

THE FREEMASON.

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

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

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

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THE business transacted at the annual meeting on Friday, the 18th inst., of the Governors and Subscribers of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution was for the most part of the ordinary character. The Report presented by the Committee of Management of their proceedings during the past year contained no feature of extraordinary interest, and was adopted unanimously. The audited Statement of Accounts appended to the Report was in all respects satisfactory, and it will be noticed with satisfaction that the heavy expenditure on the Widows' Fund was caused, not by any excessive outlay in connection with its administration, but in the purchase of £7000 Stock, the dividends on which will constitute a substantial addition to the permanent income of that branch of the Institution. It must have given Bro. TERRY much pleasure to be able to announce that Bro. the Earl of EUSTON, R.W. Prov. G. Master of Northants and Hunts, had kindly consented to preside as Chairman at the next Annual Festival, which will take place on the 27th February, 1889. His lordship, during the brief period he has been in office, has already won golden opinions, not only from the members of his own province, but from the Craft generally, and we venture to think that the brethren will not be slow to appreciate the readiness with which he has undertaken the arduous duty of a Masonic Festival Chairman, and will support him with their accustomed loyalty and generosity. It is also gratifying to know that the late lamented Bro. EDGAR BOWYER has been succeeded in the Treasurership of the Institution by so estimable a Mason as Bro. J. A. FARNFIELD, P.A.G.D.C., who alone was nominated for election, and will no doubt justify the choice of the Governors and Subscribers. As for the series of alterations in the rules, proposed by Bro. J. A. BIRCH, P. Prov. G. Warden of East Lancashire, it will cause but little vexation of spirit among the brethren to find that they were defeated by a heavy majority; or, we should say rather that the first, which was the only one put to the vote, was so defeated and that the rest were withdrawn. We regret, however, that the inconvenience to the business of the Institution, which would have resulted from their adoption, was not more pointedly referred to in the discussion that took place. The convenience of the provincial brethren was the principal, if not the only, ground on which Bro. BIRCH based his resolutions, and it is possible there may be some of our readers who will regard their rejection as an evidence of indifference to the wishes of the country Masons. We believe that had it been a mere question of convenience between town and country brethren, the former would have been only too pleased to meet, to the utmost extent of their ability, the wishes of the latter. But the proposed change would have seriously deranged the business of the Institution. In nine cases out of ten the Festival takes place on the last Wednesday in February, and when that is over, and the extra labour it entails on the Secretary and his staff overcome, there are the voting papers to be dispatched by the middle of April, and the Annual Statement of Account to be prepared for the Auditors. The interval allowed for this is none too much for so heavy a pressure of work, and the advance of the Annual Meeting from the third Friday in May, when it is now held, to the Monday following the last Friday in April, would have the effect of curtailing this interval, or necessitating an entire re-arrangement of business during the busiest part of the year. We consider the postponement of the School Elections to the last Friday or Saturday in April an unwise change, but as these Elections already precede the School Festivals, the authorities can more readily afford to make it; but in the case of the Benevolent Institution the Festival precedes the Election, and the time that intervenes between the two no more than suffices for the work that has to be done. We believe this was the real reason for the rejection of Bro. BIRCH's proposals, and it is for this reason we are glad they were rejected.

The Male
Fund Election
R.M.B.I.

BOTH the elections at the annual meeting of the Benevolent Institution on Friday last were well contested, the voting, especially for the Male Fund, being unusually heavy, so that the work of the Scrutineers was very far from being a sinecure. Both lists of candidates were more fortunate than could have been expected, to this extent, that between the declaration of vacancies in February and the day of the poll, several deaths occurred, and it became possible, therefore, to elect a larger number. Thus, for the Male Fund there were originally 16 vacancies, namely, 13 immediate and 3 deferred, but seven more annuitants died subsequently, and the immediate vacancies were increased to 20, while, on the other hand, two of the candidates also died, so that the number to be elected was 23, including the 3 deferred, from a list of 65 applicants. The successful were thus distributed, London, which had at first 26 candidates, but on Friday last through the death of one only 25 candidates, was so fortunate as to carry 10, among them being the two who stood highest on the poll. Of the 40—in the first instance 41—provincial candidates, only 13 succeeded in obtaining places, North and East Yorkshire, which had five, obtaining the 8th place for one of them with 2145 votes, while East Lancashire, which sent up four, secured the election of one with 1813 votes, and placed a second at the head of the unsuccessful list with 1692 votes, the lowest successful candidate polling only 23 more votes. Hants and the Isle of Wight polled 2241 votes for Bro. HAXTHAUSEN, who stood 5th, and Kent secured the 17th place for Bro. HOILE with 1928 votes, both these provinces, as well as that of Devonshire, furnishing three candidates. Of the two brethren from West Yorkshire, one died before the election and the other stood 21st on the list with 1788 votes, and two of the other provinces which sent up two candidates succeeded in carrying one each, Bro. SMITH, hailing from Middlesex, standing 6th with 2214 votes, and Bro. LUFF, from Suffolk, being 14th with 2036 votes, but Berks and Bucks failed with both its candidates. Of the rest, Durham placed its candidate, Bro. JOBLING, at No. 12 with 2079 votes; Bro. WALLACE, from Gloucestershire, for whom 2288 votes were polled being third, the Oxfordshire candidate, Bro. CODD, being No. 4 with 2244 votes; the West Lancashire man, Bro. SAMUEL BRAY, 22nd with 1733 votes; Bro. SOMERTON, from Lincolnshire, carrying the 13th place with 2049 votes; and Bro. BENNETT, Sussex, the 10th place with 2098 votes. The three brethren who obtained some slight consolation for their failure were Bros. DUFFIELD (East Lancashire), and FRY (Warwickshire), who divided between them the Male half of the JOHN HERVEY Memorial Fund, Bro. DUFFIELD receiving £7 10s., and Bro. FRY £7 1s. 3d., while Bro. THOMAS SMITH (London), secured a moiety of the Lodge of Emulation Fund. It will be seen from the foregoing remarks that the poll proceeded regularly, the highest successful candidate (London) scoring 2408 votes, and the next, also from London, 2306 votes, while Nos. 21, 22, and 23, polled 1788 votes, 1733 votes, and 1715 votes respectively. As for the general total, 15,859 votes were brought forward, and 47,867 votes were issued, amounting together to 63,726. The total poll appears to have been 62,750 votes, so that the spoiled and unused votes numbered only 976, our remark as to the contest being severer than usual being amply justified.

* * *

The Widows'
Election
R.M.B.I.

THE widow applicants for annuities were less fortunate than those on the Male Fund. They were 62 in number, and therefore there were almost as many of them as of the latter, but the vacancies, taking the immediate and deferred together, were but 15, or about two-thirds of the male vacancies to be competed for. Consequently the polling was in this case also very heavy, though the proportion of spoiled and unused votes was more in keeping with our experience of past elections. The votes brought forward were 7375, and the votes issued 50,252, giving a total of 57,627, and of these 52,942 votes were passed by the Scrutineers, the unused and spoiled being 4685 in number. Mrs. PULLEN, the widow of Bro. HYDE PULLEN, who hailed originally from Kent—though as a P.D. G.M. of the Isle of Wight, and formerly Assistant Secretary of the Supreme Council Ancient and Accepted Rite, she most probably received a large measure of support from Hants and the Isle of Wight and the London brethren—headed the poll with 2958 votes, Mrs. COOLEY (Kent) being second with 2797 votes; Mrs. READ (Hants and Isle of Wight) third, with 2505 votes; Mrs. HARDING (Worcestershire) fourth, with 2496 votes; Mrs. HARRISON (Middlesex) fifth, with 2434 votes; and Mrs. VASEY sixth, with 2351 votes. Mrs. HARTLEY (Cumberland and Westmorland) was placed seventh, with 2333 votes, and then followed two West Yorkshire candidates—two having been nominated under the Jubilee rights of Presentation, and so provided for—Mrs. WRIGHT with 2193 votes, and Mrs. MOSS with 2172 votes. The Berks and Bucks candidate—Mrs. FORD—stood next with a poll of 2158 votes; and then came two candidates from London, Mrs. YEOMAN and Mrs. SOMERS, for whom were recorded 2132 votes, and 1784 votes respectively. Mrs. GRIFFITHS (South Wales, West Division) with 1755 votes stood next, Mrs. WORLEY (Northants and Hunts) being close up with 1720 votes, and Mrs. THEMANS (London) bringing up the rear

with a poll of 1504 votes. Mrs. WARREN, widow of Bro. H. G. WARREN, P.G. Stwd., journalist, and Mrs. FRANKLYN, the former hailing from London, and the latter from Devonshire, shared between them the Widows' Fund share of the JOHN HERVEY Memorial Fund, Mrs. WARREN receiving £7 10s., and Mrs. FRANKLYN £7 1s. 3d., and Mrs. MAHOMED received the Widows' Fund half (£5) of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement Fund. Thus London carried three out of its 19 candidates, and had a hand in the success of Mrs. PULLEN; West Yorkshire, two of its three remaining candidates; Kent, two of its five candidates; and Hants and the Isle of Wight, two of its candidates, and helped in another case (Mrs. PULLEN). Cumberland and Westmorland succeeded with one candidate, and failed with the other; while Berks and Bucks, Middlesex, Northants and Hunts, South Wales (West Division), and Worcestershire, who were among the provinces which furnished only one candidate, were successful.

The
Girls' School
Centenary
Festival.

OWING no doubt to the occurrence of the Whitsun holidays, there has been during the last fortnight a considerable diminution in the number of brethren volunteering their services as Stewards for the Centenary Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls. In our issue of the 5th instant we reported the Board as being in excess of 1200, and a week later it had reached, if it did not exceed, 1300. Since then, however, the progress has been slower, and the number now is about 1350, and if all goes well we shall probably find it a little below or, better still, a little in excess of 1400. But even this is amazing and augurs well for the success of the Festival itself, so far as the principal objects it is sought to obtain by it are concerned. Unfortunately, a few weeks ago, a brother who we presume is connected with some organ of the daily press, was ill-advised enough to inform one of our leading newspapers that the proceeds of the Anniversary celebration were expected to reach, if not to exceed, the huge sum of £40,000, and the result has been that a number of silly reports have been flying about ever since, in which the anticipated total is set down variously at from £40,000 to as high as £60,000, and for aught we know to the contrary, at even a higher figure still. This is very much to be regretted, and for more reasons than one. Those who have had most experience in these matters, though they would gladly see their anticipations exceeded, have never extended their estimate beyond from £30,000 to £35,000, and they have been thus discreet in their reckoning because they know and can appreciate the difficulties which the Stewards will have to contend with and how hard it is, when a certain high standard has been reached, for even an army of 1400 canvassers to raise an additional £1000 or £2000. Thus people who believe there is some truth in these ridiculous stories will consider that, if a lower total is realised, the Festival has been a comparative failure, or they may stand aloof from contributing, when they fancy that more than the sum required for the regular and extraordinary expenditure in contemplation is likely to be raised without their assistance. In either case much harm must ensue from giving currency to these silly rumours, and we trust our readers will not lend credence to them merely because they have heard about them or read them in the newspapers. A return of from £30,000 to £35,000, or even of £38,000, as it will be several thousands in excess of any past Masonic Festival Return, will be something of which it is needless to say we shall all be very proud, and if after all we prove to have been too modest in our estimate a still higher total is raised, then so much the better for the Girls' School. In the meantime, we have much pleasure in drawing attention to the fact, as reported last week, that the Executive Committee have succeeded in arranging that the Anglo-Danish Exhibition shall be open exclusively to the Stewards and their friends between the hours of 5 p.m. and 10 p.m. on the day of the Festival (7th prox.), so that the gardens and the additional music will be available as well as the conservatory and the Albert Hall. This is a boon which the Stewards will greatly appreciate, and for which, as it will add to the day's attractions and make their task of entertaining their visitors more agreeable, they will no doubt be duly grateful.

THE HISTORY OF THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS

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

(Concluded from page 296.)

There is not much else to record. The Levander Memorial Prize for Arithmetic was instituted in March, 1886, and the usual distribution of prizes in the May following was prevented by an outbreak of German measles. In July, a resolution of thanks and congratulation was passed to Miss Davis on completing her term of 25 years as Head Governess, and it was resolved to present her with a testimonial to mark the high sense entertained by the Governors of her services in that capacity. In August, Miss Jarwood, who had been connected with the Institution as pupil, apprentice, Assistant Matron, and Matron for 67 years, died at the ripe age of 76, and enjoying to the last the respect and affection of the children and their Governors, the charges for the funeral and mourning to be worn by the Girls' and the Staff being defrayed, as in the case of Mrs. Crook, out of the funds of the Institution, while Miss Buck was chosen her successor. Further losses were sustained by the deaths of Bro. Joshua Nunn, P.G.S.B., who was succeeded as Trustee of the Sustentation Fund by Bro. Col. Peters, P.G.S.B., and Bro. E. C. Mather, an active and energetic member of the House Committee, and in October, Bro. Howell, who had been Medical Officer of the Institution for 34 years, during the whole of which period his valuable services had been at the disposal of the authorities, and who, moreover, by his frequent acts of thoughtful kindness towards the children had endeared himself to every one, tendered his

resignation, and was succeeded by his son, Bro. T. A. Ives Howell. In November, Bros. T. Fenn, President of the Board of General Purposes, and F. Philbrick, Q.C., G. Registrar, were elected members of the House Committee vice Bro. Col. Peters, appointed Trustee, and Bro. E. C. Mather, deceased; but Bro. Philbrick has since resigned and been succeeded by Bro. Alderman Savory, who has on several occasions evinced his deep interest in the School by inviting the children to his residence at Buckhurst Hill, and will no doubt render valuable assistance in the work of administration. At the April Court of last year, in order to commemorate the Queen's Jubilee, the whole of the candidates, to the number of 27, were admitted into the School without ballot, and the strength of the establishment thereby increased by five to 248. In the following June, Grand Lodge voted a donation of £2000 to each of our Institutions, and distributed amongst them the fees for admission to the Royal Albert Hall on the occasion of the Masonic Jubilee gathering, the one-third portion allotted to each being £2107; and as the Festival in May, under the presidency of Bro. Sir Offley Wakeman, Bart., Prov. G. Master of Shropshire, yielded some £11,760, what will be memorable in future as the year of Queen Victoria's Jubilee, by proving more advantageous to the Treasury of the Institution than any of its predecessors, appropriately completed a century of beneficent work, of which our ancient and honourable Society may justly be proud, and thus proved the most suitable herald that could have been found of the important Anniversary we are on the eve of celebrating.

This is neither the time nor the place to describe in detail the scheme which has been formulated by the House Committee and approved by the general body of Governors and Subscribers for commemorating the Centenary of the Institution. It has been, however, officially before the Masonic public for some time past, and therefore, though the question of carrying it into execution in its entirety will largely depend on the result of the Centenary Festival, it may reasonably be considered as coming within the scope of our duty to lay before our readers its most salient features. Let it suffice, therefore, if we state that the scheme will include the re-arrangement of the existing premises so far as the main pile of buildings is concerned, and the erection of a Centenary Hall, which shall be sufficiently commodious to receive the whole of the children and the Stewards and friends they bring with them on important occasions, such as the distribution of prizes. The cost, which has been estimated at somewhat less than £20,000, will be heavy, but there can be little doubt the scheme, when carried out, will be most beneficial, and that the increased cubic space which will become available for dormitory and school accommodation will tend materially to promote the health of the inmates. The Junior School also, which is in course of reconstruction out of Lyncombe and the adjoining houses, will likewise be more commodious, and, as a consequence, more healthy; so that as the alterations throughout the existing premises will be general, and the addition of the new Centenary Hall of considerable advantage, the School in its new aspect will be still more creditable to the Society which has been at such pains to erect and maintain it in a condition of efficiency.

It has been said that the extent of the improvements which it is proposed to effect will depend largely on the success of the Centenary Festival, and it will be readily understood that no efforts are being spared to ensure its success. The Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., who is President and Grand Patron of the Institution, has graciously accepted the invitation of the Committee to preside on the occasion, and a Board of Stewards, consisting of between 1300 and 1400 brethren, has already been formed, with Bro. the Earl of Lathom, D.G. Master, as President, and Bro. Lord Leigh, Prov. G. Master of Warwickshire, as its honorary Treasurer. Nearly 30 Prov. G. Masters have kindly volunteered their assistance, and, owing to the large number of guests who are expected to be present, the Festival, which is fixed for the 7th June, will take place in the Royal Albert Hall. The distribution of prizes, which is now considered a part of the annual celebration, will also take place in the same locality on the Monday preceding, and though it would be rash to dream of estimating the total of Returns which will be announced, there are good grounds for anticipating that it will be nearly, if not quite, sufficient to justify the scheme of extension and improvement, of which we have furnished an outline, being carried into execution forthwith.

We have now completed our task, and it only remains for us to express a hope that the career of the Institution may be one of continued and increased prosperity. As regards the immediate future, it is, humanly speaking, impossible that, with so capable and energetic a body of administrators as the present House Committee, with so devoted a Secretary as Bro. Hedges—who, during the ten years he has been in office has gone on establishing himself more firmly in the respect of the brethren—and with such an educational staff under so experienced a lady as Miss Davis, we can have any misgivings. The yearly record of successes achieved by the pupils at different public examinations, the eminently practical system of training which has been adopted, but, above all, the tone and character of the School generally, forbid this. An Institution which is governed as our Girls' School is must remain—what years long since it became—an honour to the Society which established it and maintains it with such generosity, and there is not a Mason in England who does not pray most fervently that it may ever continue to enjoy—in the centuries to come as in the century now completed—the willing help of the Craft and the all-powerful protection of the G.A.O.T.U.

QUEBEC V. ENGLAND.

BY BRO. J. H. GRAHAM, P.G.M.

No. II.

The unfraternal state of affairs between the Grand Lodges of Quebec and of England has arisen chiefly from divergency of opinions regarding certain of the rights, privileges, and prerogatives of Grand Lodges, especially, it would seem, of those in the Colonies.

The founders of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, of whom the writer was one, held that it was (and is) entitled to have and exercise exclusive sovereign jurisdiction over all Craft lodges situated within the geographical limits of the Province of Quebec.

This opinion was entertained, and embodied in the Grand Regulations for the government of the Craft in Quebec, because it was deemed to be not only in accord with the inherent rights of the Craft, but also with the correct interpretation of the evolutionary history of the Fraternity there anent, and with the provisions of the Constitutions of the United Grand Lodge of England, and of those of Ireland and Scotland, and of the United States of America; established either prior to—about the same period—or after the formation in 1813, only 75 years ago, of the United Grand Lodge of England and Wales.

The writer has heretofore stated certain conclusions *in re*, as follows:—

"It therefore clearly appears that the principle of coincidence (or coterminousness) of political and Masonic boundaries is an acknowledged law of the British Constitutions; that the jurisdiction of each Grand Lodge is exclusive within its own geographical limits; that each of these Grand Lodges is absolutely sovereign; and that each of them may and does enforce its territorial, exclusive sovereign authority by the most extreme Masonic penalties, against all lodges existing within its boundaries in contravention thereto, or in violation thereof."

"The doctrine of exclusive Grand Lodge sovereignty is not therefore, as has been flippantly said, a Masonic 'Yankee Notion,' nor can it properly be called an 'American Doctrine' (although so generally accepted, and admirably applied with the most beneficial results to the Craft throughout the United States and the Dominion); but it is the doctrine of the ancient Constitutions, a part of the unalterable body of true and genuine Freemasonry, which must be for ever upheld and maintained." And also,

"Since the principle of the exclusive sovereign jurisdiction of each of the British Grand Lodges is acknowledged, and prevails within their geographical limits, which are still the same as they were prior to the union of their formerly separate kingdoms into one United Kingdom, it therefore follows that the same law of exclusive Masonic sovereignty ought (*à fortiori*) to prevail within the geographical limits of the Province of Quebec, because, since the federation of Quebec with the other British North American Provinces into one Dominion, Quebec, like all the other Federal Provinces, possesses a separate political autonomy, having a Parliament (Legislature) of its own, with ample legislative, judicial, and executive powers, such as is not possessed by England, Scotland, or Ireland, as parts of 'The United Kingdom.'"

Richmond, Quebec, Canada, May 8.

(To be continued).

