Baillie and the Guild Courts, begin in 1398, and are contained in sixty-one folio volumes, down to the year 1745 (each one having an average of 600 pages), there being only one break in the series, viz., 1414-33. This was the period selected for examination and publication by the "Spalding Club," the first volume, issued in 1844, being now before me. The extracts are very numerous, and of great interest to Antiquaries and Historians generally, covering a most important period of Scottish History. Those of particular value to the Craft are herewith presented, and though not many, they are of significance Masonically. The historical importance of these Records have long been acknowledged by competent judges.

5th September, 1442, *re* loss of freedom.
"Item, that all the communitie, alsweile vunfree as freemen, be sworne to with Aldermen and balzeis in the defence of the towne, and of the nychbores of the towne; and guhasa will noght rise and absents him willfully, he sal tyne his fredome, and be baunysit out of the towne." [Loss of freedom and expulsion from Aberdeen threatened.]

3rd November, 1474, *re* Master of the Work.
"It is appointit, and fully accordit betwix David Menzes elder, on the ta pairt, and Schir Andro Wricht, Maister of the Kirk wark of Aberdeen, on that vther part in maner and fourme as efter folowis."

A still older allusion to the Master is dated 2nd December, 1459, being an agreement between the "Alderman and the commowne consaile of this burg on that a pairt, and Maister John of Levington, Vicar of Inuerugy, on that other pairt, anes the biggyne of the brigg [bridge] on the water of Dee in maner and form as efter folowis."

27th June, 1483, &c., *re* Lodge.
"XXVII dai of June, yer LXXXIII, it was reheris be David Menzes, Master of Kirk Wark, that it was oppoyntit, decretit in lenter last by past the tym of the aldermannis being in Eninburg, at the parliament, betuix the masownys of the *luge*: that is to say, Richard Ancram, Andro Murray, James of Barry, Johne Russal, Johne of Kyndrumy, and Matho Wrycht, efter that thai war frendit and accordit vpon certane debate and controversy betuix thaim, that gif ony tym tocum thairefter ony of thaim offendit til vther, that war fundin in a faute, for the first faute, he suld gif XXs. to Sanct Nicholace wark vnforgevin, and for the second faute gif thai fauty agane, XLs.; and, gif thai fauty the third tym, to be *excludit out of the luge* as a common fautour. The guhilk ordinance, ye masownis forsaidis has ratifit and approvit this samyn day, before ye alderman and consel, and newlingis oblist thame til observe the saym be the faith of thare bodiis."

22nd November, 1498.
"The saide day, Mathou Wricht oblist him be his hand vpholdin, to mak gude service in the *luge* and vtenche to the begin and sumysing of the quegr (choir) at the command and sicht of the Alderman, &c."

"The saide day Nichol Masone, and David Wricht oblist thame be the fathis of thar bodiis, the *gret aithe* sworne, to remane at Sanct Nicholes wark in the *luge* and vtenche, there to make dely gude sevice, and to be leile trow in all pontis," &c.

On 4th May, 1484, "Maistre Johne Gray, Mason, was resaut be the Alderman, &c., in maistre of work, to the begging of Sanct Necolace wark." This appointment was for "al the dais of his lif," and the service included not only his own personal labours, but the oversight and management of "uther is masons and workmen," for which duties he had taken the "*gret bodely aith*" before the Council and other officials aforesaid, the salary to be "twenty poundis and fyve merkis" annually.

Several agreements were made respecting the Bridge, or its repairs, the Masons entrusted therewith not being permitted to leave their work without the express permission of the authorities. Then they had trouble, or feared so, in Aberdeen, with "*our auld enemies of Ingland*," and a "blockhouse" was decided on for defence, Thomas Menzies and Alexander Gray, "Maisteris of Work to the town of Aberdeen," agreeing with "Pate Franche and Sanderis Monypenny, Masonis," for its being built accordingly.

23rd February, 1541, *re* Altar.
"The said day, the provost, baillies, and counsell, present for the tyme, gaif, grantytt, and consentytt, and assignitt to the Craftsmen vnder wrytin, that is to say, Wrychtes (Carpenters) and Masonis of the said burgh, frely lycence to repair and byg thar altar, callit Sanct Johne the Baptistis alter, wythin the parroche kirk of Aberdene." This was to be done at the expense of the Crafts, but to remain the property of the Town.

The Processions of the Crafts on "XXI. (Corpus Christi) day in the honour of God and the blissit Virgine Mary," were duly provided for, the Wrichtis, Masonis, Sclaters, and Coupers, coming before the "Smithis and Hammerymen," who were next the Sacrament, each Craft with its own Banner, with the appropriate arms depicted thereon, and clothed "in their best array." In 1538-54, the order of the Processions was broken through occasionally, and occasioned many heartburnings, for precedence was much appreciated then as now, sometimes the Masons coming in for a share of blame in the matter.

The earliest reference to the lodge in the Records is dated, as I have noted, June 27th 1483, the entries having to do with a quarrel between the Masons; the assistance of the magistrates being required, and fines imposed, in the event of any more troubles of that kind. The word "*Loge*" (Lodge) occurs in the Fabric Rolls of York Minster, fully a century earlier. The misunderstanding, whatever it was, occurred at the building of St. Nicholas Church, Aberdeen, and *exclusion from the Lodge* was threatened if the faults were persisted in.

On August 5th, 1527, the Masons, with the Wrights and Coopers, were granted "A Seal of Cause," or, in other words, were incorporated by the Magistrates and Council, empowering them to "ressaue, optak and inbring every one of ye said Craft yat enters of new." In 1541 the privileges were again confirmed, and from this year the present old lodge at Aberdeen is supposed to date. We see no reason to doubt its venerable antiquity, at all events.

Unfortunately a lot of the old records perished in a fire, but as many exist from the year 1670, of great value, it will be seen that St. John's Lodge of Aberdeen, No. 34, is not without evidence of its antiquity. For the latest particulars of its eventful history, I must refer my readers to Bro. Gould's History, and to my earlier notice of its records, in the "Voice of Masonry." A separate History, however, of this ancient *atelier* should be published, for which there exists abundance of materials.

W. J. HUGHAN.

BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE.

The monthly meeting of the Board of Benevolence was held on Wednesday evening at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. Joshua Nunn, P.G.S.B., President, occupied the President's chair; Bro. James Brett, P.G.P., Senior Vice-President, was in the chair of Senior Vice-President; and Bro. C. A. Cottebrune, P.G.P., Junior Vice-President, was in the chair of Junior Vice-President. There were also present Bros. A. A. Pendlebury, W. Dodd, W. H. Lee, F. R. Spaul, David D. Mercer, G. P. Britten, Henry Garrod, George Read, George P. Gillard, Frank Richardson, Charles Dairy, W. H. Perryman, Edward F. Storr, Charles Frederick Hogard, C. Harding, Thomas Cull, R. J. Taylor, Stephen Richardson, W.M. 183; John Beer, jun., P.M. 386; Wm. Brierley, P.M. 344; Charles Sheppard, W.M. 1366; Wm. P. Brown, P.M. 90; G. Adamson, P.M. 199; James W. Squire, W.M. 3; John Oldis, W.M. 1288; F. Eversfield Green, W.M. 715; John J. Berry, P.M. 554; John Tovell, P.M. 1489; Howard Ross, P.M. 95; G. C. Haslip, P.M. 813; C. H. Webb, P.M. 174; G. Ward Verry, P.M. 1421; Thomas M. Denne, W.M. 180; Wm. Groom, P.M. 861; T. Burne, W.M. 162; George Gardner, W.M. 2012; Edwd. Friend, P.M. 1289; John L. Mather, W.M. 1910; Frederick Binckes, P.M., Grand Stewards Lodge; Samuel G. Bake, P.M. 1151; James Squires, P.M. 3, 889; H. Massey, P.M. 1928; W. Goodchild, W.M. 704; Chas. B. Barnes, W.M. 19; Joseph Richardson, W.M. 1515; John Howman, W.M. 1381; Heather Bigg, W.M. 235; S. P. Catterson, W.M. 1981; C. Veal, P.M. 1306; W. P. Catterson, W.M. 548; T. Driffeld, W.M. 1571; C. W. Frommenhoof, W.M. 141; J. R. Foulger, P.M. 1613; J. Ellwood, W.M. 179; John Seex, P.M. 186; W. A. Scurrah, W.M. 2048; John E. Hunt, W.M. 1768; A. Torkington, W.M. 60, P.G. Stwd.; Wm. Ganton, M.D., W.M. 1607; G. M. E. Hamilton, W.M. 1446; John James Pitt, W.M. 147; J. H. Taylor, W.M. 511; Dick Radclyffe, P.M. 209; Nelson Reed, 1671; N. P. Pearce, P.M. 1572; T. Weeks, I.P.M. 1641; H. L. Tuson, P.M. 871; Alfred J. Henochsberg, W.M. 205; and H. Sadler, G.T.

The brethren first confirmed recommendations to the Grand Master, made at the former meeting in February to the amount of £335. There were 61 cases on the new list. These were from London, Peterborough, Risca, Devonport, Barbadoes, Launceston, Harleston, Bingley, Birkenhead, Slough, Corfu, Wareham, Norwich, Ramsgate, Plymouth, Camberley, Whitwell, Tywardreath, Mottam, West Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Liverpool, Hong Kong, Oxford, Cirencester, Shoreham, Radcliffe, Calcutta, Jersey, Deptford, New York, Illinois, Aberystwith, Nuneaton, Chatham, Bristol, Indiana, and Demerara.

One case was dismissed, and 10 cases were deferred. The remainder were relieved with a total of £1071. One grant of £100 was made; nine of £40 each; seven of £30 each; eleven of £20 each; fourteen of £10 each; one of £6; and seven of £5 each. The list of petitioners was the largest ever known.

The Board sat more than four hours and a half.

LADIES' NIGHT AT THE EUPHRATES LODGE, No. 212.

A most successful and enjoyable meeting of the above lodge took place on Wednesday, the 24th inst., to inaugurate its removal to the Holborn Restaurant. The lodge was opened by Bro. W. J. Cooper, W.M., and after the usual routine business, Bro. White was raised to the Degree of Master Mason. The lodge was closed, and the brethren withdrew to a room placed at their disposal for the reception of the ladies, where a large number had already assembled. After some time had been spent in pleasant conversation, the whole of the company, which numbered nearly 100, adjourned to the banquet room, where ample justice was done to a substantial repast.

In proposing the toast of "The Queen and the Craft," Bro. COOPER, W.M., said he was glad to see that her Majesty was coming among us more frequently, and expressed the hope that she would continue to do so for some time to come.

The next toast given was "T.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family." The WORSHIPFUL MASTER, in submitting this toast, said he felt assured that it would be received with the usual cordiality, and it would be quite unnecessary for him to dwell upon the many virtues of the members of the Royal Family.

Bro. R. MARTIN, I.P.M., then proposed "The Health of the Worshipful Master," and said he was assured that the company present would receive this toast with hearty enthusiasm.

Bro. W. J. COOPER, W.M., replied, and, after returning his sincere thanks for the warm reception accorded the toast of his health, said he sincerely hoped that the ladies present would enjoy themselves. The members of the lodge had done all in their power to make them comfortable, and he trusted that when they left they would carry with them a favourable recollection of their visit.

"The Ladies" was then given by Bro. W. W. MORGAN, who observed that as he was in the presence of members of the Craft, this toast would be received with the heartiest enthusiasm. As a brother had previously remarked, it was somewhat of an innovation to have ladies present at the banquet table of the lodge; but he hoped they would not regret their visit to the brethren of the mystic tie assembled at the festive board. It was very probable that sometimes the influence of ladies was brought to bear on affairs connected with the State, and it was no doubt a fact that they exercised great influence over the Masonic body. They also rendered very valuable assistance in the cause of Masonic Charity. He recommended the brethren to take their wives and daughters also, if possible, to the next Stewards' visit to the Girls' School, when they would hear and see how excellently the girls in that institution are trained and educated, which would no doubt be a gratifying sight.

Bro. W. W. LEE responded on behalf of the ladies, who said he was not aware when he visited the lodge that evening that he would be honoured with such an important task. The term "single blessedness" was usually applied to the state of bachelorhood; but as the onerous duty of responding for the ladies was always allotted to one in that state, he thought the term "blessedness" would be more applicable to those who had entered the matrimonial sphere.

On behalf of the ladies, he heartily thanked the members of the lodge for their kind invitation, and sincerely trusted the ladies might be again afforded an opportunity in the future of paying another visit.

Bro. CUTLER replied for "The Past Masters," and returned thanks for the reception accorded the toast. There was a large array of P.M.'s present; but he especially mentioned Bro. Stean, who is the father of the lodge, and whom he hoped to see with them for many years to come.

Before dispersing, the company joined heartily in "Auld Lang Syne," the solo of which was given by Bro. D. Glass, P.M., Sec., to whose indefatigable energies the success of the evening was principally due.

Amongst those present were the following: Bros. W. J. Cooper, W.M.; W. J. Bassett, S.W.; T. Boyden, J.W.; F. G. Burstow, S.D.; J. West, J.D.; H. Wagstaff, I.G.; W. H. Ricknell, P.M.; T. Rushton, P.M.; C. G. Cutler, P.M.; H. Wittril, P.M.; J. Carter, P.M.; J. Stean, P.M.; R. Martin, P.M.; and Henry, Org. Visitors: Bros. G. Stevens, W.M. 1076; W. R. Haylock, J.D. 901; G. H. Stephens, I.P.M. 1623; H. Forss, I.P.M. 917; J. Cooper, 1471; W. W. Morgan, P.M. 211; W. Ball, 1472; E. Prosser, 860; J. Day, 141; T. A. Davies, 174; W. W. Lee, 1897; and the following ladies: Mrs. Cooper, Mrs. Glass, Mrs. Martin, Mrs. Helsey, Mrs. Edwards, Mrs. Bowne, Mrs. Pryor, Mrs. Boyden, Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. Wells, Mrs. Prosser, Mrs. Alliston, Mrs. Winter, Mrs. Davies, Mrs. Keppel, Mrs. G. Smith, Mrs. Day, Mrs. West, Mrs. Bolder, Mrs. and Miss Carter, the Misses Ricknell, Mrs. and Miss Wood, Miss McLean, Misses Haley, Miss Ricks, Mrs. Stevens, and Mrs. Kearney.

During the evening, the enjoyment of the company was considerably enhanced by songs and recitations. Bro. Henry, Org., presided at the pianoforte in a very efficient manner.

THE THIRD CITY MASONIC BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION.

The 24th meeting of this Association, which is held in connection with the Sincerity Lodge of Instruction, No. 174, took place at the Railway Tavern, Fenchurch-street, on Monday, the 22nd inst. Bro. J. Newton, the President of the Association, was in the chair, and there were also present Bros. F. Brown, Vice President; G. Ward Verry, Treas.; Hugh M. Hobbs, Sec.; and the following members of the Committee: Bros. Webb, J. S. Fraser, Haslip, and G. Jones; also Bros. Large, Magee, Matthews, Smith, and others.

Two ballots were obtained by Bro. G. B. Foster and C. Scott.

This being the end of the Society's financial year, the Officers and Committee were unanimously re-elected, and Bros. Large and Magee appointed Auditors.

Bro. J. NEWTON, the President, in calling attention to the fact that this Association had now been in existence for two years, congratulated the members on the success that had attended it, and referred with satisfaction to the number of ballots that had been drawn, viz., 52 of ten guineas each.

A NEW MASONIC HALL FOR BRIXHAM. LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE.

On Thursday afternoon, 25th ult., the foundation-stone was laid of a new Freemasons' Hall for Brixham, by Bro. the Rev. R. B. F. Elrington, vicar of Lower Brixham, and W.M. of 248. The present number of members of the lodge is 61, and for upwards of a century the brethren have held their meetings in rooms near the Temperance Hall. The premises, however, having become considerably out of repair, it was decided to erect a new hall more worthy of the town and the Craft. A site was purchased at an angle just below the gate entrance to the parish church of All Saints, and a short distance above the new Town Hall and market, now in course of erection, and with which such satisfactory progress is being made that the roof of the offices adjoining the Public Hall is being constructed and is ready for slating. The architect of the new Masonic Hall, as also of the Town Hall and market, is Mr. G. S. Bridgman, of Torquay and Paignton. The building externally is to be of the Gothic type of architecture, with dressed limestone ashlar. The general dressings are to be of Bath stone and terra cotta brick. Internally there is to be an entrance hall with tiled floor, a Freemasons' reception-room about 24ft. by 12ft., and a Tyler and candidates' room; and adjoining this the main hall itself, which will be about 30ft. by 20ft., and 18ft. high. It will have a half-open timbered roof, with principals and ribs stained and varnished. The fittings are to be pitch pine, which will also be stained and varnished. It is proposed to have a platform or dais arranged round the room a step above the floor. The contract for the work has been taken by Messrs. J. Sparke and R. Hayman, builders, of Brixham. Bro. Sparke, being a Freemason, had the privilege of submitting a tender to the brethren in open lodge, and this tender was so far satisfactory that it enabled them to accept it without inviting public competition. The contract price is £336.

The brethren who took part in the ceremony, which was of a comparatively quiet description, were as follows: Bros. Rev. R. B. F. Elrington, W.M.; J. G. Seville, J.W.; S. Woolley, Treasurer; C. Atkins, Secretary; T. C. Smith, S.D.; H. May as J.D.; Amery, I.G.; G. S. Bridgman, J.W. 1358, the Architect; J. Johnson, P.M.; G. T. Barry, P.M.; T. W. Atherton, P.M.; C. James, P.M.; W. Brown, P.M.; F. W. Baddeley, J. W. Braden, J. T. Janes, T. S. Brown, W. Munday, and G. Cole, Tyler.

The brethren met at the old Masonic Hall at 3 o'clock, and duly opened the lodge, and after transacting some business they adjourned to attend a service at the parish church, to which they walked in procession, wearing Masonic clothing by dispensation from the R.W. Prov. G.M. The order of procession was as follows:—Tyler with drawn sword; brethren, not being officers, two and two; architect with the plans; a cornucopia with corn, borne by P.M.'s; two ewers with wine and oil, borne by a P.M.; Past Masters; Treasurer; Secretary with Book of Constitutions; J.W. with column and plumb rule; S.W. with column and level; J.D. and S.D. with wands; I.G. bearing the banner of the lodge, the W.M. bringing up in the rear.

The service at the church was brief, and was conducted by the vicar and the curate, the Rev. A. De Jex. It opened with the hymn "O Lord how joyful 'tis to see," after which the choir chanted the 127th Psalm. The vicar then read, as the lesson, the sixth chapter of the First Book of Kings, and after prayers there was sung, as the closing hymn, "Through the night of doubt and sorrow." Preceded by the choir, the brethren then resumed their procession, and walked to the site close by, and here the ceremony of laying the foundation stone was performed by the W.M., in the presence of a large number of spectators, who had assembled despite the prevalence of the keen east wind. The stone was laid with the usual Masonic rites.

The Old Hundredth Psalm was sung, after which the stone was prepared, and the Treasurer deposited in the cavity a bottle containing coins of the present reign, a record of the ceremony, and the roll of the lodge. The stone having been laid by the W.M., he proved that it was properly adjusted by the plumb rule, level, and square, which were successively delivered to him by the J.W., S.W., and I.P.M., after which he struck the stone three times with the maul. The cornucopia containing the corn, and the ewers with the wine and oil, were next handed to the W.M., who strewed the corn and poured the oil and wine over the stone. The architect then presented the plan and elevation of the new building to the W.M., and explained the details, and with their return to him the ceremony was brought to a close.

The brethren subsequently proceeded to the vicarage and partook of the hospitality of the W.M., after which they returned in their original order to the old Masonic Hall, and the lodge was closed.

The new building is to be finished by the early part of June, when a more imposing ceremony will take place on the occasion of its opening.

DEVON MASONIC EDUCATIONAL FUND.

A meeting of the Educational and General Purposes Committee of this Fund was held on Tuesday, the 16th inst., at the Huyshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth. There was a large attendance of members of the Committee. Bro. J. E. Curteis, P.P.G.S.W., was called upon to preside. The following brethren were also among those present: Bros. J. W. Cornish, 223, P.P.G.T.; J. Treeby, 223, P.P.G.R.; R. Cawsey, 230, P.P.G.J.D.; L. D. Westcott, 70, P.P.G.S.W., Treasurer; E. Aitken-Davies, 1099, 2025, P.P.G.S.W.; J. B. Gover, 70, P.P.G.A.D.C., Sec.; R. Pengelly, 70, P.P.G.A.D.C.; T. Goodall, 1550, P.P.G.O.; F. Hooper, 1212, P.P.G.D.C.; J. R. Lord, 1247, P.P.G.S.B.; A. R. Lethbridge, 159, P.G. S.Wks.; W. Powell, 1205; H. Welch, 202, P.P.G. Purst.; and R. Hambly, 1853.

The business was to prepare for the coming annual meeting on April 6th, when there will be an election of children on the Fund. The following candidates were found to be eligible, and placed on the list for the consideration of the voters: from Lodge 666, Princetown, Alfred Thomas Harard, 13 years of age, fifth application, 95 votes brought over from last election; from Lodge 1205, Stonehouse, Eliza Maud Bennett, ten years, third application, 239 votes brought over; from Lodge 159, Stonehouse, Louisa Jane Hardy, twelve years, second application, 123 votes brought over; from Lodge 1090, Stoke, Charles Knighton Murch, eight years, second application, 18 votes brought over; from Lodge 1550, Claudine May Tippet, eight years, second application, 126 votes brought over; and from Lodge 202, Emma Parnell, nine years, first application. The financial position of the Fund was discussed, and it was decided that it would admit of those candidates being elected. It was also resolved to hold the annual meeting this year at Exeter.

The HON. SOLICITOR, Bro. J. E. Curteis, read a draft of a proposed trust deed for placing the Fund in the hands of trustees. The draft was approved of by the Committee, and will have to be confirmed by the general meeting. The trustees already appointed are Bros. Viscount Ebrington, Lieut.-Col. J. Tanner Davy, the Hon. W. Hylton Jolliffe, William Derry, W. Vicary, J. Murray, F. B. Westlake, and W. F. Moore. To those it will be proposed by Bros. J. E. Curteis and J. R. Lord, at the annual meeting, to add the names of Bros. G. S. Lowe, A. B. Hutchings, John Brewer, S. Jones, and John Stoker. Bro. T. Goodall was appointed to assist at the audit.

THE LATE BRO. JOHN BROOKS, M.P.

At a meeting of the Cope Lodge, No. 1357, held at Brookland's Hotel, Sale, on Friday, the 19th inst., it was unanimously proposed that the following resolution should be entered on the minutes of the lodge, and that a copy of the same should be sent to Mrs. Brooks: "That the brethren of the Cope Lodge of Freemasons, No. 1357, held at Brookland's, Cheshire, respectfully tender to Mrs. Brooks their heartfelt and deep sympathy with her in the irreparable loss which she has sustained in the death of her dear son. The brethren reflect with sorrowful pride, that two years ago it was their privilege to welcome Mr. Brooks into the ranks of Freemasonry and salute him as their brother in the Craft. In the period which has since elapsed, his high character, his conspicuous talents, his frank and genial manners, and his devotion to the virtues of brotherly love, relief, and truth—upon which Freemasonry rests—won for him the respect, the admiration, and the personal affection of every member of his mother lodge, and filled them all with the earnest hope that he would live to achieve high distinction in the Craft. While they mourn the disappointment of their ardent hope, and the loss of a brother, whose life was so full of private worth and public promise, they fervently supplicate the Great Architect of the Universe that he will control, and assuage a mother's grief, and sustain her under the great affliction which his inscrutable providence has permitted to fall upon her."

