

THE FREEMASON.

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

REPORTS OF THE GRAND LODGES ARE PUBLISHED WITH THE SPECIAL SANCTION OF

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

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THE CRAFT IN SURREY.

The annual meetings of the Provincial Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Chapter of Surrey were held recently at Caterham, under the presidency of Bro. FRED. WEST, the D.P.G.M. and acting Grand Superintendent. The proceedings in Provincial Grand Chapter, which met first, were brief, and need not be particularly referred to; but the remarks in the address delivered by the Deputy in Provincial Grand Lodge on the present position of the province are worthy of being noticed. Bro. WEST pointed out that it was the first time the brethren of Surrey had met since the death of their respected chief, the late Bro. Gen. BROWNRIGG, and that, though immediately on the mournful news of his death reaching England, he, as acting head of the Surrey Craft, had expressed the sympathy of the province with the widow and family of their late P.G.M., it would be his duty to submit for their acceptance a resolution of condolence, so that the grief they all felt at the loss might be duly recorded in the minutes of Provincial Grand Lodge. At the same time, he took the opportunity of laying before them in detail the valuable services which their late Provincial Grand Master had rendered to the Craft in Surrey, pointing out that at the date of his appointment in 1871 the province mustered only 12 lodges and 5 chapters, whereas at his death there were 34 lodges and 12 chapters. He referred also in terms of eulogy to the interest their late ruler had taken in everything connected with Masonry, and especially in the Masonic Institutions, at the Festivals of two of which he had presided as Chairman, while he had personally assisted by his votes and the votes he was able to command, in promoting the success of the Surrey candidates for admission into the Charities. It was true, Bro. WEST added, that General BROWNRIGG was a strict disciplinarian, but he was also himself strict in the performance of his duties, and so set an example to the brethren, which it would be wise for them to follow. Moreover, he threw his whole heart into the work, and thus, by his enthusiasm, tempered as it was by his ideas of discipline, he was enabled in the 18 years he presided over them, to increase so largely the strength of the Craft and extend its influence. Subsequently, Bro. WEST submitted a resolution of sympathy on the part of Prov. G. Lodge and Prov. G. Chapter, with Mrs. BROWNRIGG and her family in their bereavement. Before doing this, however, he mentioned the more interesting events which had happened during the past year, such as the celebration of the Jubilee of the East Surrey Lodge of Concord and the success of the Surrey candidates at the School elections. He also gave some excellent advice to the lodges as to the manner in which their duties should be carried on, and especially on the necessity there was for them to exercise the greatest caution in admitting candidates into Freemasonry. The other proceedings passed off admirably, and we heartily congratulate Surrey on the success of its annual meeting for 1889.

THE ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

As Bro. LETCH MASON announced in his letter of last week that he had now concluded his argument, we have but little to add to our former article on the expenses incurred in the management of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. He has admitted some of the points we set before him, while in the case of others, he has evidently misunderstood the purpose of our remarks. Therefore, in the exercise of our right of reply, we shall, for the most part, content ourselves with summing up the case as it now stands between him and us.

Firstly, as regards the "dual set of accounts" and the "Collector's charges." He admits, as regards the former, that it "is in accordance with Article 47," and there, for the present at all events, the matter must end. We have already expressed our opinion that "it would save time and trouble to prepare only one set of accounts," and by none probably would a change in this direction be more heartily welcomed than by the official staff of the Institution. But before this can be done, Grand Lodge, which established the Male and Widows' Funds, and approved of

the terms and conditions on which they were amalgamated with the Asylum Fund, will have to be consulted. As regards the "Collector's charges," Bro. LETCH MASON says they "may be, and no doubt are, in accordance with the terms and conditions on which" that officer "was appointed," so that here again any further argument is unnecessary. Whether it would be more to the interest of the Institution that these "terms and conditions" should be altered on the occurrence of the next vacancy in the Collectorship, or the office abolished altogether and "the work done in the Secretary's office" is a question which the Committee of Management will be called upon to decide when the vacancy occurs.

We are sorry our "criticism on the word 'generally,'" does not meet with the approval of Bro. LETCH MASON. We were merely desirous of pointing out that the word was too loose a one to employ in argument, and he admits this when he says that our illustration—it was not an "argument," nor was it intended as such—could have been carried further, viz., "one-fifth in every seven years or two-fifths in every ten years." That was just our point, that the word was vague instead of being precise, and that was why we inserted the word "say" in brackets before "two years out of every three," &c.

"Printing and Postages, £850 16s. 2d." Comparisons are "odorous," as some one has said. We were not writing about the Girls' School, but about the Benevolent. It is impossible for us to explain why a particular item of expenditure is heavier in the case of one Institution than of another.

