

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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WHEN these lines appear before our readers we shall be on the verge of Christmas, the preparations for which, if not the festivities themselves, will be in the full swing of progress. It is our duty, therefore, and a duty which we always take great pleasure in fulfilling, to tender to our friends, who are always so kind and considerate—especially if there are any shortcomings of ours to condone—the usual hearty greetings of this season of general goodwill. There are many old faces missing of brethren to whom last year we offered these same compliments; but new ones have taken their place, and, though we have not forgotten, nor, indeed, are likely to forget, the former, the presence of the latter is some compensation. Moreover, we have passed through a somewhat trying year with a considerable amount of success. If we take into account the difficult circumstances of the time, we may be said to have prospered beyond the most sanguine expectations. We have been agreeably surprised at finding that our Fraternity has progressed so smoothly, and that the support accorded to our Institutions has been so nearly equal to that of the year 1885. We were afraid that, the times being somewhat out of joint, the fortunes of our Society might have been somewhat troubled. We are thankful, however, that it has been otherwise, and we look forward, therefore, with the greater confidence to the year on which we are about entering. It is a year of great promise, and will be distinguished from the ordinary run of years by one of those joyous events which occur so seldom in the annals of a country. We are anticipating its approach hopefully, and we are persuaded that no section of the community will perform its part more successfully than the Freemasons. In the meantime we wish all our readers a fervent God-speed in all their undertakings. May they enjoy this festive season, and may they live many years to exchange with their friends the hearty good wishes which are appropriate to Christmas and the New Year!

We call attention to the Summary of 1886, which, in accordance with our later custom, we have made a point of publishing in our concluding issue of the year. We have reason to believe that the summaries which have already appeared have been found useful for purposes of reference, and we trust the present summary, which has been compiled with equal care, will be found as accurate as its predecessors and as useful.

CONSECRATION OF THE STERNDALE BENNETT LODGE, No. 2182.

The only new lodge in England warranted by the Most Worshipful Grand Master between the Quarterly Communications of September and December, 1886, the Sterndale Bennett Lodge, No. 2182, was consecrated on the 16th inst., at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New-road. The reasons for establishing the lodge were well set forth by the Consecrating and Installing Master, Bro. F. A. Philbrick, O.C., Grand Reg., in his opening address, and by the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, M.A., Past G. Chap., but it may be added that while the lodge is intended principally for the convenience of those who make music a profession, it takes into the ranks of its members those who follow other callings, but who practise and have a love for the "Heavenly maid." The great popularity of the idea of having a musical lodge was testified by the large assemblage of brethren who came together to witness the consecration of the lodge. The ceremony was performed in the large hall, which afforded ample space for the effective working and for the general convenience of the brethren. The orchestra below the stage was filled with a choice collection of palms and ferns, which were tastefully arranged, and the fine proportions of the lodge furniture were well displayed.

Bro. Philbrick, having taken the chair, appointed Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, G. Sec., to take the chair of Senior Warden; Bro. John Hayball Paul, M.D., P.D.G.D. of C., to take the chair of Junior Warden; Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, M.A., P.G. Chap., as Chaplain; Bro. James H. Matthews, P.G. Std. Br., as Director of Ceremonies, and Bro. Edgar Bowyer, P.G. Std. Br., as Inner Guard. The musical portions of the ceremonies were under the direction of Bro. John Hodges, P.M., one of the gentlemen of her Majesty's Chapel Royal.

After the lodge had been formally opened, Bro. PHILBRICK, addressing the brethren, said they were met together on the present occasion, as they were all aware, for the purpose of consecrating this new lodge. These occasions were always of great interest to Freemasonry and Freemasons, but there were some reasons which rendered

this a peculiarly interesting occasion, one in which the interest was attested by the numerous gathering of brethren assembled. It was not now, if it ever was, an easy matter to obtain a warrant for a new lodge to meet within the London District, and any body of brethren which solicited from the M.W.G.M. a charter for a lodge to meet in London, could do so successfully only on condition of showing that the existence of the proposed lodge was one which would likely to be attended with advantage to the Craft, and the lodge itself would have to show some valid and satisfactory reason for its being established upon the already numerous roll of lodges under the ægis of the Grand Lodge of England. On the present occasion the promoters of the lodge, which had received its warrant, and whose Masonic existence was to be given effect to, owed its establishment to the feeling of a number of brethren more particularly who were given to harmonious pursuits, that there was room for a lodge to meet where they were now meeting, and which would possess within itself a very considerable musical element, that there always were a sufficient number of brethren of standing and position to warrant a confident expectation that the future progress of the lodge might be such as to reflect credit upon its founders, and bring an accession of strength to the Masonic cause. Under those circumstances H.R.H. had been pleased to grant the warrant which occasioned this meeting, and he would now proceed with the ceremony of consecration of this Sterndale Bennett Lodge according to ancient usage.

Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. WOODFORD, P.G.C., delivered an eloquent oration.

Then followed the usual formalities, and the lodge having been dedicated to the purposes of Freemasonry, Bro. Philbrick installed Bro. H. W. Little, Mus. Doc., as the W.M. of the lodge. Bro. Jas. Hill, W.M. 1658, was invested by the W.M. to act as I.P.M. of the lodge; and the officers invested were Bros. G. F. Smith, jun., P.M., S.W.; H. Guy, J.W.; R. Clowes, P.M., Treas.; W. Clifford, P.M., Sec.; G. Venables, S.D.; F. Cambridge, J.D.; W. S. Hoyte, I.G.; J. Hodges, P.M., D.C.; F. C. Atkinson, Org.; J. E. Costello and J. H. Cureton, Stewards; and Geo. White, Tyler.

A vote of thanks was passed to the Consecrating Officers, who were also elected honorary members of the lodge; and this vote having been acknowledged,

The TREASURER requested the acceptance by Bros. Philbrick and Col. Shadwell H. Clerke of a Masonic jewel each, as a memorial of the day's celebration. The gift was accepted with thanks.

The SECRETARY read out a list of gentlemen, with the names of their proposers and seconders, who desired initiation in the Sterndale Bennett Lodge. The number of candidates was 15, and the Secretary said there were still other gentlemen who wished to come in.

The lodge was adorned by a banner, and the donor was accorded a vote of thanks for the gift.

After the transaction of some other business, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to banquet. The usual toasts followed.

In proposing "The Queen and the Craft," the WORSHIPFUL MASTER said the lodge would always have a landmark, and it would be able to look back with pleasure on the fact that it was consecrated during the 50th year of her Majesty's reign.

In proposing the toast of "The M.W.G.M.," the WORSHIPFUL MASTER said the brethren were particularly grateful to the Prince of Wales for having favourably answered the prayer of their petition, and granted the charter for the lodge. He trusted he would have health and strength for many years to rule and direct the Craft.

Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. WOODFORD responded to the toast of "The Pro G.M., the D.G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers." Speaking from an experience of 40 years, he could say the more they studied Freemasonry the more they were bound to like, love, and reverence it. It was the only institution he was aware of in the world which offered a meeting for men of distinct political and religious opinions. It was a happy thing that they could forget their differences outside, and unite in making other people cheerful and contented, and show sympathy and friendship for one another. To Freemasonry they owed it that men of distant countries, and of most strongly pronounced religious views, were able to meet together in one lodge and work together in love and harmony, not only for Freemasonry, but for the benefit and solace of humanity. To his mind it was one of the most striking features of Freemasonry that, attacked as it had been, denounced and calumniated, it had never failed to erect its one great banner of toleration and love of the human race. From what he saw he could augur well for the prosperity of the Sterndale Bennett Lodge. If they would continue in the future to promote the holy art of music of which they had heard that evening, not only would they add to the harmony of the brethren, but to the furtherance of the science of Freemasonry, which was both artistic and complete in its scheme. If they supposed that Freemasonry was ever intended merely to subserve a ritual, or the happy social circle, they would reduce it at once to the level of any other beneficial institution; but Freemasonry took a higher flight, wishing to bind together all men in a bond of toleration and goodwill and love for each other. He hoped the lodge would be as happy as it had been that evening, and if in after years they had as good a meeting as this, he was sure the Grand Officers would rejoice as heartily as they did on this occasion.

Bro. PHILBRICK proposed "The W.M." Freemasons were a loyal body, and recognized a head; and though they made no political allusions, they were democratic in this sense, that the throne of the lodge was within

the ambition of the lowest brother who entered the lodge, and they were conservative to the good traditions of the Order to pay the most profound respect to the Sovereign for the time being. They united in themselves, if he might venture to draw an allusion from things external, all that was best of rival systems, and if people who contended a great deal, and occupied a large share in the world's quarrels, were to turn their eyes to Masonic customs, observances, loyalty, and opinions, they might, perhaps, go farther to draw better lessons. An excellent brother had taken upon himself the functions of the I.P.M. He was monarch in another lodge. But the monarch of to-day was the W.M., who claimed the allegiance of the willing hearts of subjects already well disposed towards him. He would endeavour to do his duty in the chair, and to promote that happiness of the individual members and that success of the lodge which it was the duty of every Master to attain during his year of office. Hearty good wishes, particularly at this time of the year, and in the Jubilee year of her Majesty's reign, were due, and were given to the W.M., and under his rule he hoped the Sterndale Bennett Lodge would go on and prosper. All the members in it were worthy men and true, and, with their assistance, the W.M.'s task would be comparatively light.

The W.M., in reply, said he was very grateful both for the flattering terms used by Bro. Philbrick and for their hearty reception by the brethren. Being a poor speaker he must merely ask the brethren to judge him not now by his words, but in the future by his actions. If at the end of his year of office he still merited their approbation and goodwill, he should feel even more honoured than he now did at being the first W.M. of this lodge.

The W.M. next proposed "The Consecrating and Installing Officer," and congratulated the brethren who had been present on having witnessed such well-performed ceremonies.

Bro. PHILBRICK, after making some humorous observations, said he should not have liberated his mind if he had not said that if Englishmen had to be proud of anything it was of the great masters of music and harmony who had printed their names for ever on the sands of time. It was a glorious galaxy of names which were associated with the English school, whether it was the name of Henry Purcell or of Blow. After the Restoration came names which Englishmen would not willingly let die. Among those were that of Westley and Gloucester, and, coming down to the present time, they had a worthy exponent in Goss, of St. Paul's, in

Bishop, in Sterndale Bennett, who well supported the worthy traditions of the English school. Speaking for himself, he appreciated the great treat which had been provided. He must refer to the observations he made in lodge as to the *raison d'être* of the lodge. In the petition for a lodge there must always be something to justify its existence—which would give a lead for its permanent success. When he had referred to the musical element he had said enough to show that the Grand Master had thought well and come to a right conclusion when he felt that the Sterndale Bennett Lodge had a claim to be warranted, as likely to be of permanent use and efficiency in the Craft. The Grand Officers had been very pleased to take part in the solemnities of the day, and to render any services they could. He concluded by wishing the lodge every success.

Col. SHADWELL CLERKE also responded. In his official position of Grand Secretary of the Order it had given him great and unmixed pleasure to take part in any shape or form in launching this very successful lodge. It was, as the Grand Registrar had said, a very difficult thing for a new lodge to be established in London, where there were now 350 lodges. There was, however, good ground for granting a warrant for the Sterndale Bennett Lodge.

"Prosperity to the Sterndale Bennett Lodge" was the next toast.

Bro. BRICKES having responded to the toast of "The Visitors,"

Bro. Major O. C. HOUGHTON, St. Paul, Minnesota, U.S.A., also replied. He said there were two reasons which prompted him to be very brief in his response to the toast; first, the lateness of the hour, and, secondly, he did not possess the gift of speech which belonged to the traditional Yankee. He congratulated the brethren of the Sterndale Bennett Lodge on being established, and thanked them for their kindness in allowing him to be at their royal board. It would be to him one of his brightest memories of the past, and when he took his journey across the Atlantic it would be one more of the ten thousand links which bound the United States to the dear old country of England.

Bro. JAMES TERRY likewise replied, and wished the lodge every success.

Bro. CLOWES, responding as Treasurer to the toast of "The Treasurer and Secretary,"

Bro. CLIFFORD replied as Secretary; and the other officers having been toasted, the Tyler's toast was given, and the brethren separated.

FREEMASONRY IN 1886.

English brethren have every reason to be satisfied with the progress of events during the year which is now rapidly approaching its conclusion. We have enlarged our borders by the erection of many new lodges. We have maintained friendly relations with nearly all the Grand Lodges which interchange representatives with the United Grand Lodge of England. We have upheld, and even in the case of one of them enlarged, the efficiency of our Charitable Institutions. More than one ceremonial of rare occurrence has taken place in the United Kingdom, and the private lodges and chapters have held their own both as regards numerical strength and general efficiency. As a counterpoise to these evidences of our continued prosperity there is, unfortunately, a formidable array of deaths to lament, especially among the higher dignitaries of the Order, but these losses are inevitable. No matter how successful we may be in maintaining or increasing our strength, every succeeding year will have its own sad tale to tell of worthy brethren removed from our midst whose places will know them no more. Yet it is a consolation to us to feel that, in the majority of cases, those who have departed hence have left behind them a bright example of good work, excellently well accomplished, which it will be well for us who remain to follow. Their fame survives, and we shall best honour their memories by walking in their footsteps and devoting ourselves with the same energy and determination as they did to upholding the honour, dignity, and efficiency of the Craft. However, these losses apart—which, as we have said, are inevitable—we find that Freemasonry has prospered not in one of its branches, but in all, not in one Section, but generally, and not in one country, or under one jurisdiction, but everywhere. We are stronger, and our opportunities for exercising a beneficial influence on society are greater than they were a year ago. And that this is not a mere phantasy on our part, not a mere creation of our own too imaginative brain, we venture to say the following summary of the year's history will testify most abundantly.

CRAFT MASONRY.

Of the 53 lodges for which warrants have been granted since the Quarterly Communication of December, 1885, and the issue of Grand Lodge Calendar for the current year, five have been added to the London roll, 20 to the Provincial, and 28 to sundry Districts abroad. Of the Provincial, Hants and Isle of Wight has had three new lodges, Cheshire and Kent two each, and the following one each, viz., Cornwall, Durham, Essex, Herts, Isle of Man, Lancashire (East), Lancashire (West), Middlesex, Shropshire, Staffordshire, Surrey, Warwickshire, and Yorkshire (North and East). The 28 Abroad are thus distributed, namely, New South Wales, 9, and Victoria 7; Queensland 2, and West Australia 1; Wellington (New Zealand), and Auckland (New Zealand), each 2; Bombay 2, Ceylon 1, East Griqualand and South Africa (Eastern Division) each 1. Thus more than a moiety of our new lodges have gone towards strengthening English Masonry in the Colonies, but especially in Australia; those of Victoria and New South Wales, in which attempts have been made to set up independent organisations, still continuing to show a marked predilection for remaining in allegiance to their Mother Grand Lodge. A fact like this, to which we have frequently called attention, ought to satisfy those Grand Lodges in the United States, which favour the multiplication of independent Grand Lodges, with or without reason, that the position in the two Colonies we have named is not favourable to any disturbance of their connection with England for the present, whatever changes of feeling in this respect the future may have in store for us. At home, too, there is a further addition to be noted. The Isle of Man, which has now six lodges, has had conferred upon it a provincial organisation, which must materially assist in giving dignity to the Craft and establishing a strong feeling of friendship among the brethren there. We have had evidence in the case of Bedfordshire of the benefits resulting from the establishment of a local governing body, and when the Isle of Man Lodges have had time to settle down under their new arrangements, we

feel sure they will appreciate the change, and exhibit a far greater interest than has been possible heretofore in the proceedings of one another. As regards the Metropolis, we have no doubt the new lodges will prove accessions of genuine strength. They are calculated to prove of service, and especially the Huguenot Lodge, No. 2140, in respect of the circumstances which led to their being organised; and as soon as they have managed to fall in with the routine of lodge work we shall find them adding lustre as well as strength to Metropolitan Freemasonry. The new provincial lodges also give excellent promise of future steadiness.

The proceedings in Grand Lodge have been of a very ordinary character, no question of a really momentous character having arisen. In the early part of the year, it was announced that the Grand Lodge of Illinois had expressed its sympathy with the Grand Lodge of Quebec in the proceedings threatened, and subsequently adopted by the latter against England, and as a result Bro. Brackstone Baker, who had represented Illinois at our Grand Lodge, threw up his patent as a matter of course. Quebec, too, has issued its edict of non-intercourse with English Craftsmen, though what it hopes to gain in dignity or self-respect by making itself the laughing-stock of Freemasonry throughout the civilised world is not very apparent. In March the election of Grand Treasurer resulted in Bro. D. P. Cama obtaining an immense majority of votes, and at the Communication held on the first Wednesday in the current month, two worthy brethren—Bros. A. F. Godson, M.P., and Richard Eve—were nominated for election in the ensuing year. A question of sentiment as to the right of Past Masters to wear their collars on all occasions appears to have considerably exercised the brethren during the year, and Grand Lodge has so far modified the regulations relating to the subject as to allow P.M.'s to wear their said collars in their own lodges, but not when visiting sister lodges—an attempt to enlarge the regulation so as to include the latter having been defeated by a majority of only one vote. Under these circumstances we may reasonably anticipate that some further attempt will be made to induce Grand Lodge to sanction the wearing of collars by P.M.'s on all Masonic occasions. There is yet another matter which has attracted some notice, and which, indeed, was to have been directly submitted to Grand Lodge during the current month. We allude, of course, to the proposals offered from time to time in different quarters, and particularly by Bro. Raynham W. Stewart, P.G.D., for celebrating in some especial manner the Jubilee of the Queen's reign. We, ourselves, have suggested that our Institutions should be benefited by the creation of certain Perpetual Presentations, while many of our Provincial Grand Lodges and Chapters have referred the question to a Select Committee to consider and report in due course. As the subject is still pending we shall say nothing further here than we have said already, namely, that whatever form the proposal may take, it should have about it something of an especially Masonic character.

Undoubtedly the great event of the year has been the appointment and installation, at Brighton, of H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, as Prov. G. Master of Sussex, in succession to the late Sir W. W. Burrell, Bart. A more popular appointment could not have been made, and the prominence given to the ceremony of installation by the presidency of the Prince of Wales himself shed additional splendour on the event. We are all aware how difficult it is, having regard to the multiplicity of his engagements, for the Prince to take an active part in our proceedings. But circumstances were favourable in this particular instance, and it was fortunately in his power to personally preside at and carry out the ceremony of installing his brother in office as his representative in the Province of Sussex. We need hardly say how gratified were our South Saxon brethren at receiving this special mark of the Grand Master's favour, and though the gathering in the Dome of the Royal Pavilion, Brighton, was necessarily on a somewhat limited scale, it was in all respects worthy of the occasion.

Other changes, besides that we have just recorded, have occurred during the year in the government of our provinces, but there is, happily, only one case in addition to Sussex in which such change has been rendered necessary by death. Bro. Lord Waveney died within a short time after Bro. Sir W. W. Burrell, but the vacancies that have occurred in Northumberland, Cheshire, and Northants and Hunts are due to the resignations of Bros. Earl Percy, Lord De Tabley, and the Duke of Manchester respectively. It is impossible for us not to experience a strong feeling of regret that these distinguished brethren should have found themselves compelled to lay aside the cares of office, and no doubt it will be some time before the lodges and brethren they have severally ruled will be able to reconcile themselves to the new order of things under their predecessors. We have, however, the consolation of knowing that their advice and experience will still be available. As regards their successors, so far as they are known at present, no more need be said than that good rulers have been succeeded by brethren who are likely to prove equally good. Northumberland has at its head Bro. Sir M. White Ridley, Bart., M.P., in place of Earl Percy. Lord De Tabley must rejoice that his mantle has fallen upon the shoulders of a brother so estimable in all respects, and so well-qualified by his past official experience, as his late D.P.G.M., Bro. Lord Egerton of Tatton. As to Bro. the Duke of Manchester, a successor to his grace has not yet been indicated; but if the Grand Master is only as fortunate in his selection of a new ruler for Northants and Hunts as he has been in the case of Northumberland, Cheshire, Sussex, and Suffolk, the brethren of that province will have every reason to be satisfied. As regards Lord Henniker, successor to the late Lord Waveney as Provincial Grand Master, he was installed in office by no less prominent a Mason than Bro. Earl Amherst, Provincial Grand Master of Kent, and, as Lord Henniker is a Suffolk man, and has already gained experience as the ruler of the Mark Province of East Anglia, which includes Suffolk within its limits, we shall certainly find the province continuing in the same honourable career as under its late respected chief. As for the new Province of the Isle of Man, to the constitution of which we have already alluded, the Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Major Goldie-Taubman, Speaker of the House of Keys, is a man of great local influence, as is sufficiently indicated by his rank in the Manx legislature. Nor do we for one moment suppose he will prove less efficient in the genial task of regulating the affairs of the lodges under his rule than he is in presiding at the labours of the House of Keys. However, these are the changes that have occurred among the rulers of provinces; but there are three other provinces which have had the misfortune to lose their several Deputy Provincial Grand Masters, namely, Cambridgeshire, Surrey, and North and East Yorkshire. In each case, however, a good man has been appointed to fill the vacancy. Bro. Neal York has been succeeded in Cambridgeshire by Bro. A. H. Moyes; Bro. Charles Greenwood, as D.P.G.M. of Surrey, by Bro. F. West; and Bro. Dr. J. Pearson Bell—deceased since his resignation as D.P.G.M. North and East Yorkshire—by Bro. the Hon. W. Orde-Powlett.

Prominent among the minor occurrences of the year must be mentioned the banquet given by Bro. Lord Mayor Staples at the Mansion House just before the completion of his year of office to the Grand Officers and the officers and members of the lodges and chapter to which he belongs, namely, Grand Master's Lodge, No. 1; the St. Botolph's Lodge, No. 2020 (of which he was a founder and W.M. for the first and second year); the Aldersgate Lodge, No. 1657; and the Aldersgate Chapter, No. 1657, of which he was the retiring Z. The gathering was a great success, and will compare well with similar banquets given by Sir J. Staples's more immediate predecessors. Other noteworthy events include the three centenary celebrations held by the Domatic Lodge, No. 177; the Lodge of Antiquity, No. 178, Wigan; and the Phoenix Lodge, No. 257, Portsmouth. These, too, passed off well, and were made the subject of great rejoicing among the members and their friends, while that of the Domatic, which was held at the Criterion, was honoured by the presence of several of the Grand Officers, the chief guest at the Phoenix meeting being Bros. the Earl of Lathom, D.G.M., and Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., Prov. G.M. of Hants and the Isle of Wight. The Shanklin Masonic Exhibition, organised by the Chine Lodge, No. 1884, also proved a success. It showed that the desire for further knowledge of our past history is spreading, and it had the advantage of being carried out on the lines laid down firstly at York, and subsequently at Worcester; while Bro. A. Greenham, W.M. of the Chine Lodge, assisted by Bro. W. J. Hughan, P.G.D., was indefatigable in his labours to make the gathering as memorable and as interesting as its predecessors.

ROYAL ARCH MASONRY.

The number of Royal Arch Chapter warrants issued during the year is slightly in excess of the number in 1885, 20 new chapters having been authorised as against 17 in the latter period. We are, therefore, justified in assuming that this branch of Masonry has fully kept pace with the Craft of which it forms the culminating Degree. It seems to us, however, that there is room for further progress. There are several provinces which, as regards the mere numerical array of chapters, are qualified to receive a R.A. organisation; and we should very much like to see steps taken to secure this, as we are persuaded it would conduce greatly to the strengthening of the Degree in general estimation, and as a consequence, to the advancement of our system as defined in the Book of Constitutions. But no doubt these steps will be taken ultimately, and it is far better the chapters should make the move themselves than under pressure or suggestion from without. In offering these remarks we are not referring to the vacancies now existing or imminent among the Prov. G. Superintendents through death or resignation. These, we take it, will be filled in due course. Indeed, Durham already has a successor to the late Marquis of Londonderry in the person of Comp. Sir Hedworth Williamson, Bart., who is now both Prov. G. Master and Prov. G. Superintendent, and the vacancies in Cambridgeshire (*vice* Comp. York deceased), Sussex (*vice* Comp. Sir W. W. Burrell, deceased), and N. and E. Yorkshire (*vice* Comp. Dr. J. Pearson Bell, deceased), as well as in Cheshire (if Lord de Tabley resigns as P.G. Sup. as well as P.G.M.), and South Wales (E.D.), which has been without a Prov. G. Sup. for some time, will probably be filled at an early date. As regards the new chapters, three of them have gone to swell the London list, the most conspicuous case being that of Grand Master's Chapter, No. 1, consecrated during the present year under brilliant circumstances with Comps. Aldermen Sir F. W. Truscott, Sir J. W. Ellis, Bart., M.P., and Sir R. N. Fowler, Bart., M.P., all past Lord Mayors of London and Past J.G. Wardens of England—as the Three Principals respectively. Of the 11 new Provincial Chapters, West Yorkshire and Nottinghamshire are strengthened by two each, and Devonshire, Essex, Hants and Isle of Wight, Lancashire (West), Middlesex, Suffolk, and Warwickshire by one each, while the six

new chapters Abroad are located, two of them in South Africa, one being under the Dist. G. Chapter (E.D.)—one in Bermuda, one in British Burma, one in Victoria, and one in Egypt. Two Chapters—No. 3, London, and No. 250, Hull—have received permission to wear the centenary jewel, the evidence of their having continued working for 100 years having satisfied the Grand Committee. But the chief event of the year is the issue of the revised code of Royal Arch Regulations, which was submitted to Supreme Grand Chapter at the February Convocation and approved. Such a code must be looked upon as a kind of necessity after the issue of a revised edition of the Book of Constitutions for the Craft Degrees, and we may reasonably hope that such changes as have been made will have a tendency to strengthen the Royal Arch and make it still more popular. As to the financial position of Grand Chapter, it appears to be always most flourishing and the greater importance given to the Quarterly Meetings must exercise a beneficial influence on the Degree.

THE MARK DEGREE.

The progress of Mark Masonry in recent years has been exceptionally brilliant and reminds us of an expression applied to the financial progress of the country some time ago, when it was described as being "by leaps and bounds." Those who are able, of their own personal knowledge, to compare Mark Masonry as it is now with what it was 30 years ago, must be amazed by the contrast. Then it had no supreme authority, or we should say rather, had only just managed to organise one. Moreover, there were rival authorities, and such lodges as were in existence were both few in number and weak in membership. Now there is one central controlling power and a formidable muster roll of lodges and members, with the Prince of Wales as Grand Master, the Duke of Connaught as Grand S.W., and Prince Albert Victor of Wales a member of more than one private lodge. It can likewise boast of an admirably organised system of government, both in the country and foreign parts, the chiefs of the several local organisations being brethren of influence and ability, and most desirous of improving the efficiency and strength of Mark Masonry. It is financially well placed, and the various branches of its Benevolent Fund are rendering incalculable service to the cause of Charity. Much of the success thus achieved is due to the able government of the G. Masters who have presided over its fortunes, and much also to the energy and discretion of the chief executive officers, who have gone on working steadily as well as enthusiastically, and have always been careful that what they did should be of a solid and substantial character. It is not surprising that the Mark should have prospered, as it has done, under such guides, and it would be churlish in the extreme if we did not avail ourselves of such an opportunity as this to place on record our high sense of the services they have rendered. As regards the current year there have been nine new lodges warranted—two in London, two in Hertfordshire, one in Durham, one in Kent, one in Jamaica, one in Burmah, and one in New South Wales, and four lodges have had Royal Ark Mariner Lodges attached to them. The membership has increased by 1351 Mark Masons and there have been issued 190 Royal Ark certificates. One new province—that of Hertfordshire—has been constituted, with Bro. T. F. Halsey, M.P., who is Prov. G.M. (Craft), and P.G. Supt. (R.A.), as Prov. G. Mark Master, and in five previously existing provinces new chiefs have been appointed or installed, Bro. Col. Tudor having succeeded Bro. Col. Foster Gough, as Prov. G.M.M. Staffordshire; Bro. Capt. S. G. Homfray, Bro. L. A. Homfray, as Prov. G.M.M. Monmouthshire; and Bro. the Marquis of Hertford, Bro. Lord Brooke, as P.G.M.M. Warwickshire; while Bro. Major Montgomery J. Moore, R.A., is Prov. G.M.M. of Madras, vice Major-General R. A. Cunliffe, and Bro. Fred. Will Dawson, P.G. M.M. Auckland, New Zealand, vice Bro. H. Greensmith Warde. But the most conspicuous event of the year is unquestionably the installation, at an especial Grand Lodge held at Freemasons' Tavern on the 1st July, of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, who had already conferred honour on Mark Masonry by accepting the rank of Past G.M.M., and has now completed the obligation by taking upon himself the supreme direction of the affairs of the Order. This and the fact of his having appointed his brother, the Duke of Connaught, G.S.W., and that his son, Prince Albert Victor, is a member, fully justifies the elation experienced by all Mark Masons at the proceedings which have taken place during 1886. Then the Mark Benevolent Festival which was held on the 28th July, under the presidency of Bro. A. F. Godson, M.P., Prov. G.M.M. of Worcestershire, though somewhat less productive than the Festival of 1885, was nevertheless a successful gathering, the total of the moneys subscribed exceeding £1500 or close on double to what it had ever reached previously, with the solitary exception of last year. Moreover, there are indications that the Festival of 1887 will be on a scale worthy of the increasing strength of the Society and amply sufficient to keep the several branches of the Benevolent Fund in a sound and healthy condition. All these circumstances are matter for warm congratulation, and as the laws of the Degree have undergone careful supervision and the benefits of the several branches of the Benevolent Fund extended—annuities being now granted to old people, and a mass of money assigned for the benefit of each child in the Educational Fund towards clothing—we look forward to a long continuance of that prosperity which, as we said at the outset, has been advancing of late years "by leaps and bounds." The position of Mark Masonry is now too assured to be seriously affected by the caprices of fortune.