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Enfield, N.*Bro. A. J. Manning, P.M. 1472, 1437, M.E.Z. 217, P.P.G.J.D.
Essex, Easton Villa, Fonteney-road, Balham, London, N.Bro. H. Cox, P.M. 742, 1471, 1580, P.Z. 174, 1471, P.P.G. Supt.
Works, Herts., Essex-road, London, N.*Bro. C. F. Barham, P.M. 754, 1766, P.Z. 217, 88, Shepherdess-
walk, London, N.

Bro. J. Funston, W.M. 1766, Finsbury Pavement, London, E.C.

Bro. E. Walker, S.W. 1766, Town Hall, Shoreditch, London.

Bro. F. Matthews, J.W. 1766, S.W. 1950, 170, Hackney-road,
London.

Bro. J. A. Jones, P.M. 1766, S.W. 2030, 319, Old-street, London.

Bro. C. Jolly, W.M. 1472; 13, 913, 1536; S.N. 1472, 913.

*Bro. C. T. Lewis, P.M. 1472, Austin's Hotel, Fenchurch-st. station,
London.

Bro. E. Ayres, P.M. 742, Margaret-st., Cavendish-sq., London, W.

Bro. J. Kay, W.M. 742, 42, Rathbone-place, London, W.

Bro. A. Jones, P.M. 1766, D.C. Abbey Lodge.

Bro. C. Warr, Nov. 7 and 1288, Castle Hotel, Holloway-road, N.

*Bro. J. Paul, J.W. 1472, 90, Seymour-place, Bryanstone.

*Bro. Jas. Hemmings, J.W. 1287, St. Martin's-lane, W.C.

*Bro. C. Jones, I.G. 1472, 90, Montpelier-road, S.E.

Bro. J. W. Hervey, W.M. Robert Burns Lodge, No. 25.

Bro. E. Hawkins, S.W. Robert Burns Lodge, No. 25.

Bro. F. G. Baker, P.M. Robert Burns Lodge, No. 25.

Bro. J. Dyte, P.M. & Sec. Robert Burns Lodge, No. 25.

Bro. F. H. Hodson, P.M. Robert Burns Lodge, No. 25.

Bro. J. A. Elder, P.M. Henley Lodge, No. 25.

Bro. G. Smithers, J.D. Confidence Lodge, No. 193, 83, Owen's-rd.,
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To Correspondents.

The following communications stand over:—

CRAFT:—

Arboretum Lodge, No. 731.

Holmesdale Lodge, No. 874.

Abbey Lodge, No. 1184.

Richmond Lodge, No. 2032.

BOOKS, &c., RECEIVED.

"Allen's Indian Mail," "Jewish Chronicle," "Die Bauhütte,"
"Gloucester Standard," "Sunday Times" (London), "Citizen,"
"Keele's Gazette," "Hull and East Yorkshire Times," "Lagos
Observer," "El Libre y Accep. Mason," "Keystone," "Masonic
Journal" (Victoria, Australia), and "Court Circular."

SATURDAY, MARCH 27, 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.]

GRAND LODGE CERTIFICATES—SIGNATURE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

It is a common idea that a Grand Lodge certificate
must be signed by the brother, whose certificate it is, in
open lodge. Can you or any brother inform me whether
there is any authoritative ruling on the point? The Consti-
tutions (Rule 198) merely require signature. I have consul-
ted various authorities, but all I can find directly bearing
on the point is that Bro. Kelly, in his very practical Pocket
Companion, says: "The Grand Lodge certificate should
in every case (where practicable) be signed by the receiver
in presence of the W.M., or the Secretary, when it is being
given to the owner; and in cases where this cannot be done
—i.e., where a brother resides in another country or district,
it should be forwarded in trust to the W.M. or Secretary
of some lodge (working under a Constitution which is in
Masonic union with ours) in or near said place, on applica-
tion to whom the brother entitled to it may receive it, when
the rule as to the signing may be duly carried out. This is
of importance." The italics are mine, not Bro. Kelly's.I should be extremely glad of an answer on this point,
especially if accompanied by a reference to authorities.—
Yours fraternally,
LEX SCRIPTA.

March 20th.

[Caution should be exercised, as respects Certificates
until duly signed; but there is really no law on the subject,
save that alluded to by our correspondent—Ed. F.M.]

A FORM OF PRAYER.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

We are familiar with the pious sentiment in the
ritual of Fellow Craft Masonry, and the "minutes of the
last lodge" declare that the same was "opened and closed
with prayer."I want to know if in any lodge definite collects are
used?

I have seen some expressive ones published by the Grand Lodge of Ireland, and I remember having seen some in an old book on Masonry years ago. Moreover, I have an impression that at a lodge I attended during one of my clerical holiday rambles a definite prayer was used, similar to what I allude to. I shall be much obliged if brethren will write to me on the subject.

I wish a *collect* could be added, as I think the ritual plainly and piously suggests, and the archives of Masonry must surely supply such.—Yours faithfully and fraternally,
E. S. TOWNSHEND DAUNT,
P.P.G.C. Cornwall.

St. Stephen's, Launceston,
22nd March.

MASONIC WEEK AT KIDDERMINSTER.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

In reply to Bro. Le Feuvre's letter in your impression of the 20th inst., the "Dublin Pocket Companion" in his possession is no doubt identical with my own. The list of lodges therein, commencing with a list of Irish lodges numbering 37, the first of the English lodges being called "38." By this mode what should have been No. 79 becomes No. 116, "The Hoop, in Water-street, in Philadelphia," and hence the complication of numbers.—Yours fraternally,
GEORGE TAYLOR.

Kidderminster, March, 22.



DEBRETT'S PEERAGE, BARONETAGE, AND COMPANIONAGE, 1886. Edited by ROBERT H. MAIR, LL.D.; 173rd Year of Publication. London: Dean and Son, 160A, Fleet-street, E.C.

The brief delay in the issue of this welcome annual is fully accounted for by the occurrence of the General Election towards the close of last year, and the Ministerial crisis that occurred last month, there having been in connection with these events an unusual number of honours conferred by the late and present Ministers. However, the delay is more than atoned for by the fact that the bulk of the new information resulting from the changes in and additions to our peerage, baronetage, &c., is included in this volume, only a small proportion of it appearing among "Occurrences during Printing." But this is not the only feature of the new edition, which, marvellous to relate, has been enlarged and made more accurate than before, though, from the known merits of former "Debrett's," enlargement and greater accuracy would seem to have been out of the question. This additional information will be found chiefly in connection with dormant and extinct peerages, as well as with collateral branches that have settled abroad. The volume has this further recommendation that it has been "personally revised" by those whose families are contained in it. This enhances the trustworthiness of the work as regards our titled families. So much for the contents, as regards general appearance, type, illustrations, &c., &c., we cannot discover where there is any room for improvement. It is as handsome, from a typographical point of view, as it is valuable as a book of reference.

DEBRETT'S HOUSE OF COMMONS AND THE JUDICIAL BENCH, 1886. Compiled and Edited by ROBERT HENRY MAIR, LL.D. Twentieth Annual Edition. London: Dean and Son, 160A, Fleet-street, E.C.

This, like its companion guide to the Peerage, is more complete through the delay in publishing it, and the Editor would no doubt have succeeded as well in his task of giving full and accurate particulars about the Members of the House of Commons, as he has done in the case of the peers, baronets, &c., only there appears to have been a considerable amount of shyness on the part of many of the new Members in communicating to him the necessary information. It will be seen also that Dr. Mair offers certain explanations as to the heraldic embellishments being fewer than usual, and states further that many members, who seem to have not borne arms at the time of their election, discovered and forwarded to him, but in many instances too late for insertion, what he suggests may possibly be "arms of assumption." However, these are matters for which the Editor is not responsible. What he has done or supervised has been done admirably, and constitutes the work a quite as valuable a book of reference as the Peerage.



CORRECTION.

45th line of Review of "Solomon's Temple" should read "what is not stated in one Book, being found in another."

654] PREMIER PAYMENT FOR WARRANT.

I have been much interested in reading Bro. Sadler's communication respecting the first payment for a warrant, viz., April 21st, 1730. Surely the Editor will gladly find room for the list of the early members so kindly promised by Bro. Sadler, for many of us would like to see it published, as also other lists prior to 1730. I wonder which lodge Bro. Coxe belonged to in London (if any), who was appointed the first Prov. G.M. for any part of America? Other names also occur to me as possibly in one of such registers, notably Bro. Henry Price, of Boston, U.S.A. Does Bro. Sadler know of any original warrants dated before 1731? It would be curious and instructive if we could have the text of any such documents granted between 1720 and 1730; but, so far, I have failed to trace any prior to 1731, many of the old lodges having much later warrants of confirmation. An actual charter of 1720-5 would be a real "find."

W. J. HUGHAN.



Craft Masonry.

ROYAL SOMERSET HOUSE AND INVERNESS LODGE (No. 4).—A meeting was held on the 22nd inst. at Freemasons' Hall, when there were present Bros. C. B. Cousens, G.S., W.M.; H. P. Hughes, S.W.; Dr. G. Weldon, J.W.; Rev. H. Lansdell, P.M., P.G.S., D.D., Chap.; F. West, P.M., P.G.S., Sec.; H. E. Pollard, S.D.; J. A. Hughes, J.D.; R. G. Hall, P.M., P.G.S., D.C.; H. de Stern, I.G.; J. F. Laver, Stwd.; W. Stevenson Hoyte, Org.; G. W. Freeman, Tyler; Dr. A. Meadows, P.M., P.G.D.; Rev. G. W. Weldon, P.M., P.G.S.; W. T. Whitmore, P.M., P.G.S.; Dr. Greenhalgh, P.M., P.C.S.; H. J. Gardiner, P.M., P.G.S.; and G. Sturt. Visitors: Bros. F. Richardson, P.G.D.; S. Hill, P.G.S.; Lister, P.P.G.S. of W.; H. Sutton, and J. S. Cousins, P.M.

The lodge having been opened and the minutes confirmed, Bro. G. Sturt was passed to the F.C. Degree by Bro. F. West, P.G.S., Sec. Bro. H. de Stern undertook to represent the lodge at the Festival of the Boys' School. After some private business the lodge adjourned to banquet at Freemasons' Tavern, and subsequently enjoyed some excellent music supplied by Bro. J. Stedman. Bro. W. Stevenson Hoyte also contributed a pianoforte solo in his usual masterly style.

NEW CONCORD LODGE (No. 813).—The installation meeting was held at Guildhall Tavern on the evening of the 18th inst., Bro. A. J. Potter, W.M., presided. Bros. Barnes, Naylor, and Arnold were raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M., Bros. A. and E. Lenesque were passed, and Mr. R. Goshon, on being unanimously elected, was initiated. Bro. C. Weeden was then regularly installed as W.M. for the ensuing year, the ceremony being performed by Bro. J. T. Cusworth, P.M., in his most finished manner. The W.M. appointed his officers as follows: Bros. A. Perl, S.W.; F. Perl, J.W.; J. Stilwell, P.M., Treas.; R. R. Harper, P.M., Sec.; Chubb, S.D.; Piller, J.D.; Conrad, D.C.; Ockleford, I.G.; and Boulton and Cordell, Stwds.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet, after which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and received, Bro. A. J. Potter being presented with a handsome P.M.'s jewel, voted to him by the brethren. The musical arrangements were under the direction of Bro. J. A. Collings, Org. 1693.

The visitors were Bros. Christian, W.M. 860; D. H. Jacobs, P.M. 27; G. Payne, P.M. 933; W. Manger, P.M. 1314; W. Hirst, P.M. 15; J. Driscoll, P.M. 1519; N. L. Western, I.P.M. 1693; E. Woodman, P.M. 1930; R. P. Forge, S.W. 1693; Greenhill, 19; Murrell, 30; Weston, 177; Grace, 177; Dixie, 453; Kerr, 241; Clark, 754; A. Bliss, 1572; Row, 1607; and Raymond, 1716.

The W.M. is to be congratulated on the position of the lodge, both Masonically and financially, and we look forward to a prosperous year.

EMBLEMATIC LODGE (No. 1321).—The second regular meeting of this lodge for the present session was held at the Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge, on Thursday, the 18th inst., Bro. R. A. Kirkaldy, in the chair, supported by Bros. Englefield, S.W.; and Boyell, J.W. Bro. Eyre was examined, entrusted, and afterwards raised by the W.M. The ballot was taken for Messrs. Harry Matthews, Walter Mulford, and Henry Charles Theise, and proving successful, they were initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry.

All other business being completed, the lodge was closed, and the brethren assembled at the banquet table to enjoy a repast which the able manager of the hotel had provided for them.

After the usual loyal and Masonic toasts had been drunk, Bro. H. S. Hunter, I.P.M., proposed "The Health of the W.M." in fitting terms.

The Worshipful Master suitably replied, and proposed "The Health of the Initiates."

The Initiates, in reply, thanked the brethren for having accepted them into their society.

"The Health of the Visitors" was proposed and responded to, and the brethren soon afterwards separated, having spent a very enjoyable evening.

The following were the visitors who attended: Bros. W. Hamlyn, P.M. 1622; W. H. Lester, P.M. 540; R. J. Robins, P.M. 25; W. W. Westley, J.W. 186; W. G. Axfield, 250; John Potter, 1614; W. A. Vofeskin, 1297; T. H. Roberts, 1538; E. W. Woods, 272; H. Wolfekey, 1673; R. Potter, 1614; J. Kay, 742; and Alf. Wyld, 72.

CORINTHIAN LODGE (No. 1382).—The installation meeting of the above lodge took place on Wednesday, the 17th inst., at Bro. Clark's hostelry, the George Hotel, when Bro. J. Morrison, S.W., the W.M. elect, was, with the usual ceremonies, placed in the chair of K.S., as W.M. for the ensuing twelve months. The lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. H. Doring, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Delves, P.M., then raised his son, Bro. A. Delves. Bro. Millington, P.M., passed Bros. Hicks and W. Marsh, and Bro. Simn, P.M., initiated Messrs. Williams, Philp, Bennet, and Ingram. Bro. Morrison was then presented, and duly installed by a Board of 17 Installed Masters, and saluted in due form. He invested his officers as follows: Bros. Raiker, S.W.; Hill, J.W.; Carnaby, P.M., Treas.; C. W. Smith, P.M., Sec.; C. McLeod, S.D.; R. Perry, J.D.; E. Penniston, I.G.; R. Pitt and G. Saunders, as Stewards; J. Millington, P.M., as D.C.; J. Simn, Org.; and J. Stewart, P.M., Tyler. The Installing Officer, Bro. J. Delves, P.M., then gave the addresses most eloquently, and concluded a ceremony at once impressively and beautifully rendered, for which he was warmly and deservedly congratulated. A hearty vote of thanks was then unanimously given to Bro. J. Delves, P.M., for the faultless manner he had worked the ceremony of installation; a record to be entered on the minutes.

The W.M. then presented a handsome Past Master's jewel to Bro. H. Doring, I.P.M., and, in doing so, said it was his pleasant duty to present him with the jewel unanimously voted to him at the previous meeting. The inscription on it bore testimony to the respect and esteem in which Bro. Doring was held by the brethren, and also to the masterly manner in which he had carried out the duties of Worshipful Master during his year of office. Bro. Doring feelingly responded, and after "Hearty good wishes" had been tendered, the lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to banquet.

Among the 106 present, and not named above, were Bros. C. Searell, P.M.; G. Smith, P.M.; S. G. Bonner, W. Clark, T. Tildesley, A. Delves, E. Deacon, H. Howell, T. Hurdle, S. Marsh, T. Klein, C. Smith, F. Bassett, W. Hancock, E. Smith, J. Nelson, F. Manning, H. Galloway, A. Gibb, A. Oakley, W. Clague, D. Russell, J. Smith, H. Rogers, G. Parrett, D. Midgley, W. Drew, E. Browne, D. Williamson, G. Saunders, G. Turton, C. Maddox, W. Parsons, W. Blois, R. Allen, J. Hicks, W. Marsh, W. Martin, R. Doust, W. Leslie, W. Drapper, W. Esmond, W. McGuire, and R. Neall. Visitors: Bros. J. Hammond, 898; G. Hughes, 898; H. W. Moore, P.P.G.D., 20; C. Wood, I.G. 1472; G. W. Ford, 990, P.P.G.W.; J. Richardson, 898; K. Schofield, P.M. 511; M. Finch, P.M. 861; H. Holloway, P.M. 1076; T. Gaisford, S.W. 781; T. Hallett, 1816; Bradshaw Brown, P.G.S.; W. Norris, P.M. 181; J. Tongue, J.W. 534; P. Harrower, J.W. 181; H. Alford, P.M. 228; F. Burgess, 871; T. Gillaw, P.M. 1632; E. Williams, J.W. 1539; W. Hancock, 1126; W. Jevess, 898; G. McGeorge, 499; T. Hudson, 781; and a great many others.

The banquet having been discussed,

The Worshipful Master gave the toast of "The Queen and the Craft," and dwelt at length on the sterling qualities of her Majesty.

The Worshipful Master, on proposing "The Health of the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," said that his Royal Highness endeavoured to further the welfare of Freemasonry at large, and had the Charities at heart, and that he had always striven and thrown all the interest he possibly could to the good of Freemasonry. This toast was drunk in bumpers.

The Worshipful Master then proposed "The Past and Present Grand Officers."

Bro. Bradshaw Brown, the Grand Steward, in replying, said he was delighted with the regular work of the Corinthian Lodge, and very glad to hear that the brethren were pleased with the work of Grand Lodge, where any brother could state his grievance and get his remedy. The spirit of loyalty was somewhat difficult to find in many at the present time, but Freemasons will always be able to point to one another and say "he is a loyal man." There is no man worthy of the name who has not a high sense of morality or manners, and who always endeavours to elevate the temperament of all men. The Corinthian brethren should be very proud of the high position their lodge holds in the eyes of Grand Lodge, as there are very few lodges in the West-End who can show such a roll on the Charities. May they go on in this prosperous and good career to the good of mankind.

Bro. J. Delves, P.M., then proposed "The Health of the Worshipful Master," and said, it is very pleasing to see him arrive, he has always been energetic in the matter, he is very slow but sure, he is very sure because he has gained the position in which you see him, and there is no possibility of his falling through now, as there are so many Past Masters to watch and support him, so that his duties will be carried through.

Bro. Morrison, who, on rising to respond, was met with a very tempest of applause, thanked the brethren very much for their kindness in placing him in that proud position, following those who had made the Corinthian Lodge hold such high distinction in the Charities. He said that he would do everything on his part to watch over the welfare and wants of the brethren, which he hoped would merit him their esteem and appreciation.

The Worshipful Master, in proposing "The Health of the Installing Master," said that Bro. Delves' working must have been highly invigorating and pleasurable to them all, and that no words of his could convey the high appreciation in which he was held by the brethren.

Bro. Delves' rising was a signal for great cheering. He said the working of the lodge now was almost child's play to him, and he was so interested in all connected with the lodge that he felt he could not stop away from any of their meetings. He was glad that he had added to the pleasure of the brethren. This was the seventh Master he had installed, and he had spent one of the most pleasant evenings. He was glad that the lodge worked harmoniously, and with goodfellowship—not going over each other's faults—but what occurs one night was nicely cleared off on the next occasion. He was delighted to find the visitors so greatly pleased, and he hoped they would help the Corinthian Lodge in their charitable work.

The Worshipful Master then proposed "The Health of Bro. H. Doring, the I.P.M.," and said that he knew he had endeavoured to carry out his duties to every brother's satisfaction.

Bro. Doring, in responding, said he thanked the brethren very much, and he felt very proud in wearing the jewel they had so kindly given him. He knew they would forgive any shortcomings (as he was not an Englishman) but he had always done and would do his best for the Corinthian Lodge.

The Worshipful Master then proposed "The Initiates," and said the lodge would not be buried in oblivion, for it was getting great with regard to numbers.

Bro. Philp replied for "The Initiates," and said the song, "Give me a grip of your hand," reminded him of the solemn and impressive ceremony they had passed through, and they hoped to be good and honourable brethren.

The Worshipful Master then proposed "The Health of the Visitors," stating that he hoped they had spent a very enjoyable evening, and that they would have no regret for their visiting the lodge.

Bro. Bradshaw Brown, responding on behalf of "The Visitors," said—

"Breathes there a man with soul so dead

Who never to himself hath said

This is my own, my native Isle."

He was a native of "the island," and was very proud of the Corinthian Lodge, and he would allow no man to destroy either one or the other. He had been absent from the lodge for six years, but he and the other visitors were

so pleased with the comfort and harmony of the lodge that they would have great pleasure in frequently attending.

"The Officers" followed, and Bros. Raiker, Hill, Pitt, Saunders, J. Simm, and J. Millington, P.M., responded, and the Tyler's toast concluding the proceedings, which were most harmonious and enthusiastic throughout.

During the evening an interesting programme of music was gone through, and gave great satisfaction.

We may add in conclusion that the room has been lengthened 17 feet, and now affords splendid accommodation and ventilation, for which the worthy Host, Bro. Clark, was warmly praised.

STUART LODGE (No. 1632).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, the 22nd inst., at the Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge. Bro. E. M. Bessell, W.M., occupied the chair, and was supported by Bros. H. Baldwin, P.P.G.S.B. Middx., S.W.; A. Bannister, J.W.; W. Weekes, Treas.; T. Poore, P.M., Sec.; H. E. Vickers, S.D.; C. Linsey, J.D.; R. Barham, P.M., I.G.; E. Cromwell, Stwd.; W. Job, I.P.M.; C. Stuart Barker, P.M.; T. Gillam, P.M.; E. Pettit, C. Fruen, A. J. Croft, C. B. Young, and J. Stayner. Visitors: Bros. F. Walters, P.P.G.D. Middx.; J. H. Crofts, J.D. 1872; G. Fellowes, 1112; H. J. Talley, 1320; J. Wynne; H. C. Thane, 1269; and W. W. Lee, 1897.

The lodge having been formally opened, and the minutes of the preceding meeting read and confirmed, Bro. A. J. Croft was raised to the Degree of Master Mason. Bro. Henry Baldwin, S.W., W.M. elect, was then presented for installation, and was impressively installed into the chair by Bro. G. L. Gillam, P.M. The following officers were appointed and invested by the W.M., Bros. A. Bannister, S.W.; H. E. Vickers, J.W.; W. Weekes, Treas.; T. Poore, P.M., Sec.; C. Linsey, S.D.; E. Pettit, J.D.; E. Cromwell, I.G.; J. Stayner, Org.; G. L. Gillam, P.M., D.C.; R. Barham, P.M., A.D.C.; J. L. Bush, Stwd.; and E. Bowler, Tyler. The usual addresses were then delivered by Bro. Gillam, P.M., in a very able manner, and a vote of thanks was unanimously accorded him for the efficient manner in which he had performed the installation ceremony.

All Masonic business having been transacted, the lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to banquet.

The first toast was, as usual, "The Queen and the Craft," and the W.M., in proposing it, said it was the most important on the list. The Craft took second place to no body of men in the country for loyalty to her Majesty, and the brethren present that evening would receive her health with the accustomed enthusiasm.

