

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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OWING to the death on Friday, the 9th inst., of His Majesty the Emperor of GERMANY, the festivities in connection with the proposed celebration of the Silver Wedding of the Prince and Princess of WALES were either postponed or curtailed. Almost innumerable deputations waited upon their Royal Highnesses, on Saturday last, at Marlborough House, in order to offer their congratulations and the gifts they were charged to present; among them being one from the Grand Lodge of England, headed by Bro. the Earl of LATHOM, D.G.M., who handed to the Princess of WALES the beautiful token of affectionate respect which had been voted in December last. In the evening there was a grand dinner party at Marlborough House, at which there were present Her Majesty the QUEEN, the King of the BELGIANS, the Princes and Princesses of WALES, all the other members of the English Royal Family in England, and many illustrious visitors from abroad. There was also a very fair display of illuminations at the West End of London, just enough to convey the idea of what it would have been throughout London generally but for the sorrow caused by the death of so illustrious a monarch and one so closely connected, through the marriage of his only son, with our Royal Family. But the loyalty of the whole nation is as deep-seated as ever, though it was impossible, under the circumstances of the moment, that it should be expressed publicly, and the hope that their Royal Highnesses may long enjoy the happiness which has been theirs for the past quarter of a century is none the less sincere because the sorrow we all feel at the death of an illustrious sovereign compels us to utter it with bated breath.

THE remarks we made a fortnight since in reference to the then proposed vote of sympathy with the Crown Prince of GERMANY in his serious illness will apply with equal force to the feeling which is experienced by all sections of the British community towards his Imperial Majesty the EMPEROR, in the loss he has sustained by the death of his illustrious father, for the two-fold reason that the late Sovereign of Germany and Prussia was, and his successor is, a member of our ancient fraternity. The Sovereigns and peoples of Prussia and England are, and almost invariably have been, on terms of the most cordial friendship, and whenever a loss has befallen the one, the other has always manifested the most sincere sorrow. But as regards the Freemasons of England, we venture to say that this feeling is intensified by the knowledge that the illustrious ruler, whose recent decease not only Prussia, but all Germany, and indeed the whole civilised world, is lamenting, had been one of them for the greater part of half a century. As far back as 1840 his late Majesty (then Prince of PRUSSIA) expressed a desire to be initiated into our mysteries, and the rite was performed on the 22nd May of that year, in the presence of the Grand Officers of the three Grand Lodges in Berlin, and with the sanction of his Majesty the then King of PRUSSIA, on condition that he should belong, not to one G. Lodge only, but to all three, and that he should at once assume the protectorship over them all. Thenceforward till his death on Friday last, all the various systems of Freemasonry which prevail in Prussia had enjoyed his fraternal protection, both as Prince and Monarch, and though the historian FINDEL does not appear to have been favourably impressed with the arrangement, we are not aware that it has been otherwise than beneficial to the Craft in that Kingdom. Personally, he does not seem to have taken an active part in the proceedings of the brethren—his life was too busy a one for that—the most noteworthy exception apparently being in 1853, when on his introduction, his only son, the present EMPEROR, was initiated. But though from the cares and multifarious duties which devolved upon him as Prince, and afterwards as Sovereign, he may have had but little to do with our Society, the Masons of Germany and England will vie with each other in doing honour to his memory, and by such conduct will best show their respect and sympathy for his successor, whose life it is the ardent prayer of all of us that the G.A.O.T.U. may bless and preserve for many years.

WE congratulate all who had part in the highly interesting event in Durham Freemasonry which we had the privilege of recording in these columns last week. Bro. Sir HEDWORTH WILLIAMSON is a Mason of long and high standing. He is a Past Grand Warden of England, and has been a conspicuous figure in the Durham Craft for many years as Deputy, and since 1885 as Grand Master of that important province. As the successor of so respected and popular a ruler as the late Bro. the Marquis of LONDONDERRY, Bro. Sir HEDWORTH had a difficult part to play, but he has succeeded admirably, and that the lodges under his obedience are not slow to appreciate his services was shown the other day when his worthy Deputy, Bro. the Rev. Canon TRISTRAM, on behalf of the Durham brethren, presented him with a beautifully illuminated address and a silver vase in commemoration of his silver wedding and as a token of the affectionate regard in which they hold him. We are confident that the Masons of England will endorse the kind wishes expressed by their Durham brethren for the continued happiness of Bro. Sir H. WILLIAMSON, and that they will regard this presentation as a graceful act towards one who is in all respects so estimable.

ALL interested in the history of Masonic Knights Templar will be aware that Bro. ENOCH T. CARSON, of Cincinnati, Ohio, is one of the best authorities on the subject. In his Report on Correspondence for 1887, now being circulated, he refers to "The action of Sir MACLEOD MOORE, of Canada, in granting a warrant for a preceptory in Melbourne," and gives in full the resolutions agreed to by the Great Priory of England and Wales, December 10th, 1886, after which the following strong deliverance is printed, by which it will be seen that the Templars of Canada have "reckoned without their host" in anticipating the support of the American fratres. Bro. CARSON thus remarks: "In the face of this overt act of invasion on the part of the territory of its own mother Great Priory, the Sovereign Great Priory of Canada is crying out—Give us the American law, sovereign jurisdiction in Canada, and is making a great clamour because her American cousins don't espouse her cause in her effort to throttle those two preceptories in New Brunswick. The Sovereign Great Priory of Canada has by her action in this matter set a bad example of insubordination, and she has added greatly to the original offence by stubbornly and, as it appears to us, offensively refusing to undo the wrong committed by her. It is our opinion that there is something radically wrong in Templary in Canada. Certainly bad influences are for the time being ruling in her councils." We need say no more. Bro. CARSON knows what he is speaking about, and belongs to a Knights Templar organisation numbering over 72,000 members, those of England and Canada being, comparatively speaking, insignificant beside such a vast body.

MUCH indignation has been expressed in different quarters at the refusal of the Grand Lodge of England to accept the proffered meditation of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana in respect of the difficulty at present existing between the Grand Lodges of Quebec and England. That the Grand Lodge of Louisiana has been actuated by the best and most fraternal motives in making its proposal is recognised on all hands, and we feel confident we are rightly interpreting the feelings of our United Grand Lodge when we assert that it sincerely respects the motives which must have prompted the Grand Lodge of Louisiana to make its offer. But a very slight examination into the relations existing between the Grand Lodges of England and Quebec—if, indeed, any relations can be said to exist between two bodies which have no official intercourse with one another—will show that no other course was open to the Grand Lodge of England than to reject the proposal of Louisiana. It must be close on 14 years ago that our Grand Lodge agreed to recognise the Grand Lodge of Quebec on the same conditions as, years previously, it had recognised the Grand Lodge of Canada, but the conditions were not accepted by Quebec, and the offer was never fulfilled. Since then, however, the Grand Lodge of Quebec has had recourse to all kinds of expedients in order to worry the English lodges of Montreal into accepting its jurisdiction in lieu of that of England, and at length, in 1885, finding these had not the desired effect, it issued an edict of non-intercourse against the Grand Lodge of England and all its lodges. But the edict has been as ineffectual as the expedients in bringing about any change, and the case, therefore, now stands thus. The G. Lodge of Quebec has worked itself into a state of extreme violence against our Grand Lodge and its subordinate lodges, but the latter have done nothing, and as in accordance with the old saying that it takes two to make a quarrel, it cannot be said there is anything like fratricidal war between Masonic England and Masonic Quebec. The former has courteously acknowledged the letter in which the proposed issue of the aforesaid edict was announced, but has done nothing further. And why should it do more; indeed, it may reasonably be asked, how is it possible for it to do more? Even if it had a mind to do so, it cannot retaliate

against a body which it has never officially acknowledged, and with which, therefore, it has never held any relations. It is impossible to suppose it can ever denounce its own lodges for obeying its own Book of Constitutions, and loyally observing the conditions under which they hold its warrants. It is out of the power of our Grand Lodge to cancel warrants for constituting lodges when they have been acted upon, except in cases of grave misconduct on the part of the lodges holding them. The only possible solution of the present difficulty must be found in the voluntary surrender of their English warrants by our three lodges in Montreal, and there is no reason whatever to suppose that these are more inclined to take this step, now that the edict of non-intercourse has been issued than they were before, when its issue was only threatened. In fact, the probabilities are great, that the three Anglo-Montreal lodges are more intensely hostile to the unfounded Quebec claims of jurisdiction over them now than they were two years since, and no sane constitutional Mason dare blame them if they are. Therefore, as the Grand Lodge of England cannot cancel the warrants of its three lodges in Montreal, and as the lodges in question are determined not to surrender them, the existing deadlock must remain, and all offers to England of mediation are useless so long as the one cannot, and the other will not, take the only step which will determine the difficulty. Many of our American friends understand the position of affairs as well as we do here, and when the circumstances are better comprehended than they are at present by others of the American Grand Lodges, it is probable we shall find ourselves nearer to an arrangement than we are now. The Grand Lodge of Quebec will doubtless lower its tone somewhat when the impropriety of its edict is more generally known and understood by the Grand Lodges on the North American Continent.

CONSECRATION OF THE ARGONAUTS' LODGE, No. 2243.

The ceremony of consecrating this lodge took place at the Cromwell Hall, Putney Bridge-road, Putney, on Monday last, when there was a large gathering of Present and Past Grand Officers, founders and visitors, including a considerable number of Provincial Grand Officers.

The founders of the lodge are Bros. Eugene Monteuis, P.M. 14 and 2060, P.G.S.; J. C. Radford, 777, P.M. 1420; J. F. Savory, 1635; Gordon Smith, J.W. 14, W.M. 2041; H. J. Reynolds, G. Stwd., P.M. 91 and 101, P.G.S.; G. D. Lister, P.P.G.S. of W. Surrey, P.M. 482 and 1361, W.M. 969; T. W. Willis, 1601; E. T. Smith, J.D. 1768; J. P. Houghton, 1768, W.M. 2032; W. E. Smith, J.D. 1891; Valentine Robinson, S.W. 14, G. Stwd.; and Frank Richardson, P.M. 14, P.G.D.; the first three being the W.M. designate, and the designated S. and J. Wardens.

The Consecrating Officer was Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, G. Sec., who was assisted by Bros. E. Letchworth, P.G.D., as S.W.; Lord John Taylour, as J.W.; G. W. Weldon, G. Chap., as Chap.; Frank Richardson, P.G.D., as D.C.; and J. H. Matthews, P.G.S.B., as I.G.

The brethren having assembled in the lodge room, the Presiding Officer took the chair, and placed his officers as above indicated. The lodge was then opened in the Three Degrees, and the hymn "Hail, eternal, by whose aid all created things were made," was sung by the musical brethren, Bros. Bevan, Dalzell, and Brown, Bro. J. Turle Lee presiding at the harmonium.

The PRESIDING OFFICER then addressed the brethren upon the motive of the meeting, and pointed out that those who were associated in similar pursuits in the outer world found it convenient to be associated also in the same Masonic lodges, and on that account representative lodges were from time to time established. That, he said, was the case in the present instance, and though it was by no means easy in the present day to obtain a warrant for a new lodge, the M.W.G.M. had been pleased to admit that there the founders of that lodge had a substantial ground on which to base their petition, and had graciously granted the prayer of the petition, and had issued his warrant for the formation of the Argonauts' Lodge, 2243, on the register of the Grand Lodge of England. He went on to say that it was his custom on these occasions to warn the founders not to be over hasty in increasing the number of their members, but to make a careful examination of all propositions for membership, because if due care were not taken at the outset they might inadvertently admit undesirable men, whom it would afterwards be difficult to get rid of. In the present instance, however, he believed that warning was unnecessary, as the list of founders contained the names of experienced brethren, who were well aware of the necessity for making searching inquiry as to those who might seek to be associated with them as members of the lodge.

The D.C. then addressed the Presiding Officer, who directed him to range the founders before him and to read the petition and warrant. This having been done, and the founders having signified their approval of the officers named in the warrant, the Chaplain, Bro. Rev. G. W. WELDON, G. Chap., delivered the following oration:

W.M. and Brethren,—The oration which I am called upon to deliver in the discharge of my official capacity as Chaplain will, I trust, commend itself to your approval, by possessing three essential features which, on such an occasion as the present, ought to be distinctly prominent. It ought to be short, modest, and to the point. Short, because the ceremony is a long one—modest, because I am addressing brethren who know more about the nature and principles of the Institution than I do—and to the point, because we are assembled under such solemn circumstances, that a few salient and appropriate facts connected with Freemasonry may have the effect of reminding us all of the high and, I may truly add, the holy, privileges which by Masonic heritage falls to our lot. The first point I would desire to bring under your notice is the principle of *Unity* which so pre-eminently distinguishes the Craft throughout the world. And, together with this special feature of our Institution, we should not lose sight of the extraordinary *Variety* of the brethren who are members of our Order. Now see the kind of evidence this presents to us. Here are men who are separated by continents and by

countries—who have never seen each other's faces—differing in language, religion, and laws—of nationalities as wide as the two poles—of political principles of the most opposite schools of thought—and yet they are all bearing their united testimony to the power and efficacy of that moral cement which binds together in brotherly love and harmony Christians, Jews, Mahomedans, Parsees, and many other races, creeds, and casts. Putting together these two phases of Masonic character we may formulate a sentiment that may be said to belong peculiarly to Freemasonry, and that is the principle of *Unity and Variety*. The second feature of our Institution is one which all true Masons will heartily endorse, and that is that Masonry is a *religion*. All our services are interwoven with prayer, in every lodge properly constituted there stands in the most conspicuous position the Volume of the Sacred Law, and every address given by the Worshipful Master in every Degree, from that of an Entered Apprentice to the highest and most honourable in the Craft, is based upon the cardinal virtues of Faith, Hope, and Charity. The creed of Masonry has only two articles—one is belief in the existence of the one true God, and the other in a future life after death. Virtue is depicted in its most beautiful colours, and the duties of morality are everywhere strictly enforced. No Institution can boast a more solid foundation than that on which Masonry rests, the practice of every moral and social virtue. We are reminded of our special duties to God, to our neighbours, and to ourselves. And, if it should so happen that any brother may forget his sacred obligations, we must not attach blame to the Masonic Institution, for it is a well known principle in logic that we must never argue from the perversion of a principle, but from its general tendencies. The third and last feature to which I venture to direct your attention is the fact which no one denies, namely, that Freemasonry is a secret Society, but, as it was so aptly and tersely expressed by our Most W. the Grand Master, "it is not a *dangerous* Society." Masonry when rightly understood and consistently carried out is the bulwark of the public order of the State, and the safeguard of the private liberties of the people. Brethren, such are the genuine tenets and principles of our Order—may they be transmitted through your lodge pure and unsullied through all generations.

The ceremony then proceeded, the musical brethren singing the anthem. This was followed by the dedication prayer, the invocation, the consecration, and dedication, the constitution of the lodge terminating with the final benediction.

The lodge was then resumed in the Second Degree, and Bro. Monteuis was duly installed into the chair of K.S.

The whole ceremony was very ably performed, Col. Shadwell Clerke performing his part impressively, and his assistant officers doing theirs with the precision to be expected from such efficient workers.

The W.M. then proceeded to invest his officers, the following being the list of officers for the year: Bros. J. C. Radford, S.W.; J. F. Savory, J.W.; Frank Richardson, Treas.; Gordon Smith, Sec.; H. J. Reynolds, acting I.P.M.; G. D. Lister, S.D.; T. W. Willis, J.D.; E. T. Smith, I.G.; J. P. Houghton, D.C.; W. E. Smith, Stwd.; and F. G. Mitchell, Tyler.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER then said that he thought it his first duty to return his thanks to the consecrating officer, Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, for the great trouble he had taken in coming such a distance to construct the lodge. They owed a greater degree of gratitude on this occasion, because they had very great reason to believe that the interest he had taken in the lodge had been very conducive to their obtaining their warrant. He thought if it had not been for the good friend at court they had had in Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke they might have had a difficulty in obtaining it; they had therefore to thank him doubly for the trouble he had taken. Their thanks were also due to Bros. Weldon, G. Chap., Letchworth, Lord John Taylour, Richardson, and Matthews for their kind assistance, and he must not omit his acknowledgments to Bro. Williams, who had signed their petition; and he had now to propose that Bros. Shadwell H. Clerke and Williams be elected honorary members of the lodge; but before that proposal was proceeded with he had to ask Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke to receive a little souvenir, in the shape of a consecration jewel, with the best wishes of the brethren of the Argonauts' Lodge, and the hope that if he could find room for it among the many jewels he had already wore he would sometimes wear it in remembrance of the lodge he had that day consecrated.

Bro. Col. SHADWELL H. CLERKE, in reply, said that he and his assistant officers were delighted to have had the opportunity of doing what they could to set this young lodge on its way; and he thanked them for the compliment they had paid him in making him an honorary member of the lodge. He had still more words of thanks to express for the very beautiful jewel which had been given him as a memento of that day, and when he wore it he should look back with pleasure to the day when he consecrated the Argonauts' Lodge.

Propositions for initiation and joining membership were received to the number of seven. A Committee for compilation of by-laws was appointed.

The W.M. was elected to stand as Steward for the lodge at the forthcoming Centenary Festival of the Girls' School. Several letters of regret from eminent brethren who had been invited to attend the consecration were read by the Secretary. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren dined together in the same building.

After the removal of the cloth the customary toasts on such an occasion were dealt with. The first formal toast, that of "The Queen and the Craft," having been disposed of, the WORSHIPFUL MASTER said that the next toast he had to propose was that of "The M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales." He was sure that the brethren would drink this health with great enthusiasm, and he would not dwell on the merits which might make H.R.H. very dear to them, but would rather remind them that five-and-twenty years ago last Thursday a crew of the London Rowing Club started from Putney and went down to the Lower Reach to greet H.R.H. the Princess of Wales on her coming to these shores. They rowed down to Erith, joined the procession, and when they saw the Princess they tossed their oars, and the Princess waved her handkerchief in reply. That was a tradition in the London Rowing Club. Some of that crew had gone to their rest. The Captain was Charlie Slatell, then came Frampton May, then little Innes, then Geo. Ryan, Gulston, Tom Bowles, and old Bydall. Those were the only members of the crew of the London Rowing Club that he could recollect, that five-and-twenty years ago went down to greet the bride of the Prince of Wales.

In proposing "The Health of the Present and Past Grand Officers," the WORSHIPFUL MASTER said that he had only had the pleasure of meeting the Pro Grand Master and the Deputy Grand Master where many of those present had also seen them, and must have admired the very dignified manner in which they occupied the chair. They took the greatest interest in the Craft, which might congratulate itself on having such a Pro and Deputy Grand Master. Of the other Grand Officers he was happy and proud to say that he knew a little more, and he found that the more he knew them the better he appreciated them and their love of the Craft. On that occasion they were honoured by the presence of several Grand Officers. He would have to divide the toast into two parts, and in the meantime pass over the Consecrating Officers. Among those present were Bros. Penn,

President Board of General Purposes; Bué, P.G.D.; Garrod, P.G. Purst.; to all of whom they gave a hearty greeting. Bro. Fenn, as President Board of General Purposes, had to look after the general welfare of the Craft, and also still took great interest in the instruction of Masonry. There was also his own great friend, Bro. Bué, who had proved his love for Masonry by producing the Emulation working in French, and all the brethren of the La France Lodge were indebted to their Past Master, Bro. Bué, for the magnificent language in which he had couched that ritual.

Bro. FENN, in replying, said he very often felt that he was quite out of place in being called on in the presence of Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, but on the present occasion he agreed that it was more fitting that he should respond to this toast (because he had not taken any part in the consecration that evening), and to point out to the brethren why the compliment to the Grand Officers was not wholly undeserved. The brethren might perhaps think it due to some fortuitous circumstances that the Grand Officers were adorned with the purple, and not because they had done anything, or were expected to do anything; but the brethren had seen that evening how well able they were to perform special duties, and would recognise that it was not the first time they had performed them. Of Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke he could say a great deal, but as he saw that his name was reserved for a special toast he would not take out of the W.M.'s mouth what he would wish to say of the Grand Secretary. Bro. Fenn also referred to Bro. Richardson and Bro. Bué, P.G.D.'s. The W.M. had undertaken a new position in undertaking to command the Argonauts. The Grand Officers hoped that he would be able to go through the voyage without encountering such great difficulties in his enterprise as were encountered by his great predecessor Jason. He believed there were no dragons to be encountered, but there were some savage bulls on the banks of the Thames, and Bro. Monteuis might even know some of the enchantresses of the neighbourhood. Bro. Fenn concluded by wishing the W.M. a successful year of office, and success and prosperity to the Argonauts.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER said that the next toast was intimately connected with the one just disposed of. The brethren included in this toast were, with one exception, all Grand Officers, and the only exception was a very high official—he was a Grand Officer of the province. The toast was that of "The Consecrating Officers," or rather the Consecrating Officer and his assistants. It would be as well if he named each of them, that they might be impressed on the memory of the brethren, because that was a great day in the history of the Argonauts' Lodge, and they must remember the worthy and illustrious brethren who kindly consented to officiate on that occasion. First there was the indefatigable Grand Secretary, Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke. His work as Grand Secretary in Grand Lodge was very great, but there was besides no matter of detail that escaped him, and he possessed the very great quality of being able to do two things at the same time. At the last meeting of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement he (Bro. Monteuis) had attempted to make a design for a Founders' and Past Masters' jewel for the Argonauts' Lodge, and asked Bro. Richardson kindly to submit it to Bro. Col. Shadwell Clerke. He took it, and while with his ears and his brain he was attending to the Emulation working with his hands, he was working out a jewel for their lodge, and since Bro. Col. Shadwell Clerke had taken such an interest in their lodge that he had consented to consecrate it, and had also taken such an interest in them as to give them an idea for their jewel, the founders had thought that the best thing they could do was to present him with that jewel as a slight token of the very friendly feeling with which he was regarded among them. They could not help it—they must make him some little acknowledgment of the very great pleasure he was conferring upon them. Bro. Letchworth, their S.W. on the occasion, came to them almost as a member. He was an old member of the London Rowing Club and the Kingston Rowing Club. The J.W. at the consecration ceremony, Bro. Lord John Taylour, was a very old Australian Mason, and had gained great approbation by all who knew him. They had Bro. Matthews, who came from Calcutta, as a rowing man, and last but not least, he must mention Bro. Richardson, who, when he (Bro. Monteuis) joined the London 25 years ago, was on the Committee, and he believed it was in that club that their friendship was cemented. The W.M. concluded by asking the brethren to drink to the Consecrating Officers and his assistants.

Bro. Col. SHADWELL H. CLERKE, G.S., in reply, said he would lose no time in rising to convey the thanks of his brethren and himself for the kind words with which their health had been proposed. It gave them great pleasure to be there to start that new lodge, and they had been delighted with the result, and they looked forward with the greatest of pleasure to see the continued success of a body which they had started into existence. He should be ungrateful indeed if he did not acknowledge the services of those brethren who had assisted him that day—the reverend brother who gave them such a charming and commendably brief oration—a veritable "multum in parvo"—Bro. Richardson as D.C.; and the Wardens, Bros. Letchworth and Lord Jno. Taylour. Simply as the brother in the chair he himself could do nothing, but with their help the ceremony had been performed in a way the W.M. considered entirely efficient. Col. Clerke said he was sorry to find that he was a little out in the cold, because he was not a member of any rowing club; but he had pulled an oar in almost every part of the world. He felt an envy of those brethren who could still do it in such an agreeable way. He would not, however, take up their time by a long speech, but should an occasion unfortunately arise (which he did not anticipate) that the services of the Grand Officers were required, they would be entirely at the disposal of the lodge. With that he would now pass on to what he considered the most important toast of the evening—that was "The Health of the W.M." Of course, it was a great point to be Master of any lodge; but when a new lodge was founded, and when the founders of that lodge agreed that A or B was the most eminently deserving of being at its head, it was a high honour to be so selected. He was sure Bro. Monteuis must feel that that night, because for the lodge to have chosen him as their first chief was a high, though well-deserved, compliment. Bro. Monteuis was a well-known and hard-trying Mason. He had not only filled the chair of the celebrated Lodge La France most excellently, but before that he had ruled over the Tuscan Lodge, and had filled the post of Grand Stewardship of the Order, and he hoped Bro. Monteuis' career in Masonry was by no means ended. He congratulated the lodge upon having made so wise a choice, and he congratulated Bro. Monteuis on being the Master of such a lodge as that, and wished him every possible success in his year of office.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER said he thanked Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke for the kind words that he had spoken in his favour; he hoped that what the Grand Secretary had said would not spoil him, but, on the contrary, would lead him to work still harder to merit the kind words that had been

said of him. It had been his habit—speaking now before rowing men—that what he had done he had tried to do thoroughly. He was now doing his four and twentieth year in the London Rowing Club, which showed that, having begun in the London Rowing Club, he took an interest in that club, and did not mean to leave it till he found it could swim of itself, and till there were no difficulties. Now they had started the Argonauts' Lodge he would do his best; but he could do nothing unless the brethren would help him. The founders would all back him up; they were good men and true, and it was for them in choosing recruits to choose such men as would help the boat along and carry her on a continuous and safe journey. He thought the Argonauts' Lodge had a very great future before it. He thought that when his Royal Highness granted the warrant for that lodge, not only did he do a very kind thing, but a good thing for Masonry, because there were among boating men many who would wish to join Masonry and perhaps would be afraid to go into lodges where they might feel they would not have the sympathy which they were sure to meet with in the Argonauts. They were a thoroughly representative lodge, for they had among their members five or six belonging to the grand old Thames R.C.; they had in the S.D. a Vice-President of the Twickenham R.C.; they had Bro. Reynolds, who, besides being a L.R.C. man, represented the Ino, which, though not in existence now, had a great reputation, and was so friendly with the other clubs that they would not like the name to sink. They had certain representatives of L.R.C., to which he (the W.M.) belonged, and they had promises from the Kingston and Moulsey. He thought therefore they were a cosmopolitan lodge. They had also a representative of the Ilex Swimming Club. That club was in swimming what the Argonauts would be in Masonry. The Ilex was composed simply of rowing men, so that he thought that lodge was truly a representative lodge of rowing men; and as they had all worked amicably and pleasurably together in their rowing career, he hoped they would do so in their Masonic career. And in thanking them for the kind way in which his health had been received, he must conclude by saying—Health and prosperity to the Argonauts' Lodge.

