

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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Masonic Benevolence in 1887.

THE general expectation that the year which ended on Saturday last, and which has been characterised by such almost unexampled generosity towards charitable institutions of every kind, would be more than usually productive of benefit to those Masonic Institutions which minister to the needs of our poor brethren or the members of our poor or deceased brethren's families, has been fully realised, the returns which are published in another part of our columns exhibiting a total of income from all sources very considerably in excess of the amount recorded in any previous year. It is true—and we have noted the fact in former articles—that the sum raised for the purposes of our Institutions during 1887 has been unequally distributed amongst them, but it is likewise true that the Institution whose requirements were the heaviest received the largest measure of support, and the Craft is, therefore, entitled to the praise of having been as discriminating as it has been generous in the exercise of its benevolence during the past year. The largest amount ever raised in any one year for our three Charities was in 1883, when it reached £56,110 4s. 3d.; in 1887, it was £61,059 os. 11d., the difference in favour of the latter being not far short of £5000. Of this £61,059, the Benevolent Institution, which at the beginning of the year found itself in circumstances of especial difficulty, with a formidable array of applicants and hardly any vacancies to be filled, obtained £28,968 4s. 4d., while the income of the Girls' School amounted to £16,429 os. 6d., and that of the Boys' School, to £15,661 16s. 1d. In 1886, the returns were—for the Benevolent Institution, £18,194 13s. 6d.; for the Girls' School, £15,546 18s. 10d.; and for the Boys' School, £13,056 15s. 5d.; so that, in comparing the two years, we find that 1887 has the better of its predecessor—in the case of the Benevolent Institution to the extent of £10,773 10s. 10d.; in that of the Girls' School to the extent of £882 1s. 8d.; and in that of the Boys' School to the extent of £2605 os. 8d.; the total of the excess over 1886 being £14,260 13s. 2d. If to this we add the £6000 voted by Grand Lodge in the summer in shares of £2000 to each of the three Charities, but, owing to the absence from England of the PRO GRAND MASTER, not yet paid over, the real excess will amount to upwards of £20,000. However, confining ourselves to the sums actually received we find that the overplus of £14,260 more than compensates the Institutions for the very serious diminution of income in 1886 as shown by the totals of that year and 1885 respectively, that of the former being £46,798 7s. 9d., while the income of the latter was £54,416 2s. 7d. One circumstance connected with the returns of 1887, which is particularly gratifying, is that, while each Institution shows a large increase of income, a portion of this increase must come under the head of "Donations and Subscriptions," and must have been obtained irrespective of the Festival receipts. Our reason for drawing attention to this circumstance is that last year in noting the sums received under this particular head in respect of 1886, we had occasion to point out that "Donations and Subscriptions" yielded for the three Charities only £38,696, while the three Festival receipts amounted to £40,201 as announced, or, with outstanding lists and additional amounts subsequently received, to £40,718. In 1887 the three Festivals yielded together close on £42,100, while the donations and subscriptions are set down as amounting in the aggregate to £44,029 2s. 1d. The increase of income is in great measure explained by the grants from Grand Lodge, and in the case of the Benevolent Institution by the sum received from West Yorkshire for two Perpetual Presentations to the Widows' Fund, but independently of these there has been a heavier receipt in "Donations and Subscriptions," and we are gratified that we have not again to notice so large a discrepancy as last year between the Festival Returns and the general contributions of the Craft. As regards permanent income, the Benevolent Institution has a decided advantage over the other Charities. Its annual grants from G. Lodge and G. Chapter together amount to £1750, and its dividends were £2524, giving a total of £4274. The Girls' School received £160 10s. from Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter, and from dividends £1900, making together £2060 10s., while the Boys' School received also £160 10s. from Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter, and only £637 in dividends, or, together, £797 10s. The returns for the Board of Benevolence show that the amount dispensed in relief was £10,500, the number of cases being 405. In 1886, 385 cases were relieved with £10,683, so that though there was an increase of 22 cases in 1887 over 1886, the grants were £183 less in the aggregate. It is hardly necessary, however, that we should carry our observations further. There is a large amount of money continu-

ally being disbursed by local associations and lodge Benevolent Funds, and if we took account of all these, in addition to the expenditure of our Institutions and the Board of Benevolence, the money disbursed in Masonic benevolence would be something almost astounding; but we have said enough to show that the Charity exercised by the Society of Freemasons is something real and substantial, and that this has never been made more manifest than during the Jubilee year of Queen VICTORIA's reign.

The Old Folks at Croydon.

The usual New Year's entertainment to the inmates of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution at Croydon, which took place on Wednesday, passed off most satisfactorily. There was a larger gathering of visitors than in most previous years, while the old familiar friends and supporters of the Institution were in as great force as ever. The special facilities offered by the London and South-Eastern Railway management were greatly appreciated, and when the visitors reached the Asylum at the appointed time, they found our worthy Bro. TERRY and his staff ready to accord them a hearty welcome. That the Old Folks enter thoroughly into the spirit of these seasonable merrymakings is well known to all who have had the good fortune to be present at one of them. There is good cheer for all, and in the evening plenty of musical and other entertainment, and if there is any regret experienced either by hosts or guests, it must be on the score that such friendly meetings cannot be prolonged or multiplied indefinitely, and life in the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution at Croydon made into one continuous period of enjoyment. However, what is possible on these occasions is carried out with hearty goodwill on the part of everybody, and we congratulate Bro. TERRY, with whom the idea of holding these periodical meetings originated, on the success of Wednesday's proceedings.

The Craft in Derbyshire.

THERE must be a rare amount of good solid work done in the Province of Derbyshire, at which the brethren, and especially their respected ruler, the Marquess of HARTINGTON, must be greatly pleased. The lodges seem to prefer working quietly and unostentatiously, and therefore, perhaps, it is we hear so little of their doings; but it will be seen from our report of their Prov. G. Lodge meeting on the 20th ult., that Freemasonry has made great strides in Derbyshire during the last few years. Bro. NAYLOR, who, as P.G. Sec., must speak authoritatively, said on this occasion that during the 17 years he had been connected with the Province the lodges had increased from 15 to 22 and the members from 465 to 1023; while Bro. WRIGHT, Past Provincial Senior Grand Warden and Chairman of the Charity Committee, mentioned that the Province had contributed during the past year to our Central Charities no less than £657 5s. 6d.; and it is still fresh in our memory how splendidly the Province supported its distinguished Chief in 1885, when he presided at the Festival of the Boys' School. That much of this progress is due to the popularity of Bro. Lord HARTINGTON, the ability of his worthy Deputy, Bro. OKBOVER, and the zeal and energy of Bro. NAYLOR, Prov. G. Secretary, does not admit of question, and we are pleased that, as regards the last-mentioned of these, our Derbyshire brethren have recognised his important services by presenting him with a valuable testimonial. We trust that future years may be as productive of good fortune to the Province as that which has just been concluded and its predecessors.

The Masonic Ceremony at Plymouth.

THE year 1887 closed for the Province of Devonshire with a grand flourish of trumpets, the meeting which was held on the 28th December last, when Bro. Lord EBRINGTON, M.P., Prov. Grand Master, laid the first stone of a new Masonic Hall at Plymouth, being very numerous and enthusiastic. This is not very surprising. As regards the number of its lodges, Devonshire stands high among our provinces, while as to the zeal of its members and their readiness to fall in with every proposal calculated to advance the interests of the Craft, there never has been the slightest question. Every one has recognised that with the greater numerical strength nowadays of the brethren in the Three Towns—Plymouth, Devonport, and Stonehouse—the Huyshe Masonic Hall would very soon become inconveniently cramped, and it was an excellent, and seems likely to prove, financially, a successful idea, to erect a new building on the Limited Liability principle, which should serve both as a Hall, in which the lodges and chapters could meet comfortably, and as a Club, in which the members of the Craft might be able to meet and enjoy each other's society. We shall no doubt have occasion to refer again to the proceedings, and hence we are content for to-day to offer our congratulations to Bro. Lord EBRINGTON, P.G.M., and our Devonshire brethren generally, on the success of the ceremony of laying the first stone at Plymouth.

MASONIC BENEVOLENCE IN 1887.

We have much pleasure in laying before our readers the customary statements of the income of each of our Masonic Charities, and full particulars of the disbursements by the Board of Benevolence for the year 1887. Such remarks as we have considered it advisable to make will be found in our editorial columns, and there is no need, therefore, that we should say anything further here in the way of preface. The Returns, whether we take them collectively or severally, are equally gratifying. They show unmistakably that the current year of Masonic Benevolence, so far as the ordinary requirements of our Institutions are concerned, has been as strong as ever during the past twelve months, and that a specially urgent appeal in the case of the Benevolent Institution having been found imperative, the Craft at once responded to it with their wonted generosity. It should be added that the statements which follow have been furnished from the headquarters of the several Institutions; the only change we have taken the liberty of making being in the arrangement of the details, which we have placed in such order that the reader may be able to compare more easily the amounts under the several heads of receipt.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

Donations and Subscriptions	...	...	...	£19,468	13	8
Dividends	...	...	...	2,524	10	8
Grand Chapter	...	...	...	150	0	0
Grand Lodge	...	...	...	1,600	0	0
" " —Special	...	...	...	1,000	0	0
" " —Albert Hall	...	...	...	2,107	0	0
Province of W. Yorkshire purchase of two Perpetual Presentations	...	...	...	2,100	0	0
Rent of Meadow...	...	...	...	18	0	0
				£28,968	4	4

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

Donations and Subscriptions	...	...	...	£11,904	7	11
Grand Lodge	...	...	...	150	0	0
Grand Chapter	...	...	...	10	10	0
One-third of Proceeds of Admissions to Grand Lodge at Albert Hall, 13th June, 1887	...	...	...	2,107	0	0
Dividends	...	...	...	1,900	16	7
Admissions by Annual Payments	...	...	...	150	0	0
Music Money	...	...	...	194	5	0
Sale of Old Stores	...	...	...	10	0	0
Sale of Books of Subscribers	...	...	...	2	1	0
				£16,429	0	6

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

Donations and Subscriptions	...	...	...	£12,656	0	6
Music Fees	...	...	...	99	4	6
Dividends	...	...	...	637	1	1
Grant from Grand Lodge	...	...	...	150	0	0
Grant from Grand Chapter	...	...	...	10	10	0
Proceeds Royal Albert Hall Meeting	...	...	...	2,107	0	0
Sale of Subscribers' Lists	...	...	...	2	0	0
				£15,661	16	1

The table that follows shows (1) the amounts received by each Institution during the seven years 1881—1887, the fourth column containing the aggregate of the three for each year; (2), the average per year for each Institution, as well as for the three together; and (3) the average receipt per year per Institution for the septennial period.

	R.M.B.I.	R.M.I.B.	R.M.I.G.	Total.
1881	£17,736 14 6	£12,993 9 11	£12,557 4 7	£43,287 9 0
1882	16,595 7 7	14,879 15 8	15,969 15 8	47,444 18 11
1883	18,449 6 0	25,010 17 1	12,650 1 2	56,110 4 3
1884	19,901 7 8	13,993 10 11	14,928 19 0	48,823 17 7
1885	21,374 7 1	16,272 16 0	16,768 19 6	54,416 2 7
1886	18,194 13 6	13,056 15 5	15,546 18 10	46,798 7 9
1887	28,968 4 4	15,661 16 1	16,429 0 6	61,059 0 11
Total for the 7 years.	£141,220 0 8	£111,869 1 1	£104,850 19 3	£357,940 1 0
Average per year.	£20,174 5 9	£15,981 5 10	£14,978 14 2	£50,134 5 10
Average per year per Institution	...	...	...	£16,711 8 7

The following statement gives the number of cases relieved and the total of the sums voted in each month of the year 1887 by the Board of Benevolence.

Month.	Cases relieved.	Amount.
January	15	£380
February	32	810
March	37	1125
April	36	1130
May	47	875
June	36	1148
July	25	549
August	26	825
September	13	255
October	38	985
November	50	1255
December	50	1172
	405	£10,500

A comparison of the above figures with those of 1886 shows that while the highest amount in any one month of the latter year was £1447, and the lowest £480, the highest in 1887 was £1255 in the month of November, and the lowest £255 in September. We note also, as last year, that the above totals differ from those furnished in our summary of last week, solely because in this instance we have reckoned the year from 1st January to 31st December, whereas in our summary it was reckoned from 1st December, 1886, to 30th November, 1887.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF DEVONSHIRE.

NEW MASONIC HALL AND CLUB.

A special Provincial Grand Lodge of the Freemasons of Devonshire was held on the 28th December, at the Assembly Rooms, Royal Hotel, Plymouth, the occasion being the laying of the foundation-stone of a new hall and club, which the Freemasons of the Three Towns have decided on erecting for the accommodation of the brethren who, in recent years, have largely increased in numbers. For many years several Masonic lodges have met in a building in Princess-place, which has been known as the Huyshe Temple, but the Fraternity has since grown to such an extent that it was determined to celebrate the Jubilee year of her Majesty the Queen by securing more commodious premises. Accordingly, a house and grounds in Princess-square were purchased, a company was formed on the limited liability principle, and shares in the undertaking were so readily applied for by brethren over every part of Devon and Cornwall that no difficulty was experienced in making a start. Arrangements were made for an effective demonstration yesterday, and the appeal made to the brethren to assist in the proceedings was so cordially responded to that several hundred members of the Order were present, and, as a result, the proceedings were most successful.

The Provincial Grand Lodge assembled at noon at the Assembly Rooms, and about 300 brethren were present, including Bros. Viscount Ebrington, P.G.M.; W. G. Rogers, D.P.G.M.; the Hon. R. M. W. Dawson, P.S.G.W.; J. Brewer, P.J.G.W.; Rev. R. Tyacke, P.G. Chap.; Henry Stocker, P.G. Treas.; Major G. C. Davie, P.P.J.G.W., P.G. Sec.; and others.

The Prov. Grand Lodge having been opened in due form,

Bro. G. C. DAVIE moved "That in order to enable the Provincial Grand Lodge to assist, as far as the surplus funds will allow, those lodges who wish to obtain life governorships in the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys on the occasion of the Right Worshipful the Provincial Grand Master presiding at its annual Festival, that portion of the P.G. by-law which limits to twenty guineas the amount to be so voted, be suspended during the year 1888." Bro. Davis explained that Lord Ebrington had consented to take the Chair at the Annual Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and he thought it would be a good thing for Masonry in general and for the Province of Devon in particular, that their contributions on that occasion should be as large as possible. They were all aware that the sum to be granted by the Provincial Grand Lodge was, by the by-laws, limited to twenty guineas, but he suggested that they should on this occasion suspend the by-laws so as to admit of the contribution being increased.

Bro. the Hon. R. DAWSON, P.S.G.W., seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Bro. STOCKER, P.P.G.T., then moved—"That in the opinion of the Provincial Grand Lodge the present income of the Fortescue Annuity Fund will warrant the election of two additional annuitants, and that the Secretary of the Fund be requested to take the necessary steps for the immediate carrying out of the resolution."

The motion having been seconded,

Bro. W. ROGERS, D.P.G.M., said he doubted whether it would be wise, in the present state of the funds, to create two new annuitants, and he suggested that the consideration of the question should be deferred, at any rate, for 12 months.

Bro. GOVER dissented to this opinion. He believed it was not the desire of the Provincial Grand Lodge to hoard up money for the benefit of posterity, but to make practical use of the money which they now had at their disposal for the benefit of those whose claims came before them, and he hoped the resolution would be carried.

Bro. E. AITKEN-DAVIES supported the motion, and said he did not believe the difficulties would arise which Bro. Rogers seemed to anticipate.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER remarked that, while he believed they all sympathised with the object which Bro. Stocker had in view, they ought to think twice before they decided to incur an annual expense of £210 upon an assured income of less than £200. He believed that the present position of the Fund would warrant the creation of one more annuitant, but in the present state of their funds he thought it was a little rash to attempt anything beyond that. He suggested that the motion should recommend one additional annuitant instead of two, and that it should be a recommendation to the governors of the Fund to seek a more profitable investment for the funds than the Three per Cent. Consols.

Bro. STOCKER accepted the suggestion, and in the amended form the resolution was declared to be carried, although many hands were held up in favour of the resolution as originally proposed.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER then announced that the time had arrived, in accordance with the arrangements previously made, to proceed to church, and that it had been determined to divide the collection at the church between the poor of the parish and the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

Shortly after one o'clock the brethren, dressed in full regalia, and headed by the band and pipers of the Cameronian Regiment, went through George-street and Bedford-street to St. Andrew's Church. Large crowds witnessed the procession, which was very effective. At the church the scene was also a striking one, the Masonic banners and colours adding much to the effect of the Christmas decorations. Evensong was said by Bro. the Rev. T. W. Lemon, the first lesson being read by the vicar (the Rev. Preb. Wilkinson, D.D.), and the second by Bro. the Rev. R. T. Tyacke, Prov. G. Chap. Several of the choir, being Masons, wore their Craft collars over their surplices. The service was Garrett in D, and the anthem, Elvey's, "I was glad when they said unto me, let us go into the House of the Lord." The music was beautifully rendered, Mr. F. H. Moreton, F.C.O., presiding at the organ.

The PROV. G. CHAPLAIN, who preached, took three texts—1st Peter, ii., 17, "Love the brotherhood;" Isaiah ii., 17, "Relieve the oppressed;" and Eph. iv., 24, "Speak every man truth with his neighbour."

His reasons for taking these three texts, would, he said, be at once apparent to the brethren. They contained the three grand principles of the Order—brotherly love, relief, and truth. Freemasonry gave to its members a feeling difficult to describe, but which was shared by every true brother towards another—a feeling of deep interest and mutual confidence. Throughout the volume of the sacred law no teaching was so fully inculcated as the doctrine of love. "God is love," and if God so loved them, ought they not to love one another? Let them strive to cultivate this heavenborn virtue. They would then with calmness stem the angry billows of life, and with peaceful hearts descend into the tomb knowing that the same love which here directed their steps should be manifested in its splendour in heaven. Charity in its fullest sense, of endeavouring to make others happier and holier and denying ourselves, was taught by Freemasonry. It was their proud privilege to clothe the naked, feed the hungry, relieve the poor, to care for the aged, the widow, and the orphan. Their offerings at that service were to

be divided equally between one of their great Masonic Charities—the Boys' Institution—and the poor of Plymouth. These were objects well calculated to excite their sympathies and to encourage them to put into action the grand principles of their Order. And truth, he would remind them, was an essential and fundamental quality of morality. Without truth, in word and in deed, there could be no lasting union civil, moral, or ecclesiastical. To use words they would all recognise: let them always be careful to act on the square, and see that no deceit or double-dealing ever brought disgrace or discredit either upon themselves or upon Freemasonry. Such were the principles, and to carry out those principles to the fullest extent should be the determined aim of every genuine Freemason. In the middle ages the brotherhood consisted of guilds of operatives, under whose direction many stately cathedrals, churches, and other buildings were erected. They were now little more than a philosophic body, but it was matter for deep thankfulness that the points of the usefulness of the Craft were in these days being extended, and that they were, as it were, combining the operative and the speculative elements of the earlier ages by the encouragement they gave to and the interest they took in the erection of stately buildings. A few years ago the Grand Master of England laid the foundation-stone of what was now a stately cathedral; and that day, for the better inculcation of their principles they were about to lay in that great centre of commerce and industry in that great stronghold of Freemasonry, the foundation-stone of a great Masonic Institution. The need of such an institution had long been felt, and was yearly becoming more necessary by the rapid increase of Freemasonry. For the sake of unity, precision, economy, and centralisation, it was clearly of absolute necessity. The uses of such a building were almost innumerable. It would be a great centre of information upon Masonic work and progress in all portions of the world. It would form a new and permanent link between the Grand Lodge and the province. It would be a centre round which individual lodges might gather and harmonise and economise their labours, and a point from which would radiate a perpetual stream of beneficence. Besides providing a lodge room for Grand Lodge, it would be a standing memorial of the energy, determination, and unity of Freemasons, and would form a home where the brethren might gather in friendly meeting and social intercourse. Might the Great Architect of the Universe bless their endeavours. And finally, as citizens of the world and members of a great Brotherhood, let them each be exemplary in the discharge of every duty, religious and civil; and let their earnest endeavour be to carry out strictly the principles of the Craft.