"H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," was next given by the W.M., who observed that it would be impossible for him to overrate the great assistance his Royal Highness had given to the Craft since he had occupied the position of M.W.G.M. It was the earnest wish of every Mason that his Royal Highness would live long, and would preside over them for many years to come.

In proposing "The Grand Officers," the W.M. remarked that the P.M.'s and those who were privileged to attend Grand Lodge were aware how ably the Earl of Carnarvon presides over the meetings of that body, and they would not easily forget his able defence on behalf of Freemasonry against the Bull issued by the Pope. The Earl of Lathom was also very zealous on behalf of the Craft, and rendered valuable service. He (the W.M.) was convinced that the brethren would be equally loyal to this toast, and receive it as cordially as they had the previous ones.

"The Health of the W.M." was next proposed by Bro. Bessell, I.P.M., who said that the brethren would be aware when he took charge of the gavel that it was for the purpose of proposing this important toast. He regretted that the task had not fallen upon some brother with more eloquence than himself, for he feared he should not do justice to its importance. However, he trusted they would join him in heartily congratulating the W.M. on reaching the chair of K.S., and sincerely wish him a happy and successful year of office.

Bro. Baldwin, W.M., thanked the brethren for the very cordial way in which they had received the toast of his health, although it was nothing new for him to receive at their hands—a warm reception. Since his initiation he had never missed a meeting of that lodge, and hoped it would be many years before he should be compelled to absent himself. He had spent many pleasant evenings with them in the past, and trusted that there was a busy time in store for them in the future. He was sure that every officer would do his utmost to support him during his year of office, and uphold the credit of the Stuart Lodge.

The next toast on the list was that of "The Installing Master." Bro. Gillam, P.M., had performed the ceremony of installation in that lodge on several previous occasions, so that the brethren were fully acquainted with the excellent manner in which that brother carried out the duties. As Bro. Gillam had been obliged to leave, he should include with his toast "The Health of the I.P.M., Bro. Bessell." It was now his pleasing duty to present Bro. Bessell with the Past Master's jewel unanimously voted by the lodge in recognition of the very satisfactory manner in which he had carried out the duties of the chair, and he trusted the I.P.M. might be spared for many years to wear it on his breast.

Bro. E. M. Bessell, I.P.M., responded, and after thanking the brethren for their cordial reception of the toast, said he had to express the regret of the Installing Master, Bro. Gillam, at being obliged to leave before this toast was reached. He scarcely knew how to thank them for the handsome jewel presented to him, but assured them that he would treasure it and value it very highly. He had served all the offices in the lodge, and was deeply indebted to them for the great kindness with which he had always been treated.

"The Masonic Institutions," was next proposed by the W.M., who said that there was no other Society that could boast of possessing such magnificent Institutions. He hoped that some of the brethren would come forward on behalf of these Charities and serve as Stewards, and he assured them of his hearty co-operation and support should they do so.

Bro. F. Walters, P.P.G.D. Middx., responded, and said that it was a herculean task to respond on behalf of the Masonic Institutions. He had served fifteen Stewardships, and earnestly urged the brethren to do all in their power to support the Masonic Charities. It was not every brother

who had the time or the ability to master the ritual and become a Past Master of the lodge, but it was in the power of all to assist materially in forwarding the great work of the Institutions. Old age was a thing that each should endeavour to prepare for, and he sincerely trusted that no brother present would have to appeal to the Benevolent Institution. He had just had a short conversation with the respected Treasurer, Bro. Weekes, and he had almost persuaded that brother to serve as steward at the next festival of the Girls' School. Should Bro. Weekes do so, the brethren would no doubt render him substantial support in assisting that most excellent Institution. He sincerely trusted to hear of this lodge rendering valuable assistance in the cause of Masonic Charity.

"The Visitors" having been proposed by the W.M., and responded to by the visiting brethren present, "The Past Masters" was next introduced and duly replied to.

In proposing "The Health of the Treasurer and Secretary," the W.M. referred to the excellent services rendered by those brethren, especially by Bro. T. Poore, P.M., Sec., whose assistance he could not over estimate.

The Tyler's toast closed the proceedings.

GATESHEAD.—Lodge of Industry (No. 48).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, the 22nd inst., at the Masonic Hall, Jackson-street, under the presidency of Bro. A. Rhagg, W.M. There were among the brethren present Bros. J. Mout, I.P.M.; J. G. Smith, P.G.S.D.; R. B. Reed, P.M., P.G. Treas.; R. Whitfield, P.M.; R. F. Cook, P.P.G.S.D.; J. Wood, P.P.G.J.W.; C. J. Banister, P.G.S.B. Eng.; E. D. Davis, P.P.G.J.W.; T. Bradley, P.G. Asst. Sec.; J. J. Clay, P.G.D. of C.; J. C. Moor, P.P.G.J.D.; John Spearman, P.P.G.J.W.; E. Potts, W.M. 1676; W. F. Carmon, W.M. 481; and others.

The W.M. elect, Bro. Wm. Mark Pybus, S.W., was presented for installation by Bro. R. B. Reed, P.M., to the Installing Master, Bro. Adamson Rhagg, W.M., by whom the ceremony was admirably performed. The W.M., Bro. Pybus, afterwards appointed the following as his officers for the ensuing year: Bros. A. Rhagg, I.P.M.; Edward Shewbrooks, S.W.; W. Dalrymple, J.W.; M. Corbitt, P.M., Treas.; W. Brown, Sec.; W. F. Raeburn, S.D.; T. Thompson, J.D.; J. G. Smith, P.M., D.C.; R. Ferry, Org.; W. Richardson, I.G.; H. F. Dryden and M. R. Wright, Stewards; J. Curry, Prov. G. Tyler, Tyler.

The annual banquet of the lodge was held in the evening, Bro. W. M. Pybus, W.M., in the chair, and was supported by the brethren already named, and Bros. R. Hudson, P.G. Sec.; M. Corbitt, P.P.G.S.D.; D. Sinclair, P.P.G.A.D. of C., and others. The vice-chairs were occupied by Bros. E. Shewbrooks, S.W., and W. Dalrymple, J.W. There was a good muster present, and the proceedings were thoroughly enjoyable.

CHELMSFORD.—Lodge of Good Fellowship (No. 276).—A meeting was held on Thursday, the 18th inst., at the White Hart, when there were present Bros. A. C. Durrant, P.G. Stwd., W.M.; A. G. Maskell, S.W.; W. Metcalfe, J.W.; F. Whitmore, P.P.G.S.D., Treas.; J. Nicholls, P.P.G.J.W., Sec.; W. Langham, S.D.; T. R. Jarvis, J.D.; A. Durrant, P.M., Prov. G. Treas., D. of C.; T. Tomlinson, I.G.; T. S. Sarel, Tyler; E. Shedd, P.M.; F. P. Sutthery, P.M., P.G.S.D.; J. P. Lewin, P.M., P.P.G.S. of W.; A. Mead, P.M., P.P.G.S.W.; J. W. Hair, P.P.G.R.; W. A. Kyle, J. C. Cresswell, C. Williams, A. W. Garrood, John Taylor, G. W. Holland, H. W. Tanner, F. H. Meggy, and T. J. Cramphorn, P.M. 1024, P.G.S.D. Bro. H. Dehane, P.M. 1543, P.P.G.S.D., was a visitor.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last lodge meeting were read and confirmed. Mr. John Cushney was duly initiated into the Order. A strong Committee, consisting of the W.M., P.M.'s, two Wardens, and four brethren of the lodge, was elected to make preparations and arrangements for the reception of Prov. Grand Lodge, which is to be held at Chelmsford. When "Hearty good wishes" had been rendered, the lodge was closed in perfect harmony.

After the alms box had been well supported, and the banquet being over, the usual Royal, Grand, and Provincial toasts were given.

The W.M. said it did them good to see so much purple present; but, coming nearer home, it was an honour and privilege for him to couple with the toast of "The Prov. Grand Officers" the name of his father, the P.G.T., especially since it was the first opportunity he had had to propose the toast, he having been compelled to be absent last meeting, and his father the one previous to that.

Bro. A. Durrant, P.G. Treas., in reply, said the Prov. Grand Officers were always ready, willing, and able to assist the good cause whenever called upon. He hoped all the brethren might feel the same amount of parental pride that he at that moment did, and that they might have sons who would be considered worthy and able to undertake the duties of W.M. of his lodge when chosen by his brethren.

The I.P.M., Bro. Sutthery, in proposing the toast of "The W.M.," said he had great pleasure in doing so, and complimented him on the perfection of his working, and hoped he might have plenty to do. The lodge would be certain to prosper under his rule.

The Worshipful Master thanked them for the way they had received the toast, and if he gained their approval and gave them satisfaction, he was pleased.

The Worshipful Master, in giving "The P.M.'s," said all owed them gratitude, they were always ready to assist, and he thanked the I.P.M. for taking his place at the last meeting, owing to his unavoidable absence. There was always present a good muster of P.M.'s, and he thought no other lodge in the province could beat them in that point.

Bro. Sutthery suitably responded.

"The Initiate" came next, the Worshipful Master saying he knew their newly-made brother would find the further he went into the depths of Freemasonry the more he would find to delight and instruct him, and hoped as years rolled by he would in due course attain the honourable position he now held as W.M. of the lodge.

The toast was received with much enthusiasm.

Bro. H. Durrant gave the Entered Apprentice song.

Bro. Cushney was grateful for the cordial reception he had received. He had gone but a short way in the business, but considered the ceremony so far as he had

witnessed it to be very solemn and impressive, and hoped he would go through the remainder, and finally arrive at the dignity of W.M.

The Worshipful Master then said in proposing "The Visitors," that they were received with the good spirit they deserved at the Lodge of Good Fellowship, and were always pleased to see them, and none more so than their visitor that evening, who all knew had taken so much interest and trouble in the Charity elections, and personally thanked Bro. Dehane for his kindness in coming forward when asked at a moment's notice to instal him in the absence of their D.P.G.M., Bro. Philbrick, G.R., through illness, and he would be sure to receive a hearty welcome whenever he could visit the lodge.

Bro. Dehane was then entrusted with the gavel, and proposed "Prosperity to the Charities," and advocated the cause, called attention to the fact that the W.M. was going up as Steward at the Girls' Festival, and asked the brethren to send him up with a good list, and pointed out that the Charity Committee would want all the proxies at the next election, as there were several candidates, and entered somewhat into detail concerning the work of the Provincial Committee during the past year. Bro. Shedd, as one of the representatives of the Committee, will be pleased to receive their proxies, and who also was going up as Steward for the Girls' and trusted they would be disposed to support both lists.

The Worshipful Master afterwards explained how it happened that he and Bro. Dr. Shedd were going up at the same time.

The Worshipful Master, in proposing "The Officers," congratulated himself and the lodge on having such good ones, which was doubtless owing to the regular attendance at their lodge of instruction, and regretted they were about to lose the services of their old and valued Secretary, who had served them so well for many years past, and wished him health and prosperity in his new sphere of life in the West of England, coupling with the toast Bro. Dr. Nichols, their Secretary, and the S.W.

Bro. Nichols, in reply, alluded feelingly to his approaching departure, but hoped to see them all again at some future time, and thanked them for the universal kindness and assistance he had invariably received. He said he was one of a Masonic family, having lately found in an old chest the certificates of his grandfather, father, and brother, also their aprons, which, upon being brought to light, crumbled to dust, leaving only the metallic portions to be dearly cherished as relics.

The Tyler's toast followed.

During the evening the proceedings were enlivened by songs, recitations, &c.

STOURPORT.—Vernon Lodge (No. 560).—A meeting was held on Tuesday, the 16th inst., at the Swan Hotel, when there were present Bros. G. Lees, W.M.; E. Lay, S.W.; W. Dorsett, J.W.; C. Wytton, P.M. and Treas.; T. F. Hault, Sec.; A. Comber, P.M., P.G.R., as S.D.; T. Vale, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., as J.D.; J. Blundell, P.M., as I.G.; E. T. Lucock, Stwd.; J. J. Wade, Tyler; G. Gilbert, and H. E. G. Morrison.

The usual preliminary business having been transacted, Bro. T. Vale, P.M., D.C., read the report of the Committee, consisting of Bro. T. F. Hault, Hon. Sec., and himself, that had been entrusted with the valuation of the lodge properties. Bro. E. T. Lucock proposed that the valuation as made by Bros. Vale and Hault be accepted and entered on the minutes. The proposition was seconded by Bro. J. Blundell, P.M., and carried unanimously. Bro. J. Blundell stated that as he had only heard valuation the previous day, he had been unable to complete balance-sheet, and asked for it to be postponed until next lodge night. On the proposition of Bro. Lucock, seconded by Bro. Comber, this was agreed to be done. Bro. Lucock gave notice of the following motion:—"That time of opening lodge be altered from six o'clock to seven p.m., and that the business be concluded at 10.30." Apologies for enforced absence were received from Bros. Fawcett, R. S. Blundell, P.M.; D. Dawes, and G. Taylor, P.M., P.G.S.

An interesting account of presentations that had been made at various times to Vernon Lodge was read by the Secretary, Bro. T. F. Hault. Among the lodge presentations mentioned by Bro. Hault in his description was a Volume of the Sacred Law (Breeches' edition), which was lost some years ago, and restored in rather a remarkable manner in the year 1874, when an extract from the *Freemason* was read in lodge, stating that in the open market in London a Breeches Bible had been purchased by a rev. brother named Woodford, and, from certain memoranda written therein, it conclusively appeared that it was once in the possession of this lodge. The result was a communication with Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, who had the Bible rebound, and embellished with a silver plate, and then very kindly presented it to Vernon Lodge. Bro. Woodford was thereupon elected honorary member of this lodge. Singularly enough, this identical volume was again missing about three years ago, and was after a few months again found.

BIRKENHEAD.—Combermere Lodge (No. 605).—The brethren of this lodge met at the Queen's Hotel, Park entrance, on Thursday, the 18th inst., for the purpose of installing Bro. James Clarke as their W.M. for the next twelve months. There was a large attendance of visitors, amongst whom were the following Provincial Grand Officers of Cheshire: Bros. Marwood, P.G.S.W.; F. K. Stevenson, P.P.G.S.B. and Secretary 537; L. Ellis, P.G.S.D. and W.M. 1289; T. C. Thorburn, P.G.S. of W.; J. Lee, P.G.S.; J. Barnes, P.G.S. and P.M. 1576; E. G. Mason, P.M. 1276; and the following Worshipful Masters and Past Masters and brethren from other lodges: Bros. A. A. Gass, W.M. 477; Richard Jones, W.M. 1276; Samuel Jones, P.M. 477; J. B. Sparks, P.M. 1289 and 216; W. Bennett, P.M. 1570; C. Wise, P.M. 786; Daken, I.G. 1289; T. Wynn, Treas. 477; J. Perrin, 477; W. C. Cornwall, 537; D. B. Risk, 1276; J. Joinson, 721; and others.

The Secretary intimated that there were numerous letters of apology from other brethren, who were unable to attend. The chair was occupied by Bro. Bleakley, W.M., who was supported by Bros. O. Jones, I.P.M.; J. R. Simm, P.G. Treas., P.M., and Sec.; M. McNeerney, P.G.S.B., and P.M.; J. Sillitoe, P.P.G.J.D., P.M. and Treas.; T. Shaw, P.M.; A. E. Coveney, P.M., D.C.; Thomas Gregory, P.M.; J. Clarke, S.W.; G. Grant, J.W.; J. Gamlin, S.D.; P. Duff, J.D.; C. Roberts, I.G.; and many other members of the lodge.

After the transaction of business and the ceremony of initiating a brother had been performed, the W.M. elect, Bro. J. Clarke, was presented for installation by Bros. J. Sillitoe, P.M., and T. Shaw, P.M. The ceremony of initiation was most ably and impressively performed by Bro. T. M. Bleakley, the retiring W.M. The new W.M. afterwards appointed and invested his officers as follows: Bros. T. M. Bleakley, I.P.M.; G. Grant, S.W.; J. Gamlin, J.W.; J. Sillitoe, Treas.; J. R. Simm, Sec.; A. E. Coveney, D.C.; P. Duff, S.D.; C. Roberts, J.D.; A. Moore, I.G.; H. Middleton, Org.; W. Hawker and J. D. Kemp (by proxy), Stwds.

The Treasurer's statement showed the financial position of the lodge to be most satisfactory, there being a balance of £52 to the credit of the lodge after the payment of all liabilities. Before the lodge was closed, Bro. Shaw, P.M., on behalf of the members of the lodge, presented a handsome P.M.'s jewel to Bro. Bleakley. Bro. Shaw said he was the W.M. when Bro. Bleakley was initiated, and referred in graceful terms to his valuable services in connection with the lodge, particularly in the installation ceremony that evening, which during the many years he had been a Mason he had never seen equalled. Bro. Bleakley acknowledged the compliment in suitable terms.

At the conclusion of the business the brethren sat down to an excellent banquet, catered for by Bro. de Beard, after which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, Bros. Lee, Roberts, O. Jones, T. Evans, and others contributing the musical items of the evening's programme.

WOOLWICH.—Nelson Lodge (No. 700).—The usual quarterly meeting of the above lodge took place on Wednesday, the 17th inst., at the Masonic Hall, William-street, Bro. Christopher Sweeting, W.M., in the chair, supported by the following officers of the lodge and visitors: Bro. J. H. Roberts, P.M.; J. Warren, P.M.; J. Butt, P.M.; Treas.; C. Norman, P.M., Sec.; J. Sanderson, S.W.; R. J. Naylor, J.W.; W. Bidgood, Org.; J. Swanson, S.D.; W. Miller, J.D.; J. Webber, I.G. Visitors: Bros. W. H. Kedgley, W.M. 1614; H. Mason, P.M. 913; W. Akers, W.M. 13; G. W. Davis, P.M. 13; W. Maule, S.W. 1536; G. Campbell, 913; G. Chambers, 13; A. Deans, 13; W. A. Barnes, 13; T. White, 723; D. Gaston, 371; and C. Jolly, W.M. 1472.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been confirmed, the ballot was taken for Messrs. A. Winbush and H. G. Cox, and proving successful those gentlemen were initiated in good style by the W.M., and his officers. Bro. Hancock was passed, and then a discussion ensued on the bye-laws, eventually the lodge was closed, and the brethren afterwards partook of refreshment, and spent a few hours in harmony around the social board.

SOUTHEND.—Priory Lodge (No. 1000).—A meeting was held on Thursday, the 18th inst., at the Middleton Hotel, when there were present Bros. G. R. Dawson, W.M.; J. F. Harrington, P.M. 160, P.P.G.P., S.W.; C. Floyd, P.M. 1817, P.P.G.A.P., J.W.; Rev. C. Marriott, Chap.; F. Wood, P.M., P.P.G.W., Treas.; A. Lucking, P.M., G.A.P., Sec.; L. Warren, jun., S.D.; C. F. Woonnam, J.D.; T. F. Barrett, P.M., P.P.G.R., D. of C.; G. Kitchin, Org.; W. E. Bridgeland, I.P.M. 933, as I.G.; E. F. Wood, Stwd.; A. W. Martin, Tyler; J. W. Harris, P.M., P.P.G.A.D.C.; E. E. Phillips, P.M., P.P.G.D.; G. F. Jones, P.M., P.P.G.W.; G. Berry, P.M.; W. D. Merritt, P.M., P.P.G.A.D. of C.; G. J. Glasscock, P.M. 1817, P.P.G.S.B.; A. G. Rennington, B. Thomas, H. A. Hotblack, H. Luker, W. H. Lockey, J. R. Brightwell, R. G. Dempster, A. Baker, and P. T. Little. Visitors: Bros. J. Lightowlers, W.M. 1817, and G. Thomas, J.W. 1817.

Bros. A. Baker, 1734, and P. T. Little, 1472, were elected joining members. Messrs. T. Hood and A. Vanderwood were elected and afterwards initiated. A candidate for initiation and a joining member having been proposed and seconded, the lodge was duly closed, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment.

STONEHOUSE.—Metham Lodge (No. 1205).—The annual meeting of this lodge was held on the 15th inst., at the lodge rooms, Caroline-place, to instal Bro. G. Wilson as W.M. for the year ensuing. The ceremony was performed by Bros. J. P. Dunn, P.M., and W. H. Hunt, P.M., assisted by the following Board of Installed Masters: Bros. W. Powell, P.M.; D. Cross, P.M.; J. P. Dunn, P.M.; H. Cameron, P.M.; R. Dickson, P.M.; W. H. Hunt, P.M.; T. E. Peck, P.M.; R. Pike, P.M.; T. W. Lemon, P.M. 189, P.P.G.C.; T. Gibbons, P.M., P.P.G.O., all of 1205; J. B. Gover, P.M. 70, P.P.G.A.D.C.; J. R. Lord, P.M. 1147, P.P.G.S.B.; J. Hiley, P.M. 223, P.G.A.D.C.; Daniel Box, P.M. 156, P.P.G.S.D.; C. Cooper, P.M. 103, P.P.G.S.D.; H. Millan, 169, P.P.G.D.C.; A. E. Lean, P.M. 70, 2025; R. A. Culley, P.M. 1247; W. Alsford, P.M. 202; J. Gidley, P.M. 2025; P. Gifford, P.M. 106, 2025; E. Pillar, P.M. 105; H. J. Barter, P.M. 1247; W. Coath, P.M. 893; J. R. H. Harris, P.M. 230; B. S. Johns, P.M. 159; and W. H. W. Macy, W.M. 1847. The Board of Installed Masters having been closed the W.M. invested the following brethren as his officers: Bros. L. Martin, I.P.M.; W. Kennedy, S.W.; J. Hayward, J.W.; Rev. J. W. Lemon, P.M., P.P.G.C., as Chap.; D. Cross, P.M., Treas.; W. Powell, P.M., Sec.; H. E. Setters, S.D.; A. Trout, J.D.; W. Poole, I.G.; J. Dymond, D.C.; G. Perring, A.D.C.; J. Holland, Org.; J. Lugg and G. Perkins, Stwds.; and J. Gidley, P.M., Tyler.

The brethren then adjourned to the Royal Hotel, Devonport, where the annual banquet was held. The W.M. presided, and in addition to the majority of the above named brethren were Bros. A. Brickwood Hutchings (Mayor of Devonport), P.M. 893, W.M. 2025, P.G.O.; J. E. Curteis, P.M. 189, P.P.G.S.W.; R. L. Blight, 1205; E. Littleton, W.M. 230; W. H. Lister, P.S.W. 1855; C. Marshall, S.D. 159; M. Joel, J.D. 105; J. E. Dawe, A.D.C. 2025; W. H. Sutton, 1847; W. H. Morgan, 1091; S. Yeomans, 2023; N. Page, 903; and W. H. Jarvis, 903. A good menu was provided by Mrs. Parker, the manageress, and a very enjoyable evening was spent, several capital songs being rendered by Bros. J. P. Dunn, A. B. Hutchings, T. Gibbons, H. H. Hewlett, W. H. Jarvis, Kennedy, and Revill.

MOLD.—Sir Watkin Wynn Lodge (No. 1477).—The festival of St. John and installation of Bro. T. B. Williams as W.M. of the above lodge took place on Monday evening, the 15th inst. The installation ceremony

was performed by Bro. James Salmon, of Chester, and in addition to the officers and members of the lodge the following visit brethren were present: Bros. T. B. Bowers, Felix Thomas, W. Hughes, C. W. Duncan, W. Williams, and A. C. Lockwood, all of the Chester Lodges; R. Evans, Harris, Young, and Edisbury, all of 1336.