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The annual meeting of the supporters of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons was held on the 18th inst., in the large hall of Freemasons' Tavern. Bro. J. L. Mather, P.A.G.D.C., presided, and a large number of brethren were present.

At the opening of the proceedings Bro. JAMES TERRY, Secretary, announced that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., had appointed Wednesday, 27th February, 1889, for the next Anniversary Festival of this Institution. He also read a letter from the Earl of Euston, R.W. Prov. G.M. of Norths and Hunts, expressing the pleasure he would have in presiding at the next Festival.

The report of the Auditors was read by Bro. TERRY.

Bro. TERRY next read the annual report of the Institution, as follows:—

The Committee of Management has much pleasure in submitting a report of its proceedings during the past year to the Governors and Subscribers of the Institution.

The Annual Festival was held, by direction of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, K.G., &c., Grand Patron and President, on Wednesday, the 29th February last, Bro. Sir George Elliot, Bart., M.P., R.W. Prov. G. Master of South Wales (Eastern Division), presided, and the Board of 276 Stewards, who gave him their services, were successful in raising amongst them the very handsome total of £15,296 7s. 6d. This sum, though nearly £4000 less than the result of last year's Festival, is considerably more than even the most sanguine friends of the Institution had anticipated, indeed it has been surpassed at only two previous anniversaries of the Institution, and the Committee therefore is most anxious to place on record its heartfelt thanks to the Chairman, who so ably presided, the Stewards who so energetically and successfully supported him, and the brethren and others who contributed with such conspicuous generosity.

The Committee has likewise to express its deep sense of indebtedness to United Grand Lodge for the sum of £2107, being one-third part of the proceeds of the fees for admission into the Royal Albert Hall, South Kensington, on the 13th June, 1887, on the occasion of the great gathering of English Freemasons to congratulate her Majesty the Queen on the Jubilee Anniversary of her accession to the throne; as well as for a grant in commemoration of the same joyous event of £2000, payment of part of which, however, has been deferred in consequence of the prolonged absence from England on foreign tour of the M.W. the Earl of Carnarvon, Pro Grand Master, and one of the Trustees of United Grand Lodge.

The Committee has much pleasure in announcing further that the undertaking entered into last year by the Province of West Yorkshire to purchase the right of two Perpetual Presentations to the Widows' Fund, in commemoration of the Queen's Jubilee, has been completed by the payment of £2100. That the province has already exercised its right of nominating two Widows, who were candidates on the list for this election, and that in accordance with the rules of the Institution, the said Widows have been paid in advance the first quarterly instalment of their annuities of £32 each, from the 1st March last.

At the election in May, 1887, there were upon the funds of the Institution 405 Annuity holders, namely, 178 Men and 227 Widows, and to-day there are 129 approved candidates, of whom 67 are Men and 62 Women—the original number of 64 Widows having been reduced by the nomination of the two West Yorkshire candidates already referred to. But having regard to the very large increase in the number of annuitants last year, when 5 additional Male Annuities and 25 additional Female Annuities were

created, and also to the fact this year's Festival returns are only slightly in excess of the total sum required to provide the existing Annuities, the Committee has not felt itself justified in recommending any further increase on either Fund. Seeing how large is the number of candidates, this decision will, no doubt, be the subject of very general regret, but as the permanent income of the Institution, when compared with its fixed expenditure, is small, the Committee is unanimously of opinion that it would be both unwise and inexpedient to enlarge responsibilities which, notwithstanding the generous support of the Craft, it already taxes all their energies and resources to satisfy. Thus the number of vacancies as declared in February, namely, 16 men (13 immediate and 3 deferred) and 7 women (4 immediate and 3 deferred) will remain unaltered so far as the creation of any new annuities is concerned; but in the interval that has elapsed since then, there have died 7 Men and 8 Widows, so that the number to be elected to-day will be 23 Men and 15 Widows. There will consequently be during the current year, 178 Annuity holders each receiving £40 per annum on the Male Fund, and 229 Annuity holders each receiving £32 per annum on the Widows' Fund, the total sum distributable annually amongst these 407 annuitants being £14,446. To this must be added a further sum of £340 divisible, under Law 9 of the Male Fund, among 17 widows of recently deceased male annuitants, so that the expenditure for the present year in respect of annuities alone will amount to £14,786.

The Committee begs to express its thanks to United Grand Lodge for the renewal of its annual contribution of £70 towards providing the inmates of the Asylum at Croydon with coal during the winter months.

It is also desirous of thanking, as it does most cordially, the honorary surgeons of the Institution, Henry John Strong, Esq., M.D., and R. Percy Middlemist, Esq., for their kind and unremitting attention to those of the annuitants, whether residents or non-residents, who have been unfortunately compelled to seek their medical advice and assistance.

It is with the deepest regret that the Committee draws attention to the great loss sustained by the Institution through the unexpected death in March last of Edgar Bowyer, Esq., Past Grand Standard Bearer of England, and Patron, Treasurer, and Trustee of this Institution. He was one of its most generous benefactors, besides being a most efficient officer, and the Governors and Subscribers, like the Committee of Management, will probably derive some consolation in the midst of their sorrow from the knowledge that his last official Masonic act was to preside at the final meeting of the Board of Stewards for the recent Festival.

The Committee has to report that the building at Croydon will need this year the usual cleansing and reparation, which all such buildings require, in order to preserve it in a sound condition.

The audited statement of account for the year ended 31st March, 1888, is appended. It has been compiled with the utmost care, and has undergone a rigorous examination by the Audit Committee before being finally approved and passed, and the Committee of Management is confident the Governors and Subscribers, on inspecting it, will find the funds of the Institution have been administered with a due regard to economy.

In conclusion, the Committee desires to express its earnest hope that the efforts of the general body of English Freemasons in supporting this valuable Institution will be as successful in the future as they have been in the past. As was remarked in the report of last year, it is inevitable there should be at all times a considerable number of brethren and widows of brethren in a condition of distress, more or less serious, which it is not in their own power to alleviate, and the Committee is firmly persuaded that there is no existing Masonic organisation which is able to cope so readily and efficaciously with all such cases as the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. For this reason the Committee has every confidence that the earnest appeals which it is compelled to renew annually for the means to fulfil its work will always be responded to with a generous hand.

On motion, duly made and seconded, the report was received and adopted and ordered to be entered on the minutes.

Bros. Hobbs, Fraser, and Blaisberg were next elected to serve on the Committee of Management in place of three members retiring.

The next business was the consideration of the following alterations of the rules proposed to be made by Bro. J. A. Birch, P. Prov. G. Warden East Lancashire.

The words printed in *italics* are the alterations suggested, and the words bracketed are those proposed to be omitted.

2. The Grand Master [for the time being] shall be President of the Institution. The Treasurer of the Institution shall be elected annually on the [third Friday in May], Monday following last Friday in April.

7. A general meeting of the Governors and Subscribers shall take place annually, at 12 o'clock at noon, on the [third Friday in May], Monday following last Friday in April, for general business, and to elect the ten members of the Committee, each of whom shall be a Life Governor, or a Subscriber to the amount of £1 annually to either fund.

13. The Committee shall, at its meeting in [February] *January* in each year, or at an adjournment thereof, determine the number of annuitants, male and female, to be elected, of which number three men and three widows will not be entitled to receive the annuity until vacancies shall have occurred after the annual general meeting. Should any death or deaths occur amongst the annuitants, between that meeting and the general meeting [in May ensuing], the number to be elected shall be increased in like proportion.

35. The Chairman presiding at the annual general meeting shall announce the result of the ballot for the election of annuitants on that day. If the votes polled for any of the candidates be equal, and the number to be declared elected thereby increased, the same shall be referred by the Chairman to the Committee of Management for their decision at the meeting in [June], *May*. Should a scrutiny be demanded, the Chairman shall postpone the declaration thereof to a period not exceeding three days from the date of such meeting, when the numbers polled for each candidate shall be declared and advertised in three daily London papers, and posted in the office of the Secretary of the Institution for one week.

47. The accounts of receipts and disbursements of the Male Fund, and of the Widows' Fund, shall be kept separate and distinct, and a general statement of the finances of the Institution shall be annually prepared; and after having been duly audited shall, together with a report of the proceedings of the Committee of Management, be presented to the annual general meeting [in May], and to Grand Lodge in June following.

49. No motion for any new regulation or law, or the abrogation or alteration of any existing regulation or law, shall be entertained at the annual general meeting, unless a copy of the same shall have been communicated to the Committee of Management, at or previous to their meeting in [February], *January*, and the Committee shall direct notice of such motion to be inserted in the balloting-paper.

Bro. BIRCH then moved the alterations in No. 2, stating that it would be for the convenience of the provincial brethren to do away with the May journey to London altogether, and to remain in town for an election of this Institution when they were in London for the elections of the Boys' and Girls' Schools, which had now been fixed for April. The expenses as well as the trouble of journeying to and sojourning in London would likewise be spared them.

Bro. G. P. BROCKBANK, P.G. Std. Br., seconded the motion.

A BROTHER wanted to know the reason of the proposed alteration. The Boys' and Girls' Schools had certain dates of meetings, and if the present proposition was accepted, the brethren would have to be three instead of two days here.

Bro. BIRCH said it had already been explained. A Committee was appointed to consider the question, and the Committee had reported in favour of his proposition.

Capt. S. G. HOMFRAY, P.A.G.D.C., Dep. Prov. G.M. for Monmouth, next rose and said he had much pleasure in moving as an amendment, that in place of the words "third Friday in May," to substitute "Monday following the last Friday in October."

Bro. WALTER HOPEKIRK, P.G. Purst., seconded the motion.

Bro. CHARLES LACEY, in support of the rule as it at present stands, said, he thought it was always unwise to attempt to make any great alteration in the rules unless there was a good reason for it. They had not heard

a word that day in explanation of why such an important alteration as this should take place. It seemed to him they were somewhat in the dark when they were asked to make the alteration without the reason being assigned. The very fact of passing the first resolution would be the foundation for some other great alteration which would take place. He, as one of the old members of the Institution, unless he could conceive some benefit to arise to the Institution from the alteration, would be the first to raise his voice against it. If it could be shown in any way that the proposed alteration would benefit the Institution, he would agree to it; but until that was done he would certainly not willingly consent to any alteration of the rule. Up to the present time the rule had worked satisfactorily. He thought that the report of the last Festival would show that the Craft, generally speaking, were perfectly satisfied with the way in which the affairs of this Institution were managed. (Hear, hear.) Therefore, to attempt to alter it without some very good reason was needless. If they passed this first resolution it might lay the foundation-stone for an alteration which he feared would not be satisfactory. Again, they would have entirely to alter the administration. At the meeting in May the election had been an established fact since the Institution was founded. An alteration for the purpose of making a more convenient day for some few brethren, he failed to see the urgency for. He hoped the brethren would at once set their face against it unless a very cogent reason was given.

Bro. BIRCH, in replying to Bro. Lacey, said he had thought that the advantages of the alteration would be apparent to everybody. It was proposed, in the interests of the provinces, to allow provincial brethren when coming up to London once in April not to come up in May. A joint Committee was appointed to consider and report on the proposed alteration. They had reported, and an alteration had been made in the Boys' and Girls' Institution, anticipating that this alteration would be made in the Benevolent Institution. The alteration was made to the last Friday in April and October for the Boys' School, and to the following day for the Girls', and it was proposed that the meeting and election of the Aged Freemasons and Widows should take place the following Monday. The amendment of Capt. Homfray was from the Monday following the last Friday in April to the Monday following the last Friday in October. The Secretary had been consulted, and he considered the alteration might be made. He (Bro. Birch) had previously explained the advantages to the provinces if this alteration were made. The provincial brethren had to attend at great expense both of money and time, and they therefore asked that they might be allowed to pay two visits to London a year instead of three. The provinces asked the brethren to make this alteration in the interest of the provincial brethren, and to save the expense and loss of time.

A BROTHER said that Bro. Birch had stated he had consulted the Secretary, and that the Secretary considered that the alteration might be made.

Bro. TERRY said that, as Secretary, he could concur in nothing; but as a private individual he could express an opinion. Nothing he had said had been said as Secretary.

A BROTHER enquired whether the Secretary thought the alteration would interfere with the working of the office—whether it would increase or decrease it?

Bro. J. S. CUMBERLAND said it was not a matter so much for the Secretary as for the general body of the brethren. He did not think Bro. Terry could be called upon to express an opinion on this important matter. It should be left in the hands of the brethren to decide; and whichever way they did decide, Bro. Terry would be only too glad to carry out their instructions.

Another BROTHER said he could not see any reason at all for believing that the proposed alteration would be of the slightest benefit to the Institution. It would throw a considerable amount of work on the staff, with a certain concomitant amount of expense. The alteration might suit the brethren in the provinces, and they naturally, through gaining their point, would be pleased to work harder for the Institution, which might get increased funds from them. On the other hand, those who lived in the neighbourhood of London would have a larger amount of work in one week than they could cope with, and they would have to remodel their system. Personally, he represented one of the home counties, and he was sorry to say that by the alteration, if carried out, whether the meeting was thrown at the end of April or the beginning of November, he would be knocked out of one of the elections for certain, and his province would lose his knowledge and experience, and some one would have to be appointed instead of him. A great number of the brethren were on the Stock Exchange, who took a lively interest in Freemasonry, and were great and liberal supporters of all the Institutions. They also, like himself, took an interest in the elections, and if the three elections were thrown together in the compass of the same week, it would be simply impossible for them to pay that attention to the elections they had been accustomed to give; and if they did not take part in the elections, their interest would cool down in the Institutions generally. He did not see any benefit to be derived to the Institutions from the alteration. A strict Sabbatarian might consider there would be a great breaking of the Sabbath in counting votes.

Another BROTHER said he failed to see any benefit to arise from the alteration.

Bro. J. E. LE FEUVRE, P.G.D., Dep. P.G.M. Hants and Isle of Wight, observed that this matter was discussed last year in the three Charities by representatives from the Boys' School, the Girls' School, and this Institution, who were appointed to go into the subject. They practically brought up their report that day, and it was the unanimous opinion of the Committee, formed of representatives of all three Institutions, that the alteration should be made. He submitted, that being the case, a large amount of consideration ought to be offered and given to the country supporters of the Charities by the London brethren. London brethren were always on the spot, and the country brethren lived at a considerable distance, and were naturally put to great expense and inconvenience by coming up three times a year. By the proposition now before the brethren the visits of these brethren would be limited to two, and they would have better opportunities of forwarding the interests of the Charities of the Order, and the provincial brethren asked the London brethren to consider them, as they were good supporters of the Institutions.

A BROTHER, with reference to the observation previously made as to the Sunday, said he would like to remind the brethren that at present they were here in London two Sundays in the year, and if this resolution was carried they would be here no longer.

A BROTHER from Yorkshire said he had to travel 200 miles to be present. He thought it would be a graceful act on the part of the London brethren to grant the provincial brethren this little favour.

The motion was lost by a large majority, and Bro. Birch declined to go on with his other motions.

Bro. CHARLES J. PERCEVAL proposed, and Bro. C. LACEY seconded, Bro. John A. Farnfield, P.A.G.D.C., as Treasurer.

The motion was carried unanimously.

Bro. W. CLARKE, P.G.P., moved, that Bros. A. H. Tattershall, John Newton, and J. J. Berry be re-elected Auditors; and the motion, having been seconded by Bro. C. F. HOGARD, P.G. Std. Br., was carried unanimously.

Scrutineers for the election were then selected, and the meeting proceeded to elect 23 men and 15 widows to the annuity of the Institution.

[The names of the successful candidates will be found in our advertisement columns.]

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Gloucestershire was held on Tuesday, the 15th instant, at Stow-on-the-Wold (a little Cotswold town on the Eastern border of the county), by command of Bro. the Right Hon. Sir Michael Hicks Beach, Bart., the Grand Master of the province. Notwithstanding the inconveniences of the railway service, which made it very difficult for members in distant parts of the province to attend, the number of brethren present was large; and unusual interest attached to the proceedings from the fact that two of the permanent offices, those of Dep. Prov. G.M. and Prov. G. Secretary, had lately become vacant by resignation. The lately deceased Bro. Brook-Smith, P.G.D., had resigned the Deputyship a few weeks before his death, upon his appointment to the Headmastership of the Modern side of Cheltenham College; and Bro. E. Trinder, of Cirencester, had also intimated to the Prov. G. Master that he could not accept re-appointment as Secretary. Since the re-formation of Provincial Grand Lodge for Gloucestershire in 1856, there had been but two Deputies. Bro. Newmarch, to whose personal exertions and influence the re-organisation of the province was mainly due, had his services in that respect acknowledged by being appointed Deputy to the late Lord Sherborne (then the Hon. R. Dutton) on the acceptance by the latter of the office of Prov. Grand Master in 1856. Bro. Newmarch filled the post with eminent success until 1880, when he followed his chief into retirement; and in the same year Bro. Sir Michael Hicks Beach succeeded Lord Sherborne, and selected Bro. Brook-Smith, in accordance with the general feeling of the province, as his Deputy. On Bro. Brook-Smith's retirement, Bro. Vassar-Smith was nominated as his successor, and has in the interval between his nomination and his formal investiture on Tuesday, discharged the duties of the office. Bro. Vassar-Smith is W.M. of 246, P.M. of 839, and a Past Warden of the Province; but it is pre-eminently as Provincial Charity Secretary that he has rendered service to the Craft in Gloucestershire. The Provincial Grand Secretaryship had had but one occupant since 1856, Bro. E. Trinder having filled it during the whole period. On receiving intimation of Bro. E. Trinder's retirement, the Prov. Grand Master offered the office to Bro. James B. Winterbotham, by whom it was accepted, and no appointment could have been more popular in the province. Bro. Winterbotham is a P.M. of 82. In 1874 he was appointed a Prov. Grand Deacon, and last year he held the highest office under the Deputy, that of S.W. of the province.

Provincial Grand Lodge had not been held at Stow-on-the-Wold for about 20 years, and the local lodge, No. 951, had exerted itself to atone for its shortcomings in railway communication by the hospitality of its welcome. Lodge was held in the St. Edward's Hall, a building well suited for the gathering, and the large room used as the lodge room was tastefully decorated with evergreens and flowers. The proceedings began at one o'clock, when there were present—

Bros. the Right Hon. Sir Michael Hicks Beach, Bart., M.P., R.W. Prov. G.M.; Newmarch, P.D. Prov. G.M., acting Prov. G.M.; J. B. Winterbotham, Prov. S.G.W.; E. C. Sewell, P.P.J.G.W. (in the absence of Bro. Dr. Crossman), Prov. J.G.W. (pro tem.); Rev. Dr. Lynes, Prov. G. Chap.; T. Nelson Foster, Prov. G. Treas.; E. Trinder, Prov. G. Sec.; R. V. Vassar-Smith, Prov. G. Charity Sec.; G. H. Perrin, Prov. G.S. of W.; C. Green, Prov. G.D.C.; W. E. Hayward, Prov. G.S.B.; J. A. Roberts, Prov. G.P.; E. Fisher and G. Peters, Prov. G. Stewards; Baron de Ferrieres, P.P.S. G.W., P.G.D. Eng.; W. H. Gwinnett, P.P.S.G.W., P.P.G. Treas.; H. Jeffs, P.P. S.G.W.; W. P. Want, P.P.J.G.W.; R. W. White, P.P.J.G.W.; A. V. Hatton, P.P.J.G.W.; W. Clifford, P.P.J.G.W.; G. Norman, P.P.G. Registrar; Sir Brook-Kay, Bart., P. Prov. G. Registrar; H. J. Small, P. Prov. S.G.D.; Ralph Chandler, P. Prov. S.G.D.; J. Bruton, P. Prov. S.G.D.; S. Moss, P. Prov. J.G.D.; J. Bryan, P. Prov. J.G.D.; R. W. Northcott, P. Prov. J.G.D.; W. H. C. Fisher, P. Prov. G.S. of W.; J. S. Gee, P. Prov. G.S. of W.; J. A. Matthews, P. Prov. G.S. of W.; F. Moore, P. Prov. G.D.C.; A. C. Wheeler, P. Prov. G.D.C.; H. S. Stephens, P. Prov. G.D.C.; C. M. Penly, P. Prov. G.D.C.; J. H. Wilkins, P. Prov. G. Std. Br.; F. Millman, P. Prov. G. Std. Br.; G. C. Hewitt, P. Prov. G. Std. Br.; J. G. Seymour, P. Prov. G.S.B.; R. Blizard, P. Prov. G.S.B.; W. Powell, P. Prov. G.S.B.; W. T. Byett, P. Prov. G. Std.; Edwin Denning, W.M. 951; A. R. Grieve, W.M. 702; W. Vizard, W.M. 761; H. Browett, P.M. 900; J. N. Wheatley, W.M. 270; W. Parry, W.M. 592; J. S. Tanner, P.M. 592; H. Perrett, W.M. 855; E. L. Baylis, S.W. 82; W. Heath, J.W. 246; H. League, 951; J. S. Whitham, J.W. 995; S. Bloodworth, S.W. 761; E. C. Cripps, S.W. 592; A. Baker, S.W. 900; G. C. Pike, Stwd. 839; B. London, Sec. 1005; D. Chandler, S.W. 900; J. Bradstock, I.P.M. 1067; C. E. H. Broughton, 900; C. Clark, S.D. 493; F. F. C. Jones, S.W. 951; E. P. Hooley, 951; G. E. Dowman, 951; W. G. Nicholls, 237; R. J. Weston, 493; Rev. G. P. A. Bowers, 839; R. N. Sumner, 839; H. Blandford, 761; B. Coombe, 246; H. L. Cooke, 592; J. E. Boulton, 592; W. Zachary, 592; E. N. Witchell, I.P.M. 702; F. Bailey, 1363; E. Lea, 1005; J. Bullock, 561; J. F. Nicholls, P.M. 951; E. Rowe, 839; J. Reade, 951; T. Groves, 951; Rev. W. Fawcett, 592; J. Hyde, 592.