The W.M. then proposed "The Health of the Visitors to the lodge," associating with it the names of Bros. Hopkinson and St. Clair.

Bro. HOPKINSON, of the Tuscan Lodge, and Bro. ST. CLAIR, of the Lodge La France, having responded,

The W.M. proposed "The Health of the Officers of the lodge," which was answered in a very loyal speech by Bro. RADFORD, S.W., after which the Tyler's toast brought the proceedings to a close.

GRAND IMPERIAL CONCLAVE OF THE MASONIC AND MILITARY ORDER OF KNIGHTS OF ROME AND OF THE RED CROSS OF CONSTANTINE.

The annual assembly of the Grand Conclave was held on the 5th instant, at the Masonic Rooms, 16A, Great Queen-street, W.C. Present—

Sir Knights Colonel Sir Francis Burdett, Bart., Most Illustrious Grand Sovereign, on the throne; Dr. W. R. Woodman, P.G.V. and Grand Treasurer, as Grand Viceroy; and the following members of the Grand Council, viz.: Sir Knights Thomas Cubitt, G. Sen. General; John Mason, G. Jun. General; C. F. Hogard, G. Recorder; George Powell, G. High Almoner; James Lewis Thomas, G. Chamberlain; George Kenning, G. Marshal; E. H. Thiellay, G. Orator; J. G. Marsh, P.G. Architect; Frederick Wood, Intendant General; C. Fitzgerald Matier, Intendant General Lancashire; Belgravia Ninnis, Intendant General Jamaica. Grand Senators: Sir Knights Baron de Ferrieres, G. Preceptor; T. C. Walls, G. Examiner; Dr. G. Mickleley, G. Sub. Almoner; W. G. Lemon and H. H. Shirley, G. Standard Bearer; H. J. Lardner, G. Sword Bearer; J. Moon, G. Organist; A. H. Bateman, G. Asst. Marshal; C. E. Keyser and H. Penfold, G. Heralds; Edwin Storr, Nelson Prower, Henry Harris, T. Graham Robinson, John Purrott, and John J. Pakes, of No. 1; Frederic Graves and C. Chauffourier, No. 2; F. W. Driver, No. 15; and Valentine Brown, No. 147.

The lines having been formed under the direction of the Grand Marshal, the Most Illustrious Grand Sovereign, attended by the Grand Officers, entered Grand Conclave under the arch of steel, and Grand Conclave was then opened in imperial form.

The GRAND RECORDER then read the minutes of the Grand Conclave of the 7th March, 1877, which were unanimously confirmed.

The M.I. GRAND SOVEREIGN then rose and said that, before proceeding with the ordinary business before Grand Conclave, he had a proposition to make, which he thought—nay, he was sure—would meet with the approval of the sir knights present. They all knew that the Silver Wedding of their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales was shortly to be celebrated, and, although the M.W.G.M. was not a member of their Order, he had much pleasure in proposing that an address be prepared for presentation to their Royal Highnesses congratulating them on the auspicious event.

Sir Knight WOODMAN seconded the motion, which was carried by acclamation.

The GRAND RECORDER then read the report of the Executive Committee as follows:—

To the Grand Imperial Conclave of Knights of Rome and Red Cross of Constantine, K.H.S., and Knights of St. John the Evangelist.

The Executive Committee have examined the accounts of the Grand Treasurer for the last year, and, having compared them with the vouchers, they find there is a balance in hand—

On the General Account of ...	...	...	£73 0 0
On the Grand Almoner's Fund of ...	...	...	65 5 6
And on the K.H.S. and St. John Account of ...	...	...	22 4 6

Making a Total of ... £155 10 0

No grants have been made to the Masonic Charities since 1885, and, in view of the fact that this year is the Centenary of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, the Committee recommend that a grant of 20 guineas be voted to that Institution, to be placed on the list of the Grand Recorder; that 10 guineas be granted to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys—both of these sums from the Grand Almoner's Fund; and that 10 guineas be voted to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution from the funds of K.H.S. and St. John.

The Committee regret to report that Sir Knight Dr. Thomas Sanderson Bulmer has resigned his appointment of Special Representative and Chief Intendant General for New Zealand, Australia, &c., which he has held for so many years with advantage to the Order, and the best thanks of Grand Conclave are due to him for the great zeal and ability he has displayed in the discharge of his important duties. The M. Ill. Grand Sovereign has been pleased to appoint Sir Knight J. G. Downing Intendant General of Poona and district, where a marked improvement in the working of the Degrees has taken place, no less than 14 certificates for the Red Cross, and 11 certificates of K.H.S. having been just sent out. The conclaves in Melbourne are also working well, and the two conclaves established in Port Royal and Kingston, Jamaica, by the Intendant General, Sir Knight Belgrave Ninnis, are also making good progress. The

Committee regret that Sir Knight Ninnis has been invalided home, but hope that he will soon be restored to good health, and be able to resume his appointment as Inspector General of Hospitals, and enter again upon his active duties as I.G. of this Order. The number of Red Cross certificates issued last year was 87, while 46 certificates of the K.H.S. and St. John were also issued. The Grand Sovereign recommends the eminent Sir Knight Baron de Ferrieres for election to the important office of Grand Viceroy, having every confidence that, if elected, the Order will have in him a most efficient representative.

(Signed),

W. R. WOODMAN, P.G.V., Treas. Gen.
C. F. HOGARD, G. Recorder.
W. G. LEMON, G. Std. Br.
T. C. WALLS, G. Examiner.

Grand Council Chamber, 16A, Great Queen-street, W.C.,
February 29th, 1888.

On the motion of Sir Knight LEMON, seconded by Sir Knight Dr. G. MICKLEY, the report was unanimously received, adopted, and ordered to be entered on the minutes.

The Most Illustrious GRAND SOVEREIGN said that he wished to propose that the sum of twenty guineas granted to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls should be given in the name of Sir Knight Hogard, the Grand Recorder, to whom they were all very much indebted for the amount of time and energy he had devoted to the Order, and to whose fostering care he believed they owed much of the prosperity which he was glad to say was now attending them.

Sir Knight W. R. WOODMAN seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously, and for which the GRAND RECORDER returned his grateful thanks.

The next business being the election of Grand Sovereign,

Sir Knight WOODMAN, P.G.V., and Treas. Gen., proposed as Most Illustrious Grand Sovereign for the ensuing year, Col. Sir Francis Burdett, Bart. He had for many years served the Order, and under his wise and gentle sway it had prospered and increased. The world was before them, and they had broken fresh ground of late, not only in Australia, but more recently in the West Indies, and there were still many important places in our mighty Empire where the banner of the Order had yet to be unfurled. There was no Order in Christian Masonry that could excel it, few, indeed, which equalled it in the beauty of its ceremonies, with their heart-stirring memories of the past. They were all delighted to see their Most Illustrious Grand Sovereign again amongst them, and they were most thankful to see him restored to health. May his life be long spared to reign over the Order, and to see it year by year increasing in number, in influence, and in its great power for the good of all who came within its sway.

Sir Knight J. LEWIS THOMAS seconded the resolution, and congratulated the Most Illustrious Grand Sovereign on his restoration to health, and said that he had every reason to believe that the Order would continue to flourish under his genial rule.

This having been put was carried amidst loud applause, and the GRAND HERALD proclaimed Sir Francis Burdett, Bart., Colonel 8th Middlesex Rifle Volunteers, Justice of the Peace for the counties of Derby, Surrey, and Wilts, J.P. and Deputy Lieutenant for the county of Berks, late High Sheriff of the county of Surrey, P.G. Warden of England, and Prov. Grand Master of Middlesex, is duly enthroned as Grand Sovereign of the Order for the ensuing 12 months, whom may the Omnipotent Ruler of the Universe have in His most holy keeping.

Sir FRANCIS BURDETT said he desired to thank the sir knights for having again elected him the Grand Sovereign of the Order. He was glad to see that the Order was making fair progress, and he looked to the Grand Officers he was about to appoint to assist him in making it a still greater success. He was sorry to hear from Lord Kintore that in Scotland the Order was not making any headway there, but he hoped that it would soon revive, as he always remembered with pleasure the three years he ruled over the Order there as first Grand Sovereign.

Sir Knight J. LEWIS THOMAS proposed as Most Em. Grand Viceroy Sir Knight Baron de Ferrieres. It was an office which was most important, as, in the event of the absence of the Most Illustrious Grand Sovereign, it would be his duty to preside over their assemblies, and from the great zeal and talent he had already displayed, both in that Order and in all the other Orders of Masonry, he felt sure that his appointment would be of the greatest advantage to the Red Cross.

Sir Knight WOODMAN, P.G.V. and G. Treas., seconded the nomination, and said that he could confirm all that had been said by Sir Knight J. Lewis Thomas, and was convinced that the appointment would conduce largely to the success of the Order, and throw an amount of practical ability into their meetings, and prove of the utmost value in seconding the work of their Most Illustrious Grand Sovereign, and moreover that it would be impossible to find a sir knight more suited for that high office.

This having also been carried unanimously, and the sir knight having advanced to the altar and taken the obligation of Grand Viceroy, the Grand Herald proclaimed Charles Conrad Adolphus Du Bois Baron de Ferrieres, a Justice of the Peace and formerly Member of Parliament for Cheltenham, and a Past Grand Deacon of England, Grand Viceroy for the ensuing 12 months.

On the nomination of Sir Knight MASON, seconded by Sir Knight CUBITT, Sir Knight Dr. W. R. Woodman, P.G.V., was unanimously re-elected Treasurer of the Order.

The M.I. Grand Sovereign was then pleased to appoint the other members of the Grand Council as under:—

Sir Knt. G. Powell	...	...	Grand S. General.
" J. Lewis Thomas	...	...	Grand J. General.
" Rev. H. Cummings	...	...	Grand High Prelate.
" George Kenning	...	...	Grand High Chancellor.
" C. F. Hogard	...	...	Grand Recorder.
" E. H. Thiellay	...	...	Grand High Almoner.
" H. Dicketts	...	...	Grand Chamberlain.
" T. C. Walls	...	...	Grand Architect.
" J. S. Cumberland	...	...	Grand Marshal.
" W. H. Lewthwaite	...	...	Grand Orator.

He also appointed as members of the Senate:

" C. H. Driver	...	...	Grand Preceptor.
" W. G. Lemon	...	...	Grand Examiner.
" H. H. Shirley	...	...	Grand Prefect.
" Rev. S. Maude	...	...	Grand Sub-Prelate.
" James Moon	...	...	Grand Vice-Chancellor.
" H. J. Lardner	...	...	Grand A. Recorder.

And he appointed as President of Executive Committee, Sir Knight Baron de Ferrieres, and Sir Knight James Lewis Thomas, member.

The following sir knights were nominated for election as Grand Senators, and were appointed to office as hereunder:—

Sir Knt. H. Venn	...	...	Grand Sub. Almoner.
" A. H. Bateman	...	...	Grand Insp. of Regalia.
" C. E. Keyser	...	...	Grand Std. Brs.
" H. Penfold	...	...	Grand Swd. Br.
" A. Williams	...	...	Grand Organist.
" J. A. Gartley	...	...	Grand G. Vice-Chambn.
" W. Watson	...	...	Grand Asst. Marshal.
" James Gieve	...	...	Grand Heralds.
" Valentine Brown	...	...	Grand D. of C.
" Charles E. Soppet	...	...	Grand Steward.
" W. Kipps	...	...
" W. O. Robinson	...	...

Only the requisite number having been nominated for the Executive Committee and the Grand High Almoners' Committee, the ACTING GRAND SOVEREIGN declared Sir Knights C. F. Matier, J. Mason, T. C. Walls, W. G. Lemon, and George Powell as members of the former, and Sir Knights Dr. Woodman, H. H. Shirley, and H. Venn as members of the latter. Letters of regret and apology for their unavoidable absence were read from a very large number of sir knights.

The Grand Conclave was then closed in imperial form, and a banquet was held at the Freemasons' Tavern in conjunction with the Premier Conclave.

THE HISTORY OF THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS

FROM ITS ORIGIN, 1788, TO ITS CENTENARY, 1888.

(Continued from page 64).

A second outbreak of scarlet fever occurred in the month of January, 1828, but the sick children were at once sent either to the Fever Hospital or to lodgings in China Row, and the measures taken by the matron and medical officials being prompt and skilfully conducted, the grievous visitation was speedily brought to an end. It would, of course, be hazardous to suggest any special cause for these outbreaks of illness, but possibly as the neighbourhood became more thickly populated, its sanitary condition was deteriorated, and the children, in the case of infectious or contagious diseases breaking out in the district, became more liable to attack. It is certain that the drainage was far from being effective, even according to the ideas then prevalent, and at the very date of this particular outbreak, the Committee were considering the measures they should adopt to counteract the presumed ill effects of a soap boiling business which had been just then established in close proximity to the School. However, some good appears to have resulted from this second outbreak of fever, for in the May following discretionary powers were vested in the Matron as to permitting the children to visit their parents or friends in the summer time, and for the first time in the history of the Institution we hear of something which bears a close resemblance to a prolonged Midsummer Holiday, such as is granted to the children of all but the more inferior class of School. At the Quarterly Court in October, the following further regulations bearing on the election of candidates received the sanction of the Governors, the questions to which they relate having previously received the most careful consideration of the Committee.

1.—That in future the balloting papers be all numbered and stamped with the letters R.F.S. previous to being issued, that they be delivered at least six weeks prior to the day of election, and that no balloting paper be received by the Scrutineers except those so numbered and stamped and bearing the address of the subscriber who intends to vote either personally or by proxy, and that notice of this latter regulation be inserted conspicuously in the balloting lists.

2.—That the examination as to the state of health and other circumstances of the candidates for admission into the school do in future take place at the General Courts in January and July, instead of the General Committees in February and August.

3.—That the 7th regulation as to the power of the General Committee be altered as follows, viz., "That it is invested with power to suspend or discharge all officers except the Treasurer, to appoint others in their places, and to fill up all vacancies subject to the approval of the General Court."

In April 1829 there being eight vacancies and only as many candidates, the election took place without ballot, and at the same court Miss Jarwood, having completed her term of apprenticeship, was, on the strong recommendation of Mrs. Crook, appointed Assistant Matron, at a salary of ten guineas per annum, a gratuity of five guineas in recognition of her ability and good conduct as apprentice being also granted by the House Committee in July. In 1830 a recommendation of the House Committee that what had been used as a kitchen garden should be converted into a playground for the children was agreed to, and the Quarterly Court in October—at which, by the way, that staunch old friend of the School, Bro. Thos. Harper, Past Deputy Grand Master, presided, it being apparently the last occasion on which he took part in the business of the Institution—voted £50 in order to cover the expenses. The following month the ordinary routine of business was unpleasantly varied by a report from the Matron that some days previously thieves had broken in through the scullery and stolen some of the children's sheeting, and orders were accordingly given that iron bars should be placed in front of the windows in order to make the place more secure. In July, 1831, it was "Resolved unanimously"—though there is nothing in the Minutes to show there was any special necessity for such a resolution—"that the Governors of this Institution have always been and are desirous the Anniversary Festival shall be considered a Masonic meeting; the more especially as the M.W. the G.M. H.R.H. the Duke of Sussex has been heard to express an opinion that such a Resolution would be conducive to the regularity of the proceedings"; and it was ordered that a copy thereof should be transmitted through the G. Secretary to his Royal Highness. At

the Quarterly Court in April, 1832, however, two resolutions were passed, for one of which, at all events, the occasional difficulty in obtaining the services of brethren to act as Stewards showed there was some necessity. This was to the effect that "any Gentleman serving the office of Steward at the Anniversary Festival of the Charity, and at the same time making a Donation of ten guineas to the funds of the Institution," should in future have "two votes as the Life Governor at all elections of children into the School." The other resolution was that when the vacancies were more numerous than the candidates, the Quarterly Court should have power to put upon the List for election "any child who is upwards of seven years of age, provided such child shall be recommended by the General Committee." In the following October, Agnes Ruspini a daughter of Bro. Bladen Ruspini, and granddaughter of the founder, was one of nine children elected into the school without ballot, while at the April Court, 1833, Bro. Dr. Crucefix, who afterwards did good service to the School, appeared for the first time on the scene as a Life Governor.

Other changes in the regulations for the admission of candidates were made about this time, and at the Quarterly Court in October, 1836, a new law was passed to the effect that "before any child can be admitted into the School, two respectable Housekeepers or the Churchwardens or Overseers of the Parish to which the child belongs must engage in writing that such child in case of scrofulous, dangerous, or infectious sickness, or being found deficient in intellect shall be removed, or in case of death shall be buried at the expense of the parties undertaking, or their representatives, and free of every expense to the Institution." It was also about the same period that it was resolved to award prizes at the public examination of the children, and it was agreed that the articles made by them should be sold and the proceeds applied to this object. But what chiefly engaged the attention of the authorities was the large outlay they found it necessary to incur in order to place the School-building in a thorough state of repair. At a Special House Committee on the 3rd July, 1834, it was reported that the foundations of the structure—which had been erected in 1795—were insecure. Further special meetings of the same body were held in order to inquire into the facts, and at the Quarterly Court on the 10th July authority was given to the House Committee to proceed with the repairs. What was immediately necessary was undertaken forthwith, and subsequently the more costly work, which alone was estimated to involve an outlay of £1200. But concurrently with this arose the question of ways and means. His Royal Highness the Grand Master was written to on the subject, but as Messrs. Rider and Son, to whom the work had been entrusted, would necessarily look for payments on account from time to time, a loan was arranged with Messrs. Williams and Co., the bankers, of £500 at once, and a further £500 if required. Other steps also were taken. Those Present and Past Grand Officers who had not been Stewards at any Festival of the Institution were invited to act as such. At the Annual Court in April, 1835, it was "Resolved that every Life Governor be entitled to two extra votes in respect of each additional Ten Guineas subscribed after this period." The Craft generally were appealed to; the advice of the Duke of Sussex was asked as to "the best manner of immediately memorialising their Majesties the Patron and Patroness, as also their Royal Highnesses the Duchess of Kent and the Princess Victoria, in aid of the Funds of the Charity," and ultimately the matter was brought to the notice of Grand Lodge, with the result that at the Quarterly Communication in June, 1837, it was resolved to advance the sum of £1500 as "a graduated loan" to the Institution in order to free it from the encumbrances caused by the extensive repairs which it had been obliged to have carried out, and which ultimately amounted to from £2500 to £3000. Thus, when the Jubilee Festival was fast approaching, the Institution was considerably in debt in respect of its current expenditure, though at the same time it is necessary to point out that it had standing to its credit between £13,000 and £14,000 Government stock, which the "powers that be" had thought it advisable to leave undisturbed.

Very little else that is worthy of record occurred while the work of repair was in progress, but in June, 1837, a second daughter of Bro. Bladen Ruspini was approved as a candidate, and at the Quarterly Court immediately following it was agreed that, as the number of children—65—was complete and only one vacancy would occur between then and the time appointed for the next election, the girl Jesse Ruspini should be admitted upon the establishment on the occurrence of the said vacancy. Early in 1838, Bro. Hope, Secretary, who had expressed a wish to resign, and had held his resignation in suspense since December, 1836, again urged upon the Committee to comply with his wish, and it was arranged that his successor should be appointed when the Jubilee Festival had been celebrated. As regards this important anniversary, the minutes themselves vouchsafe but little information; but a very full report was published in the *Freemasons' Quarterly Review*, and from this we learn that it was a very great success. The chair was taken by Bro. Lord Worsley, M.P.—afterwards Earl of Yarborough—the Senior Grand Warden of the year, in the unavoidable absence of the Duke of Sussex, M.W.G.M.; the Board of Stewards mustered what in those days was the very large number of 57 brethren; and the guests present were upwards of 300; while, most important of all, the list of donations and subscriptions was announced as amounting to about 1000 guineas, or close on £400 in excess of the proceeds at the Festival of 1837. It should be further pointed out that, in the course of one of the principal speeches from the chair, it was stated

that in the period of 50 years which had elapsed from its foundation, the School had trained and educated some 500 children, and that with but very few exceptions, all those Girls, on going forth into the world, had become useful members of society. We may be sure that a statement so satisfactory was calculated to ensure a continuance of that support which in the past had been so generously accorded by the Craft, and with such evidence of its usefulness to encourage them, it is not surprising that the Freemasons of this country should have since enlarged the borders of the Institution and raised it to the important position it now occupies among our middle-class schools.

(To be continued.)

HISTORY OF No. 76, WINCHESTER.

BY BRO. W. J. HUGHAN.

I am always glad to welcome new Lodge Histories, and therefore rejoice to greet that of No. 76, Lodge of Economy, Winchester, the Historian being Bro. T. Stopher, who served as Master in 1868, and was again installed in 1887. As one of the senior members of No. 76, the author is well qualified to write about the eventful past, and all zealous brothers will join with him in the words of the Dedication, that the information the "Extracts" contain "will increase the interest of the members in the old lodge, and will add to its popularity and prosperity." A copy of the warrant introduces the History proper. The document is a curious one, being really a re-issue of April, 7, 1801. A note below states that "This is the only known instance under the Grand Lodge of the Ancients, of a renewal or confirmation of a warrant," but as a matter of fact there were numerous renewals. The singularity, however, of this Charter is, that it is an *exact copy* of the original, granted 29th January, 1761, in consequence of the first issue "having been burnt." In all other cases that I know of, when the originals have been lost, a new warrant was granted, dated the day of the later issue, the date of the original being in the S.W. corner. In this instance the dates are exactly reversed, and hence its special character. The number of the lodge was 88 until the Union of December, 1813, but the records, unfortunately, are lost prior to December 27, 1802. There are several references to "Passing the Chair" in order to qualify for the Royal Arch, and on January 13, 1803, it was agreed to petition the Lodge at Southampton (doubtless the present No. 130), in favour of a brother being exalted to that Degree. The usual notices also of "Moderns" being made "Ancients" are to be found in the minutes. A member of No. 129, Sunderland ("Modern," now 97), was proposed "to become an Entered Apprentice Mason of Lodge 88," and on November 17, 1810, quite a number of brethren attended as visitors, "belonging to the Lodge the Great Orient of France, *prisoners of war*." The R.A. is termed "super-excellent Degree," on June 24, 1811, and the brethren purchased the jewels of "Lodge of Fellowship," No. 584, held at that time apparently in Winchester [1812], but Bro. Stopher appears to me rather to confuse this lodge with No. 216,* "Lodge of Friendship" (?), held in East Devon Militia, which, according to Bro. Lane, was erased in 1835.† The 584 referred to became 602 in 1814, and from then to now has assembled from time to time at Lymington, being possibly to all intents and purposes a new lodge in 1814, though holding the original warrant of 1799. The minute respecting the *blessed union* is most expressive, but too long to quote now. It was hailed "with heartfelt joy," and the Secretary concluded with the prayer that the event may incline "the hearts of all Masons to live in brotherly love one with another."

The lodge attended the installation of Sir W. C. de Cressigny, as Prov. G.M. of Hants; H.R.H. the Duke of Sussex occupying the chair. Thirty-four members of "Economy" were present on that occasion. On the day that H.R.H., the venerable Grand Master, was to be buried, the members went to the Cathedral "to attend Divine Service as a last tribute to their beloved" Ruler.

On January 29, 1861, the Centenary of the Lodge was celebrated, and a letter was read from Bro. W. G. Clarke, G. Sec., stating that the "Board" was satisfied with the evidence submitted to prove continuity of the lodge. Sir Lucius Curtis, Prov. G.M. of Hants, and other Masonic dignitaries, were present in honour of the occasion. Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P. (now the senior member of No. 76), being one of the number as P. Prov. S.G.W. As we all know that esteemed and zealous R.W. Brother is now Prov. G.M. of the Province, and has acted in that capacity, with an ever increasing number of lodges and members, from the year 1869.

Valuable tables complete the History, giving votes for the "Charities" and the names of all the members from 1801 to 1887, in alphabetical order, also the roll of officers for the same period, and a list of the subscribing members for the year 1887, being 75 in number, two "corresponding members" and one honorary.