At the close of the installation ceremony a banquet was held at the Black Lion Hotel. The customary loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, and the W.M. received the warm congratulations of the brethren.

HAMPTON.—Hemming Lodge (No. 1512).—This lodge met at the Lion Hotel on the 18th inst. Among those in attendance were Bros. W. Spearing, W.M.; Wheatley, S.W.; Eales, J.W.; J. C. Jessett, P.G.S.B. Middx., P.M., Treas.; T. C. Walls, P.P.G.S.B. Middx., P.M., Sec.; Ransford, S.D.; Davies, J.D.; E. Clark, I.G.; H. Jones, I.P.M., W.S.; A. F. Scholding, A.W.S.; T. Culverwell, A.D.C.; Ballard, Chilcock, J. Smith, J. W. Clarke, Compton, Robinson, Trotter, Wright, Hopkins, Masters, Bates, Tagg, jun., Cronin, Gilbert, Tyler, and others. Among the visitors were Bros. Cousins, P.M. 209; Plimsaul, P.M. 1194; Lawrence, P.M. 1638, &c.; Lane, P.M. 1638, &c.; and Scantlebury, 975.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bros. Trotter, Wright, and Hopkins were raised, and Bros. Bates, G. Tagg, and Cronin passed, both ceremonies being admirably performed by the W.M., with the able assistance of his officers. It was proposed by Bro. Walls, Sec., and seconded by Bro. Jessett, Treas., "That the sum of 10 guineas be taken from the lodge funds, and placed on the list of the W.M., in the name of the lodge, as Steward of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls." This was put to the meeting and carried nem. con. Apologies for non-attendance were read from Bros. R. H. Thrupp, D.P.G.M. Middx., and others.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment. The customary toasts followed, and a most agreeable evening was spent.

DUNMOW.—Rosslyn Lodge (No. 1543).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, the 17th inst., at the Saracen's Head Hotel. Present: Bros. J. P. Lewin, P.M. 276, P.P.G.S. of W., W.M.; W. Rowe, S.W.; E. F. Ferris, J.W.; Fred. J. Snell, P.M., P.G.R., Treas.; G. D. Clapham, P.M., P.P.G.R., Sec.; G. H. Williams, S.D.; H. Dehane, P.M., P.P.G.S.D., D.C.; J. L. Franklin, I.G.; F. W. Warner, Tyler; F. J. Snell, P.M., P.G.R.; A. Rattray, P.M., P.G. Std.; R. Scarr, R. Brazier, A. S. Tyler, M. Hall, J. Serjeant, W. de Vins Wade, D. Milbank. Visitors: Bros. T. J. Ralling, P.M. 51, P.G. Sec.; Andrew Durrant, P.M. 276, P.G. Treas.; A. C. Durrant, W.M. 276, P.G. Std.; Arthur Mead, P.M. 276, P.P.G.S. of W.; and Alf. F. Gemi, P.M. 276, P.P.G.D.C.

The lodge was opened in due form and the minutes were read and confirmed, and the following were duly initiated, viz., Messrs. J. Wright, W. C. Sarns and W. Marsh. After the usual preparations Bro. Mortimer Hall was raised to the Third Degree, the W.M. giving the traditional history.

After some routine business and "Hearty good wishes" the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to a banquet, after which the usual Royal, Grand, and Provincial toasts were honoured. Bro. Ralling, as representing the executive of the county, in replying for the P.G.M., Lord Brooke, and Bro. Philbrick, Q.C., D.P.G.M., remarked how popular they were in the county, and the latter who had been entrusted by the Grand Master with high office which he filled so ably, and expounded Masonic law, and was the observed of all observed at the Quarterly Communications. Essex ought to be proud of both, and expressed his hearty approval of the working at the Rosslyn Lodge.

Bro. A. Durrant, P.G.T., as representing the brethren of the province, being elected by all, replied for the rest of the P.G. Officers, said he had been elected year after year to take charge of their funds; when he was first initiated there were only nine lodges in Essex, now there were 24, and his duty he felt was now quite as great a labour of love as it was when he had so little to do, and if the province continued to repose its confidence in him he would to the best of his ability endeavour to deserve it. It was always a pleasure to visit the Rosslyn Lodge where the ceremonies were so well carried out.

The Worshipful Master in giving the toast of the evening, "The Initiates," regretted time was so short he should not be able to say as much about them as he could wish, but doubtless as time went on they would take that which was said of other initiates as having been said that evening to them, but must say he knew they would never regret the step they had taken.

The Initiates replied very briefly, all were highly delighted and impressed with what had taken place during the evening as being so impressive.

The Worshipful Master in reply to the toast of his health, said some of the happiest portion of his Masonic life had been spent with the brethren of the Rosslyn Lodge, who had placed him in the position of ruler; he was pleased the lodge was increasing in strength, and he saw among those brethren present some who would in course of time be, he was sure, leading and prominent Masons in the county and do honour to this lodge and the province.

The toasts of "The Past Masters and Officers" were given together, and after the Tyler's toast the meeting broke up. The Entered Apprentice's song was well rendered by the W.M.

CARSHALTON.—Wallington Lodge (No. 1892).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 18th inst., at the Public Hall, when there was a good muster of members and several visitors to witness the installation of Bro. Alfred Bishop, W.M. elect, by Bro. James William Baldwin, P.G. Std. Br., the outgoing W.M. The lodge was opened by Bro. Baldwin, when the minutes of the previous meeting were read, and the report of the Audit Committee was received and adopted. On the motion of Bro. John G. Horsey, P.M., P.Z., P.P.G.D.C., certain alterations in the bye-laws relating to the duties of the Treasurer and the Secretary, were agreed to. On the motion of Bro. Wm. Pile, P.M., the lodge then resolved that a P.M.'s jewel, of the value of five guineas, be presented by the lodge to Bro. James W. Baldwin, in recognition of his valuable services during his year of office as W.M. Bro. Wm. Henry Ranson, 1790, was balloted for and accepted as a joining member, after which Bro. James W. Manley was passed to the Degree of F.C. by Bro. Baldwin, W.M.

All preliminary business having thus been cleared off the agenda paper, Bro. A. Bishop, W.M. elect, was presented to the W.M. by Bro. J. G. Horsey, P.P.G.D.C., Director of the Ceremonies, for the benefit of installation, whereupon Bro. Baldwin addressed him upon the nature of the obligations of the office, and Bro. Bishop gave his assent to the ancient charges, recited by the Secretary from the Book of Constitutions. Bro. Bishop was then obligated as W.M. elect, a Board of Installed Masters was formed, in whose presence the W.M. elect was installed into the chair of K.S., according to the ritual. This ceremony having been performed the Board of Installed Masters was closed, and Bro. Bishop was proclaimed and saluted in the three Degrees. Bro. Bishop then proceeded to invest his officers for the ensuing year as follows: Bros. J. W. Baldwin, P.G. Std. Br., I.P.M.; F. Carter, S.W.; W. Bassett, J.W.; W. R. Crowe, P.M., Treas.; L. A. Mesrouze, P.M., Sec.; G. W. Filmer, S.D.; H. D. Aslett, J.D.; J. G. Horsey, P.P.G.D.C., Dir. of Cers.; J. A. Taylor, I.G.; W. Harwood, W.S.; J. Rewcastle, Org.; and A. Rowley, Tyler. The Installing Officer, Bro. Baldwin, then delivered the customary addresses to the newly-installed Master, the Wardens, and the remaining members of the lodge. Bro. Baldwin performed the ceremony in the most perfect manner, and at the conclusion of the work was heartily congratulated upon his success.

Bro. Bishop, W.M., then rose and said that his first duty was one of the most pleasant that he could have to perform. It was the duty of presenting Bro. Baldwin with the P.M.'s jewel, which had been accorded to him by the unanimous vote of the brethren, a mark of appreciation which had been most worthily earned and most heartily deserved, and in attaching it to Bro. Baldwin's breast he hoped he would have continued health to wear it for many years to come.

Bro. Baldwin said he thanked the brethren very much for the mark of their appreciation of his endeavours to fulfil his duties, to which he must add his warm acknowledgements to the W.M. for the kind words with which the presentation of the jewel had been accompanied. That jewel would always remind him of the most pleasant hours he had ever had in his life.

The lodge was then closed in perfect harmony, and the brethren adjourned to the Greyhound Hotel, where the banquet was spread, which, as usual at this house, was excellent of its kind, and admirably served. Bro. Bishop presided, and showed that in this, not the least difficult part of a W.M.'s task, he was quite equal to the requirements of his position.

After dinner, the customary list of loyal and Masonic toasts was dealt with. After "The Queen and the Craft" and "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M. of England" had been duly honoured,

The W.M. said that the next toast was "The R.W. Pro G.M., the Earl of Carnarvon; the R.W.D.G.M., the Earl of Lathom; and the Officers of Grand Lodge, Present and Past." He had not sufficient acquaintance with the officers of Grand Lodge to sound their praises personally; but he thought that the strongest testimony that could possibly be borne to the manner in which their duties were carried on in England lay in the fact that so small a number of complaints are brought before them for discussion. Where a Society is ruled over with so much unanimity, with so little attempt at discord, it spoke well for the governing body, and that fact in itself was sufficient to recommend this toast to the notice of the brethren.

In proposing "The Health of the R.W. Prov. G.M. for Surrey," Bro. Bishop said that all those brethren who had the opportunity of seeing the Prov. G.M. in his official capacity were aware that he performed the duties of his office well. He might be a little bit of a martinet with junior officers occasionally; but he did a considerable amount of good, and they respected him all the more for his soldierly strictness. A more satisfactory Prov. G.M. it would be difficult to find, and he was sure that the brethren would all have great pleasure in drinking his health.

The W.M., in proposing the next toast, said that as they got on with the toast list they got nearer and nearer home. They got a little nearer home with the toast of the Prov. G.M.; but they got still nearer home with No. 5, which was "The Health of the D.P.G.M." It was within the knowledge of a good many brethren that on the departure of their late esteemed D.G.M., Bro. Arnold, to the western hemisphere his position had in a sort of temporary semi-official manner been filled by Bro. Greenwood, P.P.G.S.W. and Prov. G. Sec. He had hoped that Bro. Greenwood would have been present on this occasion; but the brethren would be pleased to learn that he had been nominated his Deputy by the R.W.P.G.M., and would cordially respond to this toast, with which was also associated the health of the other officers of the Prov. Grand Lodge. They had two Prov. Grand Officers present, namely, Bros. Horsey, P.P.G.D.C., and Baldwin, who was still in collar as Prov. G. Std. Br. He did not know that he could say anything more than that the Prov. Grand Lodge of Surrey was carried on with a minimum amount of friction, which spoke for the tact of the Grand Officers. With this toast he would couple the names of Bros. Horsey and Baldwin.

Bro. Horsey said he thanked the W.M. for giving him priority of speech, though he doubted whether a live Standard Bearer was not of more importance than a dead Director of Ceremonies. He thanked the W.M. for his kind words, especially in regard to their much esteemed Bro. Charles Greenwood, who had been promoted, as they had just heard. They all deplored the loss of Bro. Arnold; but they must also rejoice in seeing Bro. Arnold's place taken by Bro. Greenwood, than whom no one had done more for the Province of Surrey. He had for some time known that Bro. Greenwood was to succeed Bro. Arnold, and at Chertsey the other day it was announced, and Bro. Greenwood stated, that he had served the Province for 30 years as G. Secretary. In hailing him as their D.P.G.M. they would look forward to as prosperous times in the future as they had in the past under Bro. Arnold. Bro. Greenwood never forgot the Wallington Lodge, of which he was, in fact, an honorary member.

Bro. Baldwin also said a few words in reply to this toast, and then again rose, and said the brethren all knew why he had the privilege to take that gavel which he held in his hand, namely, to propose "The Health of their W.M." It was a duty he was very proud of, though he was afraid that his poverty of speech would not allow him to do justice to the occasion. The brethren had watched Bro. Bishop's career in the lodge, and had seen that in every office he had occupied he had performed his duties in a satisfactory manner, until at last he had attained the highest honour

the lodge could bestow; and he felt certain that Bro. Bishop's future work would be equally satisfactory with his work in the past, and that he would perform the duties attached to the office of Master as efficiently as he had fulfilled all his other duties in the Wallington Lodge. The brethren knew perfectly well that whether he was called on or not, he was perfectly able to do the work. He was sure that he was expressing the feelings of all present when he prayed that the G.A.O.T.U. might give Bro. Bishop such health and strength that he might have a happy year of office, and work to his own credit and the satisfaction of the lodge.

Bro. Bishop said, in reply, that he had to thank the I.P.M. and the brethren very much for the kind manner in which his health had been proposed and received. But he rose with diffidence and pleasure to address them—with diffidence lest he should be unable to carry out the duties of his position to their satisfaction—and with pleasure because he was well assured of their kindly feeling. Those who knew him knew that he would endeavour to do his best. He was particularly proud to occupy that position—to be in that chair—for one especial reason, which was that he happened to be the first initiate in the Wallington Lodge, who had had the proud satisfaction to attain the chair. It was but a short four years ago since he was initiated in that lodge, and although he did dream of the possibility that he might some day reach that position he had not the faintest expectation of doing it so soon. He had to thank not only those who had elected him, but those who had preceded him, because there were some who by reason of seniority ought to have been in the position he now held, and he felt that he owed it to their kindness as well as to the vote of the lodge that he was now in the chair. That he had met with the greatest kindness it was possible for a Mason to meet with in that lodge was a foregone conclusion. From the very first evening when he joined the Craft his experiences of the Wallington Lodge had been pleasant: he had spent many happy hours there. The results of his joining Freemasonry had surpassed his most sanguine expectations; and he trusted that if he was granted life and strength to go through his year of office he should be able to lay down his gavel and pass it to his successor with satisfaction to the lodge as well as to himself.

The W.M. said that he had already remarked that the further they got down the list of toasts the nearer home they got. The next toast was that of "The Visitors," which brought them very near home indeed. They all knew that a great portion of their friendship and Masonic acquaintance were made in the lodge, but he thought that a great many of those were cemented and even adorned by the pleasant reunions they had at the table afterwards. He thought it might perhaps be a little to the detriment of human value, but he believed we never felt so agreeably towards our fellow man as when we have our legs under the same mahogany with him. He could have wished that they had had a larger number of visitors that evening, he had himself been disappointed of two. But still they had a goodly gathering, and what they lacked in quantity they made up in quality. Few or many, however, the members of the lodge gave them very hearty greeting; they were pleased when old friends came again among them and they were pleased too to welcome new friends. They had among them Bro. Smith, of the Confidence Lodge, No. 193; Bro. Saunders, Zetland Lodge, No. 515; Bro. Davies, Langton Lodge, No. 1673; Bro. Allan, Inhabitants Lodge, No. 153; Bro. Pocock, Burgoyne Lodge, No. 902; Bro. Potts, New Northern Lodge, No. 2128; Bro. Vickers, Stewart Lodge, No. 1630; Bro. Smith, United Mariners Lodge, No. 30; Bro. W. W. Morgan and Bro. E. Massey. It was not necessary to make any moving appeal to the feelings of the brethren of the lodge to support that toast, because they always received it very warmly. With the toast he would couple the names of Bros. Smith and Potts.

Bros. Smith, Potts, and Pocock replied for the visitors. The Worshipful Master next proposed "The Health of the I.P.M., Bro. Baldwin, and the rest of the Past Masters of the Lodge." They were not, he said, an old lodge, and therefore had not a long roll of Past Masters. One of their Past Masters was very far away at the other side of the world, and another who was present in the lodge, was unable to remain for the banquet; but they had three very effective Past Masters of the Wallington Lodge—Bros. Baldwin, Horsey, and Pile—and if it were humanly possible that Bro. Baldwin could fail him in the hour of need, he had only to look beyond him to find a Mason of even greater experience, he could not wish for better supporters than Bros. Baldwin, Horsey, and Pile. The brethren all knew them, and all who knew them respected and admired them. He would ask Bros. Baldwin and Pile to respond.

Bro. Baldwin returned his sincere thanks to the W.M. for the kind manner in which he had proposed the toast, and the brethren for the cordiality with which they had received it. After some further remarks Bro. Baldwin said there was one thing which was always required of a Master, which was to act up to those three great principles of Freemasonry—brotherly love, relief, and truth. It was not always that we could carry out those principles as we could wish, but we could all strive to do it. He had striven to do it, and thanked the brethren for overlooking his shortcomings. He thanked them too for the very handsome jewel they had given him, which would remind him of a very pleasant and happy Mastership. Their W.M. was going up as a Steward to the Festival of the Boys' School, and he (Bro. Baldwin) had intended to refer to it in lodge and take their vote for £5 5s. to be placed on his list. He had overlooked it however, but he hoped the money would still be forthcoming.

Bro. Pile also responded.

Other toasts, including "The Masonic Charities," "The Officers of the Lodge," &c., were honoured, and then the Tyler's toast brought the proceedings to a close.

KIRKBURTON.—Beaumont Lodge (No. 2030).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Royal Hotel, on Saturday, the 20th inst., Bro. Brierley, P.M., acting W.M. There was a good attendance of visiting brethren, amongst the number being Bros. Jowett, W.M. 521; Dawson, J.W. 521; John C. Cockcroft, 1462; Waugh, 1747 and 1987; Walker, W.M., and Parkin, both of 1783.

The lodge having been opened, Bro. W. H. Groves was raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M., the ceremony being performed in a most impressive manner by the W.M. and Bro. W. Schofield, P.M. Bro. the Rev. R. Collins, M.A., Vicar, acted as Chaplain, wearing his surplice and hood. It

has been decided to lease a piece of land near to the fine old parish church, from the trustees of Shrewsbury Hospital, to build a lodge. The site is a most admirable one, easily accessible to the public and still secluded, being overshadowed by the stately trees growing in the vicarage grounds. It was decided at this meeting that the installation shall in future take place in December.

The brethren afterwards sat down to a substantial repast, after which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, interspersed with songs, &c., by Bros. Fitton, P.M., Dawson, Waugh, and Field, S.W.

INSTRUCTION.

TEMPERANCE LODGE (No. 169).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Friday evening, the 19th inst., at the Duke of York Tavern, Evelyn-street, Deptford, when there were present Bros. Walters, W.M.; Borritt, S.W.; W. W. Block, J.W.; Belchamber, S.D.; J. W. Block, J.D.; Lazarus, I.G.; Milbourn, Preceptor; Vellenoweth, Secretary; and Penrose.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree. The questions preparatory to raising having been answered, Bro. Penrose was entrusted with a test of merit. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and the ceremony of raising was rehearsed by the W.M., Bro. Penrose personating candidate. The 1st and 3rd Sections of the lecture were then worked by Bro. Belchamber, assisted by the brethren. The lodge was closed in the Third and Second Degrees. The W.M. rose for the first time, dues were collected, and Bros. J. W. Block, S.W. 3; and W. W. Block, J.W. 1158, were unanimously elected members of this lodge. The W.M. rose for the second time, and Bro. Borritt was unanimously elected W.M. for the first Friday in April. The W.M. rose for the third time, and nothing further offering for the good of Freemasonry, the lodge was closed.

DOMATIC LODGE (No. 177).—The weekly meeting of this lodge was held at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New-road, on Tuesday, the 16th inst. There were present Bros. W. J. Richardson, W.M.; R. Rowlands, S.W.; J. D. Smith, J.W.; F. J. Tull, S.D.; H. Cohen, J.D.; S. M. Gibson, I.G.; R. Walden, Sec.; James Hill, Preceptor; B. Sudlow, W. Simpson, and A. J. Shore.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. As the ceremony of raising was to be rehearsed, Bro. A. J. Shore answered the questions, was entrusted, and retired. The ceremony of the Third Degree was rehearsed, Bro. Shore being the candidate; the traditional history was fully explained. Bro. Sudlow kindly informed the Preceptor and the lodge that as this lodge had been announced in the *Freemason* to be working the "Emulation working," he had come down at the desire of the respected Treasurer of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement to make some inquiries and to witness the working. After a vote of thanks from the lodge had been proposed, seconded, and given to Bro. Sudlow, he said that he was highly pleased and delighted to find the work carried on so efficiently under the able and kind Preceptor, who was evidently following his work with that Masonic love which did the heart of every one good who witnessed it. The Emulation Lodge Committee was very jealous of their working, for they could not allow any lodge to announce their working unless it was correctly so. He should have great pleasure in carrying back a highly satisfactory report. He hoped they would go on and make every one perfect, and still work with the precision he had been pleased to witness, besides that good, loving feeling which seemed to bind them so closely together. Bro. Hill gave a short resume of the lodge working since he had become Preceptor, and of the difficulties they had undergone. He was only too pleased to give instruction to the brethren and any knowledge they may require; and it had been an immense source of pleasure to watch the progress of the finance and the amount and correctness of the work of the brethren who attended. Masonic business being ended by proposing Bro. J. D. Smith as W.M. for the next meeting, the lodge was closed.

PRINCE FREDERICK WILLIAM LODGE (No. 753).—A meeting was held on Tuesday, the 23rd inst., at the Eagle Tavern, Clifton-road, Maida-hill. Present: Bros. E. W. Scattergood, W.M.; C. R. Wickens, S.W.; W. Thomas, J.W.; F. G. Baker, P.M., Treas., and Preceptor; J. J. Thomas, Sec.; S. G. Humes, S.D.; W. Holcombe, J.D.; W. J. Stratton, I.G.; C. Stallibrass, Stv.; H. W. Davis, W.M. 173; J. Stevens, W.M. 1425; W. T. Mellier, A. G. Hayman, A. E. Hubert, C. J. Groves, and J. Page.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. The 1st Section of the lecture was worked by the Preceptor, assisted by the brethren. Bro. Groves was examined and entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Groves candidate. The lodge was called off and on. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and the 1st Section worked. The lodge was closed down to the First Degree. Bro. Wickens, the S.W., was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. All Masonic business being ended, the lodge was closed.

EARL OF ZETLAND LODGE (No. 1364).—The above lodge met at the Royal Edward, Mare-street, Hackney, on Saturday, the 13th instant. The chair was occupied by Bro. Gompertz, who was supported by Bros. G. J. Pope, as S.W.; H. B. Chamberlain, J.W.; H. Maples, P.M., Treas.; E. Wright, P.M., Hon. Sec.; J. Broad, S.D.; H. Lowe, J.D.; Archer, I.G.; Watkinson, Preceptor; Capere, East, and others.

After the usual preliminaries, Bro. Maples was tested and entrusted, and on lodge being advanced, the ceremony of the Second Degree was ably worked. The 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sections of the lecture were worked under the guidance of the Preceptor, and lodge was resumed. Bro. Pope was elected to perform the duties of W.M. at the next meeting. Auditors were appointed to assist the worthy Hon. Sec. in preparing his annual return, and lodge was closed. Brethren who can attend on the first, second, and fourth Saturdays in each month will doubtless profit by the able instruction to be gained here at the hands of Bro. Watkinson, the Preceptor, whose heart is in his work, and who is appreciated by the brethren.