"Votes of thanks to Stewards." With all deference to Bro. LETCH MASON, the principle here involved is whether the Institution shall treat the brethren to whose exertions it is indebted for the bulk of its income shabbily by leaving them to pay for their own votes of thanks and their own entertainment at Croydon, or whether it shall treat them generously to a vote of thanks all round, with a little tea and toast thrown in for those who wish to see what the Asylum is like, at the "trifling" cost in this instance of "sixteen shillings for every £100" raised through their exertions. The votes of thanks and the hospitality are the small return which the Institution makes to the Stewards for their services; the Stewards' badges are rightly paid for out of the fees, as they are for the decoration of the brethren who are entitled to wear them. If, however, the "principle" so sturdily maintained by Bro. LETCH MASON is to prevail in the future, we see no reason why the Stewards should not carry the joke—we beg pardon, the "principle"—a little further and pass the vote of thanks to themselves for their own services. Perhaps the absurdity of the whole thing might then become apparent.

As for the costs for working the Institutions as they stand, it was Bro. LETCH MASON, not we, who entered upon the work of calculation. We maintain that a critic has no right to charge the expenses of the Asylum against the two Annuity Funds, but that is what he did, when he reckoned the cost of obtaining each annuity at £8 2s. 10d. Nor when we spoke about the money spent in the purchase of Stock, had we any idea of suggesting that the actual expense of purchase was more than the trumpery sum paid for brokerage and commission. We dealt with the same figures as Bro. LETCH MASON, and as he seemed desirous of entering upon a little calculation, we offered him the choice of reckoning the costs of Management either with or without the cost of the Asylum against either the total actual receipts or the total actual expenditure, less, of course, the working expenses. This is very different from suggesting that the purchase of stock cost anything like an appreciable part of the working expenses.

We have now done, and it only remains for us to add that we shall always be pleased to engage in argument with Bro. LETCH MASON or any brother who conducts his case as temperately and as courteously as he has done.

THE QUESTION OF JURISDICTION AGAIN.

It is difficult to understand how and why it is there should be so many conflicting opinions about a plain question, and still more difficult to explain why some attempt is not made to arrive at a settlement that will prove acceptable and honourable to all

concerned. But what is still more extraordinary is that so many of those who plunge headlong into the controversy about Grand Lodge jurisdiction should have such shadowy ideas as to what it all means. An American expert is a tolerably safe guide in all matters relating to the jurisdiction of American Grand Lodges in his own country, but when a difference arises between one of these Grand Lodges and a foreign Grand Lodge or Grand Orient, he does not trouble himself about the rights of the latter or its duties and responsibilities towards the lodges under its obedience. All he does is to insist that his own opinions are correct, because he holds them, and that the laws of his own Grand Lodge or of the Grand Lodges in his own country are the laws of universal Freemasonry, and must be enforced at all hazards against all other Grand Lodges and Grand Orients. An illustration of our meaning will be found in the interminable Anglo-Quebec difficulty. The Grand Lodge of Quebec asserts that the three English lodges in Montreal have no right to exist outside its jurisdiction, though they were warranted many years before the said Grand Lodge was founded, and though it has again and again pointed out that, so long as these lodges elect to remain in allegiance to the Grand Lodge which created them, and conform themselves to its laws and institutions, even that said Grand Lodge itself does not possess the power to prevent them. And there are many of the Grand Lodges in the United States which sympathise with the Grand Lodge of Quebec in its attempt, by edicts and otherwise, to compel these English lodges to terminate a connection on which they pride themselves, and which, for the present at all events, they seem resolved on maintaining. In the case of foreign Grand Lodges other than American, the question of jurisdiction seldom, if ever, arises, nor until quite recently has any difficulty ever arisen as to the relations that should exist among the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, and Scotland, and their respective District or Provincial Grand Lodges and private lodges in the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown. There always appears to have been a tacit understanding—a kind of unwritten law—among the three Grand Lodges of the old country, which has in the main been very faithfully observed by their District or Provincial Grand Lodges in the Colonies, that they should work side by side together harmoniously, but independently, and this understanding appears to have been pretty faithfully observed, so that what has been designated “concurrent jurisdiction” has been a help rather than an obstacle to the promotion of goodwill among the lodges and brethren of the several Constitutions. We are far from saying that this goodwill has been diminished, but it is evident from the circular letter addressed by the District Grand Secretary of Queensland (E.C.) to the English lodges in that Colony, which we published last week, that advantage is being taken of this concurrence of jurisdiction to force upon the Masonic Fraternity in Queensland and elsewhere a single supreme authority in place of the three co-ordinate authorities which hitherto, as we have said, have worked together so harmoniously.

It is evident, too, from the letter of Bro. E. T. GILLON, P.M. of the Waterloo Lodge, No. 463, Wellington (N.Z.), on the roll of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, which also appeared in our columns last week, that there are brethren in New Zealand who do not understand this question of jurisdiction, and who confound the American ideas which prevail on the subject with those which have existed for so long, and worked so beneficially, in the Old Country. Thus it was given as a reason in favour of the movement for establishing a United Grand Lodge of New Zealand that, under the present system, it was open to any foreign Grand Lodge or Grand Orient to charter lodges in the colony, whereas, under a single and Supreme Grand Lodge any such step would be impossible, or, if attempted, would be promptly and successfully put down. We demurred to this view, and cited the case of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba, which had warranted a lodge at Gibraltar, where we have a District Grand Lodge, but withdrew the warrant on representations made by our authorities; and also that of the Grand Chapter of Canada, which had warranted three chapters in Melbourne, where already there were some 11 English chapters, which Canadian chapters—according to the information we then possessed—had returned their warrants in view of the establishment of a Supreme Grand Chapter of Victoria. Bro. GILLON, however—though we make every allowance for the disadvantage he is under in not having read our article—is still incredulous, and maintains that the Grand Orient of France or the Grand Lodge of Sweden or Massachusetts could, to-morrow, if it were so minded, establish a lodge in New Zealand, notwithstanding the fact that the Colony is already, Masonically, occupied by the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, and Scotland, which, though exercising concurrent authority as regards each other, are unquestionably supreme as against an outsider. We say this is impossible, and, by way of reply, Bro. GILLON cites the case of Cape Colony, where there are, undoubtedly, some Dutch lodges. The selection is unfortunate for the purpose which Bro. GILLON had in view, as it merely serves to