The lodge having been duly opened, the PROV. GRAND MASTER said there was one subject in the thoughts of all them. A year ago it was his (the Prov. G.M.'s) misfortune to be absent from their meeting through illness, and then his place was taken by one of whom he could not yet trust himself to speak as he could wish. On that occasion a vote of sympathy with him (the Prov. G.M.) in his illness was passed; but little did they think then, that before another meeting was held they would mourn the loss of him through whom that expression of sympathy was conveyed, and who had done so much for Masonry in the province. No province had been more fortunate, if any had been as fortunate, as Gloucestershire had

been in its D. Prov. G.M. He had been associated for eight years with Bro. Brook-Smith in ties of that close intimacy and confidence that must exist between a Provincial Grand Master and his Deputy, and he could not overstate the assistance he had received from him. Bro. Brook-Smith had devoted his unwearied energies and his almost unequalled knowledge to the furtherance of Masonry in the province, until in April he received the appointment to the Headmastership of the Modern Department of Cheltenham College. That post seemed to have been one of the objects to which his life was devoted, and though he was in feeble health at the time, it looked as if a greater work in the future of education in England was opened up to him through it. Having received that appointment, Bro. Brook-Smith wrote to him (Sir Michael Hicks Beach) explaining that he did not feel that he could continue to fill the office he had held in Provincial G. Lodge. Though from one point of view he thought Bro. Brook-Smith's decision a wise one, yet from his position as Prov. Grand Master he was reluctant to accept the resignation, and he did not do so when it was first tendered; but Bro. Brook-Smith again wrote, emphasising his decision in terms which showed that the interests of the province rather than his own convenience prompted his action. Sir Michael concluded by proposing the record of a minute expressing the irreparable loss the province had sustained in the death of Bro. Brook-Smith and the condolence of the brethren with his family.

This was seconded by Bro. NEWMARCH and carried unanimously. The Deputy Prov. G.M., Bro. VASSAR-SMITH, as Provincial Charity Secretary, next presented the report of the Charity Committee for the past year. From this it appeared that there were now from this province four widows receiving annuities of £32 each, and one brother of £40 from the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. Six girls and six boys were being educated at the Masonic Schools.

Hitherto the provinces associated for the purposes of Charity organisation—viz., Bristol, Gloucestershire, Leicestershire and Rutland, Monmouthshire, Somersetshire, South Wales (Eastern Division), Wiltshire, and Worcestershire—had carried out their respective work separately. But for greater convenience of keeping the necessary accounts, and more particularly to ensure greater stability, they had now agreed to combine, under the title of the "Western Province Charity Association," with Bro. Capt. S. G. Homfray, D.P.G.M. Monmouthshire, as chairman, and Bro. William Nott, P.P.S.G.W., as Secretary.

Various other matters were brought before Provincial Grand Lodge. A communication from Bro. the Dean of Gloucester with reference to the ornamentation of the reredos in Gloucester Cathedral (given by the Masons of the Province, 1873) was referred to a Committee, as was also the consideration of the form of memorial to be raised to the late Deputy Prov. Grand Master.

On the motion of the PROV. GRAND MASTER, seconded by Bro. NEWMARCH, acknowledgment was also made in warm terms of the indebtedness of the province to Bro. Trinder for his long and devoted services as Secretary.

The appointment of officers was then made as follows, Bro. Vassar-Smith's appointment being marked by a few expressions of gratitude from the PROV. GRAND MASTER, and a warm demonstration of approval by members of Provincial Grand Lodge:—

Bro. R. V. Vassar-Smith, P.M. 859, W.M. 246, P.P.	
J.G.W., Prov. G. Charity Sec....	... Dep. Prov. G.M.
" J. G. Seymour, P.M. 1363, P.P.G.S.B.	... Prov. S.G.W.
" F. Millman, P.M. 855, P.P.G. Std. Br.	... Prov. J.G.W.
" J. Albin Roberts, P.M. 702, P.P.G.P.	... Prov. G. Reg.
" Rev. W. Fawcett, P.M. 592	... Prov. G. Chap.
" T. Nelson Foster, P.M. 839	... Prov. G. Treas.
" J. B. Winterbotham, P.M. 82, P.P.S.G.W.	... Prov. G. Sec.
" E. Dening, W.M. 951	... Prov. S.G.D.
" J. Wheatley, P.M. 702, W.M. 270	... Prov. J.G.D.
" R. Prowde Smith, P.M. 82	... Prov. G.S. of W.
" Gen. W. J. Vizard, W.M. 761	... Prov. G.D.C.
" E. N. Witchell, P.M. 592...	... Prov. A.G.D.C.
" W. Parry, W.M. 592	... Prov. G. Purst.
" W. Renwick, W.M. 493	... Prov. G. Swd. Br.
" J. Hyde, 592	... Prov. G. Std. Br.
" J. Bradstock, P.M. 1067	... Prov. G. Std. Br.
" H. Browett, P.M. 900	...
" B. London, Sec. 1005	... } Prov. G. Stwds.
" J. F. Nicholls, P.M. 951	...

Provincial Grand Lodge was then closed, and the brethren dined together in the lower room of the Hall.

In the course of the after-dinner proceedings the D. Prov. G.M. repeated what he had previously stated in lodge, that, relying on the support of the province, he should continue to discharge the duties of Charity Secretary.

The Prov. G.M. returned to Cheltenham as the guest of the Deputy (Bro. Vassar-Smith), at Charlton Park.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF EAST LANCASHIRE.

By command of the R.W. Bro. Col. Le Gendre N. Starkie, P.G.W., Prov. G.M., the annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge was held in Christ Church School-rooms, Heaton Norris, on Wednesday, the 16th inst. There was a large attendance of brethren, over 400 being present. The large room had been superbly decorated by Bro. Josiah Hill, P.M., P.Z., and P.P.G.S., and the scene when the brethren were assembled in their Masonic clothing was most charming. The walls throughout the entire lodge-room were draped with crimson and lace, cretonne, and other curtains. These, with the richly-coloured landscapes and clusters of bright new flags, which were introduced along the walls at equal distances, produced an effect not easily imagined, and considering the little time Bro. Hill has had to do the whole of the work proves that gentleman to be equal to any emergency. The W. Bro. Geo. Mellor, P.G.D., Dep. P.G.M., occupied the chair; Bro. C. R. N. Beswick Royds, P.P.G.W., P.G.D. of England, was the acting Dep. G.M.

The acting Prov. Grand Master and the Prov. Grand Officers were received in due form on entering the Provincial Grand Lodge room, shortly after half-past three. The roll of lodges was called over and showed all present excepting two. The minutes of the last meeting were taken as

read. A letter was read from the Prov. Grand Master, regretting that owing to urgent business in Ireland he was unable to attend. The half-yearly report of the proceedings of the Charity Committee was read, and their confirmation moved by

Bro. JAMES ARTHUR BIRCH, who said that he was glad to say they were successful in electing two girls to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, and he expressed his acknowledgments to the Province of West Yorkshire for the valuable assistance they had rendered. Another matter he referred to was in connection with the Jubilee contribution to the Benevolent Institution. The magnificent sum contributed, £2860, delighted the heart of the Secretary, who said that without East Lancashire he did not know what they would have done. He moved that the list of Jubilee contributions to the Royal Benevolent Institution for Widows and Aged Freemasons be recorded on the minutes of Provincial Grand Lodge.

Bro. G. P. BROCKBANK seconded the motion, which was agreed to.

Bro. HEELIS moved that the sum of £50 be contributed from the Prov. Grand Lodge Fund in aid of the East Lancashire Systematic Masonic Educational and Benevolent Institution. He said the motion was one which was regularly brought forward in that Prov. Grand Lodge, and he believed it always met with the approval of the brethren.

Bro. J. L. SILLITOE seconded the motion, and it was passed.

A discussion took place in reference to the report of the By-laws Committee, and ultimately it was referred back, a copy of the report, with the proposed alterations, to be sent to every lodge in the province.

The ACTING P.G.M. proposed that the sum of 100 guineas be contributed to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls.

The Acting Deputy P.G.M., Bro. ROYDS, seconded the motion, and

Bro. BIRCH explained that the P.G.M. was already a Patron of the Institution for Boys, and that contribution would make him a Patron of the Institution for Girls.

Bro. NICHOLL, in presenting the Treasurer's balance sheet, showing a balance in hand of £279 11s. 9d., said there was not much that called for remark, and the incomings and outgoings had gone on very much the same as in former years, notwithstanding he had been at the head of affairs. They had a slight increase in income, about £68, and he noticed that the expenditure had been a little less than in former years by some £56. He expressed his acknowledgments to the Prov. Grand Secretary for the assistance he had rendered him, and so much had this been the case that the Treasurership was practically a job with all the work taken out of it. He was sure the Auditors would be able to tell them that they had found the Treasurer's accounts in good order.

On the motion of Bro. LIVESEY, seconded by Bro. BAGNELL, two of the Auditors, the accounts were adopted.

Bro. BROCKBANK moved a vote of thanks to Bro. Nicholl, the retiring P.G. Treasurer, for his past services, which was agreed to and duly acknowledged.

There were three brethren nominated for the office of Treasurer, namely, Bros. J. W. Edwards, P.M. 317; Alfred H. Williams, W.M. 2156; and J. W. Allison, P.M. 993. These were duly proposed, and the following was the result of the ballot: Bro. Allison, 150; Bro. Edwards, 90; and Bro. Williamson, 45.

The appointment and investiture of Prov. Grand Officers then took place as follow:

Bro. James Heelis, 62	...	...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" James G. Meakin, 992	...	...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" Rev. A. Parkinson, 999	...	...	...	...
" Rev. E. Bigoe Bagot, 62...	...	...	...	Prov. G. Chaps.
" Walter H. Vaughan, 1030	...	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" John Chadwick, 44	...	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" Wm. Bagnall, 204	...	...	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" Nathaniel Nicholson, 1723	...	...	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" George Board, 1798	...	...	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" C. D. Cheetham, jun., 993	...	...	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" John Holroyd, 1134	...	...	...	Prov. G.S. of W.
" A. Pemberton, 1030	...	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" Thomas Parkinson, 269	...	...	...	Prov. D.G.D.C.
" Thomas Woodcock, 191	...	...	...	Prov. A.G.D.C.
" Joseph Mellor, 1392	...	...	...	Prov. G. Swd. Br.
" Samuel Warburton, 1052...	...	...	...	Prov. G. Std. Br.
" Wm. Cooper, 146	...	...	...	Prov. G. Std. Br.
" W. Tattersall, 345	...	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" James Newton, 37	...	...	...	Prov. A.G. Sec.
" Joseph Harling, 1948	...	...	...	Prov. G. Purst.
" J. Heap, 344	...	...	...	Prov. A.G. Purst.
" R. R. Lisenden, 317	...	...	...	...
" W. Cartwright, 633	...	...	...	...
" Kenneth Maclean, 1030	...	...	...	...
" E. W. Irving, 1170	...	...	...	...
" E. G. Lingard, 1030	...	...	...	...
" J. Cooper, 1030	...	...	...	...
" Thomas Higson, 348	...	...	...	Prov. G. Tyler.

The Prov. Grand Lodge having been closed, the brethren adjourned to the banquet, which took place at the Pendlebury Institute. The noble hall had been beautifully decorated, and the catering was in the hands of Mr. Parrish, of the George Hotel.

Bro. Geo. Mellor, the acting P.G.M., presided, and there was a fair attendance of brethren. On the removal of the cloth the usual toast list was gone through.

Too much praise cannot be accorded to Bro. W. H. Vaughan, P.G.R., for the admirable arrangements made for the comfort of the brethren present. Everything passed off most splendidly, and the meeting held at Stockport will be numbered among the most successful yet held.

LUMLEY, JAMES, COL. THE HON.—Was present at the initiation of his Royal Highness Frederick Prince of Wales, at Kew Palace, November 5th, 1737. We think it well to express here our opinion that Dermott's statement, on which Oliver seems to have relied, that Bros. Ewen, Désaguliers, Erasmus King, Wm. Gofton, Lord Baltimore, formerly Calvert, Madden, De Noyer, and Vraden, who were the original "Trusty Fellow Crafts," aided to establish the Grand Lodge of 1717 cannot be accepted. With the exception of Désaguliers, none of these brethren are previously mentioned by Anderson.—*Kenning's Cyclopædia of Freemasonry.*

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF THE NORTH AND EAST RIDINGS OF YORKSHIRE.

A Provincial Grand Chapter and general communication of Royal Arch Masons of this province was held at the Masonic Hall, Scarborough (on the invitation of the Old Globe and Denison Chapters, Nos. 200 and 1248), on Wednesday, the 9th inst., under the presidency of Comp. the Right Honourable the Earl of Zetland, Most Excellent Grand Superintendent, who was supported by the following officers:

Comps. J. W. Woodall, P.G. Treas. Eng., P.P.G.H., P.Z. 200, as P.G.H.; John Blenkin, P.Z. 1611, P.G.J.; M. C. Peck, Asst. G.D. of C. Eng., P.Z. 250, P.G.S.E.; John Sugden, P.Z. 294, P.G.S.N.; Walter Reynolds, P.P.G.H., P.Z. 250, P.G. Treas.; F. W. Booty, P.P.G.R., P.Z. 1248, as P.G. Reg.; J. F. Nicholson, P.Z. 1010, P.G.P.S.; W. H. Falkingbridge, P.P.G.S., P.Z. 312, as P.G. 1st A.S.; Geo. Ayre, Z. 312, P.G. 2nd A.S.; J. H. Hackett, H. 200, P.G. Swd. B.; T. M. Goldie, P.P.G. Std. B., Z. 660, as P.G. Std. B.; John Dunn, P.Z. 734, P.G.D. of C.; James Bordass, P.P.A.G.D. of C., Z. 734, as P.A.G.D. of C.; Vessey King, 250, P.P.G.O., as P.G. Org.; and F. J. Lambert, 1010, P.G. Janitor.

There were also present:

Comps. Alex. Fraser, P.Z. 200, P.P.G.H.; H. O. Piercy, P.Z. 734, P.P.G.J.; W. H. Marwood, P.P.G.J.; Geo. Wilson, P.Z. 57; M. Haberland, P.Z. 57; and Jas. S. Moss, P.Z. 312, P.P.G. Scribes N.; G. Chambers, P.Z. 200; Richard Beevers, P.Z. 57; H. O. Williamson, P.Z. 200; and John Marshall, P.Z. 660, P.P.G.P. Sojourners; R. H. Peacock, P.Z. 200, P.P.G. Swd. Br.; W. Tesseymann, P.Z. 57; W. F. W. Atkinson, P.Z. 448; and J. B. Nicholls, H. 660, P.P.G. Std. Br.; Col. R. G. Smith, P.Z. 1010, P.P.G.D.C.; J. Knaggs, P.Z. 200; S. Middleton, P.Z. 200; Charles Travers, P.Z. 200; J. C. Heselton, P.Z. 294; S. Reed, P.Z. 312; Geo. Padley, P.Z. 1248; W. B. Richardson, Z. 200; Thomas Oates, Z. 250; Jas. Robinson, Z. 1605; S. W. Fisher, Z. 1248; Edward Corris, H. 57; F. Thornton, H. 312; W. Ascough, H. 1248; M. M. Westoby, J. 294; W. Y. Lockley, J. 312; W. B. Hutton, 57; Jas. Thyer, 57; John Mackail, 57; J. N. Lawson, 312; J. Bean, 312; Wm. Clarkson, 312; Thomas Atkinson, 312; J. S. Stewart, 312; W. H. Attley, 312; J. T. Oliver, 312; Thos. H. Dunn, 200; Wm. Stockdale, 660; T. Masterman, 1611; W. B. Dyson, 1611; R. Lancelott, 1248; and others.

The chapter having been duly opened, the minutes of the last general convocation were read and confirmed.

It was moved by Comp. WALTER REYNOLDS, P.Z. 250, P.G. Treas., seconded by Comp. W. H. MARWOOD, P.Z. 312, P.P.G.J., and resolved, "That the Provincial Grand Lodge by-laws as revised by the Committee appointed for that purpose be adopted in the place of the by-laws in force since 1871."

The P.G.S.E. then called the roll of the Royal Arch Chapters, which showed all to be represented; they then communicated, showing there were 611 Royal Arch Masons in communication with the 15 chapters of the province.

The TREASURER read his balance sheet, which had been duly examined and found correct by the Auditors, Comps. W. B. Richardson, Z. 200, and Thos. Oates, Z. 250. It was unanimously adopted. The finances are in a very satisfactory state.

The GRAND SUPERINTENDENT then appointed and invested the officers for the ensuing year as follows:

Comp. Col. R. G. Smith, P.P.G.D.C., P.Z. 1010	...	Prov. G.H.
" W. B. Richardson, Z. 200	...	Prov. G.J.
" M. C. Peck, Asst. G.D.C. of Eng., P.Z. 250	...	Prov. G.S.E.
" Edward Corris, H. 57	...	Prov. G.S.N.
" S. W. Fisher, Z. 1248	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" J. C. Heselton, P.Z. 294	...	Prov. G.P. Soj.
" Wm. Brown, H. 1611	...	Prov. G. 1st A. Soj.
" James Thyer, 57	...	Prov. G. 2nd A. Soj.
" F. Thornton, H. 312	...	Prov. G. Swd. B.
" James Robinson, Z. 1605	...	Prov. G. Std. Br.
" M. M. Westoby, J. 294	...	Prov. G.D. of C.
" John Mackail, 57	...	Prov. A.G.D. of C.
" A. Sample, 236	...	Prov. G. Org.
" Thos. Oates, Z. 250	...	Prov. A.G.S.E.
" F. J. Lambert, 1010	...	Prov. G. Janitor.

The election of the Prov. G. Treasurer was then proceeded with.

Comp. W. B. RICHARDSON, Z. 200, P.G.J., proposed the re-election of Comp. Walter Reynolds, P.Z. 250, which was seconded by Comp. W. H. FALKINGBRIDGE, P.Z. 312, P.P.G.S., and carried unanimously.