HYDE PARK LODGE (No. 1425).—A meeting was held on Monday, the 22nd inst., at the Porchester Hotel, Leinster-place, Cleveland-square, Porchester-terrace, Paddington, W. Present: Bros. J. H. Wood, W.M.; J. Potter, S.W.; E. F. Ferris, J.W.; G. Read, P.M. 511, Treas.; H. Dehane, P.M. 1543, Sec.; Jos. Bailey, S.D.; O. W. Battley, J.D.; J. S. Henry, I.G.; G. D. Bailey, Stv.; Capt. A. Nicols, P.M. 1974; E. C. Mulvey, J. Crutenden, W. J. Mason, W. Thomas, J. C. Conway, F. Chandler, N. D. Francis, W. H. Wadham, J. Grunbaum, J. Smith, and R. W. Williams. Visitor: Bro. W. E. Jameson, W.M. 1584.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Jameson being candidate. Bro. Jos. Bailey, at the request of the W.M., gave the charge. The 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Sections of the lecture were worked by Bro. Read, assisted by the brethren. Bro. Potter was elected W.M. for next meeting, and appointed his officers in rotation. Bro. Jameson was elected a member. A vote of thanks, to be recorded on the minutes, was unanimously passed to Bro. Bailey for giving the charge. The lodge was then closed.

COVENT GARDEN LODGE (No. 1614).—The usual weekly meeting of this lodge of instruction was held at the Criterion, Piccadilly, W., on the 18th inst., when there were present Bros. W. C. Smith, Preceptor, W.M.; B. Solomon, S.W.; F. Kedg, J.W.; J. W. Tacon, S.D.; J. Woodward, J.D.; G. Reynolds, Treas., and Sec.; J. H. Lane, I.G.; W. Hancock, F. C. McQueen, W. F. McQueen, J. Rowe, P. W. Rogers, H. Willis, E. Bateman, C. Lambert, J. D. Graham, H. J. Wicks, S. Hewitt, G. P. Bertini, H. Ludwig, Frank Gulliford, C. Holland, G. H. Reynolds, C. Grassi, Charles Richards, C. H. W. McQueen, and T. E. Weeks, Tyler.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Lodge opened in the Second Degree. The W.M. worked the 2nd Section of the Second Lecture. Bro. G. P. Bertini having offered himself as a candidate to be raised to the Third Degree, he was duly questioned, entrusted, and retired. Lodge opened in the Third Degree. The W.M. rehearsed the Degree of M.M. The W.M. worked the 2nd and 3rd Sections of the Third Lecture. On rising for the first time, the following brethren were unanimously elected joining members of this lodge of instruction: Bro. E. Bateman, 180, proposed by Bro. F. C. McQueen, and seconded by Bro. G. Reynolds; Bro. C. Lambert, 198, proposed by Bro. G. Reynolds, and seconded by Bro. H. Lane; Bro. H. J. Wicks, 1269, proposed by Bro. J. W. Tacon, and seconded by Bro. H. Lane; and Bro. T. Skinner, 1614, proposed by Bro. S. Hewitt, and seconded by Bro. G. Reynolds. On rising for the second time, the W.M. thanked Bro. B. Solomon, S.W., for waiving his right to the chair that evening in his favour; whereupon Bro. J. W. Tacon proposed that Bro. B. Solomon, S.W., be W.M. for the ensuing week—seconded by the J.W., and carried unanimously. The W.M. elect was pleased to appoint his officers in rotation. On rising for the third time, nothing further offering for the good of Freemasonry, the lodge was closed.

LANGTON LODGE (No. 1673).—The usual weekly meeting was held at the White Hart, Abchurch-lane, E.C., on Thursday, the 18th inst. Present: Bros. Burne, W.M.; Slaughter, S.W.; Gordon-Smith, J.W.; J. D. Langton, Sec.; H. M. Hobbs, Preceptor; Fox-Hawes, S.D.; Holden, J.D.; Marshall, I.G.; Brewer, Dechapeauwong, Fraser, F. W. Leaver, J. C. Leaver, Knight, Oates, Morris, E. Samuel, Goode, Ridpath, and Toulmin. Visitors: Bros. J. Dawson, Dep. P. G. Master Herts; Slaughter, P. G. Org. Herts; Morice, Glanville, Milner, and Samuel. The last three brethren were elected members. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Knight acting as candidate. The lodge was closed, and the Langton Benevolent Association held its fourth meeting. Enough money being in hand, three ballots of ten guineas were drawn, and won by the Langton Lodge of Instruction—Bros. Angell and Dr. Smith. The Association now numbers 126 members.

UBIQUE LODGE (No. 1789).—A meeting was held on Friday, the 19th inst., at the Crown and Anchor, 79, Ebury-street, S.W. Present: Bros. Stevenson, W.M.; Hume, S.W.; Arnold, J.W.; Boulton, P.M., Preceptor; Gibson, Treas.; Coughlan, Sec.; Green, jun., S.D.; Gibson, J.D.; Musson, I.G.; Wray, P.M.; Grist, Mason, Glover, Green, senr., Christian, Chinn, Roberts, Wynn, Mann, Kidd, Wombell, and Folsom.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Roberts being the candidate. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree. Bro. Christian a candidate to be raised to the Third Degree, answered the usual questions and was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree. The W.M. vacated the chair, which was taken by Bro. Green, junr. The ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. Christian being the candidate. Bro. Green vacated the chair, which was again taken by the W.M. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree, and Bros. Kidd and Wombell were unanimously elected joining members, and Bro. Hume was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing fortnight. It was also proposed, seconded, and unanimously carried, that a vote of thanks be recorded on the minutes to the W.M. for the very able and efficient manner in which he had discharged the duties of W.M. for the first time; this compliment was richly deserved. Nothing further offering, the lodge was closed.

CHISWICK LODGE (No. 2012).—A meeting was held at the Windsor Castle Hotel, King-street, Hammersmith, on Saturday, the 20th inst. Present: Bros. Perdue, W.M.; W. W. Williams, S.W.; J. Sims, J.W.; George Gardner, Treas., acting Sec.; J. Wood, S.D.; George Gardner, J.D.; A. Williams, I.G.; Weeks, Tyler; E. Ayling, P.M., Preceptor; Tilbury, Purze, and others.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge opened in the Three Degrees, and resumed to the First. The 2nd Section of the lecture was worked by the Preceptor, assisted by the brethren. The lodge opened in the Second Degree. The W.M. announced his intention to rehearse the Third Degree. Bro. Tilbury was examined and entrusted. The lodge resumed to the Third Degree; the ceremony was rendered in a perfect manner. The W.M. rose three times. The S.W. was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week. Lodge was then closed.

CANTERBURY.—Royal Military Lodge (No. 1449).—A meeting was held on Monday, the 15th inst., at the Masonic Temple, 38, St. Peter's-street. Present: Bros. Tomblings, as W.M.; Pepper, S.W.; Hammond, I.P.M., as J.W.; Blamiers, W.M., Preceptor; R. D. Simms, Sec.; Claydon, S.D.; Cockersell, J.D.; Beckett, I.G.; Anderson, Stv.; and Abbs, as I.P.M.

The lodge was opened in the First Degree, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The working tools were explained by Bro. Claydon as given in the Assuan. The questions leading from the First to the Second Degree were put, and correctly answered. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree. The working tools were explained by Bros. Pepper, Beckett, Claydon, Tomblings, Abbs, Hammond, and Cockersell. The questions leading from the Second to the Third Degree were put, and correctly answered. The lodge was lowered to the First Degree. Nothing further having been offered for the good of Freemasonry, or of this lodge of instruction in particular, the lodge was closed.

Royal Arch.

JERSEY.—Harmony Chapter (No. 244).—The annual convocation of the above chapter was held at the Masonic Temple, Stopford-road, on Monday, 8th inst. There were present Comps. T. Leat, P.Z., acting M.E.Z.; J. G. Pallot, H.; J. T. Baal, J.; P. Bois, P.Z., Treas.; P. G. Hamilton, S.E.; H. M. Bartlett, S.N.; F. Vincent, W. G. Briddle, Hamling, Huelin, Ford, Walmsley, and Baker. Visitors: Comps. J. O. Le Sueur, P.G.S.E.; T. W. W. Bullock, P.Z. Vernon Chapter; S. Gilley, P.Z. 491; and J. G. Jean, 491.

The chapter was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last convocation were read and confirmed. The ballot was passed round for Bro. Dadman, I.G. 1003, for exaltation, and also for Comp. P. Maignard, 595, as joining member, the ballot proving unanimous in both cases. M.E.C. J. O. Le Sueur, P.G.S.E., then proceeded to instal the Principals and invest the officers for the ensuing year: Comps. J. G. Pallot, M.E.Z.; J. T. Baal, H.; H. M. Bartlett, J.; P. Bois, P.Z., Treas.; P. G. Hamilton, S.E.; F. Vincent, S.N.; J. W. Hamling, P.S.

The M.E.Z. complimented Comp. J. O. Le Sueur on the able manner in which he had performed the installation ceremony, not only on this occasion, but on many previous ones. He (the M.E.Z.) proposed that a vote of thanks be given to the Installing Principal and that the same be recorded in the minutes which was unanimously carried.

Comp. Le Sueur, in a few and well-chosen words, thanked the companions for their compliment.

Comp. S. Gilley, P.Z. 491, was elected an Hon. Member of the Chapter, in recognition for his past services in having on many occasions ably performed the duties of P.S.

Comp. Gilley, in thanking the companions for the honour they had conferred upon him, said in performing the duties of P.S., he had only done his duty, for when visiting, if he was not working, he felt ill at ease.

There being no other business, the M.E.Z. having thanked the companions for their attendance and assistance, the chapter was closed in due form.

The companions then sat down to a "petit souper," provided by the Janitor, Comp. G. Rogers, after which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and duly responded to, the companions separating at an early hour, having spent a pleasant evening.

WIGTON.—St. John's Chapter (No. 327).—The annual meeting of this chapter was held on Wednesday, the 17th inst., for the purpose of installing the chiefs and exalting candidates. Comps. W. W. Hoodless was installed M.E.Z.; J. Harris, H.; J. Pearson, P.Z., as J.; F. Richardson, S.E.; J. Kirkland, S.N.; J. Martin, P.S.; and J. Pearson, Treas. The following members and visitors were present: Comps. J. Gate, P.Z.; T. McMechan, P.Z., P.P.G.A.S.; J. Barr, P.Z. 119, P.P.G.H.; William Sandwith, P.Z., P.P.G.J.; Ed. Tyson, P.Z., P.G.S.N.; J. J. Robinson, H. 119, P.G. Stwd.; C. Gowan, S.N. 119; and others.

A vote of thanks was passed to Comps. Barr and Tyson for their able services, when the chapter was duly closed, and the companions dined at the Lion and Lamb Hotel.

KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.—Dobie Chapter (No. 887).—At the convocation held at the Griffin Hotel, on Monday, the 22nd inst. There was a larger assembly than usual. The M.E.Z. and H. were both absent, but sent apologies, and so the offices stood thus: Comps. R. T. Elsam, acting M.E.Z.; John Bond, P.Z., acting H.; Pillar, I.P.Z., acting J.; H. Handel, S.N.; J. W. Moorman, P.S.; and G. Moorman, Asst. P.S.

A candidate for exaltation was balloted for, and approved, but he did not present himself, being indisposed. The ballot for officers for the ensuing year was taken with the following result: Comps. C. Oldridge, M.E.Z.; T. Weaver, H.; J. W. Woodman, J.; R. T. Elsam, S.E.; W. Chapman, S.N.; G. Moorman, P.S.; J. Bond, Treasurer; W. Lane was again elected Janitor.

After the convocation was closed, the companions spent a very pleasant evening, thanks in a great measure to the excellent and liberal catering of Comp. Sharp.

BELVEDERE.—Saye and Sele Chapter (No. 1973).—The installation meeting of the above chapter took place on Tuesday, the 9th inst., at the Masonic Rooms, Royal Alfred Institution, when M.E. Comp. Capt. J. Gieseman-Chillingworth, H., and Z. elect, was, with the usual ceremony, installed in the chair of Z.; M.E. Comp. F. Wood, as H.; and M.E. Comp. A. H. Bateman, as J. The Chapter was opened by the M.E.Z., M.E. Comp. the Rev. H. Cummins, and the minutes being past, that companion proceeded, as Installing Officer, to his duty. The Principals were duly saluted. Comp. Chillingworth had, however, to retire on account of ill-health, and Comp. Cummins resumed the chair of Z. The following officers were then invested: Comps. E. Bright, P.Z., Treas.; H. A. E. De Pinna, S.E.; Dr. Flaxman-Spurrell, P.Z., P.P. G.R. Kent, S.N.; E. H. Joynson, P.S.; and T. Heather, 1st Asst. S. The Installing Officer then gave eloquent extempore addresses to the Principals, officers, and companions, and then the chapter was closed in due form.

The banquet was partaken of at the Railway Hotel, and was elegantly served. At its conclusion, the M.E.Z. presiding, gave the usual loyal, Royal Arch, and chapter toasts, which were duly honoured.

In proposing the toast of "Lord Holmesdale, Grand Superintendent of the Province of Kent," Comp. Cummins said that his lordship was so well known, and so much beloved by every Mason in the province, that it was totally unnecessary for him to say a single word in his favour. He must, however, say that their Grand Superintendent was a nobleman in every sense of the word; while, as a Mason, he knew how to do his work, and did it with that facility and address that endeared him to all who came within the sphere of his influence.

The toast was drunk with enthusiasm, and Comp. Wood proposed the next toast, which was that of "Comp. Eastes, G.H., and the rest of the Prov. Grand Officers, Present and Past," coupled with the name of Comp. Coupland, P.Z. 913, P.P.G.J. Kent; who, in reply, said he felt sure the Grand Officers of the province would be glad to hear that they were not forgotten by the companions of the Saye and Sele Chapter. He congratulated Comp. Cummins and the companions upon successfully launching such an excellent addition to the chapters of the province, and gave a brief resumé of the origin of the Provincial Grand Chapter, which did not exist when he was first made a Royal Arch Mason. He cordially thanked them in the name of the Prov. Grand Officers for their hearty reception of the toast.

Comp. Cummins then proposed "The Health of the M.E.Z. of the Chapter," and in so doing, regretted that illness had prevented Comp. Chillingworth from being present at their social board. As the M.E.Z. was not present, he should make it a crooked toast, and drag in another name, the name of one, who, in or out of Masonry, was one of the best fellows he had ever met; he alluded to Comp. Warne, P.Z., P.G. Scribe E. Kent. He (Comp. Cummins) was himself ill when he came to the chapter, and thought he should have had to leave, but the sight of Comp. Warne had done him so much good that he soon recovered, and felt quite well again, or at least a good deal better than before he saw him. The toast was drunk with great heartiness, and

Comp. Warne, in response, said that as he listened to the words of the M.E.Z., they reminded him of a poor fellow who appeared before a judge at the late Maidstone assizes. The man was being tried for some offence, and seemed not to take the least notice of the proceedings; at last the judge asked him what he had to say, and he said, "Nothing." At the finish of the case, he was again asked whether he had anything to say. "No, no," said the man, "I have nothing to say, my lord; and if I had, I should not say it, for it is my opinion that there has been too much said about it already." Well, he felt in the position of that poor fellow, and that too much had been said about him already; while in the flattering remarks of the M.E.Z. he did not recognise a likeness of himself. He then, in the course of an eloquent speech, spoke highly of the chapter and its officers, and ventured to prophesy, from what he had seen that day (although he did not, as a rule, like to prophesy unless he knew he was right), that the chapter had a great future before it. He again

thanked them for the toast, and resumed his seat amid cheers.

The next toast was that of "The Second and Third Principals," and the M.E.Z. highly complimented them on their zeal and energy in the cause of Masonry, especially for the Saye and Sele Chapter.

In response to a hearty reception of his health as Installing Officer, Comp. Cummins said one always felt a difficulty in speaking about one's self; but he saw those around that table who knew that he took the deepest interest in Masonry, and that he would not have any shamming in the work—what he had to do he did to the best of his ability. It was a proud position for him to be the first Z. of the chapter; it was a position not sought by him; but it was given him because it was thought by the founders that his assistance would be a benefit to it. If anything he had said or done had benefited the chapter, he felt that he might sit down and say "nunc dimittis." He trusted the bonds with which they were bound together in Freemasonry would never be loosened; but would rather grow stronger and tighter until the time should come to leave here and ascend to the Grand Lodge above, where the G.A. lives and rules for ever.

The other toasts were "The Visitors" and "The Officers," both of which were cordially drunk and feelingly responded to, and then the proceedings terminated.

Among the other companions present not above named were Comps. A. Penfold, P.Z. 13 and 913, M.E.Z. designate 1472, P.P.G. 1st Asst. S. Kent, who acted as S.N.; W. G. Lemon, P.Z.; T. Heaps; R. Edmonds, M.E.Z. 913; J. Ricks, Z. 33; T. Fletcher, 33; and C. Jolly, 913.

INSTRUCTION.

CAMDEN CHAPTER OF IMPROVEMENT (No. 704).—A convocation of the above chapter was held at the Moorgate Hotel, Finsbury-pavement, on Tuesday, the 16th inst. Present: Comps. Gregory, Z.; G. W. Knight, H.; Jenkins, J.; Slyman, S.E.; Vine, N.; Shirley, P.S.; Edmonds, Preceptor; Dodson, Jacobs, Foulger, R. W. Franz, Evans, and Grey.

The chapter was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous convocation read and confirmed. The ceremony of exaltation was most ably rehearsed by the officers, Comp. Evans, candidate. Comps. Foulger and Evans were unanimously elected joining members of this excellent chapter of improvement.

NORTH LONDON CHAPTER OF IMPROVEMENT (No. 1471).—A convocation was held on Thursday, the 11th inst., at the Alwyn Castle Tavern, St. Paul's-road, Canonbury. Present: Comps. F. Erasted, M.E.Z.; T. C. Edmonds, H.; J. Strugnell, J.; J. E. Sheffield, S.E.; J. Knight, S.N.; W. Radcliffe, P.S.; Fraser, and W. H. Dean.

The ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, Comp. J. Funston acting as candidate. The ritual was ably sustained by various companions.

Mark Masonry.

MALLET AND CHISEL LODGE (No. 5).—The installation meeting was held at the Bridge House Hotel, on the 22nd inst., when there were present, among others, Bros. Stedman, W.M.; Helsham, S.W.; J. P. Lewis, I.P.M. Constantine Lodge, acting J.W.; C. F. Matier, P.G.W., &c., Hon. Member, acting M.O.; Bennett, S.O.; J. Hudson, J.O.; the Rev. Owen Davies, Chaplain; Dr. E. M. Lott, P.G. Org., Sec., &c.; Dr. Pearce, S.D.; R. Greening, I.G.; E. J. Hoare, G. Org., P.M.; Toope, T. C. Walls, P.G.S.B., Hon. Member; H. J. Lardner, P.G.S., Hon. Member; and Harrison, Tyler.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bros. Tompkins and Easton were duly advanced to the Degree of M.M.M. Bro. C. F. Matier, P.G.W., then assumed the chair, and by the W.M.'s permission ably installed Bro. Helsham into the chair of A. The officers appointed and invested were Bros. Stedman, I.P.M.; E. Hargen, S.W.; Holdgate, J.W.; Bennett, M.O.; Hudson, S.O.; Dr. Pearce, J.O.; the Rev. O. Davies, Chaplain; R. Tarran, P.M., Treasurer; Dr. E. M. Lott, Secretary; Greening, S.D.; Easton, J.D.; Tompkins, I.G.; and Harrison, Tyler. A vote of thanks was passed to Bro. Matier for his services as Installing Officer, and ordered to be recorded on the minutes. A committee having been appointed to revise the by-laws, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to banquet. Upon the removal of the cloth, the usual toasts followed.

Bro. Matier, in responding on behalf of "The Grand Officers," took occasion to dilate upon the great progress of the Order. He also spoke in warm terms of the steady increase of the Mallet and Chisel Lodge, a result which, to a great extent, had been brought about by the zealous and able exertions of Bro. Dr. Lott, its worthy Secretary. In conclusion the speaker thanked the brethren for conferring upon him, a short time ago, an honorary membership of the lodge, a distinction which he highly prized.

Bro. Walls then acknowledged "The Health of the Provincial Grand Officers."

The rest of the toasts were duly proposed and honoured. During the proceedings the brethren were entertained by the instrumental and vocal abilities of Bros. Dr. Lott, Hoare, Stedman, Jeffs, Lardner, and others.

SIR FRANCIS BURDETT LODGE (No. 181).—This lodge met at the Albany Hotel, Twickenham, on the 17th inst. Among those present were Bros. J. T. Briggs, W.M.; H. Higgins, S.W.; C. H. Köhler, J.W.; E. Hopwood, P.G.S. of W. Middlesex and Surrey, P.M., acting M.O.; Porter, S.O.; Simmonds, J.O.; T. C. Walls, P.G. Svd. Br., &c., P.M., Sec.; and others.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The ballot was taken for a brother for advancement, and it proved to be unanimous; but, from unavoidable circumstances, he was prevented from attending. The Secretary gave notice of motion—"That a sum be voted from the funds, and placed on the list of the W.M. as Steward at the next Festival of the Mark Benevolent Fund." Letters pleading inability to attend were read from Bros. W. Fisher, P.M., Treas.; Thomas, S.D.; and others. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment. The usual toasts followed.

The Prince of Wales was present at the Prince's Theatre, on Thursday afternoon, the 18th inst., and witnessed Mrs. Langtry's impersonation of Pauline in "The Lady of Lyons."

Knights Templar.

ST. GEORGE'S PRECEPTORY (No. 6).—This old preceptory, formerly known as the Cross of Christ, held its annual installation meeting on Friday, the 14th inst., at the Albion, Aldersgate-street. Present: Sir Knts. J. Smith, E.C.; H. J. Sparks, Constable; J. E. D. Jameson, Marshall; R. Costa, P.C.; G. Cooper, P.C.; E. B. Florence, P.C.; E. Letchworth, P.C.; P. H. Waterlow, G. S. Waterlow, and W. G. Devey. Visitors: Sir Knts. F. Davison, and Dr. Mickley.

The minutes of the last meeting having been confirmed, the ballot was taken as a joining member for Sir Knt. C. F. Matier, Priory of the Lothian, 1, K.C.T., which was in the affirmative. Sir Knt. Cooper then assumed the chair and impressively installed Sir Knt. Sparks as E.C., who appointed and invested the following as his officers: Sir Knt. J. Costa, Prelate; P. H. Waterlow, Constable; G. S. Waterlow, Marshal; Geo. Cooper, Registrar and Treas.; E. B. Florence, Almoner; W. G. Devey, Expert; C. F. Matier, Capt. of Lines; and T. Woodstock, Équerry.

All business being ended, the sir knights adjourned to the banquet, served in the best style, under the personal superintendence of Mr. J. P. Swayne.

Scotland.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF AYRSHIRE.

VISIT TO BURN'S MOTHER LODGE.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Ayrshire visited several lodges on Saturday, the 13th inst., among them that of Torbolton, St. James's, Kilwinning, in which Robert Burns was initiated. He was an active Mason, as the charters and minutes show. Burns was elected Depute-Master on the 27th July, 1784, and held that position till St. John's Day, 1788, when one James Findlay succeeded him in office. He signed the minutes Robert Burns till March 1st, 1786. His attendances as Depute-Master were—in 1785, June 20, July 20, August 2 and 18, September 7 and 15, October 26, November 10, December 1 and 7. In 1786—January 7 and March 1, when his brother, "Gilbert Burns, was passed and raised." In the early part of 1786 Burns went to Kilmarnock to arrange and superintend the publication of the first edition of his poems.