CHIVALRIC AND HIGH GRADE MASONRY.

What few remarks it is incumbent upon us to offer in respect of the various organisations included under this title are in the main of a satisfactory character. All have maintained their position, while most of them have strengthened and enlarged it. The brethren who preside over the fortunes of the Ancient and Accepted Rite are decidedly the right men in the right place. They are famous administrators, and if we do not hear so much about their proceedings as many might desire, it is because they prefer to work in a quiet and unostentatious manner. But the financial report of the year shows how prosperous are the affairs of this body, and what an amount of service it is constantly rendering to our several Institutions. The year has also witnessed one imposing field day, when towards the end of October the Border Chapter of Rose Croix, No. 102, was solemnly consecrated, at Keswick, by Ill. Bro. Capt. N. G. Philips, 33^d, Lieut. Grand Commander, and Bro. G. J. McKay, the worthy Prov. G. Secretary and Grand Scribe E. of Cumberland and Westmorland, was installed as its first M.W.S. Everything passed off admirably on the occasion, and having regard to the brethren who constitute the chapter, there is fair ground for anticipating that it will enjoy a long career of prosperity. As regards Templary, its modest doings here are cast into the shade by the amazing displays of which we read in American Masonic periodicals, where the

different Templar organisations, taken together, muster considerably over 60,000 members. But we are the reverse of dissatisfied with the position of the Order in this country, and we should certainly regret if any attempts were made to ensure for its proceedings such an amount of publicity, as it appears to enjoy in the United States. The Order of Rome and the Red Cross of Constantine seems also to be making its way quietly. A new conclave has been established at Greenwich, and, speaking generally, where there was lethargy a short while since, there is now a marked revival of activity. As to the Allied Masonic Degrees, the Royal and Select Masters, and the Rosicrucian Society, they seem to have for the most part shared in the general prosperity of Freemasonry. Their field of operations is somewhat limited, but they are well-ordered, and what they do merits the success which has almost invariably attended them.

OUR INSTITUTIONS.

There is good reason for congratulating ourselves on the measure of support which the Craft has extended towards our central Charitable Institutions. The subscriptions may not quite have reached the figures of the previous year, but the falling off has not been such as many had good grounds for anticipating from the unsettled position of our political and commercial affairs. Stagnation in trade and a political crisis, followed by a General Election, are not calculated to assist Institutions which depend for support almost entirely on voluntary contributions. Bad trade lessens our means of giving, and Elections divert a large proportion of what remains into unusual channels. Yet in spite of the commercial depression prevailing during the greater part of the year, and the excitement and outlay necessarily involved in electing a new House of Commons, the totals of the three Festival Returns amount together to very little short of £41,000, the Benevolent Institution heading the list with £15,000, the Girls' School following with some £13,050, and the Boys' School bring up the rear with £12,700. The total for the three in 1885, omitting a kind of supplementary Festival connected with the laying of the memorial stone of the new buildings of the Boys' School, was, in round figures, some £42,000. We may comfort ourselves with the assurance that the difference in amount between the totals of the two years is, under the circumstances, insignificant. There are few people who would have set the probable diminution in receipts through bad trade and political excitement at so low a figure as £1000.

Taking the three Institutions separately, the R.M. Benevolent Institution, which takes the lead in celebrating its anniversary, and has fared the best of all, was supported in February to the extent of £15,000, the Marquis of Hertford, S.G.W. of England, being in the chair, and the Board of Stewards which assisted him 276 strong. The result was all the more satisfactory because most people had expected that the falling off, as compared with the total of 1885, would have reached to between £4000 and £5000, instead of being only about £2770. Unfortunately the return was not such as to justify the Committee of Management in recommending any increase in the number of annuitants, especially on the Widows' Fund, on whose resources the pressure at the time was—and we regret to say still is—most terrible. Thus, when the election came on in May 24 men out of 58 were elected on the Male Fund, and 11 women out of 71 on the Widows' Fund, the three deferred annuitants in each case being included. Consequently there were left over for the election in 1887 close on 100 candidates—34 men and 60 widows—and before the year is out it is almost certain this list will be increased by some 50 per cent.—a lamentable state of things in the case of any one of our Institutions, but particularly as regards this, because the applicants are all of them advanced in years as well as reduced in circumstances. We sincerely hope that as there has been this year a falling off of between £2700 and £2800, so in 1887 there may be an increase corresponding in amount, and the Committee be thereby enabled to enlarge the number of annuitants.

The Festival of the Girls' School was held in May, with Bro. General Brownrigg, Prov. G.M. of Surrey, in the chair. There were 274 brethren on the Board of Stewards, and the amount they succeeded in raising amongst them was £13,020. This, in reality, is about the same as was obtained in 1885, the "Sir Henry Edwards Presentation" of £1050 forming part of the £14,188 announced at the table by the Secretary, Bro. Hedges. Here, again, however, we could have wished the total had been larger, and for this reason. The Court of Governors, on the recommendation of the House Committee, had not long previously authorised the expenditure of £5700 in purchasing certain land adjoining the School at Battersea-rise, and a further outlay of some £1300 for gates, lodges, boundary-wall, &c., had become necessary. In other words, the regular expenditure of the year had been increased by some £7000, and the more of this outlay was defrayed out of Festival receipts, the less would be the drain on the permanent resources of the Charity. Apart from this consideration, however, we must congratulate the authorities on having obtained so excellent a result. As regards the conduct of the School, nothing could have been better. The pupils who submitted themselves as candidates at the Local Middle Class Examinations were nearly all successful, and the high character of the Institution has thus been well maintained. It is true that the loss sustained through the death of Miss Jarwood, who, as pupil, governess, assistant matron, and matron successively, had spent nearly the whole of her long and active life in the School, has been the subject of very general sorrow. But the influence of her government will be felt for years to come, while her name will be always remembered with respect by succeeding generations of pupils. Moreover, if Miss Jarwood has gone, there still remains her able coadjutor in the work of education (Miss Davis), who has held the position of head governess for a quarter of a century, and to whom, in consideration of that circumstance, a testimonial will be presented at an early date, in order that the Craft may have the opportunity of signalling its appreciation both of the ability she has shown in fulfilling her duties and the success which has resulted from her instruction.

The Boys' School Festival was held towards the close of June, in the Dome of the Royal Pavilion, Brighton, Bro. Lord Suffield, Prov. G. Master of Norfolk, being the Chairman, the Board of Stewards being 280 strong, and the total of their subscription lists not far short of £12,700. In this instance, we confess to having been both surprised and disappointed—disappointed because we had certainly looked for an increase of support more nearly commensurate with the pressing needs of the School; and surprised, because while the Stewards were more numerous, the average of their returns was low. However, it is not difficult to understand why the amount realised was not more considerable. The country was at the time in the turmoil of the Parliamentary Election, and people were thinking more about the rival claims of Conservatives and Liberals than of the needs of our Boys' School at Wood Green. Had it not been for this, we should probably have been in a position to congratulate Bro. Binckes on a still more substan-

tial total. However, it may be that matters will improve in the coming year and it certainly is most desirable the tendency as regards the funds needed to support this Institution should be upwards instead of downwards. The Preparatory School was opened in January and 20 additional boys have been placed on the roll, so that the number of pupils educated and maintained at Wood Green is now 250 as against 215 in 1885. This is a very substantial increase, and one that cannot be maintained unless the money is forthcoming in an increased proportion. That the Institution deserves to be well supported is shown by the continued successes achieved at the Cambridge Middle-class Examinations, the whole of the boys who went up for examination in December, 1885, having passed, the greater number of them with honours.

PROVINCIAL AND OTHER CHARITABLE ASSOCIATIONS.

The Associations which may be grouped together under this head are principally of two kinds. There are the Provincial Charitable Associations, like those of the two Lancashires and Cheshire, which devote their means to educating and advancing the children of deceased or distressed brethren, and voting sums in relief of poor Masons and their widows; and there are the Associations which enable brethren of moderate means to become Life-Governors or Life-Subscribers by spreading the amount necessary to confer one or other of those qualifications over a period of several months. Both classes are invaluable as regards the help they render. The former relieve the central Charities of a considerable amount of pressure, while the latter are the means of raising very considerable amounts, which, as they are the aggregate of still smaller sums, might or would not otherwise be subscribed. The best known among those which do the work of educating or relieving out of their own funds are the several organisations of West Lancashire, and those of Cheshire, East Lancashire, Devonshire, &c. As regards the other class of Association—those which raise large sums by means of small periodical subscriptions and then hand them over to the Institutions—a large number of provinces can now boast of something of the kind, and the list is continually increasing. In London many of our lodges and lodges of instruction organise similar associations, and, as the cost of management is always small, we trust the system will remain in force for many years. There are not a few Life-Governors of our Institutions who might have had some difficulty in paying down ten guineas in one sum, but who have all the same rights and privileges as their wealthier brethren by adopting the simpler system of payment by small instalments spread over a period of time more or less prolonged. During the year now ending these two classes of Associations have been maintained vigorously, and the help they have given must have been very gratifying to the Secretaries of the two Schools and the Benevolent Institution.

BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE.

There has been no evidence during the year of any diminution of the pressure of which notice was taken in our last year's summary. On the contrary, the number of applicants has been quite as large, and the aggregate of the grants made to them as considerable. The cases relieved and the sums awarded for each of the twelve months are as follow:—In December, 1885, 47 cases, amount £1512; January, 1886, 27 cases, amount £715; February, 34 cases, amount £1015; March, 50 cases, amount £1071; April, 40 cases, amount £925; May, 33 cases, amount £875; June, 33 cases, amount £895; July, 22 cases, amount £760; August, 14 cases, amount £480; September, 16 cases, amount £500; October, 29 cases, amount £940; November, 41 cases, amount £1060. Total for the whole period 386 cases, amount £10,618. The return for the corresponding period last year was 378 cases, relieved with sums ranging from £3 and upwards, amounting to £9,468. This represents the work done by the Board. As to its constitution there has been one important change. Bro. Joshua Nunn, who had taken a leading part in its deliberations, either as Vice-President or President for some 16 years, died somewhat unexpectedly in the autumn, to the unfeigned regret of the whole English Craft, but especially of the brethren associated with him in the trying work which devolves upon the administrators of our Fund of Benevolence. He succeeded a kind yet firm distributor of its moneys—Bro. J. Moxon Clabon—who had secured to himself the respect of his associates. Yet under Bro. Nunn's guidance the Board maintained its high character for a wise and tender discrimination in relieving distress, and at the meeting next ensuing after his death, the brethren made a point of recording on their minutes a resolution, not only of sympathy with his family, but expressing their high sense of his worth. Nor is the loss we have sustained quite without some compensating benefit which makes it less difficult for us to bear. The step taken by the Grand Master in enrolling the President of the Board amongst the officers of Grand Lodge, and assigning him rank next after Past Grand Secretaries, will confer additional dignity on the Board, and secure for its labours a far larger share of respect. Not that any such increase of dignity was at all necessary in order to secure respect from the general body of English Freemasons for the decisions of the Board—that it already enjoyed to the fullest extent, the cases in which Grand Lodge has thought fit to revise the recommendations of its Charity Committee being unusually rare. But with a brother presiding over it who is *ex-officio* a Grand Officer, the Board will be sure to find its position strengthened, especially if all future presidents possess in an equal degree the sterling qualities of Bro. Robert Grey, P.G.D., whom his Royal Highness has selected as the first occupant of the office under the altered state of circumstances. There is only one other matter that calls for any expression of opinion. We consider it was ill-advised on the part of any one to propose in Grand Lodge that the annuitants of the Benevolent Institution should be excluded from a participation in the benefits of the Fund of Benevolence, and we are glad that Grand Lodge so summarily rejected the proposal.

MASONIC LITERATURE.

There is little to be said under this head, but that little is most creditable. The number of Masonic works published during the year has been smaller than we have known it for some time past, but there is compensation for his paucity of publications in the unrivalled excellence of the one great work of the year—we allude, of course, to the "Masonic Records" of Bro. John Lane, of Torquay, which is dedicated by permission to H.R.H. the Grand Master, and which has appeared so recently that even now the review of its contents in the pages of this journal is still incomplete. It is our firm belief that this work of Bro. Lane's will remain always the guide to all brethren who may endeavour to follow the ramifications of English Masonry from 1717 onwards. It has taken years to compile, and if there are any shortcomings to be detected in it, they are due, not to any carelessness or want of judgment on the part of the author, but to the inherent difficulty of the task he proposed to himself—a difficulty mainly caused by the lack of material from which to obtain the desired information,

and in a lesser degree by an unwillingness on the part of some members of the Craft to supply to him the means of obtaining that information. It is indeed a grand work, but we fear it will be Bro. Lane himself who will benefit least, by this product of his ability and perseverance. Everybody who has it in his mind to contribute a scrap or two to the history of Freemasonry, so far as it deals with individual lodges, will have the choice of going over the ground travelled by Bro. Lane or accepting his guidance, and we venture to say that the cases will be rare indeed in which the intending contributor will adopt the former alternative. However, Bro. Lane enjoys the honour of having compiled the only work which has been attempted on so complete a scale, and that honour will be increased the more, the more other writers look to and rely upon him for guidance in their labours. Of course, a part of this honour will be reflected upon the year 1886, in which his "Masonic Records" were made public, and which, but for its appearance, would have been almost entirely barren of literary results, just a few lodge histories such as those of the Marquis of Granby Lodge, No. 124, by Bro. W. Logan, and the Domatic Lodge, No. 177, written especially for the centenary celebration in February by Bro. G. B. Abbott, &c., representing the sum total in this branch of Masonic labour.

OBITUARY.

The roll call of deaths is unfortunately a heavy one, heavy in the two-fold sense both numerous and severe, especially in the higher ranks of the Craft. We have before alluded to the loss sustained through the deaths of Bros. Sir W. W. Burrell, Bart., and Lord Waveney, P.G.M. of Sussex and Suffolk respectively, as well as those of Bros. J. Neal York, D.P.G.M. and Prov. G. Supt. of Cambridgeshire; Dr. J. Pearson Bell, P.D.G.M. North and East Yorkshire, and its Prov. Grand Superintendent, and Charles Greenwood, P.G.S.B. and Deputy Prov. G.M. of Surrey. But these unfortunately are only a small proportion. The latest, and at the same time one of the most conspicuous is that of Bro. J. Henderson Scott, P.G.D. of England, and Deputy Prov. G.M. of Sussex, which has thus been deprived of the valued services both of its P.G.M. and D.P.G.M. within the brief space of twelve months. The gaps caused by the deaths of these eminent brethren are such as can only be repaired by time. Besides these there have passed away Bros. Sir Henry Edwards, Bart., P.P.G.M. and G. Supt. W. Yorkshire; H. C. Vernon, Past S.G.W. of England and P. Prov. G.M. of Worcestershire; Bros. the Rev. C. Raikes-Davy, and Rev. Canon James Simpson, LL.D., both Past G. Chaplains of England; Bro. R. Hervé Giraud, S.G.D. in 1853, who was initiated in 1824, and had held the office of Treasurer of Grand Master's Lodge, No. 1, for more than half-a-century; Bro. G. W. Latham, M.P., J.G.D. in 1868, and a P.G. Scribe E. of Cheshire, and Bro. Joshua Nunn, P.G. Sword Bearer, to whose loss we refer in connection with the Board of Benevolence. This is a formidable array of dignitaries to have lost in so brief a space of time, and unfortunately there are almost as many in proportion among the brethren of inferior claims to notoriety, but from whom, judging from our experience of their past services, we might have looked for valuable assistance. Thus the Girls' School, which has lost one of its trustees in the person of Bro. Nunn, has also been deprived of the valued help of Bro. E. C. Mather, a member of its House Committee and a Grand Steward of England. The Boys' School House Committee is now without the assistance of Bro. C. Sanders, M.D., and in addition we have to record the deaths of Bro. W. T. C. Bush, of the Tranquillity and Temple Bar Lodges; the Marquis of Ailesbury, of the Westminster and Keystone; Sir Alex. Malet, an initiate in 1821, of the Apollo University Lodge, No. 357; Viscount Strathallan and Major-General Sir P. Scratchey, of Lodge No. 729, Melbourne. There may likewise be mentioned Bro. E. F. Storr, P.M. No. 22, who was known as "Charity Storr" and so worthily merited the distinction; and Bros. James Hainsworth, P.M. No. 28; C. McNamara, P.M. N. 97, P.P.G.S.B. Durham; John Poole, P.M. No. 450; J. R. Foulger, P.M. Domatic, No. 177; Charles Godtschalk, G. Gwyn Parker, and Rev. A. C. Graystone, W.M. 1915. These and other members who may possibly have been overlooked make up a strong body of able and respected brethren. Many of them have passed away in the fulness of years as well as of honours; but there are likewise many from whom we had good reason, humanly speaking, to expect further help, and that help is now no longer possible.

SCOTLAND.

Our brethren North of the Tweed have every reason to be proud of the position in which the Scottish Craft now stands. Where before there was indifference to work, laxity of discipline, and mismanagement of Grand Lodge business now there is great energy, plenty of interest taken by the lodges and brethren in what is passing around, and a financial and business control exercised by the executive, which has had the effect of re-assuring the main body of Scottish Freemasons, and reviving amongst them that feeling of confidence which some years since was so rudely shaken. The result of this improved feeling is shown everywhere. New lodges are frequently being constituted; the annual average of initiates is about 4700, and there is invariably an excellent balance on the right side of the account in the yearly statements submitted to Grand Lodge. Considerable progress has been made in accumulating a capital sum of £10,000 for the Scottish Fund of Benevolence, and the provincial authorities bestir themselves far more than was their custom previously. In short, Scottish Freemasonry is firmly placed, and the many self-flattering comments passed by several of the speakers on last St. Andrew's Day were both justifiable and natural. The chief event of the year has been the celebration of the Third Jubilee or 150th Anniversary of the establishment of Grand Lodge, and the gathering on the occasion was in all respects worthy of the body whose foundation was being commemorated. The Grand Master, M.W. Bro. Sir Archibald Campbell, Bart., of Blythswood, M.P., presided in person, and was supported not only by the Depute and Substitute G. Masters and the Immediate Past Grand Master, and most of his Grand Officers, but likewise by several of the Prov. Grand Masters and the representatives in great force of the private lodges, the number present being about 1400, or more than had ever previously been assembled together at a similar meeting. The scene was most brilliant, and henceforth St. Andrew's Day, 1886, will be among the most memorable of gala days in the annals of Scottish Masonry. The other proceedings of the year have been of the usual character. Changes have occurred in the administration of some of the provinces, the most noteworthy instance being that caused by the resignation of the Prov. G. Mastership of Perthshire West by his Grace the Duke of Athole, who is succeeded by Bro. Col. Drummond Moray. The capital sum of £10,000 proposed to be raised for the Scottish Fund of Benevolence has not yet been completed, but efforts are being made in all directions by the lodges and brethren to that end, and we doubt not the figure stated will be reached

ultimately, only we must not be surprised into a fit of impatience if it should turn out that the raising of this sum is spread over a pretty long period. Nor has the year passed without the average losses by death, though, fortunately, we shall not have occasion to miss many old faces among the higher ranks of the Craft. One ancient worthy, however, has gone to his last rest—Bro. George Stirton, of Coupar Angus, who was initiated as far back as 1808, and who therefore had been a member of our Society for 76 years.

IRELAND.

We remarked in our last year's summary that Ireland, in things Masonic, was likely to enter upon the new—that is, the still current—year amid general rejoicing, and if the forecast has not been realised to the full extent we anticipated, the circumstance is due rather to the disturbances which have prevailed in the political world than to any difficulties that have affected the interior management of the Society. The installation as Grand Master of the present Duke of Abercorn in succession to his father was attended with much pomp and ceremony. There was a full gathering in Grand Lodge at the meeting in March when it took place, and the Craft are pleased to believe that under the second, as under the first, James, the lodges in the jurisdiction of Ireland will have a happy and prosperous career before them. We trust it may be so, and we see no reason why their hopes should not be realised. We are less able to judge with anything like accuracy of the tone that prevails among our Irish brethren for the reason we have often mentioned on other occasions, namely, that they display more than the usual amount of reticence as to their proceedings. But every now and then we are favoured, through the medium of the regular press of the country, with full and particular accounts of lodge meetings, concerts, social gatherings and the like, these concerts and other fêtes being a favourite medium with our friends the other side of the Channel for benefiting their excellent Orphan Schools in Dublin, which, like our Schools here, depend principally for their support on the voluntary contributions of the brethren and their friends, and which, equally with ours, are engaged in doing a vast amount of substantial good to the orphan children of Masons. Of these fêtes the principal is that which takes place in Dublin in the early summer, when the prizes are distributed among the successful pupils, and society in the Irish capital is favoured with a glimpse at some of the work we devote ourselves so assiduously to carrying out on all possible occasions, and by all possible means, that is to say, the work of charity. The fête is one of the most popular of the year, and is invariably well attended. We shall conclude this portion of our remarks by mentioning that the re-appointment of Bro. Shekleton as the Deputy of the present Grand Master of Ireland—who is the third in succession for whom he has acted in this capacity—was taken advantage of by our Irish brethren to pay a well-deserved honour to one of the most meritorious of their leaders. The honour was paid him in Grand Lodge immediately after his investiture, for the third time, as D.G.M. It took the form of an address of congratulation, to be followed later by the presentation of his portrait in oils to Grand Lodge, and the spokesman on the occasion was none other than Bro. the Hon. Judge Townshend, himself a Past Deputy of the late Duke of Leinster, and therefore well qualified to judge of the importance of Bro. Shekleton's services. The presentation was greeted with the heartiest applause, and Bro. Shekleton, in entering upon his further term of office, must have felt himself greatly encouraged to fulfil his duties by this evidence of goodwill on the part of Grand Lodge. We trust he may long be spared to the Craft in Ireland.

THE COLONIES.

In the case of those British Colonies which retain their Masonic connection with the old country, the year has passed most satisfactorily. The reports of proceedings which reach us from time to time show this, and the frequent application to head quarters for warrants for additional lodges make it clear that even in New South Wales and Victoria, where attempts have been made to establish separate and independent Grand Lodges, the desire for a continuance of the present union between the old and the new communities is as strong ever. In the East Indies we have reason to be satisfied with the even tenor of the progress which is being made, while in the West, and especially in Jamaica, with the appointment of Bro. MacGlashan as successor to the late Bro. Dr. Robert Hamilton, we may look to see a return to that state of activity which prevailed during the government of that able brother, and with it to that state of prosperity which then prevailed. There is one only matter that has occurred in the colonial portion of our Grand Lodge jurisdictions to which special reference need be made, and that is, the hearty Masonic reception which was extended to Bro. Lord Carrington, P.S.G.W. of England, firstly during his brief rest at Melbourne en route for Sydney, and then on his arrival at Sydney itself, where he now resides as Governor General of New South Wales. His lordship was received with enthusiasm in both cities by the whole community, but no portion of it was more ready or more sincere in its congratulations to him on his arrival than the representatives of Freemasonry.

THE CRAFT ABROAD.

Our relations with foreign jurisdictions remain pretty much as they were last year, with the exception that, as the Grand Lodge of Illinois has openly declared itself favourable to the cause pursued by Quebec towards England, there is no longer any interchange of representatives between that Grand Lodge and ours. As regards Quebec, it has never been officially recognised by us, and therefore its edict of non-intercourse, which was issued by Grand Master Walker on the 5th July, has made no impression here. Not one English Mason in a thousand knows anything about it, and the best thing Quebec can do is to cancel it forthwith as an unprofitable speculation. It is true there are some among the American Grand Lodges which have passed resolutions of sympathy with our redoubtable assailant; but the most influential, such as those of New York and Pennsylvania, are as opposed to the absurd pretensions of Quebec as England is herself. At all events, we may safely leave matters as they are, in the assurance that if any Masonic Body finds itself in a difficulty over this dispute, it will not be the Grand Lodge of England. However, this is about the only question that has disturbed the surface of Anglo-Saxon Freemasonry. In all things else it has progressed most satisfactorily, and no where more so than on the North American Continent, where, if the system pursued is not quite in accordance with English views, it is of a character to command, as a rule, both our sympathy and our respect. There is a tremendous amount of vitality in American Freemasonry, and, as in our own case, that vital force is directed mainly, if not entirely, towards benefiting mankind generally, and especially that section of it which professes, and carries out, the principles of our Craft. We trust this may always be so, and that Masonry in the United States may always be actuated by the same harmonious feelings towards us as we are towards them in all things essential at the present time.

OCCURRENCES OF THE YEAR.

15TH DECEMBER, 1885, TO 30TH NOVEMBER, 1886.

DECEMBER, 1885.

