

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.

VOL. XXI., No. 1005.]

SATURDAY, JUNE 9, 1888.

PRICE 3d.

CONTENTS.

| | | | |
|---|-----|--|-----|
| LEADERS | 337 | REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS— | |
| Quebec, England | 338 | Craft Masonry | 347 |
| United Grand Lodge of England..... | 338 | Instruction | 348 |
| Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons .. | 341 | Royal Arch—Instruction | 349 |
| Girls' School Centenary Festival..... | 344 | Consecration of the Powell Lodge, No. 2257 | 349 |
| Royal Masonic Institution for Girls—Dis- | | Opening of a New Masonic Temple at | |
| tribution of Prizes | 344 | Plumstead | 349 |
| Provincial Grand Lodge of West Lanca- | | Royal Masonic Institution for B.ys..... | 350 |
| shire | 345 | Presentations to Bro. W. H. Wooldridge.. | 350 |
| CORRESPONDENCE— | | Obituary | 351 |
| Bro. Birch's Motion as to Elections | 347 | Masonic and General Tidings..... | 352 |
| Notes and Queries | 347 | Lodge Meetings for Next Week | iv. |

The great event of the year has at length passed, and it is no exaggeration to say that such a Festival has never before been held in behalf of any Institution, either Masonic or non-Masonic. The chair was occupied by our illustrious Grand Master, and in addition to the English Masonic notabilities—the Pro and Deputy Grand Masters, the Provincial Grand Masters, and the Grand and Prov. Grand Officers—who were almost as numerously represented as at the Prince's installation in 1875, or the Jubilee meeting of last year, the Anniversary was honoured by the presence of his Majesty OSCAR, King of Sweden, who is now on a visit to this country, and on whom, at the instance of the Prince of WALES, our Grand Lodge had conferred the rank of Past Grand Master only the preceding evening. The ladies also were in great numbers, and being in evening costume the varied hues of their dresses added to the beauty of the scene, and at the same time offered a brilliant contrast to the rich blue and gold of the Grand and Prov. Grand Officers, and the light blue and silver of the rank and file. The arrangements were perfect, and Sir ALBERT WOODS, Grand Director of Ceremonies, but especially Bro. ROBERT GREY, President Board of Benevolence, who was Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Board of Stewards, must be something more than human if they do not feel that the successful accomplishment of the onerous duties which devolved upon them has materially strengthened their reputation. The banquet was all that could have been desired, while as to the after proceedings, and particularly when the total of the subscriptions—which our readers will find in another column—was made known, the enthusiasm may be more easily imagined than described. However, we shall attempt a description in the Special Number of this journal, which will be published early next week, and which will contain a full report of the Anniversary, of Monday's proceedings, and of the Institution itself. For the present, therefore, we are content with the above brief remarks, and the expression of our respectful congratulations to H.R.H. the Grand Master on the success of the Festival, and the Board of Stewards and Bro. HEDGES, the Secretary, on the realisation—and something more—of the hopes they have been cherishing for the last few months.

The preliminary meeting on Monday, in the Royal Albert Hall, in connection with the Centenary Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, was even more successful than had been expected. A numerous and distinguished company of ladies and brethren assembled for the purpose of witnessing the calisthenic exercises and marching of the children, and the distribution of prizes by the Countess of CARNARVON. Bro. the Earl of CARNARVON, Pro Grand Master, and the Earl of LATHOM, Dep. Grand Master, were present and, above all, as we announced last week, the Prince and Princess of WALES and their daughters visited the Hall and looked on with unmistakable pleasure while the girls in the upper school went through their appointed exercises, and then marched and counter-marched, wheeled and circled, and formed and reformed, with a correctness and precision which reflected the greatest credit both on themselves and on those who had trained them so carefully. The Princess likewise, with her own hands, presented the gold medal for proficiency and the silver medal for good conduct, which are the chief prizes awarded by the Institution during the year, and which on this occasion had been won by MABEL OSMOND and AGNES STEPHENSON respectively, and we congratulate these two young ladies on their good fortune in receiving the rewards of their ability and behaviour from the gracious Princess, who now for 17 years has been the Patroness of our School. On the departure of the Royal visitors, who both on entering and leaving the Hall, were cheered most heartily, the other prizes were distributed by the wife of the Pro Grand Master, and the children having given evidence of their musical ability, both vocal and instrumental, the proceedings terminated with the National Anthem. Owing to the brightness of the weather the Hall was well filled, and if the girls enjoyed themselves only one half as much as the visitors, the Stewards will have had good reason to be gratified with the success of the first part of the centenary programme.

United Grand Lodge. The attendance at the Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge, on Wednesday, owing, no doubt, to the presence of so many brethren in London in consequence of the meeting of Mark Grand Lodge on the day preceding and the Centenary Festival of the Girls' School on the day following, was unusually large, and the Pro Grand Master, after his protracted absence from England, was most cordially greeted on taking the chair. The communications from the Grand Master and his lordship were listened to with profound respect, the proposal of his Royal Highness that the rank of Past Grand Master should be conferred on his Majesty OSCAR King of Sweden being acquiesced in by the brethren instantly and with much enthusiasm. The announcement that the Prince had accepted the proffered office of Grand Patron of the Grand Lodge of South Australia was likewise greeted with applause, while the statement by Lord CARNARVON as to the flourishing condition of the Craft in Australia generally afforded the utmost satisfaction, the appointment of Bro. Lord CARRINGTON, Governor-General of New South Wales, likewise being received with much favour. Lastly the reference to the circumstances connected with the recent election of Grand Treasurer, though the subject was not allowed to drop without full discussion, passed quietly, and we dare say our report will be read with interest, while the tone adopted by the speakers will no doubt exercise a beneficial influence on all future elections to the same office.

Mark Grand Lodge. It is unnecessary, after the very full anticipatory notice we gave last week of the proceedings appointed to take place at the Half-Yearly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons on Tuesday, to say more than that what was arranged to be done was done, that the Grand Officers for the new year, as they were appointed and invested, were loudly applauded, and that the list of Jubilee honours bestowed on distinguished Mark brethren in the Colonies was also listened to with pleasure. The report of the General Board was adopted, and after Grand Lodge had been closed the brethren held their Grand Festival in accordance with the time-honoured custom among English Masons.

The re-election of the Boys' School House Committee. We never permit ourselves to be over-sanguine, but in ordinary circumstances we should consider that the disturbers of the peace at the Committee and Court Meetings of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys would regard their crushing defeat on Saturday last as evidence of their inability to shake the confidence of the Governors of the Charity in their House Committee. When on the 24th March they moved at a Special Court for a Committee of Inquiry into its conduct they mustered a following of some 118; on Saturday last their supporters were 39 only, while the party of order increased their majority from about two to one to five to one or thereabouts. Thus the longer these shameful efforts to bring the House Committee into disrepute with the General Committee are continued, the more manifest and at the same time the more intense becomes the disgust of the latter. Unfortunately, we have to deal with a class of men to whose unscrupulousness there is no limit; if there were any doubt about this point before, the recent issue of the calumnious circular to which we referred last week must have removed it entirely. Therefore, though we shall be rejoiced if it turns out that we have seen the last of these attacks on the Boys' School House Committee, we shall not be at all surprised at their renewal.

The Approaching Boys' School Festival. It is not surprising that, with the counter attractions offered by the Centenary Celebration of the Girls' School on the one hand, and the shameful attacks which have been made during the current year on its executive officials on the other, the Board of Stewards for the approaching 90th Anniversary Festival of the Boys' School should be numerically weaker than we have known it at any celebration during the Grand Mastership of the Prince of WALES. Since we last wrote only 11 fresh names have been added to the list, which is still 50 short of what it was at the opening meeting of the Board for 1887, and more than 100 short of what it ultimately reached. What renders the position still more difficult is that owing to the shortness of the interval between now and the day appointed for the celebration, there is but little likelihood of any appreciable advance being made on the present numbers. A few more brethren may volunteer their services, and it is just possible the Stewards may muster ultimately some 200 strong, but a fortnight is not enough for any great amount of canvassing to be done, and we must hope that the brethren who have undertaken the duty of supporting Lord EBRINGTON on the 27th inst., will make up for their lack of numbers by the extra length and wealth of their Subscription Lists. The sum of £10,000 or £12,000, which is needed to defray the year's expenditure, must be obtained from some source, the permanent income of the Institution being limited to a few hundreds of pounds sterling, and a smaller Board of Stewards will deserve all the greater credit if it can accomplish a consummation so devoutly to be wished.

VERY general and very sincere regret is felt at the sudden death on Saturday last of Bro. G. PARKER BROCKBANK, P.G. Std. Bearer of England, one of the ablest and most experienced and at the same time one of the most genial members of the Craft in the Province of East Lancashire. Only a fortnight previously, he had been in London in connection with the election of annuitants on the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and had his life been prolonged he would have been again in our midst in order that he might take part in the meetings of the Craft and Mark Grand Lodges, but especially in the proceedings of the Centenary Festival Celebration in the Royal Albert Hall on Monday and Thursday. His name figured on the list of Stewards from his Province and his list reached Bro. HEDGES by the first post on the very day of his death, so that one of the very last acts of his life was done on behalf of our senior Institution, whose 100th Anniversary, which has been observed with so much splendour and success during the week, he was eagerly looking forward to attend. That Bro. BROCKBANK should have died in harness, as it were, and with all his intellectual faculties in their full vigour, will be a source of consolation to his family and the hosts of friends he had made during his long and brilliant Masonic career. But none the less will be their sorrow, that apparently with many years of vigorous life before him, he should have been called away without any premonition that his life was in danger, much less that it was to be terminated so abruptly. However, Death has claimed him, and it is something to know, that among the many and onerous duties which fell to the lot of our deceased brother, there was not one of them which was not thoroughly and successfully discharged. We sympathise most deeply with his family in their bereavement, and having had the pleasure and privilege of his personal acquaintance, can better judge from our own feelings of the regrets that must be felt by his brethren of East Lancashire and generally throughout the Craft. He was a capable man and a learned, and the gap caused in our ranks by his death will not easily be filled.

QUEBEC V. ENGLAND.

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

No. IV.

If there are good brethren in England, who are still unconvinced of the correctness of the Quebec constitutional and historical contentions *re* exclusive territorial Grand Lodge sovereignty and private lodge obedience, I would now fraternally appeal to such thoughtfully to consider the expediency of the policy of longer countenancing the claim of private lodges of their institution in the Colonies, to continuance of English Grand Lodge obedience after the regular establishment of independent Grand Lodges in, and for, the territories in which said private lodges are situated.

In view of what appears to be the uniformly evil results flowing from multiple private lodge obedience in all the Colonies and other Dependencies of the empire, in which Grand Lodges have been formed, and knowing that the same or like results will constantly recur under like circumstances, it does seem to me that it is now the part of good and wise brethren in England, who (and whose predecessors) have done so much for the extension and upbuilding of our beloved Fraternity at home and abroad (and whose Colonial policy may perchance have had a quasi-justification during what may have been deemed to be the Colonial Masonic tutelage era)—now promptly and seriously to consider—not only the expediency, but the absolute necessity of so modifying their Masonic policy towards the Craft in the Imperial Dependencies that it may assure peace, harmony, and union locally, and inter-jurisdictionally, and prevent their opposites with all their unfraternal and other evil consequences of which, one from his "heart of hearts" may say, "*horresce referrius.*"

Let it also be borne in mind that by the Colonial policy hitherto followed by England, any three brethren in a Colony (having an English warrant), whatever their reasons may be, may, under the auspices of their mother Grand Lodge, maintain with all their inherited diverse and conflicting lodge and other regulations, an "*imperium in imperio*" with the jurisdiction of any newly established Grand Lodge, in opposition to the views, the wishes, and the interests of any other number of brethren, or lodges, be they ever so many!

Would such a principle of civil government be tolerated in any enlightened and well regulated State? Can it be a fundamental principle of Masonic governance which puts it in the power of any such or such like minority perpetually to mar the harmony, hinder the prosperity, and disturb the peace of the Fraternity, not only of the jurisdiction wherein they are situated, but also the whole Masonic world?

Fully realising what is involved therein, I ask, seriously and most respectfully, does or does not the Grand Lodge of England desire practically to prevent the erection of independent and extensive Masonic Sovereignities (like the British) elsewhere in the Empire? Does she or does she not purpose to consider and deal with Grand Lodges in the "self-governing" Colonies and national dependencies (like Canada) as her Peers? Or does she mean the Craft in the dependencies to understand that the only way to Masonic independence is through political independence?

In hitherto commenting on the pleasing fact that England had, with mutual fraternal joy and rejoicing, unconditionally recognised, had happily interchanged Grand Representatives, and had established fraternal correspondence with the Grand Lodges of the State of New York, and of other Federal States of the American Union, and noting that she had as yet refused such to the Federal Province (State!) of Quebec of the Dominion of Canada (one of her own dependencies!), I made, *inter alia*, the following official statement with, as it appears to me, the utmost moderation, "It surely cannot be the policy of the Mother Grand Lodge of England to make a distinction in her dealings with the Grand Lodges of separate and Independent Nations, and the Grand Lodges of her own Dependencies, and that too in any way to the disadvantage of the latter!"

Moreover, in seeking to secure peace, perpetual inter-jurisdictional peace and union, and prevent the recurrence of discord, disunion, and alienation, which latter are so abhorrent to the fundamental principles of our ancient

and honourable Fraternity, it seems to me that England ought not to be averse to learning lessons of wisdom *re* Colonial Masonic government and inter-relationship, from the peculiar experiences which she has had, and from the improvements made during the past century and upwards in the political government of "Colonies," and in the strengthening of friendly alliances therewith; nor be forgetful of some of the wise methods of statesmanlike diplomacy and action by which recalcitrant minorities have been brought to realise that union was most desirable, and that its great and manifold advantages must be secured.

The all-important Masonic questions now are:—Which shall prevail? Local and inter-jurisdictional peace, or turmoil? Union, or disunion and alienation? It appears to me that England must decide! With her alone now rests the issue! England alone, as I think, prevents the Craft Grand Lodge confederation of the world!

But, says a good English brother, the United Grand Lodge of England has never acted on the principle that "foreign" lodges of her institution must become of obedience to a territorial Grand Lodge (or choose the alternative of dissolution) when such a Grand Lodge (as Quebec) has been regularly and rightfully established; that there is no precedent, therefore, &c. Well, even if so, it appears to me, considering all the circumstances, it is time that England should make a precedent, *in re*, as (we have shown) so many regular Grand Lodges did long before the present Grand Lodge of England was formed!

And now, in order to prevent some esteemed brother from wronging the cause of peace, which I have at heart, by misconstruing certain official and personal acts of mine, *in re*, I beg to be permitted to say that, in declining in behalf of Quebec to accept the qualified and conditional "recognition" proffered by England, I was actuated by what I deemed to be for the best and highest interests of England, as well as of Quebec, and of the Craft universal, because I believed that quasi-recognition would sanction and perpetuate wrong, and be productive of renewed evils, and that permanent inter-jurisdictional peace, union, and harmony must rest upon the acknowledged rights, privileges, and prerogatives of Masonic co-equals, or peers. I desired peace with honour and right. In the same spirit, and for the sake of those who now know or may be informed thereof, I also beg to say that the personal English "knightly" Masonic and other proffered "home" honours were also respectfully and gratefully declined—not for want of personal or other devotedness to "the powers that be," but because it did not appear that it would be consistent and honourable for me to accept such unless the "Quebec question," which involved so much, were adjusted on principles which I firmly believed to be in accord with and promotive not only of the local, but also of the imperial and general good and welfare.

In having thus briefly and imperfectly presented what is termed the case of "Quebec v. England," and in making my appeal to our good English brethren to aid in securing peace and unity, I have not deemed it necessary to speak of what have been called the England-Canada-Quebec treaty matters, nor to express an opinion on the Quebec-England edict of non-intercourse, because, after all, these are, as it were, but minor issues, or incidental outcomes, and about which contrariety of opinion unavoidably exists even amongst those who are in accord as to what is more fundamentally important; and because, personally, I desire to avoid mere discussion, and wish rather to give, if possible, more emphatic re-expression to any earnest, heartfelt desire that the difficult Masonic inter-jurisdictional problem under consideration may speedily and happily be solved; that peace, blessed peace, may soon prevail; and that such terms as "England v. Quebec," and "Quebec v. England" may be blotted out the vocabulary of Craftsmen. So mote it be.

Richmond, Quebec, Canada, May 15.

UNITED GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND.

The Quarterly Communication of United Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of England was held at Freemasons' Hall on Wednesday evening. The M.W. Bro. the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, Pro Grand Master, occupied the throne, and on his entering Grand Lodge for the first time since his visit to Australia he was received with loud applause. Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., R.W. Prov. G. Master Hants and the Isle of Wight, occupied the position of Deputy Grand Master, and R.W. Bro. Sir Francis Burdett, Prov. G. Master of Middlesex, acted as Past Grand Master; Bro. Col. Sackville West acted as Grand Senior Warden; Bro. Lord John Tylour, Grand Junior Warden for the year, filled the chair of Grand Junior Warden; and there was a very large attendance of brethren. Grand Lodge having been formally opened, the minutes of the last Quarterly Communication of March 7th were read.

Bro. J. S. CUMBERLAND wished to know before the minutes were put for confirmation whether the vote passed in Grand Lodge, relative to the illness of the Emperor and Crown Prince of Germany, had been transmitted to his Majesty, and also if sent whether a reply had been returned.

Bro. Col. SHADWELL H. CLERKE said if the worthy brother would wait a little he would read the particulars which the worthy brother required.

The minutes were then put and confirmed.

The minutes of Grand Festival of 25th April were then read by the Grand Secretary, and were put and confirmed.

Bro. Col. SHADWELL H. CLERKE then said that, with reference to the resolution proposed at the Grand Lodge, in December, 1887, by the R.W. Deputy Grand Master, respecting the Silver Wedding of her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales with the M.W. Grand Master, he had the honour to report that a deputation, consisting of the Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Director of Ceremonies, and himself, waited on her Royal Highness at Marlborough House, on the 10th March last, and presented her Royal Highness with the address of Grand Lodge, and a butterfly in diamonds and silver.

Her Royal Highness said she was pleased to accept the souvenir thus offered by Grand Lodge, and requested the deputation to express her thanks and appreciation of the kind words with which it was accompanied. He had also to report that the address voted to his Imperial Highness, then the Crown Prince, now the Emperor of Germany, was presented by the Most Worshipful Grand Master personally to the Crown Prince at Berlin. The

death of his Imperial Majesty, the late Emperor, having occurred just after the vote of Grand Lodge, the Grand Master, on behalf and in the name of Grand Lodge of England, addressed the following letter of condolence to his Imperial Majesty:—

Freemasons' Hall, London, 13th March, 1888.

To his Imperial Majesty Frederick the Third, German Emperor, &c., &c., &c.,
 Illustrious Sire, and Most Worshipful Brother,—On behalf of the United Grand Lodge of England, of which I am Grand Master, I beg to offer to your Imperial Majesty the sincere condolence of our English Brotherhood on the recent death of the venerated and august Brother, his Imperial Majesty the Emperor William, a melancholy event which has deprived the German nation of one of its greatest Sovereigns, and Freemasonry of one of its most illustrious members. I have at the same time to congratulate your Imperial Majesty, in the name of my Grand Lodge, upon your accession to the throne, and to express our most heartfelt prayer that your Majesty's most valuable life may long be spared to the great country over which his Majesty has just been called to rule, and to the brethren of our Order, whose interests your Majesty has so long protected. —With the most fraternal greetings, I have the honour to remain, your Imperial Majesty's faithful Brother,

ALBERT EDWARD, M.W.G.M. England.

The following is the reply:

To the Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England, His Royal Highness the Brother Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, London.

Illustrious Prince, and Most Worshipful and beloved Grand Master and Brother,—I have, with deep emotion, and with grateful brotherly feeling, received the intimation of the sympathy which your Royal Highness expressed on behalf of the United Grand Lodge of England, and am convinced of your sincere interest in the demise of my beloved father, the glorious Emperor William, who was in the whole world praised alike as Ruler and as Freemason. Under his most noble Protectorate, Freemasonry has properly preserved the appellation of the "Royal Art." Pure and elevated in mind, in word, in deed, and inspiring the brethren who imitate him on the road to wisdom, beauty, and strength, he remained till his entrance into the Eternal East a beaming pattern for all brethren Freemasons, who, although scattered through the whole world, are united in the Royal Art. I accept, with fraternal thanks, and in the hope of their being fulfilled, the kind wishes which your Royal Highness and your Grand Lodge express for me and the deceased Emperor William. I shall not fail to bestow in the future, as hitherto, my sincere interest in Freemasonry. A salute in our Holy Number.

Dated Charlottenburg, 31st March.

FREDERICK I. & R.

The reading of these communications was received with loud applause.

The Earl of CARNARVON then said: Brethren, before we proceed to the business which stands upon our paper, I have a communication to make to you from his Royal Highness our illustrious Grand Master, and, in the absence of our Grand Master, I shall conclude with a distinct proposal. It is now some 20 years since his Royal Highness our Grand Master was initiated into Freemasonry, and it will be in the recollection of many in this hall that that initiation took place in the kingdom of Sweden and Norway. It was conducted in part by his present Majesty King Oscar the Second, and by King Oscar's predecessor. It has so happened that that Sovereign, King Oscar the Second, is at this moment an honoured and a welcome guest in this country, and it has seemed to our illustrious Grand Master that no occasion could be more fitting than this to reciprocate, so to say, the kindly office which 20 years ago was performed by that illustrious Sovereign. Brethren, it is the hope of his Royal Highness that you will this evening in this full and most crowded Grand Lodge, agree to a vote that I shall shortly put to you to confer upon his illustrious brother his Majesty Oscar the Second, King of Sweden and Norway, Master of Free and Accepted Masons of Sweden, the rank of Past Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge. (Applause.) I will only add this one remark that whilst in many countries in Europe, Masonry, as you well know, has been looked upon sometimes with doubt, sometimes with suspicion, in Sweden it has enjoyed the full sunshine and sanction of Royal favour, and that the King of Sweden and Norway and the Masons of Sweden and Norway have been friends. (Cheers.) I think we owe a debt for the initiation 20 years ago of our illustrious Grand Master—(cheers)—and I am sure that we have it in our power to discharge that debt to-night in a most graceful fashion. Brethren, I beg to move that the rank of Past Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of England be conferred upon the illustrious brother his Majesty Oscar the Second, King of Sweden and Norway, Knight of the Garter, Most Worshipful Grand Master of Free and Accepted Masons of Sweden, who is at present visiting this country.

Bro. W. W. B. BEACH, M.P., Prov. G.M. Hants and Isle of Wight, said: Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master, I would only add to your remarks that it is a matter of great congratulation to us as Freemasons that a monarch in his high position has not thought it derogatory to his dignity to patronise our mysteries and join in our assemblies. It is no doubt a favourable opportunity when he is visiting this country for us to confer upon the King of Sweden and Norway the rank which the Grand Master and you have the privilege to confer upon him. I beg to second the proposal.

The motion having been carried "nem. con.,"

The Earl of CARNARVON said he had the satisfaction of declaring that the motion had been carried by acclamation.

Bro. the Earl of CARNARVON next said, before they proceeded to the next communication which he had to make he thought he should construe the feelings of the brethren rightly if he moved that the correspondence, so valuable historically, and so interesting, which had just been read by the Grand Secretary should be printed. He begged to make this motion.

Bro. W. BEACH had the greatest pleasure in seconding the motion.

The motion was carried.

Scrutineers of votes for the election of members of the Board of General Purposes and the Colonial Board were then chosen and obligated, and having collected the balloting papers, retired to count up the votes.

The following brethren were elected as members of the Board of General Purposes: Worshipful Masters Bros. C. Belton, T. C. Walls, Scurrah, Room, J. Holah, Clever, and E. Monteuuis; Past Masters Bros. Edward Terry, Dawson, Miller, Cumberland, Read, Pocock, and Pritchard.

The following brethren were elected members of the Colonial Board: Bros. Brett, Lieut.-Col. Haldane, Walls, Cumberland, Escott, Col. Gadsden, and Roumieu.