A letter was shown which he addressed to the St. James' Lodge of Torbolton in 1787:—

"Men and Brethren,—
"I am truly sorry it is not in my power to be at your quarterly meeting. If I must be absent in body, believe me I shall be present in spirit. I suppose those who owe us monies by bills or otherwise will appear. I mean those we summoned. If you please, I wish you would delay prosecuting defaulters till I come home. The Court is up, and I will be home before it sits down. In the meantime, to take a note of who appear and who do not of our faulty debtors will be right in my humble opinion; and those who confess debt and crave days, I think we should spare them. Farewell.

"Within your dear mansion,
May wayward contention
Or withered envy ne'er enter—
May secrecy round
Be the mystical bound,
And brotherly love the centre!
"Edinbr., 23d Aug., 1787." "ROBERT BURNS.

THE GOLD AND SILVER WYRE DRAWERS' COMPANY.

The annual dinner of the above Company was given on Wednesday last at the Albion Hotel, Aldersgate-street. There were present Bros. Major Joseph, C.C., Master; George Kenning, I.P.M.; J. Knapton Abel, Horace F. Stewart, Wm. Hays, and Alderman and Sheriff Evans, Wardens; Under-Sheriff Wynne E. Baxter, Clerk; D. H. Jacobs, P.M.; F. Pendered, P.M.; G. Davenport, P.M.; Right Hon. the Lord Mayor; Alderman Sir R. N. Fowler, Alderman Lieut.-Col. Cowan, Sheriff Clarke, Dr. Davies, T. W. Weeding, E. W. Streeter, E. F. B. Fuller, H. W. H. Rance, S. Hoffnung, Clarence Smith, J. Bishop, J. R. Brown, S. Higgs, and others, numbering about 150.

Bro. the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor proposed the toast "The Worshipful Company of Gold and Silver Wyre Drawers' and the Master and Wardens thereof."

Bro. Major Joseph replied in an able speech. A selection of vocal music was performed. Bro. James Kift presided at the pianoforte.

GALLERY LODGE CONCERT.

A concert in aid of the Benevolent Fund of the Gallery Lodge, No. 1923, of which Bro. C. F. Pardon is W.M., was given at the Brixton Hall, Brixton, on Saturday, the 20th inst. Despite the inclemency of the weather, there was a good attendance of the brethren and their friends, and the result was not only an artistic, but a pecuniary success. The artistes successively appearing on the platform, which was tastefully decorated with flowering plants, were Madame Thayer, Miss Lizzie Mulholland, Miss Béné Powell, Miss Alma Evelyn, Miss Alice Farren, Mr. Percy Palmer, Bro. Frederick Cundy, Mr. Herbert Jewell, Mr. Henry Horscroft, Bro. Wilhelm Ganz (piano), Bro. W. L. Barrett (flute), M. Theodore Werner (violin), Herr Otto Langey (violin), Mr. Sidney Hill (organ), and Mr. Lee Davies (piano). The first named lady certainly achieved the greatest success of the evening, her rich and powerful soprano being heard to great advantage in an aria from "Il Flauto Magico" and in Eckert's Swiss Echo Song. Miss Lizzie Mulholland gave Brasar's "Serenata" to Bro. W. L. Barrett's flute obligato with her wonted skill and grace. Miss Alice Farren sang Gounod's "Ave Marie," and F. Cowen's "Never again," the latter being the more successful efforts. Miss Béné Powell, a debutante with a pleasant soprano voice, gave a careful rendering of the "Jewel song" from Faust, and Hope Temple's "Fond heart, farewell," and Miss Alma Evelyn rendered Pissuti's "Gates ajar" in most effective style. Mr. Percy Palmer's opening effort, "I'll sing thee songs of Araby," was requited by a unanimous encore, in response to which he gave Dibdin's "Tom Bowling," and in like position he had to supple-

ment Balfe's "Come into the garden, Maud," with "The Distant Shore." He also sang "Stars of the Summers night," which was equally well received. Bro. Frederick Cundy's light tenor voice was well suited to Paul de Faye's "O'er the hills of Normandie;" Birch's "I am waiting;" and Balfe's "Good night, beloved," which he gave with much sweetness and feeling. Mr. Herbert Jewell has also a pleasant tenor voice and had reason to be gratified by the reception accorded to his singing of "Tell her I love her so," and "Alice, where art thou." Mr. Henry Horscroft's powerful tones and skilled execution were well displayed in Loder's "Diver," "The Yeoman's wedding song" (Poniatowski) and Watson's "Two bells." Amongst the instrumentalists it is hardly necessary to say that Bro. Ganz, a Past Grand Organist, took the lead by his performance of Beethoven's "Moonlight" Sonata, and of a pianoforte solo of his own, embodying the "Nightingale's Trill" and "Qui Vive." M. Theodore Werner played Sarasate's violin solo, "Spanish Dances," with feeling and brilliancy. Herr Otto Langey executed a reverie of his own on the violoncello, and Bro. W. L. Barrett a "pot pourrie" of Scotch airs, also arranged by himself, on the flute in bright and clever fashion. Kalliwoda's "Trio in D," for violin, violoncello, and pianoforte, was adequately rendered by M. Werner, Herr Langey, and Mr. F. F. Buffen, and Mr. Sidney F. Hill gave several organ solos with good effect.

The absence of the W.M., and one of the concert hon. secretaries (Bro. Basil Cooke) from indisposition, were the only drawbacks to a very enjoyable evening, though the exertions of Bros. H. Massey, P.M.; W. O. Goldsmith, S.W.; J. C. Duckworth, J.W.; R. J. Albery, W. T. Perkins, F. H. Gale, and A. MacNeil, who officiated as the onerous, but gracious office of Wine Steward, in most admirable style, went far towards supplying this loss.

Messrs. J. Brinsmead and Sons kindly lent one of their grand pianofortes for the occasion.

PRESENTATION TO EARL FERRERS. ON HIS MARRIAGE.

The last meeting of the Ferrers and Ivanhoe Lodge, held in the Masonic Hall, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, had especial interest connected with it, as on that occasion the brethren of the lodge gave their R.W. Bro. the Earl Ferrers, Provincial Grand Master of Leicestershire and Rutland, a very handsome silver salver as a wedding present. After the routine business of the lodge was performed, including the initiation of Mr. J. D. Orchard, the W.M. requested Bro. the Rev. John Denton, as senior P.M. of the lodge, to make the presentation from the brethren to the Earl Ferrers.

Bro. DENTON, in obedience to the W.M., rose and expressed the pleasure he and his brethren felt at having Lord Ferrers with them. The speaker assured him (their Provincial Grand Master) how sensible they were of the kindness and brotherly feelings he had ever shown to the Ashby Lodge, the lodge in which his lordship was initiated, in which he had borne office, and of which his lordship's father was the founder. Bro. Denton begged, in the name of the brethren, to convey to Lord and Lady Ferrers their "Hearty good wishes" on their marriage. The brethren desired to perpetuate this wish in a wedding present, which he had been commissioned to present.

The present—a silver salver of a handsome design—bore the arms of the Earl Ferrers, and the Masonic emblem of the Ferrers and Ivanhoe Lodge, together with the following inscription:—

"Ferrers and Ivanhoe Lodge, No. 779, Ashby-de-la-Zouch. Presented with all good wishes by members of his mother lodge to their R.W. Bro. Sewallis Edward, 10th Earl of Ferrers, P.M. 779, P.G.M. of Leicestershire and Rutland, on his marriage with the Lady Ina Maud White. October, 1885."

Bro. the Earl FERRERS, in responding, thanked the brethren for their kindness and the way in which it had been manifested. He assured them that this silver salver thus presented would be highly prized by Lady Ferrers and himself, not only for its beauty and intrinsic value, but also as showing the fraternal feelings of regard which existed between the members of his mother lodge and himself. His lordship concluded his address, which was frequently applauded, by again thanking the brethren for their kind present, and wishing them every prosperity.

Among the brethren present were the following: Bro. E. Bullen (in the chair), R.W. Bro. and Rt. Hon. the Earl Ferrers, P.G.M.; Bros. W. A. Musson, I.P.M., Prov. G.S.D.; Rev. John Denton, P.M., P.P.G.S.W.; E. F. Mammatt, P.M., P.P.G.S.W.; W. S. Allen, P.M., P.P.G.J.W.; John Hassall, P.M., P.P.G.A.P.; Geo. Bullen, P.M. 432; E. Simpkin, S.W.; F. G. Boden, J.W.; Francis Charrington; the Hon. Pauly Abney Hastings; C. R. Williams, M.D., J.D.; Thomas Jenson, I.G.; Pringle, and others.

After the ceremony of presentation, and remaining business of the lodge, the brethren met at the Queen's Head Hotel for refreshment, supplied by Bro. Boden, and ably presided over by the W.M., Bro. E. Bullen.

THE FREEMASONS AND THE POOR OF MARGATE.

On Tuesday afternoon, the Union Lodge, No. 127, Margate, entertained about two hundred of the aged and deserving poor of the town to dinner and tea in the Foresters' Hall. The idea of giving the treat originated about two months ago at one of the meetings of the lodge, and it was heartily endorsed by the Freemasons of the town, who in token of their approval of such a step being taken, subscribed liberally towards defraying the expenses which it would involve. As a preliminary step, a certain number of tickets were sent to the vicars and ministers of the various denominations in the town, upon whom devolved the duty of selecting from among their parishioners and congregations the most deserving cases. A list of names were sent in from the various sources, and they were afterwards scrutinised by the Managing Committee. This was a task of no ordinary kind, and it is almost needless to add that if twice the number of tickets had been available, they could have been easily disposed of.

The dinner consisted of roast beef, roast legs of mutton, roast veal, hams, Christmas pudding and mince pies, and there appeared to be an abundance of everything. Both for dinner and tea, the caterer was Mr. J. Hume, High-street, who gave great satisfaction. The guests appeared

to be in the best of spirits, and evidently appreciated the liberality and kindness manifested towards them.

We may remark that the Committee of Management consisted of the following: Bros. H. Wootton, W.M. Chairman; J. G. Henning, P.M., Treasurer; W. Jones Lane, S.W., Hon. Sec.; and all Past Masters and Officers of the lodge. The carvers were the Mayor, Councillor H. F. Hermitage; Bro. J. Crawford, J.P.; Mr. G. Akhurst, Bro. Rev. W. T. Jones, Chaplain of the lodge; J. G. Chancellor, P.M., P.G.S.; A. Wootton, P.M.; W. Crawford, P.M.; J. Healing, T. Goodyear, Spencer, Beach House Hotel, Westgate; J. Thurston, J. Fagg, Phipps, and Col. Bamber. A number of ladies and gentlemen attended to the wants of the guests.

During the repast selections of music were performed on the pianoforte by Mrs. W. Jones Lane. After dinner a programme of songs, &c., was gone through, ending with the National Anthem. In addition to the guests, a goodly number of the ministers and public of the town were present. Bro. Rev. W. Taylor Jones (Chaplain of the Union Lodge) presided, and amongst others present, in addition to those already named, were the Rev. J. James, Rev. J. Drew, Rev. W. T. Hindley, Rev. G. Bruce Rhind, Rev. D. Lloyd, and others.

During the proceedings,

The Rev. G. B. RHIND was called upon to speak. He said he supposed he was asked to occupy that position as representing the Vicar of Margate, who was absent from their gathering that day. He was sure that the vicar would have been very pleased indeed to have been present amongst them, and to have expressed the gratitude he felt to the Freemasons for the generous act of that day, and his cordial sympathy with the poor people present. He thought they would be glad to hear that the vicar was recovering, and that he hoped to be back amongst them again by Easter Day thoroughly reformed to health. (Applause.) He had sent a letter to him (Mr. Rhind) expressing the hope that all of them would have a very good day, and said it was a very kindly act on the part of the Freemasons to give them that treat. He (Mr. Rhind) also owed a debt of gratitude to that Worshipful body. They applied to him to send them a list of the names of the deserving poor of the parish of St. John's; but he was limited to a certain number. He and the churchwardens had, however, ventured to increase that number very much, and he was very grateful to the Freemasons, for not a single person was rejected. (Applause.) A gathering of that kind showed that there is a good feeling existing amongst the people in the town—that they were bound together in the bonds of Charity and good will towards one another. (Applause.) He knew a large number of the persons whom he saw before him, and knew that very many of them had been much straitened in their circumstances during the present winter, distress having been so prevalent. The Freemasons, however, had proved that they were not insensible to the distress which had been felt by the people residing in certain parts of the town; they had held out the hand of fellowship to them, feeling that, though some of them had been placed in higher and some in lower circumstances of life, yet that they were all brothers and sisters together, and that they should be animated with feelings of love one towards another.

The Rev. J. JAMES, who was also called upon to say a few words, remarked that a stranger in the town had said to him, "What a wonderful good people these are." (Laughter.) He thought all of them would feel that it was exceedingly thoughtful on the part of the Freemasons to provide that feast, which had been so well anticipated and so great in its profusion and variety, and, he thought he might add, so heartily enjoyed by all who were present—that was by most of those he saw before him, for many present had only seen the fun. (Renewed laughter.) The "Masons" they knew regarded themselves builders; some of them were even Master Masons, and belonged to the Grand Lodge. Now, there were many ways of building. They talked sometimes of "building up the constitution," and he thought that the "Masons" had that day been building up the constitution of their guests in a very real and true sense indeed. (Laughter and applause.) And he thought they would be none the worse for that kind of building up. (Renewed laughter.) He only trusted that some other good society in Margate would follow the example set, and that a feast of the present kind would not be the last they would enjoy during the present year. He remembered that about six years ago there was a dinner of that kind held in the Hall-by-the-Sea, and he thought that it was provided by public subscription. There was a very large number of persons present on that occasion, and then, as now, all who met together were very well pleased with it. Just now, when his mind reverted to that occasion, he could not help thinking "How many who were with us then have passed away!" He could remember many from his own church and congregation who enjoyed the festivities of six or seven years ago. That afternoon they had had a very touching and beautiful song—all about the sweetness of home, and he dared say that many of them felt, although it was very enjoyable to come there as they had done that day, yet that there is no place like home. No, he had been asked to say a few words to them about religion, and he accepted the responsibility and the duty with very great pleasure, because he knew that the subject of religion would not be distasteful to the Freemasons, and he was certain it would not be inappropriate, for he knew that a great many of those who were present were always pleased to hear about good things—the best thing. There was a home to which God was calling them, and he had been thinking that afternoon about the place which was provided for them and for all. With what readiness they had come to that entertainment, and yet it might be that some of them were very dilatory in accepting the invitation to the great feast which God in His love had provided for them. He believed that the true enjoyment of life consisted in associating religion with everything; therefore he was glad they were prepared that afternoon to hear a few words from him about the claims of God and the blessedness of religion. He would take the opportunity of personally thanking the Freemasons for the kindness they had shown to some of his congregation, and he was sure that all of them would heartily thank the donors of the feast given that day.

The MAYOR of Margate said he had to thank the promoters of that feast for giving him, as Mayor of the Borough, an opportunity of being present there that afternoon. He appreciated the kindness which had prompted the invitation, which he had accepted as readily as any which had ever sent to him since he came to occupy the position of Mayor. He felt that it afforded him a grand opportunity of meeting with many old inhabitants who,

perhaps, did not know him personally—(applause)—and let him tell the poorest there that the Mayor of the Borough had regard to the humblest as well as to the highest citizens in the town. (Applause.) He was the servant of them all. (Renewed applause.) On the 9th November last he put off self and put on duty, which he had tried honestly and faithfully to perform during the time he had been in the position he now held. He was indeed gratified to be present there that afternoon; it was a pleasure to him. Let them go away with one feeling and desire, and that was, to assist one another just a little—ever so little—and it would redound to their pleasure and come back to them a hundred-fold. They had the promise of that in the Old Book. He could assure the Freemasons that gatherings of that kind were likely to do incalculable good, inasmuch as they served the purpose of bringing together various classes of people. (Applause.) The present gathering had shown that the poor had the sympathy and respect of others in the town, and he believed that all of them had felt pleased to be waited upon as they had been at the dinner table. (Applause.) He trusted that the example set by the Freemasons would be followed by others, and he would lend all the assistance in his power to further a movement of that kind.

Bro. JOHN CRAWFORD, J.P., said he had been asked on behalf of the Freemasons to say how glad they were to see the guests present; it had been their wish that nothing should be wanting. He assured his hearers that there were no secrets in the lodge; all they had was a spirit of charity and brotherly love to all; and as a proof of this, they did not forget their poorer brethren, but endeavoured to help them in every possible way. (Applause.) He hoped they had enjoyed themselves, and that the Union Lodge would, in course of time, invite them there again. In conclusion, he called for three cheers for the Worshipful Master of the lodge.

The cheers were heartily given.

The W.M., Bro. H. WOOTTON, suitably acknowledged the honour done him; but he thought that the other brethren of the lodge had equal claims to be honoured for helping to provide that dinner. He confirmed the testimony of Mr. Crawford that the objects of Masonry, pure and simple, were to afford relief in times of distress.

The MAYOR proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman, who, he remarked, had left his professional duties in order to be present with them that afternoon.

The Rev. J. DREW seconded, and the resolution was cordially adopted.

The CHAIRMAN, in response, said it had been a pleasure as well as a privilege to preside over them that afternoon, and he was greatly obliged to them for the way in which they had received the vote of thanks. He concluded by proposing a vote of thanks to the vocalists and instrumentalists who had so kindly contributed towards the pleasure of all of them that afternoon.

This was cordially agreed to, and subsequently tea and other refreshments were served to the company. At a later stage of the proceedings, the guests having retired, the ladies and gentlemen who had attended to their wants partook of a high tea. The chair was occupied by the W.M., and the vice-chair by Bro. W. Jones Lane, S.W.

The toasts of "The Working Committee," "The Ladies," "The Visitors," and "The Caterer" were proposed and responded to by Bros. W. JONES LANE, NEWELL, HARRIS, and HUME respectively.

The proceedings then closed.

SYDENHAM HOUSE DRAMATIC CLUB.

The seventh annual performance of the Sydenham House Dramatic Club took place at the St. George's Hall, Langham-place, on Thursday, the 11th inst.

The pieces this year chosen for representation were Tom Taylor's comedy, "Still Waters Run Deep," and Buckstone's farce, "John Jones."

At the time announced for the raising of the curtain, the hall was filled by friends and relatives of the various performers, and punctually to the minute the curtain rose for "John Jones."

Of this it will suffice if we say that as a farce it cannot be considered excellent, the fun not being either fast or furious. Of the characters they were well spoken by the various gentlemen, notably Mr. C. J. Rowe, who was undoubtedly the most at home in his part. The more important play of "Still Waters" went exceedingly well, the effect being sustained from first to last. Mr. A. H. Hayward, as the hero of the piece, John Mildmay, was in splendid form, and fairly took the house by storm in some of the situations. His action from end to end showed a careful study and adaptability not often met with in amateurs. Mr. T. Dermott, as Capt. Hawkesley was very good, as was also Mr. J. Wood's representation of Mr. Potter. Miss Lillian Hingston and Miss Pattie Bell rendered great assistance to the amateurs as Mrs. Mildmay and Mrs. Sternhold respectively.

At the conclusion the principal actors were recalled and cheered to the echo, and we trust this performance by the Sydenham House Dramatic Club may materially help the charitable object for which it was given, viz., the City of London Hospital, Victoria-park.

Obituary.

BRO. W. EVANS.

The funeral of Bro. W. C. Evans took place on Monday, the 15th inst., at the Cemetery, Gloucester, and was attended by several of the relations and friends of deceased, and also by members, wearing sprigs of acacia, of the Zetland Lodge, into which deceased had recently been admitted. The burial service was read by the Rev. R. E. Birks, and after the coffin had been lowered into the grave, a hymn was sung by the choir of the Unitarian Church, which deceased attended. Bro. Henry Jeffs, W.M. of the Zetland Lodge, then delivered an address. The following members represented the Unitarian Church: Dr. Bond, Mr. Wareing, Mr. Ashbee, Mr. Washbourn, Mr. Knight, and Mr. Joyner. Two wreaths were sent by the Church and Sunday-School respectively. In Barton-street, and along the route taken by the cortege, blinds were drawn and shutters put up, and at the grave a concourse of people had assembled. The following is the address of Bro. Jeffs: "Brethren,—As it is your wish and the expressed wish of the sorrowing widow and other relatives of the family of our deceased Bro. W. C. Evans, that I should

say a few words at his funeral, I do so. Death has come upon us on this occasion like a thief in the night. At this open grave we are reminded of a beautiful ceremony we know of figurative of death. Here we are in the actual presence of death in all its stern, relentless, and solemn reality. May the monition come to us—"Therefore be ye also ready, for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of Man cometh." Our deceased brother was not an old member of the Craft, nor had he filled any office in the Order, but he had been with us long enough to earn the respect, esteem, and confidence of his brethren. He was diligent in business and fervent in spirit. You, brethren, testify that he was genial, kind, and of a truly sympathetic nature. His friends who have known him intimately bear testimony that he was faithful in his friendships and a good citizen. The domestic circle dwell with affectionate remembrance on his kindness of heart. He was earnest and thorough in all he said and did; transparent and understood; an advocate of what he believed to be true and just. If any thoughts unworthy of his memory have for a moment had possession of our minds they are discarded with sorrow for having entertained them. Man seeth not as God seeth, and if our judgments are mistaken in matters material, with what humility should we attempt to penetrate the mysteries of death and a judgment to come. Let us hope that our lamented Bro. Evans, in his need and distress and helplessness, and in his hurried passage through the dark valley of the shadow of death, paradoxical as it may sound to the unbelieving, that the Lord of Life was with him in the supreme moment of extremity. This poor tenement of clay! May there be for our brother the bright Morning Star which shall usher in Eternal Day. May we all ascend from the tomb of transgression and shine as the stars for ever and ever. I am sure, brethren, that you lift your hearts to God that Our Father in Heaven, of whom it is said 'He releiveth the fatherless and widow,' may heal the bleeding hearts of the stricken ones. The sprigs of acacia we deposit on the coffin are symbolical of the immortality of the soul and the resurrection unto eternal life. Peace be to the ashes of Brother Evans! May we, with him, reach the haven of rest, where the World's Great Architect lives and reigns for evermore! So mote it be."—*Gloucester Standard*.



Bro. William Holland has taken the Albert Palace, Battersea, which he is going to make a rival to the Kensington Exhibition. If any one can make it pay, "the peoples' caterer" will be able to do so.

The new play by Mr. Pinero, to be brought out to-morrow (Saturday) at the Court, is said to have good parts for Mr. John Wood and Bros. Cecil and Clayton. We hope the run will be as long as "The Magistrate," which was unprecedented.

Bro. Toole is about to close his theatre for a week or so in order to make some alterations on the stage. On re-opening the little house, our old friend will play some of his old pieces, "Paul Pry," "Uncle Dick's Darling," "Dot," and, of course, "Faust and Loose," which is now having a merry run. His many admirers will thus have an opportunity of seeing this distinguished comedian in some of his favourite characters.

The new drama produced at Margate with Miss Lingard and Mr. Lennard Boyne in the principal parts is such a success that we hope it will be shortly brought to London. In the meanwhile it is going round the provinces. "Sister Mary" is of the pathetic style of piece, and very original. The authors are Mr. Wilson Barrett and Mr. Clement Scott.