The balance sheet also appended is of a most satisfactory character, both for the regular lodge account and the Benevolent Fund, the latter having over £200 invested and a substantial balance on the current statement.

The tasty brochure was printed by Bro. J.T. Doswell, who has done his part in a most creditable manner, my only regret being that so few copies being printed, the demand already has exceeded the supply.

I am surprised, however, not to find any reference to the centenary warrant granted by the Earl of Zetland, M.W.G.M., May 9th, 1862. This gives the right to the subscribing members to wear at all Masonic meetings a jewel of special design. This is a privilege conferred on but few lodges, the charter for the favour being agreed to apparently before any fee was fixed for the favour. Since then the cost has been one guinea, and from 1867 five guineas.

Owing possibly to No. 76 not having promptly paid the fee, fixed after its warrant was agreed to, just as with others similarly situated, its centenary warrant was not noted in the Grand Lodge Calendar for 1881, which was the first to give the letter "C" before each lodge so distinguished. It, however, is so marked in the editions published for 1886 and subsequently. The lodge will be found in my "Masonic Register," 1878, as entitled to a special centenary jewel.

In conclusion, I should like to refer to the date of the original warrant as being 29th May, 1761, *not January*, as the copy states of 1801. It is not of much consequence, only that it explains the difference as to date in the warrant of 1801 and the centenary warrant of 1862.

* An entry on October 16, 1825, in reference to "*redeeming the Lodge Jewels in 1814*," still further complicates matters.

† "Masonic Records, 1717-1886," p. 168.

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CENTENARY FESTIVAL, 1888.

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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.

F. R. W. HEDGES, Sec.

5, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

APRIL ELECTION, 1888.

Your Vote and Interest are earnestly requested on behalf of

FRANCES NORAH WELLS,

No. on List 37.

Daughter of the late Bro. GEORGE WELLS, who was initiated in the Panmure Lodge, No. 720, in 1862, joined the St. Paul's Lodge, No. 194, and subsequently the Oak Lodge, No. 190, of which he was Senior Warden at the time of his death, and was also exalted in the Royal Arch Chapter, United Pilgrims, No. 507, to which he subscribed for nine years.

He was a Subscribing Member of the Order over 20 years, and a Life Governor of all the Masonic Charities, to whose funds he was a frequent contributor.

He was in an extensive way of business as a Screw Pile Engineer and Contractor, but, in consequence of heavy losses on some large contracts, and a long continued illness, had to dispose of his business, leaving his widow without means.

The Case is strongly recommended and Votes will be thankfully received by

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W. Bro. Wm. Watkins, P.P.S.G.W. Mon.; P.M. 1429; Hill Side, Maidene, Newport, Mon.

W. Bro. C. P. Evans, P.P.G.D. Mon.; P.M. 471; 12, Clytha Crescent, Newport, Mon.

Bro. Wm. Bourne, P.M. & Sec. 1614, 1348; P.Z. 749; War Office, Pall Mall, S.W.

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John Cox, P.M. 190; P.Z. 507; Ferndene, Sidcup, Kent.

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Walter Wingham, W.M. 25; 2, St. George's-circus, S.E.

B. Solomon, W.M. 1614; Covent Garden Market.

T. A. Dickson, P.M. 1614; Covent Garden Market.

G. Reynolds, S.W. 1614; Sec. 2191; 3, St. James'-square, Pall Mall, S.W.

Wm. Clarke, J.W. 190; 39, St. Mary-at-hill, E.C.

G. H. Reynolds, I.D. 1614; I.G. 2191; 3, St. James'-square, Pall Mall, S.W.

James Woodward, I.G. 1614; A.W.S. 2191; 64, St. James'-street, S.W.

George Watson, 172; 5, Harley-road, St. John's Wood, 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,

W. Bro. Alfred Williams (Chairman).	W. Bro. H. Lovegrove.
V.W. Bro. D. P. Cama (Vice-Chairman).	" F. Bennett.
V.W. Bro. H. B. Marshall.	" Capt. J. E. Anderson.
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" Maj. G. Lambert.	" E. Storr.
" George Kenning.	" T. Clarke.
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" T. C. Walls.	" R. B. Bryant.
" H. J. Lardner.	" J. Voisey.
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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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ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

MAY ELECTION, 1888.

TO THE GOVERNORS AND SUBSCRIBERS OF THE ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION FOR AGED FREEMASONS AND WIDOWS OF FREEMASONS.

The favour of your Votes and Interest is most earnestly solicited on behalf of

FRANCES ELIZABETH WARREN,
Aged 57 Years.

Widow of the late Bro. Henry George Warren, Journalist, who was initiated in the Robert Burns Lodge, No. 25, January 13th, 1840, subsequently holding office as W.M. in Grand Steward's and various other lodges. In 1879 he promoted the establishment of the West Kent Lodge, No. 1297. During his earlier career he was Proprietor and Editor of "The Freemason's Magazine." Was Governor of all the Masonic Institutions and Steward several times.

The case is strongly recommended by the following Brethren:—

- * Bro. GEORGE EDWARDS, P.M. 1507, P.Z. 72, Mansion House, chambers, 14, Queen Victoria-street, E.C.
- " REV. HORACE GRAHAM, D.D., F.R.S., Wanderers' Lodge, 1604 (E.C.), St. Kilda, Hillsboro'-road, Dulwich, S.E.
- " JABEZ HOGG, P.G.D., P.M. 1260 and 173, &c., 1, Bedford-square, W.C.
- * " WALTER HOLCOMBE, Secretary Phoenix Lodge, No. 173, 30, Orchard-street, W.
- " WILLIAM H. HOOK, P.M. 186, 1619, 1901, P.Z. 186, Fairholme, Elsie-road, East Dulwich.
- * " GEORGE KENNING, Vice Patron, 249, 2191, 2076, P.M. 192 and 1657, P.P.G.D. (Middlesex), Upper Sydenham.
- " P. G. PHELPS, P.M., &c., 4, Queen's-road, Peckham.
- * " JOHN C. WOODROW, P.M. 15 and 1329, P.M. and Sec. 1297, P.Z. 1327, Scribe E. 1297, Blofield, Lullington-road, Anerley.

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BRO. ASHER BARFIELD desires

to express THANKS to the many friends who attended the QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION of GRAND LODGE, on Wednesday, the 7th inst., and recorded their votes on his behalf for the office of Treasurer of the Grand Lodge of England.

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To Correspondents.

AFRICA.—In a Craft Lodge or Royal Arch Chapter you can only wear jewels appertaining to those Degrees, no others being recognised (see Constitution, Law 289), but there is no law in the Constitutions of the Grand Mark Lodge to prevent any Masonic jewel being worn whether belonging to that Degree or not.

The following communications were either received too late for publication or stand over for want of space:—

CRAFT LODGES—Friendship, No. 206; Chirwell, No. 599; and Islington, No. 1471.

Royal Silver Wedding Masonic "At Home" at Brighton. Masonic Ball at Shanghai.

Consecration of the Cyclist Lodge, No. 2246.

Consecration of the De La Pole Mark Lodge, No. 372, Seaton.



SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 1888.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish in a spirit of fair play to all to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.]

**THE MASONIC BOYS' SCHOOL AND THE CASE
OF WILLIAM GIDEON MOTION.**

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I am not a general reader of the *Freemason*, but somebody sent me a copy of last week's number containing a leading article on this case, and, as one who has taken a small part in the affair, I feel compelled to make some remarks upon the opinions expressed in your paper.

It is not my intention to go into the details of the case, although in justice the whole matter ought to be before the Masonic public, in order to enable anyone to judge fairly, whether or not the friends of the boy have been well advised in pushing for a further inquiry.

I may put it briefly, that for certain offences—all but one being of a trivial character—the boy, through his friends, was informed that he would not be admitted back to the school after the Christmas holidays. (He had been there six-and-a-half years and his time would expire within a few weeks).

The main crime, and the one which led to this decision of the House Committee, was that of having left the school without permission and gone home to his mother. This was brought about by his having been accused of putting a boy's box on the fire, but this charge was disproved at the investigation which took place subsequently, and at which I was present.

The lodge to which Motion's father belonged, and the mother and brother appealed to the House Committee, but they would not alter their decision, and it was only after there was a strong determination shown to bring about a further investigation, that the Committee held another meeting to reconsider the matter.

I ought to remark that by this time the Committee had, in every day parlance "got their back up," owing to the course pursued by the boy's brother when he appeared before them at the time they rejected the appeal of the mother, and others; this was, perhaps, natural, the Committee being but human. The remark in your article to which I principally raise an objection is this: "Moreover in this particular case, at the instance of the boy's friends, a second inquiry was instituted, and conducted by the House Committee, without the evidence adduced at the first being shaken in any point material or immaterial." This, I regret to say, is entirely contrary to fact. I was present, having been invited to attend, and it was then and there, that the charges of "pouring cold water down a little boy's back," "pulling bricks out of a wall to build a bird trap with," "swearing," and "putting a boy's box on the fire," fell to the ground. (At the General Committee later on, the Chairman and Secretary were directly challenged on these points, and, amidst cries of "Shame," either would not or could not answer.)

The House Committee, as a way out of the difficulty, then resolved that the boy should be educated "out of the Establishment" for the rest of his time, but his relations did not think this fair, as the verdict ought to have been "Guilty" or "Not guilty," especially on the chief offence for which he was practically turned out of the School. I do not for one moment suggest that, at the outset, the House Committee intended to do anything but what was just and fair, but having been misled, by those who made the charges, into a mistake, surely they ought at once honourably to have acknowledged it, and made good their error.

Then the matter was revived before the General Committee on the 3rd instant, and I am convinced that, had the wise amendment proposed by Bro. Godson, M.P., for an independent inquiry (leaving out all words such as "wrong done," &c.), been put by the Chairman, as he should have done, it would have been carried almost unanimously.

The proposer of the original resolution which you properly say prejudged the question, and was a vote of Censure on the House Committee, offered to accept the amendment, but the Chairman would not permit it; so the motion, as it stood on the paper, was put, and, naturally lost. The meeting was, I very much regretted, a very excitable one, and it was little wonder that the Chairman got muddled about the resolution; but I must say that the cabal was in a great measure brought about by several brethren in favour of the House Committee, at the far end of the room, making loud and taunting remarks at those opposite, and thus provoking disturbance.

The main question before us is, however, as to whether redress can be obtained in any case where the House Committee make an error. Is there no tribunal we can appeal to? I was told in Committee decidedly "No." "The Minutes and Resolutions of the House Committee are merely reported to the General Committee in accordance with the rules, and no one has the right to challenge them or to move any amendment thereon."

Now surely this is arbitrary. I know that in great public schools the Head Master's fiat as to dismissal is final; but our Masonic Schools are not on the same footing—in the one case there are "paid pupils," in the other we have the care and charge of orphans.

Everyone must agree as to the necessity for maintaining discipline and order, but in carrying this out, if the management should err, let it be on the side of leniency.

This controversy is greatly to be regretted, and by no one more so than myself, but I trust that our "Boys' Charity" will not suffer one shilling by it—on the contrary—great good may come out of it. I think every subscriber will regret that a Special Committee of Inquiry was not granted and the matter set right. The friends are now requisitioning for a "Special Court" to be held, and I do trust that whatever is to be done further in the matter will be done quickly and well. At all events let our motto be "Let right be done." Apologising for the length of my remarks which I trust you will in fairness insert in your next issue.—I remain, yours fraternally,

GEO. CORBLE, P.P.J.G.W. Essex, P.M. 453.
13th March.

THE DEPUTATION TO LODGE 119. To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Bro. J. Clifton Thompson appears to be ill at ease with himself and others about a few of the Senior Past Masters and other members of Lodge 962, Workington, having been deputed by an influential portion of the brethren to visit Lodge 119, Whitehaven, on the 18th ult. (in a perfectly constitutional manner), to invite the W.M., officers, and members to sign a petition, which was subsequently signed by all present, and the petitioners congratulated upon their laudable undertaking. A few days afterwards the same petition received the unanimous support of the members of Skiddaw Lodge, 1002.

If his authority was not procured, and he was not a party to the good work the petitioners had in view, perhaps it was the more to be regretted; but it was not perceptible that his absence was any detriment to the cause.

The ancient landmarks and constitutions were strictly observed. No "hole and corner" meetings were ever hinted at. And we have no doubt, as previously reported, success will crown their efforts to establish a new lodge, which is much required in Workington.—Yours faithfully and fraternally,

M.M. 119.

OUR MASONIC CHARITIES.—A SUGGESTION.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I regret exceedingly that anything I have written should have given offence to Bro. Vallentine. No doubt it would have been better if I had discussed his suggestion seriously throughout, but in all future discussions in which he and I may happen to engage, I will be careful to avoid that class of statistics to which he seems to entertain so great an objection.

It is hardly worth while saying anything further on the subject after his letter of last week, but before taking leave of it, I should like to remark that I had no intention of making his proposal a hook on which to hang my own scheme for exhibition. I had no particular scheme of my own to offer, and only suggested for want of something better, that, as regards the Schools, Grand Lodge might do for them what it has done for the Benevolent Institution, namely, increase the amount of its annual grant to each, which I pointed out has remained at the same figure for close on 50 years. But this was not meant as a substitute for his proposal which concerned all three Institutions, and for the realisation of which he was anxious to enlist the support of private lodges. But possibly I did not make myself sufficiently clear in this respect.

I share in the regret expressed by Bro. Vallentine that so little interest should have been taken in a subject which so nearly concerns us all.—Fraternally yours,

12th March.

LATE MEETING OF GRAND LODGE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Is the decision of the Grand Lodge on the appeal of Bro. Henry Alfred Michael, of the Emulation Lodge, No. 2071, Sydney, N.S.W., declaring that Bro. Joseph James Allen, J.W., had been duly elected W.M. of the said lodge in accordance with the Constitutions, Rule 130? "Every lodge shall annually, on the day named in its by-laws for that purpose, proceed to elect its Master by ballot from among those of its members who have served for one year the office of Master or Warden in a regular lodge warranted under the English Constitution. The ballot shall be declared in favour of the member thus qualified who obtains the largest number of votes of the brethren present and voting."

Was Bro. Allen qualified to be balloted for as W.M. in accordance with the above law, when he had only been eleven months a Warden?—I remain, yours fraternally,

R. W. O.

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.'"



HISTORY OF THE LODGE OF SINCERITY, No. 174, BY JOHN NEWTON, F.R.A.S., P.M. and P.Z., London, 1888.

We congratulate Bro. Newton most sincerely on the advent of his interesting history, and note, with pleasure, that he has dedicated the handsome volume "To the Past Masters and members of his mother lodge," who will, we feel assured, value the compliment exceedingly. The principal object the author ("compiler," as he modestly calls himself) has in view "was to preserve (by publishing this book) the annals of a good, old, and useful lodge." In his opinion "not many lodges possess a more complete set of minute books than the Lodge of Sincerity, and bearing in mind that an unbroken record, extending over one hundred years, was liable at any time to total loss by fire, &c., it must be admitted that its permanent preservation is the undoubted duty of its custodians." The latter statement we steadfastly believe, and as respects the set of minute books for over a century, the distinction of having such is doubtless shared by few lodges in London, "the more's the pity." In the country, however, there are many lodges which possess their records for over a century, some even extending over a century and a half. We wish we could say as much for the Metropolitan lodges, for unfortunately we know lamentably little about the senior *ateliers*. We are disappointed in the list of subscribers, the names not reaching to one hundred. The work is so readable and indeed, valuable, besides being published at a mere trifle (under cost we should say) that we still hope that the copies which remain on sale will soon be applied for. At all events, we feel assured that the volume will be at a premium as soon as its merits are known and appreciated. The printer and publisher is Bro. C. E. Ferry, Crown Court, Old Broad-street, who has done his part well, the style of the book being similar to Bro. Ferry's own history of the Lodge of Prosperity, No. 65, which lodge, however, though senior, has not the records preserved, for anything like so long a period as No. 174. One attraction to us is the portrait of Bro. James Newton, the author, another being the excellent reproduction of the old plate for the summons. The figures depicted are most suggestive of the "Three Grand Principles" of our Society, the fourth, apparently representing justice, may be intended virtually to do duty for "Sincerity," for the latter can never be absent from the former. The design is certainly worthy of preservation, as is also the old form of certificate of early this century. The lodge was warranted April 23rd, 1768, as No. 423, the charter being lost, but is supplied by another of 26th December, 1849, a copy being duly inserted in the history, as it should be; likewise the centenary jewel warrant bearing date 16th December, 1869. The minutes do not begin until March 10th, 1784, but a page is devoted to its previous career, from which we learn that "the original members were chiefly mariners." We are also told that "the lodge was among the first to subscribe to the fund for the purpose of building a hall, &c., and in 1773 was credited with £5 5s. for the said fund. At the termination of the year 1785, the lodge had subscribed in all £28 15s. 6d. towards the same object." We should have liked a little more about the lodge prior to 1784, if at all possible to obtain. We have examined a list of subscriptions and fees to the "Hall Fund" down to June, 1778, and find that even at that period, the lodge had paid £17 18s. for that object, and we have traced other payments down to November, 1812, which raise its grand total to £115 12s. 6d. The lodge, however, did not subscribe to the Loan, as some others did, for had it so done, and lent £25, without interest, the Master might even now have been officially wearing the "Freemasons' Hall Medal." The Fees for the Hall, agreed to 1768, consisted of 5s. for each Initiate, and half that sum for Joining Members; a "Liquidation Fund" being also started on February 7th, 1798, of two shillings annually from each contributing member, which payment ceased from 31st December, 1810. Many lodges and brethren subscribed very liberally to the "Hall Fund," Lord Petre having given over £300, Rowland Holt £142 11s., and the Duke of Beaufort £90. Bro. Newton states that "The lodge was called *Sincerity* during the year 1789, no record of that name occurring before June, 1789." We are pleased to inform him that we find in the Grand Lodge proceedings of November 13th, 1776, the lodge is therein called "*Sincerity*," so that leads us to think it likely it was so named from its origin in 1768; and there are other references to its title prior to the year 1789. Bro. Jno. Lane in his "*Masonic Records, 1717-1886*"* (a work of immense value), gives 1768 as the year in which the lodge was so named, so that it has been called "*Sincerity*" from its origin. As a matter of fact, it is so designated in the "*Engraved List*" of 1769, and onwards to now, and probably its name was noted on the original warrant. The plan followed by Bro. Newton is to give under each year from 1784 to 1887, inclusive, the place of meeting, the names of the chief officers, and those of the joining members and initiates. Then the important events are narrated for the period, so that the chronological arrangement enables one easily to find any portion of the work without any difficulty, and the order of the minutes is likewise preserved. Many were the obstacles the early members had to overcome, but they were victorious nevertheless, and from a comparatively humble origin the lodge has become one of the most honoured and vigorous on the roll of the Grand Lodge of England. "The distinguishing characteristic of a Freemason's heart" has been always active in No. 174, as its large donations to our Charities testify, nearly £500 having been donated to our Institutions since 1860, besides many hundreds, thousands we might say, collected and given by members as Stewards. The lodge agreed to support our "Girls" from 1793, and has been most constant to that noble Institution from then to now. Excellent tables, exhibiting the names of the principal officers, "work" done, places of meeting, since 1784, add much to the value of the volume, and the by-laws are appended, agreed to in 1883. The lodge took part in the special Grand Lodge held on December 31st, 1808, when the foundation-stone of the new Theatre, Covent Garden,

* London, George Kenning (Price £1 11s. 6d.)

was laid by H.R.H. the Duke of Sussex. This fact is not noticed apparently in the minutes. An "Ancient Mason" was "remade" in the three Degrees in 1795, which leads Bro. Newton to explain that the terms "Ancient and Modern" were in consequence of the rivalry between "the Grand Lodge of all England held at York, and the Grand Lodge of England held in London." This is an error, both rivals being held in London, the junior of the two, known as the "Ancients," being also known as the "Atholl Grand Lodge." On this subject, Bro. H. Sadler's "*Masonic Facts and Fictions*"* should be consulted, as the information in that work will dispel any such notion with respect to York, and afford much light on the proceedings of that great rival, and the regular and original Grand Lodge of England. We should like to allude to a number of very interesting details in Bro. Newton's capital History, but it seems scarcely fair so to do whilst the work is for sale, so we shall hope again to refer to the volume, when the edition has been exhausted. Many of the personal references are most suggestive and instructive, for evidently Bro. Newton has been in love with his task from the beginning even to the end, and for ourselves we regretted most sincerely when we arrived at the "Conclusion." We also say "Adieu," and in so doing, unite with the Author in the wish "That this lodge may continue its usefulness for many years to come."

THE AUSTRALIAN KEYSTONE, Vol. I., No. 1
Melbourne: H. G. Crocker, 87, Little Collins-street East.

Our new Masonic contemporary is issued monthly, and is intended to be the representative organ of Freemasonry in Victoria, Tasmania, and the whole of the Australian Colonies. It has made an excellent beginning, its opening number, published on the 2nd January last, containing some well-written articles and a most readable budget of news. We wish it all success and trust its future career may be a long and prosperous one.

THE WOMAN HE LOVED; 3 Vols. By A. N. HORNER.
(F. V. White and Co.)

We have seldom read a novel by an unknown author which shows greater merit than this, and, although our reviews, as a rule, are confined to something much more solid than fiction, it gives us great pleasure to be able to recommend this book to our numerous readers. We believe this is the author's first essay, and if so we are justified in expecting great things from his future career. The narrative is forcible and continuous; the pathos is natural, and the descriptions of character and scenery show considerable skill and talent. One of the best written scenes in the book is the story of the shipwreck of the Indian mail steamer and the subsequent rescue of the hero and heroine. We will not enter into a resumé of the plot, but leave our readers to explore for themselves, and will content ourselves by saying the author deserves every encouragement for the future, and praise for the present.

* Bro. George Kenning, Publisher (Price 7/6).



763] AMITY LODGE, No. 137, POOLE (DORSET.)

The following particulars respecting the "Amity" Lodge, at Poole, taken from the History of that town by John Sydenham, will interest many, as the curious relic, or souvenir, is still preserved. The first notice states that—

"A room in a private house in Barber's piles, has been set apart as a Masonic Hall; a lodge of Freemasons having been founded here April 5th, 1765, being the Lodge of Amity, No. 160."

As this number was not taken until 1832, and was altered to 137 in 1863, enables me to judge that the History must have been written between those two years (1832-63.) I see that Bro. John Lane, in his "*Masonic Records*" mentions Private Room, Thames St., as a place of meeting from 1806 until 1862, when it was exchanged for the "Masonic Hall." I take it that "Barber's Piles" is an additional title. The work adds, in a "note," as follows:

"In this lodge is preserved a memorial of one of the most striking instances on record of the prevalence of Masonic sympathy; and which occurred in the experience of one of the brethren of the lodge. This memorial is a biscuit of coarse bread preserved in a glass frame, and hung up in the lodge, with the following inscription:

"This biscuit is preserved by the Lodge of Amity as a memorial of their gratitude and brotherly affection for Jacques de Bon, captain of the 'Junon,' French privateer, of St. Maloes, who captured at sea, on the 13th of December, at 11 a.m., 1813, in lat. 49° 50' N., long. 70° W., the brig 'Oak,' of Poole, brother Stephen Pack, master, belonging to brothers G. W. Ledgard and John Gosse, on the passage from Bilboa to Poole, who, after treating him and his crew with every mark of kindness, returned him his vessel, and sent on board a dog (which before had been taken from a brother) with this biscuit suspended by a string round his neck, signifying that he would not keep a brother's dog in bondage nor see him want bread."

Thus the man who holds forth his hand for the relief of his necessitous brethren is amply repaid by the gratitude of those whom he relieves by the approbation of his own mind, and by the favour of that Omnipotent Being who fills all space, and whose omniscient eye cannot behold such a bright display of masonic virtues without asserting his divine and everlasting approbation."

The occurrence thus commemorated was related at the lodge on the 19th December, 1813, after another somewhat similar instance of—

"The extent to which the fraternal regard and philanthropic charity inculcated by masonry had prevailed over the usages of warfare in the conduct of the same capt. de Bon had been detailed. The relation is thus recorded in the books of the lodge:

"Our R.W.M., G. W. Ledgard, related another pleasing anecdote of the same person, Capt. Jacques de Bon, viz., a vessel of his, having been captured by the 'Junon' about a week after the capture of our Guernsey brother's vessel, the master, Bro. Stephen Pack, instantly on the coming on board of the prize-master,

discovered himself to be a Mason to him, who also happened to be one; he took one turn on the deck, and then came and shook Bro. Peck by the hand, and told him he would not carry him a prisoner to France. He then hailed the privateer and received an answer, but what Bro. Pack could not say (not understanding French). He was then ordered on board the privateer, where he received the same brotherly kindness from Capt. de Bon, who immediately restored him to his vessel, and told him to make the best of his way to England. In getting into his boat to return on board his own vessel, the Frenchmen he observed, were very careful in putting a little dog also in the boat. Bro. Pack told them he did not want the dog, and did not wish to have it, but they persisted in putting it on board his vessel. After the Frenchmen had quitted him for good, he observed something hanging to the neck of the little dog, and on examination, he found it to be a cake of bread, with a hole in the middle, and was tied round the dog's neck with a rope yarn.