Bro. the Earl of CARNARVON then said: Brethren, I have a further communication to make to you by the permission of the Grand Master, and it relates to two out of the three great Australasian self-governed free Colonies. What I shall have to say refers first of all to South Australia; secondly, to New South Wales. It will be in the recollection of most whom I now address that a short time since, at the desire of a large majority of Masons under the English Constitution in South Australia, an independent Grand Lodge was accorded to them. That Grand Lodge I had the pleasure of meeting a few months ago when I was on the other side of the world. I had the satisfaction of seeing with my own eyes and hearing with my own ears how well Masonry was prospering in the great Colonies of South Australia, and I must also add under the guidance of that most able and loyal subject

Chief Justice Way, the Chief Justice of the Colony. Good work in a Masonic point of view is, I think, being carried on there; and though the Grand Lodge of South Australia now enjoys entire self-government and independence, I rejoice to think that there has been no wavering whatever of affection and the old Masonic loyalty to the mother Craft here at home. (Applause.) And perhaps one of the best illustrations of that is to be found in the request which has unanimously been preferred by the Grand Lodge of South Australia to our Illustrious Grand Master that he would be pleased to accept the office of Grand Patron. Brethren, the Grand Master has considered carefully that request, and it is my duty to announce to you to-night that he has been graciously pleased to accede to the request, and become a Grand Patron of the Grand Lodge of South Australia. (Cheers.) I think it is possible—I might even say probable, though I wish to state this simply on my own personal notion—that some public request may before long be made to his Royal Highness that he should consent in some way to undertake the duty of discharging in certain very limited cases the decision of certain appeals. It is a great request to make; it will be a great privilege, in my point of view, to accord. I would not now prejudge questions by one single word, though I felt that it would be interesting to Grand Lodge that I should state as much as I have said. I would only say that if such a request should come, I am certain that it will be considered by his Royal Highness our Grand Master with the most favourable disposition, at all events towards the wishes of those who make them. (Cheers.) Brethren, I pass now to the second subject on which you, as a Grand Lodge, will ultimately have to be consulted, and in which you are distinctly concerned. It is, perhaps, within the knowledge of many in this hall that for some time past there has hardly been that amount of Masonic unity in the great Colony of New South Wales which we could all desire, for a constituted body has sprung into existence—a powerful body both numerically and from personal position—and that body subsists side by side with the District Grand Lodge under the English Constitution. All true lovers of Freemasonry have deplored that state of things, but till lately there has seemed to be no satisfactory solution for it. It has been a peculiar condition of affairs, for whilst on one hand there has been this strong desire for self-government on the part of a large and powerful body in the Colony, on the other hand there has been also great affection for the Mother Craft in England, and for all concerned in English Masonry; and lastly, there has been a universal desire to find in the present Governor of New South Wales, my noble friend and Bro. Lord Carrington, who is there among all classes, whether Masons or any other persons, a man of extraordinary popularity—(cheers)—a solution of the difficulty. I said there has been a desire on the part of all to find in Lord Carrington the common meeting-place, so to say, of all desires. His Royal Highness our Grand Master, who has for some time past been cognisant of, and taken a deep interest in, the Masonic affairs of New South Wales, has recently, by appointing Lord Carrington District Grand Master of New South Wales, largely facilitated a friendly and satisfactory solution of this matter. That appointment when I was in the Colony was only partially known; but so far as it was known it commanded the most cordial and hearty concurrence. Brethren, there have been negotiations, friendly and unofficial, which have now been carried on for several weeks, and even months. I am not yet in a position to announce anything definite, or to ask this Grand Lodge to ratify any conclusions that may be arrived at in the Colony; all I can say now is this—that I am convinced whenever the question comes before this Grand Lodge in its proper form it will be accepted and considered in the most friendly spirit. (Hear, hear, and applause.) Brethren, from one end of that great continent of Australia to the other I was the fortunate witness of the great work of Masonry. Nowhere in the world, I think I may say, has Masonry during a limited space of time achieved more; nowhere is it doing better or more wholesome work. I have seen it uniting various classes and interests together; I have seen it composing differences and soothing animosities; I have seen it discharging a great duty which it knows so well how to discharge here in England, and of which it has been for so many years the foremost champion, for the support of law and order—(applause)—and of hearty loyalty to the throne—(renewed applause); and I may say indeed that throughout the length and breadth of that great continent of Australia Masonry has formed no exception whatever to this general rule. Brethren, you will see that I ask for no concurrence, but that I have felt—as did our illustrious Grand Master—that this was a fitting and a proper time at which I shall lay before you matters which very likely are to come before you, and on which, unless I greatly mistake the feelings of this Grand Lodge, will be received in the most friendly and most fraternal spirit. (Cheers.)

The Earl of CARNARVON next said: Brethren, I have to announce that the Grand Master has appointed—and I am sure with very great satisfaction to Grand Lodge—our excellent Bro. Fenn as President of the Board of General Purposes. (Cheers.)

Bro. Thomas Fenn then advanced to the M.W. Pro Grand Master, and shook hands with him on being re-invested with the insignia of his office.

On the motion of Bro. CHARLES BELTON, duly seconded, Bro. John Smith was unanimously re-elected Grand Lodge Auditor.

The following brethren were declared elected members of the Committee of Management of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institutions for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons: Bros. Charles Alexander Cottebrune, P.M. 733; Hugh Cotter, P.M. 554; John E. Dawson, P.M. 404; Charles George Dilley, P.M. 1155; Major Alfred Durrant, P.M. 569; Albert Fish, P.M. 1366; Charles Kempton, P.M. 1287; Alfred H. Tattershall, P.M. 140; Japheth Tickle, P.M. 1196; and Isaac Dixon, P.M. 1567.

The following recommendations of grants by the Board of Benevolence were, on motion by Bro. JAMES BRETT, S.V.P., and seconded by Bro. C. A. COTTEBRUNE, J.V.P., confirmed:

| | |
|---|---------|
| The orphan daughter of a brother of the Royal Preston Lodge, No. 333, Preston | £50 0 0 |
| The widow of a brother of the Paxton Lodge, No. 1686, Cambridge | 50 0 0 |
| A brother of the Emblematic Lodge, No. 1321, Southwark | 50 0 0 |
| The widow of a brother of the Oakley Lodge, No. 694, Basingstoke | 75 0 0 |
| Five orphan children of a brother of the Earl Spencer Lodge, No. 1420, London | 60 0 0 |
| A brother of the Vale of White Horse Lodge, No. 1770, Faringdon | 50 0 0 |
| A brother of the Friars Lodge, No. 1349, London | 100 0 0 |
| A brother of the Alexandra Palace Lodge, No. 1541, London | 50 0 0 |
| A brother of the London Lodge, No. 108, London | 100 0 0 |
| The widow of a brother of the Cabell Lodge, No. 8c7, Norwich | 50 0 0 |
| The widow of a brother of the Harbour of Refuge Lodge, No. 764, Hartlepool | 50 0 0 |

The following report of the Board of General Purposes was taken as read, and ordered to be received and entered on the minutes:

To the United Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England.

A complaint has been laid before the Board by Bro. Nathaniel Tracy, Prov. G. Sec. of Suffolk, against Bro. Asher Barfield, the present Grand Treasurer, for having employed a gentleman in Ipswich, who is not a Mason, to solicit from the Past Masters of lodges in Ipswich votes for him, when a candidate for that office, and to distribute printed invitations to a luncheon at the Holborn Restaurant to all who were willing to support his election.

The Board considered that this complaint was not such as could be dealt with by them, but that it was their duty to bring the matter under the notice of the Grand Lodge, as one concerning its honour and privileges, and the credit and reputation of the Society.

(Signed) THOMAS FENN, President.

Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.,
15th May, 1888.

To the report is subjoined a statement of the Grand Lodge accounts, at the last meeting of the Finance Committee, held on Friday, the 11th day of May instant, showing a balance in the Bank of England (Western Branch) of £3741 1s. 4d., and in the hands of the Grand Secretary for petty cash £100, and for servants' wages £100, and balance of annual allowance for library £38 4s. 7d.

At the meeting of the Board held on Tuesday, the 15th ult., after the ordinary business had been disposed of, the following resolution was passed, viz. :—

That the cordial thanks of the members of the Board of General Purposes be given to V.W. Bro. Thomas Fenn, the President, for the very able and courteous manner in which he has presided over the meetings of the Board during the past year.

(Signed) CHARLES BELTON, Vice-President.

Bro. FENN read the formal complaint and the documents referred to, and said he was not instructed to make any remark or proposition on this complaint. It was brought before Grand Lodge for their consideration, and he left it in their hands. He saw Bro. Tracy present, and probably he would like to say something with respect to his complaint.

Bro. N. TRACY, Prov. G. Sec. Suffolk, said he only wished, in the first place, to say that in making this complaint he was not actuated by any feeling of hostility to Bro. Barfield, but merely by pure Masonic feeling in the interest of the Order, whose honour every Mason must feel concerned for. When the Legislature had made even the promise of a pint of beer sufficient to vitiate an election to Parliament, he thought that Masons should be as careful to make their elections pure. He had no proposition to lay before Grand Lodge. He left his complaint to the wisdom of Grand Lodge to deal in the matter. The circumstances were most painful and regrettable, and when they arose he felt it was wrong to let the matter remain quiet, and he understood that it was not the first time that such practices had taken place.

After a short discussion, in which it was said that Bro. Barfield wished to make a statement,

The Earl of CARNARVON said that as yet he would beg to observe there was no proposition before Grand Lodge. The mere fact had been stated, as it was the duty of the President of the Board of General Purposes to state it, and it remained now to be seen whether, in conformity with the courtesy which always prevailed in such a body as Grand Lodge, they should hear anything from Bro. Barfield. He would therefore suggest to him if he thought fit to make any statement he should do so, and he (Lord Carnarvon) was sure it would be received in the calmest and most friendly spirit.

Bro. Binckes rose to speak, when there were loud cries of "Barfield."

The Earl of CARNARVON, checking Bro. Binckes, said he had already ruled that there was no proposal before Grand Lodge, and therefore he must leave it to Bro. Barfield either to speak or to be silent. (Cheers.)

Bro. BARFIELD, who was received with loud applause, then stated that in answer to the complaint against him, he had to say that during the 42 years of his Masonic career he could, without fear of contradiction, state that he had always endeavoured to maintain the honour, dignity, and privileges of Grand Lodge and the credit and reputation of the Craft, and this was the first charge of un-Masonic conduct that had ever been brought against him. The Board had received the complaint alluded to, and in their discretion, as no doubt was within their power, they had considered it their duty to bring the matter under the notice of Grand Lodge. It was not for him to question the ruling of that body. He accepted as a loyal Mason their decision without demur. It was Grand Lodge he had to satisfy if he possibly could that he never even intended to commit any Masonic irregularity, and he most solemnly and unhesitatingly declared that he did not employ any gentleman to solicit votes on his behalf—(cheers)—nor did he employ any gentleman to distribute printed invitations to luncheon at the Holborn Restaurant to those who were willing to support his election. But what he did was this. Shortly before the election, and while he was confined to his bedroom with inflammation of the sciatic nerve, he sent to several of his Masonic friends in the country and to Sudbury, where he was born, to Ipswich, and many other places a short printed biography of himself and an invitation to lunch with him on the day of election. (Laughter.) Those were placed in a parcel with stamped envelopes ready to be sent to a Bro. Bennett to address and post for him. This Bro. Bennett he had known a great many years, and although he had not seen him for years he thought he had better send his letters to him in a parcel for him to address to the Past Masters and those whose addresses he (Bro. Barfield) did not know. An old friend from Ipswich called upon him while confined to his room, and he very cordially took the letters, and they were directed and posted by him for him (Bro. Barfield). This was no doubt the gentleman in Ipswich who was not a Mason and who was alluded to in the complaint. To this extent he was, no doubt, his (Bro. Barfield's) agent, and thus far he felt responsible for his actions. If he was wrong in sending his Masonic biography to his friends and an invitation to some slight hospitality after travelling so many miles, he only regretted the steps that were taken, being perfectly unaware that canvassing was not allowed, and that it was improper to invite country friends to partake of refreshment after their journey to London. He understood also that exception was taken to the form of his letter, in which he said he should be pleased to meet his country friends and supporters—that he thereby intended to include strangers as well as friends. That was not so. What he meant to convey was this, that his friends who were supporting him were welcome. (Laughter.) He never issued those notes broadcast among those who supported him and whom he did not personally know. If that had been done it was not by his order or sanction, or even with his knowledge; and it was a fact that no London Mason was present at that luncheon—(laughter)—and only one brother from Ipswich that

he could ascertain. Some of his friends who were there came from Liverpool, Birmingham, Pontefract, Bedford, Colchester, Hampshire, and the Isle of Wight. Those from the Isle of Wight were forced to stay in London all night; surely they required refreshment when they arrived. (Laughter.) The records of his Masonic career would, he trusted, bear testimony to the fact that if he had erred his fault was an error of judgment (applause) rather than wilful misconduct on his part. (Cheers.) His 33 Stewardships to the Charities showed the active part he had taken in the concerns of the Order, while his rank in the Craft and in his province showed the work he had done in Masonry. (Hear, hear.) With these recommendations, his own statements and qualifications, he trusted the brethren would believe him when he declared that he had no intention of acting otherwise than in a straightforward, honourable, and Masonic manner in his candidature for the high and important office to which the brethren had elected him. With these remarks he left himself in the hands of Grand Lodge. (Cheers.)

Bro. Æ. J. M'INTYRE, Q.C. P.G., Warden: M.W. Pro. Grand Master and brethren, We have now heard the complaint that was made to the Board of General Purposes and their report thereon, and I think they have done wisely, considering the very great importance of the matter that is brought before us, that they should have referred it to Grand Lodge in the terms of the report; and in rising on this occasion to state my views before Grand Lodge I beg most distinctly to say that it is not my intention, and I hope it is not the wish of any one in this Grand Lodge, to cast any censure upon the brother who has been elected Grand Treasurer; but I must say at the same time that there is nothing more dear, or ought to be nothing more dear, to the heart of a Mason than that our elections should be characterised by the greatest purity—(hear, hear, and cheers)—that no entertainment and no treating should be given to any single Mason to induce him to vote for anybody to that, the only elective except the Grand Mastership. The elections must be fair on every occasion. In parliamentary and municipal elections if any treating whatever, or any entertainment of friends whatever of the candidate takes place, his election will be declared void, and during that Parliament he would not be able to sit in Parliament. If that is so in political matters, ought not we to take care that there is not the slightest suspicion of any undue influence in taking our elections in Masonry? I am certain from what our worshipful brother has said, that he had no intention of inducing the brethren improperly to vote for him; but it would be a most dangerous practice if entertainments were to be given to Masons and friends of Masons—if they were to consent to hospitality to secure a vote. M.W.G.M., it does appear to me that under these circumstances, whilst we cast no imputation upon the very worshipful brother who occupies the post of Grand Treasurer, I do ask Grand Lodge to severely condemn any treating or entertainment extended by candidates for the Grand Treasurership, or the Board of General Purposes, or any other elective place that brethren may aspire to. The Grand Master should, through you, M.W. Pro. G. Master, condemn such a practice, and say it is against the honour of Masonry, that it is contrary to our old traditions, which have been great, and had made Masonry what it is in this country—have made Masons to be considered to be men of honour and integrity, who would not do one single thing to bias the wishes or votes of anyone. Therefore, Most Worshipful Grand Master, I shall beg to move that this Grand Lodge passes a vote that it is undesirable and un-Masonic to invite brethren to any entertainment whatever at the time that the person giving the entertainment is a candidate for an elective office in Grand Lodge.

Bro. SAMUEL POPE, Q.C., P.G.D., Pro. Grand Master: I ask to be allowed to second the resolution, and I do so with the greater pleasure, because I am sure that Grand Lodge will accept as cordially and completely as I do the explicit disavowal of our worthy Grand Treasurer of any intention to do anything un-Masonic. I would not myself have taken any part in the discussion, or have seconded the resolution, if it involved a vote of censure upon a worthy Mason, who, received upon his election the sanction of so large a number of brethren. But, on the other hand, I agree with our Bro. M'Intyre that nothing can possibly be more fatal to the true interests of Masonry, to the true dignity of the Craft, to the high reputation in which the office of Grand Treasurer has been held in Grand Lodge, if we were to hesitate to express our disapproval in general terms of such practices as were alleged to have taken place. (Hear, hear.) Whether they did take place or not we need not enquire. Our worthy Grand Treasurer declares with that explicit disavowal, which, I for one, accept with the most complete belief, as far as he was concerned, he had no act, part, or lot in any such transaction. Therefore, I think we may content ourselves with passing in a general way an expression of our opinion, and allow it to be recorded that that opinion conveys no expression of censure at the present moment on anybody.

Bro. G. P. BRITTEN, when the Earl of Carnarvon was about to put the motion, said: M.W.G.M.—Before you put the resolution I should like to say a word or two. I think the question now before Grand Lodge is in some thing of an unfortunate manner in the nature of a complaint against Bro. Barfield. Now, I suppose you all know that Bro. Barfield is in this respect neither the best nor the worst of sinners. Those candidates for the office of Grand Treasurer for some years past have conducted a very active canvass, and I think I am not wrong in saying they have extended a very liberal hospitality. I cannot find words strong enough to express my opinion of the scandal and discredit to Masonry which it involves; and while I very fully concur in the motion proposed by Bro. M'Intyre, I should have been pleased if he had carried it much further, and made it understood that it is not meant to apply only to Bro. Barfield's actions and his alleged offence in asking a non-Mason to take part in it, but it should be particularly pointed to the active canvass and the generous hospitality which accompany it, which is a scandal and discredit to Freemasonry. (Cheers.)

Bro. RICHARD EVE, P.G.T., was sorry for these observations of Bro. Britten, which he felt were meant to apply to other Grand Treasurers. He then explained that before his election he canvassed and gave refreshment; but he scouted the idea that brethren would be brought up from the country just for the sake of a half-crown lunch. His invitations were only extended to the Masons of his own province.

Bro. the Earl of CARNARVON: Brethren, I can quite agree that it was well that this matter should be brought before Grand Lodge. (Hear, hear.) I also think that it is well that Grand Lodge shows its unmistakeable desire that this question with admissions and recriminations, which easily may grow into personalities we should all regret, be now brought to a conclusion. (Hear, hear.) Bro. Barfield has made a clear statement; he has acknowledged what I believe to be what he said, viz., that it was an error of judgment (hear, hear), and I think also that this Grand Lodge is

of opinion that any such error of judgment, if repeated, would be of a dangerous and mischievous character. (Hear, hear.) We are bound by our duty here to-night, whilst we refrain from casting any imputation upon individuals, which I think in this case would be very unjust and very undeserved—we are bound in our duty here to-night, now that this matter has once come before us, to lay down in the clearest and most explicit language our sense of the vast importance of preserving all these elections in absolute purity, (hear, hear,) and that not even a shadow of a suspicion should be cast upon them. (Cheers.) Therefore, I am glad for my own part that our Bro. McIntyre has moved this resolution, because it takes it out of the ground of personality into the form of a mere abstract resolution, agreed to by this Grand Lodge, and to serve for all time, I trust, as a useful guide and warning on all similar occasions. Brethren, the resolution which has been moved and seconded is this:—“That this Grand Lodge emphatically condemns any entertainment or other inducement given to influence brethren by any candidate for office in Grand Lodge.” That is stating the proposition in the clearest possible form, without referring to any known person or individual concerned.

The motion was carried unanimously. On the motion of Bro. RAYNHAM W. STEWART, P.G.D., seconded by Bro. J. A. FARNFIELD, P.A.G.D.C., the usual £70 was voted for providing coals to the inmates of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution at Croydon during the winter season.

On the motion of Bro. F. A. PHILBRICK, Q.C., G. Reg., the appeal by Bro. Francis W. Hollar, W.M. of the Phoenix Lodge, No. 914, Port Royal, Jamaica, against a ruling of the District Grand Master of Jamaica, declaring that the exclusion of Bro. Francis Leith White by the said lodge was not in accordance with Article 210 of the Book of Constitutions, and must be cancelled, was dismissed, and Grand Lodge was then closed.

GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS.

The Half-yearly Communication of Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales and the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown, was held on Tuesday evening last at the Holborn Restaurant, London. The M.W. Bro. Lord Egerton of Tatton, Pro Grand Master, presided. The R.W. Bro. the Marquis of Hertford, Deputy Grand Master, occupied his position at the right of the Pro Grand Master, and amongst those present were—

Bros. Right Hon. Lord Egerton of Tatton, Pro G.M.; the Marquis of Hertford, Dep. G.M.; Lord John H. Taylour, P.G.W., as S.G.W.; H. C. Okeover, J.G.W.; John Walker, Prov. G.M. Gloucester; Rev. W. Mortimer Heath, Prov. G.M. Dorsetshire; Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg, Prov. G.M. Bucks; Sir Francis Burdett, Bart., Prov. G.M. Middlesex and Surrey; Sir C. B. Graves-Sawle, Bart., Prov. G.M. Cornwall; C. L. Mason, Prov. G.M. West Yorks; R. E. Baynes, G.M.O.; Col. Addison Potter, P.G.W., as S.G.O.; Rev. W. Valentine, G. Chap.; Rev. J. N. Palmer, G. Chap.; Frank Richardson, G. Reg.; Rev. Canon Portal, P.G.M., President of the General Board; Frederick Binckes, P.G.W., G. Sec.; John E. Dawson, D.P.G.M. Hertfordshire; Col. T. Perkins, D.P.G.M. Monmouthshire; R. Loveland-Loveland, D.P.G.M. Hants and Isle of Wight; T. Y. Strachan, D.P.G.M. Northumberland and Durham; Rev. T. Cartwright Smyth, D.P.G.M. West Yorks; Col. B. G. Smith, D.P.G.M. North and East Yorks; Rev. H. Cummings, D.P.G.M. Kent; Rev. C. W. Spencer Stanhope, D.P.G.M. Cheshire; Richard Newhouse, S.G.D.; J. Barker, G.I. of W.; R. Berridge, P.G.M.O., G.D.C.; James Terry, A.G.D.C.; Edwin Baldwin, G. Std. Br.; C. F. Hogard, G. Std. Br.; Edwin J. Crowe, Mus. Doc., G. Org.; C. F. Matier, P.G.W., A.G. Sec.; W. Vincent, P.G.I.G., as G.I.G.; Edward J. Mills, A.G.I.G.; J. L. C. Hunter Little, D. Cross, J. C. Collier, R. L. Simmonds, H. S. Goodall, J. D. Birkin, James P. Lewin, F. T. Bennett, and W. Lake, G. S.W.S.; A. Walkley, G. Tyler; Hugh D. Sandeman, P.P.G.M. Bengal; Col. A. W. O. Saunders, P.P.G.M. Malta; Col. Shadwell H. Clerke and Capt. N. G. Philips, P.G. Wardens; Alfred Williams, Baron de Ferreries, Charles Belton, Richard Eve, and J. E. Le Feuvre, P.G.M.O.'s; G. Galloway, O. W. Pearson, John Lane, and T. Cubitt, P.S.G.O.'s; G. Cooper, Capt. S. G. Kirchoffer, J. S. Cumberland, and J. Stevens, P.J.G.O.'s; F. H. Gottlieb, P. Wallis, G. S. Land, S. S. Partridge, Dr. G. Mickley, and D. P. Cama, P.G.D.'s; C. H. Driver, P.G.I. of W.; G. P. Festa, P.A.G.D.C.; C. Pulman, P.P.I.G.; Major P. Dunbar, F. W. Driver, John Tomkins, John Mason, Henry Massey, P. A. Scratchley, John Ramsey, Geo. Powell, and Rowland Plumbe, P.G. Stwds. Visitors: Bros. J. Dalrymple Duncan, G.G.D. of S.; Major Dick, P.P.S.G.W. of Dumbarton, G. Stwd. of Scotland; J. Campell, S.P.G.M. Perthshire; and Sir J. Buchanan, S.P.G.M. Dumbarton.

After Grand Lodge had been formally opened, the M.W. Pro Grand Master and the R.W. Dep. G. Master were saluted according to ancient custom, and the minutes of the last half-yearly communication were read and confirmed.

The Grand Secretary, Bro. BINCKES, then read a communication from the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., giving to brethren in the Colonies Grand Rank in honour of her Majesty's Jubilee, as follows—

Bros. Chas. D. L. Graham, D.P.G.M. New Zealand, Past Grand Master Overseer; S. R. Whets, P.M. 254 Cape, Past Grand Standard Bearer; Julius Schultz, M.D., P.J.G.W. Natal, Past Senior Grand Deacon; Geo. Richards, P.M. 217 Kimberley, Past Grand Sword Bearer; Cowasjee Eduljee, P.P.J.G.W. Madras, Past Asst. Grand Director of Ceremonies; F. Steven, P.P.G.W. Madras, Past Grand Sword Bearer; A. B. Bernard, P.P.G.W. Madras, Past Grand Standard Bearer; Emanuel Favier Leon, Prov. G. Sec. Jamaica, Past Senior Grand Deacon; Raphael Borg, P.M. 311, Cairo, Past Junior Grand Warden; Richard J. Johnson, W.M. 295, Bermuda, Past Grand Standard Bearer; W. Ball, P.G. Treasurer Bengal, Past Asst. Grand Director of Ceremonies; Col. W. H. Hutton, D.P.G.M. Quebec, Past Junior Grand Warden; Rt. Rev. Bishop of New Westminster, British Columbia, Past Grand Chaplain; James Curlew, Prov. S.G.W. Auckland, New Zealand, Past Grand Sword Bearer; Thos. W. Kitt, Prov. G. Sec. Auckland, Past Grand Standard Bearer; C. J. Stephens, Cuba, Past Grand Sword Bearer; Donald G. McLeod, P.M. 79, Rangoon, Past Grand Master Overseer; Barron L. Barnett, P.M. 103, Brisbane, Past Grand Master Overseer; J. Fenwick, P.M. 103, Brisbane, Past Senior Grand Overseer; E. McFarlane, P.M. 249, Sydney, Past Asst. Grand Director of Ceremonies; C. D. Wise, P.P.G.W. Bombay, Past Senior Grand Deacon; Mark Wilson, P.M. 212, Barbadoes; and William Watson, D.P.G.M. Mediterranean, Past Junior Grand Overseer.