Pending the production of their new play, "Denise," the Haymarket lessees have revived "She Stoops to Conquer." An important Masonic engagement prevented our being present on Saturday week, but we hear that it is not efficiently played. An old English comedy like that requires each character to be supported by a well-qualified person chosen for the part. An imperfect rendering of this play is very depressing. We hope Messrs. Russell and Bashford will yet meet with success, and find a play to keep up the traditions of the Haymarket.

We are glad to learn that Mr. Terriss has arranged to bring over the Daly Company from America again. They will open at the Strand on the 27th May, and play "A Night Off," "The Country Girl," "Love on Crutches," "She Would and she Wouldn't," and "Nancy and Co." amongst some of their pieces. We hope they will be well supported, as this time they come in a more seasonable time of the year than on their last visit two years ago. We saw them in all their characters in 1884, and were delighted with the company, especially Mr. and Mrs. Lewis and Miss Rehan. The Daly troupe ought to cause a sensation.

A new burlesque by Mr. Harry Paulton and Tedde was put on at the Comedy after "Erminie" on Monday. It is of the usual order of such pieces, dealing with various topics of the day—Servia and Roumania, and the muzzling of dogs; but the principle portion is a skit upon the Socialists, the West-end riots of last month, the inefficiency of the police. We thought the late head of that department which looks after the peace of her Majesty's subjects was dealt with too hardly and too personally. The dancing is clever, and received several encores, as did one or two songs. The characters are for the most part those engaged in "Erminie," which is still playing to good houses. This comic opera has several travelling companies out in different parts of the country.

The last nights of the "Private Secretary" are near at hand. We went to the Globe a few evenings ago and laughed as heartily at this successful piece as if we had never seen it before, though it was our fourth time. The

"Private Secretary" has had a run of about 700 nights. Mr. Hawtreys did well when he purchased the rights, for on its production at the Prince's it was a comparative failure. It is said the new piece is to be called "The Pickpocket." Probably the Globe will be well filled now the end is near, for people who have seen the "Private Secretary" once, and laughed at Messrs. Penley's and Hill's drollery, will wish to do so once more for the last time. Bro. Lestocq has written a very pretty comedieta, "The Sins of the Fathers," as a first piece. The dialogue is natural and generally bright. Bro. Lestocq is most amusing as an Irish footman. Miss Ellen Terry, who was present on our last visit, seemed to enjoy the funny incidents as much as anyone in the house.

A little after Easter we may expect Mr. Sydney Grundy's new classical tragedy, "Clito," at the Princesses. The period is believed to be about the time of Pericles. We hope it may be a big success for Mr. Wilson Barrett and Mr. Grundy. The latter gentleman has not, we think, been always well treated at the hands of the critics—partly his own fault, as he is too caustic and bitter in his writings. In these days none of us can be quite independent, and it is well not to tread upon other persons' toes if it can be avoided. We thought "The Glass of Fashion" and "The Silver Shield" of Mr. Grundy's capital plays, though decidedly severe, but we cannot say untruthful. However, when he deals with centuries back, he will not have the same opportunity to "go for" what he considers abuses. "The Lord Harry" is being well received, as we anticipated would be the case, but owing to arrangements its run cannot be a long one.

The management have lately brought out a very tasteful programme at the Gaiety, where "Jack Sheppard" still urges on his wild career. The hundredth performance is past, and judging by the crowded houses there is not likely to be a change until the French plays begin in June. The joint reign of Messrs. Hollingshead and G. Edwards appears to have thoroughly resuscitated the fortunes of this favourite theatre. Miss Farren has never been seen to better advantage than in her part of the young highwayman. Mr.—or, as he soon will be, through the Drury Lane Lodge, Bro.—Fred. Leslie, Bro. David James, Miss Marion Hood, and Miss Wadman help very much to the success of the splendid entertainment provided for the Gaiety patrons, who heartily respond to all that is done for them.

We do not think sufficient credit has been given to Mr. John Hollingshead respecting the abolition of the closing of theatres on Ash Wednesday, which V.W. Bro. the Earl of Lathom, Deputy Grand Master, when Lord Chamberlain last year inaugurated. This was the first year theatres have been open on Ash Wednesday. One is apt to forget when one obtains a thing to whom it is we owe what we get. It was Mr. Hollingshead who for so many years led the opposition to the compulsory closing of theatres on that day. Mr. Hollingshead is also the pioneer of free programmes, in which he is imitated by many though not all lessees.

The Theatre holds the position it took up when Mr. Clement Scott became its editor. This month's number is no exception to the rule. We have very interesting criticisms on the various new plays. "The Lord Harry," "Enemies," "Engaged," and papers by well-known writers, on subjects pertaining and interesting to the drama. The photographs (in costume) of Mr. Felix Morris and Miss Mary Rorke, as well as Miss Eweretta Laurence in last month's do much credit to Mr. Barraud, of Oxford-street, who is well-known as a painstaking photographer. Mr. Barraud never allows anything to go out of his studio which is not of the best. He has published some enlarged photographs of Bro. and Mrs. Bancroft, Miss Kate Rorke (on porcelain) Bro. Henry Irving, and Bro. and Mrs. Kendal, and some charming portraits of the little Princesses, daughters of the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh. We believe Mr. Barraud is engaged on a picture of our chief actors and actresses, together with dramatic authors, "first nighters," and theatrical managers. Whenever it comes out it will be very interesting.

New songs, new dances, and new dialogue have been introduced into the comic opera of "Kenilworth," which has been running merrily at the Avenue since before Christmas. The change is made, Bro. D'Alberson, the courteous acting manager informs us, for the benefit of those who come time after time to see the piece and like a little variety. Crowded audiences are still the orders of the day at the Avenue, for the simple reason that a good and interesting comic opera has been written, taking songs and accompaniments composed, pretty dresses, and "mise-en-scene," a strong and numerous company engaged, and no expense spared to make it take with the public, who, in return, reciprocate with a good will what has been provided for them.

The new play at the Vaudeville is another instance of what bad judges managers are when they are also actors. Mr. C. M. Rae submitted a play which he calls original, and that is a question to Bro. Thomas Thorne, who, no doubt, said to himself "There is a part for me," not thinking of anyone else, accepts and produces it, the result being a dismal failure. It has been our misfortune to "assist" at many first nights of indifferent plays, but we do not know if we ever begrudged wasting an evening more than on Thursday week, when we went to see "Doo, Brown, and Co." We do not agree with some who think that the audience was in a mood to condemn Mr. Rae's play—they could not do otherwise. From the first it was obvious that there is not a particle of merit in the piece. A stupid catchword, "What an artist, what a photographer," which Mr. Fred Thorne had to repeat, became so tedious that the people soon turned it into ridicule. When, at the fall of the curtain, the author foolishly presented himself to the audience, he was greeted with groans and hisses, and shouts of "What an artist!" We gave patient attention to the whole of the three acts, and yet were quite unable at the end to know what the piece was about any more than at the commencement. It seemed a hideous jumble of unstrung sentences. Bro. Thorne and Miss Larkin made some comic capital

out of their parts, but the rest of the powerful cast, consisting of Mr. Charles Groves, Mr. Charles Glenney, Mr. Fred Thorne, Miss Helen Forsyth, and Miss Maude Millett utterly failed to do or act anything. There is nothing to act. They have our sincere sympathy. Everyone who goes to theatres knows that these ladies and gentlemen can play well when they have something to play. We hope the author will be more successful when he next writes or adapts a farcical comedy, and that Bro. Thomas Thorne will consider his company and his audience a little more. We have passed so many pleasant evenings at the Vaudeville that we regret having to write with such condemnation, and only hope the change which will be made will for the better—it could not be for the worse. Mr. Robert Buchanan has written a comedy which is to be produced soon. The Vaudeville is now closed. Miss Kate Rorke, it is said, is to have the leading lady's part. This will be the first time since she joined Bro. Thorne's company that this charming young actress will have had a fair chance of displaying her undoubted talents. We have not any hesitation in anticipating that Miss Rorke will charm her audience by her acting as well as presence if scope be allowed her.

The Empire has at last reopened its doors with this time some hope of achieving a success, unless the salary list and expenses of this enormous theatre do not prove to be higher than the takings. "Round the World in Eighty Days" depicts M. Jules Verne's typical mad Englishman on his travels. Given that a person lays a heavy wager to go round the world in 80 days, and see everything, a great many sensational events—for the purpose of the stage—can be easily introduced. But still it is more a spectacle than a drama at the Empire, and that best suits the size of the house. We have the sacrifice of a widow of a Brahmin in India, adventures with the Red Indians in Canada, snake charming, Borneo, the Rocky mountains, the Atlantic ocean, and all manners of dangers, escapes, and adventures. M. Marius, Mr. Cartwright, and Mr. Collette are the chief actors, while Miss Kate Vaughan, who, by the bye, does not dance, we suppose medical orders prevent; Miss Kate Chard, and Mdlle. Miska are the chief ladies, and do well so much as is requisite. But it is the beautiful ballets and spectacular display which form the great attraction. Mdlle. Pertoldi is the principal danseuse, and heads a most efficient corps of the ballet, who perform their task to the thorough satisfaction of the audience. M. Marius, who is now the manager, shows that he is thoroughly in earnest, and knows what he is about, and we hope the public will tender him their support.

"On 'Change" has not suffered on change from one theatre to another. Produced in September at Toole's, it had to migrate to the Strand, where it gained in popularity. Miss Minnie Palmer having engaged that theatre, Mr. Duck took the play to the Opera Comique, where it has done even better still. There are not many pieces which could stand shifting about. We went to see it in its new home the other day, and noticed Miss Ellen Terry looking at it and roaring with laughter, which set at rest the unfounded rumours that she is suffering from cancer in the tongue. It is as much—possibly more—owing to the strong cast, consisting of Messrs. Felix Morris, Wm. Farren, G. Moore, and Yorke Stephens as anything else that "On 'Change" has settled down into such a success. It is now preceded by a "lever de rideau," Mr. Williams' old farce, "Turn Him Out," in which Mr. Felix Morris repeats the character of Nicodemus Nobs, the itinerant toyseller, with the same success that he has had in America, where he has frequently acted it. The fun is rather of the boisterous order, it being the duty of Nobs to "chuck out" of Mrs. Moke's house an admirer who is too persistent. He, unfortunately, turns out the wrong man, and ejects the lawful husband, Mr. Moke. Mr. Morris, as the costermonger, gives a capital bit of acting, evidently studied from life. Those who go to see "On 'Change" should go in time to see also "Turn Him Out."

THE LEWIS FIRE EXTINGUISHER.

We were present with a large number of invited guests to witness an exhibition of the "Lewis Hand Fire Extinguisher," on an enclosed ground in Blomfield-street, London-wall. The extinguisher consists of a handsomely ornamented tin tube, not unsightly in shape in the best of furnished rooms, and can be suspended by a hook against any convenient place; it is eighteen inches long by two inches in diameter, with a sprinkler of one and half inches below the opening end, through which the extinguishing fluid may be showered at a distance of from sixteen to 20 feet. The tube, which holds about a quart of the fluid, is a secret, not deteriorated by age, is perfectly harmless either to human beings, animals, clothes, wood, &c. The gases which it is highly charged with will liberate themselves at a temperature of 120 degrees. The exhibition, under the management of Mr. Rowan commenced with setting fire to a large wooden frame about ten feet high by about six feet wide, which, after being saturated with petroleum and smeared with tar, was set alight, and when the flames had completely taken hold of the frame, the extinguisher was applied, and in less than 10 seconds the fire was completely got under. The second test was a tall wooden flue, representing a chimney stack, filled with light wood and dry shavings, and upon being set fire to and allowed to burn some two or three minutes, a small application of the fluid was placed at the bottom of the burning chimney, which immediately quenched the flames from the gases contained in the fluid. The third trial, the severest, consisted of a structure representing a room, tarred throughout, the inside filled with shavings and dry wood, then saturated with petroleum; this was then fired, when two of the tubes unopened were thrown in amongst the then powerful flames; the heat bursting the tubes immediately extinguished the flames. The visitors were very pleased at the exhibition, and expressed themselves in the highest manner as to the thorough efficiency of the invention. We are informed by the executive that the extinguisher is in use at Osborne, Whitley's, P. & O. Co., Royal Mail, &c., as well as many noblemen's mansions, and hotels.

The annual meeting of the Devon Masonic Educational Fund will be held in Exeter on Tuesday, the 6th prox.

MASONIC AND GENERAL TIDINGS

We are asked to state that, by an error, the case of Alice Flora Cook, No. 20 on the list of candidates for the forthcoming April Election of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls is incorrectly stated as having both parents living—it should read "father" only.

A banquet will be given by the Beaconsfield Club on Wednesday, the 14th April prox., in honour of Lord Randolph Churchill, M.P.

Bro. Lord Randolph Churchill, M.P., has arranged to open a new Conservative Club at Chester, on the 19th prox.

A new realistic drama, entitled "The Silver Wedding," by Bro. Jas. Willing, jun., was produced with great success at the National Standard Theatre on Monday evening.

On Thursday, the 18th inst., Miss Florence M. Legg, elder daughter of Bro. H. G. Legg, of Christ's Hospital, was married to Mr. J. E. Hetley, solicitor, of Gray's Inn.

UNITED NORTHERN COUNTIES LODGE, 2128. —We are very much pleased to learn that this young lodge has voted from its funds three guineas to the Mansion House Fund for the relief of the Unemployed Artisans. May others follow so good an example.

We are glad to hear that Bro. the Rev. Dr. Brette, who recently met with a severe accident, is progressing favourably, and was able to leave the room for the first time on Tuesday. It will be some time, however, before he will be able to resume his official duties.

Bro. Lord Leigh, Prov. G. Master of Warwickshire has reduced the rents on the Stoneleigh Estate by twelve and a half per cent. for the next three years from Lady Day.

Bro. Sir Thomas Brassey, K.C.B., M.P., presided at a conference held at Leicester on Friday, the 19th inst., at the National Labour Association for promoting co-operative productions.

The installation ceremony will be rehearsed at the Prince Leopold Lodge of Instruction, No. 1445, held at the Printing Works, No. 202, Whitechapel-road, E., on Monday evening, the 29th inst.

Bro. H. Roberts, S.W. and W.M. elect, was installed W.M. of the Borough of Greenwich Mark Lodge, No. 332, on Tuesday last, at the William the Fourth, Greenwich, Bro. Ralph Gooding, P.M., and G.J.O., was the Installing Officer. A full report will appear in our next issue.

A memorial portrait of the late R.W. Bro. Sir Watkin Williams-Wynn, Bart., M.P., was presented by Lady Williams-Wynn on Thursday last, the 18th inst., to the Ruabon Working Men's Association and Literary Institute, of which the deceased was President for 21 years.

Bro. Sir Albert Woods (Garter) G.D.C., visited Windsor on Monday, when he placed the banners of the newly-created Knights of the Garter, Prince Henry of Battenberg, the Earl of Kimberley, the Marquis of Northampton, and the Earl of Sefton, in the choir of St. George's Chapel.

To-morrow (Saturday) a testimonial subscribed for by the noblemen and gentlemen who hunt with the Queen's, will be presented to Bro. the Earl of Cork, formerly Master of the Royal Buckhounds. The ceremonial will take place in the subscription room at Tattersall's, at 3.30 p.m., and will be presided over by Bro. Lord Charles Beresford, M.P.

Bro. the Duke of Abercorn presided at the 62nd annual meeting, held at Willis's Rooms on Saturday last, of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution. The report showed that 371 lives and 20 vessels had been saved by the lifeboats during the year, while 184 other lives had been saved by shoreboats and other means, making a total of 555, the whole of the services thus rendered having been rewarded by the Institution.

The inauguration of Bro. Richard Clout, as Master of the Pattenmakers' Company, was made the occasion of a pleasant festivity at the Guildhall Tavern, on Thursday, the 18th inst. Bro. Clout occupied the chair, and there was a numerous and agreeable company present, including Bros. A. F. Godson, Windybank, Altman, and others.

The death of Bro. George Stirton, of Coupar Angus, Perthshire, occurred on Saturday last, the deceased having been hale and hearty, and able to move about till within a week of his demise. Bro. Stirton was initiated in the year 1808, the entry of his admission being recorded in the books of the lodge for that year. Thus our late brother had been a member of the Craft for 78 years, and was within an ace of being the oldest Freemason in Europe, if not in the world.

Bro. John Clark, the highly-respected Tyler of the Marquess of Granby Lodge, No. 124, died on the 18th inst., at his residence in Old Elvet, Durham. The deceased was 68 years of age, and will be well remembered by every brother Mason in the northern province. Kind-hearted to a degree, faithful in the discharge of his duties, he was respected by all with whom he came in contact. His remains were interred in St. Oswald's Cemetery, Durham, on Sunday afternoon last.

The following dinners took place at the Freemasons' Tavern during the week ending Saturday, the 27th inst.:—Monday—Old King's Arms Lodge; De Grey and Ripon Lodge; Royal Somerset House Lodge; Robert Burns Chapter; Highland Society. Tuesday—Tuscan Lodge; Industry Lodge; Royal Savoy Lodge. Wednesday—London Galloway Association; Lodge of Antiquity; Jordan Lodge. Thursday—Mount Moriah Lodge; Grenadiers Lodge; St. George's Chapter; Vane Chapter. Friday—Jerusalem Lodge; Peace and Harmony Lodge; Societe Nationale Français Ball. Saturday—St. Olive's Cinderella Dance; 2nd Middlesex A.V. Dance.

It seems that, through no fault of ours, the list of Bro. W. E. Blasby, who was Steward for the Royal Alfred Lodge, No. 780, at the recent Festival of the Benevolent Institution was erroneously stated in our columns as amounting to £55 7s., whereas it should have been returned as £65 17s.

Bro. Windybank, Chairman of the Improvement Committee, presided at the March dinner, held at the Guildhall Tavern on the 18th inst., of the Coleman-street Ward Club.

Bro. Lord Plunket, Archbishop of Dublin, and Grand Chaplain of Ireland, presided at a special meeting, held in Dublin, on Tuesday, of the General Synod of the Church of Ireland.

The Mansion House Fund for the Relief of Distress among the Unemployed amounted on Monday to about £75,000, of which all but some £800 had been distributed.

Bro. Christopher Sykes, who is still lame from the accident he met with some months ago, attended in his place in the House of Commons for the first time, this week, and took the oaths and seat.

Bro. Alderman Whitehead, who was only defeated at the General Election by the narrow majority of 10 votes will again contest North Westmorland, whenever a fresh opportunity presents itself.

At the annual meeting last week of the Equity and Law Life Assurance Society, 18, Lincoln's Inn Fields, at which Bro. J. M. Clabon, P.G.D., presided, assets of the value of £2,062,597 were shown.

Bro. the Lord Mayor presided at a meeting held at the Mansion House, on Tuesday, of the Council of the Metropolitan Hospital Sunday Fund, the object being to consider a proposal by Dr. Wakley for increasing the amount now subscribed.

Bro. E. J. Watherston suggests, with reference to the Carriage Tax, the tax of 15s. per annum on Hackney carriages should remain; but that every carriage should be taxed at 25s. per annum, the carriage builders who let out vehicles for short periods taking out licenses pro rata.

Bros. C. J. and A. E. Painter have been successful in their application for a renewal of the licence provisionally granted them for the well-known hostelry the Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street, which for so many years has enjoyed a large amount of Masonic patronage.

We omitted to mention last week that at the Covent Garden Lodge of Instruction supper the singers were Miss Lane, Miss Mortimer, Bros. Tomlinson, S. Lane, F. P. Cross, C. Solomon, C. Ralph, and G. P. Bertini. Recitations by Bros. Fowles and Green.

By command of the R.W. Provincial Grand Master of Cumberland and Westmorland the half-yearly meeting of the above province will be held on Tuesday, the 6th of April, at the County Hall, Carlisle. Also the annual convocation of the Provincial Grand Chapter the same place and day.

Bro. the Lord Mayor presided on the 18th inst., at a meeting of the Court of Common Council, when it was announced that steps had been commenced for the reclamation of Wanstead Flats, with a view to giving as much employment as possible to the poor who are out of work and have no means of subsistence.

Among those who attended the funeral in Kensal Green Cemetery, on Tuesday, of Lieut.-Gen. C. Tyrwhitt, private Secretary of H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge, were Bros. General Lord Wolseley, Admiral Lord Alcester, the Earl of Cork, Lord A. Gordon-Lennox, and Francis Knollys, C.B.

Bro. Charles Dickens occupied the chair at the annual meeting, at the Memorial Hall, Farringdon-street, on Saturday last, of the Subscribers to the Printers' Pension Almshouse, and Orphan Asylum Corporation. The report, which was of a very satisfactory character, was adopted, and at the close of the proceedings, a vote of thanks was passed to the Chairman for presiding.

A new lodge is to be consecrated at Egremont, Cheshire, on the 6th prox. It is to be called the Egerton Lodge, No. 2132, and Lord Egerton will perform the ceremony. The W.M. designate is Bro. Charles Dean, P.M., 1289, one of the most popular Masons in the Province. Bros. H. B. Brown, P.M. 1318, and Charles Leighton, P.M. 1318, are the S. and J. Wardens respectively.

Bro. J. W. Boughton (lessee and manager of the new Theatre Royal, Portsmouth), who has for some time ably fulfilled the duties of Secretary to the Portsmouth Lodge, No. 437, was on Thursday, the 18th inst., at the installation of the W.M. elect, Bro. J. T. Thackary, presented by the brethren with a Past Secretary's jewel, in recognition of his great zeal and ability, and in commemoration of his elevation to the S.W.

It is satisfactory to know that the appeal made on behalf of the widow and children of late Bro. C. W. Thompson, Vacant City Lands Officer, has been so successful. Over £2000 has been raised, the whole cost of collection having been within the trifling sum of £4. Great credit is due to those in charge of the management, while, as regards the total of the subscriptions, it speaks well for the esteem and respect in which the deceased was held that even in these depressed times so considerable an amount should have been raised.

Tobaccoists Commencing.—An Illustrated Guide of 110 pages "How to open respectably from £20 to £2000;" three stamps. H. Myers & Co., 109, Euston-rd., London. Telephone No. 7541.

—[ADVT.]
MORTGAGES.—Messrs. JAMES are in a position to Supply Money to ANY EXTENT on the following Securities:—Landed Estates, Houses, Shops, and Offices, Warehouses and Wharves, Life Interests, &c., Reversions, Borough Rates, &c., at the lowest current rates of interest. Prompt Settlement. 11, Staple Inn, London, W.C.—[ADVT.]

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Coughs, Influenza.—The soothing properties of these medicaments render them well worthy of trial in all diseases of the respiratory organs. In common colds and influenza the Pills, taken internally and the Ointment rubbed over the chest and throat, are exceedingly efficacious. When influenza is epidemic, this treatment is the easiest, safest, and surest. Holloway's Pills purify the blood, remove all obstacles to its free circulation through the lungs, relieve the over-gorged air tubes, and render respiration free, without reducing the strength, irritating the nerves, or depressing the spirits; such are the ready means of saving suffering when any one is afflicted with colds, coughs, bronchitis, and other chest complaints, by which so many persons are seriously and permanently afflicted in most countries.—[ADVT.]