The M.E. GRAND SUPERINTENDENT then addressed the Prov. Grand Chapter as follows: Excellent Companions of the Royal Arch,—We are again met together at this, our annual convocation, and I greet you with all the good wishes that a Mason can entertain for his companions. Since we last assembled the Jubilee of our Most Gracious Sovereign has been celebrated by the nation, and by our Masonic body, in a worthy and befitting manner. To mark the occasion the M.E. First Grand Principal, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, was pleased to appoint our distinguished Comp. the Hon. W. T. Orde-Powlett to the rank of P.G.S.N. in the Supreme Grand Chapter, and last week our S.E., Comp. M. C. Peck, was appointed A.G.D.C. for the ensuing year. We heartily congratulate those worthy companions on their preferment, and wish them long life to enjoy the honours they have received. We have to mourn the loss of several esteemed companions who have gone before us to a brighter world than this, amongst whom were Comps. the Rev. Canon Kemp, P.Z. of the Minerva Chapter, and George Hardy, P.P.G.S.N. Otherwise there have been but few events of moment amongst us; we have progressed slowly but steadily, no complaints have been presented before me, and I may congratulate the province upon the continued harmony which prevails—and we trust ever will prevail—amongst the several chapters. The Centenary of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls will be celebrated next month by a Grand Festival in the Royal Albert Hall, London, when his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales has consented to take the chair. I have undertaken a Stewardship in connection with that event, and shall be supported by the Past Grand Treasurer, Comp. J. W. Woodall, by the Prov. Grand Scribe E., by the Charity Representative of the province, Comp. Col. R. G. Smith, and other companions from North and

East Yorkshire who are also acting as Stewards; and I trust the contributions from the various lodges and chapters will be worthy of my province, and of this interesting occasion. I must now express my thanks, and those of the Provincial Grand Chapter, to the Principals, Officers, and companions of the Old Globe and Denison Chapters for their generous hospitality, and for the excellent arrangements made for this meeting. It is always a pleasure to visit Scarborough; the beauty of the "Queen of Watering Places," the hearty greetings we receive from the brethren, and the accommodation afforded by the valuable and convenient Masonic Hall and Club-house, combine to render Scarborough a model Masonic centre, and one well worthy of imitation in other places. With these few observations I beg to thank all the companions present for the agreeable character of this meeting, and for the pleasure I have received on this occasion.

The closing hymn having been sung, the Provincial Grand Chapter was closed.

A luncheon was subsequently held at the Royal Hotel, at which the Provincial Second Grand Principal presided, who was supported by the Provincial Grand Officers and other companions, and a short but agreeable meal was enjoyed.

CONSECRATION OF THE NAUNTON DAVIES CHAPTER, NO. 1578.

The above chapter was consecrated at the Masonic Hall, Pontypridd, on Monday, the 14th inst., by the M.E. Comp. M. Tennant, G. Sup., as M.E.Z., assisted by Comps. S. Cooper, Prov. Grand H.; Dr. Walters, Prov. Grand J.; W. Whittington, Prov. Grand E.; and others. Comps. H. Naunton Davies, P.M., P. Prov. G.R., was the M.E.Z. designate; Richard Male, P.M., P. Prov. G.R., H. designate; and Robert Charles Hunter, P.M., P. Prov. S.G.D., J. designate.

The following inscribed their names in the signature book:

Comps. M. Tennant, M.E.Z.; S. Cooper, H.; Thomas Walters, J.; H. N. Davies, R. Male, R. C. Hunter, J. F. M'Clune, Stephen Lewis, W. R. Perrott, and W. H. Key. Visitors: Comps. S. George Homtray, P.G.H. Mon.; W. Watkins, P.Z. 683; C. H. Oliver, P.Z.; Samuel Davies, P.Z.; W. Hopkins, D. E. Davies, E. Roberts, P.Z.; George Smith, P.M. 199, P.Z.; E. J. Thomas, P.Z. 36; George Hazell, John Munday, H. 36; W. H. Williams, F. G. Hodges, W. D. John, H. 1754; R. C. Roper, A. P. Fabian, Neil Leitch, F. P. Adey, Z. 36; J. R. Davies, W. Whittington, P.G. Scribe E.; W. G. Davies. Sidney Coleman, Amos Jenkins, Janitor 36; George Butterwell, Janitor 237; and J. C. Sladen, P.Z. 237.

The ceremony of consecration was impressively performed by Comps. Tennant, G. Supt., as M.E.Z.; S. Cooper, as H.; and T. Walters, as J.

After the introductory prayer the names of the founders of the Naunton Davies Chapter were called and arranged in order, viz.: Comps. H. N. Davies, P.M. 1578, St. John's Chapter, No. 36, P.P.G.R. South Wales, East Division; Richard Male, P.M. 1578, St. John's Chapter, No. 36, P.P.G.R. South Wales, East Division; Robert C. Hunter, P.M. 1578, St. John's Chapter, No. 36; John Francis M'Clune, St. John's Chapter, No. 36; William R. Perrott, St. John's Chapter, No. 36; Stephen Lewis, P.M. 1578, St. John's Chapter, No. 36; W. Howells Key, P.M. 1578, St. John's Chapter, No. 36; S. Cooper, P.Z. St. John's Chapter, No. 36, Prov. G.J.; James Huron, P.Z. St. John's Chapter, Prov. G. Treasurer.

The petition and charter having been read by Comp. WHITTINGTON, Prov. G.S.E., and the G. Supt., M.E. Comp. TENNANT, as Consecrating Officer, having enquired of the companions of the new chapter if they approved of the officers who were nominated in the charter to preside over them, he called upon Comp. Thomas Walters, Prov. G.J., to deliver his oration. Comp. Walters performed his task in a most able and impressive manner.

The usual anthems having been rendered, the three Principals proceeded with the completion of the consecration ceremony, which was performed with dignity and solemnity throughout, Comp. C. H. Oliver, P.Z. 471, who presided at the organ, adding considerably to the ceremony by the accomplished manner in which he acted his part. The M.E. G. Supt., Comp. M. Tennant, next proceeded with the installation of the three Principals. Before closing, Comp. H. N. Davies, first Z. of the new chapter, which bears his name, invested his officers for the ensuing year as follows: Comps. J. F. M'Clune, S.E. and Treas.; W. H. Key, S.N.; Stephen Lewis, P.S.; W. R. Perrott, 1st Asst. Soj.; Joseph Sprague, 2nd Asst. Soj.; and Albert Parsons, Janitor.

The visiting companions were then invited to luncheon with the companions of the new chapter.

PROVINCIAL GRAND MARK LODGE OF WEST YORKSHIRE.

The half-yearly meeting was held at Huddersfield on Wednesday, the 9th inst., under the banner of the Lodge of Truth, No. 137. The lodge was opened by the W.M. and officers of the Truth Lodge, and a candidate advanced to the Degree of a Mark Master Mason. The R.W. Prov. G. Mark Master and his officers entered at 4.30 as Provincial Grand Lodge was duly opened.

The following brethren were present—

Bros. C. L. Mason, Prov. G.M.; Rev. T. C. Smyth, D.D., P.G. Chap. of Eng., Dep. P.G.M.; H. S. Holdsworth, Prov. S.G.W.; Jeremiah Atherton, Prov. J.G.W.; C. T. Rhodes, P.P.G.W.; John Barker, Grand I. of W., P.P.G.W.; Henry France, P.P.G.W.; J. W. Monckman, P.G. Stwd., P.P.G.W.; Joseph L. Pugh, M.D., P.P. G.W.; W. R. Massie, Prov. G.M.O.; George Horsfall, as Prov. S.G.O.; Henry A. Styling, Prov. J.G.O.; Rev. William Dunn, Prov. G. Chap., G.H.; Radcliff, P.P. G.O.; W. F. Tomlinson, P.P.G.O.; George Marshall, P.P.G.O.; E. J. Massie, Prov. G. Reg.; W. Cooke, Past G.O., Prov. G. Sec.; Francis Smith, Prov. S.G.D.; Charles Greenwood, Prov. J.G.D.; Charles Nicholson, P.P.G.D.; Henry Smith, P.G.I. of W.; Fred Barber, Prov. G.D. of C.; Thomas Howden, P.G. Std. Br.; G. F. Carr, Prov. G. Org.; Thomas Myers, P.G.I.G.; Thomas Gaukrope, Joseph P. Hewitt, John J. Green, and Edwin Billington, Prov. G. Stwds.; Henry Shaw, P.P. G. Std. Br., as Prov. G. Tyler; Robert Craig, P.P.G. Swd. Br.; Rev. J. H. Evans, and S. Barraud, 111.

The R.W. Prov. G.M., in answer to his salutation, said he desired first to thank the brethren for their kind salutation and warm reception, and the brethren of the Lodge of Truth for the preparation they had made for

their reception. The last time Prov. Grand Lodge visited Huddersfield was in February, 1881. Since then many changes had taken place. Some had been called away, yet he rejoiced to find still actively supporting the Lodge of Truth such old and esteemed P.M.'s as Bros. Marshall and Williamson. All lodges had their periods of vicissitude and prosperity, and "Truth" was no exception to this rule. Under the skilful Master-ship of Bro. Barker, P.M. (this year Grand Inspector of Works), he had no doubt it would continue to prosper. The V.W. Deputy Prov. G.M. had kindly undertaken to give an address, so that it was not necessary for him to occupy much time, but he should, however, like to call the attention of the brethren to the installation of the Prov. G.M. of N. and E. Yorkshire, R.W. Bro. the Hon. T. W. Orde-Powlett, P.G. Warden, which would take place at Malton on Wednesday, the 24th inst. His Deputy and himself had received invitations to be present, and he hoped he might be also accompanied by other members of the province. Notwithstanding the heavy claims of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls at the Centenary Festival he was informed that their Mark Benevolent Festival was likely also to receive a fair amount of support. Several brethren of West Yorks had intimated their intention of being Stewards. Bro. Matier forcibly put before them at the meeting at Barnsley the object and work of the Fund. It was doing a quiet, unobtrusive work; 36 children were being and had been educated, besides annuities paid to decayed brethren. He commended it to their kind sympathy and support.

The roll of lodges was called, when it was found all the lodges in the province were represented. The roll of Provincial Officers was called, and the minutes of the last meeting at Barnsley, on October 24th, 1887, were confirmed.

Bro. T. C. SMYTH, D.D., Past G. Chap., D. Prov. G.M., then read a very able paper on the mark made by notable pillars of Masonry as K.S. and H.K. of T. In conclusion he said he would add a few words regarding the material works of those who have "made their mark" in a literal as well as a figurative sense. They little knew how the dwellers in foreign countries, such as the one in which his lot was cast, for many and many a year lament the absence of those sweet associations, those assuring thoughts, with which the temples of their native land have of old affected them. They think of the feet that in by-gone years have trod those aisles; of the fervent hearts that have throbbed beneath those ancient walls; of the lips that have swelled with a trembling joy; the songs of praise that so often have echoed from those hallowed roofs. Built for the most part by the tasteful skill and not rarely endowed by the piety of brethren and rulers in Masonry were the stately cathedrals and venerable churches throughout the length and breadth of England; those noble monuments of faith and wisdom, of strength and beauty. The marks of the workmen still remain on the stones which they laid, the memorials of many such builders and founders are still reposing within those walls, while their best and truest record is on high; their names are inscribed, as we trustfully hope, in the books of Heaven; their spirits in the regions of rest and bliss are awaiting the dawn of the resurrection day. Removed from the labours of an earthly lodge, they still, as our fathers and brethren in Masonry, are united with them by indissoluble ties. Our Divine Grand Master, our noble brotherhood, our final home, are all the same; that home where they who built the house and they who, for ages, have worshipped within it, may yet be one, children alike of that glorious Fraternity, of which her loving and faithful members will ever declare "Thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God. The Lord do so to me and more also if aught but death part thee and me."

"They built in marble—built as they
Who wished these stones might see the day
When God shall come, and these vast walls
May stand o'er them when judgment calls.
Not that the shrines in grandeur built
Can do away the stains of guilt,
But witnesses they are of love,
Which only shall unfailling prove
Of paths in deep abasement trod,
Of self that died to live to God."

Such then were a few of the lessons which the "marks" moral and material, of Phœnicians, of Hebrew, of Ancient and Modern Masons in many a land had suggested to him for their edification. The names of thousands among them were forgotten, but still their labours still remain to teach unperishable truths to Craftsmen in every Degree.

A hearty and unanimous vote of thanks was accorded to Dr. Smyth for his paper, and a wish expressed that it might be published. Invitations were given from Sheffield, Wakefield, and Halifax, for the next meeting of Prov. G. Lodge.

Prov. Grand Lodge was then closed, and the brethren afterwards sat down to tea, after which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given.

CONSECRATION OF THE ST. OSWALD LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS, No. 387, AT CROWLE.

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W. Grand Mark Master, having been pleased to grant a warrant of constitution for a new lodge of Mark Masters, to be held at Crowle, near Doncaster, and to be called the St. Oswald Lodge, No. 387, the lodge was consecrated on the 17th inst., by Bro. Jack Sutcliffe, Prov. Grand Mark Master of Lincolnshire.

Previous to the consecration ceremony, Bro. F. Baines, P.P.G.S.B., W.M. of the John O'Gaunt Lodge, 172, assisted by his officers, advanced seven brethren.

Bro. Jack Sutcliffe, P.G.M. Lincolnshire, assisted by the Grand Officers of the Province, then consecrated the new lodge, according to ancient custom.

Bro. Thomas Staniforth, P.G.S.O., S.W. 172, was afterwards installed as W.M., by Bro. Anderson Bates, D.P.G.M.M., and invested his officers as follows: Bros. W. Delanoy, S.W.; R. N. Brunyee, P.G.I.G., J.W.; Rev. J. B. Le Gassick, M.A., M.O. and Chap.; C. Fox, S.O.; R. J. M. Behrendt, J.O.; T. C. Horobin, Treas. and R. of M.; R. Wood, Sec.; W. Chamberlain, S.D.; Baines, J.D. (pro tem.); G. Robinson, I.G.; and W. Pickering, Tyler.

Among the visitors present were—

Bros. G. Scott, Tyler 172; W. H. Roberts, P.G.D.C.; W. R. F. Morton, P.G. Sec.; A. F. Curtis, P.S.G.D.; C. Greenhalgh, P.P.G.S. of Wks.; W. Mason, P.P.A.G. D.C.; G. Wright, P.P.J.G.O.; B. F. Adlard, Sec. 172; J. M. Read, P.S.G.W., W.M. 117; F. Baines, P.P.G.S.B., W.M. 172; J. Laughton, P.P.J.G.W.; R. J. Tonge, P.G.C.; C. F. Liversidge, P.P.S.G.W.; J. F. Jonson, 172; Rev. C. E. Laing, Chap. 172; and others.

After the installation the brethren attended a banquet, at which the newly-installed W.M. presided.

In proposing the toast of "The M.W.G.M. and the Officers of the Grand Lodge," Bro. STANIFORTH referred to the great progress that Mark Masonry had made under the Grand Mastership of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales.

Bro. STANIFORTH, in proposing the toast of "The R.W.P.G.M., the W.D.P.G.M., and the rest of the P.G. Officers, Present and Past," said that that was the toast of the evening. The name of Sutcliffe was honoured and revered throughout the Province of Lincolnshire. A memorial to the late Bro. John Sutcliffe, father of Bro. Jack Sutcliffe, had just been completed. He wished to thank Bro. Sutcliffe for the assistance he had given him in establishing the lodge, and also to thank Bro. Anderson Bates for his kindness in installing him.

Bro. SUTCLIFFE, in responding to the toast, said that he wished to thank the brethren for the hearty manner in which they had received the toast. It was a pleasure to visit Crowle. The ceremony in which they had just been engaged was an evidence that Mark Masonry was making progress in the Province of Lincolnshire. He must refer to the efficient and earnest manner in which the ceremony of advancement had been carried out by the officers of the John O'Gaunt Lodge. The whole province would be gratified that an additional wing had been attached to the main body.

Bro. ANDERSON BATES proposed "The Health of the first W.M. of the St. Oswald Lodge." He said he wished to congratulate the lodge upon the efficiency of its Master. It was of great importance that the first Master of a lodge should possess an ardent love for Masonry, and should also possess personal characteristics which would attract the brethren to the lodge, and add to its prosperity and harmony. A Mark lodge conferred only one Degree, and the interest sometimes flagged when no advancements were on, but he trusted that would not be the case in the St. Oswald Lodge. It was important that in all lodges an interest should be created, not only in the ceremonies, but beyond the ceremonies, in promoting a spirit of Brotherhood in binding the brethren together.

Bro. STANIFORTH, in reply, said that the staff of officers that had been appointed that day were men upon whom he could thoroughly rely for assistance. Many of them had ably assisted him when he was Master of the Craft lodge. It was no light matter to discharge the duties of Master, but he would strive to do his best, with the assistance of his officers.

Bro. R. WOOD, in proposing "The Health of the Installing Master and the Visiting Brethren," said that it was a pleasure to witness the efficient and quiet way in which Bro. Bates had performed his work that day. The new W.M. was an old friend of his, and he was pleased with the kind and gentle manner in which he had been handled by Bro. Bates. As regarded the visitors, it was not generally known that the Isle of Axholme was situated in the county of Lincoln. The inhabitants of the Isle were peculiar, but they were exceedingly hospitable. The Crowle Masons had always welcomed their brethren from foreign parts, and hospitality was one of their characteristics. They were proud of their Gainsborough brethren, and proud that they emanated from the John O'Gaunt Lodge. He hoped it would not be the last time that the Provincial Grand Officers visited the lodge.

Bro. MASON, on behalf of the visitors, thanked the brethren of the St. Oswald Lodge for the spontaneous and exuberant greeting that they had received. On behalf of the officers of John O'Gaunt Lodge, he thanked the brethren who had spoken of the way in which the ceremony of advancement had been performed.

Bro. BAINES proposed "The Health of the Officers of the New Lodge." He felt some diffidence in coming among Provincial Grand Officers, after having been installed only three weeks since. He was pleased that the new lodge had emanated from Gainsborough, and also that his S.W. had been chosen its first Master.

Bro. T. C. HOROBIN then proposed "The Charities."

Bro. FOX having responded to the toast, Bro. BATES said he wished to say a word or two in response to the contributions of the province to the Charities. He was one of the leaders in getting up "The Sutcliffe Memorial Fund," for Aged and Distressed Masons in Lincolnshire. In a few days he would be able to hand over a 1000 guineas to the Fund. No lodge had so promptly answered his call as had the Isle of Axholme Lodge. Certain reflections had recently been cast on the Province of Lincolnshire on account of the effort that had been made to raise this Fund. In his opinion they were not robbing the Central Charities, but were supporting them in so far as they relieved the claims upon the principal funds, and he also believed and trusted that the lodges of the province subscribed as liberally to those funds as they would otherwise have done.

Bro. Rev. J. B. LE GASSICK having proposed "The Ladies," and Bro. W. PICKERING the Tyler's toast, the proceedings closed, after a very enjoyable day, with the singing of "Auld Lang Syne."

The speeches were interspersed with songs by Bros. Adlard, Fox, and Wood, and during the evening the bells of the parish church of St. Oswald rang out merrily in honour of the New St. Oswald Lodge.

In connection with the ceremonies of the day, special mention should be made of the manner in which Bro. Roberts, P.G.D.C., discharged his duties. He is the prince of D.C.'s.

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Grand Patroness:

H.R.H. THE PRINCESS OF WALES.

THE CENTENARY FESTIVAL

Will be celebrated

On THURSDAY, 7th JUNE, 1888,

(The day after the Meeting of United Grand Lodge),

AT THE ROYAL ALBERT HALL,

On which occasion

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES,
K.G., &c., &c., M.W.G.M.,

WILL PRESIDE.

PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF STEWARDS:

The Right Hon. The EARL OF LATHOM, D.G.M.,
Prov. G.M. Lancashire, Western Division.

It is most important that Brethren desiring to act as Stewards on this unique occasion should communicate their intention to the Secretary with as little delay as possible, in order that the necessary arrangements may be made.

F. R. W. HEDGES, Sec.

5, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.

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

THE NINETIETH

ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL

Will be held at

FREEMASONS' TAVERN, GREAT QUEEN STREET, W.C.,

On WEDNESDAY, 27th JUNE, 1888,

Under the presidency of

VISCOUNT EBRINGTON, M.P.,
R.W. Provincial Grand Master of Devon.

President Board of Stewards—

R.W. BRO. COL. MALET DE CARTERET, Vice-Patron
of the Institution, Prov. Grand Master Jersey.

Hon. Treasurer—

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May, 1888. V.-Pat., Secretary.

The services of Brethren as Stewards are most urgently needed this year, as, owing to the confidently anticipated, and naturally to be expected, exceptional support assured to the Centenary Celebration of the Sister Institution, the gravest apprehensions are excited as to the realisation of the amount absolutely required to meet the Ordinary Annual Expenditure.