"This dog, Bro. Pack afterwards found, belonged to a Captain Storey who was also a brother and who had been captured, and again released, a few days previous to Bro. Pack's capture by our kind brother De Bon."

Brethren who have copies of my "Masonic Register," 1878, will find a brief account of this very interesting event at page 65 of that work. The lodge obtained a special Centenary Jewel Warrant in 1855, the year when its hundred years had been completed. The design, however, does not refer to the foregoing incident, but introduces a dolphin as the prominent figure, in allusion, doubtless, to the number of sea captains, who have from time to time, belonged to the lodge.

W. J. HUGHAN.

"THE MOST ANCIENT AND HONOURABLE ORDER OF HICCABITES."

Chester, 12th March, 1888.—In looking over some old newspapers for items relating to Freemasonry, I have come across several advertisements and notices relating to the "Ancient and Honourable Society of Hiccabites"—here are samples: "Chester 15 Jan'y 1777.—On Wednesday, the 28th instant, will be holden at the Golden Talbot, in the City, at five o'clock in the evening of that day. A Chapter of the Most Ancient and Honourable Order of the Hiccabites. When and where the Brothers and Sisters are requested to give their attendance. Ladies and Gentlemen of Capability and good Character may be then admitted Members. By Order of the Court."—"3 Feby 1778.—The Ladies and Gentlemen who were present, on Wednesday last, at the Chapter of the Most Ancient and Honourable Order of Hiccabites, held at the Talbot, formed a very numerous Assembly; the Ball was peculiarly brilliant; the Supper for Variety and Elegance was allowed to excel every one of the kind on any similar occasion; and the Evening concluded with the usual Marks of Innocence and Mirth." Can any of the readers of Masonic Notes and Queries give me any information about this so-called Order? It has been suggested to me that the Hiccabites were similar to the Rechabites, except that the latter were teetotalers and the former were not; but this was, I think, long before teetotalers were known. If it was not for the presence of Sisters at their meetings, I would have supposed the title was adopted from a play on the word hiccup.

12th March.

J. C. ROBINSON.



Craft Masonry.

ROBERT BURNS LODGE.—(No. 25).—The members of this lodge held their monthly meeting on Monday, the 5th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, when there were present Bros. Walter Wingham, W.M.; G. Deaton, S.W.; E. J. Wall, J.W.; J. W. Harvey, acting S.D.; J. L. Jaquet, J.D.; H. R. Maynard, I.G.; J. C. Hodson, Asst. Sec.; J. Lindner, P.M., Treas.; J. Dyte, P.M., Sec.; T. J. Robins, P.M., W.S.; T. Hawkins, P.M., D.C.; G. F. G. Moorcroft, P.M.; J. W. Harvey, P.M.; J. T. Ford, I.P.M.; Smith, Org.; Guppy, F. Deaton, and S. E. Burton. Visitors: Bros. A. E. Austin, W.M. 619; W. G. Cannon, W.M. 1922; F. Croaker, W.M. 1981; R. H. Blatchford, P.M. 1196; H. C. Reeves, P.M. 1381; Carr, P.M. 1607; W. Roots, P.S.W. 1273; Steel, J.W. 206; J. Hattersley, J.D. 1607; F. H. Williams, and Bromley, 1655.

The lodge having been opened, the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Burton was raised to the Third Degree according to ancient custom by the W.M., who was ably assisted by his officers.

The business having been disposed of, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to a well earned supper. After the usual loyal toasts the W.M. introduced that of "The Visitors" in a few words of fraternal welcome, and the brethren, upstanding, greeted the toast with Burns' stirring song "Auld Lang Syne."

Bros. Croaker, Carr, and Williams briefly but eloquently responded. The I.P.M., Bro. Ford, was very flattering in proposing "The Health of the W.M." in an able speech, and the W.M. thanked the brethren for their cordial good-will. A good programme of music was provided under the direction of Bro. G. F. Smith.

KENNINGTON LODGE (No. 1381).—The last meeting of this lodge for the season was held at the Kennington Tavern, Kennington Park, on the 6th inst. Among those present were Bros. R. Lingley, W.M.; Foale, S.W.; Westley, J.W.; George Everett, P.M.; Treas.; W. Stuart, P.M., Sec.; Ruffe, S.D.; J. J. La Feuillade, J.D.; Dennis, I.G. Davis, Stwd.; Lundie, D.C.; H. Higgins, P.M.; T. C. Walls, P.M., P.P.G.S.B. Middx.; C. H. Köhler, P.M.; Plowman, P.M.; R. La Feuillade, I.P.M.; Buxton, J. Sheppard, Milson, Thornley, Ellisdon, Colwell, Faulkner, Burrows, and others. Bros. Bate, P.M. 72; Hearsam, 167; and Wilson, 1614, were visitors. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bros. Colwell, Faulkner, and Burrows were

passed to the Second Degree. The W.M. having solicited the brethren to support his list as Steward to the Centenary Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment.

Upon the removal of the cloth a few toasts followed. "The W.M." was proposed by the I.P.M., who congratulated Bro. Lingley upon his excellent working.

The Worshipful Master having replied, gave "The Visitors."

Bros. Bate, Hearsam, and Wilson in their respective replies congratulated the lodge generally upon its working and profuse hospitality.

The Worshipful Master, in giving "The Past Masters," particularly mentioned the efforts of the I.P.M., whose year of office had, on the whole, been so successful.

Bro. R. La Feuillade having modestly replied, "The Treasurer and Secretary" followed.

Bro. George Everett, as usual, made an effective and genial speech. In concluding his remarks he said that he hoped to meet them all well and happy after the ensuing long recess. No. 1381 was a lodge holding a high position on the Surrey side of the water, and so long as his health permitted nothing should be wanting on his part, to still further enhance its prosperity and good name.

Bro. Stuart having also said a few words, "The Officers" terminated the proceedings.

GREAT CITY LODGE (No. 1426).—This lodge held its regular meeting, the last of the season, at Cannon-street Hotel, on Saturday last, and an unusual number of members and visitors were present. Bro. N. B. Headon, P.M. and Treasurer, moved that this being the Silver Wedding-day of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Most Worshipful Grand Master, the congratulations of the lodge be at once conveyed to him in the following terms: "To H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Most Worshipful Grand Master of Freemasons, Marlborough House.—The Worshipful Master, Officers, and brethren of the Great City Lodge, now assembled at Cannon-street Hotel, respectfully and heartily felicitate your Royal Highness upon the auspicious occasion of your Silver Wedding-day, and pray that the Great Architect of the Universe will bless you and your beloved wife and family with health and every happiness throughout years to come."

This was carried unanimously, and the message was forthwith despatched. The following gracious reply was subsequently received: "Marlborough House, March 10th, 1888.—To N. B. Headon, Esq., Treasurer the Great City Lodge. The Equerry in Waiting is desired by the Prince of Wales to convey to the Worshipful Master, Officers, and brethren of the Great City Lodge the expression of their Royal Highnesses' sincere thanks for their kind congratulations and good wishes."

Other formal business having been disposed of, Bro. John Seax was elected W.M. for the ensuing year, and Bro. N. B. Headon was re-elected Treasurer.

Banquet was then served in the Pillar Hall, at which, in the absence of the Master, Bro. N. B. Headon presided. The loyal toasts were duly honoured—that of "H.R.H. the Most Worshipful Grand Master and his Family Circle" being enthusiastically received and drunk in bumpers, followed by "Great City" firing, and the company joining in singing "God bless the Prince of Wales." The "Wedding March" was afterwards well played by Bro. E. Wesley, Organist of the lodge.

ROYAL COMMEMORATION LODGE (No. 1585).—A regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Fox and Hounds Hotel, Putney, on Wednesday, the 7th inst. Present: Bros. R. R. Collick, I.P.M., presiding; Williams, S.W.; Wing, J.W.; Watkins, P.M., Treas.; Robinson, Sec.; Wright, acting S.D.; Sandalls, J.D.; Oliver, I.G.; Collings, P.M., D.C.; Stacey, P.M., Org.; Coombes, Steward; Bowler, Tyler; Pardoe, P.M.; Mansell, P.M.; and about 20 brethren.

The lodge having been opened, the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, after which Bros. Desmond and Organ were raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M. Bro. Knight having been passed to the Second Degree, Bro. Williams, S.W., was elected W.M. for the ensuing year, Bro. Watkins was re-elected Treasurer for the 13th time, and Bro. Walkley, Tyler. Bros. Grundy, Gordon, and Stern were elected on the Audit Committee. The sum of 25 guineas, which had been voted to the list of the late W.M., Bro. Strong, for the Benevolent Institution, was transferred to the list of Bro. Williams, W.M. elect, and after other business had been transacted, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment.

PERSEVERANCE LODGE (No. 1743).—A regular meeting of this lodge was held at Anderson's Hotel, Fleet street, on Saturday evening, the 10th inst., and a more than usual interest was evident when it became known by the summons that the W.M., Bro. C. E. Ferry, had recently recovered from an illness of two or three months, and would not only preside, but would initiate his eldest son into the mysteries of our Order. A ballot was taken for Mr. J. Bernard Ferry and Mr. John Evans, which proved unanimous, and the W.M. was more than usually careful and impressive in conferring upon them the First Degree. After which it was decided to hold a ladies' banquet after the next regular meeting in April. The lodge then voted ten guineas for the Secretary, Bro. Chamberlayne, to place upon his Steward's list for the coming Festival of the Girls' School.

This concluded the business of the evening, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet room, where an excellent dinner was served them by Bro. Clemow, the host.

The visitors present were Bros. George H. Ferry, 209; J. Roberts, P.M. 65; J. Passmore, 2163; A. Jamieson, 2163; S. Johnson, 1297; C. J. Rich, P.M. 65; G. Schadler, P.M. 65; W. Warr, W.M. 2086; J. L. Culpin, 749; C. J. Wilkinson-Pimbury, 1997; H. Rogers, 14; and W. Short, 1623.

After grace, the W.M., in proposing "The Health of the Queen," remarked that such a sterling Sovereign needed no gilding from any speech he might be bold enough to make; and next, in reference to the toast of "The M.W.G.M.," said that as that was the actual silver wedding anniversary, every Mason throughout the land

would unite in wishing every happiness to his Royal Highness and to their beloved Princess.

Bro. Read, I.P.M., having proposed "The Health of the W.M.," and expressed the pleasure the lodge felt at his being restored to health,

Bro. C. E. Ferry replied that he was equally pleased to get back to work again, and that though he belonged to other lodges, he wished to show his esteem for the brethren present by proposing his son for initiation there.

In reply to the toast of "The Initiates," Bro. J. Bernard Ferry said that he had long desired to be a Mason, and although very much impressed and gratified at the ceremony he had passed through, thought he could perceive many difficulties before he could hope to attain the efficiency of his father.

In replying for "The Visitors," Bro. George H. Ferry, a brother of the W.M., said that although a Mason for many years he had never before attended a London lodge, but he had come from Cambridge that evening for the treat of seeing his own brother initiate his nephew, and was very gratified at the cordial reception he had experienced.

Bro. Roberts, P.M. 65, said that Bro. Ferry had lost none of his old force since he was in the chair of his mother lodge, and thought the ceremony had never been better worked.

Bro. C. J. Wilkinson-Pimbury, S.W. 1997, remarked that being an initiate of the W.M. he was very pleased to again attend, in fact, he had been there so often that it was with some difficulty he could keep himself from walking up to the Secretary's table and asking what his dues were.

The Past Masters present were Bros. Leins, Kearney, Marlet, Eade, and Reed, and their toast was duly honoured, as also that of "The Officers," when the Tyler's toast brought a very agreeable evening to a close.

REGENT'S PARK LODGE (No. 2202).—An emergency meeting was held at the York and Albany Hotel, Regent's Park, on the 3rd inst., when there were present Bros. D. P. Cama, W.M.; E. C. Mulvey, S.W.; J. K. R. Cama, J.W.; N. Goodchild, Treas.; C. Sheppard, Sec.; N. J. Goodchild, S.D.; J. Powdrell, J.D.; W. H. Hosegood, I.G.; J. Kew, Steward; A. Gidding, D.C.; W. Hall, A.D.C.; Diwan Doulet Ram, Mukand Lal Varma, C. W. Rex, H. Jordan, W. J. Holden, H. F. Bang, J. Bang, J. P. Foynter, J. Passingham, C. E. O. Walker, W. Brewer, G. Clappitt, and Rayada Rhagat Ram. Visitors: Bros. R. L. Chattey, 1744; and T. Mullah, 1321.

The lodge having been opened, a ballot was taken for Mr. Rayada Rhagat Ram, which proved unanimous in his favour. The W.M. then vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Kew, after which Bros. Mukand Lal Varma, Diwan Doulet Ram, and C. W. Rex were passed to the Degree of F.C. Mr. Rayada Rhagat Ram having been initiated, the W.M. again assumed the chair, after which the lodge was closed.

HASTINGS.—Derwent Lodge (No. 40).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, the 12th inst. at the Castle Hotel, when there were present Bros. T. W. Markwick, W.M.; Rev. J. Puttick, S.W.; W. S. Allen, J.W.; F. Rossiter, P.P.S.G.D., Treas.; J. Pearce, P.M., Sec.; F. C. Edwards, S.D.; G. Randall, J.D.; C. W. Duke, P.P.S.G.W., D.C.; R. Walmsley, I.G.; G. H. Gaze, Stwd.; W. Leslie, Tyler; C. E. Botley, P.M.; E. W. J. Hennah, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., &c.; W. M. Glenister, P.M.; W. H. Russell, P.M., P.A.G.D.C.; C. W. Duke, P.M., P.P.S.G.W.; E. W. Bryant, W. A. Paine, W. Cooper, F. Duke, C. J. Ticehurst, L. O. Glenister, J. T. Edmed, C. H. Geer, W. S. Addison, C. J. Lindridge, L. J. Jukes, and E. J. W. McCormick. Visitors: Bros. Rev. W. H. Beekles, D.D.; F. H. Gottlieb, P.G.S.B.; and T. W. Avis, 1184.

Two candidates were balloted for, and three initiated. Bro. Pearce gave notice that at the next meeting he should propose that the W.M. and P.M.'s of the lodge be constituted a Board of General Purposes. Bro. Hennah said that he should support the proposal. Bro. C. W. Duke informed the brethren that the lodge had been fortunate enough to draw a Life-Governorship, and it was decided to place the amount to the Steward's list who is to represent the Boys' Institution at the coming Festival.

SHEERNESS.—Adam's Lodge (No. 158).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Local Board of Health Room, under a dispensation from the D.P.G.M., Bro. J. Smith Eastes, on Tuesday, the 6th inst., and was attended by a large number of members and visitors, including the following Prov. Grand Officers and brethren: Bros. H. Spears, P.P.S.G.D.; J. R. Brett, P.G. S. of W.; W. Blakey, P.P.J.G.W.; C. Burleigh, P.P. G.D.C.; H. Black, P.P.A.G.D.C.; R. Derry, P.P.G. Std. Br.; J. Bagshaw, P.P.G.O.; W. T. Carpenter, P.P. G.P.; J. C. Biggs, P.G. Steward; J. Auty, W.M. elect; T. Finninger, P.M.; J. P. Watts, P.M.; G. T. Green, P.M.; E. Stutely, P.M.; H. Sole, P.M.; W. R. Tanner, W.M. 184; G. Goble, W.M. 1273; W. Wilson, W.M. 1424; J. Copland, W.M.; J. Tower, P.M.; and W. Norrington, P.M., of 1089; W. T. Monkhouse, Rev. S. S. Brown, B.A., 358; V. H. Stallon, J. F. Cork, H. G. Boorman, J. Porch, and others.

After the transaction of the general business, which included the initiation of Mr. W. Sams, Bro. J. Auty was presented, and placed in the W.M.'s chair by Bro. R. Derry, P.M., who officiated as Installing Master. The W. Master appointed the following brethren as his officers: Bros. A. Spears, I.P.M.; J. H. Lee, S.W.; A. Seymour Baskett, J.W.; J. Bagshaw, P.M., Treas.; R. Derry, Sec.; J. B. Elstone, S.D.; D. W. Griffith, J.D.; E. J. Pyke, D.C.; C. M. Glaysler, Org.; E. Stutely, P.M., and W. G. Cola, Stewards; C. Hallett, I.G.; and J. Akhurst, Tyler. Bro. R. Derry was unanimously re-elected Charity Representative. A vote of thanks was accorded to the Local Board of Health for kindly granting the use of their room, which was acknowledged by Bros. Brett and Copland.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to their lodge room at Britannia Hotel, where they enjoyed and thoroughly appreciated a well-appointed and excellently served banquet, provided by the hostess, Mrs. Green, assisted by Bro. G. T. Green, P.M.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts—not forgetting that of "The Charities"—were duly honoured, and during the evening some admirable and effective addresses on the excellences and qualifications of Masonry were given by the W.M., Bro. J. Auty; A. Spears, Rev. S. S. Brown, J. Bagshaw, J. C. Biggs, and others.

The musical arrangements were under the management of Bros. Glaysher and J. A. Collings, 1693. The amusing drolleries of the last-named brother added much to the enjoyment of one of the most successful meetings held in connection with this lodge.

The proceedings terminated with the Tyler's toast, followed by the National Anthem.

BRIGHTON.—Royal York Lodge (No. 315).—The annual installation meeting of the brethren of this lodge was held on Tuesday, the 6th instant, in the Royal Pavilion. The lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. H. Beaumont, who was supported by the following officers, viz.: Bros. G. R. Godfree, S.W.; L. R. Styer, J.W.; H. Kent, P.M., Prov. G. Std. Br.; Sec.; C. W. Hudson, P.M., P.P.J.G.W., Treas.; W. Devin, Org.; H. Payne and W. Bioletti, Stwds.; Harry Kent, I.G.; A. S. Cooke, D.C.; and H. H. Hughes, Tyler. The members of the lodge present also included Bros. W. Marchant, P.M., P.P., Asst. G.D. of C.; J. W. Stride, P.M., P.P.J.G.W.; T. Packham, P.M., P.P.G.P.; A. J. Hawkes, P.M., P.P.G. Swd. Br.; G. R. Lockyer, P.M., P.P.G.S. or W.; S. W. Downard, W. J. Schofield, J. Baker, J. Miller, R. Nicholson, B. W. Drury, A. Walter, S. S. Langley, H. W. G. Abell, R. T. Nye, J. Belcher, S. Cowley, and G. H. Barnes. The lodge was honoured with the attendance of the following visitors, viz.: Bros. Gerard Ford, P.G.D., Dep. Prov. G.M.; F. F. J. Greenfield, W. M. Ockenden, 1465, Prov. G. Chap.; C. F. Lewis, W.M. 2187, Prov. S.G.W.; W. W. D'Albiac, W.M. 1466; S. Peters, W.M. 311, P.P.G.P.; R. B. Y. Powell, W.M. 1829; R. Willard, W.M. 732; G. Rawlinson, W.M. 1797; R. Pearce, W.M. 1821; C. J. Heald, W.M. 1636; C. F. Field, W.M. 1726; C. W. Jemmett, W.M. 851; A. H. Smith, P.M. 56; C. T. Cowley, 2030; C. Cowley 511; G. Fieldus, 1829; J. Newbury, J.W. 574; J. H. Bussey, Golden Thistle, South Africa, 744; J. H. Glassington, S.D. 1947; W. Rogers, P.M. 91, P.G.S.; M. Lelew, Sec. 1821; J. H. Coleman, P.M. 907; A. N. Olding, 271; F. W. Hollands, 1636; G. Cole, P.M. and Org. 1636; A. Russell, D.C. 311; R. Clowes, J.W. 2202; H. Tuff, 1273; J. J. Clark, 1947; and E. A. Buchanan, 1829.

The principal business of the meeting was the installation of the newly-elected W.M., Bro. G. R. Godfree. The ceremony was admirably performed by the retiring W.M., Bro. H. Beaumont, who also gave the charge to the W.M.; those to the Wardens and the brethren being delivered by Bro. J. W. Stride, P.M., and the V.W. Deputy Prov. Grand Master respectively. The W.M. appointed his officers for the ensuing year, those present being invested with the insignia of their respective offices, viz.: Bros. H. Beaumont, I.P.M.; L. R. Styer, S.W.; J. Ferry, J.W.; C. W. Hudson, P.M., Treasurer; H. Kent, P.M., Secretary; J. Eberall, P.M., Charity Steward; W. Devin, P.P.G.O., Org.; R. F. Nye, S.D.; A. S. Cooke, J.D.; C. J. Carter, D. of C.; Harry Kent, I.G.; H. Payne and W. Bioletti, Stwds.; and H. H. Hughes, Tyler. Bro. H. Beaumont was presented with a Past Master's gold jewel in appreciation of the excellent manner in which he had discharged the duties of W.M. during the past year. The lodge having been closed, the brethren sat down to a banquet supplied by Bro. J. Sayers. The newly-installed W.M., Bro. G. R. Godfree, presided.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured. The V.W. Deputy Prov. Grand Master, who was very cordially received, responded on behalf of the toasts of "The Officers of Grand Lodge," proposed by Bro. A. J. Hawkes, P.M., and "The R.W. Bro. the Duke of Connaught, Prov. Grand Master of Sussex, the V.W. Bro. Gerard Ford, Deputy Prov. Grand Master, and the Officers of Provincial Grand Lodge, Present and Past." After speaking of the excellent government of the Grand Lodge and the great interest the Duke of Connaught took in the Province, he said that for his own part he had endeavoured to follow in the Masonic traditions he had received from his immediate predecessor, the late and lamented Bro. J. Henderson Scott. The latter came from an old Masonic family, and he (Bro. Ford) whose family had been closely associated with Freemasonry for a hundred years, would make it his earnest endeavour to maintain those principles of the Craft which they all so highly honoured. Assisted "shoulder to shoulder" by his fellow officers, his aim would be to uphold the dignity and stability of the Order throughout the Province. He cordially wished the W.M. a happy and successful year of office.

Bros. C. F. Lewis and F. F. Greenfield also responded for the Provincial Officers.

Bro. H. Beaumont proposed "The Worshipful Master." Bro. G. R. Godfree, who was warmly applauded, briefly acknowledged the toast; Bro. J. W. Stride gave "The Worshipful Masters of the Province," which was acknowledged by Bros. W. W. D'Albiac and C. J. Heald; "The Visitors," received responses from Bros. Clowes, Bussey, and Rogers; Bro. L. R. Styer proposed "The Past Masters," which was acknowledged by Bros. W. Marchant, and J. W. Stride; the toast of "The Initiate," proposed by Bro. C. W. Hudson, P.M., was responded to by Bro. G. H. Barnes; the W.M. gave "The Warden and Officers of the lodge," Bros. L. R. Styer and J. Terry responded.

Bro. H. Kent then presented Bro. Beaumont with a silver cup for his young son, born during his year of office as W.M. Bro. Beaumont had carried out his duties, he said, in such an admirable manner that he could express no better hope for his infant son than that he might become as good a man and Mason as his father.

Bro. Beaumont, in acknowledgment of the presentation, said he had received so much kindness at the hands of the brethren of the lodge that he could not find words to thank them sufficiently for the additional mark of their esteem conveyed by the presentation to his little son. He should always remember their kindness with gratitude, and trusted they would not measure his feelings of pleasure by the brief and inadequate response which he made to them.

The Tyler's toast completed the post-prandial proceedings.

During the evening the various speeches were agreeably

interspersed by songs rendered by Bros. R. Clowes, C. W. Jemmett, R. Nicholson, G. Cole, R. Willard, and C. Cowley, and recitations given by Bros. F. W. Hollands, W. Bioletti, and C. W. Hudson. The duties of accompanist were ably carried out by Bro. W. Devin, P.P.G. Organist.

PORTSMOUTH.—Portsmouth Lodge (No. 487).—A meeting of the above lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Highbury-street, on Thursday, the 8th inst. Bro. James Jenkins was duly installed as the W.M. of this ancient lodge for the ensuing year. The ceremony was performed with consummate skill by Bro. T. P. Palsgrave, P.M., who received high commendations for his masterly rendering of the ritual. The W.M. appointed the following as his officers for the ensuing year: Bros. J. W. Boughton, I.P.M.; R. W. Beale, P.M., S.W.; J. Woodhouse, P.M., J.W.; T. P. Palsgrave, P.M., Treas.; H. P. Holley, P.M., Sec.; G. C. Sanderson, S.D.; J. D. Antill, J.D.; W. M. Outridge, P.M., D.C.; G. Pearman, Org.; G. Reading, I.G.; G. E. Curtis and A. Bramble, Stwds.; J. Exell, Tyler; and G. Smith, Asst. Tyler.

Before vacating the chair on the completion of a most successful year of office, Bro. J. W. Boughton, in the name of the lodge, presented to Bro. Beale a handsome jewel in recognition of his services for many years as a representative of the lodge in the Provincial Charities' Committee, and to Bro. Holley a Past Secretary's jewel to mark the high appreciation of the members at the zealous manner in which he had fulfilled the duties of Secretary in the past year. Another presentation was made by the new W.M., who, having testified to the ability with which Bro. Boughton had conducted the business of the lodge during the past year, handed to him as a gift from the lodge a beautifully designed P.M.'s jewel. The several recipients acknowledged in suitable terms.