show how generously the Grand Lodges of the United Kingdom act towards foreign lodges which are legitimately located in British territory as compared with—let us say—the Grand Lodge of Quebec, which, if it had the power, would prevent three English lodges from exercising those rights and privileges they enjoyed for years before the Grand Lodge of Quebec was organised. Cape Colony was conquered from the Dutch early in the present century, and it is greatly to the honour of the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, and Scotland that from the time the Cape Colony became British territory till now they have never once dreamt of molesting the Dutch brethren in the performance of their Masonic duties. There is a Dutch Deputy Grand Master for South Africa, and the lodges, many of which are of recent creation, have their own government and their own laws; but objections would, undoubtedly, be raised to the Grand Orient of the Netherlands chartering lodges in Colonies which had never been anything other than British. The same may be said of the Mauritius, which was also conquered from the French early in this century. Here there are English lodges, but no District Grand Lodge, and there are also French lodges holding under the Grand Orient of France, which are left to the enjoyment of their rights and privileges; but we should most decidedly object to France establishing lodges in Brisbane or Bombay. What is more, we think that if any such attempt were made, our objection would be successfully maintained.

There is, indeed, no clearly defined international law on the subject, though there well might be one for general guidance. We have seen it stated, and we believe the late Bro. MACKAY was author of the statement, that though there is no law absolute which has been accepted of all G. Lodges, yet, as a matter of courtesy, the Grand Lodge of one country has never invaded the political territory of another country, even though it may have been unoccupied by a supreme Masonic authority. This is certainly not the case in some of the South American States, in which there are both native and foreign lodges. For general purposes, however, this rule of courtesy, that Masonry should follow the flag, seems as good as any that could be devised, and certainly less likely than any other to cause friction among the Masonic powers. As regards the British Empire, it is clear that such supremacy as exists is exercised co-ordinately by the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, and Scotland, except in those colonies such as Canada, Nova Scotia, South Australia, New South Wales, Victoria, &c., where it has already waived, or as in Quebec, where it has expressed its willingness to waive, its rights, on the very natural and just understanding that the wishes of such lodges as elect to remain in their old allegiance shall be respected. But even here the general rule, though modified, holds good. The very fact that the Grand Lodges of the Old Country have by treaty with Canada, &c., &c., renounced their rights to charter lodges is proof that these rights were exercised throughout the British Empire, if not from time immemorial, yet from the time when they began chartering lodges in outlying British territory. Indeed, but for the exercise of these rights, the independent colonial G. Lodges would never have been in existence, and therefore it seems good that, as things are, what has been, should be, and that the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, and Scotland should be, co-ordinately, supreme in the British Empire, except in those Colonies in which they have waived their rights in favour of the local Grand Lodges.

BRIEF ESSAYS ON CURIOUS SUBJECTS.

2.—THE “TAU CROSS.”

As the English Rite of Free Masonry is authoritatively defined to consist of the Three “Blue” Degrees, with the R.A. as a cope-stone—thus confirming in an indirect manner the dictum of our most reliable students that all Masonry is latent, or contained in the Craft Ritual—it must be permissible to consider the symbols, now confined to the Arch, as portions of the major scheme of the Royal Art.

It is an open secret that the *Tau* Cross is a frequent occurrence in chapter working. This Phallic Cross is, perhaps, the most ancient and widely-spread of any of the Cruciform emblems, for it seems to have been of universal adoption—the next most popular form being probably the Swastika, or Jaina Cross, known also as the Hammer of Thor, but which, strange to say, finds no place in our ceremonies. In Egypt the *Tau* is very commonly shown with a surmounting oval, which makes it the *Crux Ansata*, or *handed* Cross. The simple T is equivalent to the Hindu Trisula, and the Oval, or Vesica Piscis, represents the Sistrum or Yonic of the different Eastern cults. It therefore combines, in the Añch, the active and passive, or receptive, powers of Nature. As generally understood, the Ansated Cross meant new, resurrected, eternal life, and sometimes typified the instructed initiate, as well as the Osirified soul that had come safely through the terrors of Amenti. The ancients usually expressed their

belief that the grave was the entrance to a higher state, by employing the same phrase alike for initiation and dissolution; the *pastos* is further evidence in the same direction. It is freely conceded that the *Tau* was the mark placed on the Israelitish doors when the Angel of Death smote the firstborn in Pharaoh's Kingdom; it was raised in the Wilderness by Moses to restore the smitten people, was referred to by Ezekiel, and, above all, was the Tree of Calvary, instead of the later Latin form that owes its position to inaccurate clericalisms.