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HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES,
K.G., &c., M.W.G.M.

At the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of this Institution, held at Freemasons' Hall, London, on Friday, May 18th, 1888, W. Bro. J. L. MATHER, V.P., P.A.G. Dir. of Cers., in the Chair, after the General Business was disposed of, the Governors and Subscribers proceeded to the Election of 23 Male Annuitants from an approved list of 67 Candidates, and 15 Female Annuitants from an approved list of 64 Candidates, when the following were declared duly ELECTED:—

MALES.				Votes.
Bro. Wharton, Henry	...	...	...	2408
Bro. Middleton, Thos. Jas.	...	...	...	2306
Bro. Wallace, W. S.	...	...	...	2288
Bro. Codd, Frederic	...	...	...	2244
Bro. Haxthausen, O.	...	...	...	2241
Bro. Smith, John	...	...	...	2214
Bro. Hyde, John	...	...	...	2148
Bro. Hogg, H. L.	...	...	...	2145
Bro. Garland, J.	...	...	...	2116
Bro. Bennett, William	...	...	...	2098
Bro. Vass, John	...	...	...	2080
Bro. Jobling, M.	...	...	...	2079
Bro. Somerton, W.	...	...	...	2049
*Bro. Luff, Henry	...	...	...	2030
*Bro. Whitehouse, Samuel	...	...	...	1939
*Bro. Seagrave, Isaac	...	...	...	1931
*Bro. Hoile, J. S.	...	...	...	1928
*Bro. Ingram, William	...	...	...	1923
*Bro. Homewood, S.	...	...	...	1881
*Bro. Currie, John	...	...	...	1813
Bro. Holdsworth, J. (deferred)	...	...	...	1788
Bro. Bray, Samuel (deferred)	...	...	...	1733
Bro. Laskey, J. J. (deferred)	...	...	...	1715

WIDOWS.

Mrs. Pullen, M. A.	...	...	...	2958
Mrs. Cooley, Eliza L.	...	...	...	2797
Mrs. Read, Emma	...	...	...	2505
Mrs. Harding, Selina	...	...	...	2496
*Mrs. Harrison, Mary A.	...	...	...	2434
*Mrs. Vasey, Alice	...	...	...	2351
*Mrs. Hartley, Isabella	...	...	...	2333
*Mrs. Wright, Mary E.	...	...	...	2193
*Mrs. Moss, Susan	...	...	...	2172
*Mrs. Ford, Mary Ann	...	...	...	2158
*Mrs. Yeoman, Esther	...	...	...	2132
*Mrs. Somers, Elizabeth	...	...	...	1784
Mrs. Griffiths, A. M. (deferred)	...	...	...	1755
Mrs. Worley, G. S. (deferred)	...	...	...	1720
Mrs. Themans, M. A. (deferred)	...	...	...	1504

The Votes of the Unsuccessful Candidates will be carried forward to next election.

These marked * are elected to fill vacancies occasioned by death since the voting papers were issued.

The three lowest on the poll (both male and female) will be placed on the list of annuitants as vacancies occur.

By order.

JAMES TERRY,
Secretary.

May 18th, 1888.

The ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL in connection with this Institution will be held on Wednesday, the 27th of February, 1889, under the presidency of the Right Hon. the EARL OF EUSTON, R.W. Provincial Grand Master of Northants and Hunts. Names of Brethren willing to act as Stewards on the occasion will be gratefully received.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

ELIZABETH SOMERS, widow of Elias Somers, P.M. 1602, 1897, Prov. G. Purst. Middx., returns her grateful thanks to the numerous brethren and friends who so kindly supported her at the election of the R.M.B.I. for Widows of Freemasons, on Friday, 18th inst., which fortunately resulted in her success.

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TESTIMONIAL to Bro. THOMAS POORE, P.M., P.Z., P.M. (Mark), P.W.C.N. (Ark Mariners), P.T.I.M. (Cryptic Degrees), 18°, &c.

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.
W. Bro. Baron de Ferrieres.	" G. Graveley.
" Maj. G. Lambert.	" E. Storr.
" George Kenning.	" T. Clarke.
" G. Lilley.	" C. Slater.
" W. R. Palmer.	" H. H. Shirley.
" T. C. Walls.	" R. B. Bryant.
" H. J. Lardner.	" J. Voisey.
" J. L. Mather.	" G. W. Marsden, jr.
" C. F. Matier.	" G. Allen.
" T. Cubitt.	" C. Pulman.

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Bro. J. Tucker ...	1 1 0
" J. L. Dale ...	0 10 0

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WANTED (to complete a set)

Freemason, No. 624, Feb. 19th, 1881. Anyone having a spare copy will much oblige by forwarding it to HENRY SADLER, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, London, W.C.

UNITED NORTHERN COUNTIES LODGE, No. 2128.

The Regular Meeting of the above Lodge will be held at the INNS OF COURT HOTEL, Lincoln's-Inn-Fields, at 5 p.m. prompt, on TUESDAY, June 5th next, and as there will be a great number of Masons in London during that week, Provincial and other Brethren are cordially invited. Supper after Lodge, 3s. 6d. each.—S. B. BOLAS, Secretary, 11, Ludgate-hill, E.C.

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N.B.—This Anthem is already on several cathedral lists, and will shortly be in a second edition.

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TO OUR READERS.

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To Correspondents.

Several communications unavoidably stand over.

BOOKS, &c., RECEIVED.

"Freemasons' Repository," "Boletín Oficial," and "South African Freemason."



SATURDAY, MAY 26, 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.]

MASONIC OFFENCES, &c.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,
Bro. Hughan in his too flattering note upon my article has most concisely stated the point I wished to raise. "What class of offences outside of the Craft can be dealt with by the Fraternity?"

My contention is that anything which brings "shame upon the Craft" is a Masonic offence, and CAN be dealt with Masonically by the Craft.

Bro. Hughan's following words I am not quite sure that I correctly understand. That a brother legally convicted of felony may deserve, and is liable to, the Masonic punishment of exclusion and expulsion is, I think, quite clearly established. I cannot say it is clearly established that he deserves; that is open to question on his Masonic trial, and he may then prove, if he can, that in spite of his conviction he does not deserve Masonic punishment. It cannot too clearly be borne in mind that the Masonic trial is a distinct proceeding for a distinct (viz., the Masonic), offence, the "shame upon the Craft."

That he would have to be proved guilty of felony to deserve, or be liable to, exclusion or expulsion I cannot admit. There may be offences against the laws of the land, not strictly amounting to felony, which on conviction might fairly be held to be of sufficient gravity to justify the infliction of the Masonic penalty; or, though undoubtedly morally proved guilty, yet by flight or some mere legal technicality, the offender may escape from legal conviction, and still be proved guilty on his Masonic trial of having brought "shame upon the Craft."

And there are also offences against morality, which may be of so flagrant a description as to become offences against Masonry, of such gravity as to quite justify their being dealt with as Masonic offences, even though they do not happen to render the offender liable to punishment by the civil or criminal tribunals of his country.

Such undoubtedly appears to be the foreign practice, and I submit that such a power exists, or at least ought to exist, in our own system, however undesirable as a rule that that power should be put in force.

My objection to the recent ruling is that, being given as the reason for Grand Lodge to adopt a certain course of action, Grand Lodge must be held to have adopted it as a part of its judgment, and it certainly seems to me to lay down the rule that neither a lodge nor Grand Lodge can take notice of any offences against morals, however gross and flagrant, whether such offences do, or do not, also render the offender liable to punishment by "profane" tribunals. I do not think this can have been intended. I hope Bro. Hughan will let us hear from him again before Grand Lodge meets.—Yours fraternally,

LEX SCRIPTA.

BRO. BIRCH'S MOTION AS TO ELECTIONS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,
I am sorry to find that the Court of Governors of the Benevolent Institution threw out this motion. I cannot help thinking that by doing so they are standing in their own light. Such unreasonableness on the part of London brethren will some day or other (not far distant) recoil upon themselves to the detriment of the Metropolitan Masonic Institutions.

Let me give an unbiased statement of facts. Each representative from, say Lancashire and Yorkshire, attending the Boys' and Girls' elections in April and October has to leave home at latest on Friday morning and return on the following Tuesday, and at the Benevolent election he must leave on Thursday and return on Saturday, thus having to be absent from his business and home thirteen days each year. The London representative need not lose more than three half days from his business, as two of the elections take place on Saturdays.

Query—will not the brethren in the North soon begin to consider this unequal tax and devise some method for manipulating their funds by which the great outlay and labour of attending the London elections may be saved. In one province alone one old man and a widow could be provided for from the expenses incurred by their representatives.—I am, yours fraternally,

May 22nd.

FAIRPLAY.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,
It has occurred to me that the proceedings at the Court of Governors, on Friday last, in regard to Bro. Birch's motion, were somewhat irregular.

At the Courts of Governors of the Girls' and Boys' Schools, when this question was brought forward, the report of the joint Committee appointed to consider the matter was read, and resolutions adopted, in accordance with that report, to alter the dates of election.

At the meeting above referred to the joint Committee's report was not presented; the motion by Bro. Birch and the amendment by Bro. Capt. Homfray only were put to the Court.

Why was the course pursued by the other Institutions not followed by the Benevolent?—I am, yours fraternally,

LIFE GOVERNOR.

May 22nd.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,
I think our London brethren did not show a true Masonic spirit in rejecting the proposed alterations in the rules suggested by W. Bro. J. A. Birch, P.P.G.W. East Lancashire. The London brethren seem to think three days too much at once (and only once a year), and from the show of hands, they came to the conclusion that the Provincial brethren were better able to give three days for each—the Boys', Girls', and Benevolent Elections, making nine days in all, as it must take the brethren from distances, such as the Provinces of Lancashire, Yorkshire, Durham, &c., one day each way and one day to attend to Election. I trust that this may be altered at the next annual meeting, and so help both the Provincial brethren and the workers of the cases brought to the Election.—Yours faithfully and fraternally,

THOS. S. WELDON.

OUR WELL-WISHERS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,
The reports of lodge meetings inserted in the Freemason, and your important articles and papers on Masonic matters, are exceedingly valuable and interesting, and tend to give much light to the young Mason as well as interest and instruction to the more advanced brethren. I well remember how in my Masonic infancy much in the Freemason (as well as much in the lodge) was darkness to me, but by constant and diligent perusal of its contents, I have become an eager and much more enlightened student of its weekly issue. The question, however, that occurs to my mind is, how far those brethren who send you reports of their lodge meetings seriously and zealously aid you to increase your circulation? Not many I am afraid. I should, therefore, like to suggest a method by which the existence of the Freemason might be brought to the notice of every Entered Apprentice whose initiation is reported in it, viz.: that when a report of an initiation is sent to you the address of the initiate should also be sent separately, and that you should then send to him a copy of the paper containing the report. It may be, Mr. Editor, that you are happily independent of increased support, but even if this be the case, and your circulation were to become doubled, you could reduce your price or give your subscribers the benefit of your superfluous wealth in some other way. I am surprised to find how many Masons there are who have never heard of the existence of a Masonic paper, and still more surprised to find so many professing to be well informed Masons, who, knowing of the Freemason, can yet regard with indifference a suggestion that they should subscribe to it. For my own part it is an essential part of my mental as well as Masonic existence, and I hope that if the matter is ventilated by your own able pen or by that of some of your able contributors, my suggestion may bring good results to yourself, which will mean much increased enjoyment and enlightenment to the Craft in general.

I send the name and address of our latest initiate, with the usual lodge report (which you are always so good as to insert) and if you think there is anything practicable in my suggestion you can try the experiment upon him.—I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours faithfully and fraternally,

A SUBSCRIBER SINCE INITIATION.



OFFICIAL DIRECTORY FOR THE PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF CORNWALL, 1888.

This well known publication, the pioneer of directories for Provincial Grand Lodge purposes, is in its 17th year of issue, and making, with the previous publication for Devon and Cornwall, the 21st edited by Bro. Hughan, P.S.G.D. of England, &c. The present edition is the second number of vol. 4, the several issues being consecutively paged, so as to bind well in volumes. We notice one or two new features, some being possibly for this year only, such as "Jubilee Honours," of which six are enumerated, one being "Grand Lodge of England" and the remainder "Provincial Grand Lodge of Cornwall." From 1883 a new Prov. Grand Treasurer has been elected annually, instead of the old custom of re-elections, hence the list in this Directory of all so elected from 1883 will be found useful for reference and guidance, so that this particular honour or compliment may be as widely distributed as possible. Bro. Thomas Chirgwin, J.P., Truro, is the new Prov. Grand Secretary, in succession to Bro. E. D. Anderton, who is now Prov. S.G.W., and well deserved that position. Bro. Chirgwin has been the Secretary of the flourishing "Cornwall Masonic Annuity and Benevolent Fund," from its origin in 1864, the receipts for the period being £6350 14s. 2d., and the expenses of management, the merest trifle of about £15 per annum on an average. There are 30 lodges in the province, with 1537 members, exhibiting an increase on previous years since 1879-80, the highest, however, being 1567 in 1877, according to the "Analysis of Returns, 1877-1887," no slight labour in itself. The operation of the rule of Grand Lodge respecting "arrears" doubtless accounts for the large number removed annually from the roll. Particulars are afforded of 16 lodges formerly working in Cornwall, from 1752 to 1838. The senior lodge of the province from 1751 onwards, is No. 75, Falmouth, which bears its age well, and was never more flourishing than it is now. The names of the Grand Officers of England are given for April 25th, 1888, so there has not been much time lost in the compilation of this most handy Masonic Cornish guide, and Bro. Hughan has added the numbers and localities of the lodges of which the Grand Officers are P.M.'s, a feature to be commended. The table of the "Royal Masonic Charities" is a veritable *multum in parvo*. Copies may be had, as usual, from the Assistant Prov. Grand Secretary, Bro. Thomas Gill, Penryn, Cornwall, for seven stamps.

CALENDAR FOR THE PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF LINCOLNSHIRE.

We regret to hear that this very useful work is not to be published for 1888. We hope, however, that the regret excited by the loss will be such as to induce the esteemed Prov. Grand Secretary to prepare one for 1889, and that it will be supported as it deserves to be.

FREEMASONS' CALENDAR FOR THE PROVINCE OF NOTTINGHAMSHIRE, FOR THE YEAR 1888.

This capital publication is one of the most useful, accurate, and comprehensive of the many provincial calendars issued in England, and, as regards the information and arrangement, the work is as near perfection in most respects as possible. We should like more, however, in some departments, even if it leads to less in others. The compilation is by Bro. H. R. Hatherly, the Prov. Grand Sec., assisted by Bro. A. Stubbs, Asst. Prov. Grand Sec. Our suggestions to the editors are based on a long acquaintance with this very useful class of Masonic publications, and are not offered, in the slightest degree, from any desire to find fault with the painstaking editors, whose valuable services should be warmly appreciated by their province generally. Two or more pages are devoted to each lodge; first we have the name and number of the lodge, place, and time of meeting, date of warrant, date of installation, names of officers and Past Masters, number of members, and name of the correspondent. These occupy one page. The remainder is taken up with the names of all the members. Our first suggestion is that it would be better to omit the list of names of members—unless both can be given—so as to allow more room for the roll of Past Masters. By this plan the years of service of each P.M., and the provincial appointments, with the dates (if any) might be added. Surely, for provincial purposes, the latter additions would be of considerable value and importance, enabling the Prov. G.M. and his advisers to see at a glance how the "honours" have and should be distributed. The "Committee of General Purposes" comprise 24 names in all, Bro. John Watson, Dep. Prov. G.M., being the Chairman. Five of these are the two Wardens, Treasurer, Registrar, and Secretary of Prov. G. Lodge, three P. Prov. S.G.W.'s, are nominated by the Prov. G.M., and fourteen brethren are nominated by the several lodges in the province. Bro. Hatherly, the courteous Prov. G. Sec., being the Secretary. This seems an excellent method to secure representation and efficiency. Then there is a "Benevolent and Educational Fund Committee" on a somewhat similar scale, the President being his Grace the Duke of St. Albans, Prov. G.M., who is, we see by the list, given at p. 25, the 6th Ruler of the province, from the year 1783, when Lord Ranelagh was appointed (then Bro. T. B. Parkyns). There are 14 lodges, with 714 subscribing members, the senior on the roll dating from 1755, being the famous "Newstead" Lodge, No. 47, Nottingham. Over the Prov. Grand Chapter, Sir Henry Bromley, Bart., presides as Grand Superintendent, there being 7 R.A. Chapters, with 229 members, a proportion much beyond the usual, the oldest chapter, the "Abbey," No. 47, is dated 1823. We wonder if this is the direct descendant of the No. 68, on the "Moderns" Grand Chapter, warranted in 1790. Most chapters took new warrants after the formation of the Supreme Grand Chapter in 1817. The "Abbey Chapter Encampment," K.T., is of "Time Immemorial"

* Vide Bro. Hughan's "Origin of the English Rite of Freemasonry."

antiquity, the names of the officers being according to the old style, not that of the "Great Priory." The Rose Croix Chapter under the A. and A. Rite was chartered in 1863. The Mark Prov. G.L. consists of three Mark lodges with 128 members, the Prov. G.M. being the R.W. Bro. John Watson, and the Prov. G. Sec. Bro. E. C. Patchitt. The oldest lodge is also of "Time Immemorial" constitution, and is considered to be one of the senior Mark lodges in England, having existed long before the Mark Grand Lodge was formed. The names of all the members, of all the R.A. chapters, Mark lodges, &c., &c., are duly given in the Calendar, as well as the roll of officers, &c., so that the publication is more than usually full and exhaustive. Then again, lists of lodges, times and places of meetings, Prov. Grand Officers, &c., in the adjoining Provinces of Derbyshire, Leicester and Rutland, and Lincolnshire, are also attended to, and full particulars are afforded respecting the Central Masonic Charities, with list of subscribers, the latter being compiled by Bro. J. Toplis, P.M., &c., the Secretary of the "Benevolent Fund Committee," who, however, does not furnish the totals, so, unless we add up all the columns, we have no means of seeing how far the brethren of Nottinghamshire have done their duty. Doubtless well, from what we know and have heard of their zeal. The Calendar is published by authority and at the expense of the Prov. Grand Lodge, by whom copies are sent to all the members. This is by far the best plan for such publications.

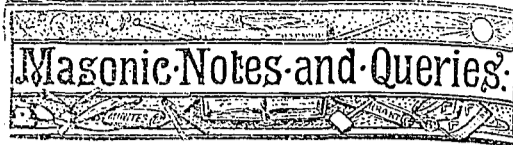
FREEMASONS' CALENDAR FOR THE PROVINCES OF WARWICKSHIRE AND STAFFORDSHIRE—1888—1889.