- 1.—Half-yearly Communication of Mark Grand Lodge. Nomination of the Prince of Wales as M.W.G.M. M.M. Establishment of the Mark Annuity Fund.
 - 2.—Quarterly Communication of United Grand Lodge. Nomination of Bros. D. P. Cama and R. B. Martin for Grand Treasurership. Death of Major-General Sir P. Scratchley of Meridian St. John Lodge, No. 729, Melbourne.
 - 3.—Meeting of the Grand Lodge of Ireland. Present Duke of Abercorn elected Grand Master, *vice* the late Duke his Father.
 - 7.—Annual Meeting at Southampton of the Prov. Priory of Hampshire.
 - 8.—Presentation of address to Bro. Lord Carrington, P.S.G.W. England, Governor-General of New South Wales, by the brethren of Victoria. Consecration by Comp. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, G. Scribe E., of the Israel Chapter, No. 205. Comp. C. F. Hogard, First M.E.Z.
 - 9.—Bro. Lord Charles Beresford, M.P., elected a joining member of St. Marylebone Lodge, No. 1305.
 - 10.—Annual Meeting at Derby of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Derbyshire. Presentation of a banner to St. Mary Abbott's Lodge, No. 1974, by Bro. Capt. H. S. Andrews, since deceased.
 - 11.—Annual Meeting of the National Great Priory of England.
 - 13.—Death of Bro. C. Brewer, P.M., Kilburn Lodge, No. 1608.
 - 14.—Consecration by Bro. Col. Clerke, Grand Secretary, of the United Northern Counties Lodge, No. 2128, Bro. J. S. Cumberland, first W.M. Death of Bro. James Hainsworth, P.M. Old King's Arms Lodge, No. 28.
 - 15.—Death of Bro. R. Fraser, Elliot Lodge, No. 1567.
 - 16.—Consecration by Bro. Sir Fras. Burdett, Bart., Prov. G. Master of Middlesex, of the Cama Lodge, No. 2105. Bro. D. P. Cama, first W.M. Dinner of Old Masonians. Presentation of testimonial to Mrs. Lee (lately Miss Hall, Matron of the Boys' School.)
 - 17.—Presentation to Bro. Walter Barnet, Org. Hamer Lodge, No. 1393, Liverpool.
 - 18.—Bro. C. D. Cheetham, jun., installed W.M. Alexandra Lodge, No. 993, Levenshulme.
 - 21.—Centenary Festival of the Lodge of Probity, No. 61, Halifax.
 - 22.—Consecration by Bro. Captain Hunter, Prov. G. Mark Master North Wales, of the St. Eilian (Mark) Lodge, No. 360, Amlwch. Bro. Owen Thomas first W.M.
 - 23.—Board of Benevolence: 47 cases relieved with £1512. Deaths of Bro. Major Campbell, City Marshal, and Bro. Thomas Goodchild, P.M. Sir Charles Bright Lodge, No. 1793, Teddington.
 - 25.—Death of Bro. Rev. C. Railkes Davy, Past G. Chaplain of England.
 - 28.—The 150th Anniversary of the Lodge of Industry, No. 48, Gateshead. Consecration by Comp. Col. Clerke, Grand Scribe E., of the Dalhousie R.A. Chapter, No. 860. Comp. T. B. Dodson first M.E.Z. Presentation of a complete set of jewels and clothing to Lodge St. John, No. 9, Dumblane, by Bro. Col. Stirling, R.W.M.
 - 30.—Annual Ball of the Perseverance Lodge, No. 371, Maryport.
- JANUARY—1886.
- 4.—Consecration by Bro. Sir Offey Wakeman, Bart., P.G.M. Shropshire, of the Brownlow Lodge, 2131, Ellesmere; Bro. E. W. Prevost first W.M. Christmas Entertainment, Girls' School.
 - 5.—Bro. the Rev. Sir William Vincent, Bart., installed W.M. Union Lodge, No. 52, Norwich, in succession to Bro. Harry Bullard, M.P.
 - 6.—Entertainment at Croydon to the inmates of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. Presentation, by Earl Cathcart, of portrait of late Gen. Sir George Cathcart to the Sir George Cathcart Lodge, No. 617 (S.C.), Glasgow.
 - 7.—Consecration by Bro. Goodacre, Prov. G. Sec. West Lancashire, of the Prudence Lodge, No. 2114, Liverpool; Bro. John Duncan, jun., first W.M. Annual meeting of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters. Ball at the Town Hall, Liverpool, in aid of the West Lancashire Masonic Charitable Associations.
 - 12.—Consecration by Bro. Col. Clerke, G. Sec., of the Quatuor Coronati Lodge, No. 2076; Bro. Sir Chas. Warren first W.M. Presentation of address to Bro. R. Williams, P.M., and for 29 years Treasurer of Lodge No. 696, Wednesbury. Presentation of testimonial to Bro. W. Mason, P.M., and for 20 years Treasurer of Lodge No. 973, Frome, P.P.S.G.D. Wilts.
 - 13.—Annual ball of the Pelham Pillar Lodge, No. 792, Grimsby; second annual ball of the Royal Savoy Lodge, No. 1744.
 - 14.—Presentation of testimonial to Bro. A. D. Hesketh, P.M. and Treasurer Duke of Edinburgh Lodge, No. 1182, Liverpool. Ball of the Lancaster Lodges in aid of the West Lancashire Masonic Associations.
 - 15.—Meeting of the Liverpool Masonic Club. Sixth annual ball of the Hartismere Lodge, No. 1663, Eye, Suffolk.
 - 16.—Bro. Lord George Hamilton, M.P., elected joining member of the Chiswick Lodge, No. 2012. Christmas Entertainment to pupils of the Boys' School.
 - 18.—Presentation of Address to Bro. Lord Carrington, P.S.G.W., on resuming his office as Governor General of New South Wales.
 - 20.—Board of Benevolence: 27 cases relieved with £715. Bro. Col. Addison Potter installed W.M. of the Tristram (Mark) Lodge, No. 346, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Annual ball, Derwent Lodge, No. 41, Hastings, in aid of the Masonic Charities.

- 20.—Presentation of Testimonials to Comps. T. Cohu, I.P.Z., and George Kenning, P.Z. and Treasurer, Lion and Lamb Chapter, No. 192.
 - 21.—Sixteenth annual meeting of the Staffordshire Masonic Charitable Association.
 - 22.—Opening of the new Preparatory School Buildings, R.M.I.B., Wood Green. Annual meeting of the Prov. Priory of Durham, Northumberland and Berwick-on-Tweed. Annual meeting of the Committee of the Liverpool Masonic Hall. Smoking Concert by the Roman Eagle Lodge, No. 160 (S.C.), Edinburgh, in aid of the Scottish Masonic Benevolent Fund.
 - 23.—Death of Bro. Viscount Strathallan, aged 75. Consecration by Bro. W. Goodacre, Prov. G. Secretary West Lancashire, of the Prince Edward Lodge, No. 2109, Heaton Moor. Bro. T. A. Hopewell first W.M.
 - 24.—Death of R.W. Bro. Sir W. W. Burrell, Bart., Prov. G. Master of Sussex.
 - 25.—Consecration by Bro. Col. Clerke, Grand Secretary, of the Drury Lane Lodge, No. 2127. Bro. Lord Londesborough, P.S.G.W., first W.M.
 - 26.—Consecration by Bro. T. Y. Strachan, D.P.G.M.M. Durham and Northumberland, of the Wouldhave (Mark) Lodge, No. 362, South Shields. Bro. T. G. Mabane, Mayor of South Shields, first W.M. Installation of the Earl of Crawford and Balcarres as W.M. for the Centenary year of the Antiquity Lodge, No. 178, Wigan. Annual Festival of the Brixton Lodge of Instruction, No. 1949. Death of Bro. W. E. Gompertz, P.M. No. 869, P.P.S.G.D. Herts.
 - 28.—Consecration by Comp. T. W. Tew, Prov. G. Sup. W. Yorkshire, of the Excelsior R.A. Chapter, No. 1042, Leeds. Comp. the Rev. T. C. Smyth, D.D., LL.D., first M.E.Z. Installation of Bro. A. Greenham as W.M. Chine Lodge, No. 1884, Shanklin, Isle of Wight.
 - 29.—Consecration by Bro. Dr. J. Pearson Bell, P.G.D., D.P. G.M. North and East Yorkshire, of the Wilberforce Lodge, No. 2135, Hull; Bro. T. T. Davis first W.M. Visit to Drury Lane Pantomime by invitation of Bro. Augustus Harris of the children of our Boys' and Girls' Schools. Dinner by Bro. T. Hastings Miller to members of the Board of General Purposes, Boys' School House Committee, &c.
 - 30.—Consecration of Masonic Hall, Gibraltar, by R.W. Bro. Sir H. Burford Hancock, District G.M.
- FEBRUARY—1886.
- 1.—Presentation of jewel to Bro. Lord Mayor Staples on retiring from the chair of the St. Botolph's Lodge, No. 2020, at the close of his second year of office.
 - 3.—Quarterly Convocation of the Supreme Grand Chapter. Adoption of the revised code of Royal Arch regulations.
 - 4.—Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Scotland; Bro. Lieut.-Col. Dunmore Moray, jun., appointed Prov. G.M. Perthshire West, *vice* the Duke of Athole, resigned. Presentation to Old England Lodge, No. 1790, Thornton Heath, of portrait in oils of Bro. Will. Foulsham, founder, first W.M., and subsequently Treasurer.
 - 5.—Meeting at Basingstoke of the Provincial Grand Chapter of Hants and Isle of Wight. Meeting of General Committee of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institute.
 - 6.—Stained glass window presented by the Duke of Connaught to St. Anne's Church, Bagshot, in memory of the late Duke of Albany, unveiled.
 - 8.—Consecration by Comp. Col. Clerke, Grand Scribe E. of Grand Masters Royal Arch Chapter, No. 1, Comp. Sir F. W. Truscott first M.E.Z.
 - 10.—Meeting of the Supreme Council Ancient and Accepted Rite, and presentation to Bro. Frank Richardson, 33°, of a complete set of clothing and insignia 33°. First General meeting of the Cornwall Masonic Charity Association.
 - 11.—Consecration by Bro. John James, P. Dist. J.G.W. Victoria, of the Gordon Lodge, No. 2112, Essenden near Melbourne; Bro. W. F. Lamony first W.M.
 - 12.—Consecration by Bro. Col. Machen, D.P.G.M. Warwickshire—in the presence of Bro. Lord Leigh, P.G.M.—of the Swan of Avon Lodge, No. 2133, Stratford-on-Avon; Bro. C. R. Garnett first W.M. Centenary festival of the Domestic Dodge, No. 177; Bro. H. Nelson Price, W.M.
 - 15.—Death of Bro. Lord Waveney, Prov. G.M. of Suffolk.
 - 16.—Presentation of a wedding gift to Bro. Earl Ferrers, P.G.M. Leicestershire and Rutland, by the Ferrers and Ivanhoe Lodge, No. 779, Ashby-de-la-Zouch.
 - 17.—Board of Benevolence, 34 cases relieved with £1015.
 - 18.—Installation of Comp. Sir Hedworth Williamson, Bart., as M.E.Z. of the Chapter of Strict Benevolence, No. 97, Sunderland.
 - 20.—Annual Meeting of the York College of the Rosicrucian Society. Musical Matinée by Bro. Prof. E. M. Lott, G.O. England, to the pupils of the Boys' School, Wood Green.
 - 24.—Festival of the R.M. Benevolent Institution. Bro. the Marquis of Hertford, G.S.W. England, chair. man. Result just over £15000.
 - 25.—Laying of the foundation-stone of a new Masonic Hall, Brixham.
 - 26.—Annual Festival of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement. Bro. the Marquis of Hertford, G.S.W., in the chair.
 - 28.—Death of Bro. David Davis, Lodge No. 72, and Sec. Royal Surrey Lodge of Instruction, No. 1744.
- MARCH.
- 1.—Annual meeting of the Grand Conclave of the Order of Rome and Red Cross of Constantine. Exhibition opened at Kidderminster of the library and museum formed by Bro. G. Taylor, Prov. G. Sec. Worcestershire.
 - 2.—Annual meeting of the Prov. G. Chapter of Leicestershire and Rutland; consecration by Comp. Kelly, Prov. G. Supt., of the St. George's Chapter, No. 1560, Leicester; Comp. W. Kelly, P.G. Supt., first M.E.Z.

- 3.—Quarterly Communication of United Grand Lodge; election of Bro. D. P. Cama as Grand Treasurer; interchange of relations with Grand Lodge of Illinois broken off. Installation of the (second) Duke of Abercorn as G. Master of Ireland; testimonial presented to Bro. R. W. Shekleton, Q.C., D.P.G.M.
 - 9.—Presentation to Comp. G. King-Patten, P.Z. No. 43, of a P.P.S.G.W.'s jewel, inlaid with diamonds, on the occasion of his appointment as Prov. S.G.W. of Warwickshire.
 - 10.—First anniversary meeting of the Mark Grand Master's Lodge of Instruction.
 - 11.—Consecration by Comp. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, G. S.E., of the Henley Chapter, No. 1472; first M.E.Z., Comp. A. Penfold.
 - 15.—Alderman W. B. Redfarn, Mayor of Cambridge, initiated in the Scientific Lodge, No. 88.
 - 20.—Presentation of tea and coffee service, &c., to Bro. Chichgur, at the Masonic Hall, Bombay. Death of Bro. G. Stirton, of Coupar Angus, Perthshire; initiated 1808.
 - 23.—Presentation of plate to Bro. E. Turner Payne, late Prov. Grand Treasurer for 25 years of Somersetshire. Entertainment to the poor of the town by the Union Lodge, No. 127, Margate.
 - 24.—Board of Benevolence; 50 cases relieved with £1071.
 - 25.—Consecration of the Hall of Kenmuir Lodge, No. 570, Springburn, by the D.P.G.M. Glasgow. Presentation of a loving cup to the Chine Lodge, No. 1884, by its Worshipful Master, Bro. A. Greenham.
 - 26.—Annual meeting, at Durban, of the District Grand Lodge of Natal.
 - 29.—Installation, at Newport, of Bro. Capt. S. G. Homfray, as Prov. Grand Mark Master of Monmouthshire.
 - 31.—Annual meeting, at Salford, of the Prov. G. Chapter of East Lancashire.
- APRIL.
- 1.—Consecration by Comp. Col. Machen, Prov. G.H., of Guy's Chapter, No. 395, Leamington. First M.E.Z. Comp. N. Merridew. Consecration by Bro. the Rev. Thomas Robinson, P.G.M.M. Kent, of the Gordon Mark Lodge, No. 364, Gravesend. First W.M. Bro. W. Barlow.
 - 5.—Presentation, by the brethren of N. and E. Yorkshire, to Mrs. Bell of a bust of her husband, Bro. Dr. J. Pearson Bell, D.P.G.M., on the anniversary of their golden wedding.
 - 6.—Consecration by Bro. Thomas Marwood, Prov. S. G.W. Cheshire, of the Egerton Lodge, No. 2132, Egremont. First W.M. Bro. Charles S. Dean. Half-yearly meeting, at Carlisle, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Cumberland and Westmorland, and annual meeting of Prov. G. Chapter of same. Annual meeting, at Exeter, of the Devon Masonic Educational Fund.
 - 7.—Consecration by Bro. Sir Hedworth Williamson, Bart., P.G.M. Durham, of the Constance Lodge, No. 2135, Consett. First W.M. Bro. William Logan. Consecration at Bonnyrigg of the Dalhousie Lodge, No. 720 (S.C.), by Bro. James Crichton acting G.M. Bro. Robert McKenzie first W.M. Half-yearly meeting of the Prov. G. Mark Lodge of West Yorkshire.
 - 8.—Presentation of a Testimonial to Bro. Thomas Gill, P.M. Three Grand Principles Lodge, No. 967, Penryn.
 - 10.—Quarterly Court Girls' School: Election of 24 out of 36 candidates. Prince Albert Victor of Wales elected a joining member of the Naval and Military Lodge, No. 1971, Aldershot. Presentation to Bro. Col. Sir Francis Burdett, Bart., P.G.M. Middlesex.
 - 12.—Quarterly Court Boys' School: Election of 30 out of 48 candidates.
 - 13.—Opening of the New Masonic Hall of the Lodge of Love and Honour, No. 75, Falmouth.
 - 14.—Annual meeting, at Sheffield, of the Prov. G. Lodge of West Yorkshire.
 - 18.—Lodge of Sorrow held by the Graystone Lodge, No. 1915, Whitstable, in memory of its late W.M., Bro. the Rev. A. C. Graystone. Annual meeting, at Fowey, of the Prov. Grand Mark Lodge of Cornwall.
 - 20.—Consecration by Bro. C. F. Matier of the Royal Ark Mariners Lodge, Prince Leopold, No. 238. First W.C.N. Bro. T. C. Walls.
 - 21.—Board of Benevolence: 40 cases relieved with £917. Annual Communication, at Adelaide, of the Grand Lodge of South Australia. Election of G. Officers.
 - 25.—Installation by Bro. Cornelius Thorne, P. Dist. G.M., of Bro. J. Irwin Miller as Dist. G.M. of Northern China.
 - 28.—Grand Festival of United Grand Lodge.
 - 29.—Consecration of the Hertford Mark Lodge, No. 366, Hertford. Bro. R. B. Croft first W.M. Annual meeting, at Brighton, of the Prov. Grand Chapter of Sussex.
 - 30.—Banquet to Duke of Abercorn, G.M. of Ireland, by Trinity College Dublin Lodge, No. 357.
- MAY.
- 3.—Annual meeting at Colchester of the Prov. G. Chap. of Essex.
 - 4.—Consecration by Bro. Col. Tudor, Prov. G.M. of Staffordshire, of the Gordon Lodge, No. 2149, Hanley. Bro. John Bromley first W.M. Annual meeting at Ross of the Prov. G. Lodge of Herefordshire. Annual Convocation at Newcastle-on-Tyne of the Prov. G. Chapter of Northumberland.
 - 5.—Convocation of Supreme G. Chapter.—Election of G. officers. Annual meeting of the P.G. Lodge of North Wales.
 - 7.—Annual meeting at Warminster of the Prov. G. Lodge of Wiltshire.
 - 10.—Consecration by Bro. F. A. Philbrick, Q.C., Grand Registrar, of the Huguenot Lodge, No. 2140. First W.M., Bro. R. Hervé Giraud, P.G.D. Annual meeting at Barnsley of the Prov. G. Chapter of West Yorkshire.

- 10.—Bro. F. Seager Hunt, M.P., installed W.M. Abbey Lodge, No. 2030.
- 12.—Consecration by Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., P.G.M. Hants and Isle of Wight, of the Lodge of Hope, No. 2133, Gosport. First W.M., Bro. Francis Powell. Annual meeting at Bury of the Prov. G. Lodge of East Lancashire.
- 13.—Bro. Alfred Meadows, M.P., P.G.D., installed W.M. University of London Lodge, No. 2033.
- 14.—Annual meeting of the National Great Priory (K.T.) of England. Election of officers.
- 18.—Consecration by Bro. Gen. Brownrigg, P.G.M. Surrey, of the Surbiton Lodge, No. 2146, Surbiton. Bro. Gibbes, P.P.J.G.D. Surrey, first W.M.
- 19.—Anniversary Festival of the Girls' School, Bro. Gen. Brownrigg, P.G.M., in the chair. Result £13,029. Board of Benevolence: 33 cases relieved with £875. Bro. the Marquis of Hertford installed Prov. G. Mark Master of Warwickshire, *vice* Lord Brooke resigned.
- 21.—Annual meeting of the R.M. Benevolent Institution. Election of 24 males out of 58 candidates, and 11 widows out of 71 candidates.
- 25.—Consecration by Bro. Col. Clerke, G.S., of the Tivoli Lodge, No. 2150. First W.M., Bro. W. T. Farthing. Annual meeting at Llandudno of the Prov. G. Mark Lodge of North Wales.
- 27.—Annual Meeting at Grantham of the Prov. G. Lodge of Lincolnshire. Annual meeting at of the Prov. G. Mark Lodge of Leicestershire, Northants, and Derbyshire.
- 29.—Consecration by Bro. Earl Amherst, P.G.M. Kent, of the Walsingham Lodge, No. 2148, Wilmington. First W.M., Bro. H. Sadler, G. Tyler.
- 31.—Consecration by Comp. Col. Clerke, G. Scribe E., of the Martyn Chapter, No. 1224, Sudbury. First M.E.Z., Rev. C. J. Martyn.

JUNE.

- 1.—Half-yearly Communication Mark Grand Lodge. Election of the Prince of Wales as M.W.G.M.M.M. The Mark Grand Festival. Annual Meeting of the G. Lodge of New York, U.S.A. Re-election of Bro. Lawrence, as G. Master.
- 2.—Quarterly Communication of United Grand Lodge.
- 5.—Annual meeting at Twickenham of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Middlesex.
- 7.—Annual meeting at Cambridge of the Prov. G. Mark Lodge of East Anglia.
- 10.—Installation by the Duke of Abercorn, G.M., of Bro. W. E. Scott, as Prov. G.M. Derry and Donegal.
- 11.—Foundation-stone of Masonic Hall for Lodge No. 754, Coleraine, laid by the Duke of Abercorn, G.M.
- 18.—Consecration by Bro. W. W. B. Beach, P.G. Supt. Hants and Isle of Wight, of the Hengist Chapter, No. 195, Bournemouth. First M.E.Z., Comp. H. J. Atkins. And of the Boscombe Lodge, No. 2158, Boscombe. First W.M., Bro. Donald Preston.
- 19.—Consecration by Col. Sir Francis Burdett, Bart., P.G. Supt. of Middx., of the Henry Levander Chapter, No. 2048, Harrow. First M.E.Z., Comp. W. M. Stiles. Consecration by Comp. C. Letch Mason, P.P.G.H. West Yorkshire, of the Zetland Chapter, No. 603, Cleckheaton. First M.E.Z., Comp. John Booth. Annual Communication of the G. Lodge of British Columbia. Bro. W. Dalby installed M.W.G.M.
- 22.—Installation at Brighton by the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., of H.R.H. Duke of Connaught, as P.G.M. Sussex. Board of Benevolence, 33 cases relieved with £765.
- 23.—Colonial and Indian brethren visiting England entertained by the Empire Lodge, No. 2108.
- 24.—Consecration by Earl Amherst, P.G.M. Kent, of the Crays Valley Lodge, No. 2147, St. Mary's Cray. First W.M., Bro. E. H. Rolfe.
- 26.—Distribution of Prizes, Boys' School.
- 28.—Consecration by Col. Le Gendre N. Starkie, P.G.M. East Lancashire, of the Arthur Sullivan Lodge, No. 2156, Manchester. First W.M., Bro. N. Dumville. Annual meeting at Aylesbury of the Prov. G. Lodge and Prov. G. Chapter of Berks and Bucks.
- 30.—Festival of the Boys' School at Brighton. Bro. Lord Suffield, P.G.M. Norfolk, in the chair. Result close on £12,700. Distribution of Prizes, Girls' School, by Bro. Frank Richardson, P.G.D., chairman for the month of the House Committee.

JULY.

- 1.—Installation, at an Especial Grand Lodge, of the Prince of Wales as Grand Master of the Mark Grand Lodge; Duke of Connaught invested S.G. Warden.
- 2.—Summer Festival of the Domatic Lodge, No. 177, at Kempton Park.
- 3.—Meeting of the Prov. G. Lodge for London of the Royal Order of Scotland.
- 5.—Edict of non-intercourse issued by the Grand Lodge of Quebec against the Grand Lodge of England.
- 6.—Consecration by Comp. Col. Clerke, G.S.E., of the Westminster Chapter, R.A., No. 2021.
- 7.—Annual meeting of the Prov. G. Lodge of Surrey. Annual meeting of the Prov. G. Lodge of Kent. Bro. Lord Saltoun installed W.M. Solomon Lodge, No. 197 (S.C.), Fraserburgh.
- 10.—Quarterly Court, Girls' School. Constitution by Earl of Rosslyn of a Prov. G. Lodge (Royal Order of Scotland) for Yorkshire; Bro. the Rev. W. Valentine, M.A., Prov. G.M.
- 12.—Quarterly Court, Boys' School: increase of School by 10 boys resolved upon.
- 13.—Annual meeting, at basingstoke, of the Prov. Grand Mark Lodge of Hants and the Isle of Wight. Annual meeting, at Newbury, and subsequent banquet at Highclere Castle (Lord Carnarvon's seat), of the Prov. Grand Mark Lodge of Berks and Oxon. Annual meeting, at Ye Speech House Hotel, Forest of Dean, of the P.G. Mark Lodge, Forest of Dean. Banquet at the New Falcon Hotel, Gravesend, by Bro. Major Geo. Lambert, P.G.S.B., W.M. (fifth time) of the Percy Lodge, No. 198.
- 14.—Movable Grand Lodge of M.M.M. England held at Norwich, at invitation of Bro. Lord Henniker, P.G. M.M. East Anglia.

- 15.—Funeral, at Newmarket, of Bro. J. Neal York, D.P. G.M. Cambridgeshire.
- 17.—Consecration by Bro. R. Wylie, Prov. S.G.W. West Lancashire, of the Makerfield Lodge, No. 2155, Newton-le-Willow.
- 21.—Board of Benevolence: 22 cases relieved with £760. Annual meeting, at Cokermonth, of the Prov. Grand Mark Lodge of Cumberland and Westmorland. Installation by Bro. T. Fenn, President Board of General Purposes of his son, Bro. J. E. Fenn, as W.M. of Bard of Avon Lodge, No. 778, Hampton Court, Bros. Edmund Yates and W. H. Russell, LL.D., being appointed S.W. and J.W. respectively.
- 22.—Meeting, at Abergavenny, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Monmouthshire. Installation of Bro. J. C. MacGlashan as Dist. G.M. (E.C.) Jamaica.
- 24.—Installation by Bro. Sir A. Campbell, Bart., G.M. of Scotland, of Bro. Lieut.-Col. Moray, as P.G.M. Perthshire West.
- 27.—Installation of Comp. Sir Hedworth Williamson, Bart., as Prov. G. Supt. (R.A.) of Durham.
- 28.—Festival of the Mark Benevolent Fund; Bro. A. F. Godson, M.P., Prov. G.M.M. of Worcestershire, in the chair; result, £1529.
- 29.—Annual meeting, at Canterbury, of the Prov. Grand Chapter of Kent.
- 31.—Laying foundation-stone of All Saints' Church, Southend, by Lord Brooke, Prov. G.M. Essex. Centenary festival of the Phoenix Lodge, No. 257, Portsmouth; Bro. Col. Crease, C.B., W.M.

AUGUST.

- 3.—Quarterly meeting of the Prov. G. Lodge of Glasgow.
- 4.—Quarterly Convocation of Supreme Grand Chapter.
- 5.—Annual meeting of the Prov. G. Lodge of Essex. Annual meeting at Blandford of the Prov. G. Lodge of Dorsetshire.
- 6.—Installation by Bro. Sir A. Campbell, Bart., M.P., G. Master of Scotland, of Bro. James Middleton as Prov. G. Master of Roxburghshire.
- 7.—Consecration by Bro. F. A. Philbrick, Q.C., Grand Registrar, D.P.G.M. of Essex, of the Joshua Nunn Lodge, No. 2154, Halstead. Bro. Joshua Nunn, P.G.S.B., first W.M.
- 10.—Annual meeting at Beaminster of the Prov. G. R.A. Chapter of Dorsetshire.
- 12.—First Garden Party of the Chiswick Lodge, No. 2012.
- 14.—Consecration at Aylth by the Marquis of Breadalbane, P.G. Master of Perthshire East, of the St. Ninian's Lodge, No. 732, (S.C.). Bro. Captain R. Scott Hunter first R.W.M.
- 17.—Consecration by Bro. General Brownrigg, P.G.M. Surrey, of the Bramston Beach Lodge, No. 2101, Godalming. Bro. G. Gould first W.M. Presentation of Address to Miss Davis, Head Governess of the Girls' School.
- 19.—Annual meeting at Southampton of the Prov. G. Lodge of Hants and the Isle of Wight. Annual meeting of the P.G. Lodge of Staffordshire. Evening Concert at Shanklin in aid of the Building Fund of the Chine Lodge, No. 1884.
- 20.—Board of Benevolence: 14 cases relieved with £480.
- 24.—Annual meeting of the P.G. Lodge of Somersetshire.
- 26.—Entertainment of the children of the Girls' School by Bro. Alderman Savory, at Buckhurst Park.
- 29.—Death of Miss Jarwood, Matron of the Girls' School.
- 30.—Presentation by Bro. R. U. Hartnell, D.C., on behalf of Mrs. Hartnell, of a Banner to Unanimity and Sincerity Lodge, No. 261, Taunton.

SEPTEMBER.

- 1.—Quarterly Communication of United Grand Lodge. The R.M. Benevolent Institution receives authority to elect its own Treasurer.
- 3.—Committee meeting of West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution. Election of children. Presentation of a pedestal by Kingston Lodge, No. 1010, to the Wilberforce Lodge, No. 2134.
- 6.—Consecration by Bro. Lord Egerton of Tatton, D.P.G.M. Cheshire, of the De Tatton Lodge, No. 2144, Bowdon. Bro. Edwin G. Simpson first W.M.
- 9.—Opening by Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., Prov. G. Master Hants and Isle of Wight, of the Masonic Exhibition at Shanklin, Isle of Wight. The Hon. Francis Denison, eldest son of Bro. Lord Lonsborough, Past S.G.W., initiated in the Denison Lodge, No. 1248, Scarborough.
- 11.—Annual meeting, at Portsmouth, of the Prov. Priory of Hampshire.
- 13.—General Assembly of the Grand Orient of France commences its annual session.
- 14.—Opening of the Annual Assembly, at Chicago, of the Supreme Council of the A. and A. Rite for the Northern Jurisdiction of the United States. Annual meeting, at Falmouth, of the Prov. G. Lodge of Cornwall. Presentation of Testimonial, &c., to Bro. J. A. Moray by the Ebrington Lodge, No. 1847, Stonehouse. Presentation of a silver cup by Bro. R. Clowes, P.M., to Bro. M. L. Sanders, on completing his year of office as W.M. of No. 650, Harwich.
- 15.—Quarterly Convocation of the Supreme Grand R.A. Chapter of Scotland. Annual meeting, at Stourbridge, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Worcestershire.
- 20.—Annual meeting, at Chester, of the Prov. G. Mark Lodge of Cheshire.
- 22.—Annual meeting, at Penarth, of the Prov. G. Lodge of South Wales (East Division). Annual meeting, at Filey, of the Prov. G. Lodge of N. and E. Yorkshire. Meeting of the District Grand Lodge of Natal.
- 24.—Board of Benevolence: 16 cases relieved with £500. Portrait of Bro. Sir J. Ogilvy, Bart., P.M., unveiled in the Operative Lodge, No. 47, Dundee.
- 26.—Death of Bro. Dr. J. Pearson Bell, P.G.D., Past D.P.G.M. N. and E. Yorkshire, in his 78th year.
- 28.—Consecration by Bro. Col. Clerke, Grand Sec., of the St. German's Lodge, No. 2164, Peel, Isle of Man. Bro. J. A. Brown first W.M. Death of Bro. Charles Greenwood, P.G.S.B., Deputy P.G.M. Surrey.