It is difficult to say definitely why the *Triple Tau* has been placed on the apron: the triangle which encloses it should be sufficient to emphasize the Trinity (not necessarily the Christian Faith). To us, Spirit is incomplete without the accompanying Square of Matter, which is represented by Four. The Geometrical explanation is only partial. May it not be an ignorant copy of the Cruciform nimbus often found in ecclesiastical ornamentation, where the fourth or lower end of the equal-limbed cross is hidden by the neck or head of the holy personage thus arrayed; and in this case we have simply the well-known Hermetic Cross on the Mundum Circle. Every enquirer must be aware that Catholic symbolism has been, with little or no variation, borrowed from earlier faiths, and ancient deities are found with an aureole to give them dignity or significance. Some of the older monkish designs show the glory shaped as an equilateral triangle, or the interlaced triangles, and so on. One picture of St. John encloses his head in a rectangle, whence springs a sunflower, apparently a compromise between Christianity and Paganism. Under some Supreme G.R.A. Chapters we find the *Triple Tau* inside the Triangle, surrounded by a circle. This embodies a very great amount of knowledge, of which a full explanation should be given by the Rosicrucian Colleges, as none of our recognised Orders employ the circle in their symbolism, for the *Sat-Bhai* is hardly in the regular Masonic track.

To avoid repetition in subsequent articles, our readers are desired to keep in mind how difficult it is to discreetly comment on these Symbols.

C. A. M.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF NORTH AND EAST YORKSHIRE.

The annual meeting of the above Provincial Grand Lodge was held at the Public Rooms, Kingston-square, Hull (at the invitation of the Humber Lodge, No. 57), on Wednesday, the 24th ult. There was a very large attendance, about 300 Masons being present, of whom upwards of 60 were Present or Past Prov. Grand Lodge. The W.M. of the Humber Lodge, Bro. Samuel Rutter, had engaged the whole suite of rooms for the interesting occasion.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was held in the Grand Concert Hall, which Bros. J. R. Ausdell, P.M. 1605; John Clark, I.P.M. 57; R. J. McLeavy, 57; James Matthews, 57; and others had arranged in accordance with Masonic requirements. Several beautiful silk banners of the various lodges and the very handsome standards of the Provincial Grand Lodge were displayed in the hall, which was further enlivened by a choice and healthy collection of plants, which gave a very beautiful appearance to "le tout ensemble." The side rooms were used for the meeting of the Board of Benevolence and as a reception and robing-room, where the Provincial Grand Officers clothed, the picture gallery being used for a like purpose for the other members of the Craft.

Much credit is due to Bro. S. Rutter and his assistants for the admirable manner in which they had attended to every little detail, with a view to promote the comfort and convenience of the visitors.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland presided, supported by Bros. Lieut.-Col. the Hon. W. T. Orde-Powlett, P.G.W. Eng., D.P.G.M.; Col. R. G. Smith, 1010, P.S.G.W.; Rev. G. L. M. Rees, 630, P.G.C.; Walter Reynolds, 250, P.G. Treas.; E. Corris, 57, P.G.R.; M. C. Peck, 250, P.G. Std. Br. Eng., P.G. Sec.; M. M. Westerby, 294, P.G.D.C.; F. Creaser, 734, and T. Dale, 561, P.G. Std. Brs.; W. S. Child, 1611, P.G.O.; T. Oates, 250, P.A.G. Sec.; A. M. White, 1991, P.A.G. Purst.; F. J. Lambert, 1010, P.G. Tyler; J. Todd, 236, and Capt. H. Darley, 643, P.P.S.G.W.'s; J. Stevenson, 312, J. Love Seaton, 57, G. Wilkinson, 250, Major W. H. Marwood, 312, and D. J. O'Donoghue, 57, P.P.J.G.W.'s; H. A. Williamson, 200, and J. Sykes Rymer, P.P.G.R.'s; Martin Kemp, 57, J. G. Hodgson, 236, C. Gray, 734, N. H. Delamere, 1248, Mark Rooke, 236, G. L. Shackles, 1511, T. Thompson, 57, John Walton, 57, and J. T. Seller, 1611, P.P.S.G.D.'s; G. Wilson, 57, H. Forder, 1010, H. Haigh, 250, G. Ayre, 1416, J. A. Manners, 602, and J. Westgarth Smith, 123, P.P.J.G.D.'s; T. N. Marwood, 312, R. Beevers, 57, W. Tesseyman, 57, W. D. Keyworth, 57, C. Palliser, 1337; and H. Adams, 294, P.P.G. Supts. of Works; G. H. Walshaw, Thos. Marshall, 294, A. Farmer, 1848, and Eli Bryan, 294, P.P.G. Dirs. of Cers.; R. H. Peacock, 200, W. Peacock, 200; Henry Procter, 123, P.P.A.G.D.C.; Thos. Hewson, 57; J. R. Ausdell, 1605; G. H. Anderton, 630; T. M. Goldie, 660, P.P.S.G.W.; Wm. Gillett, 2134, P.P.G. Std. Br.; Geo. Balmforth, 236; W. H. Attley, 312; Ed. Kipps, 1010, P.P.G. Org.; Jas. Elgey, 1040; John Dunn, 1040; and Walter Budd, 643, P.P.G. Purst. Visitors: Bro. Thos. W. Tew, Prov. Grand Master; Hy. Smith, P.G.D. England, Dep. Prov. Grand Master; H. Wilson, P.P.G.S.B. West Yorkshire; Alfred Jones, P.P.G.R. Norths and Hunts; and W. H. Cowlin, P.P.G.S. of W. Bristol.