This "massive" little book is edited by Bro. Edmund Worrall, of Birmingham, by whom also it has been beautifully printed (in blue), and published at his office in Union Passage. The Staffordshire portion has been well done by Bro. F. Derry, as usual, and the two portions united make up one of the most comprehensive and ably edited calendars published in this country. It is in the front rank, and possesses features which distinguish no other of the kind, some of which we shall allude to herewith. There is a remarkable table, occupying two pages, based upon the official reports of the W.M.'s on the state of their lodges for the year ending 30th June, 1887. The reports cover a wide area, dealing as they do with the number of members on June 30th, 1886, initiations for the 12 months from that date, joining members, resignations and deaths, as also the number of members on the roll, 30th June, 1887. Then follow the number of Vice-Presidents, Life Governors, Life Subscribers, and Annual Subscribers to the Masonic Charities, in separate columns, with columns also for the sums subscribed by members and by lodges for the same object, and then similar information respecting amounts devoted to the "Warwickshire Masonic Benevolent and Pupils' Aid Fund," the "Birmingham Itinerant Society," likewise for other charitable purposes, and, finally, the total so contributed by each lodge, and the grand totals at the foot of each column, the whole summing up to the magnificent sum of £1555 5s. 6d. This table is supplied by the indefatigable Prov. G. Sec., Bro. George Beach. There were 129 initiates and joining members, 132 resignations, deaths, &c., the net total of members being 1225, being three less than for the former year. There are 31 lodges, the average to each lodge being slightly under 40 members. The returns are not quite complete for Staffordshire, so we cannot tell the average per lodge, but in Warwickshire 1225 for 31 lodges is not the ordinary average of most provinces, being considerably less, we take it, than usual. In Cornwall, the directory for which we have just been reviewing, the average is rather over 51 members to each lodge. It appears to us that Warwickshire is an indication of the tendency of a multiplication of lodges to lead to a corresponding advance in the number of members, owing to improved facilities for gentlemen joining lodges in their immediate vicinity. Naturally an increase of lodges would reduce the average number of members, but we are persuaded that the grand total would be more in such a case than if the lodges had not been so increased in number. The more lodges in a province, the more members; this seems reasonable. The oldest lodge in the Province of Warwickshire is No. 43, Birmingham, of 1733, which celebrated its sesquicentennial in due course. The senior for Staffordshire is No. 98, Burslem, of A.D. 1764, the remainder in that province, however, of 28 lodges are all of this century constitution, whereas in the adjoining province there are five lodges with last century warrants. There are 10 Royal Arch chapters, four Mark lodges, and two Rose Croix chapters in Warwickshire, and eight Royal Arch chapters and five Mark lodges in Staffordshire. The Templars form a Prov. Great Priory for Staffordshire, Warwickshire, and Leicestershire, under the genial rule of that zealous Mason, Bro. C. Fendelow, there being five preceptories in all. The Calendar ends with "Remarkable Occurrences in Masonry" from St. Albans, A.D. 287, to the initiation of H.R.H. Prince Albert Victor, in 1885, the eventful period described being compressed into two pages, based mainly on the Grand Lodge Calendar. We congratulate Bro. Worrall on the completion of his "labour of love," for it certainly cannot be a profitable work, some 120 pages of closely packed matter being sold for 1s. It surely should command a large and ready sale.

There was a field day of the Foot Guards in Hyde Park on Saturday last, when a brigade, consisting of the 2nd Battalion Grenadiers and the 2nd Battalion Scots Guards, were inspected by Major-General Sir R. Gipps, commanding the Home District, and, after two hours occupied in going through various movements, were dismissed to barracks.

Among those who have left London for the Whitsun holidays may be mentioned Bro. Lord and Lady George Hamilton, who are on a visit to the Isle of Wight, Bro. Earl and Countess Cowper, who are staying at Panshanger, Bro. Earl and the Countess Bathurst, who are at Bournemouth, and Bro. Sir M. White Ridley, Bart., M.P., and Lady Ridley, who are at Blagdon, Northants.

The Prince of Wales, accompanied by Duke Paul of Mecklenburg-Schwerin, left Marlborough House, on Saturday morning last, for Sheerness for the purpose of inspecting the Norfolk Artillery Volunteers, under the command of Bro. Lord Suffield, and the 3rd Middlesex Artillery, under Lord Truro. His Royal Highness witnessed the heavy gun drill and firing, and, after luncheon with the officers of the Norfolk Artillery, returned to town.



WARRANT OF No. 1.

I am very pleased to see that Bro. H. Sadler obtained permission to publish the Warrant of the Grand Master's Lodge, No. 1, as it is the first time such a document has been printed, so far as my knowledge extends. I had a private copy of it, and knew of there being a seal thereon, but was not aware that it was Kirk's, of 1775 "Strike." In the interesting Address by Bro. Powell, delivered at the Centenary meeting June, 1859, [London, Truscott, Son, and Simmons,] mention is made of the lodge being "revived" on 7th Dec., 1787. Evidently No. 1 had been dormant for some little time, and the re-institution, so to speak, was by order of the then Grand Master, the Earl of Antrim. It occurs to me that such authorization may have led to the new seal being used, and to the removal of the old one. At all events, it fairly accounts for such a form of authority being attached in 1787 (say) to a Charter granted in 1759. I quite agree with Bro. Lane that there was a No. 1 of the "Ancients" prior to 1759, and it is just possible it never had a Warrant, when the others did which were at work, in July, 1751. Any way, the transcript furnished by Bro. H. Sadler is a welcome sight to many of us.

W. J. HUGHAN.

THE CAMA MS.

I have now the pleasure of describing a hitherto unknown copy of the "Old Charges" recently discovered and offered to me for inspection. This is the third which I have been enabled to introduce to Masonic Students—(how that word recalls, and long will recall, our dear departed Bro. Woodford!)—within the last few weeks, viz.: Philipps MS., No. 3, Stanley MS., and now Cama MS., the two latter being unearthed at Margate. As in most cases, our knowledge of its previous history is scanty and unsatisfactory. Some years back, Bro. W. J. Clarke purchased the stationery business, 37, High-street, Margate, of Bro. Brasier, a member of Union Lodge, 127, Margate, and a prominent Kentish Mason. Last April, Bro. Clarke found the MS. in question amongst a lot of documents and papers, and my attention was called to it by Bro. W. Jones Lane, I.P.M. of 217. Bro. Lane thinks it may have belonged to a Bro. Osborne, an uncle to Bro. Brasier, once the proprietor of the King's Head Hotel, but however that may be, its existence must have been unknown to the Brasier family, or it would have been exhibited earlier. As Secretary of the Quatuor Coronati Lodge, 2076, I was naturally desirous of obtaining it for our Library, but was met by a refusal to sell for money. Ultimately it was offered to me against 75 votes for the "Old Men," and on applying to Bro. D. P. Cama, P.G.T., a member of our Correspondence Circle, to help me, I was almost immediately gratified by the promise of the votes required. The MS. is now therefore the property of the lodge, and will in future bear the name of the brother whose ready generosity enabled us to acquire it. So far as my limited experience goes, and judging from the handwriting, I should attribute it to the early part of the 18th century, say from 1730-1750. It is written on 13 pages of coarse white foolscap, much dogeared and having been continuously folded in four, broken across the middle in several sheets. From beginning to end, however, every word is decipherable, and the writing is very regular and beautiful. It is a curious fact, that in spite of the large number of MS. Constitutions now known, so few should be copies of each other. The Cama MS. is not sufficiently like any known MS. to be called a copy, but it bears a strong family likeness to the Edinburgh-Kilwinning version. But in one important part it differs materially. The clause in the Scottish Charge which relates that a King of another region called Iram sent his son Aynon to Solomon, is replaced by the account of the circumstance given in the Cole MS., where Hiram, King of Tyre, and Hiram, the Widow's son, are mentioned, the only difference being that Cole called him Hiram Abif, and the Cama MS. simply Hiram. There is a further slight indication that a Scottish original underlies the Cama MS. *An* and *own* are written, across the border, *ane* and *ain*. In several places where *an* or *own* should stand, the Cama MS. has *one*, as though the scribe had been unknowingly influenced by the verbiage of the copy before him. The peculiarity of the use of this word *one* is very striking and strange, and hardly accountable for on any other hypothesis.

G. W. SPETH, Sec. Quatuor Coronati, 2076.

The 61st anniversary festival of the Licensed Victuallers' Asylum was celebrated at the Crystal Palace on Thursday, the 17th inst. About 500 ladies and gentlemen sat down to dinner, and the subscriptions amounted to £5500.

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 that 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, Porters-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 supplies 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 Mr. 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."

Bro. Perrott next proposed "The M.E. G. Supt. and D.P.G.M., Bro. Marmaduke Tennant." The W.M. said it was impossible for him to find words by which he could

A detachment consisting of 20 officers, non-commissioned officers, and members of the Honourable Artillery Company left London for Southampton on Thursday, the 17th inst., in order to embark for New York and proceed thence to Boston, Massachusetts, where they will take part in the celebration of the 250th anniversary of the Ancient and Honourable Artillery Company of Massachusetts, U.S.A., which is an off-shoot of the Honourable Artillery Company of London.

numerous section of the Order in the United Kingdom, and I believe moreover that, although the youngest of the colleges, it has done quite as much work as any of them. We have been very fortunate in securing the services for our successive years of existence of good Celebrants and officers, so that the work has been conscientiously done, and as the evident desire of the members is to continue to uphold the character already gained by the college, I see nothing to make doubtful the future success of our body. I have thought that to-day it might open a fair field for discussion to you if I were to make a few remarks on the early legend of the Order of Rosicrucians, and with that view I have been looking into the works of writers on the subject with as much attention as the very limited time at my own disposal will admit of. It seems to me that there are few subjects (of little or no importance to the welfare of mankind) that have occupied so much of the attention of readers and writers as has the Society of Rosicrucians. Whole libraries have been written about them. Their history has been told with endless variation. Essays have been published to prove their non-existence, and replies have made their appearance to justify the belief in their actual embodiment as a Society. Sceptical persons have sneered at the very suggestion of such a Society, whilst gullible people have accepted all that has ever been published about its career. After the lapse of nearly 300 years those who have made a careful study of the subject appear to have arrived no nearer a satisfactory conclusion than their ancestors of over two centuries ago. It is very remarkable that so much intelligence and care should have been expended during the intervening years upon a matter the decision of which can have no possible effect upon Society, and I must say that to me it appears as a matter for regret that so great an amount of toil and care should have been exhausted in a search about as futile as that of the traditional Rosicrucians themselves when they set themselves to discover the philosopher's stone or the transmutation of metals. To us perhaps the past history of the Society, such as it is, should be of more interest and value than to any other set of men since we cannot fail to experience a certain amount of curiosity as to the existence of an organisation whose name we have adopted, and under whose traditional credit for special knowledge to a certain extent, we raise our banner. I think it right to say at the outset of my remarks that in touching upon this subject of the Rosicrucians I approach it with a great amount of diffidence. The small store of information possessed by me hardly justifies me in expressing any decided opinion. So far as my limited reading goes I feel that I have no right to pronounce judgment upon a matter that has puzzled the minds of a succession of philosophers and sages for so many years. As an adept I presume I should fairly be expected to have acquired great erudition in Rosicrucian lore, but if the truth be told I am bound to confess that I know very little indeed about it, and I feel sure that there are frateres present very much better qualified to instruct you in this question than I am. Yet I feel it may be well if only for the sake of extracting the opinions of more learned brethren to say a few words on what appears to be once more coming forward upon the arena of public discussion, and which affects us *nominally* in so close a degree. I think it is possible, and indeed highly probable, that many of the frateres present here know very little about the story of the Ancient Rosicrucians, and perhaps in a few words I may be allowed to give the brief legend upon which was originally founded their claim to an existence as a Society. It was in the very early portion of the 17th century that the Society of the Rosicrucians first put forth claims to an existence. It was at a period when the dawn of civilisation in Europe was showing grey on the horizon, when men were beginning to be restless and to writhe under the crushing influence of a religious system whose very marrow depended upon a darkening of knowledge. It was towards the close of the epoch during which darkness covered the earth, and gross darkness the people. It was at a time when to be known to be in the possession of superior knowledge was dangerous, and when to promulgate knowledge and to suggest enlightenment was to court persecution and death. Superstition had reduced the minds of the bulk of men to a very feeble condition, and credulity and ignorance went hand in hand. No time more opportune could have been selected for the launch upon the reading public of the sensational story which laid the foundation of the discussion that has been going on more or less ever since that period down to our own day. The stone was set a rolling by the appearance of a work by an anonymous author in 1614, in which a distinct and deliberate statement is made as to the formation, career, and objects of the Fraternity of the Rosy Cross. According to this curious book, cunningly worded and most acceptable, doubtless, to the minds of men of the time, there lived, once upon a time, a certain Christian Rosenkreutz who was brought up in a Monastery in Germany, but who, whilst yet a boy, went to Damascus where he imbibed much of the occult knowledge of the Arabian sages; thence he went into Egypt where he further prosecuted his studies, and after traversing the Mediterranean settlements arrived in Spain, where he tried to found a Society, but failing, returned to Germany, where he built himself a house wherein he continued his researches. In course of time he selected and attached to himself three brethren and instructed them in his secret knowledge of medicine. Literature and medicine formed the subjects of their studies, though the major portion of their time was spent in healing the sick, who resorted to them, we are told, in great numbers. They erected a new abode which they called the House of the Holy Spirit, and were joined by four other brethren, when they formed a Society of eight persons. Two of these brethren always remained with their chief, but the rest made journeys in pursuit of knowledge and with the object of succouring the sick. Every year, however, they met at headquarters on a certain day, and recounted their experiences. At length the chief of the Order C.R.C. (Christian Rosenkreutz) died, but the place of his burial remained a profound secret, until a certain brother, the initials of whose name are given as N. N., in making some alterations to the house, came upon a table of brass whereon was engraved the names of the brethren. In removing this he dislodged a stone and revealed a hidden door on which was written in Latin "Post annos CXX patebo," with a date underneath. On opening the door there appeared a seven-sided vault lighted by an artificial sun, and in the middle a round brass altar thus engraved: "A.C.R.C. Hoc universi compendium unius mihi sepulchrum feci." Other inscriptions ran: "Jesus mihi omnia,"

"Nequaquam Vacuum," "Legis Jugum," "Libertas Evangelii," "Dei Gloria Intacta." The panels of the walls formed closets, in which were deposited learned books, magic looking-glasses, little bells, burning lamps, &c. Under the brass altar they found the body of their founder "whole and unconsumed," in his hand holding a parchment called "T," next to the Bible the greatest treasure of the Society. There were also the names of members of the Society engraved, and other valuables. After the relation of this wonderful story, which rather reminds one of the legend of Michael Scott, the Scotch Wizard, and his tomb at Melrose, the author of the book goes on to give a particular account of the creed of the Society which would seem to have been what was known as the reformed faith. The Pope was very distasteful to them, and freedom of worship was evidently one of the points insisted upon. This work was followed by others giving further details of the Society. It is impossible in merely giving a short account of this clever story to convey the singularly attractive style of the romance, but its effect upon the Society of the time was most marvellous. Everybody was seized with an intense desire to join this wonderful Secret Society with such a singular history. People made every effort to ascertain the actual abode of the fratres, and the locality of the House of the Holy Spirit, but, of course, without success. Numbers of dishonest persons took advantage of the excitement to declare themselves Rosicrucians, and extorted money by false pretences from people who were troubled by an indistinct dread of mysterious and occult powers, wielded by irresponsible and unknown persons. Other individuals paid money to sharpers who pretended to admit them into the ranks of the pseudo-Society. There is, however, one suspicious circumstance overhanging the whole thing, and that is that no one ever is actually known to have succeeded in gaining admission to the Society, its House was never identified, and no one was ever proved to have been a member of it. It is almost certain that John Valentine Andrea was the author of these works. He was an highly educated man, and seems to have had a notion of reforming the Society of his time. Possibly he may have really intended to found a Society on secret lines, and no one can positively say that he did not actually succeed in doing so. Of course, secret societies did exist in those days, as in previous and later years, and the legend of C.R.C. may have been that of Andrea's secret society, just as that of Hiram forms the text of the Masonic brotherhood. I think the fact that men of light and leading of their own day, such as Robert Flood and Thomas Vaughan, claimed to be members of the Rosicrucian Society, is a considerable argument in favour of the actual existence of some such Fraternity, and neither the extravagances of some writers, nor the denials and abuse of others prove that no Rosicrucian Brotherhood ever existed. It seems, indeed, not improbable that a band of early religious reformers were linked together in some secret manner, and that the reformation in Germany was the outcome of such a body. As late as the early part of the 18th century we find men still claiming to belong to the Rosicrucian Society, but after that period allusions of the kind cease to be found, so we may presume that at all events after that date no such system existed. In a book lately published by Mr. Arthur Waite, that writer gives what he calls the "Real History of the Rosicrucians." He prints many of their leading statements, and manifests and arrives at the conclusion that the whole theory was an absolute myth. I do not think he is quite justified in his conclusions. At any rate there is a good deal to be said in favour of an opposite view. The investigation of such a subject should be approached, I think, like that of the "Early History of Freemasonry," in not too critical a spirit, and certain allowances must be made for the temper of the times and the exuberant imagery which we all know characterised the writing of men of science of those days. We pride ourselves in this era upon our practical ideas, and it is usual to accept nothing unless chapter and verse can be given in proof, but if some license be not granted in the consideration of such a subject as the one before us, the chance of arriving at any just conclusion seems very hopeless. But although we bear the name of the society that has bequeathed such a crux to later dryasdusts, there is no mystery about our objects, whilst our substantial existence is beyond question. We make no pretensions to magical knowledge, nor, as far as I am aware, do we propose to reform the world in general, although the reformation of the Masonic world may be within our scope, and offers to us a tempting field. Indeed, I am by no means sure that the latter-day Rosicrucian Society, and particularly this branch of it, over which I have the pleasure to preside, has not already done some work in this direction. It is a recognised fact in Masonic circles, that the Masonic Exhibition, held under the auspices of this college some few years ago in York was the parent of several other Exhibitions got up in England in connection with Masonic lodges and provinces, and by means of which a great amount of interest has been excited in Masonic archaeology, and valuable documents have been brought to light, whilst the reading of Masonic papers at lodge meetings has marvellously increased since the publication of essays read by members of this college has called the attention of Masons to an interesting, though long neglected, practise of the Masonic Fraternity. It really matters very little to us or to anybody whether the story of Andrea has any particle of truth in it or not. He startled the world by a very pretty romance, and we have adopted the designation that he gave to his dreamy Society. Some modern Masons are offended by our assumption of the title, and great opprobrium has been heaped upon us from one or two quarters, happily from sources more or less (chiefly more) contemptible. Judging, however, from the style of men by whom I have the happiness to see myself surrounded it does not appear that any amount of ill-conditioned abuse has had other effect upon us than to strengthen our hands, and to draw together under a common bond of union and intelligence many of the best informed and most active Freemasons in this part of the world. We have done good and useful work in the past, and I see no reason to doubt that the York College will continue the same career of prosperity that has marked its progress during its nearly nine years of existence. If no other object were gained by our quarterly meetings, I should regard them as extremely valuable, simply as periodical Masonic rallying points, affording as they do opportunities for leading brethren from various Masonic centres to meet and to exchange ideas on subjects connected with the various branches of the Craft that is so dear to all our hearts. To me it is ever a pleasure to look forward to, and to be present at, these gatherings,

and I always feel that I have learned something more after each meeting of this college. That we may all be spared to meet one another for many years in all fraternal good will, and with a sincere desire to help and enlighten one another, is my earnest wish, and I trust that the same kind feeling that has hitherto bound us together will be strengthened and extended, so that we may draw into our circle an increasing number of working brethren of the right sort, whose friendship and fellowship we may prize, and who will aid us in the great work of our Order as indicated in our ceremonial—"Peace on earth, goodwill to men."

Fra. Macbean then read a series of interesting notes, in the course of which he criticised Waite's work on the Rosicrucians, and claimed that the writer, not being a member of the Order, could not possibly be in a position to speak authoritatively on the subject.

Votes of thanks were passed to the Chief Adept and to Fra. Macbean for their addresses.

It was decided that in future the Auditors should be elected at the November meeting. Votes of thanks were passed to Fras. Atherton, Monckman, and Althorpe for their admirable arrangements, and to the Harmony Lodge for the use of the rooms. The question of the next place of summer meeting was left to the Chief Adept and Celebrant, but there seemed to be a general feeling in favour of Whitby.

The M.C. was then dissolved, and the fratres met at high tea, and enjoyed two or three hours of social Masonic converse.

Ireland.

MASONIC FEMALE ORPHAN SCHOOL.

DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES.

On Saturday evening, 12th inst., the annual distribution of prizes to the 76 children attending the Masonic Female Orphan School, Merrion-road, Dublin, took place in the Leinster Hall. It was a celebration of the 96th anniversary of an institution having peculiar claims on every member of the Order, for it is a home for the children of deceased brethren, and its primary claim to consideration and support cannot be gainsaid. The ceremonial was fraught with more than usual interest, inasmuch as the prizes were distributed by her Grace the Duchess of Abercorn, while his Grace the Duke of Abercorn presided, and beside them on the dais were the two children of the Lord Lieutenant, the youthful Lord Castlereagh and his sister, Lady Helen Stewart, who evoked a ringing cheer by presenting an exquisite bouquet to one of the orphan children, who presented an unusually good record for every Christian virtue. It was a gratifying and pleasing incident. The handsome decorations of the hall for the ball on the preceding night remained, and the aspect of the place was brilliant with colour and light. The assemblage was a vast one, and the members of the Order all wore their insignia and decorations. The band of the 4th Dragoon Guards was stationed in the annexe, which was also lighted and decorated, and the band of the Liverpool Regiment in the hall itself at the rear of the platform. The ladies assembled in such force as to suggest a strong suspicion that there would be dancing, and, indeed, there was a considerable amount of it at the close of the ceremonial.