The following Report of the General Board, with the exception of the portion relating to the Silver Wedding presentation to the Princess of Wales, was taken as read, but the portion containing the address to the Princess and down to the end of the reply, on her behalf, to that address, was read by the GRAND SECRETARY:—

REPORT OF THE GENERAL BOARD.

During the six months ending 31st March last there have been issued:—Mark Certificates, 781; total number registered, 24,060. Warrants for new lodges, 5, viz.:—
No. 385, King Solomon, London.
,, 386, Adur, Sussex.
,, 387, St. Oswald, Lincolnshire.
,, 388, Victoria, Barbadoes.
,, 389, Cowra, New South Wales.

Royal Ark Mariners Certificates, 149; total number registered, 2475. Warrant for new lodge, viz.:—F. R. Sewell, attached to Fletcher Lodge, No. 213. At the meeting of Grand Lodge on the 6th December, 1887, it was proposed by M.W. Bro. Lord Egerton of Tatton, and carried unanimously, “That a congratulatory address to H.R.H. the Princess of Wales on the auspicious occasion of the 25th anniversary—the Silver Wedding of their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales—should be presented in a suitable silver casket.”

It having been referred to the General Board, with full powers for carrying out the necessary arrangements, they have to inform Grand Lodge that the following address was, in accordance with the resolution, presented to her Royal Highness on the 10th March—

“To her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales.

“Madam,
“May it please your Royal Highness, we, the members of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales and the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown, humbly desire to approach your Royal Highness, and to offer our most hearty and loyal congratulations on the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of the auspicious marriage of your Royal Highness and his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, our Most Worshipful and exalted Grand Master.

“Your Royal Highness and his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, by your many acts of public benevolence and the exercise of Masonic virtues, have so endeared yourselves to the brethren of Grand Lodge in the Mark Degree, that they cannot allow this opportunity of testifying their feelings of loyalty and attachment to pass without presenting this humble address to your Royal Highness.

“The brethren of Grand Mark Lodge trust that the Great Overseer of the Universe may continue to pour His blessings upon your Royal Highness; and that the sun of unclouded prosperity may shine upon your Royal Highness and his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales for many years to come is the prayer of every Mark Master Mason.

(Signed) “EGERTON OF TATTON, Pro Grand Master.”

The above address, most artistically and delicately illuminated on vellum by Bro. C. H. Driver, F.R.I.B.A. and P.G.I. of W., was enclosed in a silver casket of oblong shape, richly decorated in Queen Anne's style, with Masonic emblems, in relief, at each corner, and a wreath of briar rose in repoussé work in the four panels at the sides. The initials of the Princess of Wales and the dates of 1863 and 1888 are raised on the lid, and the coats-of-arms in coloured enamel of Grand Lodge, of his Royal Highness Grand Master, the Prince of Wales; of Lord Egerton of Tatton, the Pro Grand Master, and of the Marquis of Hertford, the Deputy Grand Master, are placed in the centre of the four principal panels. The casket was manufactured by Messrs. Elkington.

Her Royal Highness was graciously pleased to accept the address, and to return the following reply:

“Marlborough House, Pall Mall, S.W.

“Colonel Clarke is desired by her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales to beg Lord Egerton of Tatton to be good enough to convey to the members of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales, and the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown, the expression of her thanks for their address of congratulation on the occasion of the Silver Wedding, and for the feelings of loyalty and attachment to herself and to the Prince of Wales testified in it.

“Her Royal Highness also requests Lord Egerton to say how much she admires the beautiful silver casket in which the address was sent, and to assure the Mark Master Masons that she will always value it as a souvenir from them of this day.

“10th March, 1888.”

The Jamestown Lodge, No. 370, St. Helena, having informed the Board that the dispensation to install Bro. A. S. Brady as W.M. did not arrive in time for the meeting fixed by the by-laws for installation, and that the W.M. elect was consequently installed at the next regular meeting. As he will therefore serve the office of W.M. for ten months only, and as it would be most inconvenient to alter the by-laws, the Board recommend Grand Lodge to confirm Bro. Brady in the rank and privileges of P.M., notwithstanding the absence of qualification by serving short of 12 months.

They recommend that a grant of £10 10s. be made from the General Fund of Grand Lodge towards a special fund which is being raised for the benefit of Bro. Thos. Poore, whose distinguished services in lodges of instruction in the Mark Degree fully merit, in their opinion, this recognition from Grand Lodge.

The Board acknowledge, with thanks, copies of proceedings of Grand Chapters of Indiana, Canada, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Oregon, Minnesota, Pennsylvania, and Scotland.

The Twentieth Anniversary Festival of the Mark Benevolent Fund will be held at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, on the 25th July, and R.W. Bro. the Most Hon. the Marquis of Hertford, Deputy Grand Master, has most kindly consented to preside. It is confidently hoped that the exertions of the Board of Stewards and the liberality of the members of the Order will enable the General Board to maintain and even increase the usefulness of this most deserving Charity, which up to the present has been able to accept every candidate without incurring the expense and anxiety of a contested election.

The Board have the pleasure to announce that all the candidates have been placed on the Educational and Annuity Funds as follows:—

Educational Fund—Norah Evelyn Vowles, Nottingham, aged 11½, and Maria Lillian Venables, London, aged 11½.
Annuity Fund—Henry Miller, Plymouth, aged 60, and John Duffield, Manchester, aged 68.

The Board announce that the sum of £2207 4s. 9d. was received on behalf of the Benevolent Festival of 1887, and that, after payment of the necessary expenses, £705 has been paid to Benevolent Fund, £705 to Educational Fund, and £704 4s. 9d. to Annuity Fund, and that they have ordered the investment of £200 on behalf of the Annuity Fund, making the total invested funds as follows:—

| | |
|------------------|-----------|
| General Fund | £2400 0 0 |
| Benevolent Fund | 2000 0 0 |
| Educational Fund | 2200 0 0 |
| Annuity Fund | 2700 0 0 |

The Board have relieved the following cases:—

| | |
|--|---------|
| Bro. L. P. H., No. 74 | £10 0 0 |
| Mrs. R. P. | 5 0 0 |
| „ M. E., No. 34 | 10 0 0 |
| Bro. H. M. | 5 0 0 |
| „ J. D., No. 32 | 5 0 0 |
| „ A. E. L., No. 247 | 10 0 0 |
| G. R. PORTAL, Past G.M.M.M., President. | |

Appended are the accounts of the Grand Treasurer for the the half-year ending 31st March, 1888:—

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----------|
| DR. GENERAL FUND. | |
| To Balance 30th September, 1887 | £457 10 7 |
| „ Half-year's Receipts | 1133 0 0 |
| „ Interest on Investment | 55 12 0 |
| | £1646 2 7 |

| | |
|----------------|-----------|
| CR. | |
| By Expenditure | £974 0 3 |
| „ Balance | 672 2 4 |
| | £1646 2 7 |

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----------|
| DR. BENEVOLENT FUND. | |
| To Balance 30th September, 1887 | £127 10 0 |
| „ Transferred from Festival Fund | 205 0 0 |
| „ Interest on Investments | 40 9 3 |
| | £372 19 3 |

| | |
|---------------------|-----------|
| CR. | |
| By Grants in Relief | £134 0 0 |
| „ Balance | 238 19 3 |
| | £372 19 3 |

| EDUCATION FUND. | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|------|------|
| DR. | To Balance 30th September, 1887 | £125 | 3 4 |
| | „ Transferred from Festival Fund | 205 | 0 0 |
| | „ Interest on Investments | 49 | 2 8 |
| | | £379 | 6 0 |
| CR. | By Education Fees | £125 | 3 5 |
| | „ Grants for Clothing | 120 | 0 0 |
| | „ Balance | 134 | 2 7 |
| | | £379 | 6 0 |
| ANNUITY FUND. | | | |
| DR. | To Balance 30th September, 1887 | £81 | 5 5 |
| | „ Transferred from Festival Fund | 204 | 2 3 |
| | „ Interest on Investments | 48 | 15 8 |
| | | £334 | 3 4 |
| CR. | By Annuities | £23 | 6 8 |
| | „ Investment | 205 | 15 0 |
| | „ Balance | 105 | 1 8 |
| | | £334 | 3 4 |
| BENEVOLENT FESTIVAL ACCOUNT. | | | |
| DR. | To Balance 30th September, 1887 | £248 | 11 9 |
| | „ Half-year's receipts | 477 | 7 0 |
| | | £725 | 18 9 |
| CR. | By Transferred to Benevolent Fund | £205 | 0 0 |
| | „ „ to Annuity Fund | 204 | 2 3 |
| | „ „ to Education Fund | 205 | 0 0 |
| | „ Expenditure | 63 | 3 6 |
| | „ Balance (Account Festival, 1888) | 48 | 13 0 |
| | | £725 | 18 9 |

Audited and approved this 9th day of May, 1888.
(Signed) CHARLES EDWARD SOPPET, P.G.O., Auditor.

LIST OF PUPILS ON EDUCATIONAL FUND.

| Boys. | | |
|--------|--|-----------------------------------|
| 1 | Thomas Montagu Quinn, at North London Collegiate School | Will attain 16. January 30, 1890. |
| 2 | Henry W. Bale, at Aske's Schools, Hatcham | May 10, 1889. |
| 3 | Tom Coleman Holleyman, at High School, Plumstead | March 15, 1890. |
| 4 | George Alfred Moulds, at High School, Plumstead | February 3, 1891. |
| 5 | Wm. J. T. Bale, at Aske's Schools, Hatcham | July 4, 1891. |
| 6 | Arthur Marychurch, Bedfordshire House Church School, Walton-street, Oxford | February 27, 1892. |
| 7 | Ernest Richard Graham, High School, Oxford | June 4, 1894. |
| 8 | Charles Claremont Roberts Wray, at High Schools, Plumstead | September 9, 1890. |
| 9 | Walter Ernest Quinn, North London Collegiate School | February 14, 1892. |
| 10 | Archibald George Graham, City of Oxford High School | June 30, 1891. |
| 11 | Harry James Swinerd, High School, Plumstead | December 10, 1892. |
| 12 | John Walter Lowick, Grammar School, Bristol | July 1, 1892. |
| 13 | Sylvester John Murley, Clapham Rise Collegiate School | February 12, 1893. |
| GIRLS. | | |
| 1 | Florence C. M. Chamberlain, at Miss Smythe's School, Bourne, Lincolnshire | October 6, 1890. |
| 2 | Kate Derry, at High School for Girls, Newark | October 13, 1891. |
| 3 | Alice White, at Miss Hamley's School, Reading | July 21, 1889. |
| 4 | Lilian Ethel Anderson, Wesleyan Higher Grade School, West Hartlepool | July 19, 1893. |
| 5 | Ethel Louise Cutbush, All Saints Middle Class, Highgate | December 31, 1888. |
| 6 | Gertrude Mary Brown, Miss Phillip's Private School, West Hartlepool | July 24, 1892. |
| 7 | Dora Jensen, Mrs. Stock, 144, Rye Hill, Newcastle-on-Tyne | August 17, 1890. |
| 8 | Grace Waugh Burns, Girls' Collegiate School, Cambridge House, Newbury | June 14, 1894. |
| 9 | Bertha Stanley, Church of England Institute, Bolton | August 30, 1894. |
| 10 | Ethel Lily Greenwood, Mrs. Nosworthy, Aberdeen House, Weymouth | February 7, 1894. |
| 11 | Gertrude Audrey Thompson, Collegiate School, Forest Hill | March 15, 1894. |
| 12 | Norah Evelyn Vowles | December 13, 1894. |
| 13 | Maria Lilian Venables, Mary Datchelor Girls' School, Cambridge | October 14, 1894. |

LIST OF ANNUITANTS.

| Elected. | | |
|----------|------------------|----------------|
| 1 | Alexander Mole | May, 1887. |
| 2 | Thomas Pickering | October, 1887. |
| 3 | John Duffield | May, 1888. |
| 4 | Henry Miller | May, 1888. |

On the motion of Bro. FRANK RICHARDSON, seconded by Bro. ALFRED WILLIAMS, the report was ordered to be received and entered on the minutes, and the other recommendations in the report were adopted.

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales was then declared to be duly proposed, seconded, elected and installed as M.W.G.M. for the ensuing year, and Bro. ROBERT BERRIDGE, Grand Director of Ceremonies, proclaimed him in that character.

Bro. E. Letchworth, P.M. 363, was then elected Grand Treasurer.

Lord EGERTON, of Tatton, announced that H.H.H. the Prince of Wales had been again pleased to appoint him as M.W. Pro G. Master, and the Marquis of Hertford as R.W. Deputy G.M., and these noble brethren were duly proclaimed and saluted.

The following brethren were then invested as the other Grand Officers for the present year:—

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Bro. Lord Egerton of Tatton | Pro G.M. |
| „ Marquis of Hertford | Dep. G.M. |
| „ Earl of Euston | S.G.W. |
| „ Alan de Tatton Egerton | J.G.W. |
| „ Charles Henry Driver | G.M.O. |
| „ Lieut.-Gen. C. W. Randolph | S.G.O. |
| „ Ralph Clutton | J.G.O. |
| „ Rev. F. Vernon Bussell, M.A. | } G. Chaplains. |
| „ Rev. John Augustus Lloyd, M.A. | |
| „ Edward Letchworth | G. Treas. |
| „ Frank Richardson | G. Reg. |
| „ Rev. Canon Portal, M.A. | Pres. Gen. Bd. |
| „ Fred. Binckes | G. Sec. |
| „ Philip A. Scratchley | S.G.D. |
| „ Capt. C. H. Garnett | S.G.D. |

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| Bro. Reginald Young | J.G.D. |
| „ George Norman | J.G.D. |
| „ Rowland Plumbe | G.I. of Wks. |
| „ R. Berridge | G.D. of C. |
| „ John Ramsey | A.G.D. of C. |
| „ Francis Newman | A.G.D. of C. |
| „ Lieut.-Col. G. H. J. Haldane | G.S.B. |
| „ J. T. Briggs | G. Std. Br. |
| „ Frederick Graves | G. Std. Br. |
| „ William S. Hoyte | G. Organist. |
| „ Charles F. Matier | A.G. Sec. |
| „ John Kenyon | G.I.G. |
| „ R. J. Voisey | A.G.I.G. |

The following are the Grand Stewards for the year: Bros. W. Klingenstein, 22; W. H. Stanger, 363; A. C. Bauke, Middlesex and Surrey; Geo. Allen, Middlesex and Surrey; Wyndham Hart, Middlesex and Surrey; T. R. Recknell, Middlesex and Surrey; W. S. Holdsworth, West Yorkshire; James Gardiner, Cumberland and Westmorland; E. G. Harwood, Lancashire; G. Miller, Hants and Isle of Wight; C. Coupland, Kent; F. Levick, Herts; Dr. W. H. Kempster, 331; and Leopold G. G. Robinson, 361.

After the investiture of these brethren Bro. BINCKES rose and said that on behalf of Bro. Harwood, of Bolton, one of the Grand Stewards, he had to express that brother's great regret for his inability to be present to be invested, and he thought the G.M. and brethren would bear with him when he mentioned the distressing circumstances under which Bro. Harwood was absent. The announcement he had to make would come no doubt rather suddenly on many of the brethren: it was that the funeral was taking place that day of one of the best, oldest, and most active Mason in Lancashire, a brother who was a very distinguished member of the Mark Degree, and who, under the Grand Lodge of Scotland, took a very prominent part, as a member of the Mark Degree under the Supreme jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, in uniting that Grand Lodge with the English Mark Grand Lodge. The brother he referred to was their dear lamented friend and brother George Parker Brockbank, who died very suddenly indeed under exceedingly distressing circumstances only last Saturday. Many of the brethren present, would but for this meeting, have been very glad to shew their respect and love for Bro. Brockbank by attending his funeral, and as far as they could testify to his worth. Had it not been that a motion of condolence would come with better grace from his lordship, Lord Egerton of Tatton, he (Bro. Binckes) would have proposed such a vote, expressing the sense of the loss Grand Lodge had sustained in the death of a Past Grand Deacon of East Lancashire in the Craft, and Past Grand Standard Bearer in Grand Craft Lodge of England; Vice-President of all the Masonic Institutions, and as energetic a member in the working of the Order as it could boast of, and whose loss would be felt wherever the influence of the Craft was known. Those were words which came from him (Bro. Binckes) entirely unpremeditated and unprepared, but they were not the less sincere, and he should be very sorry if the Grand Lodge were to separate without expressing its sense of the almost inseparable loss the brethren had sustained by the death of one of the best friends and hardest workers the Order had ever known.

Lord EGERTON OF TATTON said he should be glad to accept the suggestion made by the Grand Secretary, and he should ask the Grand Lodge to pass a vote of condolence with the family of Bro. Brockbank, the loss of whom had come upon them as described. He was sure after what had been said by the Grand Secretary, that the Grand Lodge would wish to pass a vote of condolence with the family of Bro. Brockbank on the loss they, and the Grand Mark Lodge, had sustained.

Canon PORTAL, in seconding the motion, said it was during the time that he (Canon Portal) had the honour of filling the chair Lord Egerton then filled so worthily, that the much desired union between the Scotch Mark lodges in Lancashire and the English body was consummated, and having been mixed up a great deal with the operation, he was very glad indeed to bear his testimony to the great helpfulness of Bro. Brockbank at that time, and also to bear testimony to the very high consideration in which he had always been held both in Mark Masonry under the Scotch Constitution and under the English Constitution. He was delighted to second the resolution the Pro Grand Master had just moved.

The motion was carried unanimously.

Lord EGERTON OF TATTON announced that the M.W.G.M. had appointed Canon Portal President of the General Board, and Bros. Alfred Williams, Frederick Davison, George Cooper, Chas. H. Driver, James Moon, and Thomas Cubitt, members.

The brethren nominated for election were Bros. Dr. George Mickley, P.M. 97, P.G.D.; the Rev. Hayman Cummings, P.G. Chaplain, Dep. P.G.M. Kent; John E. Dawson, Dep. P.G.M. Herts; R. Loveland Loveland, Dep. P.G.M. Hants and Isle of Wight; and A. F. Goodman, M.P., Prov. G.M. Worcestershire. None others being nominated these brethren were declared elected.

Letters of apology and regret for non-attendance were announced from several brethren, and the Grand Lodge was closed.

A grand banquet followed, which was presided over by the Marquis of Hertford, D.G.M.

The new consecrating vessels, designed by Bro. C. H. Driver, G.M.O., were shown in Grand Lodge for the first time, and were greatly admired.

After the banquet, the usual toasts were proposed and honoured—"The Queen and Mark Masonry" and "The M.W.G.M."

The Marquis of HERTFORD then proposed "The Pro Grand Master and the Past Grand Masters," and, in doing so, said Canon Portal's name was the name of one who had done almost more than anybody else for Mark Masonry, of one who was always working for the benefit of the Order, who was present that evening, and whom they hoped to see among them on many future occasions.

Bro. Canon PORTAL, M.W.P.G.M., in reply, said it had often happened to him, as it had no doubt happened to other brethren, that when he was hard up for something to say in response to an after-dinner toast, he had found following the toast a very suggestive song, from which he could take his inspiration. On the present occasion there were "Celia's Arbour" and "Mary of Argyle," of either of which ladies he had not the acquaintance. In the latter there was something beautifully romantic, and in the former something suggestive of followers. He might be allowed to say that both the Deputy Grand Master and the Past Grand Officers only felt too highly honoured in being considered not only followers, but devoted adherents of Mark Masonry. The Past Grand Masters now numbered a considerable

body. Like all stately and noble buildings, the English Mark Grand Lodge had been built up bit by bit; it was no new fangled affair, turned out spick and span all at once. It begun with Lord Leigh as Grand Master, and went on till the Prince of Wales became Grand Master, and they had all done as far as in their power lay to build up that beautiful structure which now existed, and which he thought would compare favourably with any Order or Degree in Freemasonry. He remembered the time when Mark Grand Lodge met in a very humble room in Leicester-square, lent them by one who was their Grand Registrar. If they met to the number of a dozen they were fortunate; but now it took a very large hall to accommodate all who desired to be present. He would also remind the brethren that not only had the Celias or Maries of Argyle beamed into matured and matronly comeliness, but they hoped also they would enjoy a respected old age, as they had reared a number of satellites which would redound to their honour and be a source of great strength to them, such as the Allied Degrees. No one could be admitted to those Degrees' borders unless they had been first made Mark Masons. It gave him great pleasure to see amongst the company the Grand Master of the Royal and Select Masters, Bro. J. Dalrymple Duncan, who was, he thought, with the exception of himself (Canon Portal), the only Grand Master of that Degree in Great Britain or Ireland. The P. Grand Master and all the brethren present were very glad to have him with them then. In conclusion, he assured the brethren that the Grand Officers would never be wanting in their efforts to conduce to the welfare of that Degree. The only difficulty they felt was in thinking whether the number of members might become too numerous. They could not be too careful in their admission of members. They were a very select Body, of which every other Masonic body was proud, and to which every-one was glad to belong. Let them not fall into the common mistake of thinking that success depended on numbers. The Mark was not perhaps his first love, but it was his present love, and he was sure it would be his future love.

Canon PORTAL next proposed "The Deputy Grand Master." In the presence of Lord Hertford it was perfectly useless to enlarge on his Masonic merits. All the brethren were well acquainted with them, which enabled him to do such good service, not only in London, but in the distinguished province over which he had the honour to rule. If there was anything to entitle to a hearty and cordial reception on the present occasion, it was that he had kindly consented to take the chair at the Mark Benevolent Fund Festival, and he earnestly hoped that the contributions of the brethren on that occasion might be so large that they would enable the Fund to do something more than it at present did for aged and decayed Mark Masons. They did as much as they could for the boys' and the girls', they gave them an admirable education in their own towns, and clothed them. He did not think they could do anything more for them; if they could they would be glad to do it; but he thought, with regard to the old men and women, they might do more. What they had given them was not so much as they might give, as their funds were increasing. He hoped the contributions under Lord Hertford's Chairmanship would be large enough to enable them to do more. He should feel himself altogether wanting in his duty if he did not draw the brethren's attention to the fact that there was one Grand Officer among them who had followed the fortunes of the Mark Degree longer even than himself, and to whose consistent and persevering work through good and ill, much of their success was owing. It was the Grand Secretary he spoke of, Bro. Binckes, and in drinking, therefore, the health of the most worthy Chairman, and the Grand Officers, Past and Present. Although it would not be Bro. Binckes' duty to return thanks for the toast, the brethren would all bear in mind his services to Grand Mark Lodge.

The Marquis of HERTFORD, in response, said he should not attempt to respond for more than himself. Being a young Mason, and a still younger Mark Mason, he should certainly have allowed, and requested an older Grand Officer to reply to the toast. He was very thankful to Canon Portal for what he had said with regard to the Grand Officers. He believed all the Grand Officers, Present and Past, wished to do their utmost for Mark Masonry. He was also thankful for what Canon Portal had said with regard to the coming Festival, and he hoped that every Mark Mason, both in London and the provinces, would do everything they could to make it a great success. The Mark Benevolent Fund was doing great and good work, and he could not help thinking that it was a right system on which they were going—giving the children a good education: but without altogether taking away the responsibility of the parent. (Hear, hear.) He could not help thinking that that was the right way to act. It would be a great pity to take all responsibility off the parents, and say do as you like, neglect them as you like, we will take them up and do everything for their interest. Surely that would be a wrong principle, and Mark Masons were acting on the right principle. But, as Canon Portal had said, there were the aged, and he (Lord Hertford) thought it the duty of Mark Masons to do good for them who had done well in the past; when they had become decrepid and unable to get on, their brethren should step in who were able to help them and make their declining years as happy as possible. He asked the brethren to bear in mind what Canon Portal had said—to do all they could to make the forthcoming Festival of the Mark Benevolent Fund thoroughly satisfactory, not only by attending in large numbers at the dinner, but in contributing to the Benevolent Fund in every way they could.