The Prov. Grand Lodge having been opened, the Prov. Grand Master, the Deputy Prov. Grand Master, and Grand Officers were saluted with Grand Honours.

The minutes of the last Prov. Grand Lodge, held at Richmond, 8th of August, 1888, were read and confirmed.

The report of the late Festival of the Educational Fund showed a balance of £1054 14s. 11d. in the hands of the Treasurer.

The DEPUTY PROV. GRAND MASTER, addressing the Prov. Grand Master, said: Right Worshipful Prov. G. Master,—I have the honour to request your lordship's acceptance of an address from this Prov. Grand Lodge upon the occasion of your appointment as Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, an event which has given much satisfaction to the brethren of this province, over which your lordship has ruled with such great success. Since the formation of the separate Province of North and East Yorkshire in 1817, it has been presided over by several members of your lordship's illustrious house, who have achieved the highest distinction in the Craft.

Our first Provincial Grand Master, the Right Hon. Lawrence, Earl of Zetland, was Pro Grand Master from 1834 until 1838; he was succeeded by the Right Hon. Thomas, Earl of Zetland, who was Pro Grand Master from 1841 to 1843, when he became Most Worshipful Grand Master of England, and ruled over the Craft in a manner which will ever make his name famous in history. Since your lordship's appointment in 1874, this province has enjoyed a continued period of peace and tranquillity; whilst our progress, although gradual, has been marked by a decided increase; our membership, which in 1874 was 1482, has by last year's return risen to 2014, and during that period eight lodges have been added to our roll; our Charitable contributions have also very materially increased; and we may fairly congratulate ourselves upon the position this province now occupies. I will now read the address—

"To the Right Honourable the Earl of Zetland, Right Worshipful Prov. Grand Master for the North and East Ridings of Yorkshire.

"May it please your lordship,

"We, the officers and members of the Provincial Grand Lodge of the North and East Ridings of Yorkshire, beg most respectfully to offer our sincere congratulations upon the occasion of your Lordship's appointment to the high and honourable position of Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and Viceroy of her Most Gracious Majesty.

"We are assured that the State has secured in the person of your Lordship a representative of Government who will readily acquire the respect and confidence of those law-abiding inhabitants of Ireland who earnestly desire the welfare of their country, and value the blessings of peace and order.

"We embrace the present opportunity to renew our expressions of loyalty to your Lordship as head of the Craft in North and East Yorkshire, and to testify to the happiness which this Province has enjoyed during the tenure of your Lordship's rule as our Provincial Grand Master, and we most earnestly pray that your Lordship's valuable life may be spared for many years to preside over our united, prosperous, and happy Brotherhood.

"Signed at Hull, on behalf of the Provincial Grand Lodge, this 24th day of July, 1889.

"W. T. ORDE-POWLETT, P.G.W. England,

"D.P.G.M. N. and E. Yorks.

[Seal of Province.]

"M. C. Peck, P.G. Std. Br. England,

"P.G. Sec. N. and E. Yorks."

His LORDSHIP briefly replied to this address, which was illuminated with artistic merit, and bound in rich blue morocco, emblazoned with the arms of the Craft.

The P.G.M. moved—"That this Provincial Grand Lodge, having considered the Report of the Committee appointed to investigate the management of the Royal Masonic Boys' School, desires to express its complete confidence in the ability and impartiality of the members of such Committee; its opinion that the recommendations of such Committee should be supported to the utmost, and that an entire change in the administration must take place; this Provincial Grand Lodge also desires to express its satisfaction at the election (on 6th June last) of the Provisional Committee, not doubting that such results will ensue from its labours as will restore the prestige of the Institution."

This was seconded by Bro. R. G. SMITH, Prov. Charity Representative, and carried unanimously.

Bro. J. TODD moved—"That the best thanks of this Provincial Grand Lodge be, and are, hereby given to the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland, R.W.P.G.M., for his able and courteous presidency at the first Festival of the Educational Fund of the province, held at York on the 8th of May last, with its hearty congratulations on the great success of the Festival."

This was seconded by Bro. D. J. O'DONOGHUE, and carried.

The roll of lodges was called over by the PROV. GRAND SECRETARY, and it was found that all of the 29 lodges comprising the province were duly represented.

The next business was the election of the Prov. Grand Treasurer. Bro. Walter Reynolds was unanimously re-elected for the fourth time on the proposition of Bro. J. TODD, seconded by Bro. JOHN WALTON.