- 28.—Triennial Convocation in Washington, D.C., of the General Grand R.A. Chapter of the United States. Annual meeting, at Kendal, of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Cumberland and Westmorland. Annual meeting, at Warwick, of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Warwickshire.
- 29.—Death of Bro. Joshua Nunn, P.G.S.B. Presentation of an address to Bro. J. Craven Taylor, who was W.M. of No. 439, Bingley, in 1836.
- 30.—Death of Bro. Admiral Bedford Pim, at Deal. Funeral of Bro. E. C. Mather, W.M. No. 23, Grand Steward of England; aged 64 years. Funeral, at Kensal Green, of Capt. H. S. Andrews, late 74th Regiment, of St. Mary Abbott's Lodge, No. 1974, &c.

OCTOBER.

- 4.—Death of Bro. G. W. Latham, M.P., P.G.D. England.
- 8.—Installation by Bro. Earl Amherst, P.G.M. of Kent, of Bro. Lord Henniker, as P.G.M. Suffolk.
- 9.—Quarterly Court of the Girls' School; election of 16 out of 33 candidates. Votes of condolence with the widows of Bros. Nunn and E. C. Mather.
- 10.—Death of Bro. Charles Godtschalk, P.M., P.Z.
- 11.—Quarterly Court of the Boys' School; election of 32 out of 44 candidates.
- 12.—Annual meeting of the P.G. Lodge of Sussex.
- 13.—Half-yearly meeting of the Supreme Council, Ancient and Accepted Rite.
- 18.—Meeting in Washington, D.C., of the Supreme Council, Ancient and Accepted Rite, of the Southern Jurisdiction U.S.A. Funeral in Bathwick Cemetery of Bro. E. Turner Payne.
- 19.—Annual meeting at Leicester of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Leicestershire and Rutland. Death of the Marquis of Ailesbury, of Westminster and Keystone Lodge, No. 10. Annual meeting of the P.G. Mark Lodge of Sussex. Annual meeting at Durham of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Durham.
- 20.—Annual meeting at Wigan of the Provincial Grand Lodge and Prov. G. Chapter of West Lancashire. Annual meeting at Devonport of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Devonshire; presentation of wedding gift to Viscount Ebrington, P.G.M. Board of Benevolence—vote of condolence with Mrs. Nunn, widow of the late President; 29 cases relieved with £940. Annual meeting of the P.G. Mark Lodge of Kent. Meeting of the P.G. Lodge of West Yorkshire.
- 22.—Annual meeting of the P.G. Lodge of Norfolk.
- 23.—Bro. H. B. Marshall, P.G. Treas., installed W.M. Royal Hanover Lodge, No. 1777, and afterwards initiated his son, Mr. H. B. Marshall, jun.
- 27.—Annual meeting at Sheffield of the Provincial Grand Mark Lodge of West Yorkshire.
- 28.—Annual meeting at Beverley of the Provincial Grand Mark Lodge of North and East Yorkshire. Annual meeting at Newtown, Montgomeryshire, of the Provincial Grand Lodge of North Wales. Presentation of a silver medal to Bro. W. J. Hughan, P.G.D., by the Chine Lodge, No. 1884, for his aid in behalf of the Shanklin Masonic Exhibition.
- 29.—Consecration by Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, G.S., of the St. Mark's College Lodge, No. 2157; Bro. Rev. J. Henry Smith, B.A., first W.M. Annual meeting of the P.G. Chapter of Wiltshire.
- 30.—Annual meeting at Blackpool of the Provincial Grand Mark Lodge of Lancashire. Centenary of the Antiquity Lodge, No. 178, Wigan. Consecration by Ill. Bro. Capt. N. G. Philips, Lieut. Grand Commander of the Border Chapter, Rose Croix, No. 102; Bro. G. J. McKay first M.W.S.

NOVEMBER.

- 1.—Consecration by Bro. Col. Clerke, G.S., of the Derby Allcroft Lodge, No. 2168; Bro. J. Derby Allcroft, P.G. Treas., first W.M. Banquet by Bro. Lord Mayor Staples to Lodges Nos. 1, 1657, and 2020, and Chapter No. 1657.
- 2.—Consecration at East Greenwich by Sir Knight C. F. Matier, of the Invicta Conclave, Rome and Red Cross of Constantine; first M.P.S. Sir Knight A. H. Bateman.
- 3.—Banquet to Prince Albert Victor of Wales by the Aldershot Military Mark Lodge, No. 54. Quarterly Convocation of Supreme G. Chapter.
- 4.—Annual meeting of the Grand Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees. Appointment of G. Officers. Annual meeting at Tredegar of the Prov. G. Chapter of Monmouthshire.
- 5.—Centenary Celebration of the St. John's Lodge, No. 166 (S.C.), Airdrie. Annual meeting at Gateshead of the Prov. G. Mark Lodge of Durham and Northumberland. Death of Bro. E. F. Storr, P.M., P.Z.
- 8.—Funeral at Brighton of Bro. Alderman David Smith, M.P., P. Prov. G. J.W. Sussex.
- 9.—Lecture at Torquay on "Masonic Jewels," by Bro. W. J. Hughan, P.G.D. England.
- 15.—Consecration at East Cowes by Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., Prov. G. Master of Hants and the Isle of Wight, of the Osborne Lodge, No. 2169; first W.M. Bro. R. L. Robertson.
- 16.—Annual meeting at Oxford of the Prov. G. Chapter of Oxfordshire.
- 17.—Board of Benevolence: 41 cases relieved with £1060.
- 18.—Annual Festival of the High Cross Lodge of Instruction, No. 752.
- 19.—Annual meeting at Cambridge of the Prov. G. Lodge of Cambridgeshire. Appointment and installation of Bro. A. H. Moyes as D.P.G. Master. Installation of Bro. C. F. Matier as W.M. Shadwell Clerke Lodge, No. 1910.
- 24.—Annual meeting at Cheltenham of the Prov. G. Chapter of Gloucestershire. Meeting of the Prov. G. Lodge of East Lancashire.
- 25.—Election of Bros. F. A. Philbrick, Q.C., G. Registrar, and T. Fenn, Pres. Board of Gen. Purposes, on the House Committee of the Girls' School.
- 27.—Annual meeting of the Prov. G. Chapter of Surrey.
- 30.—Half-yearly Communication of Mark Grand Lodge. Bros. J. L. Mather and Edgar Bowyer nominated for G. Treasurer. Celebration of the Third Jubilee (150th anniversary) of the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

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IN LIEU of Wednesday, the 23rd, as previously announced,
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Has been pleased to signify his intention of Presiding.

Brethren are earnestly invited to accept the office of
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forwarding their Names and Masonic Rank, as soon as
convenient, to the Secretary, who will gladly give any
information required, and supply them with all necessary
circulars, &c.

It is fraternally hoped that, upon this occasion, owing to
the large number of Applicants and the few vacancies,
Brethren will use their influence to obtain donations
towards the funds of the Institution, which were never
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To Correspondents.

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LODGES OF INSTRUCTION:—Chaucer, No. 1540; Chiswick, No. 2012; Loughborough.
 CHAPTER.—Jerusalem, No. 185.
 CHAPTER OF IMPROVEMENT.—Hornsey, No. 890.
 Provincial Grand Lodge of Derby.

BOOKS, &c., RECEIVED.
 "Cassell's Illustrated Almanack," "Jewish Chronicle," "New York Dispatch," "Cycling Budget," "Sunday Times" (London), "New Zealand Freemason," "Building News," "Freemasons' Journal" (New York), "Leeds Times," "Sunday Times" (New York), "Christmas Number of the Gardener's Magazine," "The Freemason" (Toronto), "Lancaster Daily Examiner," "Transactions of Pennsylvania Council of Deliberation Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite," "Scribner's Magazine," "La Acacia Buenos Ayres," and "Allen's Indian Mail."



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25, 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.]

THE WEARING OF COLLARS IN PRIVATE LODGES.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,
 I must beg to be allowed to say a few words in reply to your observations (in last week's *Freemason*) on the few remarks that I made on the 1st inst. in Grand Lodge on the subject of officers of private lodges wearing their collars of office in private lodges in which they do not hold office.

In replying to me, you state that "the officers of a lodge have their several places assigned to them, and the visiting brethren theirs likewise. Consequently no brother who knows where he is and what he is about, when in his own lodge or visiting another lodge, should have any difficulty in distinguishing between the officers of the lodge and the visiting brethren who are officers in their own lodge." I deny the correctness of your premises and well as of your conclusion.

Passing by the unpleasant innuendo (which I do not suppose for a moment that you, with your well-known courtesy, ever intended), that I—a P.M. of 19 years' standing, and of three different lodges, and with a 29 years' varied experience in Freemasonry—much of which time has been spent in regular attendance at such large lodges as the Apollo University Lodge, Oxford, and the Westminster and Keystone, No. 10, London—"do not know where I am or what I am about when in my own lodge or visiting another lodge," I would ask what places in the lodge or at the banquet table are assigned to such officers as the following, all of which exist in both of the lodges that I have named, and, I believe, in most other large lodges: Chaplain, Senior Master of Ceremonies, Junior Master of Ceremonies, Wine Steward, and Organist? There, at once, you have, at least, six regularly "collared brethren" belonging to the lodge, sprinkled about the lodge and the banquet table without any special "place" being "assigned to them."

Then, with regard to visitors, it is not the custom in the lodges that I belong to, nor I should suppose in other lodges where the social comfort of the brethren generally is consulted, for visitors (except perhaps on installation nights in some lodges) to be all lumped together on the right of the W.M.'s chair; but visitors sit with the friend, or friends, that invited them in any and all parts of the lodge and of the banquet table, the only exception being in the case of the W.M.'s own guests or very distinguished visitors, such as the official staff of Grand Lodge, a Grand Officer of eminence, or the P.G.M. or D.P.G.M. of the province, or other officially invited guests, who are formally placed at or near the immediate right of the W.M.'s chair. I think that I have now said enough to prove that if it were the law that "the Masters, Past Masters, and other officers of a lodge should wear their collars upon all Masonic occasions," "there would be" (according to the custom prevalent with regard to visitors in many lodges of distinction) very considerable "difficulty in distinguishing among the multitude of collared brethren who were the officers of the lodge," even to the brother who thoroughly "knows where he is and what he is about."—Yours fraternally,
 THOS. COCHRANE, P.G. Chap.

[We trust our Rev. brother will lay aside any suspicion that we had him in mind in the "inuendo," as he describes it, which he quotes from our recent editorial paragraph on P.M.'s collars.—Ed. F.M.]

THE BATTLE OF THE COLLARS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

The "nisi prius" speech, as Canon Portal so aptly described it, against the collars made by our eminent Grand Deacon, contains two, at least, very curious and erroneous assertions: (1) That Rule 149 means no more than that brethren are to visit other lodges—when they are invited—to enjoy the hospitality of the lodge; or, as we call it in the provinces, the Fourth Degree! If we place this new and fictitious rendering side by side with the genuine rule its utter fallacy will be at once apparent:

THE NISI PRIUS, A FICTITIOUS VERSION OF 149.—The Master and Wardens of a lodge are enjoined to visit other lodges as often as they conveniently can, in order that when the lodge is closed they may enjoy the hospitality and innocent mirth of the Fourth Degree.
 THE GENUINE RULE 149 AS PER BOOK OF CONSTITUTIONS.—The Master and Wardens of a lodge are enjoined to visit other lodges as often as they conveniently can, in order that the same usages and customs may be observed throughout the Craft, and a good understanding cultivated amongst Freemasons.

Now, false premises lead to false conclusions, and the arguments based on this fallacious rendering of 149 are as unsubstantial as their foundation. The wonder is that any, except brethren who belong exclusively to lodges that banquet and never work, should be imposed on by such "airy nothings."

The second assertion, "That Masters and Wardens merely hold office but not rank," is an ingenious attempt at hair splitting, but not very successful; for, whilst it is quite true that Past Masters, as their very name implies, enjoy rank but not office, it is equally true that present Masters and Wardens have both rank and office too. With present officers rank and office are held conjointly. It cannot be otherwise, and the nisi prius premises being false in this case as well as in the first, the conclusions are false, as a matter of course, and the whole speech is found to be "unsound."

I should like to ask, how the brethren, who form and attend the Lodge of Benevolence be will affected by this proposed change of law and custom? Unless the brethren happen to be Grand, or Provincial, or District Grand, for Past Grand Officers, the proposed rule will render the collar illegal at the Board meetings, for no nisi prius reasoning can turn the Board of Benevolence into the Grand Lodge. Our "Board of Installed Masters" will, as a matter of course, be very much "undressed" should this inconsistent proposal become law.

There are some other weak points in the speeches against the collars, which, if you grant space, shall be noticed in a subsequent letter. Past Masters, Masters, and Wardens can meanwhile ponder, and think of the best course to take to preserve and regain their long accustomed privilege.—Yours fraternally,
 E. T. BUDDEN.

SUB-DIVISION OF THE LONDON LODGES.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

In view of the evident desire on the part of a majority, as I believe, of the members of the Craft affected by the regulation No. 152 in the Book of Constitutions, which defines that "All lodges held within 10 miles of Freemasons' Hall, London, are London lodges;" and in order to test, once and for all, whether the sub-division of those lodges so as to bring them into similar relation with the Grand Lodge of England as are the country lodges in respect of provincial organization, I propose to submit a

notice of motion for consideration at the ensuing Quarterly Communication for the abrogation of that resolution. There surely can be no principle upon which such notice of motion can be refused, and upon its introduction in the proper assembly the affirmation or rejection of the proposal will rest with the body qualified to determine on its merits, and further steps can be taken according to such decision.

On the 1st January, 1882, the proportion of London lodges to those of country lodges was as 312 to 1000. Nearly five years have since elapsed, and, without making a close calculation, it may be generally stated that the increase in lodges bears the same proportion to town and country. The exact numbers may be ascertained by reference to the latest Calendar issued. At the above date the smallest province in respect of area was Bristol (City) with eight lodges, the largest, North Wales and Shropshire with 27. Five of the largest provinces in respect of numbers, viz.: East Lancashire, 93; West Lancashire, 80; West Yorks, 66; Devonshire, 50; and Kent, 46; together had but 23 more than those comprised within the Metropolitan area. The lodges in the London district have not similar privileges to those accorded to country lodges, and the members thereof, although required to contribute towards the funds of the Grand Lodge twice the amount subscribed by members of Provincial lodges, are debarred from many advantages of supervision and honours which the latter possess. It is this anomaly in representation to which the attention of the brethren should be directed.—Yours faithfully and fraternally,
 JAMES STEVENS, P.M., P.Z.

Clapham, December 18th.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

The point raised in your leader on this subject in last week's issue is a very important one.

You contend that a resolution passed at one meeting can be negated at the next by the particular minute being negated. Those who dissent from your view of the case, and I am one of them, are entitled to maintain, and do maintain, that unless the Constitutions, or other constituting instruments of Freemasonry so provide, the proceedings of each lodge meeting are final and effective, and require no confirmation by the ensuing meeting.

As a matter of convenience, but for no other reason whatever, the minutes of each meeting are produced at the following one for the purpose of being signed, but most certainly not for that of being confirmed, except perhaps in the matter of correctness of form and diction. If it were otherwise, and each meeting had appellate jurisdiction over the resolutions of its predecessor, the position, as I interpret it, would be a perfectly absurd one, because prompt action in such circumstances would be quite impossible.

Let me illustrate this by citing a fact which, in this connection, is worth a pound of theory: At a lodge meeting the other evening, at which I was a guest, it was inter alia resolved that a sum of money be at once paid for the relief of a brother then in urgent necessity, and the amount was promptly handed over to be used accordingly.

Now, if your dictum is right, that resolution to be operative requires ratification next month. Well, I do not think it does, and I go further, and affirm that no lodge proceedings except those specially reserved are subject to review by a subsequent meeting.

To sum the matter up in one sentence: The minutes are "read and signed," not "read and confirmed." The distinction is a very important one.—Yours fraternally,
 Liverpool,
 December 15th.
 T. A. BELLEW.

BEGGING MASONS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

In order to prevent the increase of Masonic paupers, I beg to offer a suggestion, which would no doubt have the desired effect, viz.: "That the Calendar should have a list of the lodges, with the names and addresses of the Almoners," as it is quite certain that the Calendar is procured by this class of the Fraternity, in order to be at each town at the time of the lodge meetings; and, as a W.M., I do object to be constantly visited by those who make a business out of Masonry; and the sooner this is put a stop to the better, as no doubt the worthy now have to suffer for the unworthy.—I remain, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

W. H. WINGFIELD, W.M. 1360.

Church-road, Wimbledon,
 December 15th.

A PORTRAIT OF THOMAS DUNKERLEY.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

There is a portrait of Bro. Dunkerley, Prov. Grand Master of Hampshire, and the South of England generally, in the "Freemason's Magazine" of September, 1793. It is after a painting by T. Beach, and it would be interesting to know if the different portraits shown at York, Worcester, and Shanklin are copies of it.—Yours fraternally,
 F. L. E. J.

December 21st.

WAS THE ETRICK SHEPHERD A FREEMASON?

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Some of your correspondents have very justly expressed surprise that I failed to notice in the *Freemason Quarterly Review* the fact that the celebrated James Hogg, the Etrick Shepherd, ultimately became a member of the Canongate Kilwinning Lodge. My not doing so arose from my copy of the Review—which was kindly handed in parts into my chambers by some unknown friend—wanting the number recording that interesting fact. Bro. Hughan in his Notanda states that Robert Burns was elected to and held the office of Poet Laureate of the Canongate Kilwinning Lodge. I examined some years ago the whole minute books of that lodge, and in 1787, the date when Burns is said to have been elected and installed in the lodge as Poet Laureate, there was no such office, nor did such an office exist in it until after the lapse of many years. It is not until 1815 that any reference is made in the minutes to Burns having held such an office. I believe that Hogg was the first person that held it, unless it be the case that Burns was his predecessor.

It is singular that the minute assuming Burns as a member of the lodge is erased in various parts. The erased parts, however, are written over by the same hand which wrote the body of the minute.

I understand that a history of the lodge is about to be published, and on its publication I shall be very happy to send a copy to my much respected friend Bro. Hughan. I have been unable to obtain for him the copy of the Constitutions of the lodge to which he refers.—Yours fraternally.

W. O., P.M. No. 1 (S.C.)



697] OLD MASONIC STAR.

Evidently the star purchased by the Rev. O. M. Holden is similar to the seal used by Lord Rancliffe, as G.M. of the K.T. late last century. The "R.O." is clearly an error for R.O., as I have seen several such stars with the latter letters. The letters should thus be "R.O., H.R.D.M., K.D.S.H., K.T.P., H.P.R." These I take to refer to the Royal (or Religious) Order of Heredom, Kadosh, Knight Templar Priest, Hospitaller, Palestine, and Rhodes. I have not been able to make out the LXXXI. on these stars. I can send Bro. Holden a sketch of one, which is similar to his K.T. decoration.

W. J. HUGHAN (Torquay).

698] AN OLD MASONIC STAR.

Is Bro. Holden's inscription quite right?—IXXXI., RQ. HRDM. KDSH. KTP. HPR. Bro. J. Laughton, P.M. 442, of Gainsborough, exhibited one of these stars at York, and Worcester. Catalogue 557, Shanklin 160. His reading is RO. HRDM. KDSH. KTP. HP. R. LXXXI. Some time since Bro. Chisholm wrote to you about a star with inscription INDE. ESTE. LONGE, and one ESTE. LARGE, No. 198, Shanklin. I should like to know to what Orders they belong.

LAMB SMITH.



Craft Masonry.

PERCY LODGE (No. 198).—The election meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, the 14th inst., at the Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street, and was exceptionally grand, it being the centre meeting of the Jubilee year of her Majesty's reign. Bro. George Lambert, P.G. Swd. Br., Upper Warden of the Goldsmiths' Company, the Master of the lodge for the last two years, who was initiated in the lodge, and first served the office of Master in it 39 years ago, had taken care that the meeting should be a great success, and there were consequently a large number of visitors on the occasion. The purple was very strongly represented, and the provincial purple was also in force, the Percy Lodge having many members who are supporters of the Province of Herts. The gathering was certainly one to be remembered on account of the occasion, the number of brethren who attended, and the great anxiety shown that everyone should be comfortable and happy.

The lodge was called for half-past four p.m., and shortly after that hour it was opened and business commenced. Bro. Lambert presided, and, after the opening formalities had been observed, the brethren proceeded to elect a new W.M. Their choice fell unanimously on the S.W., Bro. Robert Rowell, after which Bro. Herbert Lambert was re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. J. T. Woodstock, Tyler. Mr. Henry P. Marriott, who had been duly balloted for and approved, was then initiated, the W.M. performing the ceremony in excellent style, and all his officers exhibiting a proficiency that should entitle them to promotion. Bro. Kerr and Bro. Orchard, P.M., proposed and seconded a motion that the W.M.'s services should be referred to the Audit Committee, who were to have the power to determine what form the recognition should take; but Bro. Lambert requested that no such step as this should be taken, as he had already on his breast sufficient decorations to demonstrate that he had not been an idle Freemason.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to one of Messrs. Painter's superb and well-served banquets. The following is a list of the brethren present: Bros. R. Rowell, S.W.; F. W. Lee, J.W.; H. C. Lambert, P.M., Treas.; W. B. Heath, P.M., Sec.; J. T. Rowe, P.M., S.D.; R. W. Williams, J.D.; G. Crevell, P.M., D.C.; John Read, Org.; C. Lambert, I.G.; C. Cooper, P.M.; F. Orchard, P.M.; Dr. R. Cross, P.M.; J. C. Carr, P.M.; J. J. Caney, P.M.; Robinson, Cathie, R. W. Rogers, and H. Marriott. Visitors: Bros. Sandeman, P.P. D.G.M. Bombay; R. Costa, P.G.D.; Greene, P.G. Std. Br.; Roebuck, G.S.B.; Dr. Woodman, P.G. Swd. Br.; J. Sampson Peirce, P.G.D.; Harding, P.A.G.D.C.; Col. Peters, P.G.S.B.; Thomas, P.A.G.D.C.; F. Davison, P.G.D.; E. Bowyer, P.G.S.B.; F. Binckes, P.G. Std.; Peacock, P.G. Std.; J. C. Mather, V.P. Board of General Purposes; Rev. Dr. Maguire, 1964; Rev. John Rose, 1964; Col. Moncrieff, 10; Heard, P.M. 449; Scott, 1924; Bullock, Prov. G.R. Herts; Laxton, P.P. G.R. Middx.; Matier, P.G.W. Greece; Dr. Mickley, P.P.G.D. Herts; Drysdale, 46; Potter, P.M. 19; Bradley, 2021; Pendlebury, P.M. 1056; Dodd, P.M. 1194; Vincent, P.M. 1194; Reynolds, S.D. 1614; Morris, 1789; Grellier, J.D. 21; Archer, I.G. Huguenot Lodge; Fowler, 2021; Van Joel, 957; Woodruff, 957; Bellerby, J.W. 2021; Godfrey, 2021; Swain, P.M. 449; Wright, P.M. 1996; Houle, P.M. 92; Roumieu, P.M. 1537; Blount Lewis, P.M. 338; Monteuis, I.P.M. 2060; C. J. Shoppee, P.M. 382; Dinham, P.M. 1464; Quennell, W.M. 214; Owen, P.M. 1287; Maples, 574; C. J. Hampden, P.M. 255; Palmer, 140; Guenigault, 1420; J. H. Wilson, 259; Burne, W.M. 162; J. Stevens, P.M. 720; and H. Massey, P.M. 619 and 1928.

After dinner, grace was sung by Bros. Sexton, Carter, Beckett, and Bell, of Westminster Abbey, who in the course of the evening which followed sung some charming pieces under the direction of Bro. John Read, Prov. Grand Organist Middlesex, a member of the lodge. The usual toasts followed the grace.

In giving the first toast, the Worshipful Master said he rose to give a toast which was always received in every body of gentlemen with great pleasure, and especially by Masons, who were loyal to the backbone. That evening was the very centre of the Jubilee year of the Queen, and he thought it would be a very good occasion for giving a Jubilee dinner. From the time of Edward the Confessor we had never had such a constitutional Queen, or such a worthy mother as she had in her present Most Gracious Majesty. Like Masons, she knew no politics, and she had shown that during all her career.

In giving the toast of "The M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," Bro. Lambert said that when the Prince of Wales reached the Masonic Throne there were under 1500 working lodges on the roll of United Grand Lodge; they now numbered 2160. When they considered what Masonry was, the good it could do, the fellowship it could and did spread, the kindly feelings Masons had to one another, even when they knew nothing of each other, it only showed the value of having over them so kind and gentle a monarch. God bless and preserve him as a ruler of the Craft, and if he ever did come to be King, might he still be Grand Patron of Freemasons!

The toast of "The Pro. Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master and the Present and Past Grand Officers," afforded Bro. Lambert the opportunity of saying that no doubt, although the present was a half Jubilee dinner they would have a Jubilee dinner when the year came to an end, and the Grand Officers would repeat the honour of being present. The brethren look upon the Grand Officers as the Patres Conscriptæ of the Order, as a sort of House of Lords. Though it was not a bed of roses, they did their duty most admirably. The present would be a red letter day in the Percy Lodge, having been honoured with the presence of so many Grand Officers, and he hoped they would have as many on a future occasion.

Bro. Major Sampson Peirce, in reply, said the Earl of Carnarvon and the Earl of Lathom had concentrated in them the essence of good fellowship and the quintessence of Freemasonry. They were venerated and looked upon as the examples of what Freemasonry ought to be. To come to the more difficult task of speaking of himself and the other Grand Officers he would sink himself; but the other Grand Officers represented Masonry not only by their works as far as Charity was concerned, where they stood pre-eminent, but in the general working of Freemasonry, from whatever point of view they might wish to look at it. It was a great honour to be at this lodge, which was close upon its centenary. It had a splendid record, but it had reason to be congratulated on being governed by a brother so zealous, earnest, and conscientious in everything that he did as Bro. Lambert.

Bro. Lambert next gave "The Provincial Grand Officers," who had honoured the lodge with their presence, and called upon Bro. C. F. Matier, Grand Officer of Greece, and Bro. Monteuis to respond.

Bro. Matier said he not only represented Grand Lodge of Greece, but a sister Grand Lodge dearer than that, the Grand Lodge of Scotland, which on the 30th November last celebrated its third Jubilee. On that occasion the largest number of Masons dined together in Edinburgh, under the presidency of the Grand Master of Scotland, that had ever sat down together.

Bro. Monteuis, for the Past Grand Stewards, said that at any Grand Festival these brethren would always do everything that could conduce to the brethren's pleasure.

Bro. Marriott, in replying to the toast of "The Initiate," said the W.M. had likened him to a new born-baby. Now, the new-born baby was proverbially incapable, and therefore he took it they would not expect much of a speech from him. He was an incapable member, but, although he was so, he felt much the very great honour the brethren had conferred upon him, and he should do nothing more than say he thanked them. He should not forget the precepts the Master had instilled into him, and if he could not achieve distinction he would try, in the language of the W.M., to deserve it.

Bro. Kerr, P.M., in proposing "The Health of the W.M.," said he looked on Bro. Lambert as one of the ideal Masons that he would endeavour to copy. In every matter of Charity he was always to the fore. Whatever he put his hand to he did faithfully, honestly, and with energy.

Bro. Lambert, in acknowledging the toast, said it was 39 years since he, as Master of the Percy Lodge, first tried the old house and rooms of the Ship and Turtle. It was, therefore, to him a sort of home, although it was considerably altered of late years in its architecture. He was proud to have been elected so often to fill the office of Master of the lodge, and he was glad that the lodge had prospered under his rule. He had been Master, and Treasurer, and Secretary, and the lodge had prospered, and he would tell them why. He preached to them years ago, and repeated now, that they should never take in an initiate or a joining member unless they felt he was a man they could introduce to their wives and daughters and their families. Never mind whether the lodge was large or small, they were a Masonic family, and as such let the lodge continue. Let them carry out the great principles of brotherly love; know each other as they should be known, and by so doing they would keep themselves to themselves, but they would keep themselves as a lodge, able, ready, and willing to live on the best terms with each other. He rejoiced that the lodge was so cosmopolitan, that there were many in it who were Grand and Provincial Grand Officers. He did not intend to reject any position in which he might be placed in the lodge, though he did not want place or office. He had but one desire Masonically—that the lodge should flourish. He recollected it when they paid 1s. 6d. for their suppers, and they met very happy and comfortably, and they had very great men among them. He wore the jewel of Bro. Peter Gilks who left it to Bro. Key. He was very proud of this meeting, because he believed such an assembly of Grand Officers had never before met in that lodge. He and the incoming Master would be ready to put their shoulders to the wheel, and they ought to have a Jubilee entertainment.