Bro. F. BINCKES, G. Sec., who was loudly called for, said that he thought that the response of the distinguished brother who had just spoken would be deemed sufficient to meet the requirements of all those who had gathered at the table in such large numbers that evening. He had nothing whatever to add to the observations of their good and distinguished Chairman, but to say that having been associated with the Mark Degree for over 30 years, and in its infancy, in this country, he and others could never have anticipated they should see such results as had been brought before them that evening. He looked back over those long years with a large amount of gratification, having laboured hard in the service of this Degree, and to see it now in the position of prosperity which it enjoyed. It had done much in connection with Freemasonry; it had established itself most unquestionably as a Degree deserving of all the support that could possibly be rendered to it, and when he looked back on his long years of labour, might he be allowed to say he hoped he had done something in bringing the Degree, in those days, when the antagonistic influences were brought to bear against them, to the position they now saw it in—a position of prosperity. He wished to say one word that night. He could only look back over those long years in which he had laboured on behalf of the Degree of Mark Masonry, and perhaps might be allowed to say at the present. (No, he would not. He had a word to say. He withheld it.) Might the

Degree flourish; might everything connected with it flourish; and might Mark Masonry make us mark out the Masonic world as long as it lasted!

Bro. Baron DE FERRIERES proposed "Success to the Mark Benevolent Fund" in good wishes, to which he gave way to no one. He thought they might congratulate themselves, and they had adopted the system alluded to by the Marquis of Hertford of assisting poor brethren, a system which was paramount in its aims, and also in its results. He should be very sorry to say one word against the system adopted by the Craft in the noble Institutions they had fostered and supported so liberally. Those Institutions were doing a great and noble work, and no doubt when they were first initiated they were the only efficient methods by which the children of distressed Masons could really receive benefits, but education, had made such progress that the system adopted by Mark Masonry was one which must commend itself very much to those who took an interest in the rising generation. The Chairman had said that the responsibilities ought not to be taken away from the parents; that deserved the most weighty consideration. He thought that the system of payment of the School fees, but leaving to the parents the responsibility of bringing up their children, and seeing they went to a school near at hand, was one which must commend itself to a thinking person. The Mark was doing a good work. Hitherto fortunately it had stood so well that it had not been troubled with any distressed Masons, but as its ranks increased and years ran on it must needs be that many a Mason who began life, and especially his Masonic career, with a good prospect of success, might in these days of competition find himself unexpectedly in undeserved distress and difficulty. Therefore, while the Mark Benevolent Fund paid the school fees of children and relieved Masons who called on them for assistance, he thought their grants should be increased. He did not object to a Charity dinner. Dinners did much good. Auctioneers, who were good judges, gave refreshment before they sold from their rostrum. When they had had a good dinner they felt more liberally disposed, and were more apt to unloose their purse strings. All Charities had their Festivals, and they did well with them. He hoped the next Festival would be a success and the largest amount of subscriptions proclaimed, to shew that Mark Masonry was indeed flourishing.

Bro. C. F. MATIER responded. He feared that after the appeals which had already been made to the brethren on behalf of the Mark Benevolent Fund he could scarcely add anything to induce them to become subscribers for this year. It most fortunately happened to him that he was one of the managers of that fund, the management of which was vested in the General Board, and his duties as Secretary of the Mark Benevolent Fund were confined to increasing the number of Stewards, and thereby adding to the amount flowing year by year in the shape of annual subscriptions into the coffers. Might he for one moment be allowed to say how much the Mark Benevolent Fund, as well as the Mark Degree itself, was due and owing to one brother who was called upon to respond for the Grand Officers—Bro. Binckes—one who when there was no special Secretary of the Mark Benevolent Fund acted in that capacity, and so well and worthily raised and promoted by his energy and perseverance the success of that Fund. The Fund was established in 1869, and the brethren were fortunate enough to have among them that night, in the person of Past Grand Master Canon Portal, the first Chairman of the Fund. In his year they had the large number of six Stewards, who, with the addition of the only contribution ever voted from the General Funds of Mark Grand Lodge, produced the total of £94. Last year (1887) they had in the chair another Past Grand Master, Earl Amherst, who, with the assistance of 159 Stewards, produced the sum of £2260. It must to all be a source of great gratification to know how the Fund had increased. Let them hope they would all put their shoulders to the wheel to see that the Fund should increase in the future, for, as the Deputy Grand Master said at the festival of the Grand Master's Lodge of Instruction, he would not be satisfied with anything less than the largest Board of Stewards ever known, and the largest contribution ever announced, let him (Bro. Matier) tell him for his satisfaction that, while on the last occasion they had 159 Stewards, that night he had the pleasure of announcing that there were 151 Stewards, and another six weeks more for brethren to come up as Stewards. Every one knew the funds were faithfully applied. The General Board had in their wisdom apportioned out one-third of the amount subscribed to the Relief Fund, and that was voted on occasions of trouble and trial. In that way £2000 had been given away. The second was the Educational Fund, on which there were 26 children, and nearly £300 was given for their education each year. In addition, they received on the 1st of the year £5 each for clothing, to enable them to go respectable to school. For that addition they were indebted to Canon Portal. The third portion was given to the annuity, and that night it had been foreshadowed that that was going to be increased. He thought they could well afford to increase it, because when the Mark Degree saw the necessity for giving money they would never be behind hand in giving the Board the power. He felt pleasure in responding to that toast when he saw so many good and true friends come round the Fund to support it in the future as they had supported it in the past.

The Marquis of HERTFORD, in proposing "The Visitors," said hospitality was one of the characteristics of Freemasons, and therefore they were always glad to see visitors at those gatherings. He was glad to welcome that evening some visitors from the Grand Lodge of Scotland. There might be other visitors, but whoever they were the brethren were heartily glad to see them, and hoped they had received impressions to induce them to come on a future occasion. He would particularly ask the brethren to drink the health of all the visitors, and especially those from the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

Bro. DALRYMPLE DUNCAN, in reply, assured the brethren that the Scotch visitors felt it a very great honour to be present, and he felt it a very great honour to respond to this toast, which had been proposed in such kindly terms, and received with such cordiality of feeling. That was not the first occasion on which he had been present at the hospitable board of the Grand Mark Lodge of England. He thought that it was the third time that he had responded to the toast of the visiting brethren at the Festival. He responded seven years ago when Lord Henniker was Grand Master, and two years ago when that distinguished Scotch Craftsman, the Earl of Kintore was in the chair. He was then full of high hopes that the Mark Degree in Scotland would be put on a more satisfactory footing than that which it at present occupied, and with that view Lord Kintore and himself succeeded in getting the Committees of Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter of Scotland appointed, which were to consider whether it would not be feasible to arrange for either of those two Grand bodies to have the sole right of working the Mark Degree, for as most of the brethren were aware, although possibly some might not be, both Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter of Scotland had now the right of

working the Mark. As nothing came of the deliberations of the Committees, he (Bro. Duncan), to a view of accelerating matters himself, brought forward the question in his own Provincial Grand Chapter, which was the most important Prov. G. Chapter in Scotland, and by his motion he suggested to the Grand Chapter that they should cede to Grand Lodge altogether the working of the Mark Degree, because, while they believed that the proper mode of solving the difficulty was undoubtedly the establishing of a Grand Mark Lodge—as that was out of the question they thought that the Mark formed no part of capitular Masonry and would be more appropriately worked in connection with the Craft Degree. He regretted to say that a number of brethren, prominent members of Grand Chapter, seemed to think that that was tampering with what they called the ancient land marks of the Order, and they fell back upon the *concordat* which was come to between the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter of Scotland some years ago, and held that his recommendation was irregular, and that the present state of matters could not be altered. Under those circumstances he was sorry to say that any improvement in the condition of the Mark Degree in Scotland seemed now to be deferred to the Greek Kalends, and they would have this very fine Degree in which he had taken great interest treated as an appendage to the Royal Arch and not as a preliminary step in the lodge to the Arch, and in neither of these bodies receiving the justice to which the Degree was undoubtedly entitled. This was a matter of regret to him and to all his friends who were with him from Scotland that night. But while that was their opinion he was sure it had been a source of great pleasure to them to hear of the very flourishing state of Mark Masonry in England. He did not know that any of them had ever heard with more gratification any announcement than that they had heard that night, of the great and good work which was being done for Masonry in the cause of Masonic benevolence by the Grand Mark Lodge of England. He hoped that great as the work was which they had done in the past during the present year with the assistance of the Marquis of Hertford and the other brethren working with him they would accomplish greater things, and that in the future the Grand Mark Lodge of England might come to be recognised as one of the most prominent Masonic bodies in the country.

Bro. ROBERT BERRIDGE, G.D.C., in proposing "The Stewards," said he was quite sure the brethren would recognise the honour and services of the Grand Stewards who had so kindly provided the banquet at that festival, and taken so much care in seeing that nothing was wanting. It had been indeed a splendid festival, and it had proved that the Stewards could perform their duties most ably. It was for what they had done that he called upon the brethren to drink their health most heartily.

Bro. H. S. GOODALL, G.S., in reply, said that what the Stewards had done they had done out of a feeling of love for Mark Masonry, and if they had done their best they were well repaid by the appreciation of the brethren.

Bro. BIRKIN said his duties had been very light, but he had done his little with the greatest pleasure.

The brethren then separated.

A beautiful selection of music was admirably performed during the evening, under the direction of Bro. Henry R. Rose, P.G. Org., assisted by Bros. W. A. Frost, L. Freyer, C. Beckett, and Egbert Roberts.

GIRLS' SCHOOL CENTENARY FESTIVAL.

The Centenary Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls was held on Thursday evening at the Royal Albert Hall. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., presided, and was supported by the King of Sweden, Prince Albert Victor, the Earl of Carnarvon, Sir Archibald Campbell, Grand Master of Scotland, Colonel Chamberlain Egelberg, the Duke of St. Alban's, the Earl of Lathom, Count Wrangel, the Marquis of Headfort (Senior Grand Warden of Ireland), Lord John Taylour, Junior Grand Warden, and all the Provincial Grand Masters, and a company of some 3000 brethren.

The Prince of WALES proposed "The Health of the King of Sweden, the Grand Master of Freemasons of Sweden," who took a deep interest in the Craft. He had looked forward to this occasion for many years, as it was the King of Sweden and his late brother who initiated him in Freemasonry. He was grateful indeed to him for having made him one of the brethren, and he was sure that in honouring this toast they would be honouring the Craft.

The King of SWEDEN responded, and proposed "The Health of the Prince of Wales," and in doing so thanked the brethren for the high honour that had been conferred on him by having been appointed a Past Grand Master of Grand Lodge of England. He was pleased to be present on such an occasion as this, and expressed the deep sympathy and esteem he had always entertained for English Freemasons who were always patriotic. But there was one feeling more noble than patriotism—the feeling which had its foundation in the worship of God, which was united with the feeling of Charity and love of mankind.

The Prince of WALES in the course of his response, said he had always striven not to be unmindful of the interests of Freemasons. His Royal Highness then proposed "Success to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls," and announced that the result of the Festival was a subscription of £50,500.

The Earl of LATHOM responded, and said that the Institution of the Royal Masonic School for Girls he looked upon, and had looked

upon during his Masonic career as the best of all the Masonic Institutions, and he said it advisedly, because the results were so good. It had gone on increasing, and had been crescendo and crescendo.

We are unable to give any further details of this great event as we are obliged to go to press at the time the proceedings are taking place, and cannot, therefore, attempt more than a brief summary. A Special Number of this journal will be published early next week, which will contain a full report of the Anniversary, Monday's proceedings, and of the Institution itself. For the present therefore we must be content with the expression of our respectful congratulations to H.R.H. the Grand Master on the success of the Festival, and the Board of Stewards, and Bro. Hodges, the Secretary, on the realisation—and something more—of the hopes they have been cherishing for the last few months.

SUMMARY OF THE SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS AT THE CENTENARY FESTIVAL OF THE R.M.I.G.

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------|-----------|
| Bedfordshire | 97 13 0 | Monmouthshire | 85 10 0 |
| Berks and Bucks | 696 19 6 | Norfolk | 171 3 0 |
| Bristol | 37 16 0 | North Wales | 662 12 6 |
| Cambridgeshire | 336 0 0 | Northants and Hunts | 221 10 0 |
| Cheshire | 459 18 0 | Northumberland | 52 10 0 |
| Cornwall | 372 15 0 | Nottinghamshire | 176 8 0 |
| Cumberland & Westmorland | 210 0 0 | Oxfordshire | 521 7 0 |
| Derbyshire | 736 13 6 | Shropshire | 604 0 0 |
| Devonshire | 120 15 0 | Somersetshire | 913 10 0 |
| Dorsetshire | 294 0 0 | South Wales, East Div. | |
| Durham | 358 1 0 | West Div. | 105 0 0 |
| Essex | 912 8 0 | Staffordshire | 344 12 0 |
| Gloucestershire | 485 5 0 | Suffolk | 509 4 0 |
| Hants and the Isle of Wight | 1035 7 0 | Surrey | 1126 10 0 |
| Herefordshire | 63 0 0 | Sussex | 657 5 0 |
| Hertfordshire | 618 9 0 | Warwickshire | 1340 0 0 |
| Kent | 3026 10 0 | Wiltshire | 319 8 0 |
| Lancashire, East Div. | 1155 10 6 | Worcestershire | 674 12 0 |
| West Div. | 1978 2 0 | Yorkshire, North & East | 765 0 0 |
| Leicestershire and Rutland | 648 10 0 | West | 2600 0 0 |
| Lincolnshire | 196 14 6 | Isle of Man | 7 7 0 |
| Middlesex | 1014 12 0 | Foreign Districts and Stations | 106 12 0 |

| | | |
|---------------|---------------------------|---------------------|
| 1464 Stewards | { London | £22,454 11 0 |
| | { Provinces and Abroad | 28,018 4 6 |
| | Grand Total | £50,472 15 6 |

DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES.

The Royal Albert Hall was largely patronised on Monday afternoon, the 4th inst., the day set apart for the distribution by the Countess of Carnarvon of the prizes of the above School, the Centenary of which was celebrated on Thursday. The Prince and Princess of Wales, together with the Princesses Louise, Victoria, and Maud of Wales, were present, with Lady Suffield and Colonel Clarke in attendance. Before their arrival, the lower portions of the hall were crowded. The children were dressed in blue, with white pinafores, and sat in the seats usually occupied by the orchestra. Punctually at four o'clock most of the girls marched off the dais into the centre of the hall, where they were formed into a large parallelogram. Here they sang the "Old Hundredth," the audience joining. The Royal visitors then arrived, and were received by the Earl of Lathom (Lord Chamberlain, Deputy G.M.), Sir Albert W. Woods (Garter), Grand Director of Ceremonies, Colonel Shadwell H. Clerke (Grand Secretary), Bro. Robert Grey, Chairman of the Executive Committee, Bro. Frank Richardson, P.G.D., and Bro. Ralph Clutton. Among the other brethren present were the Earl of Carnarvon, Lord Leigh, the Earl of Euston, Bro. H. B. Marshall (Past G. Treas.), Bro. Thomas Fenu, Bro. Sir John Monckton, Bro. Alderman Savory, Bro. Peter de Lande Long, Bro. D. P. Cama (P.G. Treas.), Bro. F. Binckes, Bro. Jas. Terry, and Bro. F. R. W. Hedges, the Secretary. As the Royal visitors came into the box set apart for their accommodation the audience rose, and with the pupils sang a verse of the National Anthem. The head governess of the School (Miss S. L. Davis) and the Matron (Miss Buck) were then presented to the Princess of Wales, as were also the gold and silver medallists for the year, Mabel Osmond and Agnes Stephenson. The Princess of Wales placed the ribands round their necks, and graciously received from them two magnificent bouquets. The young Princesses also received bouquets. Before leaving the hall the Prince of Wales expressed his great satisfaction at the manner in which the arrangements had been carried out, and said that himself, the Princess of Wales, and the Princesses were all very much pleased.

Calisthenics and marching to music were the next items on the programme, and the manner the children went through the different evolutions elicited the heartiest approval of the audience. Hardly a mistake was noticeable throughout the performance, which lasted half-an-hour.

The Countess of Carnarvon then proceeded to present the prizes. It will not, perhaps, be out of place to say that the School has done very well in the recent examinations. In the Cambridge Local, out

of 18 sent up 15 passed, whilst in the College of Preceptors' Examination the average is still better, for while 31 were entered, 28 passed. The prizes given by the Institution were the first to be distributed. The Gold Medal given for Proficiency, added to which is £5 given by Bro. Wm. Winn, was won by Mabel Osmond; the Good Conduct Medal (silver), also with £5 from the same donor, being taken by Agnes Stephenson. The 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, and 7th prizes for proficiency were taken respectively by Beatrice Knott, Bertha Dean, Mary Allen, Evelyn Conti, and Alice Smith.

In needlework Millicent Wootton, Louisa Johnson, and Edith Hutton took prizes, whilst Emily Corruthers and Olive Hurst proved successful in the prizes for order and attention as proved by marks for conduct throughout the year. The came the prizes given by the friends of the Institution. That given by Bro. John Faulkner, the prize for amiability, the recipient of which has to be chosen by her school companions, fell to Maud Greethurst. As she accepted the gift she was warmly cheered, more especially by her school fellows. The Religious Knowledge prize, given by Bro. Robert Grey, fell to Agnes Stephenson, and that for proficiency, Bro. Wm. Winn, £2 10s. each to Fanny Oberdoerffer and Grace Bartrum. There were six prizes for Music, the first two, given by Bro. J. H. Matthews, P.G. Std. Br., falling to Agnes Stephenson and Florence Mason; the next three, the "Wentworth Little" Memorial, being gained by Georgiana Smith, Louisa Pincombe, and Charlotte McMillan; while the third, the gift of Mrs. Louis Hirsch, came into the possession of Mildred Wrightson. The "John Boyd" Memorial prize for Drawing was divided between three girls—Fanny Oberdoerffer, Ruth Byers, and Florence Mason. Maud Hill obtained Bro. Brette's prize for French, and Athalinda Allison took Bro. Louis Hirsch's prize for German. Bro. Robert Grey's Elocution prize was awarded to Daisy Capon and Mary Tanner. Ruth Byers came out first in Arithmetic, and therefore took Bro. Thomas Fenn's prize for that subject. The Supreme Council 33° gave the first prize for Good Conduct, which Athalinda Allison took; while Bro. Frank Richardson's second prizes were taken by Beatrice Cookes and Lilian Shrapnel. Mrs. D. P. Cama's gift of £5 for Needlework came to Ruth Byers, and Florence Wright obtained the £2 10s. from the "Yates" Memorial, St. James's Lodge, No. 842, for usefulness in Domestic Duties. Three prizes were given for Cookery, Alice Cleaver, Beatrice Cookes, and Helen Foxall taking them. The Calithenics and Deportment prize fell to Norah Besley, and Miss Godson's three prizes for Swimming came to Georgiana Smith, Louise Haigh, and Florence Popkiss. The Junior School had prizes for Proficiency and Arithmetic, the former being given by Bro. Frank Richardson and the latter being the "Henry Levander" Memorial. Ethel Craft and Florence Bexfield took that for Proficiency, and Hilda Kemp took that for Arithmetic. The girls who passed the Cambridge Local Examination were: Senior Division—Mabel Osmond, Fanny Oberdoerffer, and Grace Bartrum. Junior Division—Athalinda Allison, Dorothy Ainsworth, Ruth Byers, Ellen Delafons, Ethel Fallding, Helen Foxall, Hgues Fyfe, Maud Hill, Augusta Nicholls, Georgiana Smith, Mary Sherington, and Lilian Sykes. After the distribution of prizes, there were recitations, part songs, trios, duets, and solos by the pupils. They were selected from: recitations—"Our Folks," "The Singing of the Magnificat," and "The Signalman;" part songs—"Oh! skylark for thy wing" and "Spring and love;" duets—"I Lombardi" and "Ungarische Tänze;" solos—"Rondo Capriccioso" and "Studien Op. 3;" and one trio—"Menuet célèbre." "God save the Queen" was then sung, and the proceedings terminated, most of the pupils walking about the hall with the numerous visitors until it was time to be taken back to Wandsworth.

The whole of the arrangements with regard to the attendance of the pupils of the School at the Royal Albert Hall were under the direction and personal superintendence of Bro. Frank Richardson, P.G.D., assisted by Bros. Charles Hammerton, P.G. Swd. Br., and J. H. Matthews, P.G. Std. Br.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF WEST LANCASHIRE.

A special meeting of the above was held on Wednesday, the 30th ult., at Blackpool, by order of the R.W.P.G.M., Bro. the Earl of Lathom, who, however, was unable to attend, his place being filled by Bro. Sir Matthew White Ridley, P.S.G.D., who acted as his deputy. A large number of brethren left Liverpool by special trains, arriving at Blackpool at 12 noon, when the Prov. Grand Officers went to the South Shore Hotel, previous to opening the lodge, the chief business being the laying of the foundation-stone of a new chancel to Holy Trinity Church. The Prov. Grand Lodge was opened in the schools connected with the church, under the banner of the Clifton Lodge, No. 703.

Among those who assembled at the South Shore Hotel previous to the ceremony were

Bros. Sir Matthew White Ridley, acting for the P.G.M.; R. Wylie, P.G.D., P.P.S.G.W., acting as D.G.M.; T. H. Beswicke Royds, P.G.D., as P.S.G.W.; John F. Newell, P.P.S.G.W., acting as P.J.G.W.; W. Goodacre, P.G.S.B., P.G. Sec.; J. D. Murray, P.P.J.G.W., acting D.C.; E. Lewis Littler, P.G.P.; J. C. Mather, D.G.D.C.; J. J. Ramsay, P.A.G.P.; David Jackson, P.G. Std. Br.; W. Troughton, P.G. Std. Br.; D. M. F. Gaskin, P.G. Treas.; R. Bowker, P.G. Std. Br.; D. Cangley, P.A.G. Sec.; E. T. Everett, P.J.G.D.; Dr. W. Y. Martin, P.G. Stwd.; J. L. Lambart, P.G.R.; H. M. Ormsby, P.S.G.D.; T. F. Hill, P.G.S.; C. Bargery, P.S.G.D.; H. James, P.J.G.D.; Isaac Turner, P.G.S.; John Williams, P.P.S.G.D.; J. Ertou, P.P.G.S.B.; R. Bee, P.P.G.S.B.; E. Johnston, P.P.S.G.D.; R. Cain, P.P.G. Std. Br.; T. Nevett, P.P.G.S. of W.; Rev. F. J. Whalley, P.G.C.; Rev. T. Barton Spencer, P.P.G.C.; E. C. Cooper, P.P.G.S.B.; John Presh, P.P.A.G.D.C.; John Wray, P.P.G. Std. Br.; Henry Vollmer, P.P.S.G.D.; R. Burgess, P.G. Org.; Henry

Marshall, P.P.G.D.; A. Hall, P.P.A.G. Sec.; R. Foote, P.P.G.T.; John Barrow, P.P.G.W.; T. K. Hughes, P.D.G.D.C.; W. Bowden, P.P.G.S.B.; W. H. Wakefield, P.P.G.S.B.; John Beesley, P.P.J.G.D.; E. T. Enery, P.S.G.D.; T. A. Hopewell, P.D.G.D.C. (Bombay); R. Pettigrew, P.P.S.G.D. (Antrim); John Houlding, P.P.G. Reg.; Dr. Henry Pitts, P.P.G.S.B.; Rev. H. G. Vernon, P.P.G.C.; John Sutton, P.P.A.G.D.C.; C. P. Richards, P.P.A.G.D.C.; W. Whiteside, P.P.G. Std. Br.; J. Sumner, P.G.D.C.; W. S. Vines, P.P.G.D.C.; W. Harrison, P.P.G.D.C.; and M. Shuttleworth, P.P.G.S. of W.

The Prov. G. Lodge left the South Shore Hotel, preceded by the band of the artillery stationed at Blackpool. On arriving at the schoolrooms the Prov. G. Lodge was received with the usual honours, the chair being taken by the acting P.G.M., Bro. Sir Matthew White Ridley, P.S.G.D., supported as above.

The following proposition, of which notice had been given by Bro. R. Wylie, P.G.D., was considered: "That 100 guineas be voted from the Charity Fund to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls." Bro. WYLIE, in submitting the proposal, said the Institution had attained its centenary. The Prov. Grand Master, the Earl of Lathom, would have presided over the Festival in London in the absence of the Prince of Wales, but the duties of the M.W.G.M. had enabled him to take the position. At the same time, the Earl of Lathom was evincing such an amount of interest in the event, that he had consented to act as Chairman of the Stewards. It would not become the Provincial Grand Lodge to meet that day without expressing their unanimous approval of the interest taken by the P. Grand Master in the centenary, by voting something towards that Institution. In voting the hundred guineas the province would have the benefit of getting double votes in sending candidates to the Institution, and under the circumstances he regretted that the vote was not 200 instead of 100 guineas. If any brother felt inclined to move the former sum as an amendment he would be pleased to support it.