The collection was then made, and the Vicar having pronounced the blessing, the procession was re-formed and again went round Bedford-street and George-street, into Princess-square, and at the south-east corner of which the new building is to be situated. The corner house of Princess-square and Windsor-lane has already been opened as a Freemasons' Club, and the new hall is to be built at the back of it, with an elevation facing Windsor-lane. Bro. J. H. Keats is the architect, and the contract, which is upwards of £3000, has been taken by Messrs. Laphorn and Goad, of Eaton-place, Plymouth. Bro. Keat's plans show a classic elevation, three storeys high, the lower storeys being rusticated and the upper showing Corinthian pilasters. The dining-room upon the ground floor will be 68 ft. by 28 ft., and the first floor will be occupied by lodge rooms; ante-rooms will be provided in a mezzanine floor between the second and third storeys; and the whole length of the second floor will be fitted as the grand lodge room. The house in front of the site of the new hall is already occupied as a Freemasons' club. It has been very nicely fitted, there being a coffee-room, reading-room, billiard-room, &c., and is under the able and courteous management of Mr. Symons, as steward.

Arriving at the site the brethren sang the ode commencing with "Here we meet to lay the stone," after which the Prov. G. Chap. (Bro. Tyacke) read the following prayer:

May the Almighty Architect of the Universe, who has disposed all things in order, according to the excellency of his will, who made the heavens for His majesty, the sun and the stars for His glory and our comfort, and the earth as a place for our obedience to His laws, look down upon us Masons now endeavouring to build a house, according to the rules of Charity, by the bond of love. May this house, when duly consecrated and dedicated, be a habitation for worthy men meeting together for good; may their secret assemblies be convened lawfully, proceed honourably, and end in Charity. May all Masons that enter under the shadow of its roof remember that the secret of the Lord is with them that fear Him. May the work done here prosper; may the hearts of all the workmen be comforted; may no strife, brawling, or unseemly words be heard within its walls; may the Master love the brethren, and the brethren honour and obey the Master; may our going out and our coming in be blessed for evermore; may our baskets be filled with plenteousness, and the voice of thanksgiving abound; may there be no or sorrow of heart; and may the wayfaring Mason find a comfort in his journey to his home when he passeth by the gates of this house. Send Thy blessing upon these our labours, and at last fetch us home, blessed Lord, to those glorious mansions in the skies, where all things are perfect, and there is no more labour but peace and joy for evermore. So mote it be.

The inscription on the stone was then read as follows:—"This stone was laid December 28th, 1887, the Jubilee year of her most gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, by Viscount Ebrington, M.P., Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master of Devon. W. Bro. W. Derry, P.P.S.G.W., chairman; W. Bro. J. H. Keats, architect."

Bro. DERRY, addressing the P.G.M., said it had long been felt to be very desirable that there should be a Freemasons' hall erected in the town of Plymouth; and they thought they could not take this work in hand under more favourable circumstances than in the year of the Queen's Jubilee. The Masons of the Three Towns had joined heartily together for the purpose of building such a hall, and he now had the honour of presenting the P.G.M. with a trowel with which he asked him to lay the foundation-stone.

The trowel, which was of silver, was inscribed: "This trowel was presented to Viscount Ebrington, M.P., Provincial Grand Master of Devon, on the occasion of his laying the foundation-stone of the Freemasons' Hall, at Princess-square, Plymouth, December 28th, 1887. W. Derry, P.P.S.G.W., Chairman of the Board of Directors."

The PROV. GRAND MASTER said it afforded him very great pleasure to accept that beautiful trowel which he assured them would always be a cherished memorial of a very interesting day. He hoped that the fine weather and the auspicious manner in which the proceedings had thus far gone off were a good omen of the future, and that in the words of the anthem they had heard at church peace would ever be within those walls and plenteousness within their palaces, and that those who loved it would always prosper.

The stone was then lowered in its place, and declared by Lord Ebrington to be well and truly laid, after which the cornucopia containing corn and the ewers with wine and oil were handed to his lordship by Bros. Leonard Parkhouse, and Hocking, and their contents poured upon the stone with the most Masonic observances.

Bro. ROGERS, D.P.G.M., then added a few words. He remarked that the very excellent discourse they had listened to in the church from the Prov. G. Chaplain had relieved him of much he should have said upon that auspicious occasion. Their Chaplain had explained much better than he should the duties of the Craft and the nature of Freemasonry. He would simply, first of all, congratulate the brethren at Plymouth on what they had been able to do to provide themselves so very desirable a home for their Craft. He assured them that the rest of the province would watch their progress with interest. The Freemasons of the Three Towns being so large a community, had facilities which it was impossible smaller towns should have. They could admire, but not follow. He could only repeat what had been

said before, that the stately fane did not make the true religion, and the goodly lodge and the perfect tools did not make the good Mason. That building would draw attention to them from the whole of England, and the honour of the Craft would henceforth to a larger extent be in their hands. He wished to impress upon them the fact that with them rested the credit of Freemasonry. He hoped that the emblematic teaching of the oil and wine poured upon that stone would be realised; and he trusted that the Great Architect of the Universe would bless them with all blessings, material and spiritual, and that peace and prosperity might be their lot.

This concluded the ceremony, and the procession then re-formed and marched back to the Assembly Rooms, where the business of Prov. Grand Lodge was resumed.

The PROV. G.M. said the only business remaining on the agenda paper was the conferring of Provincial rank on certain brethren in honour of the Jubilee of her Majesty the Queen. But before proceeding with that pleasing task, he desired to thank the directors of the new Masonic building for the beautiful working tools they had presented to him, and to assure the brethren that he should always value them as a memento of a very interesting occasion. He was quite sure that he was speaking not only for himself, but for all who had taken part in the ceremony of that day, when he expressed his acknowledgments to those who had laboured so hard to make the proceedings of the day so conspicuous a success. And he thought also that they should express their thanks to the Provincial Grand Chaplain for the admirable sermon he had preached in St. Andrew's Church. His lordship then went on to say that Devonshire, being a very large Province, there were no less than thirteen honours to be bestowed on brethren in the province, and this number was virtually increased to fourteen, inasmuch, as their highly respected Bro. Rae, whom he had wished to appoint to the office of Provincial Grand Warden, had asked to be excused from accepting the office on account of his great age, and desired the honour to be conferred on some younger and more active brother. He was sure they would all join with him in regretting the reasons which prevented Bro. Rae from accepting the office which he (Lord Ebrington) had proposed to confer upon him, and at the same time he knew they would admire Bro. Rae's unselfishness in relinquishing the honour.

The Prov. Grand Master then presented the collars to the following brethren:—

Bro. J. Lane, 1402 ...	...	...	...	P.P.G. Reg.
" J. B. Gover, 70 ...	...	...	...	P.P.G.S.
" F. B. Westlake, 70 ...	...	...	...	P.P.S.G.D.
" C. Croydon, 189 ...	...	...	...	P.P.S.G.D.
" B. B. S. Richards, 282 ...	...	...	...	P.P.S.G.D.
" W. Harding, 440 ...	...	...	...	P.P.S.G.D.
" W. Vellacott, 489 ...	...	...	...	P.P.S.G.D.
" C. Stevens, 1138 ...	...	...	...	P.P.S.G.W.
" W. J. Trethewy, 159 ...	...	...	...	P.P.A.G.D.C.
" W. A. Gregory, 1234 ...	...	...	...	P.P.A.G.D.C.
" W. Pile, 164... ..	...	...	...	P.P.G. Std. Br.
" T. Ebsworthy, 251 ...	...	...	...	P.P.G. Std. Br.
" F. C. Hallett, 303 ...	...	...	...	P.P.G. Std. Br.

This concluded the formal business, and votes of thanks were given to Bro. Tyacke for his admirable sermon, to Preb. Wilkinson, D.D., for having granted the use of St. Andrew's Church for the service, and to the choir for the manner in which they rendered the musical portion of the service. A request was made to Bro. Tyacke that he would allow his sermon to be printed for circulation among the brethren.

The brethren then adjourned to Mr. Rogers', Newmarket Hotel, in Cornwall-street, where an excellent dinner was provided, and admirably served under the direction of Mr. Woodrow. The loyal toasts having been duly honoured,

Bro. W. DERRY, P.P.S.G.W., proposed "The Health of the Prov. G.M., Viscount Ebrington," remarking that his lordship had been Prov. Grand Master of Devon for over eight years, and during that time he had grown immensely in the estimation of the brethren, and had done much to bring Freemasonry to the high position which it now occupied in the Province of Devon. He was sure that the interesting proceedings in which they had engaged that day were approved by Masons generally in the two Western Counties, and Viscount Ebrington, by his presence, had helped materially to make those proceedings a great success.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER, in responding, said it was a great pleasure to him, connected as he was with Plymouth in other ways to which he need not more especially refer, to visit the town in a non-controversial capacity, and to meet around the festive board many who on another platform might not entertain so friendly a feeling towards him as he hoped they did that evening. One great advantage of Freemasonry was that it was non-political, and brought all its members together on an equality whatever their position might be outside the lodge. That was one of its many recommendations, and he felt it no small honour that he had enjoyed the privilege for over eight years of presiding over so large and important a province. He had never failed to recognise the responsible nature of the duties he was called upon to perform in that capacity, and he hoped the interests of the Craft had not suffered in his hands. The proceedings of that day showed, he hoped, that Freemasonry was prospering under his rule, and he hoped this would continue in the future. His lordship concluded by proposing "The Provincial Grand Lodge of Devonshire and Provincial Grand Officers, Present and Past," and coupled with the toast the names of Bros. the Hon. R. Dawson and J. B. Gover. Bro. Dawson, he said, had succeeded in establishing a flourishing lodge at Ashburton, and Bro. Gover was a Mason whose praise was in everybody's mouth.

Bros. DAWSON and GOVER responded.

The toast of "The Earl of Mount Edgcumbe and the Prov. Grand Lodge of Cornwall" having been cordially drunk,

The PROV. GRAND MASTER gave "The W. Bro. W. Derry, Chairman of the Devon and Cornwall Freemasons' Hall and Club Company, and the Directors." His lordship said he understood that the club supplied a long felt want among Freemasons in the Three Towns, and he was confident from what he had seen that it would be attended with gratifying success. He was informed that the starting of the club was largely due to the initiative and liberality of Bro. Derry, and he was sure, therefore, that they would drink his health with very great cordiality. For the club itself he could wish nothing better than that Home Rule and Unionism might prevail therein, for he was sure that if those two elements, opposed though they were elsewhere, were combined within its walls, contentment and prosperity would always prevail.

Bro. DERRY briefly responded, and

The PROV. GRAND MASTER having personally thanked Bros. Keats, the architect, and Goad, the builder, for the completeness of their arrangements up to this time, the proceedings terminated.

Bro. T. Goodall, 1550, has acted as Secretary of the new club, which is now open to members of the Masonic body, and in that capacity has given every satisfaction to the brethren at large.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF DERBYSHIRE.

At the annual meeting of the above Provincial Grand Lodge, held on Tuesday afternoon, December 20th, at the Masonic Hall, Gower-street, Derby, there was a large and influential gathering, every lodge in the province being represented. It had been hoped that the Prov. Grand Master, Bro. the Marquis of Hartington, M.P., would have made it convenient to attend on this occasion, but at the eleventh hour the noble lord found himself unable, by reason of "important business which called him to London," to be present. In his absence, the chair was occupied by the genial and popular Deputy Grand Master, Bro. Haughton Charles Okeover, who was supported by a large number of distinguished Provincial Grand Officers, Present and Past. The chair of the D.P.G.M. was filled by Bro. W. H. Marsden, P.P.S.G.W., and the following were also present:—

Bros. Percy Wallis, Prov. S.G.W.; B. J. Greenhough, Prov. J.G.W.; Rev. H. Price, Prov. G.C.; Rev. C. W. Groves, Prov. G.C.; Thos. Cox, P.P.S.G.W., Prov. G. Treas.; J. B. Boycott, Prov. G.R.; Wm. Naylor, P.P.S.G.W., Prov. G. Sec.; C. Webster, Prov. S.G.D.; J. Hassall, Prov. G.S. of W.; H. Arnold-Bemrose, Prov. G.D. of C.; W. Dust, Prov. A.G.D.C.; G. R. Turner, Prov. G.S.B.; A. J. Wallis, and J. H. Orme, Prov. G. Std. Brs.; S. S. Waddington, Prov. G. Org.; W. Silver Hall, Prov. A.G. Sec.; W. F. Mill, Prov. G.P.; W. Stone, Prov. G. Tyler; T. Day, Prov. A.G. Tyler; R. L. Homer Mole, J. T. Lee, W. Glossop, and T. Oldham, Prov. G. Stwds.; also Bros. Frank Campion, P.P.S.G.W.; Henry Hillam, P.P.S.G.W.; Frederick Binckes, P.G. Sd. Br.; John Chadwick, P.G. Sd. Br.; Sir John G. N. Alleyne, Bart., P.P.S.G.W.; Fitzherbert Wright, P.P.S.G.W.; J. B. Coulson, P.P.S.G.W.; Sir John Smith, P.P.S.G.W.; W. Walters, P.P.S.G.W.; Geo. T. Wright, P.P.S.G.W.; Miles J. Walker, P.P.J.G.W. Leicestershire and Rutland; W. L. Ball, P.P.J.G.W.; Wm. Bodcn, P.P.J.G.W.; S. Stone, P.P.J.G.W.; C. Maltby, P.P.J.G.W.; E. R. Ward, P.P.G.R.; W. Whittaker, P.P.G.R.; J. H. Lawson, P.P.S.G.D.; G. Day, P.P.S.G.D.; S. Robinson, P.P.S.G.D.; John Howell, P.P.G.S. of W.; W. Boughen, P.P.G.S. of W.; R. R. Duke, P.P.G.D. of C.; John C. Merry, P.P.G.D. of C.; Jas. Whitehead, P.P.G.D. of C.; T. R. Gee, F. J. Robinson, J. O. Manton, F. Bennett, and J. Clex'on, P.P.A.G.D. of Cs.; W. H. Fisher, P.P.G. Sd. Br.; Edgar Horne, Gadsby, J. W. Brigg, A. B. Plant, and W. L. Dodd, P.P.G. Orgs.; S. Steele, P.P.G.P.; W. J. Piper, P.M. 802; J. H. Richardson, W.M. 1085, P.P.A.G. Sec.; R. B. Barratt, W.M. 353; J. R. Cain, P.M.; W. Elphinstone, P.M.; T. N. Turner, P.M.; Thos. E. Yeomans, P.M.; S. Warhurst, W.M. 625; John Hall, P.M.; Jackson, W.M. 654; H. Barber, P.M.; G. H. Knighton, W.M. 681; A. Woodiwiss, J.P., W.M. 731; J. Copestick, P.M.; E. J. H. Hoskins, P.M.; W. B. Woodforde, W.M. 787; R. Slater, W.M. 802; G. M. Huntley, P.M.; W. Prince, P.M.; Jos. F. Donegani, W.M. 850; J. M. McLeod, P.M.; Henry George, P.M., P.P.G.D. of C. Notts; Robert Knowles, W.M. 1028; A. Schofield, P.M., P.P.G.P.; H. Carr, P.M.; Geo. Johnson, P.M.; H. F. Daykin, W.M. 1170; W. Fletcher, P.M.; Wm. Wade, P.M.; J. E. Whitehead, P.M.; Geo. Smedley, W.M. 1235; J. H. Harrison, P.M.; Douglas Upton, I.P.M. 1324; H. B. Boag, W.M. 1495; J. W. Skidmore, P.M.; W. Carvell, W.M. 1688; J. D. Wragg, W.M. 1739; John D. Simpson, W.M. 1952; Andreas E. Cokayne, W.M. 2129; J. P. Fearfield, S.W. 2224; and many other P.M.'s, Officers, and brethren.

The annual reports presented from the various lodges indicated a steady growth of Masonic strength, it being particularly noticeable that the Charities of the Order were receiving a very hearty and liberal recognition. On the latter point, it was mentioned by Bro. G. T. Wright, P.P.S.G.W., Chairman of the Charity Committee, that during the past year the province had subscribed £657 5s. 6d. towards the three great Masonic Charitable Institutions, and that during the past three years no less than £2400 had been sent up from Derbyshire. An interesting feature of the day's proceedings was the presentation of a testimonial to Bro. Wm. Naylor, who has for a great many years most zealously and efficiently discharged the duties of Provincial Grand Secretary. It was reported by Bro. Percy Wallis, P.S.G.W., who had acted as Hon. Secretary to the Presentation Fund, that the proposal to recognise Bro. Naylor's services had been most liberally responded to from all parts of the province, and that after purchasing his full and undress Grand Lodge clothing, and also clothing for Grand Arch Chapter (in both of which Bro. Naylor has been made the recipient of honours), the Committee were able to hand over a cheque of the value of £175 for presentation.

The DEPUTY PROV. GRAND MASTER, in investing Bro. Naylor with the handsome new clothing, and presenting him with the cheque referred to, bore eloquent testimony to the great services he had rendered to the Province of Derbyshire, and wished him an abundant measure of health to continue his honourable Masonic career.

Bro. NAYLOR, in returning thanks, referred to the enormous strides made by Derbyshire Freemasonry during the 17 years he had been connected with the province. The number of lodges had increased from 15 to 22, and the number of members from 465 to 1023. The province had also increased the number of its votes for Charities ten fold; and during the period named they had erected a Masonic Hall and furnished it beautifully. What was of even greater moment, the building was entirely free from debt. In other respects there had been great progress, and it was to him a source of pride and satisfaction to know that he had played some part in the important work which had been going on. Bro. Naylor, amid the general applause of the brethren, expressed the hope that he might long be permitted to serve the interests of the Provincial Grand Lodge.

In recognition of the Jubilee year, and by the authority of the Prince of Wales, Past rank was conferred on four brethren of the province. The recipients of these honours were—

Bro. J. H. Lawson, Phoenix Lodge of St. Ann	...	P.P.S.G.W.
" John Howell, St. Oswald Lodge	...	P.P.J.G.W.
" J. Hall, Devonshire Lodge	...	P.P.S.G.D.
" H. Barber, Peveril of the Peak Lodge	...	P.P.S.G.D.

The Deputy Provincial Grand Master then appointed the officers of the province for the ensuing year in the following order:

Bro. E. R. Ward	...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" D. Upton	...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" Thomas Cox	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" Wm. Naylor (re-elected)	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" Rev. Herbert Price	...	...	Prov. G. Chaps.
" Rev. C. W. Groves	...	...
" Edgar Horne	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" T. N. Turner	...	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" W. Fletcher	...	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" Arnold Bemrose (re-appointed)	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.

Bro. W. Davis	...	...	...	Prov. A.G.D.C.
" W. Silver-Hall	...	...	...	Prov. A.G. Sec.
" J. Copestick (re-appointed)	...	...	...	Prov. G. Purst.
" Henry Carr	...	...	...	Prov. A.G. Purst.
" E. J. H. Hoskyns	...	...	...	Prov. G. Swd. Br.
" J. Cholerton	...	...	...	Prov. G. Std. Br.
" J. M. McLeod	...	...	...	Prov. G. Std. Br.
" Wm. Forman	...	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" G. Sutherland	...	...	...	Prov. G. Stwds.
" W. H. Wright	...	...	...
" J. S. Sanders	...	...	...
" Wm. Hart	...	...	...
" W. Prince	...	...	...
" J. H. Cooke	...	...	...

After the transaction of formal business, the brethren adjourned to the Royal Hotel, where they partook of dinner, which was well served by Mr. Keyl, the manager.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, and a very pleasant evening was spent.

The clothing and jewels presented to Bro. Taylor were supplied by Bro. George Kenning and were much admired.

"MASONIC FACTS AND FICTIONS."

"The mind frequently acquires a strong and invincible attachment to whatever has been familiar to it for any length of time. Habit, primarily introduced by accident or necessity, will inspire an affection for peculiarities which have the reverse of intrinsic merit to recommend them."—DR. COGAN.

It is always a source of regret on my part to differ with Bro. Hughan on any point in Masonic history however trivial it may appear, and especially so on the present occasion when the question at issue is of so important a character as the origin of one of the two Bodies that formed the present Grand Lodge of England.

While our historians are content with airily intimating that I have not proved my case, and they do not agree with me, etc., etc., I am powerless, for unfortunately I cannot argue, but whenever they undertake to criticise my work in the public press, I shall certainly do my level best to defend the position I have taken up. I therefore, await with some curiosity and much interest, Bro. Hughan's reasons for being unable to accept my "dictum that those who have applied the term 'Seceders' to this section of our Order have done so under a wrong impression." "Dictum," by the way, is not my word, but Bro. Hughan's.

In the passage quoted, I said "I shall now endeavour to prove that those who have, etc." Well, many of the readers of "Masonic Facts and Fictions" agree that I have succeeded in my endeavours; let those who think otherwise print the reasons on which they base their objections, if they have any. The expression of opinion that the evidence adduced in support of my theory "is certainly neither emphatic nor conclusive," although coming from so eminent an authority as Bro. Hughan, will not, I fancy have much historical weight unless backed up by something stronger than the uncorroborated statement of the Masonic renegade William Preston.