At the close of the business the brethren were entertained at banquet in the large hall. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, and some excellent music was discoursed by the string band of the Connaught Rangers. There was an unusually large attendance. In addition to those names we have mentioned above there were present Bros. M. E. Frost, P.P.S.G.W.; G. S. Lancaster, P.P.G.J.W.; A. Cudlipp, P.P.G.D.C.; H. E. Loader, P.P.S.G.D.; G. Bond, P.P.G.S.B.; J. T. Thackara, P.M.; G. Whitehall, P.M.; W. Bates, G. Reading, A. M. Rae, G. Huggett, W. H. Biggs, J. L. Snell, A. Lewis, J. Read, A. Rice, F. Sievers, J. Biggs, W. Maybour, J. Guest, and W. Keith-Welsh. The Visitors included Bros. R. J. Rastrick, P.G. Treas.; Dr. C. Knott, P.M. 342, P.P.G. Reg.; R. E. Buckle, W.M. 1776; W. Green, W.M. 2153; A. W. Hewett, W.M. 342; W. O. Kennett, P.M. 1208; W. Gunnell, P.M. 342, P.P.G.S. of W.; W. C. Webb, W.M. 1705; J. J. Bascombe, W.M. 804; W. J. Borrow, W.M. 1058; W. T. Dupree, P.M. 1069; W. Miles, P.M. 1776, P.G.D.C.; C. W. Bevis, W.M. 1834; H. Cooke, W.M. 309; A. G. German, W.M. 1069; J. Mitchell, W.M. 1428; Arthur Jolliffe, P.M. 257; W. J. Smith, W.M. 903; W. Dart, W.M. 2074; F. Sanders, P.M. 342; Dr. Sall, C. H. Dowsett, J. Biden, G. Frampton, F. E. Knott, C. G. Holmes, H. Love, T. W. Scaddan, C. Emery, H. A. Story, T. H. Casey, A. Howell, A. H. Chamberlain, S. Firth, G. Cook, A. Dunn, T. Evans, J. H. Burne, T. Coker, W. Bellinger, O. F. Gale, W. Williams, C. Earle, W. Glazebrook, J. Bryant, L. L. Beirstein, C. J. Lawrence, R. H. Gardner, L. Levy and others.

PLUMSTEAD.—Pattison Lodge (No. 913).—A magnificent gathering of the members and friends of the above powerful lodge took place on Thursday, the 1st inst., at the High School for Boys, Brook Hill, Bro. C. H. Lawson, W.M., presiding, supported by the following officers and brethren: Bros. C. Coupland, P.M., P.P.J.G.W., Treas.; E. Denton, P.M., P.P.J.G.D., Sec.; A. Penfold, P.M., P.P.S.G.D., D.C.; H. J. Butter, P.M., P.P.G.R.; T. D. Hayes, P.M.; H. Mason, P.M.; E. Palmer, P.M.; F. Barry, P.M.; C. Jolly, P.M., (Hon.); W. D. Keeble, S.W.; B. de B. Lopez, P.G. Stwd. Eng., J.W.; W. G. Lloyd, S.D.; W. Busbridge, J.D.; W. Saunders, I.G.; F. Tyler, Org.; W. C. Taylor, A.D.C.; C. Clapham and Dr. E. Bryceson, Stwds.; W. Larder, Tyler; W. Batchelor, W. Lomax, J. Griffiths, W. Lock, W. Young, W. Sallenger, T. Corder, J. Hooton, R. Ginman, D. C. Capon, D. Davies, W. Hayward, J. Franklin, W. Harris, H. Malings, A. Capon, W. Ledger, D. K. Somers, J. Farrier, A. Moore, R. Courtman, W. Fenn, C. W. Scantlebury, G. W. Clifton, E. Morris, R. Saunders, W. Pryce, H. Steward, J. J. Collins, H. Coombes, B. Hammond, J. Murphy, J. O. Widger, W. Davidson, C. Swiss, W. Charlesworth, J. Stratton, E. Thomms, F. Hambrook, S. Horton, H. G. Baker, R. B. Pollard, and R. Rabson, all of the lodge. The visitors included Bros. H. Syer, P.M. 13; J. G. Milbourne, W.M. 13; W. Talby, S.W. 13; R. J. Naylor, W.M. 700; W. Webber, J.W. 700; W. Doddrell, W.M. 615; W. Maule, P.M. 1536; W. Moulds, P.M. 1536; H. G. Cox, 700; C. Bryant, 700; J. Mitchell, 700; W. Bidgood, Org. 700; H. Tuffnell, 700; H. Smith, 700; Walker, 1536; E. Ginnett, 1536; H. Pamment, 700; F. Campbell, 215; Groves, J. Beake, 1669; F. Read, 1206; J. Loverage, 615; H. Pettifer, 700; G. Wood, 296; W. Hewett, J.W. 957; and S. Jones, 511.

The lodge having been opened, the ballot was taken for Mr. R. L. Pollard, and proving unanimous, he, with Mr. H. G. Baker, already approved, were initiated. Bros. J. O. Widger and W. Davidson were passed, and Bro. Hammond raised. The whole of the work was done by the W.M. and his officers with marvellous perfection, while the choir, strengthened by recruits, and admirably selected and trained by Bro. Tyler, sang the incidental anthem and responses splendidly. Bro. Palmer, P.M., who has worked most indefatigably to render the collection for Earl Amherst's scheme of raising £1000 for the forthcoming Girls' School Festival successful, announced the subscriptions amounted to over £50, which he considered creditable to the lodge. The lodge was then closed.

On assembling round the social board, the W.M. gave the usual loyal and Grand Lodge toasts, and then proposed that of "The Visitors," and, in so doing, dwelt eloquently on the necessity of the good feeling that had for so long existed between the Pattison Lodge and its neighbours of the province and the Metropolis being, if possible, more

closely cemented, and that they might shortly be united under one roof, namely, in the handsome Masonic Temple now in course of erection at Plumstead.

Bro. Milbourne, in response, expressed his delight at witnessing the admirable manner in which the ceremonies had been worked, and also at the adjuncts. If there had been any cloud between the Union Waterloo and the Pattison, it was without his knowledge, and was most certainly a misrepresentation. The grand meeting he had witnessed that night proved to him that the name of brother amongst Masons was something more than a name.

Bro. Naylor always received a kind and hearty reception whenever he visited the Pattison Lodge, and felt sure that the good feeling that had so long existed between the Nelson and the Pattison would not be clouded by any misunderstanding.

Bro. Maule had never witnessed such an impressive service as the ceremonies of that night; it must have been deeply impressed in the hearts and minds of all present, not only on the candidates, but also on the members and visitors present.

Bro. Wood thanked the W.M. and brethren for the hearty reception of the toast. So far as the working was concerned, little had been left for him to say in the way of praise; he, however, found it very different from the working in Yorkshire, especially with regard to the musical service; nevertheless, it had afforded him a great Masonic and musical treat, and for that he thanked them. He was glad to hear that they were building a Masonic Temple in their midst, because he had experienced the advantages arising from such an institution. They had a temple at Sheffield in which four lodges met, and it did not seem as if they were individual lodges, but one family bound together by the close connection of locality into one great lodge, living, although Masonically divided by number, with one great desire, namely, the welfare of the Craft and the happiness of the brethren generally. They had an excellent dining room attached to the hall, which would accommodate eighty comfortably, and which was also used for dancing. That, he considered, and indeed experience had proved it, to be a valuable adjunct to the success of the lodges, for he found that those ladies whose husbands were not Masons were desirous of being present, and so made, as ladies can do, their husbands join the Craft, so that they might have an opportunity of joining the pleasant meetings reserved for the fair sex whose husbands were Masons. It also had this desideratum, that the wives of Masons did not find fault if the brothers were a little late, providing they shared the pleasures of the occasion; so that he could, from experience, heartily commend their efforts in the direction of their temple work. He again thanked them, and could insure any of the brethren a hearty reception should they ever come to any of the Sheffield lodges.

Bro. Butler then clearly explained a rather objectionable clause in the Temple Association Article, and 180 shares were at once taken up, making 1500 shares already taken.

Bros. Doddrell and Syer also responded, and then "The Initiates" were toasted, and returned thanks.

The Worshipful Master responded to an enthusiastic reception of his health, and soon after the lodge was closed.

The harmony was complete, a string band, formed of the choir, played the slow movement in Haydn's "Surprise" grandly. Bro. Walker also played a solo on the 'cello very finely; in fact, the social board of the lodge is more remarkable for its music than for its respect to the time-honoured tradition of the Craft, at least as far as the toasts are concerned.

MIRFIELD.—Mirfield Lodge (No. 1102).—The last regular meeting was held on Friday, the 2nd inst., in the New Masonic Hall, King-street. Bro. Walter Bailey, W.M., presided, assisted by Bros. F. H. Hare, S.W.; W. Wilson, J.W.; Lang, P.M., Treas.; F. J. Crowther, Sec.; J. Womack, S.D.; T. W. Sproule, J.D.; W. Beaumont, as I.G.; W. Booth, Tyler; J. H. Simpson, I.P.M.; J. K. Ibberson, P.M., Prov. G. Reg.; John Barker, P.M., P.P.G.S. of W.; T. B. Fairclough, P.M.; Joshua Milner, Stwd.; and W. H. Wilkinson.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, and the revised by-laws were submitted, which, on the motion of Bro. John Barker, seconded by Bro. J. K. Ibberson, were accepted and confirmed. After a candidate for initiation had been proposed, the lodge was closed, and the brethren sat down to a slight refreshment under the presidency of the W.M.

MANCHESTER.—St. David's Lodge (No. 1147).—The first meeting since Bro. Christopher Wren's installation took place on Thursday, the 8th inst., in the Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, when there were present Bros. Christopher Wren, W.M.; R. Vawser, I.P.M.; J. H. Dalgleish, S.W.; T. R. Peel, P.M., P.P.G.D., acting J.W.; Ishmael Davies, P.M., Treas.; J. E. Ashton, Sec.; A. P. Dunkerley, S.D.; T. C. Olney, J.D.; M. Fairweather, P.M.; Thos. Elliott, P.M., Steward; T. Gibson, P.M.; J. Evan Roberts, P.M.; Frank Griffin, P.M.; Robt. Chadwick, P.M.; E. A. Locke, and S. J. Naphtali. Visitors: Bros. J. Lowndes, P.M. 999, P.P.G.S. of W.; C. Reid, 1633; J. Bowers, 1730; W. H. Ballard, 350; J. Acton, 163; and R. R. Lisenden, P.M. 317, Prov. G. Steward.

The lodge was opened in the usual manner, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed. The ballot was taken for Mr. E. Llewellyn Jones, and was announced favourable, after which Bro. E. A. Locke was raised to the Third Degree by Bro. Vawser, I.P.M. Mr. Jones having been initiated by the W.M., and there being no further business, the lodge was closed.

The brethren subsequently supped together, after which the usual toasts were proposed.

Bro. T. Elliott, P.M., who proposed the toast of "The Initiate, Bro. Jones," spoke of the high estimation in which his father, the late Bro. Ellis Jones, P.P.G.T., was held, not only in the St. David's Lodge, but in the lodges in and around Manchester, and trusted his son would worthily follow in his father's footsteps, and attain an equally exalted position.

Bro. Jones returned thanks in appropriate terms.

"The Health of Bro. Locke, the Newly-raised Brother," was also proposed and responded to.

In proposing "The Health of Bro. Ishmael Davies, P.M. and Treas.," Bro. Frank Griffin, P.M., referred in feeling terms to his long illness, which had, unfortunately, prevented his attending the lodge at the last two meetings.

Bro. Griffin congratulated him on his recovery, and expressed his pleasure in presenting him with an 18 carat gold Treasurer's jewel, as a token of the esteem in which he was held by them all, trusting he might be spared for many years to wear it amongst them.

The jewel, which was fully described in a previous notice of this lodge, was then pinned on Bro. Davies' breast, and in returning thanks for the same, that brother spoke of the many kindnesses he had received from the brethren, and assured them all he should highly value their handsome present.

NORTH WOOLWICH.—Henley Lodge (No. 1472).—The installation meeting of the above popular lodge took place on Tuesday, the 6th inst., at the Three Crowns Hotel, Bro. West's comfortable and commodious establishment. Bro. J. Paul, W.M., opened the lodge, and the minutes of the previous meeting having been confirmed, the ballot was taken for Messrs. R. G. Christopher and J. Millard, and proved unanimous. Bros. Harnwell and Bond were then passed, Bro. J. Savage, S.W., W.M. elect, was then presented to the W.M. to receive at his hands the benefits of installation, and in due course he was placed in the chair of K.S. He invested his officers as follows: Bros. J. Paul, I.P.M.; C. H. Canning, S.W.; C. Wood, J.W.; Dr. W. Vance, P.M., Treas.; C. Jolly, P.M., Sec.; A. Knight, S.D.; C. Powlings, J.D.; B. Curtis, I.G.; H. Vallom, D.C.; J. Glading, A.D.C.; C. Lewis, P.M., P.G. Stwd. Essex, and J. Delo, Stewards; and J. Gaskill, P.M. 1076, Tyler. Bro. Paul then gave the addresses and concluded the ceremony, for which he was heartily congratulated by all present. He was accorded a vote of thanks, the same to be inscribed on the minutes of the lodge, and also a testimonial, of the value of five guineas, for which he feelingly returned thanks. The W.M. began his reign by initiating the candidates as above in grand style; he was both word perfect and impressive, and gave a good guarantee of what the working under him would be in the future. The new officers were careful and correct, and we feel sure the effect created by this effort will not soon or easily be forgotten.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren at once took train to the Galleons Hotel, Royal Albert Docks, where a banquet awaited them. The dining hall of the establishment was tastefully decorated with flags, flowers, and evergreens, and presented a pleasing appearance; the viands and wines were of the best; while the perfect service attested the care and consideration of the worthy manager, especially as this was his maiden effort at the Galleons in Masonic catering.

There were 58 present, and among them, and not above enumerated, were Bros. J. Elder, P.M.; W. West, P.M., P.P.S.G.D. Herts; A. J. Manning, P.M. (Hon.), P.P.S.G.D. Essex; J. Ives, P.M. (Hon.); A. T. Ives, P.M.; W. Richardson, S. Bow, T. Brightmore, T. Neasbey, W. Turvey, F. Langton, C. Hefford, A. Burton, R. Caley, W. McGuinness, T. A. Reeve, C. Davidson, M. Kaul, W. Ball, S. Woodlands, and G. Weaver, all of the lodge; Capt. W. Weston, P.M. 1536, P.P.S.G.D. Kent; G. Kennedy, P.M. 1536, P.G. Stwd. Kent; J. Aillud, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C. Kent; G. Spinks, P.M. 1536, P.P.G. Std. Br. Kent; Col. Vansittart, 1536; W. Temple, W.M. 1076; R. J. Naylor, W.M. 700; F. Burstow, S.W. 212; W. Webber, J.W. 700; G. Westfield, J.W. 2188; C. Ackland, 205; Qr.-Master Rankin, 1536; C. March, S.D. 1360; H. Stewart, 913; J. Loverage, 615; Beadle, 2188; W. Wren, 687; J. Hemmings, S.W. 1287; Brown, and others.

The usual loyal and Grand Lodge toasts having been honoured,

Bro. Paul rose to propose the toast of "The W.M." He said the time had then arrived when it was his duty to propose the toast, and to congratulate the lodge upon having so popular a Master as Bro. Savage at its head. If ever a brother had the interest of Freemasonry at heart it was Bro. Savage, who from the day of his initiation had been unremitting in his attention and desire to achieve the proud position he now occupied. He (Bro. Paul) felt it to be an honour—a sentiment, he felt sure, every brother in the lodge participated in—to have installed so excellent a Master as Bro. Savage into the chair that day, and also that he was succeeded by so good a worker. He wished Bro. Savage a prosperous year of office, and asked them to drink the toast in bumpers.

The Worshipful Master, in reply, said the time had also arrived for him when, having achieved, after some seven or eight years of hard work, the position he had from the first aspired to, to suitably thank the brethren for their great and unvaried kindness, but, although the time had arrived, it seemed to him that he was now as totally unprepared to do so adequately as at the first. The kind remarks that had fallen from Bro. Paul would, if he deserved them, make him extremely happy, but there was one thing they might depend upon, and that was, if he did not at that moment deserve them, he would try to do so, that at the end of his year of office the brethren would endorse every word uttered on his behalf by Bro. Paul, and further, that he should strive to retain their appreciation as long as he lived.

The next toast was that of "The Installing Officer," and in putting it the Worshipful Master said that those who were present at the working of the ceremony must have been pleased at the able and impressive manner in which Bro. Paul had performed that ceremony. It was only a continuation of the splendid services rendered by Bro. Paul to the lodge during the past year, for not one single lodge night had he been missing from his place as their Master. Bro. Paul had also worked hard at the lodge of instruction, where he (the W.M.) and others in that lodge had gained their Masonic knowledge, and now that he had taken his seat on the left of the chair the brethren had determined that he should not take his seat unrewarded. The W.M. then pinned a handsome P.M.'s jewel on Bro. Paul's breast, and wished him many years of health and prosperity to wear it, not for its intrinsic value, but as a token of the regard and esteem of the brethren, and that in years to come his children might speak with pride of their father as a W.M. of the Henley Lodge.

Bro. Paul thanked them for the kind reception of his name, and also for their handsome gift, which he should ever treasure as a souvenir of the happy year of office just completed. Most Masons were ambitious, for if they were not they could never achieve distinction, nor would they have so many good Masons as they had, not only around them, but in the Craft generally. They were told in one of the sections that "a Mason must never despair;" he had never done so, and now that he had arrived at the

height of his ambition, he could only again and again thank them for their genial and hearty support.

The toast of "The Initiates" followed, and in response Bro. Christopher made a clever and neat speech. Bro. Millard also responded.

The Worshipful Master, in proposing the toast of "The Past Masters," spoke highly of their services to the lodge, and their ardour in the cause of the Craft; and the Past Masters severally responded.

Bros. Weston, Kenneday, Vansittart, Burstow, Hemmings, Spinks, Wren, and Westfield severally responded for "The Visitors," "The Officers," "Masonic Press," and the Tyler's toast concluded the proceedings. Bro. W. Richardson presided at the piano, and some good selections, both vocal and instrumental, were rendered by Bros. Burton, C. T. Lewis, Rankin, Canning, Neatbey, and Delo. The whole affair was thoroughly Masonic and most delightful, and will long be remembered with pleasure by those privileged to be present.

PLUMSTEAD.—United Military Lodge (No. 1536).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge took place on Friday, the 9th inst., at the Lord Raglan Assembly Rooms, Burrage-road. Bro. W. Maule, I.P.M., through the unavoidable absence of Bro. Gooding, W.M., who was laid up, officiated as W.M., assisted by the following officers and brethren: Bros. Capt. W. Weston, P.M., P.P.S.G.D.; Capt. G. Spinks, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br.; W. Maule, P.M.; T. Ovenden, P.M.; C. Jolly, P.M. (Hon.); Colonel Vansittart, Lieut. T. Cooper, S.W.; J. Gee, Treas.; A. Ware, Sec.; C. Lawson, W.M. 913; H. Syer, P.M. 13; T. Smith, P.M. 232; J. Gould, P.M. 1685; E. Wren, P.M. 153; J. Blower, 1331; and some 50 of the brethren of the lodge.

The lodge having been opened, and the minutes of the previous meeting confirmed, the ballot was taken for Sergeant George McLaughlin, and proving unanimous, that gentleman was duly initiated. Bro. Hannaford was then raised, the work being splendidly done by the W.M., and with the exception of the S.W., quite a scratch crew of officers, a grand ball at the artillery barracks having counter attractions which were irresistible. Bro. H. Shaw, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br., having just departed this life, the Secretary was instructed to write to Mrs. Shaw, and assure her of the great sympathy of the brethren in her affliction. Bro. Weston then presented the lodge with photographs of the Masters, Past Masters, and officers (in collars and aprons) of the Bulwer Lodge at Cairo, and the Wayfarers Lodge at Malta, handsomely framed and mounted, the same to be hung on the walls of the lodge, for which he was accorded a hearty vote of thanks, especially as several of the officers were recognised by their gallant comrades present.

Supper having been enjoyed, and the brethren all charged, the Worshipful Master gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, and then that of "The Earl Amherst, Grand Master of the Province of Kent." This was followed by "The Health of Bro. Eastes, D.G.M., and the rest of the Prov. Grand Officers, Present and Past," and both were drunk enthusiastically; and here we may say that we trust the day will be long before these honoured toasts are dropped at the social board in the Province of Kent.

Bro. Weston in responding, assured them that both Earl Amherst and Bro. Eastes would be glad to hear that they were not forgotten at that lodge. He should have the honour of meeting his lordship at Maidstone on the 23rd inst., at the Charity Commission meeting, and was only sorry that their girl candidate's case came too late for consideration. He hoped she would be successful at the next election. For himself, he thanked them most heartily.

Bro. Spinks regretted that they had in the person of the late Bro. Shaw lost a Prov. Grand Officer of the Province from among them by death. That lodge had been honoured, perhaps more than many of the lodges in the district, by the number of collars conferred upon its Past Masters by their Grand Master, and they were proud of it, and of a Grand Master who periodically honoured the lodge as he did. With reference to Bro. Shaw, many of them knew that Bro. Shaw was, or had been in his time, a most energetic Mason, who had taken high honour, not only in the Craft but in the Arch and Mark, and was respected in life, and regretted in death, by many Masons in the district. He and they, he felt sure, were sorry for the calamity that had befallen him, and also for his untimely death.

Bro. Weston re-echoed the sentiments of Bro. Spinks, and trusted Bro. Shaw had gone to the Grand Lodge above.

Bro. Maule returned thanks for "The Health of the W.M.," and assured the brethren that Bro. Gooding must have been very ill to have kept away from that meeting.

Bro. Moulds having responded for "The Past Masters,"

Bro. Weston said he would take that opportunity to thank, in the name of the lodge, the members of the Inhabitants Lodge, at Gibraltar, who, for the last two years had sent him their votes for the use of that, the United Military Lodge, and he felt that their great kindness should be publicly acknowledged through the columns of the *Freemason*. It showed that Freemasonry was universal, and he felt sure that the lodge would cordially agree with him in tendering their brethren at Gibraltar their most hearty thanks.

Bro. Syer, in responding for "The Visitors," said the last time he had the honour of visiting the lodge their esteemed brother (S.W.) was the recipient of good tidings, and it was said that Bro. Cooper would not be a frequent visitor, as his duties would take him far away. They could therefore understand that it gave him great pleasure to be present that night and again meet so excellent a brother as Bro. Cooper. He congratulated the lodge on its Master, who was a splendid worker. He had lately visited the Pattison Lodge, and witnessed a great Masonic treat, and while, in his own lodge, they had a splendid Master, yet by visiting lodges they saw something that improved their knowledge of Masonry, and brought them into touch with one another. He cordially thanked them for their hearty reception of the toast, and heartily invited them to the next meeting of his lodge, the Union Waterloo.

Bro. Cooper responded for "The Officers," and expressed the pleasure it gave him to be once more with them. He was, as they were aware, a few miles from Woolwich, but now that the trooping season was over he hoped to be with them oftener. It was a great pleasure to find that there were so many young Masons ready to take the place of those officers who could not attend, and that he attributed to the excellent teaching of Bro. Maule at their lodge of instruction.

On account of the death of Bro. Shaw there was no singing.

FRIZINGTON.—Arlecdon Lodge (No. 1660).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, the 7th inst. Bro. G. Lowden, W.M., presided, supported by his officers, viz.: Bros. J. J. Lace, P.G. Steward, I.P.M.; J. Routledge, S.W.; H. Hartley, J.W.; Geo. Dalrymple, P.P.J.G.W., P.M., Treas.; B. Craig, P.M., Sec.; W. J. Harvey, S.D.; J. Wilkinson, J.D.; A. Cross, I.G.; D. Tolson, Tyler; W. Robinson, J. Peel, Thos. Sowrey, W. Simon, A. Moordaff, and others.

The minutes were read and confirmed. One candidate was balloted for and initiated, and three joining members. One brother was passed and another raised, and with one proposition and other general business the lodge was closed and the brethren adjourned to refreshments.

TEDDINGTON.—Sir Charles Bright Lodge (No. 1793).—The installation of this prosperous lodge was held at the Clarence Hotel on the 29th ult. Among those present were Bros. Warner, W.M.; Finch, S.W.; Porter, J.W.; J. Piller, P.M., Treas.; R. Forge, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., Sec.; Hill, S.D.; Simmonds, S.D.; Barnes, I.G.; Ruffe, Org.; Bonella, Steward; Gomme, D.C.; C. Stevens, P.P.G. Org., P.M.; T. C. Walls, P.P.G.S.B., P.M.; R. H. Thrupp, D.P.G.M., P.A.G.D.C., and J. F. Woodward, P.G.S.B., P.G. Sec. (Honorary Members); Deeks, W. Middleweek, F. Chandler, W. Smith, J. Barnes, J. Middleweek, J. Hall, E. Hall, Playford, Gilbert, Tyler, and others.