Bro. J. HOULDING, P.P.G.R., in seconding the motion, said it must be remembered that the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls was started 100 years ago, when it was not thought very necessary to give girls the education they nowadays receive. In this age of progress, however, girls were taking situations which were not dreamt of years ago, and it was necessary that they should be educated accordingly. When they saw such an Institution seeking for funds with which to enlarge its sphere of usefulness, it was their duty to make strenuous efforts to assist it. He would have been glad to second the proposal had it been for 200 instead of 100 guineas. (Hear, hear.)

Bro. J. F. NEWELL (ex-mayor of Bootle), P.P.S.G.W., and acting P.J.G.W., moved as an amendment, that the sum of 200 guineas be voted to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls.

Bro. BESWICK ROYDS, Prov. G.D., acting Prov. S.G.W., seconded, and, upon the amendment being put, it was carried by a large majority.

On the proposition of Bro. R. MARTIN, P.P.G.T., it was decided to alter one of the by-laws of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution, to enable the annual meeting to be held on a stated day, instead of waiting for the Provincial Grand Lodge yearly meeting.

The brethren then left the building, and proceeded to the site, where, upon arriving at the north-east corner of the building,

The acting R.W.P.G.M. delivered the opening address from the Masonic ritual explanatory of the principles and objects of the Order, and immediately afterwards called upon Bro. the Rev. F. J. Whalley, Prov. G. Chap., to offer up prayer.

Bro. W. GOODACRE, Prov. G. Sec., then read the inscription on the plate, as follows: "This foundation-stone was laid by the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Lancashire, Sir Matthew White Ridley, Bart., M.P., acting as Prov. G.M., 30th May, 1888. Holy Trinity Church, South Shore. S. Y. B. Bradshaw, vicar." The cavity in the lower stone was filled up with a bottle containing a copy of the *Freemason*, a Masonic jubilee medal, and some coins, and the plate was fitted in.

The upper stone was lowered with three distinct stops, and the acting PROV. GRAND MASTER, after testing it with the plumb rule, level, and square, declared it to be truly fashioned and duly laid. Subsequently he scattered corn over the stone as an emblem of plenty and abundance, poured out wine as an emblem of joy and gladness, and sprinkled oil as a token of peace and unanimity. He concluded by trusting that prosperity, gladness, and goodwill might prevail amongst those who would assemble within the building, to the honour of the Most High, until time should be no more.

The architect, Bro. FREEMAN, advancing, presented the plans of the building to the acting Prov. G. Master, who, in entrusting them to his keeping, desired him to proceed with the work without loss of time. The hymn beginning "O Lord of Hosts, Whose glory fills the bounds of the eternal hills," followed, with full band accompaniment, and the Masonic part of the ceremony was then brought to a close.

Upon the termination of the foregoing proceedings another stone was laid at the south-east corner of the building by the Mayor of Blackpool, Bro. Councillor Fish. The vicar of Holy Trinity, the Rev. S. Y. B. Bradshaw, handed to his Worship a document containing the names of the Building Committee, a Masonic Committee, and the officials connected with the borough of Blackpool. These the Mayor placed in the cavity of the stone, which he laid with due form. After prayer had been offered up by the vicar,

The MAYOR delivered a short address. He said the members of Holy Trinity congregation two or three years ago began to feel the necessity of increased accommodation, not only for the increasing population of the South Shore itself, but for the great number of visitors who regularly came down in the season. Hence it was decided that steps should be taken to provide a fund for the erection of a new building. In the meantime the Committee and those interested in the work had been progressing slowly but very persistently. It was thought prudent that a large portion of the fund required should be raised by proceeding with the work, and he believed as a matter of fact that three-quarters of the first portion needed had been already raised. The Building Committee, after examining several plans, accepted those of Bro. Freeman, of Bolton; and the contract, he believed, had been signed for building the eastern portion of the church for £4600 or £4800. As he had stated, three-quarters of the money had been raised, and there was a balance of £1100 required. He hoped the building would not only be an ornament to the town, but that it would prove to be a spiritual benefit to the congregation.

The ceremony was then completed with the Doxology. The chancel is to be of good proportions, raised sufficiently above the nave floor, and will be separated from the main body by a screen. The style will be perpendicular Gothic, and the principal aim has been to avoid obstruction by pillars. The exterior will be faced with Yorkshire stone, and the walls of dressed redstone from Rainhill.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS,

WOOD GREEN, LONDON, N.
Office—6, FREEMASONS' HALL, W.C.

GRAND PATRON:
HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

PRESIDENT:
HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES,
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—

W. BRO. ROBERT BERRIDGE, J.G.D., Vice-Patron of the Institution.

Musical Arrangements under the direction of Bro. F. FRANKLIN CLIVE.

TICKETS, LADIES, 10s. 6d.; BRETHREN, 21s.

Full particulars will be duly announced.

FREDERICK BINCKES (P.G. Stwd., P.G.S.B.),
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.

THE ANNUAL DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES

And the visit of the Stewards and their friends will take place on Saturday, the 23rd June.

MASONS' CERTIFICATES, &c., FRAMED TO ANY DESIGN.

H. MORELL,

17 and 18, Great St. Andrew St., Bloomsbury, W.C., London.
Manufacturer and Importer of all kinds of Picture Frame and Decorative Mouldings (Two Million Feet always in stock). Every requisite for the Trade and Exportation. Illustrated Book of Patterns post free for three penny stamps.

COALS.

COCKERELL'S
13, CORNHILL, E.C.

For Prices, see Daily Papers.

Trucks direct from the Colliery to every Railway Station.

EVERY READER SHOULD

Write at once for this valuable little book. FIFTY YEARS' RECORD OF FACTS, PRINCIPLES AND DISCOVERIES relating to the Improvement and Preservation of Human Life on Earth. A series of most valuable articles, by Dr. Samuel Birley. Now published, complete in book form (50 pages), post free, from the publishers, GORDON T. MURRAY & Co., 50, Theobald's-road, Holborn. Sound and practical. One copy free and post free. Write to-day and secure a copy.

PIANOS.

VENABLES' PIANOS.

187 & 189, Essex Road, ISLINGTON, N.

ESTABLISHED 1830.

TWO MASONIC SONGS

BY THE LATE

BRO. JAMES C. BAKER, Mus. Doc.,

With Quartet and Chorus,

ENTITLED—

"WELCOME"

AND

"THE MYSTIC TIE."

POST FREE, 1s. each nett. Usual Price 2s.

KENNING'S MASONIC DEPOTS—

1, 2, 3, 4, LITTLE BRITAIN, 195 & 197 ALDERSGATE ST., 16, GREAT QUEEN ST., W.C., LONDON.

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. |

Amount already subscribed ... £199 13 0
W. Bro. J. Boulton, P.M., and two friends ... 1 6 0
Bro. J. Tucker ... 1 1 0
" J. L. Dale ... 0 10 0

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

ANDERTON'S HOTEL AND TAVERN,

FLEET STREET, LONDON,

In connection with the Royal Clarence Hotel, Ilfracombe; and Peacock Hotel, and Royal Hotel, Boston, Lincolnshire.

The central position of ANDERTON'S renders this Tavern unequalled for

Masonic Banquets, Public Dinners, Wedding Breakfasts, Meetings of Creditors, Arbitrations or Jovial Gatherings.

The Rooms reserved for the above business consist of DINING HALL, PILLAR HALL, MASONIC HALL, CHAPTER, and numerous Smaller Rooms.

The RESTAURANT on Eastern Side of Hotel Entrance is open to the Public from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. for BREAKFASTS, LUNCHEONS, TEAS, and DINNERS.

F. H. CLEMOW, Proprietor.

WEIR HOTEL, SUNBURY.

BRO. JOHN WILKINS, 1733, invites the attention of Secretaries and others, when arranging for SUMMER OUTINGS, DINNERS, &c., to the above Hotel, charmingly situated on the banks of the River Thames, and he will be glad to quote Bills of Fare, Prices, &c., upon receiving applications either personally or by letter, stating particulars.

Every convenience.

LAWN TENNIS, BOATING, BOWLS, QUOITS, &c. STEAM LAUNCHES provided and provisioned.
Telegraphic Address—WILKINS, SUNBURY.

JUST PUBLISHED.—CLOTH, 2s. 6d.

A RE-ISSUE OF

The Origin of Masonic Ritual & Tradition

A LECTURE ON THE THREE DEGREES,

By Bro. WM. ROWBOTTOM, P.M. 1028,

With facsimile of a very rare Masonic Engraving published in 1780.

"Exquisitely clear and singularly correct in everything wherein I may be any authority or guide."—Professor PIAZZI SMYTH.
"Very ably put together and suggests many serious considerations."—*The Freemason*.
"Will be found of considerable interest to many besides Masons."—*Church Bells*.

OXFORD: S. ROWBOTTOM & SON.

LONDON: GEORGE KENNING, 16, GT. QUEEN ST., W.C.

PAINS IN THE HEAD, FACE, AND LIMBS, GOUT, RHEUMATISM, AND RHEUMATIC GOUT,

Immediately Relieved **EADE'S** and Speedily cured by

GOUT AND RHEUMATIC PILLS.

Which require neither confinement nor alteration of diet.

IMPORTANT TESTIMONIAL

FROM
MR. FRANK WRIGHT,
The Comedian.
Prince of Wales Theatre, Birmingham, Feb. 19th, 1887.
Dear Sir,—I have been a great sufferer from the gout for the past five years. As there are so many actors suffering from this terrible scourge, I write this for their benefit and the public at large. Your Pills will keep off any attack of gout if taken at the first twinge, as prescribed, and if after the disease has set in will cure it in two or three days. I would sooner think of going on the stage without my wig than neglecting to have a bottle of your really wonderful Pills about me.
Yours faithfully,
FRANK WRIGHT, Comedian.
Mr. G. Eade.
Do not be persuaded to take any other Pills for the above distressing, painful disorders, as EADE'S have been proved by thousands to be the safest and most effectual remedy.

Sold by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors, in Bottles, 1s. 1/2d., and 2s. 9d.

GEORGE EADE, 72, Goswell Rd., London.

PRICE 6d.

THE GIRLS' SCHOOL CENTENARY

AND SILVER WEDDING NUMBER

OF

The Freemason

WILL BE READY ON THE 12th JUNE,

AND WILL CONTAIN

A FULL REPORT

OF

THE PROCEEDINGS AT THE FESTIVAL

At the ROYAL ALBERT HALL on the 7th,

UNDER THE PRESIDENCY of THE PRINCE of WALES,

With Illustrations.

A LIST OF STEWARDS AND AMOUNTS SUBSCRIBED.

A FULL DESCRIPTION of the GATHERING at the ALBERT HALL on the 4th inst., when the PRIZE DISTRIBUTION took place in the PRESENCE of THEIR ROYAL HIGHNESSES THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES.

With Illustrations.

A Short HISTORY of the INSTITUTION.

A TWO-PAGED COLOURED PLATE,

"A MASONIC SILVER WEDDING BALL,"

&c., &c.,

AND VARIOUS CONTRIBUTIONS.

The Special Number will contain a Complete Account, and form a permanent record of these memorable events.

Order should be sent at once to any Bookseller or Newsagent, or direct to

GEORGE KENNING,

16 & 16A, GREAT QUEEN STREET, LONDON, W.C.

WEST CENTRAL Dental Association

220, HIGH HOLBORN

(NEXT DOOR to HOLBORN RESTAURANT).

Messrs. MULLINER & GRANT.

ARTIFICIAL TEETH

of the Best Quality, with all the latest Improvements.

AT THE LOWEST POSSIBLE CHARGES.

PAINLESS EXTRACTION by NITROUS OXIDE GAS and COCAINE.

Consultations Free. Hours 9 to 7.

FISH.
POULTRY.
GAME.
OYSTERS.

JOHN GOW,

NEW BROAD ST., E.C.

(Outside Railway Station).

HONEY LANE MARKET, CHEAPSIDE, 93, THEOBALD'S RD., HOLBORN, W.C.

125, BROMPTON ROAD, S.W.

JOHN GOW always has on sale the Largest Stock in London of the Very Best Quality at Lowest Prices. Barrelled Oysters.

PERFECTLY-FITTED OYSTER SALOON Now Open at New Broad Street.

SHIRTS.—FORD'S DRESS SHIRTS.

"The most perfect fitting made."—Observer.

SHIRTS.—FORDS' DRESS SHIRTS.

A Large Stock Ready Made.

Sixteen Different Sizes.

In the Finest Linen.

5s. 6d., 7s. 6d., 9s. 6d.

SHIRTS.—FORD'S DRESS SHIRTS.

Special to Measure.

30s., 40s., 45s. the half-dozen.

Illustrated Self-Measure, post free.

R. FORD & Co., 41, Poultry, London.

SHIRTS.—OLD SHIRTS RE-FRONTED.

Wrist and collar banded, fine linen, 3 for 6s.; Superior, 7s. 6d.; extra fine, 9s.

Send three (not less) with cash. Returned ready for use, carriage paid.

R. FORD & Co., 41, Poultry, London.

ACCIDENT INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

10, ST. SWITHIN'S LANE, LONDON, E.C.

General Accidents.
Railway Accidents.

Personal Injuries
Deaths by Accident.
C. HARDING, Manager

HOLIDAY HOMES.

THE COMMITTEE OF THE RAGGED SCHOOL UNION
EARNESTLY SOLICIT
THE AID OF THE BENEVOLENT
IN GIVING A FORTNIGHT'S
COUNTRY AIR AND CHANGE
To the drooping CHILDREN of the CONNECTED RAGGED
SCHOOL MISSIONS of LONDON.
Office—Exeter Hall, W.C. JOHN KIRK, Secretary.

**TESTIMONIAL to Bro. Preceptor
W. C. SMITH, P.M.**

BRO. W. C. SMITH being about to leave London permanently, the members of the Eclectic, Emblematic, Covent Garden, and Londesborough Lodges of Instruction, are desirous before his departure to present him with a suitable Testimonial, as a recognition of his valuable services as Preceptor for many years past to their Lodges.

A Committee has been formed to carry out such desire. Believing that the members of these Lodges and other brethren will be desirous to subscribe towards the Testimonial, contributions will be gladly received at an early date.

G. REYNOLDS, S.W. 1614, Sec.,
3, St. James's-square, Pall Mall, S.W.

P.S.—The Subscription List closes on the 18th June, 1888, as the presentation will take place at the Criterion, on Friday, the 22nd June, at 8 o'clock.

PLEYEL, WOLFF & Co.'s PIANOS.

THESE CELEBRATED PIANOS
may be Hired for the Evening, on Moderate Terms.
PIANOS FOR SALE, and may be Purchased on the
THREE YEARS' SYSTEM.

Sole Agency—
170, NEW BOND STREET, W.

A CAMBRIDGE GRADUATE
(P.M., P.Z., P.M.W.S. 18°, Professor of Latin and Zoology, "The College," South Kensington; Examiner 15 years Bexley Heath College) has some time disengaged for Private or Visiting Tuition. Lectures on History and Natural Science. Foreigners taught English through the medium of French.—Address, F. D., 62, Lancaster-road, Notting-hill, W.

MASONS' MARKS.—Information is desired, for which remuneration will be given.—Address, HENRY JEFFS, Sherborne-villa, Spa, Gloucester.

FOR SALE.—A very fine impression (proof before letters) of the CELEBRATED MASONIC PICTURE, painted by THOMAS STOTHARD, R.A., and engraved by BARTOLOZZI, representing the FESTIVAL of the FREEMASONS' GIRLS' SCHOOL in 1802, containing Portraits of the most Eminent Masons of the day. Size 25 inches by 19 inches, with Key, price £6 6s.—Apply at the office of the *Freemason*.

JUST PUBLISHED.

ANTHEM—"BEHOLD HOW GOOD AND JOYFUL"

(Dedicated to Right Hon. the Earl of Mount EDGUMBE, Provincial Grand Master of Cornwall),
Composed by Bro. C. E. JULEFF, P.P.G.O. Cornwall,
Organist and Choir Director of Bodmin Parish Church.
PRICE 4d. of the Composer.

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

To Correspondents.

The following communications were either received too late for publication or stand over for want of space:—
Craft—Regent's Park Lodge, No. 2202.
Lodge Canongate Kilwinning.



SATURDAY, JUNE 9, 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.]

BRO. BIRCH'S MOTION AS TO ELECTIONS.
To the Editor of the "*Freemason*."

Dear Sir and Brother,
I am the brother from Kent on whose head Bro. Birch pours the vials of his wrath because he did not succeed in carrying his scheme in its entirety. He has obtained for himself and his friends two-thirds of the alterations that were desired—then because he fails to obtain the remaining third he shows temper, and those who opposed him are charged with selfishness and obtuseness. This charge is a two-edged sword, and will cut against him as well as his opponents.

In these days of heavy issues, a constantly increasing weight of votes by the various Institutions, I contend that it is highly desirable to keep the Benevolent Election at least a month after the Boys' and Girls—as now arranged, in fact. Therefore, let Bro. Birch rest contented on his laurels. He has done well; he has carried out a great improvement in effecting the change of the dates of the Boys' Elections from the Mondays after to the Fridays preceding the Girls' Elections.

Friday, Saturday, and Monday are three consecutive working days, say what Bro. Birch will—Sunday is a "dies non."

When I was speaking at the meeting with reference to the Sunday counting and filling in of votes that would be unavoidable were this portion of the scheme to be carried out, it was manifest to all present that I was speaking of the Election dates as then re-arranged, and not as they had been. All Sunday work and enforced absence from home on Sunday is now a thing of the past, and one of the greatest drawbacks to the taking of an active part in our Masonic Elections is happily removed.

That my views are in accordance with those of many distant provincial as well as of London and home provincial brethren I entertain no doubt. Many brethren, entire strangers to me, after the meeting came to me and thanked me for speaking and expressing views which they held and thoroughly agreed with, but lacked the self-confidence to publicly express.—I am, dear Sir and Brother, faithfully and fraternally yours,

5th June. W. RUSSELL, P.M. 77, 1464,
P.P.S.G.W. Kent.

Masonic Notes and Queries.

783] **ATHOLL GRAND LODGE SEALS.**

As one much interested, I cordially thank Bros. Le Feuvre and Quick for their contributions to Notes and Queries 780 and 781. To both I shall probably refer at some future time in a general article on Grand Lodge Seals. I should be greatly indebted to anyone who will forward to me a *Moderns* Arch Certificate of 1813, or any earlier year before 1794, with or without seal. I also want an *Ancients* Craft Certificate of 1773, and an Arch Certificate of 1772, both of which I should be glad to purchase to complete my series. If not for sale, I shall be glad to see them, and will pay all expenses, returning by next post. I need not promise the certificates will be taken care of.

J. RAMSDEN RILEY.



Craft Masonry.

LODGE OF UNITY (No. 183).—A meeting of this lodge was held at the Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street, on the 28th ult., when there were present Bros. E. A. Francis, W.M.; H. Hooper, R. Corsham, G. P. Britten, G. W. Speth, J. W. Oliver, S. C. Hester, G. H. Lindsey-Renton, S. Richardson, G. W. Pincock, J. D. E. Iarr, F. W. Zimer, and G. R. Langley. Visitor: Bro. H. Price, P.M. 177.

Bro. F. W. Zimer was raised, and the following brethren were proposed as joining members: Bros. J. C. Yates, A. Cooke, and E. Wareham, of 1366; G. Pragnell, 1168; and W. J. Godwin, 1343. The following gentlemen were proposed for initiation, viz., Messrs. T. G. Tassell, F. W. McIlwraith, and W. Beckett. A vote of condolence was passed with a brother on the death of his wife. Bro. Hooper, S.W., was appointed Steward for the Boys' School Festival in 1889. Bro. Britten announced the successful result of Bro. Vasey's widow's appeal to the Benevolent Institution. He was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his successful exertions. The brethren then adjourned to refreshment.

SKELMERSDALE LODGE (No. 1658).—The above lodge met on Thursday, the 24th ult., at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, when Bro. Croxon was raised and Mr. Rigby was initiated. Both ceremonies were performed by the W.M., Bro. Humphrey Cohen, in a most perfect and impressive manner, and indeed, as was generally expressed, such working as the W.M.'s it would be difficult to equal, and almost impossible to excel. A most excellent repast was supplied by Mrs. Venables, to which about 50 members and visitors did ample justice.

During the evening the company were treated to several excellent songs by the following brethren: Bro. McCall Chambers, W. T. Buxton, R. Rowlands, S. Mackway, and G. C. Burry, who also presided at the piano.

The usual toasts were given by the W.M. in some remarkably neat and witty speeches, and Bros. C. R. Williams, P.M. 72; J. Andrews, I.G. 1986; G. C. Burry, P.P.G. Org. Surrey; J. S. Miller, P.M. 1668; and H. Hooper responded on behalf of "The Visitors."

The entire proceedings were unanimously acknowledged to be a complete success.

The following were among those present: Bros. H. Cohen, W.M.; E. Shrimpton, S.W.; E. A. Francis, J.W.; G. J. Earney, P.M., Treas.; W. H. Boys, P.M., Sec.; R. Walden, S.D.; A. B. Noman, J.D.; J. Letchford, D.C.; A. J. Shore, I.G.; S. Zucker, Org.; J. J. Hill, P.M.; J. D. Smith, P.M.; C. J. Pigeon, G. A. Pennial, W. Croxon, H. B. Buckeridge, R. Carter, R. Rowlands, G. M. Gibson, M. S. Larham, S. F. Bygrave, W. Newell, S. F. Mackway, E. D. Side, T. Williams, M. Syer, C. J. Smith, G. Rawlins, and J. Rigby. Visitors: Bros. J. Andrews, I.G. 1986; J. W. Oliver, S.D. 183; McCall Chambers, 1638; H. T. Telling, 2182; A. M. Whitby, 45; G. C. Burry, P.P.G. Org. Surrey, 1347; G. R. Langley, I.P.M. 183; W. T. Buxton, P.M. 1381; H. Hooper, W.M. 1986; G. S. Miller, P.M. 1668; C. A. Hardwick, I.G. 1347; H. Hyams, 1348; S. Wilson, 177; C. R. Williams, P.M. 72; and L. F. Side.

FARRINGDON WITHOUT LODGE (No. 1745).

—This lodge held its installation meeting on Monday, the 28th ult., at the Viaduct Hotel, Holborn, E.C. The Rt. Hon. P. De Keyser, Lord Mayor, Alderman of the Ward of Farringdon Without, having signified his intention of being present, the members of the lodge determined to celebrate that event in a fitting manner by inviting a number of distinguished guests to meet him. It so happened that the lodge completed its first decade on that day, and this circumstance rendered the occasion additionally interesting. The lodge was founded in 1878 by Bros. W. H. Jackson, C. Jacques, T. C. Walls, H. J. Lardner, W. Ramsey, H. A. Dubois, and W. H. Giscard.

It was consecrated by Bro. James Terry, Sec. R.M.B.I., assisted by Bros. Sir John B. Monckton, the then P.B.G.P.; J. C. Dwarber, P.M. 55; G. P. Brockbank, P.P.S.G.D. Lancashire; and W. Clarke, P.M. 959. Bro. W. H. Jackson was the first W.M., and Bros. Jacques and Walls the Wardens.

Among the numerous brethren present on the 28th we noticed Bros. T. C. Walls, P.M., acting W.M., in the unavoidable absence of Bro. J. Lister; G. Herbert, S.W., W.M. elect; Schultz, J.W.; H. J. Lardner, P.M., Treas.; W. H. Jackson, P.M., Sec.; Suskind, S.D.; R. Webber, J.D.; C. Sherer, I.G.; Dr. E. M. Lott, Mus. Doc., P.G. Org., Org.; Nelson Prower, M.A., and F. Kent, P.M., Stwds.; James Strugnell, P.M.; H. B. Marshall, C.C., J.P., P.G. Treas., P.M.; Joseph Young, P.M.; P. Simpson, P.M.; H. Herbert, H. Bennett, G. Watson, N. P. Lardner, Falk, H. Thomas, W. Mills, E. S. Lardner, Veit, Dorling, Hablett, E. Mallett, P.M. 141, acting Tyler; and others.