The Provincial Grand Officers for the ensuing year were appointed as follows:

Bro. J. A. Malcolmson, P.M. 1848	...	...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" Wm. Ascough, P.M. 1248	...	...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" Rev. H. L. Clarke, M.A., 236	...	...	...	} Prov. G. Chaps.
" Rev. R. Blakeney, M.A., 1611	...	...	...
" Frs. Fullerton, P.M. 1010	...	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" M. C. Peck, P.M. 250, P.G. Std. Br. Eng. (re-appointed)	...	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" John Clark, P.M. 57	...	...	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" Wm. Coltman, P.M. 1416	...	...	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" Fredk. Blackburn, P.M. 250	...	...	...	Prov. G.S. of W.
" Alfred W. Walker, P.M. 660	...	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" James Bordass, P.M. 1040	...	...	...	Prov. A.G.D.C.
" Jno. Mackaill, P.M. 2134	...	...	...	Prov. G. Swd. Br.
" R. H. Sootheran, P.M. 1327	...	...	...	} Prov. G. Std. Br's.
" John Chappell, P.M. 1605	...	...	...
" J. R. Stringer, 57	...	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" Thomas Oates, P.M. 250, P.P.G.O. (re-appointed)	...	...	...	Prov. A.G. Sec.
" Geo. Chambers, P.M. 1760	...	...	...	Prov. G. Purst.
" John McFaden, W.M. 643	...	...	...	Prov. A.G. Purst.
" Jno. Gibson, 123	...	...	...	} Prov. G. Stwds.
" Frs. Gooderick, 200	...	...	...
" Chas. E. Wright, 236	...	...	...
" Hy. Hollis, 250	...	...	...
" Geo. H. Knight, 294	...	...	...
" John Brand, 312	...	...	...	} Prov. G. Tyler.
" F. J. Lambert	...	...	...

The PROV. GRAND MASTER then addressed the Prov. Grand Lodge as follows: Worshipful Brethren,—Once again we are assembled in this great centre of Masonry to confer together, to renew our old friendships, and to make new friends. The end and abject of Freemasonry being the promotion of happiness for ourselves and others, surely no better means could be adapted for this purpose than our annual assemblies, when deputations come from the various lodges to meet together, take counsel, relieve the distressed, and to confer distinction upon those brethren whose worth and merit have rendered them conspicuous amongst their fellows. Since our meeting at Richmond last year, several events of importance have occurred in this province. On the 1st October last, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master laid the foundation stone of a new Masonic Hall at Howden, which will shortly be dedicated. The Deputy Prov. Grand Master also on the 3rd October dedicated the Masonic Hall adjacent to this building, for the joint occupation of the Kingston and De La Pole Lodges, and on the 22nd October I had the pleasure of dedicating the Masonic Rooms in Castlegate, York, for the Agricola Lodge, these ceremonials are noteworthy, as they indicate that the brethren are fully alive to the importance of providing Masonic Temples, were our arts and mysteries can be promulgated in a fitting and dignified manner. In January last our province was honoured by a visit from his Royal Highness the M.W. Grand Master, who on the 22nd opened the new Town Hall at Middlesborough, on which occasion I had the honour to head a Masonic deputation and to present a loyal address from this Provincial Grand Lodge. On the 8th May, the first festival of our Educational Fund was celebrated at York, and we were honoured by the presence of his Royal Highness Prince Albert Victor of Wales, this was in every respect a most successful gathering and we sincerely hope that

upon the foundation then laid, there will be raised an equally successful festival next year, so that in time the perfect superstructure may be completed in a truly Masonic manner. It gives me great pleasure to meet upon the invitation of the Humber Lodge, a lodge which is not only the largest in this province, but also one of the most numerous in the kingdom, possessing ample funds, a handsome hall, and affording its members every facility for pursuing the study of the Craft under the most favourable auspices; the other lodges in the town, I understand, are also in a sound and healthy condition, the junior one has recently purchased a building, now in course of conversion, for a Masonic Hall. We may, therefore, congratulate our Hull brethren upon their state of prosperity, which we trust will enable them to continue and improve the charitable efforts which they have so worthily made in the past. I must now heartily thank the Master and brethren of the Humber Lodge for their hospitality and for the excellent arrangements they have made for the entertainment of Provincial Grand Lodge; I hope the brethren will all attend the banquet which has been specially arranged to suit the convenience of those who have come from a distance. Invitations were last year received from the Camelodunum and Falcon Lodges, and both those lodges have paid us the compliment of repeating them this year, whilst cordially thanking the Thirsk brethren for their kindness, I feel that I must accept the prior invitation and shall hope to meet the brethren next year at Malton.

The Masonic Anthem "Hail Masonry" was sung in solo by Bro. Jos. Tood, P.P.G.W., and in full chorus by the brethren, accompanied by the organ.

The Prov. Grand Lodge was then closed.

Subsequently a large number of the officers and brethren sat down to a banquet in the Lecture Hall of the Public Rooms.

The Prov. G.M. (Lord Zetland), presided, and after the repast, the customary loyal and Masonic toasts were given from the chair.