At a quarter to eight o'clock the brethren expected to occupy places on the platform assembled in the ante-room, and a procession having been formed, proceeded to the Grand Hall. The Grand Master was saluted according to ancient usage, and verses of the Hundredth Psalm were sung, all present joining. A selection of vocal and instrumental music was then given.

Her Grace the Duchess of Abercorn then distributed the prizes. Considerable amusement was caused as each little girl the recipient of a prize turned round and bowed to the audience. Lord Justice Fitzgibbon, who has ever taken the deepest interest in the success of the Schools, was present and assisted in the distribution of the prizes. Bros. James M'Connell, Godfrey, N. Fergusson, Lyons, and Major Thompson attended from Belfast. The Institution has claims on the brethren in Belfast, as there are several Belfast girls in it.

Lady Helen Stewart, daughter of the Lord Lieutenant, presented Miss Jane Black, one of the pupils, with a beautiful bouquet.

The DEPUTY GRAND MASTER (Bro. R. W. Shekleton, O.C.), said the young lady (Miss Jane Black), who had been presented with the bouquet by Lady Helen Stewart, had, during her time in the School, been awarded premiums amounting to £24 or £25. Some of the girls, instead of taking prizes in books, had prudently taken the value in money, and invested it the Post Office Savings Bank, and the result was that when leaving the School they would have a considerable sum, which would be a substantial assistance to them in furthering their education, or otherwise qualifying themselves in any way that might be best suited to their talents or capabilities.

Bro. GRAVES S. EVES (Hon Secretary), moved a vote of thanks to her Grace the Duchess of Abercorn for attending to distribute the prizes, and to his Grace their Grand Master for presiding on so auspicious an occasion.

The Deputy Grand Master, Bro. SHEKELTON, O.C., seconded the vote of thanks. It was not the first time—and he hoped it would not be the last—that her Grace would be welcomed by the Masons of Ireland to distribute the prizes to the children of the Masonic Schools. Although that was the first occasion at which her Grace attended at so interesting a ceremonial in the Leinster Hall he could assure the brethren that she took the deepest interest in the Masonic Schools, and had visited them on more than one occasion. His Grace the Duke of Abercorn, their Grand Master, took an equal interest in those Schools. His Grace had the privilege of being selected by the Freemasons of Ireland as their Grand Master, and he had evinced a deep and abiding interest in everything which concerned the welfare of the Order, and he was amongst them on every occasion when required to aid and encourage them in their noble work of Charity and usefulness. The Duchess and his Grace were present that evening at considerable inconvenience, and they were therefore eminently deserving of the gratitude and thanks of the members of the Order.

His Grace the Duke of ABERCORN, Grand Master said: Brethren, ladies and gentlemen, we have met here this evening for the purpose of receiving the report concerning these interesting Schools and participating in the pleasure afforded by witnessing the distribution of prizes to the girls

attending them. Therefore, it is not necessary that I should trouble you with a speech; but on behalf of the Duchess and myself I thank you extremely for the vote of thanks so cordially given us by this vast assemblage. I need not say, ladies and gentlemen, that it has been a source of much pleasure to her Grace to have the privilege of being present this evening, and presenting the prizes to the successful scholars of the Masonic Orphan Girls' School, and I am sure that pleasure is shared in by everyone in this room. It must necessarily be a source of gratification and pleasure to everyone interested in Masonry, not only here in this city, but throughout Ireland, to know what care and attention are bestowed on the children attending the Masonic Schools. They had an opportunity that evening of ascertaining the character of the instruction given the children, and the efforts made to render them accomplished and educated, and it was manifest and gratifying that the efforts of their teachers were successful. In my mind too much praise cannot be bestowed on those who manage this Institution, and on those who have undertaken the education of the young children confided to their care. We have not had this evening an opportunity of seeing the boys of the Masonic School before us, as Masonic honours are always in the first instance conferred on the fair sex, and we think it only right on this occasion that the little girls should have it all to themselves, and more especially because it is the desire of those connected with the Boys' School that they should have a special day of their own in their new School, and that at no distant period. They had had an opportunity of learning something of the instruction imparted to the girls, and the attention paid to music, vocal and instrumental; but a still greater pleasure, I entertain no doubt, awaits us in witnessing their calisthenic exercises, showing that not alone is the development of the mind attended to by their teachers, but also their deportment and grace of movement. Before concluding I would desire to impress this on every Mason and friend of Masonry, not alone present, but throughout Ireland, that, while this School is most flourishing, yet, at the same time, it is also greatly in want of additional funds; that if additional funds were provided its usefulness could be extended; and that, while on this ninety-sixth Anniversary they had seventy-six female orphans in the School, yet that when the 100th Anniversary comes round, that by the care, example, and liberality of all good Masons, there will be, at least, over 100 children in the Institution. On behalf of the Duchess and myself, I have great pleasure in returning our best thanks for the kind manner in which we have been greeted here to-night.

The children, to the number of seventy six, were then put through a series of calisthenic exercises and marching. They evidenced the most careful training, and by their graceful deportment elicited the admiration of all present.

The DEPUTY GRAND MASTER briefly referred to the financial condition of the Institution. A very considerable sum, no doubt, had been realised by the bazaar, and the fund had accomplished much good. But they were in need of increased funds, and he ventured to think they might appeal to the joyous and happy appearance of the children there that evening to prove that the Governors of the School had endeavoured to the utmost of their ability to discharge the heritage left them by their deceased brethren in providing for their orphans. All the children in the School had lost their fathers, and many their mothers, but so far as human effect could prevent, the children were not left friendless, but found a happy home in the Masonic School. They were instructed and educated to fit them for any position. Many of them had attained distinctions in the Royal University in the intermediate examinations and educational institutions. The Masonic Female Orphan School had been in existence for the past 96 years, and surely it was an Institution of which every Mason had a right to feel proud. It was, however, dependent on the voluntary subscriptions of the brethren, and it was a matter of regret, having regard to the number of brethren of the Order, that the subscriptions were not more numerous. If the enormous number of Masons in the country merely subscribed half-a-crown a year it would afford funds sufficient to enable them to receive a larger number of children; and he would appeal to the ladies present to induce all their Masonic friends to subscribe more freely to enable them to receive every applicant for admission. If the ladies would exert themselves in this direction they would soon be enabled to extend the usefulness of the Institution. He thanked all present for the cordial manner in which they had greeted the children.

His Grace the DUKE of ABERCORN: I am convinced all present have been pleased with the calisthenic exercises which they have witnessed, and you will, I entertain no doubt, agree with me when I say we ought to pass a cordial vote of thanks to the Matron, Mrs. Neill; to the head teacher, Miss Drake; and the governesses engaged in the instruction of the children. Nothing could exceed the care and attention which the Matron and the other ladies bestowed on the children committed to their charge. I, therefore, ask you to give with acclamation your cordial thanks to the Matron and the several teachers of the Institution. The audience responded with enthusiastic applause.

The ceremonial having concluded, the bands played some excellent dance music, and the votaries of terpsichore were enabled to enjoy themselves until half-past eleven o'clock, when the National Anthem announced that the time for departure had arrived, a most agreeable evening having been spent.

The funeral of the late Bro. Vice-Admiral Sir W. N. Hewett, V.C., K.C.B., took place at Portsmouth on the 17th inst., the arrangements under Bro. Admiral Sir George Willes having been carried out in such a manner as to render the mournful pageant as imposing as possible. The coffin, containing the remains of the deceased officer, was borne on a gun-carriage and covered with the Union Jack. The route was lined by a battalions of infantry, marines, and sailors, headed by the detachment of the Scots Greys, formed the escort. All the ships in the harbour and the Government establishments had their colours half-mast high, and when the service at the grave was over, the usual volleys were fired. Among those present were Bro. Admiral Sir G. Willes, Sir John Cowell, representing the Queen, Col. Colville, representing the Duke of Edinburgh, and Bro. Lord Charles Beresford, R.N., M.P. Bro. General Lord Wolseley telegraphed regretting his inability, owing to his official duties at the War Office, to be present.

BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE.

The monthly meeting of the Board of Benevolence was held on Wednesday evening at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. Robert Grey, P.G.D., President of the Board, presided. Bro. James Brett, P.G.P., Senior Vice-President, occupied his chair; and Bro. W. H. Perryman, P.G.P., acted as Junior Vice-President. Bros. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, G. Sec.; A. A. Pendlebury, Asst. G. Sec.; W. Dodd, G. Sec.; and W. H. Lee attended from Grand Secretary's department, and the other brethren present were: J. H. Mathews, W. P. Brown, George Read, Charles Bros. J. R. Spaul, David D. Mercer, Henry Garrod, T. Dairy, F. R. Spaul, Thos. Cull, Charles Frederick Hogard, J. W. Witmarsh, Thos. Cull, Charles Frederick Hogard, J. B. Grieve, W. M. Bywater, A. C. Woodward, Frederick B. Binkes, Charles A. Merton, Dr. Jabez Hogg, Herbert J. Adams, John Davis, R. J. Taylor, G. A. Cundy, G. P. Britten, J. G. Dale, T. B. Linscott, S. R. Baskett, F. W. Cash, T. W. Richardson, C. H. Webb, H. H. Room, R. Payne, J. Noyes, W. F. Simmons, G. S. Wright, Stephen Johnson, C. J. Coombs, A. E. Gladwell, F. W. Spurgin, J. Walsteadt, E. G. Johnson, J. P. Watts, H. Massey, A. W. G. Welch, W. A. Dawson, W. G. Lemon, J. Bunker, E. J. Coodall, T. Edmonston, J. Porter, J. Weston, W. H. Wyon, W. W. Westley, C. S. Lane, C. B. Todd, F. Bullock, E. Chamberlain, C. E. Wilson, T. Frewen, James Holah, S. H. Parkhouse, T. Fisher, D. Haslett, E. Hislop, A. G. Darby, J. W. Burgess, C. J. Perceval, A. Escott, C. J. W. Pinchin, G. N. Ball, J. G. Tongue, H. J. Wicks, E. H. N. Bridges, A. King, J. Lewis Thomas, Geo. Snow, C. Holcroft, M. Speigel, C. Graham, G. R. Langley, and H. Sadler, G. Tyler.

The Board of Masters was first held, and the agenda paper for Grand Lodge of 6th June, was laid before the brethren.

The President after the agenda had been read, informed the brethren that since the last meeting it had been found necessary to sell out £3000 of the invested funds to meet the calls made by the numerous cases on the list, but that of course the sale did not realise the full amount of £3000.

At the Board of Benevolence the brethren first confirmed recommendations to the Grand Master made at the April meeting of the Board to the amount of £320. The new list contained the names of 52 petitioners, whose qualifications came through lodges in the London district, Port of Spain (Trinidad), Margate, Chislehurst, St. Vincent, Hereford, Silloth, Sydney (N.S.W.), Lincoln, Seacombe, Cirencester, Worcester, Preston, Tonbridge, Wareham, Withington, St. Day, Norwich, Rotherham, Liverpool, Shoreham, Hampton Court, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Bridlington, Sheerness, Sunderland, Landport, Kotree Sind, Hartlepool, Plymouth, Battle, Scotland, Southport, Oxford, Grahams town (Cape of Good Hope), Harrow, Twickenham, and Massachusetts (U.S.A.). Four of these cases were dismissed, and six were deferred. The remainder were relieved with a total of £1015, which was composed of the following sums: Two recommendations to Grand Lodge of £50 each, six to the Grand Master of £40 each, and eleven of £30 each; thirteen grants of £20 each, seven of £10 each, and three of £5 each.

The Board sat four hours.

The Craft Abroad.

GRAND LODGE OF MANITOBA.

The 13th annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba, of which we have received a copy of proceedings, was held in the city of Winnipeg on the 8th and 9th February last. Bro. Thomas Clark, M.W.G.M., presided, and was well supported by his Grand Officers, both Present and Past, and by the representatives of most of the lodges in the jurisdiction. The Grand Master's address dealt with matters of local interest principally, the particulars contained being for the most part of a very encouraging nature, while the reports of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary are both of them satisfactory. From the latter it appears that, allowing for one number being vacant—No. 22—there are 37 chartered lodges and two lodges under dispensation on the roll of this Grand Lodge, the total membership at the close of last year being 1628, or nearly 60 in excess of the year previous. That of the G. Treasurer showed that, including the balance brought forward from the year 1886, the receipt side of the statement of account gave a total of upwards of 2752 dollars, while the expenditure amounted to 1523 dollars, the balance remaining in hand at the end of the year being 1229 dollars. These reports having been received, as well as the Librarian's and that of the Board of General Purposes, the Grand Officers were elected or appointed, and invested with the insignia of their respective offices, after which G. Lodge was closed. The following are the principal G. Officers for the current year, namely: Bros. Thos. Clark, M.W.G.M.; James A. Ovas, D.G.M.; Wm. G. Bell, S.G.W.; R. C. Brown, J.G.W.; Rev. Canon J. Dallas O'Meara, G. Chap.; J. Daniel, G. Reg.; J. McKechnie, G. Treas.; W. G. Scott, G. Sec.; J. A. Payne, S.G.D.; J. A. MacCaul, J.G.D.; W. F. Ellis, G.D.C.; Thos. L. Morton, G.S.B.; D. J. Campbell, G. Org.; T. Tweed, G. Purs.; and J. McBride, G. Tyler. The Grand Lodge of Manitoba was established, with three lodges on its roll, in the year 1875.

GORDON LODGE, No. 2112.

The second anniversary festival in connection with the above lodge was held on the 9th of April, in the Ascotvale Masonic Hall, near Melbourne. Bro. W. F. Lamony, W.M., presided, supported by the whole of his officers, with three exceptions, on account of illness and absence from town, whilst there was a numerous attendance of members, and of many visitors from lodges under the three constitutions. Bro. W. Simmonds, P.M., W.M. elect, was presented and regularly installed into the chair, after which his officers were invested as follows: Bros. H. Browne, S.W.; J. Swaine, J.W.; W. T. C. Kelly, P.M., Treas. (re-elected); S. Hayles, Sec. (re-appointed); J. C. M. Cowan, S.D.; J. E. Rigby, J.D.; A. W. Eastwood, D.C.; W. Newnam, Org.; W. F. Gates, M.A., I.G.; C. J. Brown and R. J. Larnach, Stwds.; and G. E. A. Lamont, Tyler. The balance-sheet for the past year was confirmed. Two candidates for initiation were proposed, and amongst the correspondence was a letter from Sir W. J. Clarke, Bart., the R.W. District Grand Master, promising the patronage and presence of Lady Clarke and

himself at the second annual ball in connection with the lodge. During the course of the proceedings, the W.M., on behalf of the members of the lodge, presented Bro. W. F. Lamony, the retiring Master, with a massive silver spirit stand, as a recognition of his services during the first two years' existence of the Gordon Lodge. At the same time a portrait of Bro. Lamony, also subscribed for by the members, was unveiled in the lodge room. The two testimonials were respectively supplied by Messrs. Drummond and Co., Collins-street, and Messrs. Tuttle and Co., Elizabeth-street. The lodge was formed into a committee of the whole to arrange for the coming ball, and the business was then brought to a close. Subsequently the brethren adjourned to the concert hall for supper. Bro. W. Simmonds, W.M. presiding. The customary loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed, and a very pleasant evening was spent by all present.

Obituary.

BRO. SIR CHARLES BRIGHT, PAST D.G.M. MIDDLESEX.

The career of this brother, whose death occurred a short time since, was both a long and a distinguished one. He was initiated in the Combermere Lodge, No. 605, Birkenhead, on the 17th April, 1856. In 1860 he joined the Britannic Lodge, No. 33, and remained a member till the month of December, 1866. He joined the Bard of Avon Lodge, No. 778, in 1874, was installed W.M. in 1882, and remained a member till 1885. In the meantime he had assisted in founding and been installed in 1877 the first W. Master of the Quadratic Lodge, No. 1691, which, like the Bard of Avon, meets at Hampton Court; while in 1884 he joined the Saye and Sele Lodge, No. 1973, Belvedere, Kent, and was returned as a member in the last list forwarded to Grand Lodge. He was exalted to the R.A. Degree in the Britannic Chapter, No. 33, in January, 1866, and was a founder and first Z. of the Quadratic Chapter, No. 1691, in 1881. From 1878 to 1882 he occupied the position of Deputy Prov. Grand Master of Middlesex, and was also a P. Prov. G.H. of the Prov. Grand Chapter of Middlesex. He had been perfected Rose Croix in the Grand Metropolitan Chapter, No. 1, of that Degree, and had taken the 31° in the Ancient and Accepted Rite. He had served as a Festival Steward for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and had qualified as Life Governor both of that and the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls. The funeral was largely attended, and at the service at St. Cuthbert's Church, the R.W. the Prov. Grand Master, Sir Francis Burdett, Bart., was represented by W. Bro. J. F. H. Woodward, P.G. Swd. Br., Prov. G. Sec. Middx. To the members of his family, and his brother, Bro. E. B. Bright, who had been intimately associated with him in Freemasonry, we offer the expression of our deep sympathy.



"Bootle's Baby," now being played at the Globe, is a triumphant success. The book, by Mrs. Stannard, who writes under the nom de plume of John Strange Winter, most people are familiar with. It is a story of a healthy description, and is not interlarded with disgusting innuendoes, or full of details of the police and divorce courts. Mr. Hugh Moss is the adapter of the play. It is the spirit of the age to worship stage children. Public taste varies very much. A few years ago it was all opera bouffe; then far-fetched farcical comedies; then sensational melodramas; but now it is baby-worship, and in "Bootle's Baby" the British public have a little treasure of a heroine to worship in the person of little Minnie Terry, as well as a real baby. Miss Terry plays with astonishing ease the part of Mignon, into whom the baby develops, and the scenes betwixt her and the Lancer officers are extremely pleasing. She plays in such a thoroughly innocent, childish manner that one does not mind having her on the stage, otherwise we are somewhat averse to introducing children on the stage. What is more annoying than a preocious child? Mr. E. Maurice has a sympathetic part, of which he enters into the spirit. Messrs. Garthorne and Montague are thoroughly satisfactory as Capt. Lucy and Lieut. Gray. Mr. Arthur Sugden makes a very artistic performance in the character of Capt. Gilchrist. Miss Edith Woodworth—the joint lessee with Mr. Edgar Bruce of the theatre—is not quite suitable for the sentimental Helen Grace. We believe every one is rushing to the Globe to embrace "Bootle's Baby," as they are also doing at Terry's with "Little Lord Fauntleroy."

We are inclined to think that the applause with which Mr. Wilson Barrett was greeted on Thursday last week was as much owing to his re-appearance at his old home—the Princess's—as to the production of a new drama. We hope Mr. Wilson Barrett may be sufficiently supported as to cause his remaining in the theatre his friends and patrons like him in best. Mr. Hall Caine has dramatised his novel, "The Deemster," and called the play "Ben-my-Chree." There is in it a good deal that is fresh and powerful, but certainly gloomy. We take for granted the footnote appended by the author on the programme to the effect that 150 years ago the Isle of man was ruled jointly by the Bishop and the Governor, i.e., Church and State. Dan Mylrea, son of the Bishop and nephew of the Deemster, is guilty of the manslaughter of his cousin Evan, son of the Deemster, or judge, and is about to be punished by the judge as a murderer, has his sentence commuted by the Bishop, his father, to one of social and religious excommunication for life. "He shall be cut off from his people. Henceforth he is to have no name among them, nor family, nor kin. From now for ever let no flesh touch his flesh. Let no tongue speak to him. Let no eye look upon him. If he should be hungry, let none give him meat. When he shall be sick, let none minister to him. When his death shall come, let no man bury him. Alone let him live, alone let him die, and among the beasts of the field let him hide his unburied bones." We also take for granted the Manx law of compurgation which was employed "when suspicion

tarnished a good woman's name to put to silence her false accusers." Mona, who is supposed to have given up her chastity to the scape-grace Dan, approaches the altar, and in response to the Bishop solemnly declares that her life has been pure. Harcourt, the Governor of the Island, who is a villain, steps forward and still accuses Mona of being dishonoured, when Dan rushes into the chapel and supports her honour. But the penalty he must pay is death for having left his place of banishment, and the knowledge thereof kills Mona, who falls into Dan's arms lifeless at the altar, and Dan joyfully hears his own doom pronounced as the curtain falls. Bro. Wilson Barrett expresses with much force the character of Dan. Bro. J. Maclean wins the affections of every one in the part of the good old Bishop, who is always saying kind things to the people about him, and still stands up for the rights of the Church over the State, and even sentences his own son. Mr. George Barrett does his best with the slight materials in the way of humour. Miss Eastlake, as Mona, makes many weep. In some of the scenes she equals anything she has played in before. "Ben-my-Chree" ought to draw; although decidedly gloomy, it is an interesting, original, and wholesome drama. We wish the lessee all success.