In consequence of the limited accommodation, a number of visitors were unable to obtain admission to the lodge-room, but subsequently joined the brethren at the Freemasons' Tavern, where the banquet was held. Among the visitors were Bros. the Rt. Hon. the Lord Mayor, G.S., W.M. 21; Sheriff W. Higgs, 60; the Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, P.G. Chap.; R. Eve, P.G. Treas.; T. Fenn, P.B.G.P.; P. de L. Long, P.G.D.; J. S. Peirce, P.G.D.; Baron de Ferrieres, P.G.D.; Col. C. Harding, P.A.G.D.C.; J. L. Mather, P.A.G.D.C.; J. Farnfield, P.A.G.D.C.; Dr. Woodman, P.G.S.B.; Major G. Lambert, P.G.S.B.; Col. Peters, P.G.S.B.; F. Binckes, P.G.S.B.; J. Terry, P.G.S.B.; C. Belton, V.P.B.G.P.; R. L. Loveland, P.P.S.G.W. Hants; C. Greenwood, P.G. Sec. Surrey; Brickdale, W.M. 1623; A. C. Morton, C.C., P.M. 9; Taylor, P.M. 101; George Everett, P.M. 177; J. Oldis, P.M. 1288; B. Turner, C.C., P.M. 1328; H. Higgins, P.M. 1381; C. H. Kohler, P.M. 1381; W. P. Webb, P.M. 1381; Malthouse, C.C., P.M. 1623; Batting, P.M. 1566; G. Manners, C.C., P.M. 1589; Greme, P.M. 1719; G. P. Festa, P.M. 1900; Collins, 25; Dr. Kempster, 60; Abrahams, 101; Biotfeld, 101; Woodhill, 191; Probert, 340; Cumming, 733; Sharpe, 869; Ross, 901; Egbert Roberts, 917; Dotti-ridge, 1056; Bragg, 1056; Stephens, 1185; Sheldrake, 1471; Metson, 1507; Hunter, 1589; Miroy, 1599; L. Paul, 1638; Coles, 1744; Groome, 1969; Shuller, 1969; Crump, 1973; Cloake, 1986; Bedford, and others.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. Thomas was passed to the Second Degree. Bro. G. Herbert, W.M. elect, having been presented, was duly installed into the chair of K.S. by Bro. Walls, assisted by Bros. Strugnell, P.M., as S.W.; J. Young, P.M., as J.W.; H. J. Lardner, P.M., as D.C.; and W. H. Jackson, P.M., as I.G. The following appointments and investitures then followed: Bros. E. Schultz, S.W.; S. Suskind, J.W.; H. J. Lardner, P.P.G. Org. Surrey, Treas.; W. H. Jackson, Sec.; R. Webber, S.D.; H. Sherer, J.D.; N. Prower, I.G.; T. C. Walls, P.P.G.S.B. Middx., D.C.; F. Kent, A.D.C.; N. P. Lardner and E. S. Lardner, Stewards; E. M. Lott, Mus. Doc., Hon. Org. The appointment of Tyler, in consequence of the recent death of Bro. Parkinson, was postponed till the next meeting. Votes of thanks were passed to Bros. Walls, as Installing Officer, and Lardner, as D.C. The former gave a notice of motion—"That the sum of five guineas be placed on the list of Bro. H. J. Lardner, as Steward of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, 1888." Letters regretting inability to attend were received and read from Bros. H. D. Sandeman, P.D.G.M. Bengal; Lord John Taylour, J.G.W.; Sir F. Truscott, P.G.W.; Sir R. Fowler, M.P., P.G.W.; Sir R. Hanson, P.G.W.; Sir John Monckton, P.G.W.; Sir J. W. Ellis, M.P., Past G.W.; D. P. Cama, P.G. Treas.; F. A. Philbrick, Q.C., G.R.; Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, G. Sec.; Robert Grey, President of the Board of Benevolence; R. Berridge, S.G.D.; Sir Bruce Seton, P.G.D.; Capt. N. G. Philips, P.G.D.; J. C. Parkinson, P.G.D.; F. Richardson, P.G.D.; Letchworth, P.G.D.; A. F. Godson, M.P., P.G.D.; R. H. Thrupp, P.A.G.D.G.; Lewis Thomas, F.S.A., P.A.G. D.C.; J. F. H. Woodward, P.G.S.B.; Lieut.-Colonel Haldane, P.G.S.B.; F. R. W. Hedges, P.G.S.B.; W. Roebuck, P.G.S.B.; Ames, P.G.S.; E. H. Thiellay, P.G. S.B. Middlesex; Lieut.-Colonel Gardiner, P.M.; H. H. Shirley, M.A., P.M.; W. Paas, P.M.; and many other distinguished and popular brethren.

The lodge having been closed, the brethren adjourned to the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street. By dispensation from Grand Lodge, Masonic clothing and jewels were allowed to be worn. The banquet was held in the Crown Room, and was admirably served under the superintendence of Bro. Madell, the courteous manager of the tavern.

Grace—"For these and all Thy mercies"—having been sung, the Worshipful Master gave "The Queen and the Craft."

"From enemies Heaven defend your Majesty,
And when they stand against you may they fall."

The National Anthem was sung by Bros. E. W. Collins, J. Probert, R. Groome, and Egbert Roberts.

"The Health of the M.W. the Grand Master" followed.
"Dear to thy land and ours—a Prince indeed."

"God bless the Prince of Wales" was finely rendered by the before named artistes.

"The Pro G.M., the Earl of Carnarvon; the Dep. G.M., the Earl of Lathom, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," was given in a speech of some length by Bro. T. C. Walls, P.M.

"They are the ground, the books, the academes,
From which doth spring the true Promethean fire."

The toast was coupled with the names of Bros. the Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, P.G. Chap.; R. Eve, P.G. Treas.; T. Fenn, President of the Board of General Purposes; P. de L. Long, P.G.D.; Col. C. Harding, P.A.G.D.C.; and Major George Lambert, P.G.S.B.

Bro. Louis Paul having sang "Pardonnez-moi," Bro. the Rev. J. S. Brownrigg briefly returned thanks in a witty vein, and Bro. R. Eve, in the course of his remarks, said that he owed the privilege of responding on behalf of the Grand Treasurers to the fact that his senior in office—Bro. Marshall—had gone home to bed. Personally he had no such intention. He was not going to be drawn out of that brilliant assembly at so early an hour as nine o'clock. Allusion had been made by the brother who so eloquently proposed the toast of the Grand Officers to the victory he (Bro. Eve) had gained. It was a stubborn fight he had won, and his opponent on that occasion was one of

his best friends. He was also pleased to say that those prominent brethren who had voted against him were also now on terms of the greatest friendship with him. That was a true Masonic spirit, and he hoped that all future elections would be similarly characterised.

Bro. T. Fenn expressed the pleasure it had afforded him to be present that day. Being the third speaker on the list it was rather difficult to steer clear of what the previous speakers had touched upon. Those Grand Officers who were honoured by having the purple conferred upon them felt bound to devote their time still more to further the interests of Masonry to the best of their power. The Grand Secretary was a most painstaking and hard working officer, and he (the speaker) regretted that attendance at a Masonic gathering elsewhere had prevented Bro. Col Shadwell H. Clerke from being present at that brilliant gathering. Personally he was pleased to be present that day to meet their brother the Rt. Hon. the Lord Mayor of London, after whose important Ward the lodge was named. It was gratifying to see that the Lord Mayor took so active an interest in the cause of Freemasonry, more especially as he had very little leisure at his disposal. The official calls upon the time of the Chief Magistrate were necessarily very great, and therefore it was all the more to be commended that he devoted so much time to extraneous matters.

Bros. Col. C. Harding and P. de L. Long having spoken, Bro. Major G. Lambert, in the course of a very able reply, spoke of the pleasure it had afforded him as a Past Grand Officer and Prime Warden of the Goldsmiths' Company to meet the Lord Mayor. He was delighted also to visit a lodge connected with his lordship's Ward, and a lodge which was composed principally of citizens of that great City over which their distinguished brother so ably presided as Chief Magistrate. In concluding his remarks, Bro. Lambert said that on behalf of the Past Grand Sword Bearers of England he greeted the Lord Mayor, and wished him every prosperity as a representative of the great City Companies, as a livery man of the City of London, as the Worshipful Master of the Lodge of Emulation, and as a Grand Steward of England.

"The Health of the W.M." came next.

"The Master—he is a good one,
And his worthiness does challenge much respect."

Bro. the Lord Mayor, in proposing this toast, said that that afternoon, not only as Alderman of the Ward but as Lord Mayor, he had laid the foundation-stone of a drill hall for the use of the 2nd London Rifle Volunteers, which regiment was largely recruited from the Ward of Farringdon Without. He was sorry that the time fixed for the ceremony of laying the stone and the meeting of the lodge that afternoon had clashed. However, he was in a position at the banquet table to be able to personally congratulate Bro. Herbert, a member of his municipal constituency, in being elected and installed as W.M. of No. 1745. He felt assured that the W.M. must have been a good Mason, a good friend, and in possession of the confidence of the brethren to have been elected to preside over so prosperous a lodge. In conclusion he trusted that Bro. Herbert would have health to carry out his onerous duties, and that he would add lustre to the laurels of the Farringdon Without Lodge, a lodge of some importance and Masonic influence, which was evinced by the presence that day of so many distinguished Grand Officers.

Song—"In diesen heiligen hallen." Bro. E. Roberts.

The Worshipful Master having briefly replied, Bro. T. Simpson, P.M., proposed "The Health of the Right Hon. Bro. the Lord Mayor, G.S."

"The Mayor of London comes to greet you
A man of sovereign parts, he is esteemed."

Bro. Simpson said that he had to thank the W.M. for conferring upon him the distinguished honour of proposing the Lord Mayor's health. There were many present who would have done the toast more eloquent justice, but none so zealously as himself. He hoped that the brethren would greet his lordship well, for he was highly deserving of it. Bro. Eve had said that he had had a great fight for the position of Treasurer, and had not the Lord Mayor had to combat and overcome many difficulties in his desire to be Alderman of the Ward of Farringdon Without? In his candidature for that position he had been greatly assisted by many members of that lodge, and they had had the pleasure of seeing him placed high on the poll. Had he (the Lord Mayor) not proved himself to be the right man in the right place. His kindness of heart, his courtesy and urbanity, had won golden opinions from every one, and in conclusion he trusted that the Lord Mayor would be spared many years to preside over their Ward as Alderman, to the great credit of himself and for the advantage of the citizens in general.

Pianoforte solo—"Improvisation on the Belgian and English National airs"—Bro. E. M. Lott, Mus. Doc.

Bro. the Lord Mayor on rising was greeted with great warmth. He said that he felt quite overpowered by the cordial manner in which his health had been received. He could only say that he thanked them all from the bottom of his heart. He owed his friends a great debt of gratitude, and consequently it was his duty, at whatever cost, to discharge the responsibilities of his position to the utmost, that they might not feel disappointed in the choice they had made. He had to thank the lodge for giving him so grand a greeting. He also had to express his acknowledgment to the Grand Officers for honouring him by their presence that day in such goodly numbers. He had likewise to thank them for the kind words that they had used when mentioning his name. He went on to say that he was by heart and soul a Mason. There were many who condemned the Craft, but they were actuated by that curse of humanity, prejudice. The principles of Masonry were good, and its ritual taught nothing else but the practice of Charity and good will. No one appreciated those principles more than he did, and it was gratifying to know that Masonry was spreading not only over this country but the world at large. There were many distinguished brethren of high-mindedness and liberal views who had done their best to prove to the sceptical the beneficial effects of Freemasonry. He held the high position of W.M. of a very old lodge, and he was also a Grand Steward of England, and notwithstanding the pressure of his official duties the brethren had a right to ask him for a portion of his time to discharge those Masonic responsibilities. He would also do his best to further the interests of their truly noble Craft. With regard to his office of Lord Mayor, he had endeavoured hitherto to do his utmost; it was a great undertaking, and his brother citizens were justified in expecting that their confidence in him had not been misplaced, and

he hoped to continue to retain that confidence. In conclusion he thanked his old friend, Bro. Simpson, P.M., for his kind remarks, and further said that it was the Lord Mayor of London who thanked them all for the cordial reception they had accorded him that day, but one who was proud to be called their brother Mason.

Bro. J. Young, P.M., in very flattering terms, proposed "The Health of the Installing Officer"—"A kinder gentleman treads not the earth."

Song, "Good night dear love"—Bro. E. W. Collins.
Bro. T. C. Walls replied, and in his speech gave a brief history of the lodge from its consecration to the present time.

Bro. W. H. Jackson, P.M., gave "The Visitors."

"Well, have you come to us in happy time.
The friends thou hast, and their adoption tried,
Grapple them to thy soul with hoops of steel."

In the course of his speech, Bro. Jackson said that, as a founder of the lodge, he felt proud that so numerous a gathering of visitors had assembled to welcome the Lord Mayor. The 28th day of May, 1888, would, indeed, be a red-letter day in the history of the lodge. It had been a highly successful meeting throughout, and he was convinced that the brethren who had visited the lodge, and those who had honoured them with their presence at the banquet, would carry away the most agreeable recollections of one of the most pleasurable meetings that he (the speaker) had ever attended. It was very rarely, indeed, that an installation meeting of a lodge was honoured, not only by such a galaxy of Grand Officers, but by many distinguished Past Masters who had not attained to the dignity of the purple. The list of visitors was a formidable one, and all could not respond, but the W.M. had desired him to couple the names of Bros. Sheriff Higgs, C. Greenwood, P.M.; C. Belton, P.M.; George Everett, P.M.; G. Manners, C.C., P.M.; B. Turner, C.C., P.M.; W. Malthouse, C.C., P.M.; R. L. Loveland, P.M.; and Farnfield, P.G.S.B., with the toast.

Song, "Mid the glory" ("King Arthur")—Bro. John Probert.

In consequence of the lateness of the hour, some of the brethren selected to respond had left. However, Bros. Sheriff Higgs, C. Greenwood, B. Turner, and W. Malthouse ably responded on behalf of themselves and their confrères.

The Worshipful Master then gave "The Past Masters."

"Men endued with worthy qualities.
Call them generally, man by man, according to the scrip."

The W.M. said the lodge owed a great deal to the P.M.'s The members and their friends had had a glorious and most successful meeting. He was behind the scenes, and would tell them that Bros. Jackson, Walls, and H. J. Lardner had borne the whole brunt of the work. The latter brother in particular had worked very hard, and was deserving of every praise that could be lavished upon him. He was an excellent Treasurer, and his books were models of penmanship and clearness. Bro. Jackson had been their Secretary for nine years, and was in every respect a most useful officer. As the hour was late, he should couple the toast with the name of Bro. J. Strugnell, as the other Past Masters had spoken, or would have to speak, in connection with other toasts.

Song, "Where'er you walk"—Bro. R. Groome.

Bro. James Strugnell having replied in a modest but pertinent speech.

Bro. H. J. Lardner, in a speech of some merit, gave "The Masonic Institutions."

"To seek thy help by beneficial aid,
Try all the funds thou hast in Ephesus.
Beg them to borrow, to make up the sum."

Bro. Lardner said that, perhaps, he might make a mistake in the few figures he quoted, but he hoped that that would not depreciate the cause he pleaded. In speaking of the great strides the Charities had made since their foundation, he said that in 1788 the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls had but 15 inmates, it had now 244. Since the last century 1500 children had been fed, clothed, and educated, truly a great success. In 1798 the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys was founded, and from small beginnings it had arrived at a high state of prosperity, there being now 258 boys located within its walls. There had been 1800 boys provided for during those 90 years. A great deal of the success of the Institution was due to the zealous efforts of Bro. F. Binckes, whose presence that night he had been pleased to see. The Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution was of later date, but that Institution also owed a vast amount of gratitude to their popular and hard-working brother, James Terry. He was one of those who belied that the funds of a lodge should not be all expended in the social amenities of life. It was gratifying to him to know that No. 1745 had not been behind in its support of the Institutions. Several of the Past Masters were great supporters of those Charities, notably Bro. H. B. Marshall. In conclusion, he trusted that the forthcoming Festivals of the Girls' and Boys' Institutions would be great successes. He was a Steward of both, and he was pleased to say that his lists were fairly good ones.

Song—"The Polyglot"—Bro. Louis Paul.

Bro. Binckes, in reply, after having expressed his regret that Bro. J. Terry had been compelled to leave, and that Bro. Hedges was unable to attend that meeting, said that, in the presence of the Chief Magistrate of the City of London, who was also the able and accomplished occupant of the chair of No. 21, he felt honoured in being called upon to respond to the Masonic Institutions. They all looked upon the Mansion House as the great centre of cosmopolitan benevolence, and many of the Lord Mayors had been successful advocates of Masonic Charity. After speaking in kindly terms of the sister Institutions, he said that he hoped to enlist their sympathies with regard to the Boys' Festival, which he trusted would receive a few crumbs from the rich's man table, in order to carry on the actual requirements of the School. In conclusion, he said that it needed no words of his to point out the advantages of the three Institutions, which were justly the pride of the Order of English Freemasons. In 10 years they would celebrate the centenary of the Boys' School, and, although he could not hope to see that event, yet he trusted that it would be a greater success even than that of the Girls' in 1888. He wished the Farringdon Without Lodge every prosperity, and he personally thanked Bro. Lardner for his advocacy of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

The Worshipful Master then gave "The Officers."

"They know their Master,
You walk with us on either hand,
And good supporters are you."

The toast was responded to by Bros. Schultz, S.W., and Suskind, J.W.

Sang—"Vulcan's Song—'Philemon et Baucis'"—Bro. Egbert Roberts.

The Tyler's toast followed.

"Our trusty servant, well approved in all."

Great praise is due to Bro. Dr. Lott and the artists, whose musical efforts gave the most unqualified satisfaction. The Treasurer is also to be congratulated upon the trouble he took in preparing the above list of toasts and quotations.

RYDE (I. of W.).—East Medina Lodge (No. 175).—At the meeting on Wednesday, the 16th ult., a handsome banner was presented to the W.M., Bro. O. Gabell, for the use of the lodge. The design, which was given by Bro. F. Newman, is an artistic arrangement of Masonic symbols, which has been beautifully and gratuitously worked by Miss Senior, in gold, and coloured embroidery on a blue satin ground, the materials having been furnished by subscriptions among the brethren at the instance of Bro. C. Carter. Several additional portraits were the same evening added to the "Past Masters' gallery."

NEWHAM-ON-SEVERN.—Royal Forest of Dean Lodge (No. 1067).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, the 22nd ult., at the Town Hall, when there were present Bros. S. W. Woods, W.M.; W. G. Roberts, S.W.; S. W. Hadingham, J.W.; T. Cadle, P.M., Treas.; M. F. Carter, P.M., Sec.; Wm. Spence, J.D.; J. Shaw Carleton, P.M., D.C.; Job Webb, Tyler; W. C. Heane, P.M.; A. Parker, P.M.; J. T. Nundy, A. M. Irwin, A. D. Pringle, and Charles Carlisle.

The lodge having been opened, the ceremony of passing Bro. A. M. Irwin was performed by Bro. J. Shaw Carleton, P.M. The Rev. A. D. Pringle and Chas. Carlisle were initiated by Bro. Thos. Cadle, P.M. A ballot was taken for a W.M. for the ensuing year, when Bro. W. G. Roberts, S.W., was duly elected. Bro. Thos. Cadle, P.M., was re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. Job Webb, re-elected Tyler.

BIRMINGHAM.—St. Paul's Lodge (No. 43).—At the meeting of this lodge, held at the Masonic Hall, New-street, on Monday, the 28th ult., Bro. J. W. Davis, W.M., had the honour of having Mr. Jamsidjee Sorabjee Bhumgara and Mr. Nusserbanjee Framjee Bhumgara presented to him as two candidates for initiation. This is the first time that a Parsee has been initiated in Birmingham, and as they appeared wearing their full oriental costume, the ceremony was most imposing, and there was consequently a crowded lodge, amongst the visitors present being Bros. J. Pursall, P.P.S.G.W.; E. A. Lingard, P.P.S.G.W.; R. Barber, W.M. 1872; and G. Poppleton, I.P.M. 1753; and the lodge was represented by Bros. G. Beech, P.G. Sec., P.G.S.B. (Hon. Mem.); S. Lyon, I.P.M., P.P.G.S.B.; M. Davis, P.P.S.G.D.; and W. H. Sproston, P.P.G.W.

Letters of regret at not being able to be present were read from the Rt. Hon. Lord Leigh, Bro. J. T. Collins, D.P.G.M., and many more well-known brethren.

After the business of the lodge was done the members and visitors retired to partake of refreshments.

The Bros. Bhumgara, in responding to the toast of "The Newly-initiated," thanked the brethren for their great kindness in admitting them as one of their body, and hoped the time would come when they would be able to return the kindness in Bombay.

YORK.—Agricola Lodge (No. 1991).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, the 28th ult., at the Masonic Rooms, Castlegate, when there were present Bros. A. M. White, W.M.; Captain F. Hewson, P.M., P.D.G.D. Malta; J. H. Taylor, S.W.; J. E. Wilkinson, J.W.; J. Wilson, Chap.; J. Eccles, Treas.; Capt. J. Thompson, Sec.; W. H. Higham, S.D.; T. Laverack, D. of C.; J. Sutcliffe, Org.; T. N. Lathom, I.G.; E. Osborne, Tyler; D. Young and J. W. Dow, Stwds.; E. Atkinson, and A. Sollitt. Visitors: Bros. A. Sample, P.P.G. Org. N. and E. Yorks, Org. 236; W. N. Stimpson, 236; and J. Horner, 1611.

The lodge was opened, and after confirmation of the minutes, Bros. the Hon. W. T. Orde-Powlett, D.P.G.M. N. and E. Yorks; the Rev. W. C. Lukis, P.P.G. Chap. W. Yorks; and W. Reynolds, P.M., P.G. Treas. N. and E. Yorks, were unanimously elected honorary members of the lodge. A ballot was also unanimously taken in favour of three gentlemen for admission into the Craft, two of whom being in attendance were duly initiated by the W.M., who then passed another brother to the Second Degree. The W.M., on behalf of Bro. J. Atkinson, presented to the lodge a handsome pair of ashlar (in white marble), for which a hearty vote of thanks was voted by acclamation to Bro. Atkinson.

"Hearty good wishes" were exchanged with Lodges Nos. 236, 349, and 1611, and on the completion of the business the lodge was closed, the remainder of the evening being most enjoyably spent in social discourse, &c., the proceedings being enlivened with glees, songs, recitations, &c., by the members and visitors present.

INSTRUCTION.

TEMPERANCE LODGE (No. 169).—A meeting was held on Friday, the 1st inst., at the Railway Tavern, New Cross-road. Present: Bros. J. G. Dale, W.M.; Lazarus, S.W.; Wells, J.W.; H. A. Dale, S.D.; Burgin, J.D.; Cracknell, I.G.; Talbot, acting Preceptor; Vellenoweth, Sec.; Webb, Best; Roberson, Ladd, Vasser, and Gedny.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Webb personating candidate. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree. Bro. Ladd was examined and entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and the ceremony of raising rehearsed, Bro. Ladd candidate. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree. The W.M. rose for the first time, and Bros. Roberson, 169, Best, 879, and Gedny, 1663, were unanimously elected members, and the dues were collected. The W.M. rose for the second time, and Bro. Lazarus was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week. The W.M. rose for the third time, and, all Masonic business being ended, the lodge was closed.

whole length of the building is 180 feet. It has 12 other rooms, including a large billiard room, club room, kitchen, and wine cellars, a lift running through all the floors from the basement. The ceilings of the halls are so joisted as to form a dome-like structure. The windows are arched and groined into the roof in the upper room, which has proscenium arches, one broad elliptic in the centre, and a semi-arch on either side, and when finished will be one of the handsomest halls outside the Metropolis.

On the occasion in question the bare walls were hidden by flags kindly lent for the occasion by Bros. Col. Hughes, M.P., and Capt. W. Weston, P.M. 1536, and P.P.S.G.D. Kent; the latter brother also provided several handsome designs in the shape of stars formed of sword bayonets, ramrods, &c., while banks of flowers both in the lodge and banquet room added a rare charm to the place. The latter were placed at the disposal of the Committee by Mr. G. Bryceson and Mr. Newman. For the especial accommodation of the ladies, of whom a large number were present, a temporary stand had been erected on the land exactly opposite the memorial stone, so they had every opportunity of witnessing the spectacle in comfort. An orchestra, led by Bro. Robert Anderson, played selections during the banquet; and the police regulations, under the superintendence of Bro. Inspector Clarke, were simply perfect. There was an immense attendance of spectators, and every coign of vantage in the neighbourhood was eagerly sought by young and old of all classes.

Shortly after 2 p.m. the Pattison Lodge, No. 913, having been opened by the W.M., Bro. C. H. Lawson, it was announced that Bros. Earl Amherst, P.G.M., J. S. Eastes, D.P.G.M., and other brethren sought admission, and in due course his lordship, preceded by the officers of the province present, in reverse order, entered the lodge and assumed the chair, the W.M. handing him the gavel for that purpose. The Wardens then vacated their chairs to the Prov. G. Wardens, viz., Bros. the Rev. Hayman Cummings, M.A., P.S.G.W., and H. Penfold, P.J.G.W. Bro. H. Ward, P.J.G.W., acting as D.C., then called upon the brethren to salute the P.G.M. with the honours of nine, which was followed by the D.P.G.M. being saluted with the honours of five.

The P.G.M. then rose and briefly addressed the brethren. He expressed his satisfaction at witnessing so large a gathering of Freemasons to inaugurate a new home for Masonry in the province. It was a good omen to see these homs springing up on every side, but nowhere did they so much abound and flourish as in the Province of Kent. He trusted that that splendid building would be the stronghold of the Pattison and United Military Lodges for generations to come. A procession was then formed.