If Bro. Hughan has the smallest doubt as to the genuineness of my evidence he is quite at liberty to inspect the original documents quoted; if, however, he is able to accept it as authentic, how will he dispose of Chapters V. and VII. In the former I plainly show that in 1766, 1776, 1793, and 1806, the "Ancients" were generally looked upon as *Irish Masons*, and their lodges were described as "*Irish Lodges*" by the rank and file of their rivals; that a large majority of the brethren who comprised the "Ancient" Organisation in 1751 were Irishmen, and many of them Irish Masons; that their first book of Constitutions and their by-laws for private lodges were copied from Ireland. A distinct resemblance may be traced in their warrants, seals, and certificates, in the forming a "Grand Master's Lodge" after the model of a lodge of the same name and character established in Dublin only a few years earlier, the formation of which lodge they had evidently had in view from the first; and I am reminded by the reviewer of "Masonic Facts and Fictions" in the *Freemason* of the 3rd December, that their ritual was also derived from the same source.

Chapter VII. contains a letter written by the Grand Secretary of the "Moderns" in 1769, purporting to give a description of the origin and character of the rival Society. This letter clearly evinces that the writer personally knew very little of the organisation of the "Ancients," and still less of their origin. He calls them everything but gentlemen, and yet "the words *seceders* or *schismatics* are not to be found in this lengthy document, nor does he even insinuate that these epithets might, with propriety, be applied to them."

He says they "*first made their appearance about the year 1746.*" Now, I appeal to the common sense of any unprejudiced reader, do these words point to secession from the Grand Lodge in London, or do they not rather imply that these people "*made their appearance*" from some other quarter?

This letter was copied into the official letter book and dished up again a few years afterwards with a little stronger seasoning, and with this important addition, "*about the year 1745, or 1746, a few of the very lowest class of people admitted Masons in some of our lodges were the promoters of this Schism.*"

A most important point in this connexion is, that the writer of the first letter says "the late Mr. Revis" gave him certain information as to the "Ancients." Now, the Mr. Revis here mentioned, was Grand Secretary of the "Moderns" from 1734 to 1756, and had a secession occurred during that period he must have been cognizant of it. Yet, so far as I am able to learn there is no evidence in existence to justify the conclusion that prior to 1775 the "Ancients" were considered "Seceders or Schismatics." Bro. Hughan appears to attach considerable importance to the want of a Grand Lodge Register of the "Moderns" for the period when the secession is supposed to have taken place; so do I, and, moreover, I claim the absence of such register as a most valuable piece of evidence in support of my theory. Had there been no register on either side we should certainly be very much in the dark, and Bro. Hughan's contention would have been reasonable, but I have shown that the "Ancients" had a complete system of registration from the very beginning of their organisation, even before they formed a Grand Lodge, while registration had been discontinued by the "Modern" Society at least 20 years previously—and when in vogue it was totally different to the system of the "Ancients." Where then did the latter get the idea and the system if not from the Grand Lodge of Ireland? I am sorry to say I cannot accept Bro. Hughan's general verdict of "*not proven*," for in my opinion the facts adduced are most convincing; it remains to be seen whether he is in possession of any rebutting evidence sufficiently strong to enable him to put a different complexion on the subject.

I am, nevertheless, truly grateful for his suggestion as to "a friendly injunction to restrain," &c., but must object to the word "*Schismatics*" being omitted from the said injunction; it bears so strong a resemblance to "*Seceders*" that they must be twins, and it would be cruel to separate them after so long a journey together.

HENRY SADLER.

NEW YEAR'S ENTERTAINMENT AT CROYDON.

The annual entertainment in celebration of the New Year to the annuitants of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution residing at the establishment at Croydon was given on Wednesday at the Institution, and was as successful as any of its predecessors. The South-Eastern Railway Company, with their usual kindness, placed a couple of saloon carriages attached to the 1 p.m. train from Cannon-street at the disposal of the ladies and brethren proceeding to Croydon from London, and these visitors seemed even more numerous than on previous occasions, the endeavour to please their old friends becoming more and more widely spread.

The company engaged in this pleasant duty included the following old friends of the Institution: Bro. Raynham W. Stewart, Mr. A. B. H. Clerke, Mr. R. L. Bowyer, Mrs. Edgar Bowyer, Bro. Edgar Bowyer, Bro. Thomas Cubitt, Bro. Charles J. Perceval, Bro. Charles F. Hogard, Mrs. Hogard, Bro. H. H. Shirley, Bro. H. Massey, Miss A. R. Massey, Miss Charlotte Massey, Bro. J. J. Berry, Bro. A. L. McNish, Bro. Hugh Cotter, Miss Cotter, Bro. W. J. Crutch, T. Hastings Miller, C.C., Miss Miller, Miss Nellie Miller, Bro. J. Laidlaw Cross, P.M., Bro. J. T. Briggs, P.M., Treas. 157, Miss Banks, Bro. Mullord, Mrs. Mullord, Bro. John Culver, Mrs. M. A. Culver, Miss M. E. Culver, Bro. R. W. Gain, I.P.M. 1366, Bro. Robert H. Halford, P.S.G.D. Herts, Mrs. R. H. Halford, Miss Halford, Bro. C. E. Ferry, W.M. 1743, Bro. John Newton, Mrs. Newton, Miss Newton, Bro. Thomas Goode, Bro. Thomas Hubbard, St. Leonard's Lodge, Miss Nellie Lonsdale Dolby, Mrs. Terry, Miss A. M. Terry, Miss M. C. Terry, Bro. Raikes, Mrs. Raikes, Miss Jessie Terry, Miss Ada Crutch, Dr. H. J. Strong, Hon. Surgeon, Bro. E. A. Harris, 201, Bro. W. W. Morgan, P.M. 211, Bro. H. A. Lovett, Mrs. Lovett, Mr. H. W. Massey, Bro. A. Maynard Barnard, Bro. A. R. Bowyer, Miss Florence S. Dwyer, and Miss Bessie Crutch.

When the party arrived at the building, they were received by Bros. Terry, Mason, and J. G. Stevens, who had been on the premises all the morning, arranging for the comfort of the old people and visitors; and Miss Norris, the untiring Warden, as well as Bros. Terry, Mason, and Stevens, gave all a hearty welcome and best wishes for the New Year. The customary round of visits was immediately made by the Bowyer family to the residents, of whom it would not be "timeo Danaos et dona ferentes." The gifts the Bowyer family bore to the inhabitants were, as usual, numerous and useful, and the old people received them with the heartiest expressions of kindness for the thoughtfulness that had prompted the donations. Everything connected with the arrangements for these annual gatherings has now settled down into such a perfect system, that on this occasion every visitor, as well as every annuitant, knew exactly where to go for a seat at table, and the consequence was that by the time the bell was rung for the repast to commence which opens the day's festivities, all were in their places, and at a few minutes after two o'clock, Dr. Strong, who presided at the dinner, said grace, and the viands, which were abundant and delicious, were operated upon. Bro. Terry took charge of a superb piece of roast beef, Bro. Raynham Stewart was very attentive to a magnificent turkey, Bro. Thomas Cubitt displayed his accustomed skill on a ham that was a credit to its grower and curer, and Bro. Perceval looked after fowls which must have enjoyed the good things of this life very much when they strutted in the farmyard. It is almost needless to say that every other brother made himself useful by seeing that no diner had an empty plate, and for nearly two hours there was an unbroken succession of thorough enjoyment.

Grace after meat having been said, Dr. STRONG followed the customary rule of a few words being uttered before the room was cleared for the evening's entertainment; and, in proposing "The Queen," said the toast would be drunk with more than the usual enthusiasm, because her Majesty had last year completed the fiftieth year of her reign. Following with the toast of "The Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution," he observed that this was really "Our Worthy Selves," and those who annually visited the old people at Croydon were gradually getting whiter about the locks than they were in their earlier visits. This was also the case with the annuitants, but, whether visitors or annuitants, they appeared to be even much more lively than they were some years ago. In connection with the Institution he wished to mention a lady who was connected with it—the Warden, Miss Norris. The residents in the Institution knew how much they were indebted to her for the kind care, solicitude, and watchfulness which she bestowed upon them. The Committee also knew how careful she was of the property of the Institution, how she guarded its interests, and how she abnegated herself. Although in the present day ladies made speeches, Miss Norris would rather not reply to this toast herself, and therefore he would call on Bro. Terry to reply for her. Bro. Terry was the life and soul of the Institution. To him they were all indebted for his watchfulness and care, and also for getting up both the New Year and the summer entertainment to the old people.

The toast was drunk with the greatest enthusiasm, and Bro. TERRY, in the course of a brief reply, said that, interpreting Miss Norris's feelings, he thanked the company very much for their hearty acceptance of this toast. The guests sympathised with all the residents in the Institution, and they felt that there could be no better successor to the late Bro. Norris in the office of Warden of the Institution than Miss Norris. That she might long be spared to carry on her earnest work was the wish not only of the Committee but of the residents. Although Miss Norris had never had the advantage of being a mother, she yet exercised motherly care of the annuitants at Croydon. He agreed perfectly with what had been said with regard to Miss Norris, and he thanked the company very much for the compliment paid to Miss Norris, which he might say was well deserved.

Bro. EDGAR BOWYER proposed "Dr. Strong, Chairman of the dinner."

Bro. STRONG, in reply, said he had been connected with the Institution for 27 years, and in that time he had seen a great many changes. Many old friends had passed away, many new ones were made, and still the world rolled on. He had seen the Wardens pass away, but he hoped he should never see Miss Norris displaced. He would now propose "The Founders of the Feast." The entertainment was not provided out of the funds of the Institution,

but from voluntary contributions cheerfully made. It was very pleasant to find that though the brethren got older they still had the same desire they always had to give enjoyment to their less fortunate brothers and sisters. He would particularly mention Bros. Bowyer, T. Hastings Miller, C.C., Crutch, Newton, Goode, and J. J. Berry, all of whom assisted these delightful festivals to the utmost of their ability and with the greatest heartiness.

Bro. THOMAS GOODE, who was called on for a reply, said he had been there several times, and had assisted as far as he could in making their dear old friends happy and comfortable; but what little he had done towards founding the feast had been amply rewarded—and he was sure that every other founder of the feast had been most amply rewarded—by seeing the happy faces there were around him.

Bro. BOWYER, who presided at subsequent stages of the proceedings, proposed "The Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution," and said every one wished success to it. It was necessary that everything in the way of speaking must be cut very short, because the evening entertainment would take place at 6 o'clock, and the room had to be cleared. He coupled with the toast the name of Bro. Terry.

Bro. TERRY said, in reply, that 1887 had been the most eventful year in the history of the Masonic Institutions. Many of the brethren had seen in some of the daily papers on Monday, a statement of the income of the three Institutions in the year 1887, and he was proud to say that while the two educational establishments had realised £33,000, the Benevolent Institution had the honour of taking more than £29,000. So that the Benevolent Institution held its own in comparison with the other Institutions. It was quite problematical what would be the result of the year 1888. The number of Stewards for the old people was much smaller now than it was at that time last year—there being now 180 against 255 last year. There was very hard work to be done before the election. There were now 130 candidates and only 14 vacancies—11 men and 3 widows, and the Committee had it not in their power to make an addition. There was no question at all that the Centenary of the Girls' School was absorbing all the interest of brethren. As far as he was concerned, during the 24 years he had been connected with the Institution, he had never allowed himself absence from duty when his presence was necessary, and he hoped he should continue to find the Institution in the same condition of promise of success that it had now. The Craft had enabled it to do what it was now doing, and he hoped when they met that time next year, there would be even better prospects for it than there were now. Thanking the brethren very, very sincerely for what they had done. He wished them a Happy New Year.

Bro. RAYNHAM W. STEWART, P.G.D., proposed "The Chairman, Bro. Bowyer," whose first love on entering Freemasonry, was the Benevolent Institution, he standing as Steward for that Institution, and who had never missed these meetings ever since he was a Life Governor.

Bro. BOWYER assured the brethren that although he had served as Steward for the Institution, and had always been at these pleasant gatherings which were initiated by Bro. Terry, he should always come down to them if he could and spend some happy hours in seeing other people enjoy themselves.

Bro. TERRY said he wished to supplement his former observations with the remark that there was going on at the present time a similar entertainment at the Masonic Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester. The Province of East Lancashire, when he was on a visit to it some years ago and told the brethren there about their New Year's entertainment at Croydon, they resolved to have one there, and they gathered together at Manchester the annuitants of the province, paying their railway fare and cab hire in order to have them all together at a New Year's treat in Manchester. He had sent the following telegram:—

"The Old Folks at Croydon send fraternal greetings to brethren at Manchester, wishing them a Happy New Year and an enjoyable evening."

Later in the evening the following reply was received:— "Annuitants and brethren assembled here reciprocate your kind expression. Wishing you every success in future.—Jefferis, Manchester."

Bro. BOWYER proposed "The Health of Dr. Strong," and highly eulogised the devotion he had shown to the interests of the Institution for 27 years.

Dr. STRONG replied, and pointed out the vast improvements there had been in the Institution since he first became acquainted with it—the increase in the annuities, the greater comfort of the annuitants, the enlargement of the hall, the provision of gas in lieu of oil and other lights, the gift of a library, and other improvements, which might be called luxuries, in comparison with what they would now call the bare necessities of life. With regard to the library, he commended the liberality of the Supreme Council, 33°.

Bros. J. G. STEVENS and J. MASON, replied respectively to a toast proposed by Bro. BOWYER, in their honour, both hoping that that year would be a favourable one for the Institution, though at the same time fearing that the Girls' Centenary would absorb the principal part of the funds of the Craft.

In the evening a capital musical and comic negro entertainment, given by Mr. Charles Chumley, who was assisted by Mr. Leslie Smith, Mr. J. E. Hulbert, Bro. John Chumley, P.M. 1556; Bro. C. J. Balfour, 902; Mr. A. C. Harper, Mr. J. Aris, and Bro. Arthur Coombes. Miss Strong also gave some beautiful music on the violin, and Miss Terry on the piano.

CHURCH EMIGRATION SOCIETY (9, Victoria-chambers, Westminster).—Bro. Major C. A. Cooper, Secretary, has just made most advantageous arrangements with the Orient line for the entire of the deck-house of their splendid steamer, the Orient, for the purpose of sending out a party of superior girls, mothers' helps, junior and nursery governesses, and domestic servants of a good class, whose characters and qualifications must be unexceptionable. This party will leave, under the care of the society's matron, for Adelaide, Sydney, and Melbourne on the 1st of March. Application to join the party should be made before the 15th inst. to Miss C. E. Denison, Hon. Sec. Ladies' Committee, 196, Cromwell-road, London, S.W., who, with Miss Stuart—daughter of the late Sir A. Stuart, formerly Premier of New South Wales—will have places ready for many of the party. £18 10s. will cover cost of the superior third-class passage, and a most liberal ship's kit, bedding, linen, &c.

PRESENTATION TO BRO J. NICHOLSON AND MRS. NICHOLSON, OF MARYPORT.

The members of the Craft, Arch, Mark, and Allied Masonic Degrees resolved some time ago, it being the Jubilee year, to present the veteran of the Province of Cumberland and Westmorland, Bro. Nicholson, P.M. 371, P.P.S.G.W., and Past Senior Grand Deacon of England of Mark Master Masons, also Mrs. Nicholson, who is our brother's senior by three years, and is now 83, with some token as an evidence of the great esteem in which they are held, not only by the members of the mystic knot in the town they reside in, but by the province. On Friday, Dec. 30, a deputation was formed, headed by Bro. Col. F. R. Sewell, D.P.G. Mark Master, accompanied by Bros. P. de E. Collin, P.P.S.G.W.; Jas. Gardiner, P.P.G. Reg.; E. G. Mitchell, W.M. 371; E. B. Penrice, P.G. Std. Br.; and Robert Brown, P.M.; and they repaired to our brother's residence in Eaglesfield-street, when Bro. Col. Sewell made the presentation of a Past Grand Deacon's Jubilee Jewel (manufactured by Bro. Geo. Kenning) to Bro. Nicholson, and a very massive silver teapot to Mrs. Nicholson bearing the following inscription:—"Presented to Mrs. Nicholson by the Freemasons of Maryport, Jubilee year, 1887."

In making the presentation, Bro. SEWELL said: Bro. Nicholson, we visit you to-day as a deputation from and as the W.M.'s and Principals of the various Masonic bodies connected with Maryport, to present to you—as our "Masonic father"—a token of the great esteem in which you are held by the brethren for your inestimable Masonic services. The value of the gift is not great; it must be considered more as a token of our heartfelt esteem for you, and of our appreciation of your services to the brethren, than of any intrinsic value it possesses. The honour of presenting it—for it is a great honour—should have fallen to Bro. Mitchell, for of course, as the W.M. of the Craft lodge, he is the principal local chief at present amongst us; but he has requested me, as the W.M. of Council No. 11, Allied Degrees, to undertake it for him; and in presenting it to you in your Jubilee year as a Mason, I wish you long life and health to enjoy your new honours as P.G.D. of England in the Mark Degree, of which this gift is the jewel; and in offering this I must also allude to you, Mrs. Nicholson (for we have a gift for you), and to your good services to the Masonic cause, for if your good man is our "Masonic father," you may certainly be called our "Masonic mother." I think you know as much about matters Masonic as any of your sex can know, and your good help has always been duly appreciated. As a small token of our feeling, I present you with this teapot, which you will see has an inscription stating from whom it comes. We wish you both, on behalf of our brethren and ourselves, long life and happiness, and a Happy New Year.

Bro. NICHOLSON feelingly replied, and thanked the brethren for their kindness.

Mrs. NICHOLSON also remarked if ever during her long life she saw a Mason doing anything she considered not Masonic and correct, she had never hesitated to call his attention to the fact, and so done her best to keep him straight.

We may safely add our worthy brother is the oldest Craft and Mark Mason in the province, and has been to the front in every good cause on behalf of Masonry in the two counties for upwards of 50 years.

Obituary.

BRO. GEORGE ISAAC VENABLES.

We deeply regret to announce the death of Bro. George Isaac Venable, which occurred at his residence, 85, Paulet-road, Camberwell, on December 23rd, at the comparatively early age of 42. The deceased gentleman was well known in connection with the South London Choral Association and Institute of Music, meeting at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New-road, and also amongst the members of the numerous Masonic lodges meeting in the building. The funeral took place on the 29th ult., at Woking, the chief mourners, consisting of Mr. Leonard C. Venable, Mr. Leonard C. Venable, jun., Mr. George Small, Mr. William Small, the committee and officers of the South London Choral Association (including Mr. A. Pettengill, secretary), Mr. J. S. Curwen, president, Mr. R. Griffiths, secretary of the Ionic Sol-fa College, &c., &c. Deceased was universally known and beloved by his Masonic brethren, and was a member of the Sterndale Bennett Lodge, 2182; Kintore Mark and the Stanhope Chapter, 1209; The following brethren were present at the funeral, viz.: Bros. Page, P.M. 1475; C. E. Power, P.M. and Sec. 1558; Gooden, 1329; Murche, 1329, Bromley-Smith, S.W. 1539; Dakers, 1669; Francis, 1339, P.P.G.D. Surrey; Walden, I.G. 1658; Dr. H. Walsley, 2182; W. Clifford, 2182; J. H. Cureton, 1539 and 2182; Costello, I.G. 765, and S.W. 2182; W. H. Harper, 2182; Tilling; Booth, 1539; H. J. Wicks, W.M. 1269; A. J. Shore, A.D.C. 1658; and R. Jackson, 2182.

Bro. Lawrence Alport announces that the style of the business which he acquired at the beginning of last year, viz., that of Chas. H. Job and Co., and Job Bros., and Co., wholesale stationers, of 149, Queen Victoria-street, will hereafter be altered to L. Alport and Co.

A meeting was held at Terry's Theatre on Friday, the 30th ult., for the purpose of considering the best steps to be taken in order to assist the employes of the Grand Theatre, Islington, who have been so suddenly thrown out of employment by the destruction by fire of that theatre. Among those present were Bros. Edward Terry, Walter Terris, E. Ledger, John Douglass, and others. It was decided to accept Miss Mary Anderson's offer of Tuesday afternoon for a benefit performance in aid, and to form a financial Committee, with Bro. the Earl of Lonsborough as Chairman, and Bro. E. Ledger as Honorary Treasurer, the latter consenting to receive subscriptions at the Era Office, Wellington-street, Strand, until a working Committee was formed. Benefit performances have been arranged to be given by the Mohawk Minstrels to-day (Friday), at Sadler's Wells Theatre on Friday next, the 13th inst., and at Deacon's Music Hall on Friday, the 20th inst. The Daily Telegraph has also opened a subscription for the same benevolent object, the proprietors heading the list with a donation of £50.

Telephone No. 6637.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

ST. JOHN'S HILL, BATTERSEA RISE, S.W.

Instituted 1788.

CHIEF PATRONESS:
HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.GRAND PATRON AND PRESIDENT:
HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES,
K.G., &c., M.W.G.M.GRAND PATRONESS:
HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCESS OF WALES.