Among the visitors were Bros. R. F. Gould, P.G.D. England; Elsam, P.P.G.D.C. Surrey; W. Beard, P.G. D.C.; J. Maples, P.M. 144; Webb, P.M. 174; Barnett, P.M. 185; Scattergood, P.M. 752; Latreille, P.M. 1260; Harvey, P.M. 1314; Gardner, P.M. 2012; Dare, S.W. 2032; Scantlebury, S.D. 975; Custance, J.D. 975; Mason, J.D. 2150; Eydmann, 780; Brown, 1076; Blyth, 1139; Treadwell, 1238; Scrivener, 1490; Spooner, 1656; Ambrose, 2032; Luscombe, and others.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Messrs. T. Playford and G. B. Howell were impressively initiated by the W.M. It was resolved unanimously that the sum of five guineas be voted from the lodge funds to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, and placed on the list of Bro. Finch. The report of the Audit Committee having been received and adopted, Bro. Finch, W.M. elect, was duly installed by the W.M. into the chair of K.S. The following investments then took place: Bros. Porter, S.W.; Simmonds, J.W.; Piller, Treas.; Forge, Sec.; Barnes, S.D.; Gomme, J.D.; Bonella, I.G.; Ruffe, Org.; Middleweek, D.C.; T. C. Walls and Dines, Stwds.; and Gilbert, Tyler.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet. The loyal and Craft toasts having been honoured,

Bro. Gould, P.G.D., responded on behalf of "The Grand Officers." Having dealt exhaustively with the toast, he went on to express the gratification his first visit to No. 1793 had given him. He complimented the W.M., the I.P.M., and the officers generally for the admirable manner in which they had performed their respective duties. He said it had also greatly pleased him to hear how financially prosperous their lodge was. In his concluding remarks he expressed a hope that he might have the pleasure of visiting them again.

In responding to the toast of "The Provincial Grand Officers," Bro. Thrupp said that they would all be pleased to hear that Bro. Sir Francis Burdett had almost quite recovered from his recent severe illness, and that the lodges and chapters in the province would ere long see him amongst them in his usual health and spirits. Personally, he was delighted with his visit to their lodge that day. If gave him unqualified pleasure to witness the great progress that they had made, not only financially, but in their working. In conclusion, he paid a high compliment to the Installing Officer, Bro. Warner.

"The Health of the W.M." was warmly proposed by the I.P.M.

Bro. Finch having briefly replied, gave "The Initiates."

Bros. Playford and Howell having acknowledged the compliment, "The Health of the Visitors" followed.

Bro. Elsam, in reply, complimented the lodge upon its increasing prosperity. He had not visited the lodge for four years, and he was gratified to witness the admirable working of all the officers. The Sir Charles Bright Lodge held, and deservedly so, a high position in the province, and if they continued to improve as they had done, their lodge would equal the best lodge in Middlesex.

Bro. Beard and others also replied in equally complimentary terms.

"The Installing Officer, Past Masters, and Treasurer and Secretary" was next proposed. The W.M. apologised to the brethren for amalgamating the three toasts, but said that the lateness of the hour precluded him from doing otherwise. The lodge owed a great deal to their founders—Bros. Forge, Piller, Walls, and Stevens. Their merits and working capabilities had been sung so often by others, that he felt utterly incompetent to add anything more than to express a hope that those worthy brethren would be spared to still further enhance the prosperity of No. 1793. Bro. Warner, an old initiate of their lodge, had worked well and worthily for two consecutive years as W. Master, and was worthy of the highest praise.

This toast having been ably responded to, "The Health of the Officers" terminated the proceedings.

An excellent programme of music was provided by Bros. Ruffe, Hill, E. and J. Hall, and C. Stevens. The proceedings throughout reflected the highest credit upon the executive.

LEEDS.—Prudence Lodge (No. 2069).—The monthly meeting of this popular and flourishing lodge, on Saturday, the 10th inst., was rendered more than usually interesting from the fact that the fixture took place on the 25th anniversary of the marriage of the Prince and Princess of Wales. This auspicious circumstance was naturally seized upon by the W.M. and brethren as a snitable occasion for testifying to the M.W.G.M. and his illustrious Consort the devotion, affection, and loyalty which animate the Masons of Leeds in general, and of brethren of 2069 in particular. The meeting took place at the Masonic Hall, Great George-street, and there were present Bros. Tudor Trevor, P.M., W.M.; Watson, P.M., S.W.; Charles Middleton, J.W.; Dr. Cartwright Smyth, G. Chap. Eng., as Chap.; S. Scott Young, Sec.; J. J. Fretwell, S.D.; T. Atkinson, J.D.; R. Abbott, Treas.; Butterworth, I.G.; Howarth, Org.

INSTRUCTION.

B. S. Bailey, Stwd.; C. L. Mason, I.P.M., P.P.G. Treas.; R. Craig, P.M., P.P.G.D.; Rev. J. H. Evans, Smithson, H. B. Abbott, and others. The visitors included Bros. José Rickard, W.M. 304; Carter, W.M. 1042; Bradford, W.M. 1211; Scarth, P.M. 289; Moore, Hollis, Tomlinson, Smith, and others.

Two names having been put before the lodge as those of gentlemen suitable for initiation into the Order, the W.M. then addressed the brethren present as follows: I have asked the W.M.'s of the Leeds lodges to attend here today, the Silver Wedding day of the Prince of Wales, for the purpose of sending to him a united expression of loyalty on this memorable occasion. I recollect the marriage which took place at St. George's Chapel, Windsor, 25 years ago very well; I also remember the day when their Royal Highnesses made their public entry into London. Some one has said that to look at the Princess of Wales is to love her, and certainly when the English nation looked at H.R.H. they loved her, and have loved her ever since. The poet laureate has most happily expressed the mind of the English nation on that occasion when he addressed the splendid ode, of which one verse was as follows:—

Sea king's daughter, as happy as fair,
Beautiful bride of a blissful heir,
Bride of the heir of the kings of the sea.
Oh! joy to the people and joy to the throne,
Come to us, love us, and make us your own,
For Saxon or Dane or Norman, we,
Teutons or Celt, or whatever we be,
We are each of us Danes in our welcome to thee—
Alexandra!

Yes, from the first moment of her arrival to the present we have loved the Princess, our future Queen. We have loved her not only for her gentle part, her majestic mien, not merely for her sweet disposition, but in good truth for her consistent and simple goodness, for her devotion to her husband and children, and her adopted country; and I am sure of this, that the hopes that were entertained at that Royal marriage, which took place 25 years ago, have been realised. We, as loyal Masons, happily meeting on this day, unite in our expression of gratitude to the G.A.O.T.U. for having preserved the Royal pair for so long. It is a long time in our life, and it is matter for thankfulness that during that period no serious domestic calamity has clouded their wedded life. As to H.R.H., he is in every sense of the word a most popular man, and in every sense of the word he has been a true Mason. I think it would be sadly wanting in us if we allowed this day to pass without sending some expression of our feelings. As Lodge Prudence happened to meet on the actual day of the celebration, it struck me as a happy thought to send a united Masonic greeting from Leeds, and I am extremely pleased to know that my proposition meets with the unqualified approval of the members of the other seven Leeds lodges. I propose to send the following telegram to the Most Worshipful Grand Master: "The W.M.'s, officers, and brethren of the eight Masonic lodges of Leeds, in open lodge assembled, under the banner of Lodge Prudence, No. 2069, most respectfully and loyally greet H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., and the Princess of Wales, on this the celebration of your silver wedding-day, and most earnestly pray T.G.A.O.T.U. to bless your Royal Highnesses for many years to come. Signed, Tudor Trevor, W.M. 2069." Bros. Scarth, P.M. 289; José Rickard, W.M. 304; Bradford, W.M. 1211; and Carter, W.M. 1042, all cordially supported the motion, whilst Bro. Dr. Cartwright Smyth, in happy terms, added his voice to the general chorus of congratulations, and the motion having been adopted with great enthusiasm, it was at once despatched by telegraph to Sir Fras. Knollys for presentation.

The lodge shortly afterwards closed, and high tea was partaken of by a large number of brethren and visitors.

In the speeches sympathetic allusion was made by the W.M. and others to the sad bereavement which has befallen many noble families in Europe by the death of the German Emperor, who was a friend and patron of the Craft.

CATERHAM VALLEY.—Caterham Lodge (No. 2095).—A regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Drill Hall, on Saturday, the 10th inst. The lodge having been opened, Bro. Joseph Edward Street was unanimously elected to be W.M. for the ensuing year, and Bro. F. A. Guimaraens unanimously re-elected Treasurer. Bro. Bateman, 95, was admitted as a joining member, and Mr. Ernest Mansell (son of the Secretary of the lodge) having been initiated, the lodge was closed. The brethren afterwards dined at the Railway Hotel, where an excellent dinner was served by the manager, Bro. Preston.

HAMPTON COURT.—Cama Lodge (No. 2105).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Saturday, the 10th inst., at the Mitre Hotel, when there were present Bros. J. Read, P.M., P.P.G. Org., W.M.; Major Geary, as S.W.; Dharwar, J.W.; T. Toore, P.M. 720, Sec.; S. Hague, M.D., S.D.; A. Quicke, B.B., J.D.; Caron, I.G.; Harrison, Tyler; C. B. Cooper, W.M. 449, as I.P.M.; Stuart, Gilham, Postans, Birkin, and Manlove. Visitor: Bro. W. Warner, 148.

The lodge having been opened, the ballot was taken for Messrs. Norrington and Smart, which proved favourable. Bros. Stuart, Gilham, and Postans were raised to the Degree of M.M., and Bros. Birkin and Manlove passed to the Degree of F.C. Messrs. Norrington and Smart were initiated into the Order. All the ceremonies were performed by the W.M.

Nothing further offering, the lodge was closed, and the W.M. and brethren adjourned to banquet, served in Bro. Sadler's best style.

A few toasts followed, and one in particular was drunk in solemn silence, to the memory of the late Emperor of Germany as late Grand Master of the German Masons. At 8.30 a very pleasant evening was brought to a close.

The Princess Henry of Battenberg has graciously consented to lay the foundation-stone of the Queen Victoria Jubilee Almshouses for Widows in Greenwich-road, Greenwich, which will form an addition to the almshouses erected in 1809 to commemorate the Jubilee of George III. The ceremony is appointed to take place on the 23rd June next.

ROBERT BURNS LODGE (No. 25).—A meeting was held at the Bedford Head Hotel, Maiden-lane, Covent Garden, on Friday, the 9th inst. Present: Bros. Blums, W.M.; Deaton, S.W.; Harvey, J.W.; Blundell, S.D.; Poulton, J.D.; Gordon, I.G.; Baker, Preceptor; G. Deaton, Sec.; and F. Deaton.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge opened in the Second Degree. Bro. F. Deaton, having answered the usual questions leading to the Third Degree, was entrusted. The lodge opened in the Third Degree, and the ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. F. Deaton being candidate. The lodge closed in the Third and Second Degrees. The W.M. rose for the first and second times, and it was proposed by Bro. Baker, and seconded by Bro. Harvey, that Bro. G. Deaton be W.M. for the ensuing week—carried unanimously. The officers were appointed in rotation. The W.M. rose for the third time, and all Masonic business being ended, the lodge was closed.

JUSTICE LODGE (No. 147).—A meeting was held on Thursday, the 8th inst., at the Brown Bear, High-street, Deptford, when there were present Bros. Williams, W.M.; Vatsky, S.W.; Dixon, J.W.; Speight, P.M., Sec.; H. G. Pitt, S.D.; Penrose, J.D.; Sturdee, I.G.; Hutchings, P.M., Preceptor; Dandridge, Jenkins, Priest, Downer, Vornberger, Box, Emblin, and Hick.

The lodge was opened in the First Degree, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The usual questions leading to the Second Degree were then answered by Bro. Downer. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the ceremony of passing rehearsed. The lodge was called off, and, on resuming, the usual questions leading to the Third Degree were very ably answered by Bro. Dandridge. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and the ceremony of raising rehearsed. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree, and Bro. C. Vornberger, 548, was elected a member. An application was received from a brother in distress, who was relieved, and all business being ended, the lodge was closed.

ZETLAND LODGE (No. 511).—A meeting was held at the York and Albany, Regent's Park, on Monday, the 12th inst., when there were present Bros. S. T. Hills, 1310, W.M.; H. J. Hazel, 1693, S.W.; H. Bangs, 1693, 2202, 2246, J.W.; C. A. Iiter, 1897, 2191, 2246, S.D. and Sec.; J. Bartlett, 1637, J.D.; C. W. Rex, 2202, I.G.; J. Kerr, P.M. 179, 2202, acting Preceptor; F. J. Holden, 2202, 2246; and E. C. Mulvey, 179, 788, 2202, W.M. 2246.

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. Iiter acting as candidate. Bro. Bartlett answered the questions leading from the First to the Second Degree, and was examined and entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the ceremony of passing rehearsed. The lodge resumed to the First Degree, and it was proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously, that the S.W. be the W.M. for the ensuing week; officers in rotation. The Secretary proposed, and the J.W. seconded, that a vote of thanks be recorded on the minutes to Bro. J. Kerr, P.M., for his services as Preceptor—carried unanimously. Nothing further offering for the good of Freemasonry, the lodge was closed.

PRINCE FREDERICK WILLIAM LODGE (No. 753).—A meeting was held on Tuesday, the 6th inst., at the Eagle Tavern, Clifton-road, Maida Hill, W. Present: Bros. J. H. Wood, W.M.; C. Coleman, S.W.; J. Dillon, J.W.; F. G. Baker, P.M., Treas. and Preceptor; W. J. Stratton, Sec. (pro tem.); J. H. Chapman, S.D.; W. Chapple, J.D.; L. H. Nerwich, I.G.; R. T. Redfearn, Stwd.; J. Millier, P.M. 173; S. J. Humfress, P.M. 733; J. W. Cuff, P.M. 733; H. W. Eastwood, A. G. Boswell, E. White, J. W. Mantelov, H. Wills, and C. J. Biorn.

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. Mantelov, having answered the questions leading to the Third Degree, was duly entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and the ceremony of raising rehearsed, Bro. Mantelov being candidate. The 2nd and 3rd Sections of this Lecture were then worked by the Preceptor, assisted by the brethren. The lodge was closed down, and the 1st Section of this Lecture worked by the Preceptor, assisted by the brethren. It was proposed and seconded that the S.W., Bro. C. Coleman, be elected W.M. for the ensuing week—carried unanimously. All Masonic business being ended, after "Hearty good wishes," the lodge was closed.

RANELAGH LODGE (No. 834).—A meeting was held on Friday, 9th inst., at the Six Bells Hotel, Queen-street, Hammer-smith. Present: Bros. H. Oliver, W.M.; C. J. C. Walker, S.W.; W. G. Coat, J.W.; D. S. Long, Sec.; F. Wilkins, S.D.; F. Craggs, J.D.; and A. H. Kendal, I.G.

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. Wilkins being the candidate. Bro. Kendal having given proof of his proficiency, was entrusted. Lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the ceremony rehearsed. Lodge was closed in the Second Degree. After the usual formalities, Bro. Walker was unanimously elected W.M. for the next meeting, and the lodge was closed.

HYDE PARK LODGE (No. 1425).—A meeting was held on Monday, the 12th inst., at the Porchester Hotel, Leinster-place, Cleveland-square, Porchester-terrace, Paddington, W. Present: Bros. W. Death, W.M.; O. W. Battley, S.W.; J. Stagg, J.W.; G. Read, P.M. 511, 1767, Treas.; H. Dehane, P.M. 1543, P.P. S.G.D. Essex, Sec.; J. Corrie, S.D.; W. Rivers, 1543, J.D.; J. R. Allman, W.M. elect 1425, I.G.; H. Moss, Stwd.; W. H. Chalfont, P.M. 1425; Dr. Ingleby Mackenzie, M.B., P.M. 372, 309 (S.C.), P.P.S.G.W. Devon; J. H. Wood, P.M. 1642; H. Curtis, J. C. Conway, H. W. Eastwood, J. W. Belsham, C. J. Biorn, and R. P. J. Laundry. Bro. J. S. Kilvert, 733, was a visitor.

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. Conway being candidate. Bro. Moss was examined and entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the ceremony of passing was rehearsed. The brethren expressed great satisfaction at the result of Bro. Barfield's election as Grand Treasurer. After "Hearty good wishes," the lodge was closed.

ISLINGTON LODGE (No. 1471).—A meeting was held on Tuesday, the 13th inst., at the Cock Tavern, Highbury. Present: Bros. Kilsby, W.M.; A. Cox, S.W.; H. Hunt, J.W.; J. Petch, W.M. 1471, Treas.; C. M. Coxon, Sec.; Duncan, S.D.; Snelling, J.D.; Stevenson, I.G.; Hiller, Harding, and Sheffield.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was then rehearsed, Bro. Hiller being the candidate. Bro. Hiller answered the usual questions leading to the Second Degree, and retired. Lodge opened in the Second Degree, and the ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Harding being the candidate. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree, when Bros. Stevenson, Hiller, and Sheffield were unanimously elected members of the lodge. Bro. A. Cox was unanimously elected W.M. for the next meeting, and appointed his officers in rotation. The lodge was then closed.

A meeting of the Second Islington Masonic Charities Association was afterwards held; subscriptions were received; and a ballot taken for the 16th Life Governorship, which was allotted to Bro. J. Petch, W.M. 1471.

CHAUCER LODGE (No. 1540).—The usual weekly meeting was held on Tuesday, the 13th inst., at the Old White Hart Hotel, Boro', when there were present Bros. W. Roots, W.M.; W. Steele, S.W.; A. Austin, J.W.; S. Renaut, S.D.; H. J. Chapman, J.D.; Wright, I.G.; Walter Wingham, Preceptor; F. Croaker, Treas.; Fred H. Williams, Hon. Sec.; Cooper, and others.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Chapman having answered the usual questions, was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the ceremony of passing rehearsed, Bro. Chapman candidate. The ceremony of installation was rehearsed by Bro. Roots. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and resumed to the First Degree. The lodge was called off and on. The 2nd Section was worked by Bro. Roots. The W.M. rose for the first time, and the dues were collected. The W.M. rose for the second time, when it was proposed by Bro. Wingham, Preceptor, and seconded by the J.W., that the S.W. be W.M. for the ensuing week—carried unanimously. The S.W. returned thanks, and appointed his officers in rotation. The W.M. rose for the third time, and the Auditor's report was received. The lodge was then closed.

COVENT GARDEN LODGE (No. 1614).—The usual weekly meeting of this lodge of instruction was held at the Criterion, Piccadilly, S.W., on the 8th inst. Present: Bros. J. G. Wynn, W.M.; W. Hancock, S.W.; F. Kedge, J.W.; G. H. Reynolds, S.D.; F. M. Noakes, J.D.; W. Woodward, I.G.; W. Brindley, acting as Preceptor; G. Reynolds, Treas. and Sec.; T. E. Weeks, Tyler; W. Honeyball, R. E. Curson, A. L. Bullen, E. C. Mulvey, J. D. Graham, J. Laurence, H. Martin, A. Clark, G. F. Swan, A. E. Gladwell, J. Rowe, P. W. Rogers, C. Lambert, H. G. Marsden, W. Proudfoot, and G. C. Russell.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. W. Honeyball having offered himself as a candidate for initiation, the W.M. rehearsed the ceremony. Lodge opened in the Second Degree. Bro. W. Brindley worked the 1st Section of the Second Lecture. Lodge resumed to the First Degree. Bro. W. Honeyball answered the questions leading to the Second Degree. Bro. A. L. Bullen offering himself as a candidate to be passed to the Second Degree, was duly examined, entrusted, and retired. The W.M. rehearsed the Degree of F.C. Lodge resumed to the First Degree. Bro. W. Hancock worked the 1st Section of the First Lecture. On rising for the first time, Bro. G. S. Russell, S.W. 1399, P.G. Stwd. Oxon, was unanimously elected a joining member. On rising for the second time, Bro. W. Brindley proposed that Bro. W. Hancock, S.W., be elected W.M. for the ensuing week—seconded by the J.W., and carried unanimously. The W.M. elect appointed his officers in rotation. On rising for the third time, Bro. G. Reynolds informed the brethren that Bro. James Terry, the worthy Secretary of the R.M.B.I., had fixed Thursday, the 19th April, for rehearsing the ceremonies of consecration and installation, which would take place in the Masonic Temple. The annual supper would take place immediately afterwards, and he (Bro. G. Reynolds) trusted the members of the lodge of instruction would do their utmost to make the whole affair a success. Nothing further offering for the good of Freemasonry, the lodge was closed.

KENSINGTON LODGE (No. 1767).—A meeting was held on Tuesday, the 13th inst., at the Scarsdale Arms, Edwardes-square, Kensington, W. Present: Bros. Clare, W.M.; Weekes, S.W.; Keene, J.W.; Hubbard, S.D.; R. H. Williams, J.D.; Turner, I.G.; and Read, Preceptor.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Turner being candidate. The 1st and 2nd Sections of the Lecture were worked by the Preceptor, assisted by the brethren. Bro. Weekes was elected W.M. for the next meeting, and the officers were appointed in rotation. A vote of thanks was passed to Bro. Clare for the very able manner in which he carried out the duties of W.M. for the first time in this lodge. Lodge was then closed.

CREATON LODGE (No. 1791).—A meeting was held on Thursday, the 8th inst., at the Wheatsheaf Hotel, Goldhawk-road, Shepherd's Bush, W. Present: Bros. Jennings, W.M.; Hagan, S.W.; Moss, J.W.; Chalfont, P.M., Sec.; Josey, P.M., S.D.; P. Burton, P.M., J.D.; Craggs, I.G.; Cavers, Stwd.; J. Sims, P.M.; D. Stroud, P.M.; Spiegel, P.M.; Arnott, Woodward, Higginson, Whittell, Martineau, Head, Augsburg, and Gilbert.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes read and confirmed, after which the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Woodard being the candidate. Bro. Chalfont, P.M., then occupied the chair, and rehearsed the ceremony of passing, Bro. Martineau being the candidate. Bro. Jennings then re-occupied the chair. Lodge resumed to the First Degree, when the 1st and 2nd Sections were worked by the brethren. Bro. Hagan was elected W.M. for the next meeting. Bro. Jennings was congratulated by the brethren for the great improvement he had made in the ritual of the First Degree since his last rendering of that ceremony. "Hearty good wishes" having been recorded, the lodge was closed.

ST. AMBROSE LODGE (No. 1891).—A meeting was held at the Baron's Court Hotel, West Kensington, on Monday, the 12th inst. Present: Bros. S. Cochrane, P.M., W.M.; J. W. Morley, S.W.; J. Sims, P.M., J.W.; Jesse Collings, P.M., Preceptor; F. Craggs, Sec.; W. C. Williams, S.D.; J. Worth, J.D.; Barnikel, I.G.; R. H. Williams, P.M.; Hing, P.M.; J. Davies, Skar, Boul, Fayers, and Miller. Visitors: Bros. Townsend, P.M.; and Dresden.

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. Skar being the candidate. The W.M. gave the charge in his usual admirable manner. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree. The 2nd Section of this Lecture was worked by the Preceptor, assisted by the brethren, the "six grand periods" being rendered by Bro. J. Davies in an impressive style. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree. Bro. J. W. Morley was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. A Committee was elected to revise the by-laws. Bros. W. Dresden and W. D. Townsend, P.M., were elected members. The ballot for a Life-Subscribership of one of the Masonic Institutions will take place in a short time.

CHISWICK LODGE (No. 2012).—A meeting was held at the Windsor Castle Hotel, King-street, Hammersmith, on Saturday, the 10th inst. Present: Bros. J. Sims, P.M., W.M.; D. Stroud, P.M., S.W.; G. Gardner, P.M., J.W.; E. Ayling, P.M., Preceptor; A. Williams, Sec.; R. H. Wimpey, S.D.; F. Walden, J.D.; C. F. Hughes, I.G.; J. H. Wood, P.M.; M. Spiegel, P.M.; D. S. Long, J. Davies, F. Wilkins, C. Hopkins, Arledge, Clark, and J. Worth.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Lodge was opened in the Second and Third Degrees, and resumed to the First Degree. Bro. Arledge offering himself as a candidate for initiation, that ceremony was rehearsed by the W.M. Bro. Wilkins offering himself as a candidate for passing, was examined and entrusted. Lodge was resumed to the Second Degree, and the ceremony of passing rehearsed. Lodge was resumed to the First Degree, and, on the first rising, the dues were collected. The W.M. rose for the second time, and Bro. D. Stroud, P.M., was unanimously elected W.M. for the next meeting. Bro. Sims proposed, and Bro. Stroud seconded, the election of Bro. Wilkins as a member of the lodge—carried unanimously. The W.M. rose for the third time, and, after "Hearty good wishes," the lodge was closed.

THE ABBEY (WESTMINSTER) LODGE (No. 2030).—A meeting was held on Friday, the 9th inst., at the King's Arms, Buckingham Palace-road, S.W. Present: Bros. Coleman, W.M.; Hume, S.W.; Blades, J.W.; Boulton, P.M., Preceptor; Gibson, P.M., Treas.; Coughlan, Sec.; Baderly, S.D.; Richards, J.D.; Abbott, I.G.; Roberts, Harvey, Hayler, Robinson, Sutton, Edwards, Giffin, Shand, P.M.; and Stenson.