The P.G.M. of West Yorkshire, Bro. T. W. TEW, submitted the toast of "The Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland, R.W. Grand Master of North and East Yorkshire." For 15 years Lord Zetland had presided over the Masonic destinies of that most historic province, which had been ever loyal to the Throne, to the family of Zetland, and which would ever be loyal to the present Grand Master of the Province. Nothing had given those from West Yorkshire greater pleasure than to be present at the Grand Lodge, and to echo in every respect the noble and becoming sentiments expressed in the address which Lord Zetland had been graciously pleased to receive. He was present to show how beloved Lord Zetland was to those in West Yorkshire, and to add his feeling testimony to the joy they all felt at his lordship's patriotism in accepting the important office of Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, and that the choice of her Most Gracious Majesty had fallen upon so popular an English nobleman, and noble English gentleman. He hoped that when his term of office had expired, Lord Zetland would return to his beloved province, with health and strength to preside over it with that ability which had distinguished him in the past. He wished his lordship God-speed in the arduous duties he was about to undertake, and he doubted not that so popular a Yorkshireman would make their friends in Ireland more peaceable subjects to law and order than they had ever been before.

Lord ZETLAND, in replying to the toast, thanked those present for the exceedingly kind manner in which it had been proposed and received. The proposer of the toast had referred to that high office he had accepted in her Majesty's present Government. He could assure them that he should thoroughly appreciate the honourable position of being her Majesty's representative in Ireland, and he could only repeat what he had said when he was presented that afternoon with that magnificent address, and when it became his duty to go across the Channel, he would endeavour to do his duty in Ireland as became a Britain and a Yorkshireman. He would feel one great regret in going to Ireland, and that was that for a time possibly he should have to sever the connection which had now existed for 15 years between the Province of North and East Yorkshire and himself, so far as to render it impossible for him to reside so continuously within the province as he had hitherto done. That regret, however, was alleviated very much by his feeling that he should not only enjoy the sympathy of the Freemasons of the province, but that, under the guidance of the D.P.G.M. the interests of Freemasonry would continue to flourish, and the interests of Freemasonry would be as carefully guarded by the D.P.G.M. as if he himself were among them. In conclusion, his lordship proposed "The Health of the Prov. G.M. of West Yorkshire, Bro. Tew."

Bro. TEW, P.G.M. West Yorkshire, in responding to the toast, assured those present that his brethren in West Yorkshire were only too anxious to co-operate with North and East Yorkshire in everything that was for the benefit of Freemasonry.

Bro. J. TODD, P.P.S.G.W., submitted "The Health of Bro. Lieut.-Col. the Hon. W. T. Orde-Powlett, P.G.W., D.P.G.M." He said they would certainly feel the loss of the Provincial Grand Master very much; but, from the well-known interest which Bro. Orde-Powlett had manifested in the Craft ever since he was a member of the Provincial Grand Lodge, they all felt sure that the interests of the province would not suffer in his hands.

Bro. Lieut.-Col. ORDE-POWLETT, D.P.G.M., replied, and said he would try, with the help of his officers, to undertake his duty to the best of his skill and ability. It had given him very great pleasure to come to Hull; it always did, for Freemasonry was increasing in popularity in Hull, and in the right way. They should not ask men to become Masons for the sake of filling lodges, but they should ask good and true men to join the Craft. It was only by electing proper people that they could expect Freemasonry to flourish. It was now more than 20 years since the Provincial Grand Lodge assembled under the banner of the Humber Lodge, which was, he believed, the senior lodge of the province, and which set a good example in everything it undertook. In Hull a number of lodges had sprung up round about the Humber; they were all most anxious to do their duty, and he thought they had succeeded uncommonly well. He returned thanks for the way in which the toast had been received, and proposed "The Newly-appointed Officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge." He advised the newly-appointed officers to follow in the footsteps of their predecessors, and they would be successful.

The toast was replied to by Bro. J. A. MALCOLMSON, P.S.G.W., who said he and his fellow officers would do their duty to the best of their ability. They had no doubt but that Masonry would go on well during his lordship's temporary absence.

Lord ZETLAND proposed "The Health of the W.M. of the Humber Lodge," and said that the arrangements for the reception of the Provincial Grand Lodge had been most excellent, while they had been entertained in a very hospitable manner, and in a way of which any town in the country might be proud.

Bro. J. RUTTER, W.M. 57, responded, and said if those who were present were pleased, it had gratified the brethren of the Humber Lodge.

The other toasts were "The Visiting Brethren" and "The Masonic Charities." The proceedings were interspersed with harmony.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF HERTFORDSHIRE.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Hertfordshire was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Watford, on Monday, the 22nd ult., under the banner of the Watford Lodge, No. 404. Bro. T. F. Halsey, M.P., Prov. G. Master, presided, and there was a full attendance of Prov. Grand Officers, Present and Past, as well as of the members of the different lodges.

The minutes of the Provincial Grand Lodge, held at Hitchin, on the 27th July, 1888, having been confirmed, the roll of the Provincial Grand Officers and lodges was called.