The consecration of the Constance Lodge, at Consett, has been fixed by the R.W.P.G.M. of Durham, Bro. Sir Hedworth Williamson, for Wednesday, April 7th.

The Duke of Connaught has undertaken to preside at the festival dinner of the British Home for Incurables, to be held at Willis's Rooms, St. James's, on the 14th proximo.

Bros. Augustus Harris and H. Pettitt left London on Saturday evening last for Italy, where they will sketch the new melodrama it is intended to bring out at Drury Lane in the course of next autumn.

We are glad to hear that the Metropolitan Board of Works have granted their certificate to the proprietor of the buildings in which is located "The Japanese Native Village Exhibition." It seems that the reports which appeared some few weeks back in the daily press, to the effect that the said proprietor had been summoned before the Magistrate at the Westminster Police Court, at the instance of the said Board, and fined, has had a detrimental effect on the proprietors of the Japanese Exhibition, who had nothing whatever to do with the case or the circumstances which led to it. It is only right, therefore, that this should be made known to the public, and we are pleased to be able to lend a hand in securing the requisite publicity.

The second annual ball in aid of the Lodge of Israel Benevolent Fund, will be held at the Cannon-street Hotel, on Tuesday, 30th inst., dancing to commence at 9 o'clock. Bro. the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, Bro. Alderman and Sheriff Evans, and Bro. Sheriff Clark and their ladies, have kindly promised to attend, and a very enjoyable evening is anticipated, as well as a handsome addition to the funds. A Dispensation has been granted by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., to allow Craft and Royal Arch clothing to be worn on the occasion. Tickets may be obtained from Bro. Joseph Da Silva, 169, Albion-road, Stoke Newington.

A handsomely illuminated address was presented on the 13th inst to Bro. Clement E. Stretton, P.P.G.S.W. Leicestershire and Rutland, P.G. Mark Sec., Leicestershire, &c., by deputations from the Coalville, Wigston, and other branches of the Amalgamated Railway Servants, in token of their sympathy with him at the death of Mrs. Stretton, to whose many virtues and kindly feeling for others, especially such as might be in sorrow or distress, a handsome tribute of respect. Moreover, Mrs. Stretton had, like her husband, taken a deep personal interest in the Society, and on that account the members were the more anxious to show their respect for her memory. Bro. Stretton very feelingly acknowledged the address.

J. AND W. TOLLEY'S "STANDARD" HAMMER-LESS GUN.

We have lately had an opportunity of inspecting Messrs. J. and W. Tolley's (of Pioneer Works, Birmingham, and 1, Conduit-street, Regent-street) "Standard" hammer-less gun, which is fitted with a most ingenious safety bolt, in the shape of a hook, which passes over each tumbler on the gun being raised to full cock. These hooks are only withdrawn on the trigger being pulled, rendering the gun perfectly secure until the trigger is pulled. This gives the shooter an assurance of perfect safety and security we have never before experienced. We ought to mention that no exertion whatever is required to cock the gun, as is the case in some other systems, the weight of the barrels themselves being sufficient to raise the tumblers to full cock. Want of space prevents us giving a fuller description of this gun; but it is only justice to say that our trial of this beautiful weapon more than exceeded our expectations.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the week ending Saturday, April 3, 1886.

SATURDAY, MARCH 27.

Lodge 1297, West Kent, Crystal Palace, Sydenham.
" 1679, Henry Muggerside, M.H., Mason's-avenue.
" 1706, Orpheus, F.M.H.
" 1777, Royal Hanover, Town Hall, Twickenham.
" 1910, Shadwell Clarke, 8a, Red Lion-square.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Alexandra Palace, Station Ho., Camberwell New-rd., at 7.30.
Chiswick, Windsor Castle Hot., King-st., Hammersmith, 7.30.
Eccleston, Crown and Anchor, 79, Ebury-street, Pimlico, at 7.
King Harold, Four Swans, Waltham Cross, at 7.
Manchester, 17, London-st., Fitzroy-sq., at 8.
Percy, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-rd., N., at 8.
Star, Five Bells, New Cross-rd., S.E., at 7.
Hornsey Chapter, Porchester Hotel, Leinster-place, Cleve-land-sq., W., at 8.

MONDAY, MARCH 29.

Lodge 79, Pythagorean, Ship Tav., Greenwich.
" 1745, Farrington Without, Holborn Viaduct Hot.
Chap. 188, Joppa, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 1201, Eclectic, Freemasons' Hall.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Brownrigg, Alexandra Hotel, Kingston Hill, at 8.
Coborn, Eagle Hotel, Snaresbrook, at 8.
Eleanor, Seven Sisters Hot., Page Green, Tottenham, at 8.
Euphrates, Mother Red Cap, High-st., Camden Town, 8.
Hyde Park, Porchester Hot., Leinster-place, Cleveland-square, Porchester-terrace, Paddington, W., at 8.
John Hervey, Albion Hall, London Wall, at 8.
Kingsland, Cock Tav., Highbury, N., at 8.30.
Loughborough, Cambria Tav., Cambria-rd., S.E.
Marquess of Ripon, Queen's Hot., Victoria-park-rd., E.
Metropolitan, Moorgate Tav., 15, Finsbury Pavement, 7.30.
Perfect Ashlar, Jamaica Tav., Southwark Park-rd., at 8.
Prince Leopold, Printing Works, 202, Whitechapel-road, 7.
Rose of Denmark, Gauden Ho., Clapham-rd.-station, 7.30.
Royal Commemoration, Railway Hot., Putney, 8 till 10.
Selwyn, East Dulwich Hot., East Dulwich, at 8.
Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st., at 7.
St. Ambrose, Baron's Court Hot., W. Kensington, at 8.
St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st., at 8.
St. Mark's, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-rd.
Strong Man, Excise Tav., Old Broad-st., at 7.
United Military, Earl of Chatham, Thomas-st., Woolwich
Upper Norwood, White Hart Hot., Church-rd., Upper Norwood, at 8.
Wellington, White Swan Hot., High-st., Deptford, 8 to 10
Doric Chapter, Duke's Head, 79, Whitechapel-rd., at 6.

TUESDAY, MARCH 30.

Lodge 141, Faith, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Brixton, Prince Regent, Dulwich-rd., East Brixton, at 8.
Capper, Railway Tav., Angel-lane, Stratford, at 8.
Constitutional, Bedford Hot., Southampton Bds., at 7.
Chaucer, The Old White Hart, High-st., Borough, at 8.
Corinthian, George Hot., Cubitt Town, Poplar, at 7.
Dalhousie, The Sisters' Tav., Pownall-rd., Dalston, E., at 8.
Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-rd., at 8.
Duke of Albany, Rock Tav., Battersea-park-rd., at 8.
Duke of Connaught, Palmerston Arms, Grosvenor Park, S.
Emblematic, Red Lion, York-st., Jermyn-st., W., at 8.
Enfield, Rose and Crown, Church-st., Edmonton, at 8.
Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Plough-rd., Rotherhithe, S.
Faith, Victoria Mansions Restaurant, Victoria-st., at 8.
Finsbury, King's Head Tavern, 42, Threadneedle-st., at 7.
Florence Nightingale, M.H., William-st., Woolwich, 7.30.
Friars, Liverpool Arms, Canning Town, at 7.30.
Islington, Champion Hot., Aldersgate-st., E.C., at 7.
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe-rd.
Joppa, Champion Hot., Aldersgate-st., at 7.
Kennington, Horns Tav., Kennington, 7.30.
Kennington, Courtfield Hot., Earl's Court Station, at 8.
Lily, Greyhound, Richmond, at 8.
Mount Edgecombe, Three Stags, Kennington-rd., at 8.
New Cross, Chester Arms, Albany-st., N.W., at 8.
New Finsbury Park, Hornsey Wood T., Finsbury Park, at 8.
Prince Fredk. Wm., Eagle Tav., Clifton-rd., Maida-hill, S.
Pilgrim (German language), Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st., E.C., 1st and 3rd Tues.
Royal Naval College, Greenwich Hospital Schools, at 8.
South Middlesex, Beaufort House, Walham Green, 7.30.
St. George's, Public Hall, New Cross, at 8.
Wandsworth, East Hill Hot., Alma-rd., S.W., at 8.
Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney, at 8.
Camden Chapter, The Moorgate, Moorgate-street, at 8.
Earl of Carnarvon Chapter, Ladbroke Hall, Ladbroke Grove-road, Notting-hill, at 8.
Metropolitan Chapter, White Hart, Cannon-street, 6.30.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31.

Lodge 898, Temperance-in-the-East, 6, Newby-pl., Poplar.
" 1768, Progress, Freemasons' Hall.
Chap. 435, Mount Lebanon, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 1471, Islington, Cock Tav., Highbury.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Burgoyne, Goose and Gridiron, St. Paul's Churchyard, at 7.
Confidence, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-st., 7 till 9.
Duke of Connaught, Ryl. Edwd. Hot., Mare-st., Hackney, 8.
Earl of Lathom, Station Hot., Camberwell New-rd., at 8.
Fidelity, Alfred Hot., Roman-rd., Barnsbury, at 8.
Finsbury Park, Cock Tav., Highbury, at 8.30.
Langthorne, Swan Hot., Stratford, at 8.
La Tolerance, Portland Arms, Gt. Portland-st., W., at 8.
Londesborough, Berkeley Arms, John-st., Mayfair, at 8.
Merchant Navy, Silver Tav., Burdett-rd., Limehouse, 7.30.
Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle, Southwark-bridge-road, 8.
New Concord, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-rd., N., at 8.
Panmure, Balham Hot., Balham, 7.
Peckham, Lord Wellington Hot., 516, Old Kent-rd., at 8.
Pythagorean, Portland Hot., Greenwich, at 8.
Queen's Westminster, 79, Ebury-st., S.W., at 7.45.
Ravensbourne, George Inn, Catford, at 8.
Royal Jubilee, Haunch of Venison, 1, Bell-yd., Fleet-st., at 8.
Temperance in the East, Geo. the Fourth, Ida-st., E., at 7.30.
United Mariners, Lugard Hot., Lugard-rd., Peckham.
United Strength, Hope Tav., Stanhope-st., Regent's-pk., at 8.
Vitruvian, Bridge House Hot., London Bridge, at 8.
Wanderers, Victoria Mansions Restaurant, Victoria-st. S.W.
West Smithfield, Red Lion, Red Lion-court, Fleet-st., at 7.
Whittington, Red Lion, Poppin's-court, Fleet-st., at 8.

THURSDAY, APRIL 1.

Lodge 10, Westminster and Keystone, Freemasons' Hall.
" 27, Egyptian, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 45, Strong Man, M.H. Tav., Basinghall-st.
" 227, Ionic, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 554, Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
" 742, Crystal Palace, Crystal Palace, Sydenham.
" 822, Victoria Rifles, Freemasons' Hall.
" 913, Pattison, Assembly Rooms, High School for Boys, Brook-hill, Plumstead.
" 1155, Excelsior, Sydney Arms, Lewisham-road.
" 1178, Perfect Ashlar, Bridge House Hot., London B.
" 1672, Mornington, Imperial Hot., Holborn Viaduct.
" 1772, Pimlico, Morpeth Arms Tav., Millbank, S.W.
" 1790, Old England, M.H., New Thornton Heath, near Croydon.

Chap. 2, St. James's, Freemasons' Hall.
" 9, Mount Moriah, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 181, Universal, Freemasons' Hall.
" 1381, Kennington, Horns Tav., Kennington.
" 1716, All Saints, Vestry Hall, Fairfield-road, Bow.
Mark 197, Studholme, 33, Golden-sq.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Burdett Coutts, Swan Tav., New Bethnal Green-road, at 8.
Camden, Lincoln's Inn Restaurant, 305, High Holborn, at 7.
City of London, Tiptree Tavern, 6, Leadenhall-st., at 6.

Covent Garden, The Criterion, Piccadilly, 8.
Creaton, Wheatsheaf Hotel, Goldhawk-rd., Shepherd's Bush, W., at 8.
Crusaders, Old Jerusalem Tav., St. John's-gate, Clerkenwell, at 9.
Duke of Edinburgh, Cape of Good Hope Tav. (opposite Limehouse Church), at 7.
Ebury, 12, Ponsonby-st., Millbank, at 8.
Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st., 7.30.
Guelph, Blackbirds Inn, High-st., Leyton.
Great Northern, Berwick Arms, Berners-st., Oxford-st.
Highgate, Boston Hot., Junction-rd., N., at 8.
High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-rd., Tottenham, at 8.
Justice, Brown Bear, High-st., Deptford, 8 to 10.
Leopold, Old White Hart, Borough High-st., at 7.30.
Royal Savoy, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., Tottenham-ct.-road, at 8.
Royal Arthur, Prince of Wales Hot. (opposite Wimbledon Railway Station), at 7.30.
Royal Albert, White Hart Hot., Abchurch-lane, at 7.30.
Rose, Sterling Castle, Church-st., Camberwell, at 8.
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st., at 8.
Sir Hugh Myddelton, White Horse Tav., Liverpool-rd., at 8.
Southwark, Sir Garnet Wolseley, Rotherhithe New-rd., at 8.
Southern Star, Sir Sydney Smith, Chester-st. Kennington.
Stockwell, Cock Tav., Kennington-rd., at 7.30.
The Great City, M.H., Masons'-avenue, 6.30.
Tredegar, Wellington Arms, Wellington-rd., Bow-rd., 7.30.
Union Waterloo, Earl of Chatham, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
Victoria Park, Yorkshire Grey, High-st., Stratford, at 8.
West Middlesex, Bell Hot., Ealing, at 7.30.
North London Chapter, Alwyne Castle Tav., St. Paul's-rd., Canonbury, at 8.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, Eagle Tav., Clifton-rd. Maida-vale, 7.30.

FRIDAY, APRIL 2.

Lodge 706, Florence Nightingale, M.H., William-street, Woolwich.
" 890, Hornsey, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
" 1159, Marquis of Dalhousie, 33, Golden-square.
" 1489, Marquis of Ripon, Metropolitan Societies Asylum, Ball's Pond-road, N.
" 1627, Royal Kensington, F.M.H.
" 1815, Penge, Thicket Hotel, Anerley.
Chap. 259, Prince of Wales, Willis's Rooms, St. James's. Mark 8, Thistle, F.M. Tavern.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Albion, Crown Hot., Essex-st., Strand.
All Saints, Town Hall, Poplar, at 7.30.
Beacontree, Bell Tavern, Leytonstone, at 8.
Chigwell, Loughton Public Hall, at 7.30.
Clapton, Lord Stanley, Sandringham-rd., Hackney, 8.
Doric, Duke's Head, 79, Whitechapel-rd., at 8.
Earl of Carnarvon, Ladbroke Hall, Notting-hill, at 8.
Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich, at 7.30.
Loyalty, 206, Mare-st., Hackney, at 7.
Metropolitan (Victoria), Portugal Hot., Fleet-st., at 7.
Ranelagh, Six Bells, Queen-st., Hammersmith, W., at 8.
Robert Burns, Portland Arms Hot., 40, Gt. Portland-st., W.C.
Royal Standard, The Alwyne Castle, St. Paul's-rd., N.
Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge, at 8.
Stability, Masons' Hall Tav., at 6.
St. George's, Globe Tav., Greenwich, at 8.
St. James's, Gregorian Arms, Jamaica-rd., S.E., at 8.
St. John's, Mother Red Cap, Camden Town, N.W., at 8.
St. Luke's, White Hart, King's-rd., Chelsea, 7.30.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Temperance, Duke of York Tav., Evelyn-st., Deptford, 8.
Ubique, 79, Ebury-st., Pimlico, S.W., at 7.30.
Unions Emulation (for M.Ms.), F.M.H., at 7.
United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-rd., 7.30.
Westbourne, Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood, at 8.
Wm. Preston, St. Andrew's Tav., George-st., Baker-st., W.
Kintore Mark, Stirling Castle, Church-st., Camberwell, 9.
Lily Chapter, Greyhound Hot., at 8.
Panmure Chapter, Stirling Castle, Church-st., Camberwell, at 7.30.
Pythagorean Chapter, Portland Hot., London-st., Greenwich.
Royal Savoy Mark, The Moorgate, 15, Finsbury-pavement, 7.

SATURDAY, APRIL 3.

Gen. Com. Boys' School at 4.
Lodge 1494, Felix, Mitre Hotel, Hampton Court.
" 1929, Mozart, Greyhound Hot., Richmond.
" 1949, Brixton, Brixton Hall, Acre-lane, Brixton.

REQUIRED ONLY TO BE KNOWN TO BE ALWAYS USED.

"The Soups of the Cook's Company."
Oakley Street, Waterloo Road.

A Quart Sample of OXTAIL, MULLIGATAWNY, MOCK
TURTLE, JULIENNE, or VEGETABLE SOUP,
Delivered Free in Town or Suburbs, for 1/6.

WILLING'S SELECTED THEATRICAL PROGRAMME.

DRURY LANE THEATRE.

Every Evening at 7.20, Pantomime, ALADDIN. Matinee every Wednesday, and Saturday at 1.30.

ADELPHI THEATRE.

Every Evening, at 8, THE HARBOUR LIGHTS; at 7.15, Farce. STRAND THEATRE.
Every Evening, at 7.30, MY SWEETHEART. Matinee every Saturday at 2.30.

VAUDEVILLE THEATRE.

Closed.

GLOBE THEATRE.

Every Evening at 8.0, THE SINS OF THE FATHERS; at 9.0, THE PRIVATE SECRETARY. Matinee every Saturday at 3.

SAVOY THEATRE.

Every Evening at 8.30, THE MIKADO; or, THE TOWN OF TITIPU; at 7.40, THE CARP. Matinee every Saturday at 2.30.

OPERA COMIQUE THEATRE.

Every Evening, at 8.45, ON 'CHANGE; at 8.0, Comedietta. Matinee every Saturday at 2.30.

GAIETY THEATRE.

Every Evening at 7.30, BORROWED PLUMES; at 8, JACK SHEPPARD. Matinee every Saturday at 2.15.

TOOLE'S THEATRE.

Every Evening at 7.30, Comedietta; at 8, GOING IT; concluding with FAUST AND LOOSE.

COURT THEATRE.

Every Evening at 8.45, THE SCHOOLMISTRESS. COMEDY THEATRE.

Every Evening at 7.30, ERMINIE; at 10, MASSE-EN-YELL-OH. ROYALTY THEATRE.
Every Evening at 8.15, French Plays. Matinee next Saturday at 3.

NOVELTY THEATRE.

Every Evening at 8, OLIVER GRUMBLE. EMPIRE THEATRE.

Every Evening at 8, ROUND THE WORLD. GRAND THEATRE.

SURREY THEATRE.

Every Evening, at 7.30, HAUNTED LIVES. STANDARD THEATRE.

Every Evening, at 7.30, OUR SILVER WEDDING. SANGERS' AMPHITHEATRE.

Every Evening, at 7.45, MILLIONS OF MONEY. ROYAL AQUARIUM.

Open, 12.0; close, 11.30. Constant Round of Amusement. ALBERT PALACE.

Open from 12 noon to 10 p.m. Amusements all day. JAPANESE VILLAGE.

Open from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Admission one shilling; Children, sixpence; Wednesdays half-a-crown, after six one shilling. Performances free daily at 12, 3, 5, and 8, in the New Japanese Shebaya.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES. Every Evening at 8, Variety Entertainment. Two Grand Ballets, &c.

MADAME TUSSAUD AND SON'S EXHIBITION. Open 10 till 10. Portrait Models of Past and Present Celebrities.

WHY AM I SO MISERABLE, So weak and languid? Why such heartburns and pains in the stomach, such acidity, and such an unpleasant taste in the mouth? Why at times such a gnawing appetite, and then again such disrelish for food? Why is the mind so frequently irritable, desponding, melancholy, and dejected? Why does one often feel under the apprehension of some imaginary danger, and start at any unexpected noise, becoming agitated as though some great calamity was impending? What is the meaning of these dull, sick headaches; these violent palpitations of the heart, this feverish restlessness, these night sweats; this disturbed and dreamy sleep, which brings no refreshing rest, but only moanings and mutterings, and the horrors of the nightmare?

The answer is: These are but the symptoms of Indigestion or Dyspepsia—the beginning and the forerunner of almost every other human disease. Indigestion is a weakness or want of power of the digestive fluids of the stomach to convert the food into healthy matter for the proper nourishment of the body. It is caused most frequently by the irregularity of diet, or improper food, want of healthy exercise and pure outdoor air. It may be induced by mental distress—the shock of some great calamity. It may be, and often is, aggravated and intensified, if not originally brought on, by exhaustion from intense mental application or physical overwork, domestic troubles, anxiety in business, or financial embarrassments. If the stomach could always be kept in order, death would no longer be a subject of fearful anxiety to the young and middle-aged, but would be contemplated by all as the visit of an expected friend at the close of a peaceful and happy old age. However, the first hostile invader upon the domain of health and happiness is Indigestion.

Is there any relief, any remedy, any cure? That is the question of the suffering and unhappy dyspeptic. What is wanted is a medicine that will thoroughly renovate the stomach, bowels, liver, and kidneys, and afford speedy and effectual assistance to the digestive organs, and restore to the nervous and muscular systems their original energy.

Such a medicine is happily at hand. Never in the history of medical discoveries, evidenced by a dozen years' thorough test, has there been found a remedy for Indigestion so speedy, so sure, and so surprising in its results as Seigel's Curative Syrup; but to-day it is a standard remedy for that almost universal affliction in every civilised country in Europe, Asia, Africa, and America. Public testimonials and private letters from military officers, bankers, merchants, ship captains, mechanics, farmers, and their wives and daughters, alike confirm its curative powers.

"Newton Heath Supply Stores, 574, Oldham-road, December 21, 1883.

"GENTLEMEN,—It is astonishing what a sale I have for your 'Seigel's Syrup.' It keeps increasing. It has worked wonders in this neighbourhood; there is scarcely a day but some one is praising it. Several of my customers say had it not been for Seigel's Syrup they would have been in their graves. In fact, I have a case in my own family; my wife had suffered for years with dyspepsia, and tried a good many remedies without effect; but after taking two bottles of Curative Syrup she was completely cured.—Yours respectfully,

"JAMES A. HALL."

POTATOES AND OTHER VEGETABLES,
OF THE CHOICEST QUALITY,
AT CASH PRICES,
DELIVERED DAILY IN ALL PARTS OF THE WEST END.

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SCHWEITZER'S COCOATINA.

ANTI-DYSPEPTIC COCOA OR CHOCOLATE POWDER.

Guaranteed Pure Soluble Cocoa, with the Excess of Fat Extracted.

THE FACULTY pronounce it "the most nutritious perfectly digestible beverage for BREAKFAST, LUNCHEON, or SUPPER, and invaluable for Invalids and Children."

Made instantaneously with boiling water or milk, a teaspoonful to a breakfast cup costing less than a halfpenny. Being without Sugar, Spice, or any other admixture, it suits all palates. Keeps for years in all climates, and is four times the strength of Cocoa thickened, yet weakened, with arrowroot, starch, &c., and in reality cheaper than such mixtures.

COCOATINA A LA VANILLE is the most delicate, digestible, cheapest Vanilla Chocolate, and may be taken when richer Chocolate is prohibited.

COCOATINA possesses remarkable sustaining properties, and is specially adapted for early Breakfasts. Sold in air tight tins at 1s, 6d., 3s., 5s., 6d., 10s., 6d., and 20s., by Chemists and Grocers.