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. Hayler being the candidate. Bro. Roberts, 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 rehearsed, Bro. Roberts being the candidate. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree, and the Preceptor, assisted by the brethren, worked the 1st Section of this Lecture. Bro. Sutton, 1604, was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week. Nothing further offering, the lodge was closed.

ANNUAL BANQUET AND BALL OF THE RANELAGH LODGE, No. 834.

A banquet in connection with the above lodge was held on Friday evening, the 2nd inst., at the Criterion Restaurant, Piccadilly. Ladies were invited, and the brethren appeared (by special dispensation from the Grand Lodge) in full Masonic garb. A magnificent banquet was provided in the grand saloon by Messrs. Spiers and Pond, whose catering, it is needless to say, gave great satisfaction. The company having devoted their attention for a considerable time to the consumption of the many good things placed before them,

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER proposed the toast of "Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen and the Craft," followed by "The Health of the M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," both of which were received with due honours.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER, in excellent terms, proposed "The Health of the Ladies and Visitors," stating that the presence of so many distinguished brethren and ladies added much to the enjoyment of the proceedings.

This was replied to by Bro. HUBBARD, P.M. of the Lily Lodge, Richmond.

Bro. COFFIN, P.M., gave in appropriate terms "The Prosperity of the Ranelagh Lodge, and the Health of the W.M.," of whom he spoke in an eulogistic manner, and that toast having been duly acknowledged, "The Press" was proposed by the WORSHIPFUL MASTER, and responded to by Mr. J. G. LOCKS.

The Tyler's toast was then given in the usual terms.

During the banquet Bareham's band played some excellent selections. A ball was afterwards held in the Prince's Room, and a well-arranged programme of dances was led off by the W.M. Bros. Arthur and Hubert Cragg were most efficient M.C.'s, and did their best to secure the comfort of the guests.

Altogether the proceedings were of a most enjoyable nature, and fully upheld the reputation the Ranelagh Lodge has gained for the superior nature of its entertainments. The lodge is in a most flourishing condition. Bro. H. Purdue, P.M., is the Secretary, and a genial and energetic one he has proved himself to be.

Amongst the company present were Bro. H. W. Blake, W.M., Mrs. Blake, Mr. Turnham, Mrs. Turnham, Mrs. Pearce, Mr. E. Turnham, Miss Turnham, Bro. C. Dopson, I.P.M., Miss Dopson, C. Dopson, jun., Miss Bengeman, Mr. Lord, Mrs. Lord, Bro. J. L. Baker, P.M., Mrs. Baker, Mr. Gray, Mrs. Gray, Bro. Coffin, P.M., Mrs. Coffin, Bro. W. J. Coplestone, J.W., Mrs. Coplestone, Bro. J. Doncaster, S.W., Bro. W. J. and Mrs. Bowles, Bro. F. and Miss Craggs, Bro. B. Lucas, S.D., Mrs. Lucas, Mr. Jarvis, Mrs. Jarvis, Bro. H. Purdue, P.M., Sec., Bro. J. Sims, P.M., Miss Hallett, Bro. W. E. Purdue, Miss A. Ingram, Miss L. E. Purdue, Bro. J. G. Ingram, Mrs. Ingram, Bro. Wootten, Mrs. Wootten, Miss Wootten, Bro. Hubbard, P.M., Miss Hubbard, Miss Cooper, Bro. A. J. Hardwick, Mrs. Hardwick, Bro. H. Broadbridge, Miss Gaston, Bro. Edward Lucas, Mrs. Lucas, Mr. Baird, Miss Ogston, Mr. Fyfe, Mrs. Fyfe, Bro. R. Gerbert, Mrs. Gerbert, Bro. S. Segar, Mrs. Segar, Bro. H. Hewitt, Mrs. Hewitt, Mr. J. G. Locks, Mr. Wills, Mrs. Wills, Bro. W. W. Williams, Stwd., Mrs. Williams, Bro. W. E. Barker, Mrs. Barker, Bro. W. Icton, Mrs. Icton, Bro. H. Williams, I.G., Bro. A. Williams, D.C., Mrs. Williams, Mrs. Bull, Mrs. Foreman, Miss Florence Vause, Mr. George, and Mr. Dyson.

LADIES' NIGHT AT THE KINGSLAND LODGE, No. 1693.

The brethren of the above lodge had the pleasure of welcoming the members of the fairer sex and friends to their Masonic home at the Highbury Railway Hotel, on Tuesday last. The proceedings fully maintained the reputation established by the lodge at similar meetings in former years, affording considerable enjoyment to the large company assembled, and reflecting great credit on the executive responsible for the arrangements. The members did not, however, allow the gratification of welcoming the ladies to interfere with their Masonic work, for the lodge was opened early in the afternoon, and, as usual, the three Degrees were on the agenda.

Owing to the severe indisposition of Bro. G. F. Snook, W.M., he was reluctantly compelled to leave the lodge work in the hands of Bro. R. P. Forge, I.P.M., who performed the ceremonies with his accustomed ability. Bro. G. R. Dix having been raised to the Third Degree, Bros. W. Bishop, J. G. Wade, W. Dee, and C. F. Wood were passed to the Degree of Fellow Craft. Ballot was then successfully taken in favour of Mr. Thomas Birt, who was impressively initiated.

Other business having been transacted, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the reception rooms, where the ladies had assembled. After a short interval, the company—numbering about 120—sat down to an excellent banquet, served under the personal superintendence of the worthy host, Bro. Baker. The room presented an animated appearance, having been tastefully decorated with flags and emblems, and prettily illuminated with fairy lights. The flowers which adorned the tables were kindly supplied by Bro. Ball.

After dessert, "The Queen and the Craft" was duly honoured.

Bro. R. P. FORGE, I.P.M., then said the pleasing task had fallen upon him of submitting the next toast, and asking all present to drink to "The Better Health of the W. Master." They had all been extremely sorry to hear of the illness of Bro. G. F. Snook, W.M., who would not allow the evening to pass without coming amongst them, and he had done so at great disadvantage to his health. The company present would therefore join heartily in wishing Bro. Snook better health.

Bro. G. F. SNOOK, W.M., in reply thanked the I.P.M. for the kind manner in which he had submitted the toast, and the ladies and brethren for the spontaneous reception accorded it. Since his connection with the lodge the ladies, nights had been one of his greatest delights, and he hoped it would be many years before they were discontinued. He had eagerly looked forward to that evening since his installation as W. Master, and was very sorry his health had failed him, and had excluded him from fulfilling his duties in the lodge room. He would have been keenly disappointed had he been prevented from coming amongst them, and he had therefore attended against the doctor's

orders. He trusted that up to the present the ladies and brethren had enjoyed themselves, and he was sure the attention they would receive from the courteous M.C., Bro. R. P. Forge, I.P.M., and the excellent music which would be provided by Bro. W. Wright, the musical director, would meet with their approbation, and that they would spend a pleasant night. Although he should not be with them very long, he greeted them all with a hearty welcome, and hoped they would go away with a happy recollection of the 6th March, 1888.

"The Ladies" was next given by Bro. R. P. FORGE, and responded to by Mr. ELLIOTT, jun.

An adjournment was then made to the reception rooms, where some excellent music was provided by Bro. W. Wright, under whose direction the musical arrangements throughout the evening were carried out in a highly creditable manner. The banquet room having been prepared for dancing, the lengthy programme of dances was gone through in a spirited manner, Bro. R. P. Forge, I.P.M., performing the duties of M.C. in his usual genial and courteous manner.

The company separated at a late hour, having spent a very pleasant and happy evening, thanks to the excellent arrangements made for their comfort. Amongst others, the W.M. was supported by Miss Snook, Miss Yates, Bro. C. and Miss Townley, Bro. and Mrs. Job, Bros. J. C. Caseley, S.W.; C. Killick, P.M., P.P.G.S.B. Herts; W. T. H. Mayer, J.W.; Jas. Cooper, P.M., Treas.; A. W. Fenner, P.M., Sec.; H. C. Turner, S.D.; T. W. S. Holden, J.D.; W. Whittell, D.C.; J. Potter, A.D.C.; L. Simon and H. J. Hazel, Stwds.; Bro. and Miss Forge, Miss Sargent, Bro. and Miss W. Jones, Bro. C. L. Clark, Bro. H. Sprake, and Bro. Dickens.

PRESENTATION TO BRO. GEO. BROWN, P.M., PRECEPTOR OF ST. GEORGE'S LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, No. 140.

On Friday, the 17th ult., a large party of brethren, chiefly members of the St. George's, No. 140, Wickham, Pythagorean, New Cross, St. Paul's, Amity, and other lodges met at supper at the Portland Hotel, Greenwich, to do honour to our well-known and esteemed Bro. George Brown, P.M.

The chair was occupied by Bro. Dr. Dundas Grant, W.M. of 140, and the excellent repast supplied by the host, Bro. Boncey, was the subject of the greatest approbation.

After the usual Masonic toasts, the CHAIRMAN proposed "The Health of the Guest of the Evening." He pointed out the distinguished services rendered to the cause of Freemasonry in general and to the members of St. George's Lodge of Instruction, No. 140, in particular, by Bro. Geo. Brown during the ten years he had held office as Preceptor. It was not, however, in that capacity alone that he had deserved well of them, but as a Past Master and Secretary of the lodge, and as a genial, painstaking, and kindly Mason and man, he had drawn to himself the respect and love of all those brethren among whom he moved. Bro. Dr. Grant wished it to be distinctly understood that the gift which was to be presented was in no respect a compensation for the debt the subscribers felt themselves under to their brother, but only a recognition of the obligation, which was not by any means extinguished.

Before the toast was drunk Bro. Dr. H. W. ROBERTS, P.M., P.P.G.W. Middx., who, with Bros. Wm. Rowley, S.W. 1924, and F. W. Cash, W.M. 1559, had organised and carried the testimonial into execution, was called upon to give an account of the origin and progress of the event. He expressed the sincere pleasure it had given the promoters to find how readily their suggestion was taken up, and how glad the brethren showed themselves to subscribe to this testimonial. The gathering then assembled, large as it was, did not by a long way represent the number who felt their indebtedness to Bro. Brown, and who gladly seized that opportunity of acknowledging it.

Bro. Roberts then uncovered for Bro. Brown's acceptance a handsome writing table and chair, the former bearing the following inscription: "Presented to Bro. George Brown, P.M., by members of the St. George's Lodge of Instruction, as a mark of their esteem and appreciation of his valuable services as Preceptor. February 27, 1888."

The CHAIRMAN congratulated Bro. Brown, and conveyed the further good wishes of the brethren, who drank his health with enthusiastic acclamation.

Bro. BROWN, who was sincerely moved at this display of kindly feeling, expressed his sense of the inadequacy of his services to the great reward offered him, and the great pleasure it had given him to do the work of the lodge of instruction, as well as whatever Masonic work he undertook, "with his might." He hoped to be long permitted to use the conveniences afforded by his beautiful writing table for the prosecution of his labours in connection with the Craft. The prosperous condition of the lodge of instruction was a great source of pride and gratification to him, and he would always do his utmost to maintain it in its present satisfactory state.

The toast of "The Organisers, Bros. Roberts, Rowley, and Cash," was happily proposed by Bro. NUDING, P.M., cordially accepted, and felicitously responded to.

Among other toasts were those of "The Chairman" and of "Bro. W. Noak, the Grandfather of the St. George's Lodge."

Several excellent songs and recitations were contributed, and Bro. J. Shepherd, J.D. and Organist of the lodge, presided at the pianoforte with his usual skill. This very interesting presentation was the occasion of a particularly enjoyable evening, of which those present will long retain the happiest recollection.

JUVENILE FANCY DRESS BALL AT LEICESTER.

An exceptionally interesting feature in connection with the corporate celebration of the Silver Wedding of the Most Worshipful Grand Master was the holding of a highly successful juvenile fancy dress ball, when over 500 attended, by the invitation of the Mayor (Bro. T. Wright, P.M. 1391, P.P.G.R.) and the Mayoress, who received their youthful guests in the municipal buildings, the whole suite of spacious rooms being thrown open and filled by the delighted children. Amongst the various pleasing cos-

turnes may be mentioned the tastefully designed dress of a lady Freemason, as worn in character, by Miss Partridge, daughter of Bro. S. S. Partridge, P.A.G.D.C. Eng., the much respected D.P.G.M.

In the evening the Mayor and Mayoress held a grand reception, invitations having been accepted by nearly 1600, amongst whom were the whole of the brethren connected with the five local Craft lodges, who were clothed in the beautiful and diversified badges of the Order, by special dispensation of the R.W. Prov. G.M., Earl Ferrers.

ANNUAL BANQUET OF THE CORINTHIAN LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, No. 1382.

The above lodge met at Bro. W. Clarke's, George Hotel, Millwall Docks, E., on the 6th inst., to hear Bro. J. Delves, P.M., practise the installation ceremony, and afterwards to adjourn to the annual banquet. The following brethren were present: Bros. J. Delves, P.M.; W. Millington, P.M.; C. Searell, P.M.; J. Carnaby, P.M.; G. Sidders, P.M.; J. Morrison, P.M.; G. Smith, P.M.; R. Stewart, P.M.; J. Horrocks, W. Blois, W. Greatorex, J. Smith, R. Pitt, G. Blackburn, B. Barcham, C. Maddox, E. Penniston, C. Chatfield, F. Bassett, H. Hawkins, F. Raymond, J. Syme, J. Klein, S. Marsh, J. Hicks, T. Goble, C. Bridgeman, H. Hedger, E. Brindley, H. Garrad, T. Russell, G. Seage, G. Saunders, E. Stoneham, W. Clark, R. Allen, D. Russell, C. McLeod, G. Turton, A. Delves, R. Perry, F. Wright, J. Bullions, W. Morris, S. Hill, W.M. elect; W. Raiker, W.M.; and S. G. Bonner, Sec.

The lodge having been opened, the minutes were read and confirmed. The officers were Bros. J. Delves, W.M.; J. Carnaby, S.W.; J. Morrison, J.W.; Penniston, S.D.; Pitt, J.D.; and Saunders, I.G. Bro. Horrocks presided at the organ. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, after which Bro. J. Millington, P.M., presented Bro. Raiker, W.M., to the Installing Master to receive the benefits of installation. The Secretary then read the ancient charges and regulations, and the obligation of W.M. was repeated by Bro. W. Raiker, W.M., after which the lodge was opened in the Third Degree. All the brethren below the Degree of W.M. having retired, Bro. W. Raiker, W.M., was installed into the chair of K.S. The lodge was then resumed to the Second Degree. The first charge having been given, the lodge was resumed to the First Degree, and all the brethren were then admitted, and saluted the W.M. The W.M. then appointed the officers as follows: Bros. S. Hill, S.W.; J. Carnaby, P.M., as Treas.; S. G. Bonner, Sec.; Millington, P.M., as D.C.; E. Penniston, S.D.; R. Pitt, J.D.; G. Saunders, I.G.; J. Horrocks, Org.; B. Barcham and A. Delves, Stwds.; and R. Stewart, P.M., as Tyler.

It was proposed by Bro. BONNER, and seconded by Bro. W. MILLINGTON, P.M., that Bros. E. Bridgeman, 1515, and G. Bridgeman, of the mother lodge, become members, which was carried unanimously.

Bro. E. BRIDGEMAN suitably replied.

The correspondence was then read, and the lodge closed. After the banquet the loyal toasts were given and duly responded to by the brethren.

Bro. J. MILLINGTON, P.M., in proposing "The Health of the W.M.," said there had not been much work for the W.M. to do that evening; but he was always there, able and willing, and more especially he attended the lodge of instruction.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER, in replying, said for himself he thanked the brethren, and whilst he had found great help from the lodge of instruction, he hoped and should be pleased if the younger brethren would attend.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER then proposed the toast of the evening, saying, there was a toast which they all must notice that night, namely, that of "Bro. Delves." They all knew that he could do the installation ceremony with any brother in the lodge, and that he was always willing to do it when he was required.

Bro. J. DELVES, P.M., the Installing Master, in reply, said that he was suffering from a severe cold and neuralgia, but he had done the ceremony to the best of his ability, and he hoped in a fortnight he might carry out the duties of the evening better. If the way he had worked that evening pleased the brethren, it would greatly satisfy him.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER, proposed "The Health of the Host," and

Bro. W. CLARK, in a few chosen sentences, cheerfully replied, and thanked the brethren for the hearty manner in which they had drunk his health.

Bro. C. SEARELL, P.M., gave the Tyler's toast, and the brethren departed, after spending their usual "Happy Corinthian" meeting.

The following contributed to the enjoyment of the evening: Bros. F. Bassett, J. Horrocks, G. Sidders, P.M.; J. Smith, G. Smith, P.M.; J. Hicks, R. Pitt, G. Saunders, C. Bridgeman, Goble, and J. Bullions.

THE FREEMASONS AND THE POOR OF MARGATE.

On Wednesday, 22nd ult., the members of the Union Lodge gave their third annual dinner to the aged and deserving poor of Margate, in the Foresters' Hall, when 250 people of both sexes were entertained to a most substantial dinner. It is now two years since the excellent and praiseworthy movement was started by the members of the Union Lodge, and each year it has obtained increased support. The dinner consisted of roast beef, roast legs of mutton, roast veal, hams, and Christmas puddings, and there was abundance of everything, and the old people thoroughly enjoyed the good things provided. We may mention that the dinner and tea were again provided by Mr. J. Hume.

The Stewards were Bros. E. H. Rayner, H. Wootton, W. J. Clarke, H. Manning, J. Moore, J. Brighurst, B. L. Moore, W. Hearsey, and F. Stanley. The following brethren acted as carvers: Bros. F. W. Willett, Jones Lane, T. Goodyear, C. D. Smith, A. Wootton, J. Healing, J. Lewis, J. Fagg, F. Perry, G. H. Chexfield, J. Thurston, N. Tannenbaum, G. F. Brown, W. Crawford, E. Crocker, Bro. G. H. Akhurst, and the following ladies and brethren waited at the tables or otherwise assisted: Mrs. and Miss Willett, Bro. H. Wootton, Miss Goodyear, Miss Daunou, Miss Masu, Mrs. and Miss Healing, Mrs. Turner, Mrs.

Faker, Mrs. J. and Miss Lewis, Miss Clarke, Mrs. F. and Miss Perry, Miss Hume, Mrs. H. Manning, Bro. J. G. Henning, Mrs. J. Moore, Miss Brighurst, Mrs. Hearsey, Mrs. Thurston, Mrs. Tannenbaum, Miss Tannenbaum, Mrs. and Miss Akhurst, Miss Miles, Miss Staner, Mrs. F. Stanley, Mrs. B. L. Moore, Mrs. Miles, Mrs. Cousins, Bro. and Mrs. Jenkins, Bro. and Mrs. Phipps, Bros. W. and Bentley, jun., Col. Bamber, Leach Lewis, G. W. Speth, 2076; R. Redman, H. D. Reeve, Lenham, E. L. Dixon, and others.

The dinner tables were neatly adorned with potted plants and the hall was ornamented with evergreens worked into devices, and a quantity of pictures, and altogether had a very pleasing appearance. During the repast a selection of music was performed on the pianoforte by Mrs. Jones Lane, and after dinner an entertainment of vocal and instrumental music was given. Bro. Rev. Taylor Jones presided, and he was supported by the Mayor (Dr. Head), Bros. F. W. Willett, W.M.; W. Jones Lane, I.P.M.; the Rev. D. Lloyd, the Rev. J. James, the Rev. R. Allen, and others.

After dinner, Mr. PARKER, one of the aged guests, gave a vote of thanks to the members of the Union Lodge for the admirable dinner which had been provided.

This was honoured with three cheers.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER, in responding, said the members of the Union Lodge were fully repaid for what they had done, by seeing so many people there enjoying themselves. He dared say there were many of the old people present who would like to know the secrets of Freemasonry. He would tell them. The first secret of Freemasonry was Charity; it was upon Charity that Freemasonry was founded. There were Three Degrees in Freemasonry and a corresponding number of secrets. The first secret was the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows, which was founded in 1842, and since that time no less than 1171 persons received its benefits, and there were now 179 aged members and 227 widows receiving those benefits. The second secret was the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls; this was founded in 1783, and since that time 1515 girls had been clothed, maintained, and educated therein, and 244 were now receiving its benefits. The third great secret was the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, which was founded in 1703, since which time no less than 1700 had been educated, clothed, and maintained therein, and at the present time 258 were being educated there. In conclusion, he thanked all for the kind manner in which they had received the toast.

An entertainment was then given which created considerable amusement, and terminated with the National Anthem.

The CHAIRMAN then proposed a vote of thanks to the ladies who had so kindly assisted at the dinner. Their presence always enhanced the pleasure of any gathering. He also desired to thank the Mayor for his presence. He was sure there never had been and would not be a more popular Mayor of Margate than Dr. Head.

The MAYOR, in responding, said it gave him a great deal of pleasure to be amongst them. He was somewhat exercised in his mind at his receiving an invitation to be present, seeing that he was not a Mason, but he supposed it was owing to his position as Mayor of the town. When he looked around him and saw so many happy faces, it solved a very difficult question which had puzzled many people for many years past. He had learned what Freemasonry meant—it meant charity and brotherly love. He would say, "God speed them in their good work." He had great pleasure in responding on behalf of the ladies, and, in conclusion, he proposed a vote of thanks to those ladies and gentlemen who had assisted at the entertainment.

Bro. W. JONES LANE, in responding, said he could assure them, on behalf of those who took part in the entertainment, that nothing gave them so much pleasure as taking part in that concert at that dinner. He was satisfied that anything they could do for the old people of the town in connection with the Union Lodge they would be only too pleased to do. He then proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman and the Worshipful Master, and this was accorded with three cheers for each.

The CHAIRMAN and the WORSHIPFUL MASTER responded, the latter expressing the hope that similar gatherings to that might take place for many years hence. Tea, bread and butter, and cake, were then served to the guests, and on the close of the proceedings each one was presented with 1lb. of tea and 1lb. of sugar.

THE OLD MASONIANS.

FOOTBALL MATCH.

A team belonging to this Association travelled down to Wood Green on Saturday, the 25th ult., to meet the present scholars in a game at football under Association rules. The result proved most disastrous to the visitors, who, however, under all circumstances, played up well, and when we take into consideration the fact that the present scholars played 7 masters, it (to a great extent) explains the victory of 9 goals to nil, which they obtained over their former schoolmates. This result may also be explained by the fact that during the school days of most of the Old Masonians' team the game was played under the Rugby Union rules, and therefore, with the exception of Mr. J. B. White (who captained the team), Mr. Buttrey, and Mr. Allison, who all did their utmost to avert a defeat, the team was continually at a loss what to do.

We congratulate our boys at the school on the victory they have gained over their elder friends, and we would point out the fact that in the return match they will have an opportunity of playing without so many masters, and still run a good chance of scoring another victory as Saturday clearly proved.

After the match all the Old Masonians present were very hospitably entertained by the school authorities, and in the evening attended a most clever and amusing entertainment given by the "Carolina Minstrels," which troupe we noticed numbers two Old Masonians among its members. A supper, of which both our Old Boys and the Carolina's partook, brought to a close one of those pleasant and enjoyable reunions which we are so pleased to see have sprung up since this Association was founded.

SOCIAL EVENING.

The Old Masonians held their ninth and last social evening at Anderton's Hotel on Friday, the 2nd inst. Mr. R. H. Williams was in the chair, and a capital programme was provided. Mr. H. Giles, who has been present three

or four times during the season, gave four songs in his usual clever style, and the other items on the programme were all well rendered. The attendance of members and friends was quite up to the average, and we feel sure that many present regretted that this was the last concert for six months.

During the evening the SECRETARY announced that the music master at the school had asked the assistance of the Association in the performance of a cantata at the school during the first week in April; and we were very pleased to see some 24 volunteers come forward to offer their services.

Mr. C. H. UWINS, in proposing a vote of thanks to the chair, stated that there was every prospect of the Cinderella being a success, and asked the members to do their utmost to assist the Committee in their venture; and the singing of the National Anthem closed what has proved to be a most successful series of social evenings.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The Committee of Management of this Institution held its regular monthly meeting at Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday. Bro. Raynham W. Stewart, P.G.D., occupied the chair, and there were present Bros. James Brett, P.G.P.; G. Bolton, C. G. Dilley, E. West, Hugh Cotter, F. Adlard, Samuel Brooks, Col. A. Ridgway, Charles J. Perceval, C. H. Driver, C. H. Webb, W. Hilton, Jabez Hogg, P.G.D.; G. P. Festa, A. H. Tattershall, Charles Kempton, W. M. Bywater, W. A. Scurrah, Albert Fish, A. Forsyth, M.D., and James Terry, P.G.S.B. (Secretary).

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and verified, the SECRETARY reported the deaths of four annuitants (two men and two widows), and the Warden's report for the past month was read.

The SECRETARY reported that the recent Anniversary Festival of the Institution, at which R.W. Bro. Sir George Elliot, Bart., M.P., P.G.M. South Wales (Eastern Division), presided, the donations and subscriptions were announced as amounting to £15,081 18s. 6d., with 10 lists still outstanding, and that this sum had been since increased to £15,200 16s. 6d. It was directed that the vote of thanks on vellum to be presented to the Chairman for his valuable services on the occasion should be engrossed forthwith.