A QUARTERLY GENERAL COURT of the Governors and Subscribers of this Institution will be held at FREEMASONS' HALL, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, on SATURDAY, JANUARY 14th, 1888, at Twelve o'clock precisely, on the General Business of the Institution, to place Candidates on the List for the Election in April next, to declare the number of Girls then to be Elected, and to consider Notice of Motion as under—

NOTICE OF MOTION—

By Bro. J. L. MATHER, Asst. G.D. of Cers.—

That Laws 6, 29, 35, and 60 be amended as follows, viz.—

"Law 6. To add after the word 'meeting,' in the second line, the words 'on the Saturday following the last Friday.'"

"Law 29. To omit the word 'second,' in the third line, and after word 'Saturday' in third line, to add 'following the last Friday.'"

"Law 35. After word 'Court' in fifth line, to add 'on the Saturday following the last Friday.'"

"Law 60. After word 'Courts' in second line, to add 'on the Saturday following the last Friday.'"

F. R. W. HEDGES, Secretary.
5, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, W.C.,
January 7th, 1888.

CENTENARY FESTIVAL, 1888.

Stewards earnestly solicited to co-operate in the celebration of this unique event.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

ST. JOHN'S HILL, BATTERSEA RISE, S.W.

CHIEF PATRONESS:
HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.PATRON AND PRESIDENT:
H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., &c.,
M.W.G.M.GRAND PATRONESS:
H.R.H. THE PRINCESS OF WALES.FOUNDED 1788.
CENTENARY FESTIVAL, 1888.PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF STEWARDS:
The Right Hon. The EARL OF LATHOM, D.G.M.,
Prov. G.M. Lancashire, Western Division.

Brethren willing to act as Stewards on this important occasion will greatly oblige by sending in their names as early as convenient.

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THE FIRST MASONIC FESTIVAL

of the ensuing year will be that of the

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K.G., M.W.G.M.,

WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE AT

Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen Street, LONDON,

ON WEDNESDAY, 29TH FEBRUARY, 1888,

Upon which occasion

Sir GEORGE ELLIOT, Bart., M.P.,

R.W. Prov. G.M. South Wales (East Division),

Has been pleased to signify his intention of Presiding.

Brethren are earnestly invited to accept the office of Stewards upon this occasion, and they will greatly oblige by forwarding their Names and Masonic Rank, as soon as convenient, to the Secretary, who will gladly give any information required, and supply them with the 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 more needed than at the present time. Expenditure in Annuities alone £15,000. Permanent Income only £3600.

JAMES TERRY, Vice-Patron, P.G.S.B.,

Secretary.

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The Committee trust that the MASONIC BODY will help them in this time of difficulty and pressure.

On behalf of the Committee,

PEREGRINE PLATT, Secretary.

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P.S.—Contributions will be thankfully received by the Secretary, or may be paid to our Bankers, Messrs. Barclay and Co., 54, Lombard Street, E.C.; or Messrs. Ransom and Co., 1, Pall Mall East, S.W.

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In consideration of the long services devoted to the cause of Masonry in its various grades by this highly-esteemed brother, and in recognition of his abilities as an energetic and courteous Preceptor, the undermentioned brethren have kindly placed their names on the Committee, and have subscribed the following sums:—

	£	s.	d.
W. Bro. Alfred Williams, P.M. (Chairman) ...	5	5	0
V.W. Bro. D. P. Cama, P.G. Treas. (Vice-Chairman) ...	5	5	0
V.W. Bro. H. B. Marshall, J.P., P.G. Treas. ...	5	5	0
W. Bro. Baron de Ferrieres, P.G.D. ...	5	5	0
" Major G. Lambert, F.S.A., P.G.S.B. ...	5	5	0
" George Kenning, P.G.D. Middx. ...	5	5	0
" G. Lilley, P.M. ...	5	5	0
" W. R. Palmer, P.M. ...	5	5	0
" T. C. Walls, P.P.G.S.B. Middx. ...	2	2	0
" H. J. Lardner, P.P.G. Org. Surrey ...	2	2	0
" J. L. Ma'her, A.G.D.C. ...	1	1	0
" C. F. Matter, P.G. Std. Br. ...	1	1	0
" T. Cubitt, P.G.P. ...	1	1	0
" H. Lovegrove, P.P.G.S. of Wks. Middx. ...	1	1	0
" F. Bennett, W.M. ...	1	1	0
" Captain J. E. Anderson, P.M. ...	1	1	0
" G. Graveley, P.M. ...	1	1	0
" E. Storr, P.M. ...	1	1	0
" T. Clarke, P.M. ...	1	1	0
" C. Slater, P.M. ...	1	1	0
" H. H. Shirley, M.A., P.M. ...	1	1	0
" R. B. Bryant, P.M. ...	1	1	0
" J. Voisey, P.M. ...	1	1	0
" G. W. Marsden, jun., P.M. ...	1	1	0
" C. Pulman, P.M. ...	0	10	6
" G. Allen, P.M. ...	0	10	6

The above form the Committee.

The Cama Lodge ...	5	5	0
W. Bro. R. H. Thrupp, P.A.G.D.C. ...	1	1	0
" Mildred, P.M. ...	1	1	0
" G. Treves, P.M. ...	1	1	0
" S. Parkhouse, P.M. ...	1	1	0
Bro. J. K. R. Cama ...	1	1	0
" W. W. Codd ...	1	1	0
" G. H. Richmond ...	0	10	6
" G. Goodge ...	0	10	6
" A. C. Bradley ...	0	10	6
W. Bro. Vincent, P.M. ...	0	10	0

Cheques and P.O.O. may be made payable to Bro. H. J. Lardner (Hon. Treas.), St. Clement's House, Clement-lane, E.C. Brethren desirous of co-operating with the Committee are requested to communicate by letter with Bro. T. C. Walls (Hon. Sec.), East Temple Chambers, E.C.

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CRAFT—
Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 1003.

BOOKS, &c., RECEIVED.

"South African Freemason," "Anuario Masonico Universal Madrid," "La Revista Masonica," "Keystone," "La Chaine D'Union de Paris," and "Masonic World."



SATURDAY, JANUARY 7, 1888.

Craft Masonry.

ROYAL JUBILEE LODGE (No. 72).—The installation meeting of this ancient lodge was held on Monday, the 2nd inst., at Anderson's Hotel, Fleet-street, and was attended by a large number of members, both of the lodge and visitors. Among those present were Bros. C. R. Williams, W.M.; F. Dunn, P.M., Treas.; A. Darch, P.M., Sec.; J. N. Bate, P.M., D.C.; T. Hines, I.P.M.; J. W. Walker, P.M.; and N. Turner, P.M. Visitors: Bros. J. Jacobs, P.M. 1614; Thos. Loring, P.M., 171; H. Pice, I.P.M. 177; E. Partridge, P.M. 1686; E. Ayling, P.M. 975; W. C. Canton, P.M. 1175, 1263; C. Wise, P.M. 1158; H. Gross, S.W. 1314; D. B. Hart, S.W. 62 (S.C.); T. Harrington, J.W. 1686; G. Heavens, 95; D. R. Bruce, D.C. 1507; B. Griffin, D.C. 975; H. Brookling, 1305; J. Craigen, 1624; R. Bryce, 1421; D. Hamis, 205; G. H. L. Renton, 183; also M. E. Stokes, S.W., and W.M. elect, and W. Abrahams, J.W.; and nearly all the members of the lodge, there being only one or two absentees.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous lodge meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. M. E. Stokes was installed into the chair of K.S. according to ancient rite and custom. The brethren saluted their newly-installed Master, who proceeded to invest his officers as follows: Bros. W. Abrahams, S.W.; E. Lewcock, J.W.; F. Dunn, P.M., Treas.; A. Darch, P.M., Sec.; J. N. Bate, P.M., D.C.; Russell, S.D.; Reid, J.D.; J. Braham, I.G.; G. Horton, A.D.C.; C. F. Williams and Bridger, Stwds.; J. H. Morris, Asst Sec.; and G. Rawles, Tyler. Bro. R. Williams, Installing Master, then gave the usual addresses, which were listened to with great attention from the impressive manner in which they were delivered. A ballot was then taken for Mr. Fraser, a candidate, who, being in attendance, was duly initiated into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry, after which, a quantity of correspondence and other business having been got through, Bro. A. Darch, Secretary, rose and presented the I.P.M. with a portrait of himself, taken in Masonic clothing, which the members of the lodge had unanimously decided to present him with as a mark of respect for his occupation of the chair during his year of office. Bro. Williams, P.M., responded briefly in well chosen and sincere terms, and accepted the portrait, which he assured the members would be highly prized by his family.

All Masonic business being ended, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet, which was served in excellent style by Bro. Clemow.

Grace having been pronounced at the conclusion, the W.M. rose to propose the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, "The Queen and the Craft," "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the M.W.G.M.," "The Pro G.M., Deputy G.M., and the other Principal Grand Officers, Present and Past," which were drunk with enthusiasm and with musical honours.

Bro. C. R. Williams, I.P.M., then proposed "The Health of the W.M.," who responded, and proposed "The Health of the Installing Master."

Bro. C. R. Williams responded, and thanked the brethren for the courtesy which had been invariably extended towards him during his year of office.

The toast of "The Initiate," to which Bro. Fraser responded, came next, and was followed by the toasts of "The Visitors" and "Treasurer and Secretary."

The two last named in responding alluded to the healthy state of the lodge's finances.

The toast of "The Officers" and the Tyler's toast brought a pleasant evening to a close.

OLD CONCORD LODGE.—(No. 172).—The installation meeting of this ancient and prosperous lodge was held at Freemasons' Hall on Tuesday, the 3rd inst., and attracted a large number of members and visitors. The members present included Bros. Thomas Whaley, S.W.; G. Evans, J.W.; John Hancock, Treas.; George King, P.M., Sec.; Carl T. Fleck, S.D.; James A. Armour, J.D.; K. Steele, I.G.; J. B. Evans, D.C.; H. R. Cope, P.M.; W. O. Beazley, P.M.; R. D. Hilton, P.M.; John Stedman, P.M.; R. H. Harris, P.M.; George Hockley, P.M.; and many others. Visitors: Bros. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, G. Sec.; R. H. Stimpson, 59; D. E. Davies, 1429; W. H. Bailey, P.M. 624, P.P.G. Reg. Staffordshire; E. Floyd, 902; M. Pratt, P.M. 1491; W. Rossiter, 1158; J. W. Ray, S.W. 1624; E. J. Acworth, P.M. 1612, Prov. G. Steward Essex; F. T. Edgington, P.M. 591, P.P.G.O. Berks and Bucks; E. Coleman, W.M. elect, 11; R. S. Darling, 1963; A. Whillet, W. Radcliffe, P.M. and Sec. 211; G. Campion, P.M. 19; W. D. Cronin, E. G. Mansell, W.M. 879; C. J. Foakin, P.M. 1814; G. L. Briggs, W. Eaton, J.W. 879; S. Hookison, 1745; F. J. Wray, P.M. 1257; D. Radcliffe, 209; F. Carne, 765; W. Belsham, I.G. 733; C. Jones, 1420; G. Adams, 1. Whaley, 55; W. Watson, 190; A. Madell, 1201; G. W. Ruffe, J.D. 1381; F. J. Sykes, 256; J. Lichwitz, 1891; R. Angel, 179; C. T. Cowley, 2030; A. St. Leger, W.M. 1777; A. Saunders, 144; G. Draper, P.M. 1305; E. H. Smith, 2030; W. Wilkins, P.M. 902; E. Venner, 601; W. W. Lee, 1897; and others.

Lodge having been opened, and the minutes read and confirmed, Bros. Cousins and Cowley were raised to the Degree of M.M. by Bro. Cope, P.M. Bro. T. Whaley, S.W., was then presented as W.M. elect, and the Board of Installed Masters having been formed, he was impressively installed into the chair of K.S. by Bro. G. King, P.M., Sec. The following officers were appointed and invested: Bros. G. Evans, S.W.; C. T. Fleck, J.W.; J. Hancock, Treas.; G. King, P.M., Sec.; J. A. Armour, S.D.; R. Steele, J.D.; J. B. Evans, I.G.; Sykes, D.C.; Hunt, Stwd.; Marriott, Org.; and Couchmann, Tyler. The usual addresses were delivered in an effective manner by the Installing Master, Bro. G. King, P.M., Sec. The W.M.

then said he had a duty to perform which caused him mingled feelings of pleasure and regret. Had his brother, their I.P.M., been present, he would have asked the lodge to accept a banner in commemoration of his term of office in the chair as W.M. during the Jubilee year. He (the W.M.) sincerely regretted that Bro. J. Whaley, I.P.M., was not present, but on his behalf he asked the lodge to accept the banner. Bro. King, P.M., returned sincere thanks for the handsome gift, which would be a memento of Bro. J. Whaley's services in the chair during the Jubilee year. The lodge would accept the banner with pleasure, for it was always ready to entertain any feelings or wishes that might exist amongst its P.M.'s, and particularly Bro. J. Whaley, I.P.M. The members all deplored the absence of that brother, but sincerely trusted he would be with them at the next meeting. A hearty vote of thanks was passed to Bro. J. Whaley, P.M., for his handsome present, and for his valuable services as W.M. during the past year. The consideration of the Auditors' Report was deferred until the next meeting. Mr. C. S. Collins was initiated into Freemasonry by the W.M., who, by the impressive manner in which he performed the ceremony, gave an earnest of the ability with which he would fulfil the duties of the chair. Other business having been transacted, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to a sumptuous banquet.

After the removal of the cloth, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were honoured with the customary heartiness.

"The Queen and the Craft" and "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," having been given,

The Worshipful Master gave "The Grand Officers," and said he felt somewhat nervous in introducing the toast, as he had not yet visited Grand Lodge. However, having taken the obligation that evening as W.M., he should attend the meetings in the future, and should then be able to speak of the proceedings, and of the merits of the Grand Officers, who were well known to the brethren on account of the interest they took in Masonry. They were honoured that evening with the presence of the Grand Secretary, and he was indebted to that brother for his kindness in attending.

Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clarke, G. Sec., in reply, said it was a more nervous task to respond to a toast of such importance, for it comprised a large number of brethren of social position in the country who had been favoured by the M.W. Grand Master with positions in the Craft. The Grand Officers tried to do their duty, and were most anxious to justify their selection by doing all in their power to promote Freemasonry. As for the distinguished noblemen at the head of Grand Lodge, he could tell them, and he spoke from experience, that the Craft was most fortunately circumstanced. As regarded H.R.H., the brethren must not fancy, because they did not see him at their meetings, that he was neglectful of the Craft. He could assure them, from personal knowledge, that H.R.H. took the greatest interest in all that concerned Masonry. When their M.W.G.M. was in London, he (the G. Sec.) was in constant attendance at Marlborough House, for all matters of importance were submitted to H.R.H., and underwent a very careful scrutiny at his hands. The names of Lords Carnarvon and Lathom were well known, for these two brethren exercised a watchful care over all that affected Masonry. Personally, he sincerely thanked them for the cordiality with which he had been received that evening. It was not his first visit, and he was delighted to be present again at their ancient lodge, which dated back 130 years, and had always had a record for efficiency. From what he had seen that evening he considered it had maintained its old excellence, for Bro. King, P.M., had admirably performed the installation ceremony, and the new W. Master, carrying a name well known in the lodge, had performed the ceremony of initiation in excellent style. It must have been a sincere pleasure to the father of the W.M. to have witnessed that ceremony so ably performed by his son. It had been a great pleasure to him (the G. Sec.) to be present once again at the Old Concord Lodge to witness its continued prosperity and success, and to enjoy their kind reception.

Bro. Hockley, P.M., said that quite unexpectedly he had been called upon to propose what he considered the toast of the evening, for it was "The Health of the W.M." He undertook the task with a deal of pleasure, not, however, unmingled with regret, for had the I.P.M. been present he would have undertaken the proposal of that toast. The brother of the W.M., in the ordinary course, would have occupied the position of I.P.M. that evening, but the Almighty had decreed otherwise. Their absent I.P.M. had endeared himself to them all, and in every way had acted as they might have expected from a W.M. of their lodge. He was sure he was but expressing the feelings of all when he expressed the great regret that Bro. J. Whaley, I.P.M., was not in the position he (Bro. Hockley) occupied on the present occasion. They might congratulate themselves that they numbered in their ranks such men as the brothers Whaley, whose endeavours were calculated to maintain the position of their lodge in the Craft. The absent Bro. J. Whaley had carried out his duties in an admirable manner that had delighted the brethren, and the W.M. who had been installed that evening had given them a specimen of his work by initiating a friend into Masonry. Their W.M. had shown them that as he had been placed in the chair of K.S. he was perfectly prepared to carry out the duties in a manner that would reflect credit on the lodge. All the details for that evening's meeting had been under the management of their W.M., whose admirable arrangements had been productive of comfort to all. He hoped the W. Master would have a satisfactory and successful year of office, and that he would do better than his brother had done, if it were possible.

Bro. Thomas Whaley, W.M., said he scarcely knew how to return thanks for the kindly manner in which the toast had been introduced by Bro. Hockley, P.M., and received by the brethren. He had made a few speeches, and had sometimes said it was the proudest moment of his life; but he could assure them that the present occasion was the proudest moment of his Masonic career. It was about nine years ago that he was initiated in their lodge, and on that memorable occasion he was struck with the importance of Freemasonry, and he said to himself that some day he must be W.M. of the Old Concord Lodge. He now stood before them in the position which it had always been his ambition to attain, and he again thanked the brethren for electing him. He trusted that at the end of the year they would say he had carried out his duties with credit to the lodge. It was very kind of the brethren to accord him so hearty a reception, and he was also indebted to Bro. Hockley, P.M.,

for his kind remarks. It had been a long standing engagement of his to initiate his old friend, Bro. Collins, and he felt proud at having done so. He again thanked them for so cordially drinking his health.

"The Initiate" having been given, and suitably responded to by Bro. Collins,

The Worshipful Master proposed the toast of "The Visitors," which, he remarked, was always well received in their lodge. It was at all times a pleasure to them to see such an assembly of visiting brethren as they had that evening, and this was especially the case on installation nights. He had to personally return thanks to many brethren whom he knew had attended at some inconvenience to witness his installation. It had been his endeavour to entertain the visitors in an hospitable manner, and hoped they had enjoyed the entertainment provided. He coupled with the toast the names of Bros. Bailey, P.P.G.R. Staffordshire; D. Radcliffe, P.P.G.D.C. Berks and Bucks; and a relative of his own, Bro. Adams.

Bro. Bailey, P.P.G. Reg. Staffordshire, heartily thanked the W.M. and brethren for the kind reception accorded the visitors, and also for the manner in which the toast had been proposed and received. Of the name and glorious fame of the Old Concord Lodge they were all conversant, and he was proud that the pleasure of his first visit had been accentuated by the occasion being the installation of his friend Bro. Whaley. He was sure that from the example the W.M. had given them of his work the lodge would go on and prosper under his guidance. He begged to tender his hearty good wishes for the success of the W.M., and on behalf of the visitors, their thanks for the hospitality shown them. From the manner in which the W.M. had performed the initiation ceremony, and had ministered to their creature comforts, the success of the coming year was ensured.

Bros. D. Radcliffe, Adams, and W. Radcliffe, P.M., Sec. 211, also replied.

"The Past Masters" was next given by the W.M., who observed that the P.M.'s were the backbone of the lodge, for they were looked to for guidance when emergencies arose. He wished to take that opportunity of calling the attention of the brethren to the annual ball of the lodge, which takes place shortly, and which he hoped would realise a handsome sum for the Benevolent Fund. He would couple with the toast the name of Bro. Cope, P.M., whom he cordially thanked for the manner in which he performed the Third Degree that evening. He could not help referring to the feelings of regret he experienced that his brother, their I.P.M., was not with them.

Bro. Cope, P.M., on behalf of the P.M.'s, returned thanks for the hearty reception accorded the toast, and expressed the pleasure it afforded him to assist the W.M. for the time being.

"The Treasurer and Secretary," and "The Officers," having been given and suitably responded to, the Tyler's toast closed the proceedings.

An excellent programme of music was carried out under the direction of Bro. C. H. R. Marriott, assisted by Bro. S. Tower, Messrs. Musgrave, Tufnail, O. Marriott, and C. Imhof, and Misses Ada Patterson and Minnie Kirtton.

The banner, of rich sky silk, is emblazoned with Bro. Whaley's arms in correct heraldic colours, surmounted by the V.R., Crown and Jubilee Garter, the name and number of Lodge, on handsome scrolls, with dates 1837—1887 and mantling, making a very pretty and artistic banner, manufactured by Bro. George Kenning.