His lordship was then conducted to the south-west corner of the building, where the inscription stone hung poised ready for his handiwork.

Lord Amherst and the whole of the brethren were attired in Masonic costume, and there being between two and three hundred of them, the spectacle was an imposing one, which appeared greatly to interest the spectators, who crowded the adjacent thoroughfares, and hung from every window of the surrounding houses. Bro. F. Tyler, Org. 913, the Organist of the lodge, led an efficient choir, and was assisted by Mr. W. Wells and a well selected orchestra. After the brethren had taken up their allotted positions the 100th Psalm was sung, and Bro. Butler then presented a silver trowel to the Prov. Grand Master, and invited him to lay the stone. The Prov. Grand Chap., Bro. the Rev. T. A. Curties, M.A., F.S.A., then offered prayer, and the brethren entrusted with the coins and newspapers deposited them in the cavity under the stone. Thereupon his lordship spread the mortar, and ordered the stone to be lowered, which was done very slowly, the choir the while singing an anthem, in which solos were taken by Bros. Clifton and Ledger. The stone having been tried by plumb, level, and square, and declared truly laid, Earl Amherst scattered upon it the corn as an emblem of plenty, then poured wine upon it as earnest of joy and gladness, and oil as an assurance of peace and harmony. All present then chanted the 150th Psalm, and the Prov. Grand Master, after examining the plans, presented the tools (manufactured by Bro. George Kenning, London), which he had used to the builder, Bro. Coombs. After this, the National Anthem was sung by the whole assembly, and the D.C. called for three cheers for "The Queen," which was heartily responded to by the vast assembly, and the brethren then returned to the lodge room, where the business of the day was concluded.

Luncheon was served in the upper hall for about 200 guests, many of whom were ladies, but all who had failed to provide themselves with tickets before-hand were doomed to disappointment, the demand being so much in excess of expectation. It was admirably served by Bro. Mason, P.M., and gave unlimited satisfaction.

Bro. H. J. BUTTER, Chairman of the Masonic Buildings Company, presided at the banquet, but was unfortunately suffering from a temporary loss of voice. In a few words, which were scarcely audible, he apologised for his infirmity, and transferred to the brethren around him the duty of proposing the various toasts, other than the leading toast of "The Queen and the Craft," which he himself gave from the chair.

Bro. the Rev. H. CUMMINGS proposed "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," expressing the delight which every Mason enjoyed in having at their head such an excellent Grand Master, and the admiration of the whole Craft of his devotion amid so many avocations to the business of this vast and magnificent Order.

The Prov. G. Chaplain, Bro. CURTIS, proposed "The Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Carnarvon, and the remainder of the Grand Officers."

The toast was acknowledged by Bro. KELLY THORPE, P.G. Treas., P.G.S.B. Eng., who hailed with gratification the new departure in Freemasonry which had been taken by the brethren in Plumstead.

Bro. LAWSON, W.M. Pattison Lodge, having expressed his regret at the inability of the chairman to propose the next toast, gave "The Health of the R.W. Prov. Grand Master, Earl Amherst." His lordship had not only ruled over the province for 21 years, but had closely, industriously, and unflinchingly identified himself with the interests of the Craft, and had endeared himself to Freemasons wherever his name was heard. Those now assembled welcomed his lordship among them with joy and gratitude, and their respect and affection for him would be refreshed and renewed by the proceedings of that auspicious day.

Earl AMHERST, addressing the guests as "Ladies and brethren," observed that he was somewhat perplexed by

the peculiar circumstance of having to address a Masonic gathering in the presence of the ladies. He was heartily glad, however, to see such a happy addition to their strength, and would say, in reply to the toast, no more than that the duties of carrying on the affairs of a large province like that involved of necessity some labour, time, and trouble, for which he was fully rewarded by the support and assistance which he received from every one of his brethren. For the work they did he claimed the ladies' sympathy, seeing that the be-all and end-all of their efforts was Charity—the virtue implanted in every true woman's heart. Whether the day would ever come when Freemasonry would open its doors to the ladies he could not foretell, and it was impossible to say to what extent the gentler sex would profit by the example of their sister in the clock-case, but he was sure that, whether within or without the borders of Freemasonry, there would be no more devoted supporters of the good cause than the ladies. He had never presided at a meeting which gave him more pleasure than this, and he congratulated the town and neighbourhood on the possession of an edifice which could not fail to be an ornament and convenience, and of especial service to the cause of Freemasonry.

Bro. Col. HUGHES, M.P., proposed the toast of "The Deputy Prov. G.M., Bro. Eastes, and the rest of the Prov. Grand Officers," and, after commenting upon the distinguished array of brethren assembled from all parts of the province, heartily complimented the founders of the building, the architect, and all concerned in their speedy and successful efforts. He was gratified at seeing such a place in the parish in which he lived, and thanked the brethren who had honoured them by being present upon so joyful an occasion.

Bro. EASTES, in response, said he was proud to see what the Masons had accomplished in that part of the province, and congratulated them on having acquired so noble and useful a building. He also rejoiced in the knowledge he possessed of the zeal and earnestness which animated the brethren of those parts, of their great and prosperous lodges, and their devotion to the true tenets of the Order. He foresaw that that noble house would give yet another impetus to the cause of Freemasonry in that district; that many more good and excellent brethren would be made within its walls; and that the lodges of Plumstead would be nourished and strengthened therein, growing still stronger and more influential and more fervent in the cause which was centred in the heart of every honest Mason.

Earl AMHERST next proposed "The Board of Directors," remarking that it must have needed no slight determination to undertake, to plan, and to create such an extensive work, and that the financial difficulties alone must have demanded great courage. He hoped they would find sufficient funds to complete the building without incumbrance, and did not doubt that the spirit which had accomplished so much would carry on the work to the end. He understood that the building was not to be restricted to Masonic uses, and had no doubt that the whole of the neighbourhood would appreciate and take advantage of it. He expressed sincere regret that Bro. Butler, whose energy and eloquence were so well known, should have been debarred on the day of his especial triumph from joining in their exclamations of rejoicing, but they could all heartily congratulate him upon the encouraging progress and hopeful promise of his work.

Bro. R. J. COOK, P.M., Deputy Chairman, responded to the toast, and expressed a hope that before the day concluded all the necessary funds would be obtained to complete the decoration and furnishing of their temple.

Bro. A. PENFOLD, P.M., proposed "The Health of the W.M. of the Pattison Lodge," and attributed to his energy and good management much of the success of their undertaking. It was a work in which all who shared might feel a laudable pride, for they had done something to leave a mark on time, and to hand down to posterity a monument which would show the kind of Masons they had in the present generation.

Bro. LAWSON, W.M., in reply, observed that the past year had been an anxious and trying one, especially to the brethren of the Pattison Lodge. It was no light obligation to incur the responsibilities of a work entailing a cost of three or four thousand pounds, but they had been generously supported by the brethren, and he had never gone to a lodge for help and come empty away. Funds had been found sufficient so far, and a l they wanted was about £700 to complete. When he remembered that on one night the Pattison Lodge alone subscribed £800, he did not despair of raising the required amount that very day.

Bro. J. J. COLLINS, speaking from the lower end of the hall, said that he and his brethren had been at work there, and he read out a list of subscribers for new shares to the value of £250.

Bro. LAWSON said he also had subscribers for £100 at his end of the room, and added that no doubt the advanced state and noble aspect of their temple would encourage all the help they needed. He said they had been very happy in their architect, Bro. Johnson, and their builder, Bro. Coombs, both of whom had been selected without favour by public competition, and had done their work conscientiously and well. He proposed their health, which was very heartily given.

Bro. J. JOHNSON, in his response, said it had been his ambition to plan a Masonic temple, and he was much gratified at the style in which the work was progressing.

Bro. COOMBS also responded. Bro. KEEBLE, J.W., proposed "The Ladies," remarking that many of them had been so much struck with the day's experiences that they were talking of joining a lodge to be called "The Pattison Lodge for Ladies." That was, of course, on condition that they had the approval of the Right Worshipful Prov. Grand Master, whom they were all so glad to welcome, and would like to see again very soon. The ladies would give him a good excuse if he would come and open their lodge, and there was only one point about which they hesitated, which was how to keep the secrets. They thought of having a saving clause by which they should be allowed to tell each other, with a strict injunction that it should go no further. But that was the difficulty that stopped them for the present.

"The Visitors" having been toasted, Bro. H. GREEN, P.G.R. Kent, responded, and the proceedings were brought to a close with a cordial toast to "The Health of the Chairman."

Bros. Batchelor, Clifton, Ledger, and others contributed songs, and the orchestra performed selections between the speeches, and during the evening a dance was improvised in the lower hall, at which the younger brethren and their

belongings footed it merrily till 10 p.m. The whole affair was most successful and enjoyable, and reflected the highest credit upon the Stewards and Committee, headed by Bros. Lawson and Mason.

Among the other brethren present whose names were in the attendance book were: Bros. Rev. R. Jamblin, M.A., P.M. 1837, P.P.G. Chap.; J. Brock, P.M. 299, P.S.G.D.; W. Greig, W.M. 299, P.G.P.; G. Kenneday, P.M. 1536, P.G. Stwd.; J. Allud, P.M. 615, P.P.G.D.C.; Col. A. Richardson, P.M. 1331, P.P.G.R. Hants; W. G. Batchelor, P.M. 548, P.P.G. S.B. Surrey; Capt. G. Spinks, P.M. 1536, P.P.G. Std. Br.; E. West, P.M. 1472, P.P.S.G.D. Herts; T. Hastings, P.M. 829, P.P.G.P.; R. Pidcock, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C. Sussex; Joseph Storey, P.M. 1107, P.P.G.S. of W.; N. Martin, P.M. 299, P.P.S.G.D.; N. Brown, P.M.; H. Syer, P.M.; G. H. Milbourne, W.M.; W. Tailby, S.W.; S. Appleby, W. Warren, L. Chasteaneuf, S.D.; and J. Dixon, of 13; R. J. Naylor, W.M.; J. Warren, P.M.; J. H. Roberts, P.M.; J. Sanderson, P.M.; J. Wilkins, P.M.; C. Sweeting, P.M.; J. Rowland, P.M.; T. Oviden, P.M.; W. Webber, J.W.; S. Southgate, S.D.; J. McCollough, J.D.; W. Lawson, A.D.C.; A. Webb, A. Mitchell, Dr. J. Tees, T. Wray, H. Tufnell, H. Porter, B. J. Hancock, G. N. Nichols, H. Pamment, and G. T. Taylor, of 700; W. Doddrell, W.M.; G. Mitchell, P.M., and H. King, S.W. of 615; Dr. H. Burney, P.M.; J. S. Mutch, P.M.; F. G. Nichols, W.M.; Capt. J. Sculey, P.M.; and G. Austin, J.W., of 706; W. Moulds, P.M.; Quartermaster Rankin, A. Murdock, J.W.; H. Frouz, W. Carrison, W. Musquin, and J. D. Rollinson, of 1536; W. Hewett, J.W. 957; H. Lawson, J.D. 1789; G. Groves, 1789; T. Reeves, Stwd. 1472; J. Coombes, P.M. 829; H. Martin, 829; G. W. Kenneday, 829; R. Roberts, 742; J. Johnston, H. W. Church, 1973; E. W. Carter, P.M. 858; S. Horton, T. H. Day, 1227; J. Manger, 1260; J. Mason, 1567; H. Hickman, 1662; J. McGrigor, W. T. Vincent, P.M.; T. Barry, P.M.; C. Jolly, P.M. (Hon. Member); W. Sanders, I.G.; Dr. E. Bryceson, and C. J. Clapham, Stwd., of 913; J. Larder, Tyler; W. Lock, C. Hartnup, W. Young, J. Hooton, K. Ginman, D. C. Capon, A. Wallis, J. C. Mitchell, H. Barrett, D. Davis, W. F. Heyward, J. F. Franklin, W. Harris, R. Turrell, W. Rahtz, H. Malings, G. H. Letton, E. M. Taylor, W. T. Buckley, G. Frost, G. Laurance, F. Estler, C. Hager, A. D. Capon, W. B. Ledger, H. Grafton, D. K. Somers, J. Farrier, E. Lewis, A. Moore, W. C. Taylor, A. W. Jackson, G. H. Campbell, C. W. Scantlebury, G. W. Clifton, J. O. Cook, W. H. Pryce, H. Stewart, J. J. Collins, F. Hoar, W. Batchelor, G. W. Foster, R. Hammond, L. Mills, W. Murphy, J. Widger, Bull, and others, all of the lodge.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The regular monthly meeting was held at Freemasons' Hall on Saturday last. Bro. Richard Eve, Past G. Treas., presided, and, owing to its being the day appointed for the election of the House and Audit Committees for the ensuing year, the attendance was an unusually full one.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and verified, and those of the House Committee having been read for information, Scrutineers were appointed for the election, and Bro. J. A. Farnfield, P.A.G.D.C., having been proposed as Chairman for the purpose of the scrutiny, seven petitions were considered, six of them being accepted and the names ordered to be entered on the list for the October election, while the remaining one was deferred.

Two applications for grants towards outfit were favourably entertained, and the Secretary announced the receipt from Grand Lodge of £1000, being the second moiety of the grant made last year in commemoration of the Queen's Jubilee.

The poll, which closed at 5 p.m., was declared shortly afterwards, with the result that the remaining 11 members of last year's House Committee, together with Bro. John Wordsworth in place of the late Bro. Edgar Bowyer, were elected by an overwhelming majority of votes, the opposition poll reaching 39, while the numbers for the individual members of the new Committee ranged from 179 to 171. The old Audit Committee was also re-elected by a majority almost equally great, the numbers for individual members ranging from 173 to 160, while the outside candidate polled 37.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the proceedings.

The following is a list of those elected:—
House Committee.—Bros. Charles Belton, A. F. Godson, M.P., H. W. Hunt, J. L. Mather, James Moon, T. Hastings Miller, J. Joyce Murray, William Paas, F. W. Ramsay, M.D., Dudley Rolls, Henry Venn, and John Wordsworth.

Finance and Audit Committee.—Bros. Thomas Cuthbert, G. P. Gillard, H. S. Goodall, T. Griffiths, C. F. Hogard, William Maple, S. Richardson, C. E. Soppet, and Henry Young.

PRESENTATIONS TO BRO. W. H. WOOLDRIDGE.

On the occasion of his marriage with Miss Mitchell, daughter of the late Col. Mitchell, a distinguished officer in her Majesty's Indian Army, several presentations of a public or semi-public nature have been made to Bro. W. H. Wooldridge, 1869, testifying to the high esteem in which he is held by those with whom he has been associated in various capacities. One of these presentations took place at the Bugle Hotel, Newport, Isle of Wight, on Saturday afternoon, the 19th ult., when Bro. White-Popham, on behalf of the Council of the Isle of Wight Conservative Association, presented Bro. Wooldridge with a remarkably fine clock.

In so doing Bro. WHITE-POPHAM referred to the invaluable services which, during many years, Bro. Wooldridge had rendered to the Conservative cause in the Island, and had rendered to the Conservative cause in the Island, and to the warm esteem in which he was held, not only by the party, but by all who knew him. He heartily congratulated him on his marriage, and cordially wished him and his wife every happiness and prosperity.

Bro. WOOLDRIDGE thanked them one and all for their great kindness.

The clock, which is a repeating one, is fitted with the Westminster and Cambridge chimes. The case is of ebony

and gold, and the clock forms an exceedingly handsome object. A plate in front bears the following inscription: Presented by the Council of the Isle of Wight Conservative Association to W. H. Wooldridge Esq., on the occasion of his marriage, in recognition of his services to the Conservative cause."

The members of the Sandown Conservative Club, on the same auspicious occasion, have presented Bro. Wooldridge with a handsome writing case, suitably inscribed, and the Sandown Lodge, No. 1869, of which Bro. Wooldridge was one of the founders, has given him a superb silver salver, the presents being accompanied by all good wishes and cordial expressions of personal regard.

If not too late in the day, we should like to add our felicitations, and to heartily wish Bro. and Mrs. Wooldridge every happiness.

Obituary.

BRO. G. P. BROCKBANK, P.G. STD. BR.

On Saturday last, the Province of East Lancashire sustained a severe loss by the sudden demise of one of its most zealous and active members—Bro. George Parker Brockbank, of Bolton, P.P.S.G.D., and P.G. Std. Br. of England. Deceased was one of the best known and hardest working Masons in the province. He had for some time past been subject to chronic bronchitis, but of late had been much better, and attended to his business matters and Masonic duties with almost more than usual activity. So recently as the previous Friday he was in Manchester on Masonic business, and returned to his residence, Gray's-terrace, St. George's-road, Bolton, about half-past six in the evening, apparently as well as he had been for some months past. He occupied himself during the evening by writing several letters, the last one being a letter to a well-known London brother, condoling with him on the death of his son. He retired to rest between 10 and 11 o'clock, still apparently in his usual health. About half-past one on Saturday morning, however, he was seized by a violent attack of coughing. He got out of bed, but the coughing in no sense abated, and eventually the strain was so great, that he burst a small blood vessel in the head. Dr. Derham, his next-door neighbour, was promptly in attendance, and as soon as possible was followed by Dr. Gillibrand, but it was quickly seen that there was no hope of the patient's recovery. Bro. Brockbank very soon became unconscious, and after lingering for close upon seven hours quietly passed away. Our lamented brother was born on the 13th April, 1826, and was thus in his 63rd year. As a lad he was a student at the Bolton Grammar School, being cotemporary there with many of Bolton's worthiest citizens, several of whom have pre-deceased him. He started his business career as a clerk in Messrs. Hardcastle and Cross's Bank (now the Manchester and Salford), but subsequently set up in business for himself as an estate agent and accountant. In this capacity, by his unwearying devotion to business, he earned for himself an excellent name, and in 1851 became associated with the Corporation as one of its numerous officials. First he was entrusted simply with a small rate; then in November, 1851, he became collector of the whole of the Little Bolton and Haulgh district rates; and, finally, in 1875, he was appointed collector of the entire borough and district rates. The whole of his duties—in which he was assisted by his eldest son, Mr. George Arthur Brockbank—were most efficiently discharged, and it is estimated that on an average fully £65,000 of Corporate moneys passed through his hands yearly. Owing to his position, Bro. Brockbank never sought public honour; but as the representative of Quarlton on the Board of Guardians and on the Rural Sanitary Authority for five or six years—his term of office only closing with his demise—he applied his energies, heart and soul, to the welfare of his constituents and the community generally. He ever took a deep interest in the working of societies conducive to thrift, and was Secretary to the Bolton Property and Investment Company (Limited), from its formation until recently, when he was elevated to the position of Chairman of Directors. He also officiated as Secretary of the Bolton Finance and Building Company (Limited), from its formation until his decease. But whilst appreciated in many capacities, he won his greatest laurels in Masonry, his wonderful enthusiasm and strict attention to the numerous duties earning for him the goodwill and warmest encomiums of the whole Craft. Referring specially to his Masonic career, we may say that Bro. Brockbank was initiated in the St. John's Lodge, No. 221, Bolton, on the 17th January, 1846, he not having then attained his majority. In January, 1849, he was installed W.M., and besides having been Secretary of the lodge for several years, he held the office of Treasurer continuously from 1870 to 1887. He joined the Anchor and Hope Lodge, No. 37, Bolton, in 1870; he was installed W.M. in 1883; and was Secretary at the time of his death, he having held that office for the last nine or ten years. He also held the office of Treasurer to the lodge in 1876-7. In 1877 he was founder and first W.M. of the St. George's Lodge, No. 1723, of Bolton; he was also Secretary of the Lodge of Fortitude, No. 64, Manchester, of which he was a joining member, he holding the office from 1883 to 1887, and at the time of his death was W.M. elect. His installation as W.M. should have taken place on the 8th inst. if he had been then living. He was affiliated to the Lodge of Edinburgh, No. 1 (Mary's Chapel) in July, 1881, and Mother Kilwinning Lodge in July, 1884. He was exalted in St. John's Royal Arch Chapter, No. 221, in May, 1847, and successively occupied the principal chairs in 1849-50-1. He was a joining member and Past Z. of the Chapter of Concord, No. 37. These services were honourably recognised in the Province of East Lancashire, Bro. Brockbank having been made a Prov. Grand Steward in 1849, and Prov. S.G. Deacon in 1872. He was further honoured by appointment as Grand Standard Bearer of England in 1885. In the Royal Arch Degree, he served the office of Prov. Grand Treasurer in 1873, and Prov. Grand Scribe N. in 1882, and in 1885 was appointed Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies of England. He was P.M. and Treasurer of the St. John's Lodge, Bolton (T.I.), was founder and first W.M. of the Rose and Thistle Lodge, No. 158, Wigan, in 1872, a Past Prov. Grand Warden Lancashire, under both the Scottish and English Constitutions, and a Past Grand Warden of the Mark Grand Lodge of England, by patent of 1872. His career in Templar Masonry dates from 1847, when he was installed in the St. John of Jerusalem Past E.P. of the Royds Preceptory, Manchester, for the warrant of which he was one of the petitioners.

He was a P.P. Grand Constable Lancashire, and a Past 1st Grand Captain of England. In the affiliated Order of Malta he was a Past Prov. Grand 1st Lieutenant. In the Ancient and Accepted Rite he was perfected in the Palatine Rose Croix Chapter, Bolton, in 1856, was founder and M.W.S. of the St. Peter's Chapter, Bolton, 1871, and has been numbered amongst the members of the 32nd Degree for the last two or three years. He was admitted a Knight of the Royal Order of Scotland in 1873, and was successively Prov. Grand Treasurer, Prov. S.G. Warden, Deputy Prov. Grand Master, and Prov. Grand Treasurer Lancashire and Cheshire. He was a member of the Rosicrucian Society of England, became IX. Degree in 1881, and Chief Adept Lancashire in 1883. In the Order of Rome and the Red Cross of Constantine he held the rank of an Intendant General of Division unattached. In addition, he was a Past Grand Steward of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, an honorary member of sundry Masonic bodies, Chairman of the Manchester Masonic Charitable Association, and Vice-Chairman of the East Lancashire Systematic Benevolent Association. Bro. Brockbank had not only qualified as Vice-President of each of the Charitable Institutions of the Order, but had likewise taken upon himself the office of Steward at something like 22 of their Anniversary Festivals. In recognition of Bro. Brockbank's appointment as Grand Standard Bearer of England, a complimentary dinner was given to him in the Freemasons' Hall, Manchester, on July 24th 1885. Col. Starkie, R.W. Prov. Grand Master, presided, and a presentation was made for which £200 had been subscribed. This took the form of an elaborate testimonial on vellum, a silver tea and coffee service, and a complete suit of dress and undress Grand Lodge clothing; the balance of the subscription, amounting to £125, being given, at Bro. Brockbank's wish, to the various Masonic Charities. Bro. Brockbank was the author of several lodge histories for private circulation, which are highly valued by the Craft, and one of these is now in the press. Bro. Brockbank was as well known in London as he was in East Lancashire, and when the Prince of Wales made him a Grand Standard Bearer in Grand Lodge, in 1835, the appointment was hailed with the liveliest satisfaction. His last attendance in London was on the 8th May, when, as Vice-Chairman of the Charity Committee of East Lancashire, along with the Chairman (Bro. J. A. Birch), and the Prov. G. Secretary (Bro. Jno. Chadwick), he represented the province at the election on the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and had he survived, it was his intention to have been present at the Centenary Festival of the Girls' School this week. Deceased's widow survives him, as do also three sons (two married) and an unmarried daughter, and we are sure the numerous admirers of our deceased and lamented brother will deeply sympathise with the survivors in their unexpected and melancholy bereavement. The interment took place on Tuesday, the 5th inst., in the family vault at Tonge Cemetery. The funeral itself was private in character, in deference to the wishes of the family of the deceased brother, but the Freemasons of the town imparted to the sad ceremonial somewhat the appearance of a public demonstration by attending in very large numbers at the Cemetery to testify their sense of the loss sustained in the removal of such a valued member of the Craft. The brethren were not attired in Masonic regalia, but wore white gloves and ties, whilst sprigs of the emblematic acacia were almost universally apparent. The private cortege left the residence of the deceased, 120, St. George's-road, at half-past eleven. The carriage preceding the hearse contained the Rev. Neville Jones, M.A., vicar of St. George's, and Dr. Gillibrand, the deceased brother's medical adviser. The hearse, drawn by four horses, containing the coffin, which was of oak with brass mountings, and enclosing a shell, the inscription being "George Parker Brockbank; died June 2, 1888. Aged 62 years." Carriage containing Mr. G. A. Brockbank, Mr. F. Brockbank, and Mr. C. K. Brockbank, sons of the deceased. Carriage containing Mr. A. Entwisle, nephew; Mr. H. Entwisle, nephew; Mr. Joseph Taylor, brother-in-law; and Mr. G. Brockbank, nephew. Carriage containing the Mayor (Alderman T. Moscrop, J.P.) and Alderman Kevan. Carriage containing Mr. G. Swainson, Borough Treasurer, and Mr. C. R. Hinnell (representing the Town Clerk, Mr. R. G. Hinnell, who was absent in London on Corporation business). Carriage containing Mr. J. Dickinson, President; Mr. George Stirling, Vice-President; Mr. W. Rigby (ex-Vice-President); and Mr. E. Bolton, Secretary, representing the Park Hill Bowling Green Company, Limited, of which the deceased was a shareholder. Carriage containing Alderman Nicholson, J.P., Thomas Graves, M. Burgess, and W. Green (representing the Bolton Permanent Building Society), and R. Hough, jun. Carriage of Alderman Glaister, J.P. (closed.) Carriage of Alderman B. A. Dobson, J.P. (closed.) The cemetery was the centre of attraction to a large assemblage of sorrowing spectators, including some 200 Freemasons, the Province of East Lancashire being well represented. Amongst those who signed the roll at the entrance to the cemetery gates were the following: Bros. Geo. Mellor, Deputy Prov. G.M.; John Chadwick, Past G.S.B., Prov. G. Sec.; J. L. Hine, P.P.S.G.W.; Jas. Walker, P.P. J.G.W.; E. G. Harwood, P.P.J.G.W.; T. J. Hooper, P.P.G. Treas.; W. Nichol, P.P.G. Treas.; J. F. Tweedale, P.P.G. Reg.; Thos. Chorlton, P.P.G. Reg.; J. M. Rutter, P.P.G. Reg.; N. Nicholson, Prov. S.G.D.; Peter Royle, M.D., P.P.S.G.D.; James Newton, P.P. S.G.D., Prov. A.G. Sec.; J. W. Taylor, P.P.S.G.D.; W. J. Cunliffe, P.P.S.G.D.; James Holmes, P.P.J.G.D.; Stephen Smith, P.P.G.S. of W.; J. W. Kenyon, P.P.G.S. of W.; R. Herwood, P.P.G.S. of W.; John Morris, P.P.G.S. of W.; Wm. Nicholson, P.P.G.S.B.; Richard Duxbury, P.P.G.S.B.; Wm. Cooper, Prov. G. Std. Br.; John Alcock, P.P.G. Std. Br.; Wm. Bostock, P.P.G. Std. Br.; Henry Greenwood, P.P.G. Purst.; R. R. Lissenden, Prov. G. Stwd.; E. W. Irving, Prov. G. Stwd.; James Horrocks, P.P.G. Stwd.; Thos. Higson, Prov. G. Tyler; R. H. Swindlehurst, P.P.G.S.B. Cheshire; F. A. Huet, P.P.G. Purst. Staffordshire; also the following members of deceased's mother lodge, viz.: Bros. Jas. Walker, I.P.M.; R. Cueden, S.W.; John Mitchell, P.M.; Thos. Morris, P.M.; E. Melrose, P.M.; J. Boothroyd, P.M.; W. Wadeson, P.M.; Wm. Hewitt, P.M.; J. F. Elliston, J. J. Bentley, T. S. Atkinson, W. H. Brown, D. W. Stevenson, H. Critchley, H. B. Truman, John Ratcliffe, Louis Holschild, W. Bryce, R. Marginson, W. H. Bridge, J. Seddon, Jonas Fletcher, and members of other lodges: Bros. W. H. Lomax, W.M.; Jas. Naylor, S.W.; J. W. Poyntz, P.M.; W. H. Horrocks, P.M.; Thos. Cooper, J. W. Thompson, Thos. Murphy, Wm. Golding, Geo. Crowther, G. E. Greenhalgh,