WILLING'S SELECTED THEATRICAL PROGRAMME.

COVENT GARDEN THEATRE.

Royal Italian Opera Season.

ADELPHI THEATRE.

Every Evening at 8, THE BELLS OF HASLEMERE; at 7.15, Farce.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.

Every Evening at 8, THE IRONMASTER.

VAUDEVILLE THEATRE.

Every Evening at 8, JOSEPH'S SWEETHEART.

OLYMPIC THEATRE.

Every Evening at 8.30, an adaptation of MR. BARNES OF NEW YORK; at 7.45, THE AREA BELLE.

GAIETY THEATRE.

Every Evening at 8, THE RAILROAD OF LOVE.

COMEDY THEATRE.

Every Evening at 9, THE ARABIAN NIGHTS; at 8, SUNSET.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.

Every Evening at 8.30, DOROTHY; at 7.45, JUBILATION.

STRAND THEATRE.

Every Evening at 8, HIS WIVES; at 9.50, "AIREY" ANNIE.

SAVOY THEATRE.

Every Evening at 8.45, THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE; at 7.40, MRS. JARRAMIE'S GENIE.

GLOBE THEATRE.

Every Evening at 8.30, BOOTLES' BABY; at 7.45, VANDYKE BROWN.

TOOLE'S THEATRE.

Every Evening at 8.30, THE DON; at 7.45, A RED RAG.

AVENUE THEATRE.

Every Evening at 8.15, THE OLD GUARD; at 7.30, A WARM RECEPTION.

TERRY'S THEATRE.

Every Evening at 8.30, SWEET LAVENDER; at 7.40, LAW AND PHYSIC.

SURREY THEATRE.

Every Evening at 7.30, THE STOWAWAY.

HENGLE'S CIRQUE.

Every Day at 2 and 8, Grand Italian Marionette Entertainment.

ROYAL AQUARIUM.

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

MADAME TUSSAUD & SONS' EXHIBITION.

Open 10 till 10. Portrait Models of Past and Present Celebrities.

NIAGARA IN LONDON.

Open Daily, 11 to 11. Grand Panorama of NIAGARA.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.

Every Evening at 7.45, Grand Variety Entertainment and Two Grand Ballets.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.

Every Evening at 7.45, Variety Entertainment. Two Grand Ballets, &c.

LONDON PAVILION.

Every Evening at 8, Variety Entertainment, &c.

CANTERBURY THEATRE OF VARIETIES.

Every Evening at 7.30, Grand Variety Entertainment, &c.

On Wednesday afternoon the Baroness Burdett-Coutts distributed the gold, silver, and bronze medals and diplomas to the successful competitors at the Universal Cookery and Food Exhibition at Knightsbridge, in aid of the building fund of the French Hospital and Caring Cross Hospital; a vote of thanks to her ladyship concluding the proceedings. It was stated in the course of the evening that the proceeds of the Exhibition amounted to about £800, which would be equally divided between the two hospitals.

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION AT GLASGOW.—Acceleration of the Day Scotch Expresses by the West Coast Royal Mail Route.—The London and North-Western and Caledonian Railway Companies announce that, commencing on Friday, June 1st, the day express train, leaving London (Euston Station) at 10 a.m. will be accelerated to arrive at Glasgow (Central) and Edinburgh (Princes-street) at 7 p.m., instead of 8 p.m. Passengers for Larbert, Stirling, Oban, Perth, and the North will be conveyed by an additional express leaving Euston at 10.30 a.m., instead of by the 10 a.m. train. The 10.30 a.m. train will also convey traffic to Kendal, Windermere, Barrow, the Furness District, Penrith, and the Lakes. The up-day express, leaving Edinburgh (Princes-street) and Glasgow (Central) at 10 a.m., will be accelerated to reach Euston at 7 p.m., instead of 8 p.m., as at present. The journey between London (Euston) and Edinburgh and Glasgow will thus be performed in the quick time of nine hours instead of ten, as heretofore.



We understand that Bro. Edward Terry, P.G. Stwd., the popular lessee of Terry's Theatre, who has been for years an active and distinguished member of the Craft, intends offering himself as a candidate for election to the office of Grand Treasurer for next year.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Surrey is to be held this year at Wallington.

Bro. Lord Brabourne has returned to town from Italy in a much improved condition of health, and Bro. Lord and Lady North, and the Hon. Misses North have arrived at 51, Cromwell Houses.

Prince George of Greece, who has been on a visit to the Prince and Princess of Wales at Marlborough House, left London on Tuesday, and rejoined his ship, the Danish corvette Dagmar, off Gravesend.

The ceremony of installation will be worked by Bro. W. C. Smith, P.M. and Preceptor, in the Emblematic Lodge of Instruction, No. 1321, on Tuesday, the 29th inst., for the last time previous to his leaving London.

At the monthly meeting of the Sun and Sector Lodge, No. 962, Workington, on Wednesday, the 16th inst., Bro. Dr. McKerrow was elected W.M., and Bro. J. Paterson, P.M., P.P.G. Swd. Br., Treasurer.

Bro. Sir Edward Clarke, Q.C., M.P., her Majesty's Solicitor General, will preside at the annual dinner of the Newspaper Press Fund, which will be held at the Hotel Métropole, on Saturday, the 9th prox.

The Queen, who left Windsor Castle for Scotland on Monday, accompanied by the Princess Beatrice and two of her grandchildren, daughters of Princess Christian, arrived at Balmoral Castle at about 3.30 p.m. on Tuesday afternoon.

The Spring General Meeting of the National Rifle Association will be held, by permission, at the Royal United Service Institution, on Tuesday, the 29th inst., when the chair will be occupied by H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge, who is President of the Association.

The health of the Emperor Frederick has greatly improved during the past week, and his Majesty has been able to take carriage airing in the park around Charlottenburg almost daily, his reception by his subjects, whenever they have the chance of seeing him, being most enthusiastic.

The Queen completed her 69th year on Thursday, having been born on the 24th May, 1819. The auspicious event, however, will be publicly celebrated on Saturday, the 2nd June, when Ministers and others will give the usual State banquets, and the principal streets will be illuminated.

The Prince of Wales reached Berlin on Tuesday evening, and was received on his arrival at the railway station by the Crown Prince, Prince Henry, Bro. Sir E. B. Malet, H.M.'s Ambassador at Berlin, the Governor of Berlin, and other notabilities. His Royal Highness's reception by the Berliners was very cordial.

The Queen, accompanied by the Princess Henry of Battenberg and the Princesses Victoria and Louise of Schleswig-Holstein, left Windsor Castle on Monday evening for Scotland, and about the same time the Prince of Wales, attended by two equeiries, left Victoria Station for Berlin, travelling *via* Queenborough and Flushing, to be present at the marriage of his nephew, the Prince Henry of Prussia, son of the Emperor of Germany, with his niece, the Princess Irene, daughter of the Grand Duke of Hesse Darmstadt and the late Princess Alice.

The General Meeting of the Governors and Members of the Royal Agricultural Society of England was held on Tuesday, the chair being occupied by Earl Cathcart, in the unavoidable absence of Bro. Sir M. White Ridley, Bart., M.P. A resolution of gratitude to the Queen for her condescension in accepting the office of President during the Jubilee year of the Society was passed by acclamation.

The annual Whit Monday Scottish Sports were held this year at the Stamford Bridge Grounds in the presence of a numerous gathering of spectators, amongst whom were the Marquis of Lorne, the Duchess of Atholl, Bro. the Earl and Countess of Kintore, Lady Murray, and Lady Dalrymple. On the completion of the programme, which was a very full one, the prizes were distributed by the Princess Louise, Marchioness of Lorne.

The third annual competition of the London Cart Horse Parade Society, of which Bro. W. Burdett-Coutts, M.P., is President, and on the Committee of which Bros. Sir Francis Burdett, M.P., H. Rymill, and others are members, took place in Regent's Park, on Monday, the number of horses which took part in it being 335, and the number of vehicles 271, of which 236 were four-wheelers and 36 two-wheelers. The diplomas and prizes were afterwards distributed by the Baroness Burdett-Coutts, to whom a vote of thanks for her kindness was passed unanimously.

The Workmen's Exhibition at the People's Palace, Mile End-road, was opened on Saturday last by the Duke of Westminster. About 70 different trade industries were represented, the exhibits being some 400 in number, and a considerable time was occupied in examining them. His Grace also inspected the building for the new library, which will contain a quarter of a million of books, and which H.R.H. the Duchess of Albany has kindly promised to inaugurate on Saturday, the 16th prox. A vote of thanks was passed by acclamation to the Duke for his presence on the occasion.

CARLETON COLLEGE, TUFNELL PARK, N.—This prosperous College, which has been carried on for the last 13 years by Mrs. William Harris Saunders (wife of our well-known Bro. William Harris Saunders, P.P.S.G.D. Middx., &c.), has largely increased the number of pupils this term owing to the closing of Queen's College, Carleton-road, Tufnell Park, which was established in 1844; the proprietor, Mr. Pyne, having made arrangements with Mrs. Saunders to take over a considerable number of boarders and day pupils.

The Dalhousie Lodge of Instruction now meets at the Middleton Arms, corner of Queen's-road and Middleton-road, Dalston, at eight o'clock.

Bro. Col. Shaw-Hellier, late 4th Dragoon Guards, has been appointed Commandant of the Royal Military School of Music, in succession to Col. R. Thompson, retired.

Among the audience on Wednesday at the St. James's Theatre to witness "The Ironmaster" were the Duke and Duchess of Teck and the Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg-Schwerin.

The Queen and the Prince and Princess of Wales have been pleased to become patrons of the Chester Triennial Musical Festival, which will be held in Chester Cathedral on the 25th, 26th, and 27th July.

The President of the French Republic will be a guest at the banquet which will be given by the Earl of Lytton, her Majesty's Ambassador at Paris, on Saturday, the 2nd prox., in honour of the Queen's birthday.

The 33rd anniversary festival of the Poplar Hospital for Accidents was celebrated at the Holborn Restaurant on the 17th inst., when subscriptions amounting to close on £1350 were announced.

Prince Albert Victor of Wales has graciously consented to open a new lock on the Ouse, at Naburn, near York, on Monday, the 25th June next. The structure has been erected at a cost of £10,000.

Comp. H. Sadler, P.Z. 169, Grand Janitor, will deliver a lecture to-morrow (Saturday), 26th inst., on the "Banners and Ensigns of the Royal Arch," at the Industry Chapter of Instruction, No. 186, held at the Prince Regent, Dulwich-road.

Bros. the Earl of Londesborough, Alderman Sir H. Isaacs, and Christopher Sykes, M.P., were among the principal guests at the 76th anniversary festival of the Yorkshire Society, which was celebrated, last week, at the Holborn Restaurant.

Bro. F. Seager Hunt, M.P., presided at the annual meeting, on the 17th inst., of the Governors of the Grosvenor Hospital for Women and Children, Vincent-square, Westminster, among those who took part in the proceedings being the Baroness Burdett-Coutts.

Bro. the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, who is spending the Whitsun holidays at Mount Edgcumbe, will, as Lord Steward of the Queen's Household, give a full-dress dinner on Saturday, the 2nd prox., in honour of her Majesty's birthday.

On Friday, the 18th inst., the Prince of Wales visited the Queen at Windsor Castle, and stayed to luncheon. His Royal Highness also inspected the same day, at the Hanover Gallery, the picture of "The Naval Review by the Queen at Portsmouth."

The annual meeting of the Army and Navy Pensioners' Employment Society was held at the London offices, 44, Charing Cross, on the 18th inst., when the report for the past year, which showed a falling off in the annual subscriptions, was adopted.

The Duke of Cambridge has consented to preside at the annual general meeting of the Volunteer Forces Benevolent Association, which will be held on Tuesday, the 5th prox., at the Royal United Service Institute.

Bro. the Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress arrived in Paris from London on Friday evening, the 18th inst., and during his stay his lordship will interest himself in the arrangements of the British Section of next year's International Exhibition at Paris, of which he is the President.

The Prince of Wales has made known his intention of opening the new gymnasium, situated at 92, Long Acre, of the Central Young Men's Christian Association, Exeter Hall, on Wednesday, the 6th prox., and his Royal Highness and the Princess of Wales will open the Great Northern Central Hospital, Holloway-road, on the 25th prox.

Bro. Lord Stanley of Preston, the new Governor-General of Canada, will leave England on Tuesday next, the 29th inst., in order to assume the duties of the office vacated by the Marquis of Lansdowne, who succeeds Lord Dufferin as Viceroy of India. His lordship will be accompanied by Lady Stanley.

The Lancashire Hussars, under the command of Bro. Col. the Earl of Lathom, were inspected at Southport on the 18th instant by the Duke of Cambridge, who was accompanied by Bro. Major-General Sir Redvers Buller and other officers, and who expressed the gratification he had derived from inspecting a regiment which was in so fine a condition.

The Princess of Wales, accompanied by her three daughters, visited the Anglo-Danish Exhibition, at South Kensington, on Friday, the 18th inst., and roamed about the Danish village and the gardens, listening to the music, without being incommoded by the other visitors, who respected the wish of her Royal Highness to remain "incognita."

Bro. T. Sutherland, M.P., presided at the third annual dinner at the Holborn Restaurant on Wednesday of the Royal Alfred Aged Merchant Seamen's Institution, which is located at Belvedere, and was opened in 1867. Subscriptions in excess of £2000 were announced in the course of the evening.

The Royal Naval and Military Bazaar, which was held last week at the Hôtel Métropole in aid of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Homes, was opened on the 17th inst. by the Princess of Wales, her Royal Highness being accompanied by the Prince of Wales and their daughters, the Princesses Victoria and Maud. There was a very large attendance, and the sum received in the purses presented to the Princess amounted to £5000.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—In the complaints peculiar to females these Pills are unrivalled. Their use by the fair sex has become so constant for the removal of all their ailments, that rare is the household that is without them. Amongst all classes—from the domestic servant to the peeress—universal favour is accorded to these renovating Pills; their invigorating and purifying properties render them safe and invaluable in all cases; they may be taken by females of all ages for any disorganisation or irregularity of the system, speedily removing the cause and restoring the sufferer to robust health. As a family medicine they are unapproachable for subduing the maladies of young and old.—ADVT.

Bro. Admiral Sir J. E. Commerell, V.C., will enter upon his duties as Commander-in-Chief at Portsmouth, in succession to Bro. Admiral Sir George Willes, to-morrow (Saturday).

A telegram received in Paris from Mostaganem, Algeria, states that an immense swarm of locusts is advancing in the direction of Tiaret, the insects extending over a semi-circle of territory the distance of which is 15 kilometres.

A very successful benefit performance was given at the Royal Savoy Theatre on Tuesday, on behalf of Mr. T. E. Smale, the proceeds being upwards of £550. Among the artistes who gave their services were Bros. David James, T. Thorne, Charles Wyndham, W. Rignold, and Edward Terry.

A portrait of her Majesty the Queen was unveiled in the Royal College of Surgeons, Dublin, on Tuesday, by his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant, in commemoration of the Queen's Jubilee. There was a very large attendance, and the simple ceremony evoked a large amount of enthusiasm.

The first regular meeting of the Cordwainer Lodge since its consecration was held on the 16th inst., at the Cannon-street Hotel, Bro. F. Tayler, C.C., the W.M., occupied the chair, the S.W.'s chair being, in the absence of Bro. Col. and Alderman Cowan, taken by Bro. W. T. Buck. After the routine business and the election of members, the brethren adjourned, subsequently sitting down to an elegant banquet.

Mr. and Madame De Pachmann announce pianoforte recitals at St. James's and Prince's Halls. Interest in the performance of compositions written by the performers themselves seems to be on the increase. Madame de Pachmann—already favourably known in the direction of composition—promises her own sonata for violin and pianoforte. Special adaptation is certain to be a feature of such works, and Madame de Pachmann's ability to do justice to the dual realm of ideality and technique will be readily admitted.

On Wednesday each visitor to the Criterion Theatre was presented with a portrait, in china, of Mr. Wyndham as Garrick, and Miss Moore as Ada—a pretty work of art by Mr. Barraud—to celebrate the occasion of the 300th performance of "David Garrick." In the inevitable speech, Mr. Wyndham congratulated actors and audience on the fact that so simple a story, based on the broad lines of humanity, had achieved such a remarkable success.

Our gifted English composer, Mr. F. H. Cowen, and a goodly number of musicians, designed to form the staple portion of his Australian orchestra are already on their way for that distant land, and no doubt will experience the warm reception they so richly deserve; at any rate, we can bear testimony in anticipation to the welcome he will receive from his many friends and admirers on his return, which we may trust, in the best interests of music will be a speedy one.

We have much pleasure in drawing attention to the fact that the United Northern Counties' Lodge, No. 2128, will hold its next regular meeting at the Inns of Court Hotel, Lincoln's Inn Fields, on Tuesday, the 5th June prox., just in the very thick of the excitement in connection with the celebration of the Centenary Festival of the Girls' School, and will be delighted to extend a hearty greeting to brethren from the country who may be desirous of spending an hour or two in a Metropolitan lodge.

At the meeting of the New Concord Lodge of Instruction, held at the Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, N., on Wednesday, the 16th inst., Bro. Haslip, P.M., at the unanimous desire of the brethren, accepted the office of Preceptor; Bro. C. Weeden, P.M., was elected Treasurer, and Bro. Chubb, Secretary. This lodge has been labouring at great disadvantage for some time past, owing to the long continued illness of its old and tried Preceptor, Bro. Cusworth, P.M. Doubtless the lodge under its new management will become, as hitherto, one of the most popular lodges in the North London district. We understand that the re-opening of the lodge will take place on the 30th inst., Bro. Haslip acting as W.M., supported on the occasion by the officers and brethren of the mother lodge.

BANK HOLIDAY.—Of the 11,000 excursionists conveyed by the Great Northern Railway Company to Skegness, the popular watering place on the Lincolnshire coast, on Whit Monday, a large proportion booked from King's Cross. London visitors to Skegness have very much increased this season; and on Monday a battalion of Manchester Volunteers engaged in a sham fight on the beach, a portion of the force landing as invaders in boats. Five other Volunteer regiments have arranged to encamp at Skegness in the course of the next few weeks. New marine gardens and pleasure grounds have just been opened to the public. Very low fares both for excursions and tourist tickets have been arranged, and the service of trains from King's Cross is excellent.

The Paris correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* has the following remarks on Freemasonry in France: "Freemasonry is so important a factor in the politics of this country that the step which some of its leading members have just taken is deserving of particular notice. M. Colfavru, late President of the Council of the Order, and several other Masters of lodges, or 'Vénérables,' as they are called in France, have issued invitations to their colleagues in all the lodges to assemble on the afternoon of Sunday, June 3rd, at the Cirque d'Hiver, for the purpose of discussing the dangers with which France and the Republic are menaced by the 'plebeian and Caesarian movement.' Ordinary members of lodges in Paris and its environs are to be allowed to attend, but extraordinary measures will be taken to guard against the intrusion of any alien to the Craft. Outside the building 'Free and Accepted Masons' will be stationed to distinguish the wheat from the chaff, and within its walls the proceedings will be conducted on the 'close-tiled' principle. I may remark that General Boulanger is not a Freemason, though a few weeks ago it was reported that he was in 'pourparlers' with a view to entering a Parisian Lodge. As, however, this very lodge almost immediately adopted a resolution condemning his agitation, the idea was abandoned. I need hardly remind you that the attitude just assumed by the Masonic leaders is in strict accordance with the principles of all their lodges. The empire had no more bitter foes."