NEW CROSS LODGE (No. 1559).—The regular meeting of this prosperous lodge was held at the Ship Hotel, Greenwich, on the 9th December. Bro. Carlo Grassi, W.M., presided, and was supported by Bros. G. P. Bertini, I.P.M.; F. W. Cash, S.W.; J. D. Graham, J.W.; E. E. Smith, P.M., Sec.; G. W. Rowe, Tyler; Rev. J. W. A. Sturdee, Chap.; W. Cowley, P.M.; T. W. Grummant, P.M.; J. Faulkner, R. Barrett, G. Manual, H. Tugwell, A. Cogliati, A. Peirce, J. Rubie, A. Gear, H. W. F. Makeham, R. Pratti, J. Rowe, A. J. Chescoe, L. Mella, A. Samuelli, H. Woodham, C. Howard, J. B. C. Rouard, and C. Guffanti. Visitors: Bros. J. Le Calsi, P.M. 263; R. Mackway, Org. 1987; G. Reynolds, J.W. 1614, Sec. 2191; G. A. Morgan, 1622; A. Barker, 2048, W. T. Murdock, 63; J. Crombie, and M. S. Rubenstein, 1642.

The lodge was opened. The minutes were read and confirmed. Mr. A. Samuelli, already balloted for, was initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry. Bros. J. Rubie and A. Gear were passed to the Degree of F.C., the W.M. performing the ceremonies in a most admirable manner. Bro. F. W. Cash was elected W.M. for the ensuing year. Bro. E. H. Thiellay, P.M., was re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. J. W. Rowe also re-elected Tyler, and an Audit Committee was appointed.

All Masonic business being ended, the lodge was closed, and the brethren immediately started for London, and adjourned to Hatchett's Hotel, Piccadilly, when a capital banquet was served by Bro. R. Pratti, under the personal superintendence of the obliging manager, Bro. C. Guffanti.

After the brethren had done ample justice to the good things placed before them the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and duly honoured.

The I.P.M., Bro. G. P. Bertini, in taking the gavel in his hand to propose "The Health of the W.M.," said it was a pleasant duty. Many good things had been said of their W.M., but no one knew him so well as he did. He had persevered in his working, especially taking into consideration that he was a foreigner, and the English language difficult to him, and had also in an admirable manner during his year of office carried out the duties of the chair to the satisfaction of all the brethren of the lodge. He would ask them to drink his health in a bumper, and wish him well.

The W.M., in acknowledging the toast, said it was very kind of their I.P.M. to speak so highly of him. They had known one another many years. During his year of office he had done his very best; and it was a pleasure to him to know that the lodge stood well financially. He hoped his successor would have the same success as himself during his year of office. He would advise the W.M. elect to listen to the advice of the older brethren, and keep the lodge in proper form, taking care that all brethren enjoyed themselves. As for himself, he had been greatly helped by the advice of the older brethren, and would leave the chair with most pleasant remembrances.

The Worshipful Master next proposed "The Health of the Initiate," and said it was always a great pleasure to do so. Without initiates, in time Masonry would cease to exist. The initiate that night was a great friend of his,

and he felt sure he would be a good Mason, and a great acquisition to the lodge. He would always delight them with his music. He would ask the brethren to drink the toast in a bumper.

The Initiate, in reply, said that for a long time he had wished to become a Mason. His duty had been to study music, and now it would be his duty to study Masonry, and he hoped some day to be as perfect in it as he was in music. He would promise the brethren he would do his very best to study and harmonise with the lodge, and become a credit to them.

The Worshipful Master, in proposing "The Health of the Visitors," said he was pleased to see so many with them that evening. They were all welcome, and he hoped they had enjoyed themselves. Bro. G. Reynolds was well known amongst them as Secretary to the Covent Garden Lodge of Instruction, where he (the W.M.) had learnt much of his Masonic work. Bros. J. Le Calsi, Mackway, and Rubenstein were also well known, and had that evening helped to entertain the brethren with their musical talent. He thanked all the visitors for their presence, and for giving him so much support, as it would be the last time of his occupying the chair as W.M.; but he still hoped to meet them many times in the lodge, where they would always be made welcome.

Bro. G. Reynolds, J.W. 1614, Sec. 2191, thanked the W.M. for the kind expressions which had fallen from his lips in welcoming the visitors, and, in replying for them, he felt sure all had enjoyed themselves; no visitor could help it. The banquet was all that one could desire, and the music they had listened to was a great treat. He was no stranger amongst them—far from it. Ever since Bro. Bertini had introduced him to the brethren of the New Cross Lodge he had always received a hearty welcome, and every visitor had the same reception. He had wandered from place to place with them to banquet, but he must congratulate the W.M. in having selected the Old White Horse—Hatchett's Hotel—for that night's festivities. A long way to come from Greenwich to the far West, but it was to warmth and comfort. He kind remarks of the W.M. as to the Covent Garden Lodge of Instruction was an acknowledgment and also a great compliment as to its usefulness, and he would take care to communicate the same to the members and the Preceptor. He wished the W.M. elect health and strength to carry out his duties during his year of office, and the New Cross Lodge every success.

Bros. J. Le Calsi, P.M., and A. Barker, 2048, also responded to the visitors' toast.

The W.M. proposed "The Health of the W.M. elect" in a very happy speech, wishing him every success during his year of office, to which Bro. Cash responded, thanking the brethren of the lodge for the honour conferred on him, and promising to fulfil the duties of the chair to the best of his abilities.

The W.M., in proposing "The Health of the Treasurer and Secretary," alluded feelingly to the illness of Bro. E. H. Thiellay, P.M., Treasurer, and said he knew every member of the New Cross Lodge was grieved at it, and hoped that soon he would again be amongst them. Bro. E. H. Thiellay's heart and soul were in the welfare of the lodge.

Bro. T. Grummant, P.M., said he was delighted to inform the brethren that their worthy Treasurer, Bro. E. H. Thiellay, was better, and desired to be kindly remembered to all. He had seen him that morning.

Bro. Ernest Smith, P.M., Secretary, responded in a most humorous speech.

"The Officers" toast having been given, the Tyler's toast brought this enjoyable and musical evening to a close, to which many thanks are due to Bros. J. Le Calsi, P.M. 263; M. S. Rubenstein, Angelo Samuelli, R. Mackway, G. P. Bertini, and Carlo Grassi, for the great musical talent they had displayed.

FALMOUTH.—Love and Honour Lodge (No. 75).—This lodge held its annual festival on Wednesday, December 29th, and there being a large attendance the new lodge room presented a pretty appearance when all the brethren were seated. The W.M. elect, Bro. George Tom Oliver, was ably installed by the retiring W.M., Bro. S. Tresidder, jun., assisted by Bros. J. M. Carne and W. F. Newman, P.P.S.G.W.; and in the presence of the following Board of Installed Masters, viz: Bros. M. Little, P.P.G. Org.; George Carter, Richard Carter, P.P.S.G.W.; T. C. Polglase, P.P.A.G.D.C.; W. D. Rogers, P.P.D. G.D.C.; F. Dinnis, P.P.G.P.; all of 75; Norman Gray, 967, P.P.G.S.B.; W. A. Bennett, 599; W. Ellis, 318; J. Tonkin, W.M. 131; J. H. Mitchell, 589; J. McTurk, 496. The W.M. then installed the following brethren as his officers for the ensuing year, viz: Bros. S. Tresidder, I.P.M.; William Anderson, S.W.; T. R. Grylls, J.W.; Rev. M. S. Sutton, Chap.; W. F. Newman, Treas.; H. Tucker, Sec.; H. Liddicoat, S.D.; M. Pooley, J.D.; W. M. Harrison, D.C.; T. E. Dinner, Org.; J. Martin, I.G.; J. S. Kelway and W. Pinhay, Stwds.; and J. N. Francis (Prov. G. Tyler), Tyler. The visiting brethren included Bros. Harry Lavin, W.M. elect of 967; W. J. Winn, S.W. 318; J. M. Richards, W.M. elect, 318; W. Trevenen (Mayor of Helston), Treas. 318; W. T. Hawken, W.M. 131; W. E. Lukies, J.W. 131; and S. Williams, 496.

The business of the day being over, the brethren adjourned to the Royal Hotel, where a sumptuous banquet was prepared by Bro. R. Carter. Over forty brethren sat down under the presidency of the W.M., Bro. G. T. Oliver, and a novelty in the menu cards was, besides the usual toast lists, &c., a photograph of the W.M. in full Masonic clothing.

After the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, the evening was devoted to harmony, the W.M. contributing greatly to this part of the proceedings.

WINCHESTER.—Economy Lodge (No. 76).—At the closing meeting of this lodge on Wednesday evening, December 28th, Bro. James Harris, P.M., P.P.S.G.W., was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year, in succession to Bro. T. Stopher, P.P.S. G.W.; Bro. W. H. Jacob, P.M., W.M. 1883, and P.G. Supt. of Works, was chosen Treasurer; and Bro. Sims, Tyler. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the W.M. for his welcome and interesting present of a book relative to the past history of the old lodge.

Bro. T. Stopher has marked the year of his second Mastership by presenting to each subscribing brother a very capital computation and selection from the old minute

book of the lodge, whose warrant, held under the "Athol" and "Ancient" dispensation, was lost, and renewed in 1801, a unique example of such a renewal under the Grand Lodge of the "Ancients." A very early minute book of the eighteenth century has been lost. The present one dates from 1802, and Bro. Stopher has brought the computation down to 1861, when the lodge celebrated its centenary and obtained a jewel. The lodge was formerly 111, then 83, again No. 90, and now 76. In Bro. Stopher's judicious selection are many curious entries. Officers in the early part of this century were appointed for six months only. In the various entries we notice applications for aid for Irish brethren in gaol for debt; initiations of members of the regular Army and the King's German Legion; and in this connection and with the French prisoners in the Barracks, in 1810, we read that Bro. Hobbs "rise and return tank (thanks) to Bros. Brassini and Dopps for their kins (kindness) of interpreting to the brethren the obligation." In this year 13 prisoners of war visited the lodge. The union of the two Grand Lodges in 1814 is honoured with a full minute and as a new era. In 1815 a minute records the joy of the brethren over the hero's (Lord Wellington's) victory, and the rejoicing seems to have caused "a trifling inconvenience to the intellectual capacity of some of the brethren," but the lodge was closed in due form, and with perfect harmony. There is one record of black-balling or "not receiving" a candidate, in 1821, when two Chinese brethren visited the lodge. The book contains the names of all the brethren, past and present, the officers for many years, and other interesting details. Bro. Stopher's literary labours and generous gift to his brothers are highly appreciated, especially coming from one so distinguished and worthy in the lodge.

BRIDGWATER.—Perpetual Friendship Lodge (No. 135).—The annual meeting was held on Monday afternoon, at the Royal Clarence Hotel, when Bro. G. B. Laffan, the S.W., was installed W.M. for the ensuing year, the installation ceremony being conducted by the V.W.D.P. G.M., Bro. R. C. Else, P.G.D. of England. The W.M. elect appointed and invested his officers as follows: Bros. W. Porritt, I.P.M.; J. M. Davis, S.W.; R. W. Buffett, J.W.; J. B. Soper, P.M., Treas.; Rev. C. G. Anderson, Chap.; C. Symons, P.M., Sec.; D. Burston, S.D.; R. Garton, J.D.; J. C. Hunt, D.C.; W. T. Baker, I.G.; J. A. Basker, Org.; J. Mitchell and G. A. Kreamer, Stwds.; and J. McGowan, Tyler. The customary banquet followed.

MANCHESTER.—Caledonian Lodge (No. 204).—The installation of Bro. Martin Thomas, P.M. 350, took place on Wednesday, Dec. 14, in the Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street. There was a large attendance, as in the first place the Old Caledonian is a very popular lodge in Manchester, and, in addition to boasting of a goodly number of members, can pride itself on possessing some capital workers of the ritual, and regulating its lodge business with systematic Masonic integrity. The W.M. elect is well known amongst the Craft in Manchester and Stoneclough. He possesses a tenor voice of no mean order, and has for many years past taken part in glees and choruses in company with two very old confrères, Bros. J. R. Lever, P.M. 317, and T. Shorrocks, P.M. 350. He is a P.M. of the Lodge of Charity, 350, at Stoneclough, near Bolton, in which he was initiated in the year 1867, and served the various offices until eventually elected W.M. Bro. Thomas joined the Caledonian Lodge nine years ago, and from that time has worked most assiduously in promoting its interests, ultimately being rewarded with the brethren's confidence, who gave him their unanimous vote for the W.M.'s chair. The following brethren were present: Bros. John Cliffe, W.M.; Martin Thomas, S.W.; H. Guthrie, J.W.; Rev. Phillip Hains, Chap.; John Roberts, P.M.; P.P.G.D.C., Treas.; G. T. Mullock, P.M., Sec.; A. Burgon, S.D.; W. Bagnall, J.D.; R. A. Eldershaw, P.M., D. of C.; Jas. E. Roberts, I.G.; J. Sly, Tyler; J. Hill, P.M.; H. Paulden, P.M.; Wm. Lagnall, P.M.; Thos. Shorrocks, P.M.; S. Ayland, H. Mould, S. N. Porthos, M. Miller, J. Gregory, E. A. Bretey, W. H. Ream, A. W. Bagnall, W. G. Bangall, J. Watson, C. H. Normanton, Chas. Duckworth, J. H. Grimshaw, P. D. Apostole, W. Ashworth, E. Bramwell, and J. C. ttingham. Visitors: Bros. John Chadwick, Prov. G. Sec. J. G. Swd. Br.; A. H. Jefferis, P.M. 1161, P.A.G.D.C.; W. W. Dawson, P.M. 1219, P.P.A.G.D.C.; Thos. Schofield, P.M. 1387, P.P.G.D. West Lancashire; E. W. Living, W.M. 1170, P.G. Stwd.; Henry Jones, P.M. 1496, P.P. G. Stwd. West Lancashire; R. R. Lisenden, P.M. 317, P.G. Stwd.; H. C. Miller, P.M. 1357, P.P.G. Org. Cheshire; George S. Smith, 1134; J. Hislop, 325; M. Doniger, P.M. 1083; W. McCormack, 89; John Stovold, W.M. 993; John Taylor, 1183; H. Slatter, W.M. 1219; John Garside, P.M. 317; J. Waring, W.M. 1134; Elias Nathan, P.M. 1798; A. H. Williams, W.M. 2156; Hy. Nall, 1375; J. L. Doniger, 1083; J. Krughey, 581; C. Griffin, 1161; S. Mosley, P.M. 1012; and J. Richardson, P.M. 204.

There being a deal of work to be got through, the brethren necessarily met very early in the afternoon, when the lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed. The ballot was taken for Mr. William Percy Hesp, and, being announced favourable, he was initiated into Freemasonry by the W.M., and subsequently retired. The W.M. elect, Bro. Martin Thomas, P.M. 350, took the chair, and Bro. J. Watson was passed to the Degree of F.C. in a highly satisfactory manner. Bro. Bretey was raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M. by Bro. Wm. Bagnall. All the work was exceptionally well done, and fully sustained the reputation this lodge enjoys. The number of visitors at this stage being considerably augmented, the ceremony of installation commenced. Bro. G. T. Mullock, P.M., Sec., having undertaken the duties of Installing Master, the W.M. elect, Bro. Martin Thomas, was forthwith presented to him by Bro. Robert A. Eldershaw, P.M., D.C., and, after the usual preliminaries, was inducted into the chair of K.S. with all due rite and ceremony. Bro. Thomas was subsequently proclaimed and saluted. The following brethren were appointed officers for the ensuing year, and invested and addressed by Bro. John Cliffe, I.P.M.: Bros. H. Guthrie, S.W.; C. Duckworth, J.W.; John Roberts, P.M., Treas.; G. T. Mullock, P.M., Sec.; Rev. Phillip Hains, Chap.; Wilfred Bagnall, S.D.; James Roberts, J.D.; R. A. Eldershaw, P.M., D.C.; J. Varley, P.M., P.P.G. Org.; J. Grimshaw, I.G.; S. N. Porthos, W. H. Ream, C. H. Normanton, and M. Miller, Stwds.; and J. Sly, Tyler. The address to the W.M. was delivered by Bro. Thomas Shorrocks, P.M., to

the Wardens by Bro. Rev. Phillip Hains, Chap., and to the brethren by Bro. Wm. Bagnall, P.M. Bro. the Rev. Phillip Hains concluded the ceremony. Prior to the lodge closing, the W.M., in the name of the members, presented Bro. John Cliffe, I.P.M., with a very handsome marble clock for his valuable and highly-esteemed services as W.M. during two consecutive years, and, in making the presentation, Bro. Thomas assured the I.P.M. that his keen sense of the important and responsible duties of a Worshipful Master, and the manner in which he had performed them, added to the urbanity and courtesy at all times displayed by him towards his brethren, had endeared him in all their hearts. Bro. Cliffe expressed in grateful terms his thanks for this mark of the brethren's regard and esteem. Some other business having been concluded, the lodge was closed.

Nearly all the brethren afterwards dined together, and it goes without saying that such a large concourse must necessarily have taxed the resources of Bro. and Mrs. Phillips, both of whom, however, proved equal to the occasion, and succeeded with their limited staff of waiters in satisfying the requirements of all present.

After dinner, the W.M., whose flow of language is only equalled by his flow of song, proposed the preliminary toasts, which were duly honoured.

In proposing "The Health of the W.M.," Bro. Henry Paulden, P.M., referred to the length of time he had known Bro. Thomas, nearly 20 years, and during that long period had known nothing bad of him, but everything good. Bro. Paulden also spoke of the length of time the Caledonian Lodge had been in existence, being close on 90 years old, and, referring with natural pride to the dignity and lustre that had surrounded it during that period, expressed his sincere belief that in Bro. Thomas's hands it would suffer nothing, but, on the contrary, its reputation would be enhanced. In wishing him a happy and prosperous year of office, he called on the brethren to rise and heartily drink his health.

Bro. Paulden's invitation was promptly responded to, after which Bro. Thomas Shorrocks, P.M., in his inimitable style, sang "Here's to his health."

Bro. Thomas, in reply, after warmly thanking Bro. Paulden for his kind remarks and the brethren for their cordial reception of the toast, said he certainly felt extremely proud of his position as W.M. of the Old Caledonian, and assured the brethren he would do all in his power to merit the confidence reposed in him. He would not say—as he had heard many Worshipful Masters say—that it was the proudest moment of his life, inasmuch as he had been installed W.M. of another lodge nine years ago, viz., the Charity, at Stoneclough. At the same time he would truly say it was the second proudest moment of his life, because, in becoming W.M. of such an old and highly esteemed lodge as the Caledonian, one could not help feeling justly proud of the honour. Another reason for feeling proud of his position was that during the ensuing year some (to him) interesting facts would be chronicled, viz., he should reach his 50th year, and his son would attain his majority, whilst he himself will have been 20 years a member of the Craft, and W.M. of a lodge for the second time. He considered it singular that all those events should happen in one year, which to him individually were important and not likely to be readily forgotten. With the assistance of his officers and if spared by the G.A.O.T.U. he would endeavour to do his duty, and leave the chair in the same untarnished condition as he had found it.

The W.M. then proposed "The Health of Bro. Cliffe, I.P.M.," who had laboured well and diligently during two consecutive years to promote the interests and welfare of the lodge, and had succeeded beyond all expectations. There was not a kinder-hearted or more genial brother in the lodge, and the brethren had so far appreciated his efforts as to present him with the handsome clock previously mentioned, which he trusted would always be regarded with pleasure and pride by Bro. Cliffe and his family.

Bro. Cliffe, in a few well chosen sentences, returned thanks. Bro. the Rev. Phillip Hains proposed "The Healths of the newly initiated, passed, and raised brethren, Bros. Hesp, Watson, and Bretey," which was duly acknowledged.

Other toasts, including "The Visitors," "The Officers," "Masonic Charities," &c., were proposed and responded to, and some excellent glees were sung by the W.M., and Bros. T. Shorrocks, P.M., and H. Miller, P.M., P.P.G. Org. Bro. Jas. Varley, P.M., P.P.G. Org., was the accompanist.

LANCASTER.—Lodge of Fortitude (No. 281).—The annual installation meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday evening, the 28th December, in the Masonic Hall, Church-street, and was well attended. Amongst those present were Bros. Nicholson, W.M.; Heald, Bayley, Stanton, Atkinson, J. Taylor, John Hatch, P.P.G. Supt. of Wks.; W. Longmire, P.P.A.G.D. of C.; D. Shaw, W.M. 1353; Wood, W.M. 381; J. Heald, W. Drinkall, W.M. 1051; W. Capstick, J.W. 1051; J. F. Willan, I.P.M. 1561; H. Baxter, J.W. 1561; Shaw, Relph, Gooch, Parker, and others.