Bros. Shoppee and F. Binckes responded to the toast of "The Visitors," the latter brother remarking that Bro.

Lambert was the very embodiment of Charity, both in and out of Freemasonry. Every one of the brethren knew his name was a household word, and wherever good was to be done he was foremost to do it.

"The Past Masters" and "The Officers" were also toasted, and the Tyler's toast closed the proceedings.

DUKE OF EDINBURGH LODGE (No. 1259).—The last regular meeting of the above lodge was held at the Cape of Good Hope Tavern, Limehouse, E. Bro. C. Wakefield, W.M., was supported by amongst others, Bros. L. Etling, S.W.; J. P. Moore, P.M. 13, J.W.; R. Bradbrook, P.M., Sec.; P.M.'s Bros. W. M. Esmond, T. W. Gilling, E. H. Rolfe, G. Rowe, J. W. Buchan, D.C.; R. Atkins, G. T. H. Seddon, Org.; G. H. Stephens, R. Dixon, S.D.; J. R. Omer, J.D.; G. Parrett, I.G.; J. Lusty, jun, D.C.; Beale, L. Gumprecht, Gerrard, J. King, W. Davis, and others. The visitors included Bros. R. Brittain, S.W. 1278; A. W. Rolfe, 2147; M. J. Hayes, 1348; and Jenkins.

Alter the minutes of the previous meeting had been submitted and confirmed, the W.M. announced that he had received a letter from Bro. Neil McCullum, who was initiated about 12 months ago, and who, upon arriving at Hull, from abroad, wrote stating that he had taken his 2^d and 3^d at Calcutta, and further advanced himself in Masonry by adding to his acquisitions the R. Arch and Mark Degrees, also wishing his mother lodge prosperity. The W.M. next announced his Stewardship for the approaching Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, whose worthy Secretary, Bro. Terry, took so warm an interest in the Duke of Edinburgh Lodge. The lodge accordingly voted £10 10s. out of its Benevolent Fund on Bro. W. Wakefield's list, and that amount was subsequently augmented by private donations at the social board. This was served by the new host, whose catering was most satisfactory. Alter grace the usual loyal and Craft toasts were honoured with cordiality and brevity, and the more time was thus disposable to harmony. Bro. Seddon, P.M., Org., kept the numerous musical brethren well in action, and a most pleasant evening was passed. Bro. Gerrard J. King gave an amusingly realistic account of old Greenwich Fair, and the Tyler's toast concluded the proceedings at an early hour.

NEW CROSS LODGE (No. 1559).—The regular meeting of this progressive lodge was held at the Snip Hotel, Greenwich, on the 10th inst., when there were present Bros. G. P. Bertini, W.M.; Rev. James W. Sturdee, I.P.M.; Carlo Grassi, S.W.; F. W. Cash, J.W.; E. H. Thiellay, P.M., Treasurer; Ernest Smith, P.M., Secretary; J. D. Graham, S.D.; H. Wild, J.D.; C. N. M. North, A.D.C.; J. H. Meyer, I.G.; E. Fry, Std.; J. W. Grumant, P.M.; Hiram Henton, P.M.; G. W. Rowe, Tyler; W. J. Pegram, C. Guffanti, H. M. Markham, W. Avenell, John Faulkner, Robert Borrett, Thomas Metham, Cecil Howard, R. Pratti, H. Woodham, E. Rouard, George F. Mounter, and H. Waters. Visitors: Bros. G. Reynolds, S.D. 1614; J. G. Butler, 282; F. Kedge, 749; W. Richards, W.M. 1853; R. Mackway, Org. 1987; J. Finch, 217, 1658; F. Calvert, and W. Douglass, J.D. 1475.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed. Ballots were then taken for the following candidates for initiation, viz., Messrs. Louis Echenard, R. Gancia, and Baldasare Meila, which were unanimous. Mr. Louis Echenard only being present, that gentleman was informed of the result of the ballot. Bros. Cecil Howard, Ruggiero Pratti, and Cirio Guffanti were raised to the Degree of M.M. Mr. Louis Echenard was then initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry. The W.M. performed his duties in a very clear manner, especially the initiation; Bro. R. Mackway, acting as Organist. Bro. C. Grassi, S.W., was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year, Bro. E. H. Thiellay, P.M., Treasurer, and Bro. G. W. Rowe, Tyler. Bros. G. F. Mounter, W. Markham, and W. Avenell were appointed Auditors. The by-laws were read and confirmed. The I.P.M., Bro. the Rev. J. W. A. Sturdee, proposed that a Past Master's jewel be presented to the W.M., Bro. G. P. Bertini, for his careful working, and the excellent manner of carrying out the duties of the chair during his year of office, which was carried unanimously. The W.M. having received the "Hearty good wishes" of the visitors, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banqueting room for refreshment.

Alter the usual loyal and Masonic toasts had been duly honoured and responded to,

The I.P.M., Bro. the Rev. J. W. A. Sturdee, took the gavel in his hand to propose "The Health of the W.M.," and, in doing so, said he knew the brethren would drink the toast with enthusiasm. On the last occasion he (the I.P.M.) said that his work was good, but this time he was still more gratified with the manner in which the W.M. had performed his duties. Considering the many calls the W.M. had on his time, his perseverance and adherence to his duties in Masonry were wonderful. He had visited many lodges, but had never seen the ceremony of initiation so perfectly done as it had been done that evening, and he felt sure that it had made a great impression on the initiate. At their next meeting their W.M. would address them as I.P.M., and his motto would be to all Masons—"Onward," work hard, and make the New Cross Lodge second to none. He wished him health, with every success.

The Worshipful Master said it caused him some embarrassment to reply. Time after time his health had been proposed with many compliments. During his year of office many emergencies had occurred, which had prevented him devoting the time that was necessary for his duties in the Craft. This he felt to be a misfortune; but he hoped to bring himself nearer perfection in the future. He thanked them all most heartily for their good wishes, and assured them of his continued interest in the lodge.

The Worshipful Master then proposed "The Health of the W.M. elect, Bro. Carlo Grassi, S.W.," and said it was a most pleasing duty. He was the first candidate he had brought into the lodge for initiation. As a Mason he was very diligent, and the brethren had made a wise choice in electing him as their future Master. He was most genial and very popular amongst them, and would be a good W.M.

The W.M. elect, Bro. C. Grassi, S.W., thanked them all sincerely, and assured the brethren he would do all in his power for the welfare of the lodge.

The Worshipful Master, in proposing "The Health of the Initiate," said that the New Cross Lodge felt very happy

in receiving him, and hoped he would become a shining light amongst them. He would advise him to adhere strictly to the principles of Masonry, as in doing so he could never go wrong.

The Initiate, in reply, thanked them all most sincerely for the hearty manner in which his health had been drunk and responded to. He would endeavour to remember the words of the W.M., and do all in his power to become a good and useful brother, and a credit to the Craft.

The Worshipful Master, in proposing "The Health of the Visitors," said it was a grand toast, and the New Cross Lodge were always proud to receive and make them welcome. They had a goodly number that evening, and among them many that he knew, and had been pleased to meet at the Covent Garden Lodge of Instruction, where he (the W.M.) had received such good lessons. He was also delighted to see Bro. Calvert—a good brother and well-known to them all. He would call upon Bros. J. Finch, G. Reynolds, Secretary to the Covent Garden Lodge of Instruction, F. Kedge, and F. Calvert to respond.

Bro. J. Finch thanked the W.M. for coupling his name with the toast. He felt sure that the visitors had all enjoyed the evening much, both at the banquet and in the lodge, where the W.M. had performed the work in a praiseworthy manner.

Bro. G. Reynolds, in responding for the Visitors, said that he felt greatly complimented in being asked to do so by the W.M. He felt sure that all had spent a profitable and pleasant evening. The W.M. in alluding to the Covent Garden Lodge of Instruction had said much to encourage him as its Secretary, and he could assure him that he would still continue to give his best attention to that lodge of instruction, and trusted it would still continue to increase its number of members and do good work. The W.M. had assisted in making this lodge of instruction popular by his kind and courteous attention to the brethren. The W.M. was always willing to assist the working in any possible way, for only the previous night he was candidate in the Third Degree. The W.M.'s success that evening was a sufficient proof of good work being done in the Covent Garden Lodge of Instruction, and he hoped to see many of the brethren present and join them some times. He thanked them all for their kindness and hospitality.

Bro. F. Kedge said he thanked the W.M. for his kind invitation, and admired his working very much. He must also say that it had been an unexpected pleasure to him that evening to meet a very old and esteemed friend, Bro. Cowley, P.M. On behalf of the visitors he thanked them all for their generous reception.

Bro. F. Calvert endorsed all that had fallen from the lips of the brother visitors who had spoken, and said it afforded him great pleasure to be with them, as their W.M. was a very old friend and brother.

The Worshipful Master, in proposing "The Health of the Past Masters," spoke highly of them all, and the kind assistance he had received from them during his term of office.

Bro. the Rev. J. W. A. Sturdee, in replying, said it was most gratifying to hear the W.M.'s praise. It was their duty to assist the W.M. in every possible way, and he could assure the W.M. elect he would receive the same help. Before resuming his seat the I.P.M. alluded to a circular he had received from Ireland, which he said was a disgrace to the writer, and which circular he treated with the utmost contempt.

The other Past Masters also replied, speaking of the W.M. in the highest terms, and the efficient manner in which he had carried out the duties of his office during the year.

The Worshipful Master next proposed "The Health of the Treasurer and Secretary," to which toast Bros. E. H. Thiellay, P.M., and Ernest Smith, P.M., replied, the latter in a most humorous speech.

The Worshipful Master, in proposing "The Health of his Officers," spoke well of them all, and thanked them for their attention to their several duties during his year of office, saying he felt sure they would all give the same attention to their W.M. elect; to which Bro. C. Grassi, S.W., and the other officers replied.

The Tyler's toast brought the enjoyable evening to a close, to which the W.M., Bros. Grassi, R. Mackway, C. Howard, W. Douglass (recitation), W. J. Pegram, and others had contributed much by their musical abilities.

WALDECK LODGE (No. 1969).—The installation meeting of this small lodge was held on Tuesday, the 14th inst., at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, Grand Sec., Hon. Member of the lodge, kindly installed the W.M. elect, Bro. Carl Quitmann, in his usual masterly manner, supported by several other Grand Officers. The I.P.M. of the lodge is Bro. Emil Schött, and the officers for the ensuing year are Bros. E. Hollandt, S.W.; E. Quitmann, J.W.; Julius Quitmann, P.M., Treasurer; Max Gindlar, Secretary; O. Quitmann, S.D.; E. Voss, J.D.; Chev. L. E. Bach, Org.; J. Schüller, I.G.; G. Knoblauch, D.C.; J. B. Holland, Stwd.; and A. Walkley, Tyler.

The banquet, which was served in the Crown Room of the Freemasons' Tavern, was followed by the usual toasts, and enlivened by some excellent music, under the direction of Bro. Chevalier Leonard E. Bach, Pianist to the Royal Court of Prussia, and Organist of this lodge, who was assisted by Madame Sanderini and M. Saxe.

RICHMOND LODGE (No. 2032).—Bro. W. R. Phillips, W.M., presided at the meeting held on Tuesday, the 7th inst., and was supported by the R.W. Bro. Sir J. Whittaker Ellis, P.G.W.; Bros. T. Skewes-Cox, G. Stwd.; Blasby, P.M.; Digby, P.M.; J. P. Houghton, S.W.; E. Dare, J.W.; W. F. Reynolds, Treas.; G. C. Rowland, Sec.; H. Sapsworth, S.D.; Marjason, J.D.; Crew, I.G.; A. Aldin and Covell, Stewds.; Messum, D.C.; Rainbow, Org.; Mufflet, W. Clifford, H. Clifford, S. Abell, A. Skene, F. A. Meeres, J. Aldredge, G. Trinder, J. H. Ford, Hampton, and others. The visitors were Bros. Page, P.M.; Hinton, P.M.; Lansdown, Scantlebury, Courlander, Johnson, and others.

Bros. Walker and Marsh were raised to the Degree of M.M., and Bro. Payze passed to that of F.C., after which Mr. Louis Goldstein was unanimously elected a member of the lodge, and duly initiated.

A banquet followed, at which the usual toasts were given, and advantage was taken of the opportunity to convey an expression of goodwill to Mr. Munro, the host, upon his retirement.

CAMA LODGE (No. 2105).—This lodge, which was consecrated a year ago, and had Bro. D. P. Cama, Grand Treasurer, for its first Worshipful Master, held its installation meeting on Saturday last, at the Mitre Hotel, Hampton Court. There was on the occasion a good attendance of brethren of the lodge, and the following visitors who had been invited made up a goodly company:—Bros. Mark Tanner, M.D., P.M. 811, P. Prov. G.D. Sussex; H. R. Grillet, P.M. 507; Charles Gross, P.M. 1087; C. J. Axford, W.M. 2048; Charles B. Cooper, J.W. 449; Wm. Wright, 1434, P.P.G.D. Notts.; John Peilmann, P.M. 1434; Walter Woodward, Prov. G. Sec. Middx.; J. H. Vickers, 47; H. Massey, P.M. 619 and 1928; J. J. Caney, P.M. 198; Benj. Turner, P.M. 1328; Godfrey Boulton, S.D. 143. Bros. Raymond H. Thrupp, D.P.G.M. Middlesex; T. C. Walls and H. Lovegrove, honorary members of the lodge, were also present.

Mr. Reginald Cantley Saunders and Mr. A. H. Tadviala were initiated, after which Bro. Thomas Poore, P.M. and Secretary, installed as Master of the lodge for the ensuing year Bro. William Robert Palmer, S.W., W.M. elect. The brethren invested as the W.M.'s officers were Bros. John Read, P.M. 720, Prov. G. Org. Middlesex, S.W.; W. D. Fracis, J.W.; Rev. S. T. H. Saunders, Chaplain; D. P. Cama, I.P.M., G. Treasurer, Treas.; T. Poore, P.M., Sec.; D. E. Dharwar, S.D.; Samuel Hague, J.D.; Arthur Quicke, I.G.; F. A. Granville, D.C.; J. K. R. Cama, Org.; E. L. Caron, W.S.; and George Harrison, Tyler.

On the motion of Bro. Quicke, I.G., a vote of thanks was ordered to be recorded on the minutes of the lodge to the new W.M. for several handsome presents he had made to the lodge. A vote of thanks was also passed to Bro. Poore for performing the ceremony of installation, and after the transaction of some other business, the lodge was closed, and the brethren sat down to one of Bro. Sadler's choice banquets.

After the Benevolent Box had been sent round, Bro. John Read proposed that the contents should be given to the Southport Lifeboat Fund. This proposal was not only received with favour by the brethren, but it was suggested that the amount should be made up to five guineas. Bro. Thrupp, the Deputy Prov. Grand Master of Middlesex, however, said the money could not be applied to any purposes that were not Masonic, and therefore the proposal fell through.

The usual toasts were then proceeded with. Bro. Thrupp, P.G.D., replied to the toast which embraces the Grand Officers.

Bro. Woodward, Prov. G. Secretary, replied to the toast of "The Prov. Grand Master, Sir Francis Burdett," who had intrusted him to say with reference to the circular that had been sent out, that one or two lodges said that circular would cause friction and upset their working. One said he thought the result would be that some of the brethren would resign the lodge and join London lodges instead. His reply to that was that he thought brethren who took such steps would be more in want of an excuse for leaving their lodges, and that the Provincial Grand Master took the step he did when he (Bro. Woodward) gave him a report of the state in which the lodges were in the province, and Sir Francis perfectly made up his mind that he would not allow any lodges to be in arrear and go on as they had done in the past without having their accounts audited, because it led to some of the brethren being excluded where they were not liable to be excluded, and were returned to Grand Lodge as defaulters. In that case they would be ineligible for relief, whereas they ought not to be, because the money had been paid to the Treasurers and Secretaries, and they ought to have had their certificates. Grand Lodge was much to blame in allowing lodges to be in arrear, and the Provincial Grand Lodge of Middlesex had set them a good example and done good service. The circular had done a great deal of good.

Bro. D. P. Cama, I.P.M. and Treas., proposed "The W.M." Bro. Palmer had always supported him, and had performed his portion of the ceremonies in a masterly manner. Bro. Palmer now occupied the chair which he (Bro. Cama) had held for the first year of the lodge's existence, and what he (Bro. Cama) had left undone would be made up by his successor. The W.M. had invested his officers and closed his lodge quite to the satisfaction of the lodge and the visitors, and all they had to do now was to wish him good health, plenty of work, and the same support by his officers as he had given to his predecessor.

The W.M., in reply, said he felt he had not yet deserved any of the compliments Bro. Cama had bestowed on him; but he could assure the brethren that in the ensuing year, and in years to come, he would do his best to deserve them. It was no vain promise when he said it should be his constant aim to make the Cama Lodge a great success in the Province of Middlesex. He felt that they were commencing this year under very happy auspices. It was a very united lodge, and there was every prospect of success. Every brother under his sway would work most heartily for that success, and he trusted that next year when he had to give an account of his Stewardship they would be found to give him, not as he took it now an expectation of favours to come, but that they would say he had well done during his year of office.

In proposing "The Initiates," the W.M. regretted that one candidate had been prevented coming that evening. Nevertheless, the lodge had added to its numbers two brethren who would shed a lustre not only on the Cama Lodge, but on Masonry generally. Bro. Saunders was a very old friend of his; they had together fought out the battle and braved out the breeze, and when the brethren came to know him as well as he did, they would appreciate him as he did. He would be a most valuable brother in the lodge. Bro. Tadviala he had not the pleasure of a previous acquaintance; but he brought with him such good credentials, and had been proposed and seconded by such excellent and worthy Masons, that he was quite ready to accept him on their authority, and he was sure he would always be an honour to the lodge. Addressing the initiates, he said they had that evening taken a most important step; it would affect the whole of their future life. It might be that they, being new to Freemasonry, might have thought the ceremony in parts quaint and odd, but when they had made more progress they would see there was nothing done without a purpose, and that Freemasonry was one of the most beneficial institutions that this world produced. It had for its foundations the three great principles of brotherly love, relief, and truth, and an Order founded on such principles was bound to flourish. The initiates would never regret the step they had taken: they would find the brethren of

the Cama Lodge, as well as all other Masons, would be good and true brothers to them, and should it unfortunately happen—which he trusted in God it might not—that they might want assistance, that they would always find the hand of a Mason ready and open to give it in every possible way. He congratulated the initiates on having joined the Order.

Bro. Saunders, after a few preliminary observations in reply, said if ever there was a time for Englishmen, Scotch men, and Irishmen to become Masons it was the present time, when they were trying to promote the confederation of this great empire. This country and the colonies had stood together. It was unity that brought men together, but, apart from that, there was a reason for every man being a Freemason—they liked to meet their brethren.

Bro. Tadviala said he solemnly took upon himself the duties of the Brotherhood, and trusted that God would help him in carrying them out to its full and proper extent. He was proposed by Bro. Cama, the late Master and the founder. He knew the Cama family for the great good it had done to the public, especially to the public of India, and he was proud to be a member of a lodge that bore the family name of Cama. In seconding his candidature Bro. Fracis had done him a great favour after knowing him a very short period indeed, and he was greatly indebted to him for that favour. He hoped to be able to carry out his sacred trust, and he expressed his heartfelt gratitude to all the brethren.

The W.M. proposed "Bro. Thomas Poore," who had rendered immense service to Freemasonry, and performed his work that evening in installing the W.M. most efficiently.

Bro. Thomas Poore replied, and expressed himself deeply indebted to the brethren for the assistance they had given him.

Bros. Dr. Tanner, W. Woodward, and J. J. Caney, P.M. 198, replied to the toast of "The Visitors."

In proposing "The I.P.M.," the W.M. said Bro. Cama had presided over the brethren of the Cama Lodge very ably and well for the past 12 months, and had done his duty to the very utmost. They were all most grateful for the fostering care he had shewn to the lodge in its infancy. He found it very small, but during his year the numbers had increased considerably. In another year he hoped it would be still more numerous and prosperous than it now was. Bro. Cama was so well known that it was impossible to say anything new of him. He had stood by the Craft, and the estimation he was held in by them was sufficiently testified by the position he held of Grand Treasurer, a position he held by the suffrages of the whole Craft. He was sorry the lodge was not just now in a position to put its esteem and gratitude into a substantial form, but this was only a pleasure postponed, for it would be done on a future occasion.

Bro. Cama in acknowledging the toast, which was most heartily received, said he was the first I.P.M. of the Cama Lodge, but that was purely by the suffrages of the founders. They met more than a year ago in his cousin's office, and the first thing the founders did there was to elect him as the first Worshipful Master. The brother who obtained the honour of becoming the first Master of a lodge ought to be very proud of it. For the suffrages of the brethren he was very grateful; he was very proud of being the first Master. During the first year of the lodge he did his duty to the best of his ability, but he had many shortcomings. The officers of the present Worshipful Master were mostly the same brethren who supported him during his year. He had many responsibilities. He would endeavour to do the duties of his office of Treasurer. It was not a light thing to elect a foreigner, a brother with very little ability; but as they had given him their choice and made him their Grand Treasurer he should also be proud and grateful to the Craft for that. He again thanked the brethren of the lodge for their kindness, and before resuming his seat wished them "A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year."

The toast of "The Officers," which was responded to by Bro. Read, S.W., and Bro. Dharwar, J.W., and the Tyler's toast closed the proceedings.

SUNDERLAND.—St. John's Lodge (No. 80).—On Tuesday, the 14th inst., the annual meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Park-terrace. The W.M., Bro. J. J. Wilson, P.P.G. Stwd., presided, and was supported on the dais by the following: Bros. R. Hudson, Provincial Grand Secretary; J. J. Clay, P.G.D. of C.; Robert Shadforth, P.G.S.D.; J. E. Nelson, P.G.P.; James Dobson, I.P.M.; Mark Douglass, P.P.G.D.; Thomas Elwen, P.P.G.P.; H. J. Turnbull, P.P.G.P.; J. Mitchinson, P.M.; R. Kimmond, P.P.G.P.; Hawdon, P.M., Sec.; R. W. Halfnight, P.P.G.D.; T. Henderson, P.P.G.S.B.; George Porteous, P.P.G. Org.; A. T. Munro, P.P.G.S.B.; W. Beattie, P.M. 1389; G. Lord, P.P.G.D.; J. D. Todd, P.M. 94; W. H. Sharp, P.M. 94; J. C. Moor, P.P.J.G.D.; J. G. Kirtley, P.P. J.G.D.; the Rev. R. Heart Yeld, W.M. 1389, P.P.G.C.; Robert Singleton, W.M. 97; J. Deans, W.M. 2039; and there were also present Bros. C. M. Wake, S.W. 97; G. W. Bain, J.W. 949; A. Peters, J.W. 1389; J. Scarborough, S.W. 94; W. A. Priestly, J.W. 2039; Edwin Turnbull, J.W. 481; T. Burlinson, W. A. O. Sutcliffe, Sec. 97; and others.

After the ordinary business of the lodge, the installation of the W.M. for the ensuing year took place. The W.M. elect, Bro. Thomas Atkinson, S.W., who was unanimously elected at last meeting, was presented by Bro. M. Douglass, P.P.G.D., to the Installing Master, Bro. H. J. Turnbull, P.P.G.P., who has for some years most efficiently discharged the duties. The ceremony was impressively performed, and Bro. Atkinson was duly installed W.M. according to ancient custom. The newly-installed Master having been saluted and proclaimed, proceeded to invest the following officers, Bro. J. J. Wilson having been invested as I.P.M.: Bros. J. Nicholson, S.W.; James Hudson, J.W.; T. Elwen, P.M., Treasurer; W. Hawdon, P.M., Secretary; Richard Todd, S.D.; P. W. A. Pearcey, J.D.; J. R. Irvine, I.G.; H. J. Turnbull, P.M., D.C.; S. Rackley, T. Burlinson, G. Bigelon, and W. Watt, Stewards; and J. W. Brown, P.G. Tyler, Tyler.

The congratulations of the Provincial Grand Officers present were expressed towards the W.M. by Bro. R. Hudson, P.G.S., and by the visiting brethren. The annual festival of the lodge was afterwards held, Bro. T. Atkinson, W.M., presiding.

IPSWICH.—St. Luke's Lodge (No. 225).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, the 8th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Soane-street. Amongst the visitors were Bros. E. Catchpole, 1714; F. A. Bales, 376; J. M. Franks, W.M. 376, P.J.G.D.; F. A. Cobbold, W.M. 114; F. C. Atkinson, 376; J. D. E. J. Sherman, P.M. 959; W. B. Hanson, W.M. 959; John Hunt, S.W. 376; George Barwell, 959; and W. P. Mills, P.M. 376, P.P.S.G.W. The brethren of the lodge present were Bros. A. W. Cook, W.M.; Thos. J. Noble, S.W.; Edgar Scrivener, J.W.; John Talbot, P.M.; Alexander Barber, P.M., Sec.; S. J. Morley, S.D.; E. P. Price, I.G.; Geo. Abbott, D.C.; J. L. Brook, P.M.; E. Garwood, P.M.; J. W. B. King, P.M.; Robert Senton, Wm. J. Leggett, R. Pike, W. Whitehead, S. Snow, P.M.; A. Senton, John White, P.M., P.G.S. of W.; John Orton, Jesse Sheppard, and A. Lord.

The lodge being opened, and the minutes of the previous lodge having been confirmed, Bro. Geo. Abbott, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., took the chair, and in a most impressive manner installed Bro. Thomas J. Noble as W.M. for the coming year, after which the W.M. appointed and invested the following brethren as his officers: Bros. A. W. Cook, P.G. Steward, I.P.M.; E. Scrivener, S.W.; S. J. Morley, J.W.; J. Talbot, Treas.; A. Barber, P.P.G.S.B., Sec.; G. Abbott, P.P.G.S.B., S.D.; E. P. Price, J.D.; R. Pike, I.G.; J. L. Brook, D.C.; W. Leathers and T. Turner, Stewards; and G. Gould, Tyler. The business being concluded, the brethren adjourned to the banqueting hall, where a sumptuous spread was placed before them in Bro. Hardwick's usual style.

On the removal of the cloth, the W.M. proposed "The Health of Her Gracious Majesty the Queen," referring to the Queen as the Mother of Masons.

In proposing "The Health of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," the W.M. said they might be pardoned for any amount of pride they felt at having at the head of their Order his Royal Highness, who did not occupy that position as a mere ornament, but was known to the whole body of the Craft as one of the hardest workers.

After giving "The Health of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," the W.M. called upon the brethren to respond to the toast of "The Right Hon. Lord Henniker, P.G.M. Suffolk, V.W. Bro. the Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G.C., D.P.G.M. Suffolk, and the rest of the Officers of P.G. Lodge, Present and Past," which was ably responded to by Bros. White, P.M., P.G.S. of W., J. M. Franks, W.M., P.J.G.D., and W. P. Mills, P.P.S.G.W., who in a few appropriate remarks referred to the father, grandfather, and uncle of the W.M., who were good and true Masons, and acted well up to the tenets of the Craft.

"The Health of the Installing Master, Bro. George Abbott," was given by the W.M., and in calling the attention of the brethren to the admirable manner in which Bro. Abbott had performed the ceremony, he paid a high compliment to him for his services as Preceptor of the lodge.

Bro. Abbott, in responding, spoke of the admirable example set the W.M. by his ancestors, his father having for many years occupied the position of Treasurer to the lodge.

Bro. Cooke, I.P.M., gave "The Health of the W.M.," which was well received by the brethren.

The Worshipful Master, in response, spoke of his early recollection of St. Luke's Lodge, his father and grandfather having occupied prominent positions in it. It was a frequent custom for the elder brethren of that day to visit his father's house, so that as a boy he came to know there was something good in Masonry; and he longed for the time when he could take part in it. The constant visits of the late Bro. Richmond, Bro. Randall, and Bro. Pettitt early instilled the tenets of the Craft into his mind, and he would endeavour to carry out the duties of the high position he occupied to their satisfaction.

After Bro. Cook, I.P.M., had returned thanks for his health, Bro. Garwood, P.M., gave the toast of "The Masonic Charities," referring to the time, now sixty years since, when his father was Master of that lodge. At that time there was only one lodge in the town—that being St. Luke's. Masonry since then had prospered, and at the present time there were four, and with the success of Masonry there had been success to a marvellous extent of the Charities. This poured the benevolent benefits upon the widows of Masons, old Masons, and the orphans of deceased brothers alike.