Two applications by the widows of deceased annuitants for the half of their late husband's annuities having been granted—subject in one case, however, to the production of the certificate of her husband's burial—the rest of the business was despatched, and the Committee adjourned, with the usual vote of thanks to the Chairman.

The final meeting of the Board of Stewards at the recent Festival was held at Freemasons' Hall, on Friday, the 9th inst., when the accounts were examined, passed, and ordered to be settled; and votes of thanks to the Chairman for presiding, as well as to the various officers of the Board, were agreed to unanimously, and the Board was dissolved.

A further sum of £12 12s. has been added since our last report to the list of Lodge No. 1158, Bro. Bunker, Steward, raising his total to £65 2s., and the general total to £15,200 16s. 6d.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

We are pleased to be able to announce that out of 18 of "our girls" who went up for the Cambridge Local Examination in December last, 15 have passed, the following being the result:—

SENIORS.	
Grace Bartrum	Emily Mabel Osmond
Fanny Oberdoerffer	
JUNIORS.	
Athalinda Allison	Ethel Fallding
Dorothy Ainsworth	Maude Hill
Ruth Byers	Augusta Nicholls
Ellen Delafons	Mary Sherrington
Helen Foxhall	Georgina Smith
Agnes Fyfe	Mary L. Sykes

Two others, viz., Ada Crow and Eva Owens, who from the position they had taken in the School were almost certain to have passed, the former first and the latter second class, had, through illness, to be withdrawn after their names had been entered.

Thirty-one girls were entered for the College of Preceptors' Examination, December, 1887, twenty-eight of whom passed. Class II. Division II.—Agnes W. Stephenson; Class II. Division III.—Caroline Weare and Martha Fry; Class III. Division I.—Eva Gibson, Amy Cutbush, Hannah Inglis, Annie Brockbank, Marion Anita Warner, Louise Haigh, Annie Owens, and Jane Smith; Class III. Division II.—Constance Wyman, Maud Greethurst, Beatrice Cookes, Florence Habgood, Kate Wortley, Florence Mason, Daisy Capon, Lilian Shrapnel, Elsie Lister, Jane Turner, Margaret Heaton, Mary Hirst, Mary Hammond, and Ada Buckley; Class III. Division III.—Fanny Wain, Minnie Woodward, and Florence Popkiss.

GRAND LODGE PRESENTATION TO THE PRINCESS OF WALES.

A sum of £500 having been voted by United Grand Lodge in December for the purpose of purchasing and presenting to the Princess of Wales some memorial from the Masonic body of England of her Silver Wedding with its M.W.G.M., the Prince of Wales, it was determined that the gift should be a diamond butterfly, which was composed of the finest Brazilian diamonds. The three largest are set in the body, 29 other large stones on the outside edge of the wings, with 185 other stones, which tapered in lines to the body, formed the wings, which were balanced on gold springs. The eyes were of rubies, and were the only colour in the ornament. The commission was entrusted to Messrs. Johnson, Walker, and Tolhurst, wholesale jewellers, of 80, Aldersgate-street, E.C. A deputation from Grand Lodge, consisting of Bros. the Earl of Lathom, Deputy Grand Master; Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, G. Sec.; and Sir Albert W. Woods (Garter), G.D. of C., waited by appointment on the Princess of Wales at Marlborough House at 1.30 p.m. on Saturday last, and presented to her Royal Highness the diamond

ornament as well as an address of congratulation on the auspicious anniversary. The Princess was pleased to express her admiration of the gift, and warmly returned her thanks to the Grand Lodge of England for their kind and beautiful present. Many members of the Royal Family were present on the occasion.

The address was as follows—

To her Royal Highness Alexandria, Princess of Wales, &c. Madam,

We, the Pro G.M., the Deputy G. Master, officers, and members of the United Grand Lodge of Freemasons of England, venture to approach your Royal Highness on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the day on which you were united in marriage with our Most Worshipful Grand Master, his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, to tender our heartfelt congratulations on this event, and to offer our most sincere and earnest prayers that your Royal Highness and your august Consort may long be spared by the Most High to enjoy yet many happy years of wedded life.

We also take this opportunity to present for the acceptance of your Royal Highness a small memento of this interesting occasion, which we trust may be graciously received from the brethren of the "Mystic Tie," under the allegiance of your illustrious Consort.

Done at London the 10th day of March, 1888.

(L.S.)

LATHOM, D.G.M.

F. A. PHILBRICK, G. Reg.

SHADWELL H. CLERKE, G. Sec.

PERCY LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, No. 198.—1887-88.

It is not surprising that the writer of the annual report of the Percy Lodge of Instruction, No. 198, meeting at the Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, N., should have exhibited in its concluding paragraph some natural pride at the progress the lodge has made since its resuscitation 12 years since, but more especially at the large amount of work it is the privilege of the officers to report as having been accomplished during the past year. It appears that 42 meetings were held, and the ceremony of initiation rehearsed 16 times, that of passing 13 times, that of raising 10 times, and that of installation one, which in all 132 sections were worked. Forty-six new members were added, raising the roll to 650, and the receipts were larger than in any of the preceding years, the lodge being enabled to present £5 5s. to the Boys' School, making the total distributed by it among the Institutions £69 7s. Lastly it has had connected with it since 1884 a Masonic Charitable Association, the labours of which are now closed, but which during the period it was in existence has raised towards Life Governorships for our three Charities £670 15s. 1d. Such a career is most satisfactory, and we trust will be continued with the same success as in the past twelve years.

Ancient and Accepted Rite.

DERBY.—St. Mary's Chapter (No. 63).—A meeting of this chapter was held at the Masonic Hall on Tuesday, the 6th inst., when there were present Bros. J. H. Lawson, M.W.S.; Percy Wallis, P.M.W.S., H.P. and acting Recorder; Ill. Bro. FitzHerbert Wright, 30°, 1st General; Bros. A. Schofield, 2nd General; W. Silver Hall, G. Marshal; G. T. Wright, Raphael; A. Woodiwiss, Captain of the Guard; and W. H. Marsden, Organist. Visitor: Bro. E. C. Milligan, P.M.W.S.

Bro. J. E. Harrison, 1235, was perfected S.P.R.C. in a most impressive manner by the M.W.S. Ill. Bro. Fitz Herbert Wright, 30°, was elected M.W.S. for the ensuing year. Bro. Sir John Smith, P.M.W.S., was re-elected Treasurer. The Committee appointed to revise the by-laws submitted their report, which was ordered to be printed and circulated amongst the members for consideration at the next convocation. Apologies were received from Ill. Bro. C. Fendelow, 33°, I.G.W.C.D., and other brethren, and the chapter was closed. The brethren adjourned to the Bell Hotel, where a sumptuous banquet was served in Bro. Rayner's well-known style.

Obituary.

BRO. J. G. WOODWARD, P.M., P.P.S.G.W. NOTTS.

We have to announce, with considerable regret, the death of Bro. J. G. Woodward, which occurred at his residence, at Nottingham, on Thursday, the 1st inst. The deceased gentleman formerly represented the Old Park Ward in the Town Council, and on the extension of the borough in 1877 he was elected amongst the first batch of aldermen, having just been returned to the Council for Market Ward. He was elected Sheriff of Nottingham in 1870, and held office during the mayoralty of Alderman Manning. Our deceased brother, upon the expiration of his term of office as an alderman of the borough in 1883, did not seek re-election, and has since lived in retirement, not taking any prominent part in municipal affairs. Whilst a member of the Town Council he served usefully upon the Estate and Improvement Committees, and brought sound judgment to bear upon many important questions which arose during an eventful epoch in the history of the borough. Bro. Woodward had been in failing health during the last two or three years. Amongst those present at the funeral were Bros. T. Roberts, W.M.; E. G. Martin, P.M.; J. Taylor, P.M.; R. C. Sutton, P.M.; Hy. Vickers, P.M.; J. Derry, P.M.; G. Baxter, P.M.; C. Rogers, P.M.; E. C. Patchitt, P.M.; W. A. Richards, P.M.; H. E. Wilson, S.W.; J. C. Banwell, W. Lewis, J. S. Baldwin, W. Selby, W. Hugh, D. Sibley, Secretary; J. Wilford, Steward; W. H. Goodall, A. R. Watson, S. Stevens, A. Aldam, D. of C.; R. Topott, F. W. Chapman, J.D.; W. J. Adie, I.G.; W. T. Cockrem, Organist; H. Bradfield, G. P. Cooley, T. Shipman, and C. H. Benham, Tyler. A very beautiful wreath was presented by the Newstead Lodge. Bro. T. E. Cleworth, vicar of St. Thomas's, conducted the burial service.

Bro. Sir E. B. Malet, H.M.'s Ambassador at Berlin, will, it is said, represent the British Government at the funeral of the late Emperor of Germany at Berlin to-day (Friday).



Bro. Alderman Stone, P.G.W., has been succeeded by Alderman Wilkin in the office of Governor of the Westminster United Schools.

The Prince of Wales presided at a meeting of the Council of the Duchy of Cornwall, at Buckingham Gate on the 8th inst.

The Light Cavalry dinner of the Honourable Artillery Company of London will take place this day (Friday) at the Armoury House, Finsbury-square.

Bro. Williams will be installed as W.M. of the Royal Commemoration Lodge, No. 1585, on the first Wednesday in May.

Previous to his departure for Berlin to attend the funeral of the late Emperor William, the Prince of Wales visited the Queen at Windsor Castle and stayed to luncheon.

Bro. the Earl of Dunraven was elected chairman at a preliminary meeting on Tuesday of the Select Committee of the House of Lords appointed to enquire into the Sweating System. The inquiry will commence to-day (Friday).

Lieut.-General Prince Anton Radziwill, accompanied by his son, visited Marlborough House on the 8th inst., and presented autograph letters of congratulation from the (late) Emperor William of Germany and the Empress.

The Queen, accompanied by the Prince and Princess Henry of Battenberg, will leave Windsor Castle for Florence on Tuesday next, the 20th inst., travelling via Cherbourg and Paris. Her Majesty will be absent about three weeks.

Bro. General Sir George Willis, commanding the Southern District, has prepared a plan of operations for the Easter Monday Volunteer Review at Portsmouth, which has received the approval of H.R.H. the Commander-in-Chief.

The Court, owing to the death of his Majesty the Emperor of Germany and King of Prussia, went into mourning on Sunday, the 11th inst., will change mourning on Friday next, the 23rd inst., and will go out of mourning on Saturday, the 7th prox.

The Council of the Royal Society of Arts had the honour of waiting upon the Queen at Buckingham Palace on the 8th inst., and presented to her Majesty an address and the Society's Albert Medal, which is given annually to some one who has rendered eminent services to arts, manufactures, and commerce.

The regimental ball of the Queen's Westminster Rifle Volunteers, which was to have taken place this day (Friday), at the Queen's Hall, has been postponed in consequence of the late Emperor William's funeral taking place the same day, till Friday, the 6th April next.

The audited accounts of the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs' Committee show that the civic procession and banquet on the 9th November last cost £4355, of which one-half is paid by Bro. Lord Mayor De Keyser and the other half by Bros. Sheriffs Davies and Higgs jointly.

Among the deputations that waited upon the Prince and Princess of Wales at Marlborough House on Saturday last was one from the Corporation of London, consisting of, among others, Bros. the Lord Mayor and the Sheriffs, Bros. Aldermen Sir Henry Isaacs and Gray, Bros. Sir J. B. Monckton (Town Clerk), Goldney (Remembrancer), and Bros. F. Green, Squire, and Under-Sheriffs Rose-Innes and Beard. The Recorder read the address, and Bro. the Lord Mayor then presented the model in silver, which the Corporation had voted as a Silver Wedding gift to their Royal Highnesses. The Prince graciously acknowledged the gift.

Bros. Col. North and Col. Myles Fenton, the Prov. Grand Chaplain of Kent, and some Freemasons residing in Kent and Surrey, presented the Princess of Wales with a Brinsmead grand piano as a Silver Wedding gift, at Marlborough House on Tuesday. Her Royal Highness shook hands warmly with the gentlemen present, and thanked Bro. Col. North most graciously for the beautiful gift, saying that she was charmed with it. Prince Albert Victor and Bro. General Sir Dighton Probyn were present. The Princess of Wales specially invited Bro. Col. North and the gentlemen to attend at Marlborough House on Tuesday last.

Many brethren in the West of England have been victimized by a foreigner calling himself Monty Beel, from Alexandria. He attended Lodge 39, at Exeter, on the 23rd ult., and his case was relieved to the extent of giving him money to take him to Manchester, where he said he had obtained a situation. Since then he has turned up at Newton and Teignmouth, and intelligence from Manchester confirms the suspicions entertained, that he is not worthy of relief. He is described as about 5 feet 4 inches in height, pale, sharp features, carefully, but somewhat shabbily dressed, speaks English fluently, and of good conversational powers.

MASONIC PRESENTATION.—At the last ordinary meeting of the brethren of St. Kew Lodge, No. 1222, a Past Master's jewel was presented to Bro. G. E. Alford, I.P.M., in recognition of his services as W.M. during the Jubilee year. The jewel bore the following inscription—"Presented by the lodge of St. Kew, No. 1222, to Bro. G. E. Alford, W.M. during the year of Jubilee, 1887," and the presentation was made by the W.M. of the lodge, Bro. G. H. Perrett, who alluded to the excellent services rendered by Bro. Alford, and to his untiring zeal in the interests of Masonry. Through Bro. Alford's instrumentality during his year of office, the three chairs of the lodge were endowed with votes for the Masonic Institution for Boys. The sum of £10 10s. was also voted out of the funds of the lodge for the purpose of endowing the chair of the Chaplain, in commemoration of the services of the late Chaplain, Bro. the Rev. R. Duckworth. A vote of thanks was also accorded by acclamation to Bro. Sidney Lewis, P.M. and Treasurer, for his services to the lodge as Secretary for the past eight years.

Bro. Joseph Edward Street will be installed as W.M. of the Caterham Lodge, No. 2095, on the 12th of May next.

Bro. the Earl and the Countess Cowper are expected to return home from their tour in Egypt immediately after Easter.

Bro. the Lord Mayor has issued an appeal for donations towards the funds of the Mansion House Council on the Dwellings of the People.

Bro. Lord and Lady Claud Hamilton have returned to their residence in Lowndes-square from their trip to the Cape of Good Hope.

The Worshipful Company of Salters has presented, through Bro. John Aird, M.P., the sum of £50 to the Irish Distressed Ladies' Fund.

The Queen has forwarded, through Sir Henry Ponsonby, her annual donation of £50 towards the funds of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution.

We regret to announce the death on the 8th inst., after an illness extending over several months, of Lady Watkin, wife of Bro. Sir Edward Watkin, Bart., M.P.

The anniversary festival dinner of St. Mary's Hospital has been fixed for the 12th May next, when the chair will be occupied by Bro. Lord Randolph Churchill, M.P.

The Fifteen Sections will be worked at the New Finsbury Park Lodge of Instruction, No. 1695, at Hornsey Wood Tavern, Seven Sisters-road, on Tuesday, March 27th, at 7 o'clock.

Bro. the Marquis of Hartington, M.P., introduced to Viscount Cranbrook on Saturday last a deputation from the National Association for the Promotion of Technical Education.

Bros. Lord Halsbury (Lord Chancellor), Lord Ashbourne (Lord Chancellor of Ireland), Lord George Hamilton, and Sir M. E. Hicks-Beach, Bart., attended the Cabinet Council held at the Foreign Office on Saturday last.

Bro. Sir John Macdonald, Prime Minister of the Dominion of Canada, has confirmed the announcement that his Government is in communication with that of Newfoundland with a view to the latter joining the Canadian Federation.

The distribution of prizes to the Volunteer Medical Staff Corps, which was to have been made by H.R.H. the Duchess of Albany to-morrow (Saturday), has been indefinitely postponed in consequence of the death of the Emperor of Germany.

The Prince of Wales, accompanied by the Princess of Wales, has graciously promised to visit Blackburn on the 16th May, when his Royal Highness will lay the foundation-stone of a new Technical School, which is about to be erected at a cost of £25,000.

The Drawing Room, which was to have been held at Buckingham Palace on the 9th inst., was postponed in consequence of the death of the Emperor of Germany, and for the same reason the Levée at St. James's Palace, which was fixed for to-morrow (Saturday), has been postponed.

At the last meeting of the Eldon Lodge, No. 1755, held at the Royal Hotel, Portishead, Somerset, a beautifully-painted silk banner was presented to the lodge by Bro. A. J. Tonkin. The presentation was suitably acknowledged by the W.M., Bro. W. K. Thomas, and a hearty vote of thanks accorded to the donor by the brethren present. It being the silver wedding day of the Grand Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, a telegram of congratulation was forwarded to Marlborough House, to which a very gracious reply has since been received.

Orders have been given by the Duke of Cambridge, Commander-in-Chief, to the commanding officers of the principal military garrisons in the United Kingdom and abroad, that to-day (Friday), on the occasion of the funeral of his late Majesty the Emperor of Germany, all flags shall be mounted half-mast high, and that 91 guns shall be fired, commencing at noon. The guns will be fired at the Tower of London, Edinburgh Castle, Plymouth, and Dover. Similar marks of respect to the late Emperor will be shown at the principal naval stations by the Royal Navy.

The Queen with the Prince and Princess Henry of Battenberg and the Duchess of Albany, visited the Prince and Princess of Wales at Marlborough House on Saturday last, and offered their congratulations to their Royal Highnesses on the occasion of their Silver Wedding. In the evening the Prince and Princess gave a grand dinner party, at which were present the Queen, the King of the Belgians, the Crown Prince and Princess of Denmark, the sons and daughters of their Royal Highnesses, the Duchess of Albany, and others. About 11 p.m., the Queen and the Prince and Princess Henry of Battenberg returned to Windsor Castle.

The following is a copy of a Masonic address presented on Wednesday to Prince Oscar of Sweden, in view of his Royal Highness's wedding, which took place at Bournemouth on Thursday:—"To his Royal Highness Prince Oscar of Sweden and Norway, the Most Eminent Ordens-Statthalter of the Grand Lodge of Sweden,—We, the Masters, Past Masters, and Officers of and representing Lodges Hengist (195), Boscombe (2158), and Horsa (2208), of Free and Accepted Masons of England, beg to offer you our fraternal greeting on your visit to their town and on such an auspicious occasion. We would beg to tender you our sincere and hearty congratulations on your approaching marriage, and to express a fervent wish that with the blessing of the Great Architect of the Universe you may enjoy many years of health and happiness." The address is signed by the W.M., the I.P.M., the S.W., and the J.W. of each of the above-named lodges.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Invalids distracted by indigestion and discouraged in their search for its remedy should make a trial of this never-failing medicine. A lady, long a martyr to dyspeptic troubles, writes that Holloway's Pills made her feel as if a burden had been taken off her. Her spirits, formerly low, have greatly improved; her capricious appetite has given place to a healthy hunger; her dull, sick headache has departed, and gradually so marvellous a change has been effected, that she is altogether a new creature, and again fit for her duties. These Pills may be administered with safety to the most delicate. They never act harshly, nor do they ever induce weakness, they rightly direct deranged, and control excessive action.—ADVT.

Bro. Lord Magheramorne presided at the weekly meeting of the Metropolitan Board of Works held on Friday, the 9th inst., at the Board's Offices in Spring Gardens.

Bro. the Earl of Zetland has returned 20 per cent., and Bro. Lord Derwent 15 per cent. of their last half-year's rents to the tenant farmers on their respective estates in Yorkshire.

Bro. the Earl of Galloway will preside at the 100th Anniversary Festival of the Highland Society of London on Wednesday next, the 21st inst., the banquet being held, as usual, at Freemasons' Tavern.

The Officers of the 10th (Prince of Wales's own Royal) Hussars as well as those of the Grenadier Guards, have subscribed for a present to the Prince and Princess of Wales in commemoration of their silver wedding.

Bro. H. Rymill presided at the 15th annual dinner, held at the Freemasons' Tavern on Wednesday evening, in aid of the funds of the Hackney Carriage Proprietors' Provident Institution.

Bros. Lord Balfour of Burleigh, Sir H. Halford, Bart., H. S. Maskelyne, M.P., and A. H. D. Acland, M.P., attended the inaugural meeting, at Spencer House, on Wednesday, of the Agricultural Section of the National Association for the Promotion of Technical Education.

Lady Claud Hamilton, wife of Bro. Lord Claud Hamilton, who arrived at Plymouth on Sunday last, while staying at Madeira to recruit her health had a narrow escape from death, her horse, from which she slipped off just in time, rearing and going over into a ravine.

The Prince of Wales, Prince Albert Victor of Wales, and the Crown Prince of Denmark left London for Berlin on Tuesday evening, in order to be present at the State Service in Berlin Cathedral for the late Emperor William, which will take place this day (Friday).

The Prince and Princess of Wales received at Marlborough House on the 9th inst. Bro. the Earl of Rosslyn, Past G.M. of Scotland, Captain, and certain members of the Honourable Corps of Gentlemen-at-Arms, who presented their Royal Highnesses with a statuette in silver of a member of the corps.

The Prince and Princess of Wales, with the Crown Prince and Princess of Denmark and the other members of the Royal Family in London, attended Divine service at the Chapel Royal, Whitehall, on Sunday afternoon last, when Bro. the Bishop of Peterborough preached a sermon in aid of the Gordon Boys' Home.

The Fifteen Sections will be worked at the Hyde Park Lodge of Instruction, at the Porchester Hotel, Leicester-place, Cleveland-square, Paddington, W., as follows: The First Lecture March 26th; the Second and Third, April 9th. Bro. George Read, P.M. 511 and 1767, will be W.M. on both occasions.

On Wednesday, the 7th inst., Bro. W. C. Williams, W.M. of the Dalhousie Lodge, No. 865, was elected W.M. of the Royal Commemoration Lodge, No. 1585, and, at the same meeting, Bro. G. A. Watkins was unanimously elected an honorary member, with full privileges, for the services he has rendered to the lodge as Treasurer since its consecration.

Bros. the Marquis of Hartington, Lord Randolph Churchill, Lord Claud Hamilton, Lord Charles Beresford, Sir John Mowbray, Bart., G. A. F. Cavendish-Bentinck, Sir George O. Trevelyan, Bart., Sir Stafford Northcote, the Hon. A. de T. Egerton, Sir M. White Ridley, Bart., Sir Charles Dalrymple, Bart., and Col. Hambro, attended the third Parliamentary full-dress dinner given to the Speaker during the session.

It has been determined by the residents in Bloomsbury-square and neighbourhood to establish a Club, and several gentlemen are already exerting themselves very actively in the matter, a very successful meeting, specially called for the purpose, having been held at the Bloomsbury Mansion on Friday, the 9th inst. Among those present were Bros. Arthur Proudfoot, of Lodges 23 and 201; Henry G. Marsden, 73 and 2202; F. Jackson, F. P. Wisdom, 342; G. H. Reynolds, 2191; and others.

The Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Florida was held at Jacksonville in the month of January, when the following were among the G. Officers installed, viz.: Comps. Marcus Endel, G.H.P.; F. S. Goodrich, D.G.H.P.; W. M. McIntosh, Sen. G.K.; Chas. H. Meinger, G. Scribe; Thos. S. Wilmarth, G. Treas.; D. C. Dawkins, G. Sec.; W. A. McLean, G.C.; W. L. Baldwin, G.C. of H.; and Jas. W. Boyd, G.P. Soj.

MASONIC PRESENTATION IN PLYMOUTH.—At the regular monthly meeting of the Lodge St. John, No. 70, at the Huyshe Masonic Temple, on Tuesday, March the 6th inst., Bro. Rev. T. W. Lemon, M.A., P.M. and Chap. 189, P.P.G. Chap., presented to the lodge, appropriately framed, the largest size picture of the installation of H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, as R.W.P.G.M. of Sussex by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M. of England, at Brighton, June 22nd, 1886. Also framed photographs of the Temple, Freemasons' Hall, London, as it appeared after the fire, May 4th, 1833, and of the laying of the stone of the new Masonic buildings, Plymouth, December 28th, 1887. The panel on each of the three pictures bears the inscription:—"Presented to Lodge 'St. John,' No. 70, by W. Bro. the Rev. T. W. Lemon, M.A., P.M. and Chap. 189, (70, 1205, and 2025, honorary), P.P.G.C. of Devon, March 6th, 1888." The gifts were suitably acknowledged.

The ordinary half-yearly meeting of the Crystal Palace District Gas Company will be held at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, on Friday next, the 23rd inst., when the Report of the Directors will be submitted, and the other business proper to such a meeting transacted. We learn from the Report that the business of the Company during the past half-year has proved satisfactory, the net profit to be carried forward, subject to the December half-year's dividends, being upwards of £17,231. The Directors, therefore, recommend that dividends be declared of 6 per cent. on the Preference Stock; 7 per cent. on the Ordinary 7 per cent. Stock; 10 per cent. on the Ordinary 10 per cent. Stock; and 7 per cent. on the New Ordinary 7 per cent. Shares; the whole amounting to £13,212 11s. 6d., less Income Tax, £385 7s. 4d., or net, £12,827 4s. 2d. Two of the Directors, Mr. H. P. Stephenson and Bro. James Glaisher, P.G.D., retire by rotation, but are eligible for re-election, and one of the Auditors, Mr. Charles Newton, who is also re-eligible.