Bro. Nicholson, the W.M., opened the lodge, and subsequently a Board of Installed Masters was formed—Bros. J. Atkinson, S.W.; John Hatch, J.W.; W. Drinkall, S.D.; J. Taylor, J.D.; and J. F. Willan, I.G. Bro. James Heald, the W.M. elect, was presented by Bro. Taylor, and duly installed into office as W.M. of the lodge by Bro. Nicholson, who acted as installing officer, and went through the ceremony in an efficient and impressive manner. The newly-installed Master then appointed and invested his officers for the year as follows: Bros. Nicholson, I.P.M.; J. B. Shaw, S.W.; H. T. Relph, J.W.; Jas. Hatch, P.M., Treas.; J. R. B. Pilkington, P.M., Sec.; J. Taylor, P.M., Org.; H. Gooch, S.D.; L. D. Price, J.D.; W. Atkinson, I.G.; J. H. Parker, Stwd.; and A. K. Allinson, Tyler. The address to the Wardens was given by Bro. J. Atkinson, and that to the brethren by Bro. John Hatch. The routine business having been transacted, the lodge was closed with the customary formalities, and the brethren adjourned to the King's Arms Hotel, where the installation banquet was held.

The dinner was of an excellent character, and served in that finished style which has become a characteristic of Mr. Dunsbury's. The newly-installed Master presided, supported on the right by Bros. Nicholson, Woods, Heald, Shaw, and others, and on the left by Bros. John Hatch, Longmire, Stanton, and others. In addition to the brethren already named as being present at the installation, there were also present at the dinner Bros. Kelland, T. Atkinson, E. Cardwell, Gregson, C. Cleminson, J.P., C. Calvert,

T. G. Thompson, R. Taylor, R. Mortimer, and others, nearly 40 sitting down.

On the conclusion of dinner the Chairman gave the toast of "The Queen," and that of "The M.W. Grand Master the Prince of Wales and Present and Past Grand Officers," which were received with the usual honours.

The toast of "The Earl of Lathom and Present and Past Provincial Grand Officers" was entrusted to Bro. E. Cardwell, and responded to by Bro. John Hatch.

Bro. Bayley proposed "The Army, Navy, and Auxiliary Forces," which was acknowledged by Bro. Thompson for the Navy, and Bros. Mortimer and Allinson for the Volunteers.

Bro. Nicholson gave the toast of "The Worshipful Master," and spoke in eulogistic terms of the Masonic abilities of Bro. Heald, and of the friendship which had now existed between them for a number of years.

The toast having been most cordially received, Bro. Heald, in responding said it was with considerable diffidence that he rose to respond to the toast of his health, which had been proposed in such flattering language by Bro. Nicholson, P.M., and so kindly honoured by those present. He felt sure that anything he could say would but very indifferently convey to them his feelings on that occasion. He appreciated very highly the honourable position in which they had placed him that evening as Worshipful Master of that ancient and honourable lodge. It was a honour worthy of any one to attain to, whatever his position in life. It was an office which had been held both in the present generation and in that of the past, by some of the foremost, the most worthy, and the best citizens of the ancient town of Lancaster. When he looked down the list of Past Masters of their lodge, he could not help feeling it as a great honour that from that day and henceforth his name would find a place amongst such a number of upright and honourable men. He was not insensible to the great responsibility attached to the office, and he appreciated their kindness in bestowing it upon him as the reward for any humble services he might have rendered in the past, though he thought their choice might have fallen on some more talented brother than himself. He would, however, endeavour with their kind assistance and indulgence, by industry and attention to the duties of his office, so to merit the approval of the brethren that when the time came for him to retire from the chair: it might be found that he had not been entirely unsuccessful in his efforts. One matter which gave him great pleasure and filled him with confidence in undertaking the duties of Worshipful Master was that he would be assisted by a body of most efficient officers—officers of whom any lodge might feel justly proud, as indeed he did of them. He was sure they would assist him by every means in their power in the conducting of the business of the lodge during the coming year, and in carrying out anything they undertook to a successful issue.

The Chairman afterwards gave "The Health of the Installing Officer," and spoke of the efficient manner in which Bro. Nicholson had conducted the business of the lodge during the past year, for everything had been carried out with that energy and "go" which was characteristic of him.

Bro. Nicholson responded.

The remainder of the toast list was then gone through, including "The Past Masters," proposed by Bro. Thompson, and responded to by Bro. Kelland; "The Trustees of the Masonic Hall," proposed by Bro. T. Atkinson, and acknowledged by Bro. Gregson; "The Wardens," given by Bro. Kelland and acknowledged by Bros. Gooch and Relph; "The Treasurer and Secretary," given by Bro. Gregson and acknowledged by the last-named officer; "The Visitors," proposed by Bro. J. Atkinson, and responded to by Bros. Wood, Capstick, Shaw, and Heald; "The Assistant Officers," given by Bro. Hatch, and responded to by Bros. Gooch, Price, and Parker; and the Tyler's toast, given by Bro. Allinson. During the evening Bros. Towers, Relph, Selman, Gooch, Parker, and Price contributed to the harmony of the meeting by some excellent songs, the accompaniments to which were played by Bro. James Taylor.

CAMBRIDGE.—Three Grand Principles Lodge (No. 441).—There was a full meeting of the members of this lodge at the Lion Hotel, last Monday afternoon, when Bro. John Fuller was duly installed in the chair of K.S. The duties of Installing Master were efficiently performed by Bro. S. H. Sharman, the outgoing W.M. Subsequently the W.M. appointed and invested his officers as follows:—Bros. S. H. Sharman, I.P.M.; J. E. L. Whitehead, S.W.; J. F. Symonds, J.W.; J. S. Youngman, P.M., Chap.; Joshua Taylor, P.M., Treas.; F. G. G. Barber, P.M., Sec.; W. C. Dewberry, S.D.; J. Royston, J.D.; F. Dewberry, P.M., D.C.; A. Morrell, Org.; and H. E. Fuller, I.G.

SOUTHEND.—Priory Lodge (No. 1000).—A meeting was held on Thursday, December 29th, at Midleton Hotel, when there were present Bros. J. F. Harrington, P.M. 160, P.P.G.P., W.M.; C. Floyd, P.M. 1817, P.P.A.G.P., S.W.; T. F. Barrett, P.M., P.P.G. Reg., J.W.; Rev. T. W. Herbert, P.P.G. Chap.; F. Wood, P.M., P.P.S.G.W., Treas.; A. Lucking, P.M., P.G.P., Sec.; G. J. Glasscock, P.M. 1817, P.P.G.S.B., S.D.; W. E. Bridgeland, P.M. 933, J.D.; T. Hood, Org.; B. Thomas, as I.G.; A. Vandewood, Stwd.; A. W. Martin, Tyler; Major S. Cox, P.M.; G. Berry, P.M.; D. Rampton, E. J. Bowmaker, J. Pritchard, C. W. Barnard, and H. Cogill. Visitor: Bro. T. Walker, 160.

The minutes were read and confirmed. Bro. C. H. Bowmaker was unanimously elected a joining member, and Bro. D. Rampton raised to the Third Degree. Bro. C. Floyd, S.W., was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year; Bro. F. Wood, P.M., P.P.S.G.W., was unanimously re-elected Treasurer (24th time); and Bro. A. W. Martin unanimously re-elected Tyler. A vote of congratulation to Bro. W. D. Merritt, P.M., was unanimously agreed to on his appointment to the rank of P.P.S.G.W., being one of the Jubilee honours. Auditors having been appointed, the lodge was closed and the brethren adjourned to refreshment.

SHANKLIN.—Chine Lodge (No. 1884).—A Jubilee Memorial.—Presentations.—An important meeting of the above lodge was held at the Masonic Hall on Thursday, December 28. The W.M., Bro. A. Greenham, presided, and in addition to other members of the lodge there were also present Bro. C. Carter, W.M. of the East Medina Lodge, and other visitors from that and the Albany Lodge. The preliminary business included a raising,

the election of W.M. for the ensuing year, and the selection of a representative on the Provincial Grand Lodge Committee, the choice of the brethren falling on Bros. F. Cooper, P.M., and Francis Newman, P.P.S.G.W., respectively for those offices. The W.M. reported that he had been elected an honorary member by the oldest lodges both in Plymouth and Cornwall, in recognition, they had been pleased to say, of the services he had rendered to Masonry in connection with the Masonic exhibition held at Shanklin last year.

Formal business having been disposed of, the W.M. said he would ask Bro. Dr. Dabbs to proceed with the ceremony of unveiling the Chine Lodge Jubilee Memorial, which, as they were aware, was at once a handsome and enduring record of the names of benefactors who had reduced the debt on their lodge by £200, and at the same time a token of their gratitude to the Most High for prolonging for so long a period the reign of their Gracious Sovereign, Queen Victoria.

Bro. Dr. Dabbs, who was received with cheers, said that by the courtesy of the W.M. and brethren of the Chine Lodge the pleasant task of unveiling their Jubilee Memorial was placed in his hands. He fully appreciated the covert compliment that underlay their choice of their first W.M. for this honourable distinction. It meant more than it seemed to imply. He was sure he was right in describing it as as much a compliment to his literary ambition as to his Masonic fitness. It was always his pet hope that any power he might ever evince as a dramatist might be exerted first of all to raise funds for the beautifying of the lodge he helped to found in Shanklin, and when, ten months ago, in doubting response to the urgent persuasion of a friend whose literary judgment he valued very highly, he did determine to put human life into stage-dress, clothe it with character, and give language to its thoughts, he determined that if he succeeded his success should be associated with the Chine Lodge, and if he failed his brethren of the lodge should feel he had failed in doing his "level best" for the lodge and for them. The play was born in a very small room that ran on wheels—a doctor's brougham. Stroud, the undertaker, little Edith Lock, the good and the bad squires, the village idyl of these simple but not always virtuous lives—all sprang to life, gained consciousness, gathered purpose, and clean ran away from their author in that rolling wooden box on wheels that travelled its daily round from house to house and village to village and town to town. The play was finished, and then the hard work began. Of the anxious consultations with Bro. Greenham—of the barometer of hope and fear in both their lives at that time—of their struggles, hard work, and determined endeavour one could not perhaps say more, but they were with them all the same! With his first success he should always remember his friend Bro. Greenham. He might, in the future, have other coadjutors, but he was quite certain he should have none more sympathetic, kindly, or hard-working. He might, in the future, have other successes, but no success would be sweeter to him than that of the Isle of Wight Comedy Drama, played before an audience of the Island for an Island lodge. They would be able to judge whether the tablet he was now about to unveil was, as that immortal line of Keat's described, a "thing of beauty," namely, "a joy for ever." Beautiful or not, it would remain as a record of their lodge's loyal celebration of the Queen's Jubilee in days to come, when, to use the words of Sheridan, "All of us here would be dead, and most of us forgotten!" Masonry, which is loyal before all things, whose private benevolence and all-reaching, all-absorbing Charity is soiled by no contact with the secrecy of disaffection to law and order, has reared many a record in this year that is passing to its close of the gratification of the Order in the fact of the Jubilee of the purest Queen that ever dared the "fierce light that beats upon a throne," and of their failure to find in her fifty years of glorious reign aught that was unworthy of her wifehood, motherhood, or Queenhood. So they, each in his various humble way, had essayed by smaller or greater gifts of gold or brain-toil to leave some memento behind them of this auspicious Jubilee year, and for this reason he now unveiled that memorial tablet, memorial of the goodness of the Great Architect in having preserved to them so long the precious life of their Sovereign, memorial of the unsullied reputation she bears among her people, a reputation so pure that the half-dreary hope that Ben Jonson crystallised into verse finds expression in the lesson of her life when he said:

"Princes that would their people should do well
Must at themselves begin:
A virtuous court a world to virtue draws."

Bro. Young said the Chine Lodge was particularly favoured by having among its members two such distinguished representatives of literature and the arts as Bros. Dr. Dabbs and Newman. The words which they had just heard fall from Bro. Dabbs had done much to cement the high feelings of regard in which the W.M. and all the members of the Chine Lodge held him. He heartily congratulated the W.M. on the most successful realisation of the project of the Jubilee memorial, the conception of which was entirely due to his devotion to the interests of their lodge, and the accomplishment to his indomitable energy.

Warm congratulations to the W.M. and high tributes to his ability and zeal were also paid by Bros. Newman and T. A. Rayner. Bro. Rayner followed in the same sense, and proposed that the warmest thanks of the lodge be given to Bro. Greenham for the trouble he had taken in the matter, and that an entry to that effect be made in the minutes.

The proposition was seconded by Bro. Bailey, P.M., and carried unanimously.

The W.M. expressed his thanks for the honour done him, and proceeded to say with what pleasure they had seen Bro. Dr. Dabbs amongst them to perform the ceremony of unveiling their Jubilee Memorial, the cost of which, as they were aware, had been entirely defrayed out of the receipts of the performance of Bro. Dr. Dabbs' first play at Shanklin, and not a penny of the subscriptions had been treasured on for that object. It was certainly with considerable pride he saw that day the successful realisation of the project which he first formulated at their annual banquet some eleven months ago. He had forwarded a photograph of the tablet to the Queen, and had received from Gen. Sir Henry Ponsonby a very kind acknowledgment on her Majesty's behalf. It was a matter of great gratification to him that their first W.M., Bro. Dr. Dabbs, to whom they owed so much, should have performed the

ceremony of unveiling the tablet. The labours of Bro. Dr. Dabbs for the good of the lodge had been rendered so generously, so constantly, and, withal, so quietly that they had had no opportunity of properly expressing the appreciation in which they were held by the lodge. He was glad, however, now to be able to show some slight token of their regard for his worth and services by requesting him to accept from the lodge the handsome jewel he had in his hand, and which he asked Bro. Dr. Dabbs to allow him to pin on his breast.

Bro. Dr. Dabbs said he certainly did not deserve all the honour they had paid him. While Master of that lodge he had been much indebted to kind help from Bro. Newman. As to any subsequent services he had been able to render the lodge, they had been nothing but a pleasure to him. A word of thanks would have repaid him, but as they might think words might be forgotten, it gave him great pleasure to accept as an enduring memorial of their affection the handsome presentation which they had so surprised him by making.

The ballot was then taken for Bro. John Chapman, P.M., P.P.G.D. Devon, and was unanimous in his favour.

The W.M. then proposed "That the R.W. Bro. W. B. Beach, M.P., Provincial Grand Master of Hants and I.W.; the Dep. Prov. G. Master, Wor. Bro. J. E. Le Feuvre, J.P., P. Grand Deacon of England; the Prov. Grand Secretary, W. Bro. E. Goble, P. Grand Sword Bearer England; the R.W. Bro. William James Hughan, P. Grand Warden of Egypt, P.S. Grand Deacon of England, P. Prov. S.G. Warden of Cornwall, &c., &c., the Masonic Historian of England; and W. Bro. George Taylor, P. Prov. S.G. Warden and Prov. G. Sec. of Worcestershire, be made honorary members of Chine Lodge." In proposing that they pay that compliment, he asked their indulgence while he gave them a few reasons for placing it on the summons. They must remember that the Shanklin Exhibition differed in some respects from the others. The York Exhibition was undertaken by a group of lodges, and by veteran Freemasons compared to him, who had not been six years a Mason, and was quite unknown to the Craft. The Worcester Exhibition was led by the province, and not only had the support of the Mayor, who lent the weight of his official position, but had in Bro. George Taylor, the Prov. G. Sec., one who had great knowledge of Masonic relics and medals. They must therefore never forget the help they received from the brethren whom he proposed they should make honorary members. A great many people would help a thing on when they saw it was a success, but in that case he received all the promises before the public had any knowledge of the undertaking. Their Prov. G. Master consented to open the exhibition immediately he was asked, and also gave him his patronage for their Jubilee Memorial, with such splendid results; and so did their Dep. G.M., Bro. Le Feuvre. He also placed his magnificent collection of books, &c., at his disposal, and helped him in every way; and so did Bro. Goble. In speaking of Bro. Hughan, it was difficult to convey any idea of his labours, and the time he spent over the catalogue to bring it to such accuracy, and as a work useful to Masonic students. The pure unselfish labour of Bro. Hughan to one whom he never saw would, when his Masonic life was written, be to his mind one of the brightest episodes in his career. Without his assistance he never could have carried it through; and in reviewing the exhibition, to adequately appreciate the position, they must consider it was a single lodge promoting it, and a W.M. quite unknown. Yet on all sides they received help, and Bro. Hughan, from the commencement to the end, laboured on for its success. Personally, he should never be able to requite him for his services, and it was out of the power of that lodge to honour him; yet that slight token of their appreciation of all that he did for them would show him he was not forgotten, and the good results to their lodge following from the exhibition would ever be gratifying to him. Of Bro. Taylor it was not necessary to say much; they all knew him; he came purposely all the way from Worcester to assist during that eventful week, and without him, he hardly knew what they should have done. He knew from all their lips before he left them how grateful they were for his inestimable help, and from the day when he first wrote to him, until the end, he advised and assisted him. The Shanklin Exhibition would take its place in Masonic history and be regarded as an important event, and had their contemplated lodge been held on its opening day, he should have proposed them then; however, he did so now, on the day of unveiling their memorial, and he felt assured, on balloting for them next month, the vote would be unanimous.

Bro. John Bailey, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C., seconded the proposition, saying he fully knew the help all had given.

Bro. Middleton then presented a very fine painting, with the "Chine" as a background, and the three Masonic pillars and emblems standing out in bold relief.

The W.M. thanked Bro. Middleton for his handsome gift. He knew that he endeavoured to finish it during his year of office as an indication of his appreciation of the services he had tried to render to Chine Lodge. It was one the brethren would always value, and they might draw lessons from the three pillars, and he trusted future Masters would when seeing it hung upon the walls. The Pillar of Wisdom should induce them to prove they were wise in building the lodge, notwithstanding the difficulties they had to contend with, and any adverse comments on their doing so. The Jubilee tablet would prove how he laboured for the debt, and others following he hoped would do the same, for the debt must be cleared. The Pillar of strength should teach them to unite; they were few, but very harmonious. The Pillar of Beauty should have its influence, and when there was no debt, let them beautify that temple, and let it mould the intellectual parts of their proceedings, for that was a part of Masonry he took most interest in.

A vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Middleton for his splendid painting.

The Chine Lodge Jubilee Memorial is a beautiful slab of Sicilian marble, with every contributor's name engraved on it, and surmounted by a carved oak frame. The inscription is—"1887.—Under the Patronage of the R.W. Bro. W. B. Beach, M.P., Provincial Grand Master Hants and I.W., and during the Mastership of Bro. Alfred Greenham, this tablet is erected to commemorate the Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, and as a permanent record of the generosity of the following Brethren, in reducing the Debt on the Building Fund of the Chine Lodge, No. 1884, Shanklin, to the extent of £200."

INSTRUCTION.

ZETLAND LODGE (No. 511).—A meeting was held at the York and Albany, Regent's Park, on Monday, the 2nd inst., when there were present Bros. Casely, W.M.; Hayell, S.W.; Gittens, J.W.; E. R. Smith, S.D.; O. Enderlein, J.D.; Eaton, I.G.; Mulvey, Preceptor; J. Kew, P.M.; G. Lane, Robinson, J. W. Smith, and others.

The ceremony of initiation having been worked by the W.M. in an able manner, he vacated the chair in favour of Bro. E. C. Mulvey, Preceptor, who rehearsed the ceremony of installation in a most perfect and eloquent style, which deserves the highest praise. The Preceptor proposed, and the J.W. seconded, that the S.W. be W.M. for the ensuing week, which was carried unanimously. It was proposed by Bro. Kew that a vote of thanks be entered on the minutes for the very able manner in which Bro. Mulvey had worked the ceremony of installation for the first time. The lodge was then closed.

RANELAGH LODGE (No. 834).—A meeting was held on December 30 at the Six Belis Hotel, Queen-street, Hammersmith. Present: Bros. W. G. Coat, W.M.; F. Craggs, S.W.; R. H. Williams, J.W.; D. S. Long, Sec.; A. Williams, S.D.; G. Swann, J.D.; C. J. C. Walker, I.G.; G. Read, P.M.; and W. C. Williams.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. W. C. Williams being the candidate. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree. Bro. W. C. Williams having given proof of his proficiency, was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and the ceremony rehearsed. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree, and the W.M. having risen, Bro. Craggs was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week. After "Hearty good wishes," given and acknowledged, the lodge was closed.