Bro. W. P. Mills, in responding, called the attention of the brethren to the fact that no charity was carrying out so useful a work as the Masonic Charities. They not only had homes for the widows of Masons and old Masons, and two schools for the girls and boys of deceased brothers, but pensions were granted to widows and the elder brethren, and this at a no less cost than £54,000 annually. He expressed the hope that no brother present would ever require any assistance from that fund, but that the G.A.O.T.U. would so prosper them as to enable them to continue their help towards the success of those Charities.

"The Health of the Visitors" was ably responded to by the W.M.'s of the Prince of Wales Lodge, the Perfect Friendship Lodge, the British Union Lodge, and Bro. E. Catchpole, of the Albert Edward Lodge, York Town, Surrey, who had pleasant reminiscences of the lodge, his uncle (Bro. Giddy) having been Master in 1842.

The toast of "The Past Masters of the Lodge" was responded to by Bro. Barber, who said he thought it was almost time for him to retire. He, as Secretary, had assisted to install 27 Masters, and it was now his 54th year as a Mason.

The toast of "The Officers" having been ably responded to by the various brethren, the Tyler's toast brought a pleasant evening to a close.

The harmony of the evening was greatly enhanced by the musical ability of Bros. George Abbott, E. Sherman, J. Talbot, J. Brooks, J. White, J. M. Franks, F. A. Bales, J. Hunt, and J. W. B. King.

CHELMSFORD.—Lodge of Good Fellowship (No. 276).—On Thursday afternoon, the 9th inst., the annual installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Corn Exchange. The W.M. of the lodge, Bro. Andrew C. Durrant, P.J.G.W., occupied the chair, and he was supported by the following officers: Bros. A. G. Maskell, S.W.; Wilson Metcalfe, J.W.; Rev. F. B. Shepherd, P.P.G.C., Chap.; Langham, S.D.; T. R. Jarvis, J.D.; Andrew Durrant, P.M., P.G. Treas., D.C.; T. Winniatt

Smith, P.G. Org., Org.; and Sarel, Tyler. There was also a good attendance of Past Masters and members of the lodge, and visitors.

The principal business of the evening was the installation of the W.M. elect, Bro. A. E. Maskell, which ceremony was impressively performed by the D.P.G.M. of the province, Bro. F. A. Philbrick, Q.C., Grand Registrar; and at its close the W.M. invested the following brethren as his officers: Bros. Andrew C. Durrant, P.J.G.W., I.P.M.; Wilson Metcalfe, P.G. Stwd., S.W.; William Langham, J.W.; Rev. F. B. Shepherd, P.M., P.P.G.C., Chap.; Frank Whitmore, P.M., P.P.S.G.D., Treasurer; James P. Lewin, P.M., P.P.G. Supt. of Wks., Sec.; Andrew Durrant, P.M., P.G. Treas., P.P.S.G. of Wks., D.C.; F. P. Sutherly, P.M., P.P.S.G.D., Org.; T. Rymer Jarvis, S.D.; James Tomlinson, J.D.; Charles Williams, I.G.; Frederick Smeed and J. C. Creswell, Stwds.; and Thomas S. Sarel, P.G. Tyler, Tyler.

A hearty vote of thanks having been accorded to the Installing Master, the W.M. was elected to represent the lodge on the Essex Provincial Charity Committee. The lodge also passed a hearty vote of thanks to Bro. James Nichols, P.M., who has resigned the Secretaryship in consequence of leaving the town, after having held the office nine years; and a similar compliment was accorded Bro. J. W. Hair for the exemplary manner in which he had discharged the duties of Assistant Secretary during the same period.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the White Hart Hotel, where a *recherché* banquet was served by Mr. E. Panther Taylor, under the presidency of the newly-installed W.M.

After dinner the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and duly honoured. In responding for the toast of his health, the V.W.D.P.G.M., after thanking the brethren for their cordial reception, expressed his great regret that, being unable to leave his room that time last year, he had not the pleasure of installing the I.P.M., which, as the son of one of their oldest and most respected P.G. Officers, he should have had so much pleasure in doing. Bro. Philbrick then congratulated the lodge upon the large number of P.G. Officers present on that occasion, all of whom had done good work for Freemasonry in the province. He feelingly alluded to the loss they had all sustained in the death of Bro. Joshua Nunn. The very last occasion on which he (Bro. Philbrick) was amongst his Essex brethren was on the occasion of the installation of that worthy brother as first W.M. of their youngest lodge. He had no doubt that at the present time their minds had been exercised somewhat as to what part Freemasons were to take in the celebration of her Majesty's Jubilee. He could assure them, and the P.G. Secretary would bear him out, that no one felt more keen an interest in this matter than their P.G.M., Bro. Lord Brooke. Nothing, he believed, had really been decided on at present; but, knowing he should be in Essex that day, he had made some enquiries, and he believed he might tell them, without betraying any confidence, that it was the desire of H.R.H. the Grand Master to himself make some communication of his wishes on the subject. That communication would, no doubt, be shortly made; and they, as loyal citizens and Freemasons, would, he was sure, gladly fall in with whatever their Grand Master desired.

Other toasts followed, and some excellent vocal and instrumental music added to the pleasure of the evening.

Among those present, besides the officers of the lodge above-mentioned, were Bros. F. A. Philbrick, Q.C., Grand Reg., D.P.G.M.; T. J. Ralling, P.M. and Sec. 51, P.G. Sec.; the Rev. W. Morgan Jones, W.M. 697, P.P.G.C.; J. J. C. Turner, P.M. 51, P.P.G.O.; J. E. Wiseman, P.M. 433, P.P.G.A.D.C.; G. A. Eustace, P.M. 697, P.P.G. Std. Br.; H. E. Tinckam, P.M. 244, P.P.G.S.B. Hants and Isle of Wight; H. D. Marshall, S.W. 771; R. K. Bull and Warren H. Drake, of 1726; and H. Hay, 1627; also the following members of 276: Bros. A. C. Veley, P.M., P.G. Stwd. Eng.; Arthur Goodchild, P.M., P.P.G.W.; E. Shedd, P.M.; A. Mead, P.M., P.P.G.S. of W.; J. S. Brown, P.M., P.P.G.D.; A. F. Ginn, P.M., P.P.G.P.; J. W. Hair, P.P.G.R.; John Taylor, F. H. Meggy, E. Durrant, P.P.G. Stwd.; and others.

GOOLE.—Aire and Calder Lodge (No. 458).—The Festival of St. John was celebrated on Friday evening, the 10th inst., when there was a large attendance of brethren, including Bros. Wm. Everatt, W.M.; W. Brook, I.P.M.; E. J. Foster, S.W. and W.M. elect; Robert Dayson, J.W.; Wm. Porter, Chap.; C. Dixon, Sec.; R. C. Bruce, S.D.; E. C. B. Tudor, D.C.; A. Gooderidge, acting J.D.; J. A. Bray, P.M., Treas.; C. Chappell, Stwd.; C. Grant, I.G.; T. Rippon, Org.; P.M.'s: R. Peacock, R. Wright, W. W. Hunter, H. Wilson, H. T. Gardiner, P.A.G.D.C.; Ezra Gooderidge, C. Denby, A. Spink, and J. Cawthorn, P.P.G.P. Visitors: Bros. G. H. Anderton, P.M., P.P.G. Swd. Br. N. and E. Yorks; W. Staniforth, P.G.P. Lincolnshire; R. Wood, P.G.S. Lincolnshire; Staveley, Hesketh Lodge; J. Barnuter, Selby Lodge; W. Baldwin, W.M. 630; T. C. Horobin, W.M. 1482; J. Milnes, P.M. Fidelity Lodge; T. C. Turton, J.W. 630; J. Beak, J. Blagboro, Fielding, C. Rhodes, De La Pole Lodge; Chamberlain, J.W. 1482; J. Cheatter, and Fox, J.D. 1482; also the following brethren of the lodge: Bros. Lockwood, Blasdale, C. Bromley, Sutherby, J. Greenwood, G. Cutt, A. J. Peacock, J. Leach, C. A. B. Tudor, B. W. Wood, E. Hind, and C. D. Scott.

The minutes of the last regular lodge having been confirmed, Bro. J. J. Robinson was balloted for, and elected, as a serving brother, being the first serving brother elected under these walls after an interval of over 20 years. The W.M. then vacated the chair, and Bro. H. Wilson, P.M., installed Bro. E. J. Foster as W.M. for the ensuing year. The W.M. elect was presented by Bros. Wm. Brook, P.M., and W. Everatt, W.M., and the ceremony was performed in a very able and impressive manner, the reputation of the lodge for regular and correct working being fully sustained. Bro. Blagboro added very greatly to its solemnity by singing "Be thou faithful unto death" directly after the obligation was administered. The W.M. having been duly proclaimed and saluted, the ancient charges were given by the Installing Master, and the ceremony closed with an impressive prayer from the Chaplain. The following were the officers invested: Bros. W. Everatt, I.P.M., W. Porter, S.W.; G. Dixon, J.W.; J. A. Bray, P.M., Treas.; C. Grant, Sec.; E. C. B. Tudor, D.C.; R. C. Bruce, Chap.; G. England, S.D.; A. Gooderidge, J.D.; C. Chappell, I.G.; T. Rippon, Org.; J. Leach and A. J. Peacock, Stwds.; and G. Cutt, Hon. Tyler.

The lodge having been duly closed, the brethren adjourned to the Lowther Hotel, where Mr. W. Hawke placed on the table an excellent banquet. The W.M., Bro. E. J. Foster, presided, and was supported by nearly 60 brethren.

The usual toasts having been given, "The Health of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," was received with enthusiasm.

Bro. W. Everatt read letters of apology from the R.W. P.G.M. West Yorks, Bro. T. W. Tew, J.P.; the W.D.P. G.M., Bro. H. Smith; and the P.G. Sec., Bro. H. Green; each of whom pleaded previous engagement as the reason why they were not present. The P.G.M. said that he had to attend a Grand Priory meeting on the very day of the installation at Goole, or he should certainly have been present; but he tendered Bro. Foster and the lodge his hearty congratulations and good wishes.

Bro. Wright, P.M., in proposing "The Provincial Grand Officers of West Yorkshire, Present and Past," referred to the prosperity of the province, and to the fact that that prosperity was due, not only to the fact that the P.G.M. and D.P.G.M., were held in high esteem, but also to the no less important circumstance that in the selection of their officers they had been very fortunate.

Bros. Gardiner, P.A.G.D.C., and Cawthorn, P.P.G.P., responded, the latter congratulated the lodge on its prosperous state, and remarked that wherever he visited in the province he found his name held in high esteem.

Bro. Gardiner, in proposing the toast of the evening—"The W.M. elect"—said he did so with great pleasure. Bro. Foster, the W.M. elect, was one of the earliest candidates that he had the pleasure of initiating into Freemasonry during his own first year of office as W.M. And he had since watched the progress he had made. Filling successively the office of I.G., J.D., S.D., Secretary, J.W., and S.W., the brethren had hailed with satisfaction his unanimous selection to the W.M.'s chair, feeling sure that in that position his conduct would add lustre to the lodge, and reflect every credit on himself. They well knew the high estimation in which not only Bro. Foster, but his wife were held throughout the town and district. He could only, on the part of the province, and of the P.M.'s and brethren of the lodge, wish him a happy and successful year of office.

Bro. Gooderidge, P.M., having sung "Come all ye Craftsmen,"

The Worshipful Master, who was received with loud applause, said it afforded him very great pleasure to preside over that board, and he only hoped in his conduct there, and on whatever other occasions he had to meet them, whether in the lodge or without its portals, he should have the assistance of all—not merely the senior brethren, though in making this qualification he did not underestimate the value of their presence, but of all—seniors and juniors alike. He could assure them that in the past he had done what he could, and so in the future he should strive to do the best he could for the interests of the lodge. Their friend, Bro. H. Wilson, P.M., had carried through the ceremony of installation in a very able manner, indeed, he felt that his health ought to be called the toast of the evening for the work they had seen could only have been arrived at by hard work, and many years diligent observance and study of Masonic ritual. It would only serve to show their visiting brethren that the position he had that afternoon been called was not an easy one to fill, but he should do the best he could. He hoped they would receive the toast of the "Installing Master" with enthusiasm.

Bro. Wilson, P.M., Installing Master, feelingly responded, thanking the brethren for their appreciation of his humble efforts, and saying that when asked by his friend Bro. Foster to install him he accepted the duty for several reasons, one being that he was anxious their friends should recognise that the Aire and Calder Lodge was not dependent on an outsider for the work, nor even on one or two within its walls, but that there were several members of the lodge able, competent and willing to take the lead in the important ceremony they had gone through that afternoon. He was very grateful for the many kindnesses they had shown him in the past, and joined in the expression of the wish that Bro. Foster's year of office would be one of very marked success.

Bro. Brook, P.M., gave "The I.P.M.," in forcible and felicitous language, and Bro. Everatt responded to the toast of "The Visiting Brethren," which was received with enthusiasm.

Bros. Anderton P.P.G. Swd. Br. N. and E. Yorks; Wood, P.G. Stwd. Lincolnshire; and Staveley replied.

"The Officers of the Past and Present Year" were given by the I.P.M., and the toast was replied to by Bro. W. Porter, S.W.; C. Grant, Sec.; and Amos Gooderidge, S.D.

With that of the "Past Masters" given by Bro. Dr. Bruce, the names of Bros. Ezra Gooderidge, P.M., and R. Pocock, P.M., were coupled.

"The Charities" was replied to by Bro. H. Wilson, P.M., Charity Steward.

Several other speeches and toasts followed. Bros. Blagboro, Wilson, Gooderidge, Leach, Fox, and other brethren singing during the evening, accompanied by Bros. Rippon and Dayson.

RIPON.—De Grey and Ripon Lodge (No. 837).—The installation meeting was held at the Town Hall, on Friday, the 3rd inst., when Bro. Capt. A. Tupman was installed Worshipful Master for the ensuing year, the ceremony being performed by Bro. F. Smith, P.M. The following were invested as officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. H. Wood, I.P.M.; F. Smith, jun., S.W.; S. Jacob, J.W.; Rev. J. A. Naylor, P.P.G. Chaplain, Chaplain; J. D. Waller, Treasurer; W. B. Smith, Secretary; W. T. Swain, S.D.; J. B. Parkin, J.D.; F. Smith, P.M., D.C.; W. H. Bentley, Organist; W. R. F. Lukis, I.G.; J. W. Bishop, P.M., and R. E. Collinson, P.M., P.P.G. S.B., Stewards; and E. Thorpe, Tyler. The addresses to the officers were given by Bro. the Rev. W. C. Lukis, P.M., P.P.G.C. The other Past Masters present were Bros. Bishop, Bateman, Donaldson, and H. C. Pickersgill, and the visiting brethren included Bros. J. Richardson, P.M., P.P.G.P., and A. J. Bodman, P.M., of 1001; and others.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, an excellent banquet was served at the Unicorn Hotel by Bro. R. E. Collinson, the newly-elected W.M. presiding.

DOUGLAS, ISLE OF MAN.—Athole Lodge (No. 1004).—The annual installation meeting of this lodge

was held on Wednesday, the 8th inst., Bro. Thomas H. Nesbitt, Prov. G. Sec., W.M., in the chair, and was a most successful and pleasant gathering. The R.W.P.G.M., Bro. Major J. Senhouse Goldie-Taubman, was unavoidably prevented by illness from being present, and wrote to the outgoing W.M. expressing his regret, as it would have afforded him great pleasure to have attended the installation had he been able, particularly as the ceremony was to be performed by the Provincial Grand Secretary. There was a numerous and imposing assemblage, and amongst those who signed the Tyler's book were the following: Bros. T. H. Nesbitt, Prov. G. Sec., W.M.; R. Lightfoot, Prov. G. Stwd., S.W. and W.M. elect; M. W. Corran, Prov. A.G. Purst., J.W.; G. C. Heron, D.P.G.M., P.M., Treas.; C. F. Johnson, Prov. G. Swd. Br., P.M., Sec.; H. Brearley, Prov. S.G.D., P.M., D.C.; A. E. Rothwell, S.D.; D. G. Macdonald, J.D.; T. E. Radcliffe, I.G.; J. Lawton and W. Gibson, Stwds.; J. Lanaghan, Tyler; S. Webb, P.M.; J. A. Brown, Prov. S.G.W., P.M.; L. G. Hannay, P.M.; C. M. Challenger, Prov. Grand Standard Bearer, S.W. 2050; A. C. Paterson, W. A. Waid, W. H. Jones, J. Davie, W. H. Holden, and R. Pascoe, of 1004; J. S. Morrison, W.M.; W. Kissack, Prov. G. Purst., S.W. and W.M. elect; W. J. Brown, Prov. A.G. Sec., J.W.; F. C. Poulter, S.D., Org.; R. Swinnerton, Prov. G.D. of C., P.M.; J. F. Terry, P.M.; J. C. Bradshaw, Prov. G. Std. Br., P.M.; and A. J. Spittal, of 1242; R. Whiteside, J.W.; P. A. Kiley, Sec.; and W. P. J. Pittar, Prov. G. Stwd., S.D. of 2049; W. A. McKown, W.M.; W. Broughton, J.W.; R. E. Cain, J.S.; and W. J. Kelly, of 2050; and H. K. McGeakin, 1013.

The lodge having been opened by the outgoing W.M. in due form, Bro. John Davie was raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M. by Bro. S. Webb, P.M., in a manner which elicited hearty commendations from the brethren present. The W.M., Bro. Nesbitt, Prov. G. Sec., again assumed the chair, and Bro. Lightfoot, the W.M. elect, was presented by Bro. H. Brearley, Prov. S.G.D., P.M., and Bro. Hannay, P.M., to receive the benefit of installation. The preliminaries consequent upon such interesting occasions having been faultlessly gone through, the Board of Installed Masters having been duly formed and opened, and the W.M. elect admitted, the difficult ceremony of installation was most admirably executed by Bro. Nesbitt, according to ancient custom. The newly-installed W.M. having invested the I.P.M. with the collar and jewel of the office, and the customary salutations and proclamations having been made, and working tools, &c., presented by Bro. Nesbitt, the Installing Master, Bro. Lightfoot, W.M., appointed and invested the following brethren as his officers for the ensuing year: Bros. M. W. Corran, Prov. A.G. Purst., S.W.; A. E. Rothwell, J.W.; G. C. Heron, D.P.G.M., P.M., Treas.; D. G. Macdonald, Sec.; Hy. Brearley, Prov. S.G.D., P.M., D.C.; W. H. Jones, S.D.; John Lawton, J.D.; Richard Smith, I.G.; Geo. F. King, and Wm. Gibson, Stwds.; and John Lanaghan, Tyler. Ater the investiture the Installing Master delivered the addresses in a masterly manner, being perfect, not only as regards the actual text, but also with respect to elocution, and the impressiveness of Bro. Nesbitt's working will not soon be forgotten. Bro. Heron, D.P.G. 4, for the Isle of Man, P.M., Treas., said it afforded him considerable pleasure to bear testimony to the efficient manner in which the ceremony of installation had been that day performed by Bro. Nesbitt, without the least slip or deviation from the ancient customs and established landmarks of the Order, and it augured well for the future of the mother lodge that his junior Past Master could discharge the most arduous duties so satisfactorily, and it especially gratified him to be able to congratulate the Provincial Grand Secretary upon his proficiency, and he moved that the best thanks of the members present be tendered to Bro. Nesbitt and recorded upon the minutes. This was seconded by Bro. H. Brearley, P.S.G.D., P.M., D.C., and supported by Bros. Hannay, P.M.; Webb, P.M.; and J. A. Brown, P.M., P.S.G.W., and carried unanimously. The Installing Master having replied in suitable terms, and "Hearty good wishes" having been tendered from the sister lodges and visiting brethren, the lodge was duly closed after a candidate had been proposed for initiation, and the brethren, accompanied by their guests, adjourned to the Falcon Hotel to dine together, where ample justice was done to the sumptuous repast provided by Mrs. Cowell, the genial hostess.

After the toasts of "The Queen;" "The M.W.G.M.;" "The Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Carnarvon, the Deputy Grand Master, the Earl of Lathom, and the Officers of the Grand Lodge of England, Present and Past," had been duly given and most enthusiastically honoured.

The Worshipful Master proposed "The R.W.P.G.M., the D.P.G.M., and the Officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge," which was received with acclamation, and responded to in felicitous terms by Bros. Heron, D.P.G.M., and W. Kissack, P.G. Purst.

Bro. Nesbitt, I.P.M., then proposed "The Health of the W.M., Bro. Lightfoot, P.G. Stwd.," and in the course of his remarks said: In asking your kindly forbearance to my successor during the ensuing year, it is scarcely necessary for me to remind you, brethren, that a W.M.'s lot is not always the bed of roses some of our junior members imagine it to be, or his time comfortable and easy; there are certain excrescences to be knocked off, surfaces to smooth, and irregularities to correct, and to anyone anxious to discharge the duties of the office satisfactorily, considerable responsibility is necessarily entailed. I have carefully noted Bro. Lightfoot's Masonic career, from his initiation to the present time; and if he does not make a brilliant Master, I honestly believe we shall have a W.M. who will endeavour by every means in his power to discharge the duties appertaining to his exalted station with satisfaction, and one who will be most anxious to please in every respect, and who will spare no pains to make himself perfect in the ceremonial working of the various Degrees, and I have great pleasure in asking you to drink his health.

Bro. Lightfoot, W.M., upon rising to respond, was heartily received. He said: Bro. Nesbitt, officers, and brethren, I beg to thank you for the reception accorded this toast. You all know I am a man of few words, and I will not promise to perform anything exceptionally great during my year of office, but I certainly will endeavour by perseverance, and the assistance of my officers, to merit your goodwill and esteem, and I hope to be favoured with the approbation of the brethren, and the testimony of a good conscience.

Bro. L. G. Hannay, P.M., in addressing the W.M., said: It devolves upon me to propose a toast which I am sure will be gladly welcomed by everyone present—"The

Health of the I.P.M. of the Athole Lodge, and the Installing Master," in connection with the interesting ceremony of to-day. It is a trite and apposite saying, Worshipful Master, that "Good wine needs no bush." It is so in the present instance, and whilst I fully acknowledge the correctness of the axiom, I at the same time deem it my duty, although it may be superfluous, to commend this toast to your most favourable consideration by giving it all the "bush" in my power. In colour my subject is light, in flavour and tone excellent, though a little more body would not be amiss. In Bro. Nesbitt the Athole Lodge has during the past year been favoured with a Master of exceptional skill and ability. He has discharged the duties of his office with credit to himself and satisfaction to the brethren, and the ceremonial work for dignity and beauty and neatness has been performed in the most exemplary manner, whilst in the ruling and governing of the lodge Bro. Nesbitt has been to all intents and purposes practically perfect. I remember five years ago, when I occupied the chair of Master of this lodge, I thought I was particularly fortunate in having as my Junior Deacon a brother possessing Bro. Nesbitt's ability and qualifications, and one upon whom I could thoroughly rely to occupy any office in case of emergency, and at that time Bro. Nesbitt discharged the duties devolving upon him as Deacon in such a satisfactory manner, that the Past Masters of this and the sister lodge were unanimous in prophesying—and his capabilities were so patent that it needed no great prescience to prophecy correctly, that his year of office, should he ever attain to the Master's chair, would be a most successful one. That prophecy, brethren, has been fully exemplified. His year of office, however, has been signalled by another event, one of the most important in the annals of Insular Freemasonry—the establishment of the Provincial Grand Lodge in the Isle of Man. When it became known that a Provincial Grand Lodge was to be established, Bro. Nesbitt found his responsible position, as chief of the executive in our municipal administration, and his well-known ability, was by universal consent selected as Provincial Grand Secretary, and no appointment gave greater or more general satisfaction. With regard to the proceedings of to-day, brethren, I think I am right in stating that this is the first time in the history of the Athole Lodge that the retiring W.M. has installed his successor, and that in itself redounds to Bro. Nesbitt's credit. In this instance there has been no division of labour, the whole of the ceremony from first to last having been performed without the least assistance. You all saw the excellent manner in which the work was performed, and the characteristic impressiveness with which the several addresses were delivered, and from commencement to finish the interest was preserved with undiminished poignancy, and I can safely say that so long as the Athole Lodge possesses Past Masters of the calibre of Bro. Nesbitt, genuine Masonic working will never fail or the Athole be behind its compeers. To mark the esteem in which Bro. Nesbitt is held amongst the brethren of this lodge, and as a token of their appreciation of his services and of his Masonic proficiency, I have now, by command of the Worshipful Master, and in the name of the Athole Lodge, to present to our worthy Bro. Nesbitt this Past Master's gold jewel, wishing him long life to wear it, and that his future career, Masonically and otherwise, no matter in what sphere it may be cast, may be as honourable as it has been during his connection with this lodge.

Bro. Nesbitt, I.P.M., Prov. G. Sec., in rising to respond, was received with applause, and, in the course of an excellent speech, teeming with Masonic sentiment, said: Bro. Past Master Hannay and brethren—I return my most sincere thanks for the very cordial manner in which you have been pleased to receive the toast of my health, and also to thank you for this further mark of your favour, which in itself indicates the honourable position to which I have been privileged to attain as a ruler in the Craft, while it also serves to mark the progress I have made in the science. I thank you with much pleasure, as the circumstance of my health as I.P.M. of this lodge and Installing Master being proposed to-night, although a toast of a somewhat stereotyped nature at this annual festival, possesses a certain appropriateness and significance peculiar to myself, it being exactly 12 years to-night since I had the honour of being initiated into the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry under the auspices of the Tynwald Lodge, No. 1242. Our brethren of the Tynwald are aware that their regular meetings are held on the Wednesday on or before *new moon*, whilst we in the Athole hold ours on the Wednesday on or before *full moon*. Upon that to me eventful occasion, 12 years ago, a new moon was privileged to appear in the person of your humble servant, and during the past year it has, through your favour, attained to the full, and to-night the waning process commences. During the 12 years I have been a Mason I have witnessed and experienced many changes, fraught with important results. Masonry, instead of being confined within the circumscribed limits of those days, has progressed even in our limited insular sphere by marvellous leaps and bounds, and, by judicious and stimulating management, it has succeeded in strengthening its position and extending its influence in many directions. It is exceptionally gratifying to-night to think that I have never once regretted that I was made a Mason; I have never ceased to regard my mother lodge with due respect and admiration, and to rejoice in her continued prosperity, and at the position she occupies, and the influence she undoubtedly exercises in connection with insular Masonry; and I hope she may go on prospering in the future as in the past; but, at the same time, brethren, whilst the Tynwald has my hearty good wishes, the mother of my adoption, the mother of English Freemasonry in this Island, now possesses—and I submit is justly entitled to possess—the first and strongest claim upon my filial affection and dutiful regard, for, notwithstanding the dictum of our ecclesiastical governors that a man may not marry his grandmother, yet the Athole is my grandmother, and I am truly and legitimately wedded to her, and during the past year Masons have appeared as one result of the union, and of which—in the language of the Craft—I am the Masonic father. With respect to this handsome jewel, which has been presented to me in the name of the members of the Athole Lodge, I assure you, brethren, I reciprocate the kindly feeling of goodwill which has prompted the presentation. I fully appreciate the compliment thus paid me, and in gratefully accepting this souvenir of your good feeling and esteem, permit me to express the fervent hope that I shall ever wear it with feelings of justifiable pride that I, an adopted child, was ever deemed worthy of being accorded the distinguished privilege of occupying the chair of Master

of this lodge. It will be a memento of many happy hours spent in the company and society of brethren whom I highly esteem, and whose friendship, from its disinterestedness and absence of ulterior motive, it is a pleasure to possess; and as I wear this jewel of our Order upon my breast—not as a dead leaf from a withered tree, not as a glittering, but cold, emblem on the outer heart, but as a symbol of the purest principles of morality and virtue; Masonically, to be the guide of my actions through life—I shall always look upon it, and I trust my children will look upon it as the connecting link of a very pleasant and, I hope, Masonically speaking, profitable official connection with the lodge, and which will serve to call to mind many pleasing reminiscences. I receive it with greater pleasure seeing that it has been presented by the hands of one who has been styled my "Masonic mentor," the brother who proposed me as a joining member in this lodge, and who gave me the first step on the official ladder which eventually placed me in my present position. It is not my intention, nor is it desirable, to repay compliment with compliment, but I should be guilty of injustice if I neglected to state that in our worthy Bro. Hannay, P.M., I have always found a right-hand friend in fair weather and in foul, and I have always looked upon him as a most sincere, thoroughly genuine, and conscientious worker, and although I strongly repudiate the mentorship—being of full age and, I presume, able to think, speak, and act for myself—it must be admitted that I have always been proud to follow where he has led, and I can honestly say, brethren, when Bro. Hannay and I have been shoulder to shoulder, we have invariably carried the lodge with us. I do not mean to say that we were always right; but we had the courage of our convictions, and were never afraid to let those convictions be known, and we certainly thought, particularly in connection with the matter anent the establishment of the Provincial Grand Lodge, that we were right in our views, and in the arguments we advanced, when that matter was being discussed. In proposing the toast of my health, Bro. Hannay has alluded in graceful and complimentary terms to the manner in which the ceremonial work has been performed during my official year. I cannot lay claim to possessing a tithe of the qualifications enumerated by him; but it has been my study through life, not only in connection with Freemasonry, but whatever else it may have devolved upon me to take in hand, to try at least to do it well. I am aware—no one more so—that during the past year there have been many defects and imperfections on my part; but with accustomed kindness and forbearance, and the exercise of that charity which suffereth long and is kind, you have without exception, to quote the somewhat hackneyed and antiquated couplet—

"Been to my virtues very kind,
And to my faults a little blind."