Thos. Barnes, and H. L. Hinnell, of 37; W. Downs, S.W.; Hy. Ainsworth, P.M.; R. Horridge, P.M.; J. Dooley, P.M.; J. F. Skelton, P.M.; Wm. Bromley, Wm. Long, N. Tyldsley, John Baldshaw, T. Hamer, J. G. Carter, W. J. Field, W. Harrison, H. Walker, and John Binns, of 146; James Eckersley, S.W.; Geo. Barnes, J.W.; Samuel Barrett, P.M.; W. Crankshaw, P.M.; J. Partington, P.M.; R. H. Phillips, P.M.; E. Gregory, Morris, N. Yates, W. Greenwood, R. Hampson, R. Williamson, W. Pollitt, C. Holgate, W. Green, W. Baron, James Mantell, and T. H. Heyes, of 348; W. E. Bardsley, W.M.; M. Fielding, J.W.; T. H. Greenhalgh, P.M.; W. Blain, P.M.; John Bromley, P.M.; John Barrett, P.M.; T. B. Tong, P.M.; J. W. Forbes, Thos. Arden, H. M. Staveley, J. Ratcliffe, T. E. Smith, W. Altham, W. Townsend, Robert Gowanlock, and Thomas Morris, of 1723; James Wilson, P.M. 317; Joseph Rawlinson, 381; William Bleaskey and T. Hayes, 678; J. T. Cattlow, W.M. 1088; and G. A. Mort, P.M. 1354. Arrived at the cemetery, the brethren stood in lines on each side of the pathway leading to the mortuary chapel, and the mournful cortege passed slowly through. The procession also included, in addition to those already mentioned, Dr. Sargeant, Medical Officer of Health; Mr. Rowland Taylor, Borough Coroner; Messrs. J. Greenhalgh, W. H. Hutchinson, J. Wood, B. Brown, F. Fogg, and R. Hampson. The ceremony inside the chapel and at the grave side was conducted by the Rev. N. Jones, vicar of St. George's, and the scene was a most impressive one. The three sons of the deceased brother scattered lovely flowers on the coffin after it had been lowered into the grave, and at the conclusion the brethren dropped in their sprigs of acacia which they had previously worn. The melancholy procession was then re-formed, and the sorrowing crowd left the cemetery. The wreaths which were deposited on the coffin were many and beautiful. The one sent by the brethren was a gem of floral design and beauty, the Masonic emblem of the square and compasses displayed in white roses, surrounded by numerous lilies, &c. Wreaths had been contributed by the following: Messrs. W. Forest, B. Brown, R. Hough, J. Galloway, J. Naylor, F. Morris, T. Murphy, J. F. Ellison, J. Booth, Mrs. Brockbank and children, Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Brockbank, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Brockbank, Mr. and Mrs. A. Entwisle, Mrs. J. M. Brockbank and family, Mr. and Mrs. Lythgoe, Mrs. George Ferguson, Mrs. Entwisle, Mrs. F. Ferguson, Mrs. Smethurst, Mrs. Pennington, Mrs. Cooke, Mrs. J. Bland, the Masonic lodges of Bolton, and the Park Hill Bowling Green Company (Limited). The arrangements for the funeral were carried out by Mr. W. Nicholson (superintended by Mr. Simpson), and Bros. Newton, Morris, and Taylor acted as D.C.'s. After the interment the brethren adjourned to the Freemasons' Hall, where Bro. Cueden, S.W. 221 (the mother lodge of the deceased), presided, in the absence of the W.M., Bro. Siddorn, through illness. The chairman announced that they had been called together to pass a vote of condolence with the widow and family of the departed brother, for which purpose he called upon Bro. Lomax, W.M. 37, who briefly moved the formal resolution, which was seconded by Bro. Downs, S.W. 146, and carried. Bros. Newton, Cooper, Howarth, Alcock, and Nicholson were elected a committee to carry out the resolution, on the motion of Bro. Horrocks, P.M. 348, seconded by Bro. Tong, I.P.M. 1723. Bro. Chadwick, Prov. G.S., was called upon for a few observations, but said he felt unequal to the task, as the loss to him was a very great one. Bro. P. Royle, No. 64, P.S.G.D. East Lancashire, in response to a similar request, said Bro. Brockbank would leave a great void, and would be very difficult for anyone to follow, not to say rival, in his means of usefulness. But although they might not be able to do that, they could all strive to the best of their ability, circumstances, and power, during the short space of allotted life that might be left to them, to do as much good in the world as they could, and to strive to leave their fellow-men happier and better than they found them. They may not succeed to the same extent of usefulness, but they would have the proud satisfaction of thinking that they were endeavouring to fulfil their allotted task in life; and as there were different habitations in that supreme realm above, to which they were all tending, and to which they all hoped to go, in the way that they discharged their duty here, he thought they had a reasonable and legitimate ground of hope that they might be better and happier hereafter. All they could do was to stimulate and to copy one another in all the good features of Bro. Brockbank's character, and in doing so they would be discharging their duty to the Great Architect of the Universe; and they would have the thought that when they were numbered with the majority they would leave behind an agreeable, a refreshing, and a pleasant memory. Bro. Newton, P.M. 37, read a number of letters of apology for inability to attend, one from Bro. Col. Le Gendre Strakie, P.G.M.; the Secretaries of the Masonic Institutions; several Provincial Grand Officers; and the W.M.'s of numerous lodges in the province. A vote of thanks to the chairman concluded the proceedings. The Masonic brethren will attend at St. George's Church on Sunday morning next.

GEORGE PARKER BROCKBANK. IN MEMORIAM.

Another link has fallen from the chain
That binds us to the earth and those we love;
Another soul we would have had remain
Has gone above.
His brethren miss him now that he is gone;
We never knew or felt his worth till now;
For all past failings we would fain atone,
Yet know not how.
A tribute to his worth we needs must pay,
With heads bent low, we chant in mournful song;
Though weak in body crumbling to decay,
His mind was strong.
High minded, rich in heart, in friendship true,
Keen in discernment, but in judgment kind,
High pinnaled in vision, broad in view—
A master mind.
He has departed, but his influence still,
Invisible in presence, around us clings,
Guiding our actions 'gainst our coarser will
In many things.
We thank him for the lessons which he taught,
We grasp a brother's hand with true delight,
And utter, as of old, our parting speech—
Old friend, good night.
Sterne Villa, June 4th. R.G.



The regular monthly meeting of the Committee of Management of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution will be held at Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday next, the 13th inst.

Her Majesty the Queen has been graciously pleased to honour Bro. and Mrs. Bancroft by accepting, through Lord Rowton, a copy of their "Book of Reminiscences."

The Grocers' Company has contributed £100 and the Mercers' Company £105 towards the support of the Royal National Hospital for Consumption, situated at Ventnor, Isle of Wight.

The 56th anniversary festival of the United Law Clerks' Society will be held at the Freemasons' Tavern on Wednesday next, the 13th inst., when the chair will be taken by the Attorney General.

The Flag Officer's Good Service Pension of £300, vacant by the death of Bro. Vice-Admiral Sir W. N. W. Hewett, V.C., K.C.B., has been conferred by the Lords of the Admiralty on Admiral Sir Reginald Macdonald, K.C.B.

Bro. Lord Stanley of Preston, with Lady Stanley and the members of his family and staff, left the Mersey, on board the Allan steamer Sarmatian, for Canada, in order to assume the duties of the Governor-Generalship to which he has been appointed.

An exhibition of work by members of the Recreative School Association was opened by the Princess Louise, Marchioness of Lorne, on the 31st ult., at Surrey House, Hyde Park-place, which was lent for the occasion by Mrs. Cyril Flower, and remained open till the evening of the following day.

The delegation from the Honourable Artillery Company visited Gettysburg, where the Federal and Confederate Armies fought so tremendous an engagement on the 1st to 3rd July, 1863, and were conducted over the battlefield by Colonel Walker and other members of the Ancient and Honourable Artillery Company of Boston.

The annual meeting and half-yearly election of the Infant Orphan Asylum, Wanstead, was held at the Cannon-street Hotel on the 31st ult., when the report for the past year was adopted, and the Committee for the ensuing year having been elected, the Governors proceeded to the election of 15 boys and 15 girls from the approved lists of candidates.

The entries for the Queen's Prize at the annual meeting of the National Rifle Association, which will be held this year for the last time at Wimbledon, are 2272, or 122 less than they were last year, but the number may be increased by post entries. The prize consists of the Gold Medal, the Gold Badge, and £250.

Bro. Lord Magheramorne presided at the usual weekly meeting of the Metropolitan Board of Works on Friday, the 1st instant, when a deputation from Hammersmith was introduced by Bro. Major-General Goldsworthy, M.P., for the purpose of memorialising the Board to erect a steamboat pier at Hammersmith Bridge. The memorial was referred to the Works Committee, with instructions to carry out the work.

Bro. Earl Granville presided at a meeting held at the Charing Cross Hotel on the 31st ult. for the purpose of considering the probable effect on the ancient Corporation of the Cinque Ports by the operation of the Local Government Bill now before the House of Commons, and a resolution in accordance with the views of the meeting was passed, and will be at once acted upon. Bro. Sir Edward Watkin, Bart., M.P., took part in the proceedings, which terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

A Committee was formed towards the close of last week for the purpose of organising a fund for the relief of the sufferers by the terrible fire in the Edgware-road, when five of the inmates were burned to death and five others were seriously injured, while almost all the assistants lost the whole of their property. Bro. Lord Randolph Churchill, M.P., Lord Charles Beresford, M.P., F. Seager Hunt, M.P., and John Aird, M.P., are members of the Committee. The *Daily Telegraph* has also opened in its columns a subscription for the same purpose, the proprietors heading the list with the handsome contribution of £100.

The usual ceremony of trooping the Colours in honour of her Majesty's birthday took place on the Horse Guards Parade on Saturday last, ten companies of the various Guards' regiments taking part in it. The Commander-in-Chief, with the Prince of Wales, Prince Albert Victor of Wales, Bro. General Lord Wolseley, and other members of the Headquarters' Staff, with several foreign officers of distinction, were present on the ground, and the Princess of Wales and her daughters viewed the spectacle from the windows of the Commander-in-Chief's room, the Princess Mary, Duchess of Teck, and her daughter, the Princess Victoria of Teck, being present in an adjoining room. As the weather was exceptionally fine, the crowds of people assembled were enormous, the reception given to the members of the Royal Family being most enthusiastic.

A concert was given in the Royal Albert Hall on Thursday, the 31st ult., by Bro. Wilhelm Kuhe, Past G. Organist, the occasion being especially attractive as it was the first of the two farewell appearances which will be made by the celebrated Swedish songstress, Madame Christine Nilsson, on her retirement from the lyric stage. There was consequently a very large audience, from whom the great artiste received a most enthusiastic greeting. Madame Nilsson was called upon to repeat the first and third of her contributions, and substituted for the first Schubert's "Serenade," and, for the latter, "I dreamt that I dwelt in marble halls." Madame Trebelli and Bro. Sims Reeves and Herschel were among the other vocalists, Bro. Reeves being in excellent voice, and Miss Kuhe was warmly applauded for her solo on the pianoforte. The second concert will take place on Wednesday, the 20th instant.

The Tyssen Amherst Lodge, No. 2242, will be consecrated at the Amherst Club, Rectory-road, Hackney, to-morrow (Saturday), by the Grand Secretary, Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke. Bro. W. A. Tyssen Amherst, M.P., P.G.W., is the W.M. designate, and Bro. Charles Cheston, and Bro. Geo. Lewis the Senior and Junior Wardens.

Bro. H. W. Henniker Rance announces that his late partnership having recently expired, he is now practising on his own account at 70, Lincoln's Inn Fields.

Bro. Sir M. White Ridley, Bart., has been selected as Chairman of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Trade during the consideration of the Railway and Canal Traffic Bill.

The 25th annual Horse Show was opened at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, on Saturday last, the entries being quite as numerous as in any previous year, and of the same excellent quality.

Bro. Major Davies, Sheriff of London and Middlesex, presided at the 51st Annual Festival held at the Holborn Restaurant, on Tuesday evening, in aid of the funds of the Journeyman Tailors' Benevolent Institution. The subscriptions amounted to £846.

It has been notified that, on the occasion of the visit to Holloway of their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales for the purpose of opening the Great Northern Central Hospital, in the Holloway-road, the route followed by the procession will be along the High-street, Upper-street, and Holloway-road. It has also been intimated that the Princess of Wales has expressed her readiness to receive on the occasion purses of not less than five guineas towards the building fund.

The Irish Exhibition at Olympia was formally opened on Monday by Bro. Lord Mayor De Keyser, who attended in State with Bros. Sheriff Davies and Sheriff Higgs, and was received by Bro. Lord Arthur Hill, M.P., the Honorary Secretary, and others, among the principal personages present being Mr. Parnell, M.P., the Lord Mayor of Dublin, Bro. the Earl of Lathom, Lord Combermere, and Burdett-Coutts, M.P., the Baroness Burdett-Coutts, the Countess of Bective, and Lady Arthur Hill.

Among the guests at the dinner of the First Lord of the Treasury on Saturday last were Bro. the Marquis of Hertford, the Earl of Jersey, the Earl of Crawford and Balcarres, the Earl of Carnarvon, the Earl of Zetland, the Earl of Ravensworth, the Earl of Londesborough, Lord R. Churchill, M.P., Lord Harlech, Sir John Mowbray, Bart., M.P., Sir M. E. Hicks-Beach, Bart., M.P., and Sir W. Hart-Dyke, Bart., M.P.

The Prince of Wales dined with the Prime Minister at his residence in Arlington-street, at the full dress dinner given by his lordship, on Saturday last, in honour of the Queen's birthday, while Prince Albert Victor of Wales dined with the First Lord of the Treasury in Grosvenor-place. The Marchioness of Salisbury later in the evening held a reception at the Foreign Office, at which the Prince and Princess of Wales, with Prince Albert Victor and the Princesses Louise and Victoria, were present, the guests being about 2000 in number.

Bros. Lord Ashbourne (Lord Chancellor of Ireland), the Lord Mayor, Lord Magheramorne, Justice Mathew, Justice Cave, Sir R. N. Fowler, Bart., M.P., Sir E. Du Cane, Sir Charles Warren, Sheriff Davies, Sheriff Higgs, and W. H. Long, M.P., were among the guests at the State dinner given by the Home Secretary on Saturday last; while Bros. Sir Charles Mills, Sir Albert Woods, and Baron H. de Worms, M.P., dined with the Colonial Secretary. Bros. Akers-Douglas, M.P., Sir R. Welby, the Hon. D. Plunket, M.P., and Sir C. Rivers Wilson were among the guests of the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Bro. Lord George Hamilton gave a State banquet at the Admiralty, Whitehall, on Saturday last, which was attended by, among others, Bros. Sir H. Keppel, Lord Alcester, Sir L. McClintock, and A. Staveley Hill, Q.C., M.P.; while the guests at the dinner given by the Secretary of State for War included the Duke of Cambridge, Bro. General Viscount Wolseley, Sir Redvers Buller, and Sir W. T. Marriott, Q.C., M.P. Bro. the Earl of Lathom's guests included Bros. the Earls of Rosslyn and Limerick, Lord Balfour of Burleigh, the Hon. A. Yorke, Sir Robert Collins, and Sir F. Knollys. Bros. Lord A. Hill, M.P., the Earl of Kintore, Lord Suffield, and Capt. N. G. Phillips dined with the Lord Steward, Bro. the Earl of Mount Edgumbe.

Bro. P. De Keyser (the Lord Mayor) privately celebrated his election as W. Master of the Emulation Lodge, No. 21, and his appointment as Grand Steward for the current year representing that lodge, by entertaining the members to a banquet at the Mansion House on Friday, the 25th ult. With his accustomed geniality, the Lord Mayor desired the gathering to be, as he said, "a family party," without any Masonic observances, and, to render it more so, he requested each brother to invite a private, personal friend to accompany him, and partake of the hospitality of the Lord Mayor as his guest, which permission was largely availed of. The toasts were accordingly of a non-Masonic character, but a very pleasant evening was passed.

COACHING IN EPPING FOREST.—We are glad to learn that the Royal Forest Hotel Coach, which commenced running last year, and was so well patronised, is again placed on the road for its second season. The four-in-hand, as before, leaves Chingford Railway Station at 11.10 in the morning and 3.6 in the afternoon, and at 10.58 a.m. and 3.30 p.m. on Sundays, in connection with (G.E.R.) trains from London and Suburban stations, for one of the various delightful drives through Epping Forest and the charming country on its borders. The fares for the trip are 4s., box seats 5s. The coach table d'hôte luncheon or dinner in readiness at the Royal Forest Hotel on returning forms an additional feature of attraction to these forest drives.

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

Bro. Viscount Bury presided on Tuesday at the anniversary dinner of the St. George's Club, Hanover-square, Bros. Sir Robert Peel, Bart., and Sir Charles Mills being among the principal guests.

Bro. the Marquis of Hartington, M.P., and Lord Herschel were among the principal guests at the annual dinner, on Saturday last, of the members of the Palmerston Club in the University of Oxford.

Bro. General Lord Wolseley will unveil the memorial erected in the Crypt of St. Paul's Cathedral to the memory of the War Correspondents who lost their lives in the Soudan campaigns, on Saturday, the 16th inst.

The Emperor Frederick, who has removed from Charlottenburg to Potsdam, has suffered nothing beyond a certain amount of fatigue in consequence of the removal, the favourable state of his health being well maintained.

Bro. the Lord Mayor presided at a banquet organised by the Belgian and Dutch residents in London, and held at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, on Tuesday evening, in aid of the Netherlands Benevolent Institution.

Bros. Lord Ravensworth, Admiral Lord Alcester, Lord Charles Beresford, M.P., Sir R. N. Fowler, M.P., and the Earl of Fife attended a large and influential meeting, held at the Cannon-street Hotel, on Tuesday, on the subject of the national defences.

The Queen's Body Guard of the Yeomen of the Guard underwent their annual inspection in the garden of St. James's Palace on Monday, the inspecting officer being the captain of the corps, Bro. the Earl of Kintore, who complimented the men on their appearance and service.

Bro. the Lord Mayor has invited the Foreign Ambassadors and Foreign Ministers and a distinguished party to a grand banquet at the Mansion House on Thursday, the 28th inst., in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Queen's Coronation, which took place on the 28th June, 1838.

The Prince of Wales presided at the annual regimental dinner at the Hôtel Métropole, on the 31st ult., of the 10th (Prince of Wales's Own Royal) Hussars, his eldest son, Prince Albert Victor of Wales, being also present.

Bro. the Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress gave a dinner in the Egyptian Hall, at the Mansion House, on Monday, on the occasion of the election of Mr. Faudel Phillips as Alderman in succession to his father, Bro. Sir B. S. Phillips. The new Alderman and Mrs. Phillips received a hearty welcome from his lordship.

Bro. the Marquis of Hartington, M.P., presided, and Bros. the Earl of Fife, Lord Stalbridge, Lord Suffield, Viscount Ebrington, M.P., Storey-Maskelyne, M.P., R. J. More, M.P., and Sir T. Fowell-Buxton, were present, among others, at a political banquet given to Mr. Jesse Collings, M.P., at Willis's Rooms, on Tuesday.

The Prince of Wales, who was accompanied by the Princess of Wales and the Princesses Louise, Victoria, and Maud, unveiled the statue erected on the Thames Embankment to the memory of the late Sir Bartle Frere on Tuesday, and in the afternoon they visited the Horse Show at the Royal Agricultural Hall. In the evening his Royal Highness was present at the annual regimental dinner of the Prince Consort's Own Rifle Brigade.

At the last meeting of the Covent Garden Lodge of Instruction, No. 1614, it was proposed by Bro. George Reynolds, Sec., seconded by Bro. W. Brindley, and carried unanimously, that Bro. W. C. Smith, Preceptor, be requested to work the ceremony of installation on Thursday evening, the 14th June, that being the last time he would act as Preceptor to that lodge of instruction. Bro. W. C. Smith has kindly consented to do so.

Bro. John Allen, of London, England, of the Inman Line of Steamers, a resident of London, and a member of the Anglo-American Lodge, No. 2191, we understand, has just reached New York, on a brief visit to our country. He is the bearer of an illuminated address to the American brethren who visited the Anglo-American Lodge last year in London, and is expected in this city within a few days, when he will receive a cordial welcome.—Philadelphia *Keystone*, May 12.

THE LATE BRO. DR. ALFRED MEADOWS.—The many Masonic friends of the late Bro. Meadows will be glad to learn that a collection is now being made for a Meadows Memorial. About £216 has been already collected, and it is proposed to erect a carved wooden pulpit in the parish church of Colnbrook, where Dr. Meadows had his country seat, and to found a biennial or triennial prize for students of St. Mary's Hospital, with which Dr. Meadows was for many years connected. Subscriptions for the latter object may be sent either to the London and County Bank, Slough, or to James Watson, 38, Portman-square.

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, Fortess-road, Junction-road, Kentish Town, under the superintendence of Mr. A. W. FURBER, L.D.S., Royal College of Surgeons of England, assisted by a staff of skilled and qualified gentlemen, this Institute supplied artificial teeth; latest scientific improvements; extracts teeth, and performs all other necessary operations painlessly, and bestows benefits that cannot be over-estimated upon this portion of our largely-populated suburbs that would not seek the aid of Mr. Hospitals and Charities in the Metropolis. We may add that 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."