HYDE PARK LODGE (No. 1425).—A meeting was held on Monday, the 2nd inst., at the Porchester Hotel, Leinster-place, Cleveland-square, Porchester-terrace, Paddington, W. Present: Bros. C. S. Mote, W.M.; J. R. Allman, S.W. 1425, S.W.; W. Death, J.W.; G. Read, P.M. 511, 1767, Treas.; H. Dehane, P.M. 1543, P.P.S.G.D. Essex, Sec.; H. Moss, S.D.; T. C. Thomson, W.M. 1697, J.D.; G. Groves, 55 (visitor), I.G.; J. Smith, Stwd.; and J. H. Wood, P.M. 1642.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was called off and on. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Wood candidate. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Thomson candidate. The lodge was closed in the Second Degree. Bro. Allman was elected W.M. for the next meeting, and appointed the officers in rotation. Bro. Groves was elected a member. The brethren expressed their sense of deep regret at the loss the lodge of instruction has sustained by the death of one of its most valued and esteemed members, and the Craft at large of one of its brightest ornaments, viz., the V.W. Bro. Rev. A. P. A. Woodford, P.G.C., and a vote of condolence with his relations was passed. It was announced that Bro. Asher Barfield, P.M., will be present at the next meeting. After "Hearty good wishes," the lodge was closed.

ISLINGTON LODGE (No. 1471).—A meeting was held on Tuesday, the 3rd inst., at the Cock Tavern, Highbury. Present: Bros. J. G. Cobb, W.M.; Napper, S.W.; Brookman, J.W.; W. Hancock, Preceptor; J. Petch, Treas.; C. M. Coxon, Sec.; Clarke, S.D.; Duncan, I.G.; Boydell, Kilsby, Shurmur, Holness, Bilby, and Tickle.

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. Boyden candidate. The W.M. vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Petch, when Bro. Kilsby answered the questions leading from the First to the Second Degree, and was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the ceremony of passing rehearsed, Bro. Kilsby candidate. The W.M., Bro. Cobb, again took the chair, and the lodge was resumed to the First Degree. Bro. Tickle, P.P.G. Reg. Middx., was unanimously elected a joining member, being proposed by Bro. Bilby, and seconded by Bro. Kilsby. Bro. Tickle, in acknowledgment, said that he already was a member of 25 lodges of instruction, but he should be glad if he could be of any assistance to the lodge, either in the working, or in works of Charity. Bro. Napper, S.W., was unanimously elected W.M. for the next meeting, and appointed the officers in rotation. Bro. Hancock, Preceptor, proposed, and Bro. Shurmur seconded, that a vote of thanks be passed, and recorded on the minutes, to Bro. Cobb for his excellent services in the chair for the first time in this lodge, which was carried unanimously. The W.M. having replied in a few graceful words, and received the "Hearty good wishes" of the brethren, the lodge was closed.

A meeting of the Second Islington Masonic Charities Association was then held, Bro. D. P. Holness, P.M., President, in the chair, supported by Bro. J. Petch, J.W., Treas., when subscriptions were received, and a ballot taken for a Life-Governorship (the 14th), which was allotted to Bro. W. Ball. The Sec., Bro. C. M. Coxon, then presented the balance-sheet for the year ended, as passed by the Auditors, Bros. W. Ball, P.M. 45, and J. G. Cobb, 1471, and informed the members that the Association was in a very prosperous condition, and that the first year's business had fully realised the expectations of the founders. A cordial vote of thanks was passed to the officers of the Association for the highly satisfactory manner in which the business had been conducted during the year, congratulating them on the favourable balance-sheet which they had presented, and the benefits which had accrued to the Masonic Charities from the working of the Association. The business of the meeting then terminated.

COVENT GARDEN LODGE (No. 1614).—The usual weekly meeting of this lodge of instruction was held at the Criterion, Piccadilly, S.W., on December 29, when there were present Bros. W. Hancock, W.M.; A. Clark, S.W.; E. C. Mulvey, J.W.; R. W. Cursons, S.D.; C. Lambert, J.D.; G. H. Reynolds, I.G.; W. C. Smith, Preceptor; G. Reynolds, Treas. and Sec.; T. E. Weeks, Tyler; H. Price, H. C. Chevalier, J. D. Graham, V. Smith, T. C. Seary, T. A. Dickson, J. Woodward, W. Richards, W. Proudfoot, and J. Rowe.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The W.M. worked the 1st, Bro. E. C. Mulvey worked the 2nd, and Bro. W. Cursons worked the 3rd Section of the First Lecture. Lodge opened in the Second Degree. Bro. J. Woodward having offered himself as a candidate to be raised to the Third Degree, was duly questioned, entrusted, and retired. Lodge opened in the Third Degree. The W.M. rehearsed the Degree of M.M. Lodge resumed to the First Degree. On rising for the second time, Bro. W. C. Smith proposed that Bro. A. Clark, S.W., be elected W.M. for the ensuing week, at the same time hoping that he would resign the chair for a short time in favour of Bro. T. A. Dickson, W.M. of the mother lodge, to enable him to rehearse the ceremony of installation; seconded by the J.W., and carried unanimously. The W.M. elect said it would afford him great pleasure to assist Bro. T. A. Dickson in any way he might wish. On rising for the third time, Bro. C. Lambert proposed that a vote of thanks, to be recorded on the minutes, be given to Bros. W. C. Smith, Preceptor, and G. Reynolds, Secretary, for the very able and courteous manner in which they had conducted the affairs of this lodge of instruction during the past year. By their attention to their different duties they had made this lodge popular, and had helped many brethren who now held office in their lodges to perform their allotted work in a most creditable manner, showing that when the brethren met for instruction they worked well, and that no time was wasted. Seconded by Bro. W. Richards, who endorsed all that had fallen from the lips of Bro. C. Lambert. Bro. W. C. Smith, Preceptor, in thanking the brethren for their kindness, said it was a great pleasure for him to feel that his services were appreciated. He had the welfare of the lodge of instruction at heart, and anything he could do, either for the lodge or for any of its members, he would do to the best of his ability, and it would be a pleasure to him. Bro. G. Reynolds, Secretary, also thanked the brethren for the kind appreciation of

his services, and only hoped the lodge of instruction would continue to prosper, and do good work. He himself had heard a W.M. at the banquet table say that he gained his Masonic knowledge from the Covent Garden Lodge of Instruction, which was a great compliment. He was sorry he had been absent from his duties so much during the past year, but it was through circumstances over which he had no control, having to go abroad. He begged to thank Bros. R. J. Harnell, F. M. Noakes, and G. H. Reynolds for their kind assistance in undertaking his duties at different times when he was absent. Nothing further offering for the good of Freemasonry, the lodge was closed.

KENSINGTON LODGE (No. 1767).—A meeting was held on Tuesday, the 3rd inst., at the Scarsdale Arms, Edwardes-square, Kensington, W. Present: Bros. Hubbard, W.M.; Dresden, S.W.; Weekes, P.M.; J.W.; G. Read, P.M.; Preceptor; F. Craggs, Sec. (pro tem.); Nevill, S.D.; W. C. Williams, J.D.; S. Cochrane, P.M.; I.G.; J. Sims, P.M.; Swann, Heath, and Strong.

The lodge was opened, and the questions leading to the Second Degree were answered satisfactorily by Bro. Nevill. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the ceremony of passing was rehearsed. The 1st Section of the Second Lecture was worked by the Preceptor, assisted by the brethren. The lodge was closed in the Second Degree. Bro. Dresden was elected W.M. for the next meeting.

CREATON LODGE (No. 1791).—A meeting was held on Thursday, December 20th, at the Wheatheaf Hotel, Goldhawk-road, Shepherd's Bush, W. Present: Bros. Jennings, W.M.; Allman, S.W.; Cross, J.W.; Austin, Treas.; Chalfont, P.M.; Sec.; Moss, S.D.; Hagan, J.D.; Craggs, I.G.; Cavers, Stwd.; Davies, Preceptor; Burton, P.M.; Alais, P.M.; Josey, P.M.; Spiegel, P.M.; T. H. Wood, P.M.; Sims, P.M.; Walker, Johnston, Larter, Arnott, Gilbert, Head, Woodard, Higginson, and Nash.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes were read and confirmed. Bro. Jennings vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Josey, P.M. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Arnott candidate. The 5th Section of the Lecture was worked by Bro. Davies, Preceptor, the answers being given in a very perfect manner by Bro. Alais, P.M. The answers to the 1st and 2nd Sections were given by Bros. Woodard and Hagan respectively in a very perfect manner. Bro. Allman was elected W.M. for next meeting, and the lodge was closed.

CHISWICK LODGE (No. 2012).—A meeting was held at the Windsor Castle Hotel, King-street, Hammersmith, on Saturday, December 31st. Present: Bros. A. Williams, W.M.; G. Gardner, S.W.; D. Stroud, J.W.; Gardner, Treas.; J. Brown, acting Sec.; Mulvey, S.D.; Long, I.G.; Craggs, Stwd.; Sims, P.M.; Wood, P.M.; Perdue, P.M.; Aslett, Cochrane, and Boswell.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree. Bro. Wood offering himself as a candidate, was examined and entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and the ceremony of raising rehearsed in a most admirable manner by the W.M., Bro. Wood, P.M., being the candidate. The W.M. also rendered the traditional history in his usual efficient style. The lodge was closed in the Third and Second Degrees. On the W.M. rising for the second time, it was announced that Bro. Harvey, W.M. of the mother lodge, assisted by his officers, will rehearse the ceremony of installation to-morrow (Saturday). It was proposed by the Preceptor, and seconded by the J.W., that Bro. Gardner, P.M., occupy the chair on Saturday, Jan. 14. Bro. Craggs was unanimously recorded a vote of thanks for his kindness in acting as Wine Steward during the past twelve months. The lodge was closed, after a very pleasant evening enjoyed by the brethren.

ABBEY LODGE (No. 2030).—A meeting was held on Friday, December 30th, at the King's Arms, Buckingham Palace-road, S.W. Present: Bros. Coleman, W.M.; Evans, S.W.; Wynn, J.W.; Gibson, Treas.; Preceptor; Coughlan, Sec.; Roberts, S.D.; Hume, J.D.; Smales, I.G.; Richards, Brandon, Adams, and Stenson.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Richards, a candidate to be passed to the Second Degree, answered the usual questions, and was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Richards being the candidate. Bro. Adams, a candidate to be raised to the Third Degree, answered the usual questions, and was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and the ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. Adams being the candidate. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree, and Bro. Smales was unanimously elected a joining member. Nothing further offering, the lodge was closed.

LOUGHBOROUGH LODGE.—A meeting of this lodge was held at the Gauden Hotel, Clapham-road Station (L.C. & D.R.), on Monday, the 2nd inst. Present: Bros. Esling, W.M.; Green, S.W.; Wright, J.W.; Beavan, S.D.; Steele, J.D.; Evans, I.G.; Westley, Treas.; J. Andrews, Sec.; Grover, Brown, Gibbs, B. Perkins, Rashleigh, Coe, Folkard, and Shannaw.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The 1st and 2nd Sections of the Lecture were worked by Bros. Andrews and Westley, each assisted by the brethren. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed by the W.M., Bro. Esling, in his usual careful and impressive manner, with Bro. Brown as candidate. Lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the 2nd Section of the Lecture worked by Bro. Westley, assisted by the brethren, Bro. Coe giving the answers in splendid style. Lodge was resumed to the First Degree, and the W.M. rose for the first time, and dues were collected. The W.M. rose for the second time, and Bro. Green, S.W., was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. Bro. Green thanked the brethren, and appointed the officers in rotation. The W.M. rose for the third time, and the Secretary proposed that a Committee be elected to establish a Benevolent Association in connection with the Lodge of instruction; this was seconded, and carried unanimously. The following brethren were then elected as a Committee, with power to add to their number:—Bros. Westley, Treas.; J. Andrews, Sec.; Esling, Folkard, Beavan, Steele, Gibbs, and Evans. All Masonic business being ended, the lodge was closed.

Members are informed that a ballot will take place on the first Monday in February for £5 ss. to one of the Masonic Charities.

Royal Arch.

INSTRUCTION.

HORNSEY CHAPTER OF IMPROVEMENT (No. 890).—A convocation was held on Friday, December 30th, at the Porchester Hotel, Leinster-place, Cleveland-square, Paddington, W., when there were present Comps. J. Davies, 733, M.E.Z.; M. Spiegel, 834, H.; J. Sims, J. 834, J.; H. Dehane, H. 890, 1st A.S. 862, S.E.; W. H. Dean, P.Z. 77, 417, P.P.G.R. Dorset, S.N.; W. H. Chalfont, P.S. 975, P.S.; G. March, 733; and J. Smith, 890.

The chapter was declared open, and the minutes of the last convocation were read and confirmed. The ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, Comp. March being the candidate. Comp. Spiegel was elected M.E.Z. for the ensuing two weeks, and appointed the officers in rotation. After "Hearty good wishes," the chapter was closed.

On Saturday last, Bro. the Lord Mayor received at the Mansion House an influential deputation from the Council of the Royal Medical Benevolent College, who invited him to preside at the biennial festival dinner of the institution. The objects of the college having been fully explained, and the hope of the Council expressed for influential assistance outside the medical profession, his lordship very kindly acceded to the request, and Tuesday, the 17th April, was selected as the day for celebrating the festival.

Mark Masonry.

ST. MARK'S LODGE (No. 1).—The installation meeting of the above lodge was held on Tuesday last, at the Masonic Hall, 8A, Red Lion-square. There were present Bros. G. Powell, P.G. Stwd., W.M.; T. Cohu, S.W.; Major P. J. Dunbar, P.G. Stwd., J.W.; H. H. Shirley, M.O.; J. J. Thomas, S.O.; G. V. A. Schofield, J.D.; J. T. Rowe, D.C.; J. W. Baldwin, I.G.; H. A. W. Reeves, Treas.; E. H. Thiellay, P.G. Stwd., P.M., Sec.; T. Cubitt, P.M., P.G.O.; E. L. Shepherd, P.M., P.G.D.; George Kenning, P.M., P.J. G.O.; P. L. Simmonds, P.M., G. Stwd.; Rev. C. H. Roberts, M.A., Org.; C. F. Matier, P.G.W.; J. J. Pakes, Stwd.; T. G. Robinson, J. Stephens, and others. Visitors: Bros. E. Storr, Harding, and Richards.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. G. Powell then vacated the chair in favour of Bro. C. F. Matier, P.G.W., for the purpose of installing Bro. T. Cohu, the ceremony being performed in a masterly manner. The W.M. then appointed and invested the following brethren his officers for the ensuing year: Bros. G. Powell, I.P.M.; Major P. Dunbar, S.W.; H. H. Shirley, J.W.; J. J. Thomas, M.O.; S. J. Humfress, S.O.; G. V. A. Schofield, J.O.; H. A. W. Reeves, Treas.; E. H. Thiellay, P.M., Sec.; J. T. Rowe, R. of M.; J. W. Baldwin, S.D.; J. J. Pakes, J.D.; T. G. Robinson, D. of C.; J. Stephens, I.G.; and Gilbert, Tyler. The W.M. invested Bro. Powell with a valuable gold P.M.'s jewel, amid the plaudits of the brethren, in recognition of the courteous and able manner in which he had conducted the lodge during the past year. The Auditor's report was received and adopted, the lodge having a large balance in hand.

All business being ended, the brethren adjourned to the Holborn Restaurant, where a very pleasant evening was spent. The usual toasts were proposed. Bro. C. F. Matier, P.G.W., responded for "The Grand Officers;" Bros. Edwin Storr, Harding, and Richards, for "The Visitors." The Rev. C. H. Roberts presided at the piano-forte.

WIGAN.—Rose and Thistle Lodge (No. 158).—The usual meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, King-street, on Wednesday, December 14th, when the following brethren were present: Bros. W. Johnson, W.M.; R. B. Seddon, S.W.; J. Browne, J.W.; J. Wilson, M.O.; R. Knowles, J.O.; R. Layland, R. of M.; W. H. Horrocks, Sec.; J. D. Murray, P.M., P.G. Std. Br. Eng., D. of C.; H. Riddlesworth, S.D.; T. P. Simpson, J.D.; C. D. Mortimer, P.P.G. Org., Org.; J. H. Smith, I.G.; H. T. Byrom, P.M., P.P.G.D.C.; A. H. Crossley, P.M., P.P.S.G.O.; G. L. Campbell, P.M., P.P.G. Org.; T. Milner, P.M., P.P.G.I. of W.; W. Dean, P.M., P.P.S.G.O.; Ackley, Bettley, Brindle, Lambert, Makinson, Radcliffe, Simpson, and Taberner.

The lodge having been opened by the W.M., the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The ballot was then taken for the following brethren as candidates for advancement: Bros. W. M. Peace, P.M. 1335, P.P.J. G.W.; T. Margeson, J. Molyneux, J. H. Atherton, and H. Davis, all of 173, and, being unanimous, they were all admitted and advanced to the Degree of Mark Master by the W.M. in a manner that clearly showed that great pains had been bestowed in studying the ritual. Bro. Anthony Swallow was duly obligated as a serving frater.

The lodge being closed, the brethren adjourned to the ante-room to spend together a social hour with the candidates of the evening, who expressed themselves in favourable terms, and pleased with the Degree.

WHITEHAVEN.—Fletcher Lodge (No. 213).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Friday, December 30th. Bro. Geo. Ryrie, P.S.G.W., W.M., presided, supported by the following officers: Bros. Thos. Brakenridge, P.P.G.I.G., S.W.; Rev. J. Anderson, P.G. Chap., J.W.; W. J. Tyson, P.P.G. Org., M.O.; G. W. Roll, S.O.; D. Atkinson, J.O.; G. Dalrymple, P.G. Sec., Treas.; W. H. Bewlay, Reg. and Sec.; R. D. Metcalf, S.D.; T. Mitchell, J.D.; H. D. Cook, P.G. Org., Org.; J. Casson, I.G.; T. Richardson, Tyler; W. Bewlay, P.M., P.P.G.M.O.; E. Tyson, P.M., P.G. Stwd. Eng.; and others.

The minutes of the former meeting were read and confirmed, when a list of those eligible for the chair was read, and Bro. T. Brakenridge was elected W.M., Bro. G. Dalrymple, Treasurer, and Bro. T. Richardson, Tyler. The Prov. G. Sec. then intimated that the R.W.P.G.M. had approved of the petition for a warrant to hold a Royal Ark Mariners' Lodge under the banner of Fletcher Lodge. Several brethren were presented with their Grand Lodge certificate, and, there being nothing further, the lodge was closed.

GATESHEAD-ON-TYNE.—Industry Lodge (No. 293).—The annual gathering of this lodge was held on Monday, the 2nd inst., when there was an average attendance. The chair was taken by the W.M., Bro. John Page, and he had the support of the following brethren: Bros. C. B. Ferd, P.M.; M. Corbitt, P.M., D. of C.; D. Sinclair, P.M.; J. Wood, P.M., Treas.; M. H. Dodd, W.M. 124; and T. Coulson, W.M. 362.

Bro. W. F. Carmon, S.W., the W.M. elect, having been presented for installation, was duly installed as W.M.; Bro. John Page, P.M., acted as Installing Officer. The new W.M. invested his officers as follows: Bros. S. T. Harrison, S.W.; R. Whitfield, J.W.; Wm. Brown, M.O.; H. F. Dryden, S.O.; R. W. Klyne, J.O.; John Wood, P.M., Treas.; R. Wilson, R. of M.; W. Richardson, Sec.; A. Simpson, S.D.; J. A. Armstrong, J.D.; M. Corbitt, P.M., D.C.; E. Carr, I.G.; T. R. Short, Steward; and Joshua Curry, Tyler. A proposition for advancement was submitted, and after the usual routine business was disposed of, the lodge was closed, and the members and visitors partook of a substantial dinner in the banqueting room, and spent an enjoyable evening in a harmonious and pleasant manner.

The Queen's New Year's gifts, consisting of meat, coals, and clothing, were distributed in the Riding School at Windsor Castle on Saturday morning last. The amount given was of the value of £300, of which £100 belonged to the Clothing Fund, and £200 to the Coal and Meat Fund.

Red Cross of Rome & Constantine.

ORIGINAL OR PREMIER CONCLAVE OF ENGLAND.—The January meeting of the above conclave was held on Monday last, at the Masonic Rooms, 10A, Great Queen-street. There were present E. Sir Knights J. Mason, G. J. General, M.P.S.; H. J. Lardner, V.E.; Thomas Cubitt, Treas.; H. H. Shirley, Recorder; H. C. Heard, Prefect; W. W. Codd, Herald; G. Kenning, P.S.; G. Mickley, P.S.; J. G. Maish, P.S.; T. C. Walls, P.S.; C. E. Keyser, E. J. Robinson, John Purrott, T. G. Robinson, F. A. Harris, H. Harris, Edwin Storr, E. Graveley, J. J. Pakes, C. F. Hogard, G. Recorder, Visitor; L. G. Reintault, Sentinel.

The minutes of the last conclave were read and confirmed. Bros. E. Storr, G. Graveley, John J. Pakes, and Robinson were installed as Knights of the Red Cross. The Mount Carmel Sanctuary of K.H.S. and Commandery of St. John the Evangelist was then opened, and the four newly-dubbed knights were installed as Knights of the H.S. and St. John. The ceremony was most effectively performed by Sir Knights Shirley, Walls, and Lardner.