However, brethren, without being egotistical, I may say that during my year of office I have shrank from no task, however distasteful; have left no duty, however unpleasant, unfulfilled; but, to the best of my skill and ability, have endeavoured to administer the duties annexed to the appointment faithfully, zealously, and impartially, and it would be no pleasure to wear this distinguishing badge upon my breast if I could not honestly declare that, however imperfectly I had discharged the duties devolving upon me as your head, I have been actuated by good motives. I have discharged them in strict accordance with the dictates of my conscience, and with the sincere wish to benefit Freemasonry in general, and this lodge in particular, and to transmit to my successor the genuine tenets and principles of Freemasonry pure and unadulterated, as transmitted to myself through a long line of illustrious predecessors. I think it right here, sir, to acknowledge the able and willing assistance afforded by my staff of officers during the past year. The gavel—that significant implement of power which has enabled me to keep good order in the lodge—has been duly answered by my Wardens whenever sounded, and they have, with the exception of "one little cloud no bigger than a man's hand," been patterns of exemplary conduct, good order, and regularity. The Secretary has been indefatigable and most assiduous in the discharge of his arduous duties, and although Bro. Johnson can use a dry pen with extraordinary facility, it has never been necessary to do so. The Treasurer has taken care of the funds, and has guarded the expenditure, so as to avoid prodigality, with his accustomed zeal; and the Deacons and other officers have always been at their posts punctually at the time appointed, and have discharged their onerous duties to the satisfaction of every one concerned. I do not wish to be invidious in particularising or thanking my officers when all have worked so assiduously and so harmoniously for the common weal, but I am discharging a debt of gratitude and duty when I state that I am especially indebted to my Director of Ceremonies, Bro. H. Brearley, P.M., P.S.G.D., for his excellent services during a time when I was prostrated by illness, and he of all others has undoubtedly been my right hand, and to him my most fraternal acknowledgments and thanks are due. Allusion has been made to my endeavours to work the installation ceremony this evening. I am pleased they have met with your approval. It being my first attempt I confess I felt somewhat nervous, more particularly about the little details of the work, especially when following such veterans and able exponents of our beautiful Masonic ritual as Bro. Heron, D.P.G.M. of this Island, and Bro. Webb, P.M., and Bro. Hannay, P.M. Although I am fortunate to possess a fairly retentive memory it has been with me a matter of careful thought for some little time past, as I consider it a ceremony, from its peculiar impressiveness and beauty, deserving the utmost attention and study, and it was my ambition—and I submit it was a laudable ambition—to complete my record before retiring, and to install my successor in a manner—if I could possibly attain to it—befitting the traditions of this lodge. Before I sit down, brethren, I would urge upon you now that the Provincial Grand Lodge is an accomplished fact, as good Masons, true and trusty, and exemplary in conduct, steady and firm in principle, to assist its objects by every means in your power, and to unite in making its establishment, so far as we can, and the imperfections of our nature will permit, thoroughly successful, and with that object in view I personally will do all in my power to assist and to encourage the establishment of a Provincial Benevolent Fund. Brethren, I again thank you most sincerely for your hearty reception of this toast, for this jewel which you have presented to me, and for the many kindnesses I have been privileged to receive from you, individually and collectively, during the last five or six years, and I assure you, that notwithstanding the fact

animate all Masons to try as far as possible to promote the welfare of the Craft. I come here in response to an invitation, and I hope my address may prove useful and acceptable to you. There are different ways in which Freemasonry may be treated. It may be treated historically, from an archaeological aspect, from a ritualistic, from a mystic aspect, and in many other ways. There are, and must be, in any system which has existed so long as Freemasonry, a great Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth; and to promote the success and prosperity of our noble Order in general and the old Athole Lodge in particular. Brethren, I thank you.

The other toasts included "The Initiates" proposed by Bro. Heron, D.P.G.M., and responded to by Bro. Davie; "The other Insular Lodges and Visiting Brethren," proposed by Bro. H. Brearley, P.M., P.S.G.D., and responded to by Bro. H. McGeakin, Royal Victoria, 1013; W. Broughton, J.W., St. Trinian's, 2050; P. A. Ridley, Sec. Ellan Vannin, 2049; W. J. Brown, J.W.; and R. Swinerton, P.M., Tynwold, 1242. "The Past Masters of the Athole Lodge," proposed by Bro. Corran, S.W., and responded to by Bros. Johnson, P.M., and Webb, P.M., and Heron, P.M. "The Ladies" proposed by Bro. Rothwell, J.W., and responded to by Bros. T. E. Radcliffe, and J. A. Brown, P.S.G.W., P.M., "The Officers of the Athole Lodge," proposed by Bro. Webb, P.M., and responded to by Bro. Jones, S.D. "The memory of our departed Bro. Holden, P.M.," proposed by Bro. Nesbitt, I.P.M., and which was drunk in solemn silence. "The Hostess," proposed by Bro. C. F. Johnson, P.G., Sw. Br., P.M., and responded to by Bro. J. S. Morrison, W.M., Tynwold, 1242, and the Tylers' toast, ably rendered by Bro. Nesbitt, I.P.M. After singing "Auld Lang Syne" the brethren departed, after spending a most enjoyable as well as instructive evening.

The Past Master's jewel presented to Bro. Nesbitt, I.P.M., is of guaranteed solid 18 carat gold, and is surmounted by the crest, arms, and motto "Furth Fortune and Fill the Fetters" of the Duke of Athole, and is most richly chased, and enamelled in correct heraldic colours, the workmanship and design being exquisite, the jewel is suspended from a five-pointed gold star in the centre of which is placed a beautiful brilliant. The inscription upon the jewel is as follows: Presented by the members of the Athole Lodge, 1004, to Bro. Thomas H. Nesbitt, P.M., Prov. G. Sec., as a token of esteem and as a mark of their appreciation of his valuable services to the Craft, and of the Masonic proficiency and ability displayed by him during his tenure of the office of W.M., Douglas, Isle of Man, 8th December, 1886.

MIRFIELD.—Mirfield Lodge (No. 1102).—The installation meeting and Festival of St. John was held on Friday, the 17th inst. The lodge was opened in the presence of Bros. T. B. Fairclough, W.M.; J. H. Simpson, S.W., W.M. elect; W. Bailey, J.W.; F. H. Hare, Sec.; W. Wilson, S.D.; J. Womack, J.D.; F. J. Crowther, I.G.; W. Booth, Tyler; John Crowther, P.M.; John Barker, P.M., P.P.G.S. of W.; A. A. Stott, P.M., D.C.; John Walmsley, P.M.; J. Walmsley, P.M.; T. Long, P.M., Treas.; J. Barker, P.M.; R. Lester, P.M.; T. W. Sproule and J. Hilton, Stewards; S. W. Anderson, M. Deadman, T. Greenwood, and W. Beaumont. Visitors: Bros. A. Macaulay, P.M. 258; J. H. Simpson, W.M. 448; John Booth, P.M. 258, P.P.G. G.W.; John Stott, P.M. 258; G. Hingworth, 258; Child, 258; W. Williamson, P.M. 521, P.P.S.G.D.; W. E. Smithies, W.M.; T. Rhodes, and W. H. Wilson, of 1231; H. Blackburn, P.M. 827; H. Harrison, P.M. 264; F. Fearnside, 974, P.P.G. Organist Suffolk; and others.

Bro. W. Beaumont was raised to the Third Degree by the W.M., after which Bros. Stott and Crowther, P.M.'s, presented the W.M. elect for installation, the first part of this ceremony being taken by the W.M., Bro. Fairclough. After the brethren below the rank of P.M.'s had retired, Bro. John Barker took the chair, and duly installed Bro. Simpson into the chair of K.S. according to ancient custom. On the brethren being re-admitted, the W.M. was duly saluted and proclaimed. The working tools in the Third Degree were given by Bro. Long, P.M.; in the Second Degree by Bro. John Barker, P.M.; and in the First Degree by Bro. T. B. Fairclough, I.P.M. The W.M. then appointed and invested the following officers: Bros. W. Bailey, S.W.; F. H. Hare, J.W.; T. Long, P.M., Treasurer; W. Wilson, Secretary; J. Womack, S.D.; F. J. Crowther, J.D.; T. W. Sproule, I.G.; A. A. Stott, P.M., Director of Ceremonies; W. Deadman, Org.; J. Hilton and W. Beaumont, Stewards; and W. Booth, Tyler. Bro. John Barker gave the addresses to the W.M. and brethren, and Bro. Stott that to the Wardens. Bro. John Barker, P.M., P.P.G.S. of W., was elected member of the Charity Committee.

After hearty congratulations from the visitors, the lodge was duly closed, and the brethren adjourned to the Black Bull Hotel, where a banquet had been prepared for them by Bro. and Mrs. Beaumont, to which full justice was done, at the conclusion of which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed; and the Tyler's toast brought a very happy and successful meeting to a close.

CANTERBURY.—Royal Military Lodge (No. 1449).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Temple on Monday, the 13th inst., when there were present Bros. E. Cockerell, W.M.; T. H. Blamiers, I.P.M.; A. Develin, S.W.; E. G. Tomlings, J.W.; W. Carter, P.M., Secretary; H. M. Maugham, W.M. 1015, Chap.; Quarter-Master J. Pepper, S.D.; A. Abbs, J.D.; R. Simms, D.C., acting as I.G.; Lieut. P. F. Brine, D.C.; S. J. McClintock and D. Hall, Stwds.; R. Blake, P.M., Tyler; E. Beer, P.P.J.G.D.; W. Allen, W. Claydon, R. Geddes, G. Pope, T. Wordley, J. Stewart, J. Passmore, J. Naylor, F. Clarke, J. Clements, H. Herbert, T. Leach, J. Harvie, and J. Simpson. The visitors were Bros. Capt. Montagu, 31, P.P.S.G.W. Dorset; R. Pitcher, 972, P.P.G.D.C. Kent; T. Rossiter, P.M. 972; S. Newman, W.M. 972; E. White, 31; Major Maclear, 31; Surgeon Dodd, 31; J. Slattery, 525; and C. Bagg, 590.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes confirmed. Bro. Wordley was then passed to the Degree of F.C. Bros. Harril and Simpson were raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M. "Hearty good wishes" were received from several Dorset and Kent lodges—31, 972, and others. A candidate was proposed for ballot at next meeting.

The lodge having been closed, the brethren adjourned to supper, when the W.M. was supported by about thirty brethren.

The cloth having been removed, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and warmly responded to. Songs and harmony being interspersed, a very enjoyable evening was spent.

LOWESTOFT.—St. Margaret's Lodge (No. 1452).—The installation meeting took place at the Masonic Hall, London-road, on Monday, the 6th inst., when a goodly number of members and visitors attended. Bro. P. Allez, P.P.S.G.W. Suffolk, was the Installing Master, and when the W.M. elect, Bro. B. S. Bradbeer, had been duly installed in the chair of K.S. and saluted, he invested the following as his officers: Bros. J. B. Blackmore, P.P. G.C., I.P.M.; H. B. Walker, S.W.; T. S. Tearne, J.W.; P. Allez, P.P.S.G.W., Treasurer; H. J. Eastaugh, P.G.S., Secretary; D. C. Smith, S.D.; W. J. Roberts, J.D.; G. Bush, P.P.S.G.D., Organist; J. P. Smith, I.G.; and J. Symes, Tyler.

The banquet, which gave the greatest satisfaction, was served in good style at the Crown Hotel by Mr. and Mrs. W. Seeley. The usual toast list was honoured, and a very enjoyable evening was spent.

WOOLSTON.—Claustentum Lodge (No. 1461).—The annual meeting of this lodge took place at the Masonic Hall, on Wednesday, the 1st inst., when Bro. M. F. Curtis was installed as W.M. for the ensuing year, the impressive ceremony being ably performed by Bro. A. J. Browne. The numerous other visitors included the Sheriff of Southampton, Bro. E. Brown, S.W. of Peace and Harmony Lodge, and the W.M.'s and P.M.'s of many Hampshire lodges. After the installation Bro. Curtis invested the following officers for the year: Bros. R. Bell, I.P.M.; E. F. Wise, S.W.; W. J. Miller, J.W.; Rev. G. Hughes, Chap.; James Methven, P.M., Treas.; Walter Bowyer, P.M., Sec.; W. H. Mitchell, S.D.; W. H. Smith, J.D.; E. Waters, D.C.; J. T. Wells, D.C.; H. C. Sims, I.G.; E. A. Edwards, Stwd.; J. Morten; and Henley, Tyler. Cordial votes of thanks were accorded to Bro. Bell for the efficient services he had rendered the lodge during his year of office; to the Installing Master, and to Bro. Tilling for many years' service as Treasurer, a post which he has now resigned.

At the banquet, which was admirably served by Bro. Henley, the usual Masonic toasts were proposed, Bro. Stoper responding for "The Sister Lodges," and Bro. Lashmore for "The Provincial Grand Lodge," the last-named speaking of the Prov. Grand Master, the R.W. Bro. W. W. Beach, M.P., and his Deputy, Bro. J. E. Le Feuvre, J.P., as no mere ornamental Masons, and, referring to the recent consecration of a lodge at East Cowes, pointed out the rapid strides which Freemasonry was making in the province.

A lodge of instruction in connection with the Claustentum was hinted at from the chair.

YORK.—Eboracum Lodge (No. 1611).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, the 13th inst., at the Masonic Hall, St. Saviourgate. Bro. W. Brown, W.M., occupied the chair, this being his first meeting since his installation in November, and he was supported by a large number of his brethren, including Bros. W. B. Dyson, S.W.; S. J. Dalton, J.W.; G. Balford, P.M., Treasurer; James Ray, Secretary; W. Lackenby, S.D.; J. Lamb, J.D.; W. Storry, I.G.; T. B. Whythead, P.M., D.C.; C. G. Padel, P.M., Org.; Shonksmith, Stwd.; G. Simpson, P.M.; J. T. Seller, P.M.; J. Blenkins, P.M.; and others.

The minutes having been confirmed, the business of the evening was taken, consisting of the initiation of a candidate, which was performed by the W.M. The following brethren were appointed as a Committee to arrange for the completion of the organ, and to report to the lodge: The W.M., Senior and Junior Wardens, Bro. T. B. Whythead, Bro. George Balford, Bro. C. G. Padel, Bro. A. T. B. Turner, and Bro. Child. Bro. Spetch presented to the lodge two framed engravings of Whitby Abbey and Reivaulx Abbey. Bro. G. Simpson, P.M., presented two early editions of "Hutchinson's Spirit of Masonry;" Bro. Halliwell presented three electro-plated cigar nippers in an engraved case for the use of the smoke room; Bro. Whythead presented five volumes of the "Masonic Magazine" (1792 et seq.), and other Masonic works, also two old Masonic Diplomas on behalf of Bro. Donald Grant, and a facsimile of the unique Engraved List of Lodges, in the library at New York, on behalf of Bro. W. J. Hughan; Bro. Coates offered to be at the expense of framing the latter; and votes of thanks were passed to the donors of the several gifts. The W.M. presented an additional lavatory, which he had erected at his own expense, as an accommodation for the brethren, and was heartily thanked. The ancient jug of Leeds ware, formerly the property of the Alfred Lodge, at Wetherby, and which had been purchased from Bro. Ramsden Riley, on behalf of the lodge, by Bro. T. B. Whythead, was exhibited, and the brethren expressed much pleasure at this addition to their already valuable museum of Masonic relics. Bro. Whythead proposed as a joining member Bro. W. Harry Vane Milbank, of the Lennox Lodge, No. 123.

After the close of the lodge, the members met in the smoke room, and enjoyed a social evening, enlivened by songs and speeches. Bros. W. Mennell, W. B. Dyson, T. B. Whythead, and others contributed to the harmony of the meeting, Bro. Child giving the accompaniment on the piano. A new warming apparatus has just been placed in the lodge room, and also in the Tyler's room, thus adding materially to the comfort of the brethren.

MANCHESTER.—Zion Lodge (No. 1798).—At the regular meeting of this lodge, held by dispensation at the Hulme Town Hall, on the 6th inst., being the installation festival, 79 members and visitors signed the attendance book, amongst which were the following brethren of distinction: Bros. Jas. Beard, Prov. J.G.W. East Lancashire; Col. Aspland, Prov. G. Reg. East Lancashire; John Chadwick, Prov. G. Sec. East Lancashire; J. Abbott, Pro. G.D. of C. East Lancashire; J. M. Sinclair, Prov. J.G.D. East Lancashire; W. Hardcastle, Prov. S.C.D. East Lancashire; Lieut.-Col. Rocca, P.P.S.G.D. East Lancashire; Benjamin Taylor, P.P.G. Treas. East Lancashire; and Geo. Sykes, P.P.G.D.C. West Yorks.

The lodge was opened by Bro. Steinart, P.M., after which Bro. Simeon Mamelok, P.M., installed Bro. Morris Rosenthal, S.W., the W.M. elect, into the chair of K.S., the Board of Installed Masters consisting of 25 brethren. The investiture of officers was performed by Bro. George Board, P.M., and D.C. 1798; the officers were as follows:

Bros. P. Hart, S.W.; W. H. Boycott, J.W.; Jos. Shoeps, Treas.; Geo. Rideal, Sec.; Rev. J. H. Valentine, Chap.; S. Alexander, Deputy Chap.; Louis Frankenstein, S.D.; Geo. Crocker, J.D.; A. Besso, I.G.; Geo. Board, D.C.; W. Edwards, Leon Levy, and Peter Reynolds, Stwds. The Installing Master proposed that £5 5s., as usual on such occasions, be voted from the funds of the lodge to the East Lancashire Systematic Educational and Benevolent Institution, which was carried unanimously. Seven propositions for initiation were made, after which the W.M., Bro. Morris Rosenthal, closed the lodge.

The brethren then adjourned to a sumptuous banquet provided by Bro. Johnson, which was highly appreciated by all present. After the loyal toasts had been disposed of, Bro. Steinart, I.P.M., proposed in an able manner "The Health of the W.M.," alluding to his Charitable activity since his initiation five years since; he stated that he had made himself a Life Governor of the three London Institutions. The toast was received with acclamation, the enthusiasm of the brethren being unprecedented.

The Worshipful Master replied in fitting terms, and, alluding to his activity in the past, intimated that he had only commenced his good work, and announced that he was prepared to constitute himself a Life Governor of the East Lancashire Systematic Educational and Benevolent Institution, which was received with applause.

The Worshipful Master then proposed "The Health of Bro. M. Steinart, I.P.M.," and in doing so alluded to his efficient work during the past year in a feeling and telling speech, and said, in appreciation of his valued services, he had much pleasure in presenting him with a handsome Past Master's jewel, which had been subscribed for by the members of the lodge.

Bro. Steinart acknowledged the compliment paid him, with an assurance that his energies would still be expended in the welfare of Zion Lodge.

Bro. Joseph Shoeps, Treas., then proposed the toast of "The Masonic Charities," and coupled with it the name of Bro. Geo. Board, P.M., the Charity representative of the lodge.

Bro. Board responded, and announced that the lodge and its members had during the past year subscribed and paid to the Masonic Charities no less a sum than 105 guineas; this was independent of their own Charity Fund, which had been augmented during the year with £9. At the same time Bro. Board pointed out to the brethren the decision of Provincial Grand Lodge had come to at their half-yearly meeting, to celebrate the Jubilee year of her Majesty's reign by making a vigorous effort to largely augment the funds of the Aged Freemasons' Benevolent Institution, and announced that he had 70 guineas promised from members of the lodge already for that purpose. This statement was received with applause.

The remaining toasts having been duly honoured and responded to, the brethren separated, after celebrating what will be regarded as a red letter day in its history.

LEEDS.—Prudence Lodge (No. 2069).—The regular meeting of this lodge took place on the 11th inst. The newly-installed Master, Bro. Chas. L. Mason, P.P.G. Treas. W. Yorks, has inaugurated two improvements, which will be heartily appreciated not only by the members of his own lodge, but by the Masons of Leeds generally. Hitherto there have been but few lectures on the great principles and tenets of Freemasonry delivered in the lodges of the town; but this is a reproach Bro. Mason has determined to wipe out. In connection with the Lodge of Prudence a large number of lectures have already been arranged for. At the regular meeting in January that distinguished Mason, Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, P.G. Chap., has promised to visit the town, where he is so highly respected, and lecture in the Lodge of Prudence. He is sure to be welcomed by a large assembly of West Yorkshire Masons. Another idea of Bro. Mason has been to officially invite the W.M.'s and officers of the other seven Leeds lodges to pay a visit to the Lodge of Prudence, and this is a new departure which is likely still further to promote that spirit of unity amongst the brethren, which happily already exists in so marked a degree in Leeds.

On the 11th inst., Fidelity Lodge, 289, paid an official visit, being represented by the W.M., Bro. A. Scarth, and several officers and brethren, their reception being most cordial. The W.M. of Prudence Lodge was supported by the following officers: Bros. Dr. Smyth, I.P.M.; Trevor, S.W.; Watson, J.W.; Abbott, Treasurer; Middleton, Secretary; Scott Young, S.D.; Fretwell, J.D.; Jameson, I.G.; Rosser, Chaplain; Howarth, Organist; Atkinson and Storey, D.C.'s; Butterworth and Milling, Stwds.; and Barraud, Tyler. The Hon. and Very Rev. A. P. Purey-Cust, P.G.C. of England, P.P.G.M. Berks and Oxon, was present in response to an invitation to read a paper for the edification and instruction of the brethren. There were also present Bros. Embleton, Prov. G.S.W.; Bedford, P.P.G.D.; Craig, P.P.G.D.; Smithson, P.P.G.D., Chairman of the Charity Committee; Wilson, P.P.G. Treas.; Glover, P.P.G.D.; Dr. Spark, P.P.G.O.; and France, P.P.G.D.C. Brethren mustered in good force from Leeds, Huddersfield, Wakefield, Halifax, &c. The Mayor of Halifax (Bro. Horsfall) and his son were also among the visitors.

The lodge having been opened in due form, and the distinguished brother from York saluted according to ancient custom, the ballot was then taken and found clear for Mr. Charles Malcolm and Mr. Thos. Glover, and as these gentlemen were unable to present themselves they will be initiated at a lodge of emergency to be held on the 1st of January next. Four other candidates' names were mentioned, a proof that this lodge, the youngest but one in the province, is making for itself a position second to none. The routine business having been disposed of, the V.W. Bro. the Dean of York, P.G. Chap. of England, and P.D.G.M. Berks and Oxon, then delivered his address, entitled "Practical apprehension and experience of the Craft." He said: I must in the first instance express my thanks for the cordial reception you have given me. As loyal Masons you will, I am sure, always receive a Past Grand Officer of the Grand Lodge with the cordiality shown to me. My only doubt is whether I have any "locus standi" in Lodge Prudence at all, and whether the part of prudence, so far as I am concerned, would not have been better shown by my having relegated the duty I have undertaken to discharge to abler hands than mine. My only plea is that I have followed that principle which is one of the distinctive features of the Craft, namely, obedience, which should that my official connection with this lodge has attained its zenith, and I am now as it were relegated to a compara-

tively speaking sphere of private life, in the future as in the past, no effort of mine shall be wanting to assist my successors; to foster and promote the continuance of that goodwill and harmony which has hitherto been one of the distinguishing characteristics of this lodge; to perpetuate and encourage the great cardinal principles of our Order—deal which entices the interest of the different members of the Craft, and there must be an inexhaustible store of information to be derived from it. I cannot pretend to enter to-night into any of the aspects of Freemasonry which I have mentioned; I will only venture to speak of my own experiences as a Mason, and what I feel myself to be the practical advantages of being a member of the Craft. I am not a Mason of yesterday, some 40 years having passed since, as an undergraduate at Oxford, I was initiated, and I have never regretted that step. On the contrary, I experience a steady and increasing feeling of thankfulness that in that now distant epoch of my life I became a member of the Craft. I have always felt it an honour to be a Mason, and on a great many occasions I have found it to be of great practical utility. I have often been questioned as to the reasonableness of a Christian being a Mason, for outsiders have told me that at best Masonry is but a system of Deism, and therefore Christian men and especially Christian Ministers should not belong to it. My answer has always been that if Freemasonry were a thing of the present moment, if it were the creation of a day in which we live, then I should have had great hesitation in joining it. But Freemasonry has existed for a long period of years, it is as old as any form of religion which is known to have existed; it is coeval, we believe, with the first conception of the existence of a God, it was the very first foundation stone of religion of any sort or kind, and I must say that it seems to me that, recognising in Masonry its venerable character, and recognising its past history, one does not feel prepared to reject that which is so eminently the earnest yearning of longing humanity from those very distant times. Freemasonry is like one of those grand notes which are evoked from an organ, whose depth of sound is the basis and foundation of beautiful harmonies which are founded upon it. It seems to me that Freemasonry is like that, and whilst you would not accept the simple note as the whole of the music, yet in listening to the beautiful harmonies you would not forget that which underlies, and is the basis of them. Therefore, Freemasonry deserves our reverence. It is not our religion, we do not profess that it is, but it has that religious character which is common to all religions; and whilst not disposed to give up the greater light and knowledge, to abandon our holy faith for the tenets of Freemasonry, yet recognising that Freemasonry is the substratum of religion, we value and reverence it as such. It has often been objected to me that it was not right for me to support Freemasonry when many things had in the past taken place in lodges which could not be approved of by a Christian man. My answer has been that I believe the history of Freemasonry is like the history of everything else. In the history of the Church there have been seasons of use and seasons of abuse, and, as a clergyman, I cannot defend all that the Church has done in days gone by. The same might be said in regard to Masonry, and as I should most strongly repudiate any attack upon the Church of which I am a minister, because of her shortcomings in days gone by, so on the other hand do I hold similar views with regard to Freemasonry. In its past history things have taken place which I would gladly draw a veil over, yet there is much associated with Freemasonry which makes it not only consistent, but desirable for Christian men and clergymen to be members of the Craft. The first thing which makes Freemasonry valuable is its unity. Whilst Masonry is entitled to reverence on account of its great antiquity, it is also entitled to reverence because it is supplying a want which I do not find to be supplied in any other way. It fosters a unity which is not to be found anywhere else, and unity was never more earnestly desired than it is in the present day. The reason I value it as a pattern of unity is because in the truest sense of the word it is unsectarian. It is not a system of latitudinarianism or unworthy compromise, but in the lodge we can, and do, meet on a broad basis, and those who would be separated hopelessly in the world, here meet as friends and brothers. As a clergyman it has thrown me into the society of men I should never have known but for Freemasonry; it has put me on a kind and friendly footing towards them which could not have been obtained in any other way. Another great practical advantage in Freemasonry is the order to be found in our lodges, both as regards subordinate positions and positions of authority. Here we see on the one hand the great advantage of obedience, and on the other the great honour of authority. If the spirit of subordination which reigns in a Freemason's lodge so happily could permeate the world around us—the same ready spirit of obedience—some of the great questions which will have to be settled would be much more easily solved than they are likely to be as matters now stand. Authority in our lodges is always tempered with moderation, because it is the authority of those who have learned to obey, and who therefore are the best qualified to command. Liberality is another great feature of the Craft. There is no ostentation in it; it is so quietly done that few know anything about it. Not until I became a member of Grand Lodge had I any idea of the extent of the Craft's liberality or of the admirable manner in which this liberality is dispensed. If there were no other advantage to be derived from being a Freemason, the manner in which our funds are distributed would be sufficient reason why I should rejoice at being a member of the Craft. I, for one, wish that what we do in this respect could be more widely known. Some people say that Freemasonry is a strange jumble of serious and secular things, and that is another reason why it is not consistent for a Christian to join it; but, after 40 years' experience as a Mason, I have never seen anything in a lodge that is not consistent with true reverence and with the highest and most sacred truths we hold. In these days, when the name of God is so apt to be forgotten, I am thankful that in Freemasonry there is a sober and solemn side to our meetings. Freemasonry is also valuable for the practical character it possesses in these days. Nobody can look at the course of events around us without feeling that the problems before us are as difficult, if not more difficult, than any which have presented themselves in the past, and we shall all admit that the solution of those problems will very much depend upon the temper of mind with which they are approached, and the possibility of their being discussed in a spirit of courtesy. In this sense Freemasonry will be a valuable instrument for dealing with the difficulties and

complications of the future. So far from Freemasonry being an effete institution, and its day over, we need, as Masons, to gird up our loins and do the best we can to inspire others with the principles we value so highly, and which are of such inestimable value in the days in which we live. If Freemasonry is so valuable and of such practical utility, how can we, as Freemasons, promote it? Many of the prejudices against the system are disarmed; but prejudice dies hard. As Masons, we must do all we can individually to show that the attacks made upon the Order are not deserved. I see in this Lodge of Prudence you have a distinctive feature, and without laying down that other lodges should necessarily follow it, yet it is a good thing to see that you, by your action, are showing that fermented liquors are not necessary to your enjoyment; that you can be happy without them as well as with them. Nobody can take part in our lodges without going away a better and a stronger man.

On the motion of the W.M., seconded by the I.P.M., a cordial vote of thanks was presented to the Dean of York for his admirable paper.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren retired to refreshment, after which a most happy evening was spent in music, song, and speech.

INSTRUCTION.

DOMATIC LODGE (No. 177).—The weekly meeting of this lodge was held at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New-road, on Tuesday, the 14th inst. There were present Bros. H. N. Price, W.M.; Simmer, S.W.; Chapman, J.W.; Bannister, S.D.; R. Rowlands, J.D.; Peat, I.G.; K. Walden, Sec.; J. Hill, Preceptor; W. Boys, D.C.; and a large number of brethren.

The W.M. of the Domatic Lodge, his Wardens, and several brethren visited the lodge of instruction working under their warrant to offer their congratulations and take part in the working. This was the annual visit of the mother lodge to the lodge of instruction, an event happily inaugurated by Bro. Pierepoint when he was the W.M. The members assembled in good numbers to welcome the visitors. It would be a pleasant and good thing if the lodges of instruction were visited by the officers of the mother lodges to see the working, and to cement the feelings and sympathies of all the members.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes were read and confirmed. The ceremony of installation was rehearsed, Bro. H. Price being the Installing Master; Bro. W. Boys Director of Ceremonies; and Bro. Simmer the Installed Master. The ceremony was very correctly and impressively rendered by Bro. Price. Bro. Simmer appointed and invested his officers and rehearsed the ceremony of initiation, Bro. W. Willes being the candidate. Bro. Bannister was elected W.M. for the next meeting. The Preceptor proposed, and the Secretary seconded, that a vote of thanks be given to the W.M., Wardens, and brethren of the Domatic Lodge, and the same to be entered on the minutes. Bro. H. Price responded, and expressed the pleasure they had in coming to the lodge, assisting in the working, and of knowing that the lodge was in good working order, and under such able Preceptors as Bros. Hill, Boys, and Rowlands. He wished them a merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year. Masonic business being ended, the lodge was closed.

KENSINGTON LODGE (No. 1767).—A meeting was held on the 14th inst., at the Courtfield Hotel, Earl's Court, S.W. Present: Bros. Keene, W.M.; Rayner, S.W.; Cochrane, J.W.; Hubbard, Sec.; Davies, S.D.; Dresden, J.D.; Heath, I.G.; W. C. Williams, P.M., acting Preceptor; and Aslett.

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. Aslett being the candidate. Bro. Dresden having answered the questions leading to the Second Degree was entrusted with the lodge. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the ceremony of passing rehearsed. The lodge was resumed, Bro. Rayner was elected W.M. for next meeting, and the officers were appointed in rotation. The lodge was then closed.

Royal Arch.

ALDERSGATE CHAPTER (No. 1657).—The December meeting of the above chapter was held on Monday last at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, when there were present Comps. Rev. Dr. P. H. E. Brette, P.Z., acting M.E.Z., in the unavoidable absence, through illness, of Comp. Alfred Brookman; Comps. F. Crockford, H.; E. Y. Jolliffe, J.; George Kenning, Treas.; John Larkin, P.S.; A. B. Hudson, 1st A.S.; George Rawlinson, 2nd A.S.; James Shotter, P. Saillard, and W. H. Froor.

The minutes of the July convocation having been read and confirmed, Comp. Horace Brooks Marshall, Past Grand Treasurer, was unanimously elected Scribe E. The Treasurer announcing his intention to serve a Stewardship on behalf of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, the companions voted ten guineas to be placed on his list. A further sum of five guineas was voted to a companion in distress.

The chapter was then closed in due form, and the companions dined together, presided over by the genial and popular P.Z., Comp. Rev. Dr. P. H. E. Brette. The usual toasts were ably proposed and heartily responded to, Comps. Larkin, Rawlinson, and Shotter adding much to the enjoyment of the evening by their vocal abilities. Much sympathy was expressed with the M.E.Z. on account of his enforced absence through illness.

CAMBRIDGE.—Pythagoras Chapter (No. 88).—A regular convocation of this chapter was held at the Red Lion Hotel, Petty Cury, on Wednesday, the 15th inst., when the chairs of the Principals were ably filled by Comps. Edward Hills, P.Z., Z.; B. Chennell, P.Z., H.; and J. R. Ling, P.Z., J. Bros. W. M. B. Vans and A. E. Chaplin, both of 88, were elected to the chapter and exalted. The work of the P.S. was efficiently discharged by Comp. W. I. Pashler. The Auditors' report was of a satisfactory character. It was agreed to vote five guineas to Comp. A. H. Moyes's list for the Benevolent Institution. The Principals installed for the ensuing year were Comps. Chennell, Z.; E. Hills, H.; and Ling, J. The following officers were afterwards invested:—Comps. A. H. Moyes, P.Z., S.E.; T. Hunnybun, S.N.; W. I. Pashler, P.S.; Charlton, 1st A.S.; O. Papworth, 2nd A.S.; G. MacCallum, Treas.; F. Piggott, D.C.; and T. Nichols, Steward.

It should be stated that the companions appeared in Masonic mourning in memory of the late M.E. the Grand Superintendent, Comp. J. Neal York.

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.]

Mark Masonry.

BOLTON.—St. John's Lodge (T.I.)—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 9th inst., at the lodge rooms, Commercial Hotel, when the following brethren were present: Bros. John Partington, Prov. S.G.D., W.M.; John Kenyon, P.P.S.G.D., I.P.M.; E. G. Harwood, S.W.; W. Wadeson, J.W.; N. Nicholson, M.O.; W. Court, S.O.; John Barrett, J.O.; Thomas Taylor, Reg.; G. P. Brockbank, Treas.; W. Cooper, P.P.S.G.D., Sec.; Thomas Forrester, Conductor; R. H. Phillips, S.D.; Jas. Eckersley, J.D.; Robt. Jones, I.G.; and Thos. Nightingale, Stwd. Past Masters George Galloway, Grand Senior Overseer; Robert Harwood, Past S.G.D.; J. W. Taylor, Past G.I.G.; Thomas Morris, P.P.G.S.B.; Jas. Horrocks, P.P.G. Std. Br.; John Harwood, P.P.S.G.D.; John Alcock, P.P.J.G.D.; and J. D. Murray, Past G. Std. Br. (Hon. Member.) Visitors: Bros. W. Goodacre, W.M. 359; Thos. Peake, 142; Critchley, Johnson, Morris, 2, Calderbank, Hindley, F. W. Brockbank, J. W. Hawksworth, Millner, Green, Holgate, J. W. Thompson, J. F. Skelton, W. H. Brown, and E. Gregory.

The minutes of the last regular meeting having been read and confirmed, three candidates were balloted for and approved, and one being in attendance (Bro. Sterling) he was advanced to the honourable Degree of M.M.M. by Bro. John Kenyon, I.P.M., and Bro. Partington, W.M., both of whom acquitted themselves in a most creditable manner. The Treasurer called the attention of the brethren to the fact that Bro. George Galloway, an old Past Master of the lodge, who was promoted to the rank of Grand Overseer at the annual meeting of the Grand Lodge, had shown his appreciation of the honour conferred upon him by donating the sum of £25 to the Mark Benevolent Fund. Much gratification was expressed at the elevation of Bro. Galloway to his distinguished position, and his liberality was thoroughly appreciated. The promotion of the W.M., Bro. Partington, to the office of Prov. Grand Deacon was also noted, and the W.M. was warmly congratulated by the brethren on his advancement to office in the Order. The Treasurer also announced that the following brethren had desired him to forward their names as willing to serve as Stewards on the occasion of the next Festival of the Mark Benevolent Fund: Bros. John Kenyon, I.P.M.; E. G. Harwood, W.M.; and J. Barrett, S.O. The balance sheet for the past year, duly audited, was presented and adopted. A Board of Installed Masters was then formed, and Bro. Ebenezer Green Harwood, S.W., and W.M. elect, was presented to the W.M., Bro. Partington. The charge to the W.M., Wardens, Overseers, and brethren was most ably delivered by Bro. John Kenyon, who, along with the other brethren who had taken part in the ceremonial, were highly commended for the manner in which they had discharged the duties allotted to them. The W.M. then proceeded to invest the following brethren as his officers for the ensuing year: Bros. John Partington, P.S.G.D., I.P.M.; William Wadeson, S.W.; N. Nicholson, J.W.; W. Court, M.O.; John Barrett, S.O.; Thomas Forrester, J.O.; G. P. Brockbank, P.G.W., Treasurer; William Cooper, P.P.S.G.D., P.M., Secretary; R. H. Phillips, Conductor; James Eckersley, S.D.; Robert Jones, J.D.; Thomas Naylor, Reg. of Mks.; John Alcock, P.P.S.G.D., P.M., D. of C.; Thomas Nightingale, Time Keeper; J. W. Hawksworth and W. H. Brown, Stwds.; Robt. Johnson, Org.; and Thomas Higson, Tyler. The lodge was then closed.

This celebration festival has been one of the most successful for many years. The personal popularity of the W.M. elect, who is now for the third time ex-Mayor of Bolton, he having, for two years previously to the appointment of his successor, served the important and dignified position of Mayor, caused a large attendance of brethren, anxious to do him honour on the occasion of his accession to the chair of A.; and several veterans in the Order, who do not usually take a prominent part now in lodge meetings, appeared again to compliment the new Master. The proceedings were very harmonious throughout, and the announcement of the Treasurer that three brethren had agreed to act as Stewards at the Mark Festival was warmly greeted by the brethren. The presence of five Present or Past Grand Officers on the occasion, with many provincial dignitaries, evinced the interest taken in the proceedings, and should be very gratifying to Bro. Harwood, who exerted himself to the utmost to make the meeting a thorough success. The efforts of Bro. Kenyon to revive the interest of the brethren of this venerable lodge have been greatly valued by the brethren, and this successful gathering must have been very satisfactory, as showing due appreciation of his labours. All the officers were thoroughly up to their work, and the most perfect harmony prevailed. The usual banquet followed.

FOREST OF DEAN.—Royal Forest of Dean Lodge (No. 340).—An emergency meeting was held on Thursday, the 16th instant, at the Speech House, when there were present Bros. J. Shaw Carleton, W.M.; Harry Clark, S.W.; M. F. Carter, J.W.; J. S. Bradstock, M.O.; S. J. Thomas, S.O.; T. H. Curwen, J.O.; F. Asgill, Sec.; A. Stephens, acting I.G.; Rev. Dr. Lynes, I.P.M., Prov. J.G.W.; W. C. Hiam, P.P. J.G.W.; T. R. Oakley, and G. H. R. Holden.

The lodge was opened and Bros. T. R. Oakley and G. H. R. Holden were advanced to the honourable Degree of M.M.M., the ceremony being performed by the W.M. Bro. M. F. Carter, J.W., was elected a Steward to represent the lodge at the Festival of the next Mark Benevolent Fund, and the W.M. a representative of the lodge to serve on the Charity Committee of the Province. The brethren then adjourned to the banqueting room and spent a pleasant evening.

The warrant for the new Savage Club Lodge has been granted. It will be numbered No. 2109, and the principal officers designate are Bro. Sir F. Wyatt Truscott, W.M.; Sir J. R. Somers-Vine, S.W.; and Thomas Catling, J.W. The lodge has encouragement at the outset of its career in the fact that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, who is an honorary member of the Savage Club, has consented to be elected the first honorary member of the lodge.

TUBACCONISTS 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.]

BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE.

The monthly meeting of the Board of Benevolence—the last meeting for the year—was held on Wednesday evening, at Freemasons' Hall; Bro. Robert Grey, P.G.D., President, in the chair. Bro. James Brett, P.G.P., Senior Vice-President, and Bro. C. A. Cottebrune, P.G.P., Junior Vice-President, were in their respective chairs. Bros. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, G. Sec.; A. A. Pendlebury, W. Lee, W. Dodd, and H. Sadler, G. Tyler; likewise attended. There were also present a large number of brethren.

On taking his seat for the first time since his appointment as President of the Board of Benevolence by the Grand Master, Bro. GREY was loudly cheered. He thereupon rose and said that he felt highly honoured by having the appointment conferred upon him by the Prince of Wales. It was, indeed, a very exalted position to be placed in, and he should endeavour to discharge his duties to the satisfaction of his Royal Highness and the brethren. He hoped that the Board would work with the same harmony and unanimity as heretofore.

The total amount granted was not known till a late hour—after we had gone to press. It will be given next week.

Knights Templar.

YORK.—Ancient Ebor Preceptory (No. 101).—The annual session for the election of E.P. took place on Tuesday, the 14th inst., at the Freemasons' Hall, St. Saviourgate. In the absence of the E.P., Fra. Christopher Palliser, the throne was occupied by Fra. T. B. Whythead, P., and there were also present Frs. Wm. Brown, Constable; W. H. Cowper, Marshal; J. T. Seller, Sub-Marshal; Major McGachen, Herald; W. B. Dyson, V.B.; W. Watson, C. of G.; and others.

A number of apologies were read from absent knights, after which a successful ballot was taken for a candidate. The ceremony of installation was rehearsed for the benefit of the officers, and a scroll was then taken for E.P., resulting in the election of Fra. W. H. Cowper, Fra. Brown having expressed a wish to delay his own progress for a year. Fra. I. B. Whythead was elected Treasurer for the tenth time, and Frs. Brown and Dyson were elected Auditors.

Fra. Whythead announced that he was in correspondence with some of the leaders of the Order of the Temple in the United States, and trusted to be able to make arrangements for a grand Templar gathering in York next summer to celebrate the Jubilee of the Queen, the Patroness of the Order. A bāton for the use of the E.P.—the gift of E. Fra. C. Palliser—was presented, and a vote of thanks for the same was passed, and, after the alms bag had been passed round, the preceptory was closed.



The successful comedy, "A Night Off," by Mr. Augustin Daly, will be revived at the Opera Comique on Boxing Night, with a powerful cast. The play will be produced under the direction of Mr. William Terris. It will be remembered that "A Night Off" was the principal piece in the repertoire of Mr. Augustin Daly's company, and was played with great success at the Strand Theatre last July. The company have been playing to good houses in the provincial towns. Mr. Dove Keighley is the acting manager.

The event of Boxing night is, of course, Bro. Augustus Harris's pantomime, "The Forty Thieves," in which the Queen's Jubilee is to play an important part. Besides that, the Olympia opens at Kensington with the Paris Hippodrome; the Surrey and Grand Theatres with pantomime, and the Covent Garden Theatre with a circus. The Alhambra, besides the new ballet, "Dresdina," will produce another, entitled the "Seasons," and, what with "Alice in Wonderland," at the Prince of Wales's, in the afternoons by children; "Monte Christo," given at the Gaiety; and "Robinson Crusoe" at the Avenue, there is plenty to be seen by both critics and public this Christmas, and, in addition to all these, the other theatres have very attractive, though not new, programmes.

"Dorothy," transferred from the Gaiety to the Prince of Wales Theatre, seems destined to maintain the golden opinions it won at the former house, where it has been playing for the last three months. The song of Mr. Haydn Coffin, "Queen of my heart," is an additional attraction, whilst he is not only one of our best tenor singers, but is withal a good actor and a handsome man. Miss Marion Hood is still as charming in her repertoire, and, with Miss Edith Chester lately introduced into the cast, Miss Carr Shaw, Mr. Redfern Hollins, and Bro. Arthur Williams, the beautiful part songs and duets are as fresh as ever. "Dorothy" has an easy and sensible plot, and, the music is some of the prettiest we have heard for a long time on the stage, whilst the mounting is done in the style which might be expected at Mr. George Edwardes' hands, from his long experience as manager to Mr. D'Oyley Carte at the Savoy. Mr. George Edwardes was to bring out last night (23rd) a new burlesque at the Gaiety, in which Miss Farren and Mr. Fred Leslie will play, supported by a goodly company; the whole to be produced by Mr. Chas. Harris. We ought to add that every one should go in time at the Prince of Wales' for the first piece, "A Happy Day;" Bro. Williams will give them an amusing sketch of a London mechanic's life, out of which he creates a lot of fun.

No change is announced, nor needed yet, at the Haymarket, though we believe a play of Mr. H. A. Jones has been accepted, and is in rehearsal, to be produced when the interest of the public begins to wane at the present comedy-drama of Sir Charles Young. We liked "Jim the Penman" better on a second visit than even at first. Mr.

Willard, with no disrespect to Mr. Arthur Dacre, plays the title rôle with much more éclat than its former delineant. He understands the character differently, and makes it much more interesting to the audience. Mr. Garthorne, a brother of Bro. Kendal, and like him in voice and appearance, has joined the company somewhat recently, and gives the detective as well as did Mr. Brookfield. Lady Monckton has improved immensely, her acting we may say is faultless, and her dresses are the very admiration of the ladies in the audience. What a pity it is that we cannot have more of such excellent plays written by our own countrymen, and without an unhealthy odour prevailing through them as is too often the case when translated from the French. We noticed the other evening that one of the characters—Lord Dreincourt—used a copy of the *Freemason* on the stage when he had to take up a newspaper. We hope Messrs. Russell and Bashford will go on prospering now they have struck oil.

We paid a visit after "The Churchwarden" had been running a few nights, to see that very popular comedian, Bro. Edward Terry, at the Olympic, and found the house, though the night was dreadfully cold, quite full. Amongst the audience were the Deputy Grand Master, the Earl of Lathom, and his Countess. The Earl had during the afternoon been acting in a function at Windsor in his capacity of Lord Chamberlain. Bro. Edward Terry is, known to all playgoers, and specially to those of our readers for is he not a P.G. Stwd., and a member of the exalted 30th Degree? therefore, he requires from us no introduction. After many years engagements at the Strand and the Gaiety, interspersed with provincial tours on his own account, Bro. Terry has returned to London, not forgotten, but much missed, has taken a theatre for himself. We shall now see whether bad luck necessarily reigns at certain houses. No one has for many years made money at the once popular Olympic, but we have always held the opinion if a good play and an efficient cast are found, it matters not what the house may be, so long as it is central. We trust the members of the Craft will rally round this ever green and popular comedian, but we do not ask them to support Bro. Terry merely as brother Masons, but on account of his professional merits. They will not be disappointed in Bro. Terry's first venture at running a theatre of his own. The "Churchwarden" was produced a short time ago at Newcastle-on-Tyne; if our memory serves us rightly, and met with so much success there and in other provincial towns, that Bro. Terry determined to let the London public make acquaintance with Mr. Chuffy. We have done so, and confess we spent a delightfully amusing evening in "The Churchwarden's" company by laughing at the entanglements he gets himself into. Our space does not permit us to enter fully into the plot; nor, indeed, is it necessary. It is somewhat thin, and certainly not natural. But this does not occur to one at the time. It is a play which must be taken at boiling heat then one cannot help laughing at the terrible results of Mr. Chuffy's visit to London, and his meeting a young lady who has lost her way from Exeter Hall, and whom he takes to supper. One does not want to bother about situations and plot when one is anxious to see Bro. Terry get himself into difficulties, and emerge from them all scathless. It is a play full of "business," as it is termed in the profession. Bro. Terry has a marvellous way of altering his voice and the expression of his face which few can do, whilst none can excel him. He is ably supported by Bros. Alfred Bishop and J. G. Taylor, both of the Asaph Lodge. Bro. Bishop ought to be commended for the care he takes in his make up as an elderly gentleman. Miss Maria Jones, an old favourite, is a member of the company, the rest do not call for any particular remarks. It might be thought that Bro. Terry is somewhat libelling the sedate office of a churchwarden, but if so it affects himself, for we believe he has been warden of Barnes, in which suburb he resides, and where he is one of the most respected inhabitants. At Christmas he has for many years given a dinner and entertainment to a number of poor children in the village. We wish Bro. Terry all the success he deserves, and look forward to the opening of Terry's Theatre in the Strand. His acting manager is also a member of the Craft, Bro. Bricknell, having been initiated in the Isca Lodge, Newport, and raised in the Liverpool and Dramatic Lodge.

Bro. Arthur Cecil has resumed his part of the Hon. Vere Queckett in "The Schoolmistress," and the cast is now as it originally stood. This charming play of Mr. Pinero's goes along as merrily as ever. On renewing our acquaintance with the piece the other evening we were glad to see a well-filled house evidently highly amused at the fun which is derived from the author's work, well brought out by such a splendid cast. An additional interest has been added by "The Milliner's Bill" being played after the chief piece by Mrs. John Wood and Bro. Cecil. This is one of their best character sketches; we have seen them give it on several occasions, but shall make a point of going to laugh at it again. The provincial company has just returned to town for a short rest. We hope it will not be a long while before Miss Edith Kenward, the chief member of the touring company, finds an engagement in London. It is no injustice to Miss Norreys; the original Peggy, to say that Miss Kenward plays the part equally well.

Those who have for many years taken an interest in matters dramatic must have seen "David Garrick" time after time, yet we venture to think they will agree that never has this popular play been better staged or better acted than is now the case at the Criterion, under Bro. C. Wyndham's management. Some thought the piece not suitable to the lessee; and others that it is too well known to draw. We think all are now agreed that Bro. Wyndham did well when he ventured to go a little out of his usual course of screeching farcical comedy to try a more pathetic part. We are sure the bill will not be changed for some time at the Criterion. We have never enjoyed the play of "David Garrick" so much, and we have seen it played by many companies. The story is well known, so we shall be content by only saying that Bro. Wyndham has won for himself a greater name by his splendid and feeling rendering of the character of the great actor of Drury Lane. He is ably supported by Mr. Blakeley, Mr. George Giddens, and Miss Mary Moore—who, we understand, is Mrs. Albery—who is possessed of most beautiful features and expression.



Bro. Walter Parratt, Grand Organist, had the honour of presiding at the organ on the occasion of the christening, in St. George's Chapel, Windsor, of the infant son of Prince and Princess Henry of Battenberg.

Bro. Æ. J. McIntyre, Q.C., P.G.W., has been appointed a Royal Commissioner on the North Wales Circuit at the approaching winter assizes, in place of Mr. Justice Stephen, who will be detained in town by his duties as Chairman of the Ordnance Stores Commission.

We are sorry to be under the necessity of announcing the death of Bro. Jack, the well-known publisher of Edinburgh and London, whose name has recently become so familiar amongst Craftsmen, by his publication of Bro. R. F. Gould's elaborate and able "History of Freemasonry."

Bro. James Plummer was on Thursday, 16th inst., installed Worshipful Master of the Brownrigg Lodge of Unity, 1424, for the ensuing year. The customary banquet afterwards took place at Mr. Cabburn's King's Arms Hotel, Brompton.

The installation meeting of the Anglesea Lodge, No. 1113, was held on the 13th inst., at Langefni, when Bro. Dr. Hugh Prytherch, Menai Bridge, was installed W.M., Bro. R. H. Hughes, Holyhead, I.P.M., being the installing master, assisted by Bro. Smith. The banquet was served in the Bull Hotel.

The members of the Dunheved Lodge, No. 789, Launceston, held their annual meeting for the election of officers at the Masonic Hall recently. Bro. T. Sherston, J.W., was elected W.M. for the ensuing year. Bro. H. M. Harvey, P.P.J.G.D., was re-elected Treas., and Bro. J. Fidler, Tyler.

Among the more recent contributors to the *Daily Telegraph* Lifeboat Fund for the relief of the widows and families of the crews lately wrecked off Southport are the Manchester Lodge, No. 179, which has sent per Bro. W. Hopkirk, £7; the Sandown Lodge, per Bro. John Bunt, P.M., £1 15s.; and the Military Mark Lodge, No. 54, Aldershot, per Bro. Jas. Taylor, £1 15s.

The Prince of Wales, in reply to a suggestion by a Birmingham artizan, that relief measures should be adopted as a mode of celebrating the Queen's Jubilee, expresses his deep sympathy with those now in distress through want of employment, and trusts that means may be devised for giving work to the thousands anxious to obtain it.

In a letter addressed to the brethren in West Lancashire, Bro. W. Goodacre, the Prov. Grand Sec., says, "By command of the R.W.P.G. Master, I ask your aid and that of your lodge in support of a fund now being raised for the widows and orphans of the men who lost their lives in the recent lifeboat disasters at St. Anne's-on-the-Sea and Southport. The treasurers of the fund are Bro. R. Foote, P.P.G. Treas., and Bro. J. T. Callow, P.P.G. Treas., and contributions may be sent to them, or to me, or to any member of the committee."

The annual dinner of the City Masonic Club of Instruction took place on Monday, the 13th inst., at the White Hart, Abchurch-lane, Bro. A. H. Lilley, the President, occupying the chair, and Bro. J. Brockett Sorrell, the Secretary, the vice-chair. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and there were some excellent recitations and songs by Bro. W. Darkin, C.C., and other brethren. The dinner was capably served under the direction of Bro. G. Anderson.

ILLUSTRATIONS.—Mr. Francis Geo. Heath's pictorial threepenny magazine, "Illustrations," in its January number (which will be published by Messrs. W. Kent and Co., of Paternoster-row) will include an article by Mr. Heath, entitled "The Charm of Fern Culture," an illustrated article on "Hunting the Caried Deer," by Mr. Walter Winans; "Round about St. Malo," by Miss Margaret Thomas, the sculptress; and "Some Famous Autographs," including those of Lord Salisbury, Lord Randolph Churchill, and the author of "Lorna Doone."

A CHRISTMAS MARKET.—There is one market in London available for thrifty house-holders, which is no means so well-known as it ought to be. That is the Christmas market of Messrs. Spiers and Pond, in Water Lane, close to Ludgate Hill Station, which is, in fact, the central depot from which they draw their own supplies, while it is also open to the public. Here we have a vast butcher's shop, the walls of which are completely hidden by prime joints of meat, while near it is a gigantic fish and poultry store, equally well stocked. These shops supply the innumerable establishments of Messrs. Spiers and Pond; but all can deal there, and those who desire good and cheap meat, fish, and poultry, should pay them a visit, and they will be astonished at the prices. The reason, of course, that the firm can successfully compete with co-operative stores and other similar establishments is that it buys on such a vast scale, that it can offer meat, &c., cheaper than most ordinary retailers. One curious thing will strike the visitor in the fish and poultry shop. He can buy no game, the reason being that, as licensed victuallers, Messrs. Spiers and Pond are not allowed to sell game, a restriction originally imposed, no doubt, in days when the village inn was probably the poacher's best market. The curious thing is that the firm can offer the public any amount of game after it has been cooked, an anomaly which should lead to an amendment of the law on the matter.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—The Sufferer's Friend.—All cases of indigestion produce weariness, low spirits, palpitation, and feverishness, and are accompanied by flatulence, irregularity of the bowels, nausea, water pangs, and other annoying symptoms. These Pills dispel the cause of dyspepsia, they produce a specific effect on the coats of the stomach, regulate the gastric secretions, expel the accumulations of flatus, and soothe the irritability of its muscular lining. Procuring at a small cost, and in every town in the Kingdom, they are within the reach of all, and thousands of sufferers, who casually commenced a course of Holloway's Pills, have, ever afterwards never failed to use them themselves, and have confidently recommended them to similar sufferers, knowing their very great value.—[ADVT.]

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