The sir knights adjourned to the Freemasons' Tavern to dinner under the genial sway of E. Sir Knight J. Mason.

Scotland.

GLASGOW.—Lodge St. John (No. 3 bis).—This lodge held their annual festival on St. John's night, December 27th, in Bro. G. R. Mackenzie's Royal Restaurant, Bro. Thomas Johnston, R.W.M. in the chair, and Bros. John Thompson, S.W., and A. Kennedy, J.W., acting as Croupiers. The Secretary, Bro. John Waddell, intimated that letters of apology had been received from Bros. J. Dalrymple Duncan, Rev. Thomas Sommerville, R. Davidson, P.M. 354; J. B. Dunbar, E. Bailie Crawford, and others.

After the banquet was over the usual loyal toasts were given from the chair and duly honoured.

Bro. J. Anderson, jun., P.M., in proposing "The Grand Lodge of Scotland," said that they all felt proud that Grand Lodge had emerged from the cloud that had hung over her for so long, and that she was now in a prosperous and flourishing condition, and instead of now being in debt she was able to strike a balance on the right side of the ledger.

Bro. David Reid, Grand Bible Bearer, and Prov. Grand Secretary Glasgow, briefly replied.

Bro. Major Menzies proposed "The Lord Provost, Magistrates, and Town Council of Glasgow," and said that they were all proud to drink to "The Health of the City Fathers," first, because they were always doing their very best for the whole community, and secondly, because both the Ancient and Modern Records of St. John's Lodge showed what a large number of these gentlemen had connected themselves and taken a lively interest in the welfare of the lodge.

The toast was received with acclamation.

In proposing "The Lodge St. John," Bro. Gilfillan spoke of the Ancient Records of this lodge extending away back to the eleventh century, and said he could not pay a higher tribute to the lodge than to express the hope that the lodge would flourish as much in the future as it had done in the past, and he had no doubt that so long as they could secure such a set of office bearers as they had at present the prosperity of the lodge was assured.

The other toasts duly honoured were "The Past Masters," "The Incorporation of Masons," "The Ladies," and others, and the proceedings were enlivened by some excellent singing and recitations.

"AN ALLEGORY."—The *Voice of Masonry*, published at Chicago, contains in last month's number an allegory by Mr. Emra Holmes, "The Path of Life," together with a poem by the same author "Only a Christmas Rose." The *Voice of Masonry* is a beautifully illustrated Masonic Magazine in high repute in the United States, where it has, we believe, an enormous circulation amongst the Fraternity, which is said to number half-a-million Masons in the States alone, of whom some 60,000 are Knight Templars.—*Star of Guernsey.*

There was a large gathering of the brethren at Orange, New Jersey, U.S.A., on Wednesday, the 16th November last, on the occasion of a new Masonic Hall, built by the Union Lodge, which is located in the town, at a cost of 60,000 dollars, being opened. Bro. R. M. Moore, G.M., and his Grand Officers arrived about 6 p.m., and were most cordially received and conducted to the building, where the ceremony of dedication was most impressively carried out, an address by Bro. the Rev. C. W. Stocking, D.D., being afterwards delivered. When the work was ended, a grand banquet was held, at which covers for 150 guests were laid.

NORTH-WEST LONDON DENTAL INSTITUTE.—Extract from *Kentish Town Magazine*, for April, 1886.—"The above-named Institute, under the special patronage of the Clergy, Medical Men, Gentlemen and Ladies of the N. and N.W. districts, affords in its daily and extensive practice, wondrous exemplification of the great progress that has been made in the science of dentistry during quite modern days, and also proves indisputably the great boon which the above-named Institute confers daily upon numerous sufferers. Defective teeth and gums are well known to be the foundation of the most painful complaints that afflict mankind, and that the several ailments of the mouth need the skilled attention of eminent scientists, if they are to be cured, or even alleviated, and in order that such skilled attention might be within the reach of all grades, the NORTH-WEST LONDON DENTAL INSTITUTE was established. Situated at 80, Fortress-road, Junction-road, Kentish Town, under the superintendence of Mr. A. W. FURBER, L.D.S., Royal College of Surgeons of England, assisted by a staff of skilled and qualified gentlemen, this Institute supplied artificial teeth; latest scientific improvements; extracts teeth, and performs all other necessary operations painlessly, and bestows benefits that cannot be over-estimated upon this portion of our largely-populated suburbs that would not seek the aid of Hospitals and Charities in the Metropolis. We may add that Mr. A. W. FURBER, L.D.S., R.C.S.E., has had 20 years' experience in hospitals and private practice, is of a very kindly disposition, and eminently fitted for the position that he holds, where he has earned the golden opinions of all who have consulted him. Mr. FURBER is also a well-known benefactor, having devoted ten years of his early practice to serve the poor, during which period his well-tutored and able hand relieved (free of cost) no less a number than 20,000 suffering patients."—Fees at this Institute are moderate, and Free to "the Unemployed."



The regular monthly meeting of the Committee of Management of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution will be held at Freemasons' Hall on Wednesday next, the 11th inst.

Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to accept the dedication of the publications of the Domesday Commemoration Committee.

Bro. his Highness the Maharajah of Kuch Behar, P.G.W., had the honour of dining with the Queen at Osborne, on Saturday last.

Bro. Sir Edward Clarke, M.P., H.M.'s Solicitor-General, addressed a crowded meeting of his constituents in the Guildhall, Plymouth, on Tuesday evening.

The marriage of Lieut. E. Paston Cooper, R.N., with Constance, eldest daughter of Bro. Sir John E. Gorst, M.P., was solemnised at Eerne on the 29th ult.

Bro. Baron Henry de Worms, M.P., and the Baroness de Worms visited Paris during Christmas week, and dined with the British Ambassador and his family on New Year's Day.

Bro. Lord Randolph Churchill, M.P., and Lady Randolph Churchill had the honour of being invited by the Czar to a grand dramatic performance at the Imperial Palace at Gatchina on the 1st inst.

Bro. the Earl of Egmont and Sir W. Ogg were among the magistrates for the County of Surrey who attended the meeting held at the Sessions House, Newington-causeway, on Tuesday.

Bros. Alderman Sir Reginald Hanson, Bart., the Earl of Lonsborough, and Under Sheriff Beard, are among the contributors to the *Daily Telegraph* fund for the relief of the sufferers by the fire at the Grand Theatre, Islington.

The Russian Ambassador, with Madame and Mlle. de Staal and her Majesty's Ambassador at St. Petersburg—now on a visit to England—arrived at Sandringham House on Saturday last, on a visit to the Prince and Princess of Wales.

Bro. J. Lewis Thomas, F.S.A., P.A.G.D.C., is amongst the guests at Llanover, at Monmouthshire, assembled by the Lady Llanover to spend the Christmas holidays at her ladyship's beautiful country seat.

By the death of Bro. Geo. Venables, the Sterndale Bennett Lodge, No. 2182, in which he was S.D., is put into mourning. In consequence of his lamented decease the Ladies' Night, which we referred to a week or two back, has been postponed.

The Prince of Wales, through the medium of Bro. Sir P. Cunliffe Owen, has presented to the Salt Schools for the new Museum of Art and Science at Saltaire, the collection of Chinese figures, costumes, &c., which were exhibited at the Royal Yorkshire Jubilee Exhibition.

It is gratifying to hear that the Crown Prince of Germany still continues to make satisfactory progress. His Imperial Highness spent New Year's-eve with the members of his family, and on New Year's-day received the congratulations of the civil and military authorities of San Remo.

Bro. T. M. Waller, Consul General of the United States in London, presided at the second annual dinner of the Association of Foreign Consuls in London. The meeting was held at the Hotel Métropole on the 29th ult., and between 70 and 80 guests were present on the occasion. Everything passed off satisfactorily.

Bro. Sir Charles Warren paid an unexpected visit to Woolwich Arsenal on the 30th ult. for the purpose of testing the efficiency of the newly-organised fire brigade. A false alarm of fire was given, and the men speedily turned out under Inspector Cavell with their engines, hose, and fire escape. There was considerable commotion until the true state of affairs was known.

On Thursday morning, Dec. 29th, Mrs. Elizabeth Trew, mother of Bro. Archibald Trew, W.M. of the Prince of Wales Lodge, 939 (Ipswich), and of the Princess of Wales, West Ham-lane, peacefully passed away during sleep at the house of her son. The deceased had reached the 98th year of her age, and we understand has been a resident in the district for 22 years.

The syllabus of visitations of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow for 1888 has just been issued, and to prove that the post of office bearer in Prov. Grand Lodge is no sinecure, it is only necessary to mention that the visiting of the 33 lodges in the province covers a period of eight weeks, commencing Jan. 9th. Bro. Sir William Pearce, Bart., M.P., continues to hold the Provincial Grand Master's chair.

RAILWAY REFRESHMENTS.—Many people will remember the hearty welcome accorded to Messrs. Spiers and Pond some four-and-twenty years ago, when they first opened railway refreshment rooms in London. Up to their time the "Refreshment Room at Mugby Junction" was no exaggeration. The viands were nasty, dear, and ill-served, and attendants inattentive and insolent; but, while everyone grumbled, nothing was done to improve matters until the Australian firm came on the scene. They began modestly with one or two sections on the Metropolitan and Chatham and Dover Railways and the buffet at Mr. Alfred Mellon's Promenade Concerts, and their method of doing the business was a revelation. The Press and the public were alike enthusiastic over the neat and civil attendants, the cleanly rooms, and the wholesome refreshments at moderate prices. Little wonder, then, that the firm own upwards of 300 establishments at the present day. As might be expected, too, it is always extending its operations, the latest contract entered into by Messrs. Spiers and Pond being that for supplying the refreshments on the whole of the system of the London and South-Western Railway. This will be good news for travellers by that extensive line, who will be thus ensured wholesome food well served, the best of Bass' beer, and wine and spirits of corresponding excellence.

Bro. Lieut. T. C. Walls has been admitted a member of the Royal United Service Institution.

Bro. General Lord Wolseley resumed his duties at the Horse Guards as Adjutant-General of the Forces on Monday.

The Grocers' Company have contributed £100 towards the London Society for the promotion of University Teaching.

The Princess Christian visited the Victoria Barracks on the 29th ult., for the purpose of distributing the Christmas tree gifts to the children of the 1st Scots Guards.

The Jubilee presents presented to the Queen are in course of being removed from Windsor Castle to Bethnal Green Museum, where they will be on exhibition to the people of the East End.

Bro. Sir Morell Mackenzie, after paying a visit to the Imperial Crown Prince of Germany at San Remo, has returned to England, having arrived at the Charing Cross Railway Station late in the evening of the 30th ult.

Bro. the Earl of Jersey, P.G.M. Oxfordshire, and Bro. A. W. Hall, M.P., were present at the anniversary dinner of Lodge No. 50 of the Order of Druids, which was held at the Corn Exchange, Oxford, on Monday evening, and replied for "The Houses of Lords and Commons" respectively.

"The Winter's Tale" reached its 100th consecutive performance on Tuesday, and will be continued in the programme until March next, when Miss Mary Anderson's tenancy of the Lyceum Theatre will terminate.

Bro. Joseph Eichbaum, G.M. of Pennsylvania, has issued his edict forbidding all intercourse between the brethren in his jurisdiction and the members of Hiram Lodge, lately No. 1 on the roll of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, in consequence of its charter having been revoked by the said Grand Lodge of Connecticut, and its principal officers and Secretary expelled from Masonry.

Our readers will be sorry to learn that no tidings have been received of the Secretary of the Savage Club Lodge, Bro. McNeill. A statement appeared in the *Times* a few days since at which his friends are much disgusted. There is, we learn, no proof whatever that Bro. McNeill was seen in Paris after he was missed at Boulogne. Mr. Welcome, who has been engaged in the search all the while—in a bona-fide manner—says there is absolutely no trace whatever of Bro. McNeill.

According to the *Keystone* of 17th December last, Comp. Henderson, G.H.P. of Pennsylvania, proposed holding a meeting at Freemasons' Hall, Philadelphia, on Thursday, the 29th December, when it was his intention to address all present on the subject of Mark Masonry, and Comp. Alex. H. Morgan, G. Scibe, was going to deliver an address on "The Origin and History of the Mark Master Mason's Degree." It was expected there would be a large muster of M.M.s.

Bro. the Earl of Lonsborough presided at a meeting held in the saloon of the Lyceum Theatre on Tuesday, when further measures were taken for the relief of the sufferers by the fire at the Grand Theatre. The whole of the balance of the Alhambra Fire Fund was handed over to the Committee, and Bro. Ledger, Hon. Treasurer, announced that since the first appeal had been issued he had paid in £250, including £50 from the Alhambra Company, 10 guineas from Bro. the Earl of Lathom (Lord Chamberlain), 10 guineas from Bro. the Lord Mayor, and 10 guineas from Bro. Ledger. A vote of thanks to the Chairman brought the proceedings to a close.

MASONIC CALENDAR FOR 1888.—The Cosmopolitan Masonic Calendar, Diary, and Pocket Book for 1888 has just been published, and, as usual, it is full of information of interest to the Craft. The book is really what it is stated to be on the title-page, a comprehensive Masonic book of reference, and contains list of lodges, chapters, preceptories, conclaves, colleges, and grand councils, with the names of officers of each Degree, both in the United Kingdom and the world, and particulars of every Grand Masonic Body throughout the world. There are now 2235 Masonic lodges in the list under the English Grand Lodge Constitution. The book has reached its eighteenth year of publication, and is got up in such a neat style as to form a handy pocket companion. The publisher is Mr. George Kenning, of the Masonic Depot, London.—*Newcastle Daily Journal*.

The Second Masonic Charitable Association started by the Covent Garden Lodge of Instruction, No. 1614, enters upon its career this week, so that there is an excellent opportunity for brethren who are desirous of enrolling themselves among the life subscribers of our Institutions to join as members from the very outset. The First Covent Garden Lodge of Instruction Association was suggested by our worthy Bro. G. Reynolds, J.W. of the mother lodge, who, by his zeal as its honorary Secretary, was able to carry it to a very successful conclusion. Bro. Reynolds will be the honorary Treasurer of the new Association, while Bro. F. M. Noakes will take the part of honorary Secretary, and between these two officers we may look to seeing the second Association equal, if it does not more than equal its predecessor in the services it will render to our Charities. It may not be out of place, perhaps, if we point out that the new Association has been set going at a very convenient season for brethren who may be thinking of offering their services as Stewards at the approaching Centenary Festival of the Girls' School, and yet do not feel themselves quite strong enough to bear all the responsibilities at once. By becoming members they will make sure of obtaining, by easy payments, the personal donation which is expected of every Festival Steward, and it will depend upon their personal success as canvassers as to the sums they may be able to obtain from other quarters.

Pertinent questions. What is more comforting in cold and damp weather than "Grant's Morella Cherry Brandy"? What is more beneficial to the weak and aged than this wholesome tonic as recommended by Medical Men? What do Sportsmen and Travellers find more sustaining than a flask of this unrivalled liqueur, and for whom a stronger quality ("Sportsman's") is prepared? Beware of imitations. Observe our branded corks and capsules. Sold by Wine Merchants, and by Thomas Grant and Sons, Maidstone, and 46, Gresham-street, E.C. Makers of the delicious Morella Marmalade. Sold by Grocers.

Bro. Milford Cock, P.P.S.G.D. Cornwall, will be installed as W.M. of the Druids Lodge, at the Masonic Hall, Redruth, on Monday next.

H.R.H. the M.W. Grand Master has been pleased to accept a copy of Bro. Sadler's new work "Masonic Facts and Fictions."

Bro. W. Boyce, S.W. of the United Mariners Lodge, No. 30, was, on Tuesday, the 20th ult., installed as Worshipful Master for the ensuing year. Bro. J. E. Harling was appointed Treasurer.

We are requested to announce that the Metropolitan Chapter of Improvement resumed its meetings last Tuesday, and will continue to meet every Tuesday till the end of May.

Bro. Frederick Lawrence will be installed W.M. of the Chiswick Lodge, No. 2012, at the Star and Garter Hotel, Kew Bridge, on Monday next.

We regret to hear that Bro. Sir Francis Burdett, P.G.M. Middlesex, has not sufficiently recovered from his recent indisposition to be able to reply to the many letters he has received from the brethren. He will, however, do so as soon as he is well enough to leave his bed.

The ceremony of installation will be performed at the Chiswick Lodge of Instruction, Windsor Castle, King-street, Hammersmith, to-morrow evening, (Saturday). Bro. Harvey will be the Installing Master.

Mary Commandery, K.T., No. 36, Philadelphia, held its stated conclave on the 8th December last, when, owing to the influx of members into Philadelphia to attend the election meetings of Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter, there was a large gathering on the occasion, and the meeting was very successful.

Bro. the Lord Mayor presided at the opening meeting, on Wednesday, in the hall of the Drapers' Company, of the third annual conference of the National Society of Professional Musicians, Bro. W. H. Cummings taking his place, when his lordship's engagements obliged him to leave. The conference will be brought to a conclusion to-day (Friday).

At the 101st Annual Communication of the G. Lodge of Maryland, which was held at Baltimore in the month of November last, Bro. Thos. J. Shryock was elected for the third time G. Master, and in the course of his address Bro. Shryock referred to the cordial reception he had met with during his visit to England, and especially from the Anglo-American and Eboracum Lodges.

The regular Quarterly Communication of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania was held on the 8th December last, under the presidency of Comp. Matthias H. Henderson, G.H.P., there being a large attendance of Grand Officers and Members. The reports of the Grand Secretary and of the several Committees were presented and passed of a highly satisfactory nature. In the course of the proceedings the following companions were elected as Principal Grand Officers for the ensuing year, namely: Comps. M. H. Henderson, G.H.P.; James S. Barber, G. King; Alex. H. Morgan, G. Scibe; Thomas R. Patton, G. Treas.; and C. E. Meyer, G. Secretary. The ceremonies of installation and conferring the Order of High Priesthood were exemplified by the G.H.P., and were followed with deep interest by all present. The annual convocation having been fixed for the evening of the 27th December, Grand Chapter was closed in the usual manner.

EAST LONDON MASONIC CONCERT.—We have much pleasure in bringing under the notice of our readers a very excellent scheme in aid of the funds of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls in connection with the forthcoming Centenary Festival. A joint Committee has been formed by the following lodges: Temperance in the East, No. 898; Coburn, No. 1804; Bromley St. Leonard, No. 1805; and All Saints Lodge of Instruction, No. 1716; to make arrangements for a grand concert in aid of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls (Centenary Festival, 1888), which is intended to be held in the large hall of the Bow and Bromley Institute, on Tuesday, February 7th, and for which the following artistes have been engaged: Miss Mary Davies, Miss Hope Glenn, Mr. Harper Kearton, Mr. Franklin Clive, Mr. Carrodus, sen., Mr. Howard Reynolds, Mr. Fountain Meen, and Mr. Lloyd Edwards. The plan proposed is briefly—East London brethren will be asked to guarantee the sale of tickets in amounts of £1. Each guarantor of £1 shall have the privilege of nominating a lady, whose name shall be placed in a ballot for Life Governorships of the Institution to the acquirement of which it is intended to devote the surplus. Each guarantor of £1 will receive four tickets for numbered reserved seats and four tickets for unnumbered reserved seats, but an endeavour will be made to meet the wishes of individual brethren in this respect, so far as may be consistent with the general plan. The Mayor of West Ham has kindly signified his intention to be present. Any brother desiring to become a guarantor is kindly requested to fill up the accompanying form and return it to the Secretary as soon as possible. Over 90 guarantees of £1 each have been already received. Should more than 150 be offered, the first 100 will be accepted in order of receipt and the remaining 50 selected by ballot. An influential Committee has been formed consisting of members of various lodges of instruction held in the neighbourhood, and Bro. Alex. Paterson, of Bow Vestry Hall, is the Honorary Secretary. The tickets will be—Reserved, numbered seats, three shillings; reserved, unnumbered seats, two shillings. The Committee will proceed to allot the tickets by ballot at the Bow Vestry Hall, Bow-road (to-morrow) Saturday, at 8 p.m. One hundred guarantees of £1 each have already been received.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Weak Stomach.—The wisest cannot enumerate one quarter of distressing symptoms arising from imperfect or disordered digestion, all of which can be relieved by these admirable Pills. They remove cankerous taste from the mouth, flatulency and constipation. Holloway's Pills rouse the stomach, liver, and every other organ, thereby bringing digestion to that healthy tone which fully enables it to convert all we eat and drink to the nourishment of our bodies. Hence these Pills are the surest strengtheners and the safest restoratives in nervousness, wasting, and chronic debility. Holloway's Pills are infallible remedies for impaired appetite, eructations, and a multitude of other disagreeable symptoms, which render the lives of thousands miserable indeed. These Pills are approved by all classes.—*ADVT.*