Bro. F. Sumner Knyvett, P.M., No. 404, was unanimously re-elected Prov. Grand Treasurer, and Bro. George E. Lake, P.M., No. 404, having been obligated and invested as Deputy Prov. Grand Master, the following brethren were appointed and invested as the Provincial Grand Officers for the ensuing year, namely:

Bro. Edward Taylor, P.M. 409	...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" W. H. Norris, W.M.,	...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" The Rev. H. F. Oliver, P.M. 2086	...	...	} Prov. G. Chaps.
" The Rev. Wm. Quennell, 504	...	...
" F. Sumner Knyvett, P.M. 404	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" Harry Tipper, I.P.M. 2054	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" Charles Bullock, P.M. 504	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" Thos J. Villiers, I.P.M. 404	...	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" Henry Holmes, 1385	...	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" C. B. Cooper, I.P.M. 449	...	...	Prov. G.S. of W.
" James Terry, P.M. 1580	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" L. J. Myers, P.M. 1479	...	...	Prov. A.G.D.C.
" Alfred Baker, J.W. 403	...	...	Prov. G. Swd. Br.
" F. M. Bilby, W.M. 1327	...	...	} Prov. G. Std. Brs.
" James Rogers, I.P.M. 1984	...	...
" Arthur Stradling, S.W. 404	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" S. R. Timson, S.W. 504	...	...	Prov. A.G. Sec.
" W. A. Dingle, W.M. 860	...	...	Prov. G. Purst.
" Leonard Patterson, S.W. 1757	...	...	Prov. A.G. Purst.
" R. Brazier, S.W. 2136	...	...	} Prov. G. Stwds.
" H. Lomas, I.G. 2218	...	...
" A. Prudames, J.W. 504	...	...	} Prov. G. Tyler.
" Charles P. Ayers, S.D. 404	...	...
" John H. Hughes, J.D. 404	...	...	} Prov. A.G. Tyler.
" George Green, 404	...	...
" Thomas Wright	...	...
" Charles Thomas	...	...

The report of the Finance Committee showed a very satisfactory position of affairs, the balance in the hands of the Prov. G. Treasurer being upwards of £80, with an amount of over £160 invested in Consols.

On the motion of the P.G.M., duly seconded, it was resolved that Prov. by-law No. 6, should be amended by the addition of a clause to the effect that the Prov. G. Secretary should receive an honorarium for his services at the rate of £1 5s. per annum for each lodge in the province, in addition to his expenses incurred in the discharge of his duties.

On the motion of Bro. T. S. CARTER, P.M. and Sec. 403, P.P.G.W., it was resolved that the sum of £21 should be granted from the funds of Prov. G. Lodge, to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, to be placed on the list of Bro. John E. Dawson, P.D.P.G.M.

On the motion of Bro. JAMES TERRY, P.P.J.G.W., it was resolved that the sum of £10 should be granted to the Watford Lodge, No. 404, towards defraying the expense of entertaining Prov. G. Lodge, and a further sum of £10 was, on the motion of Bro. C. E. KEYSER, P.P.G.W., voted to the Watford District Cottage Hospital.

A motion that £20 be granted to the Watford Public Library having been rejected, it was resolved that the funds of Prov. G. Lodge be transferred to the names of the Prov. G. Master, Dep. P.G.M., and P.G. Treas., and also that £30 be invested in Consols.

On the motion of the PROV. G. SECRETARY, it was resolved "That the publication of the Provincial Calendar be continued."

Prov. G. Lodge was then closed, and the brethren, to the number of between 60 and 70, sat down to banquet, under the presidency of Bro. T. F. Halsey, M.P., the result being a most agreeable evening.

CONSECRATION OF THE SCOTS LODGE, No. 2319.

On Saturday last, this new lodge was consecrated at the Scottish Corporation Hall, Crane Court, Fleet-street, when there were present at the ceremony the following brethren: Bros. Colonel Shadwell H. Clerke, Sir John B. Monckton, Thos. Fenn, Rev. G. W. Weldon, Frank Richardson, Robert Berridge, the Earl of Euston, Thos. Grant, James Thomson, Vero Shaw, J. Page, John Plenderleith, George Shaw, Robert Mitchell, D. Charteris, Geo. Henderson, C. F. Matier, D. F. Gellion, Wm. Chas. Page, J. Featherstone, E. Bryant, Stanley Smith, Henry J. Dutton, P. H. Jones, Alfred A. Pendlebury, Asst. G. Sec.; W. John Goodchild, W.M. 2202; James Edmeston, P.M. 1635; Tilden, U.S.A.; James Gray, P.M. Hiram Lodge, Brisbane; W. H. Snelling, P.M. 1541; Gilbert Marsh, 1185; C. A. Barnard, 1558; H. Massey, P.M. 619 and 1028; W. T. Dillon, 1567; J. Churchman, 1425; Fred Levick, P.M. 404 and 2098, P.P.S.G.D. Herts; R. H. Dillon, P.M. 1567, P.G. Std. Br. Middx.; E. Brooks, J.D. 766; Thomas Tully, W.M. 1718; E. C. Mulvey, P.M. 2202, W.M. 179, P.G. Stwd. Surrey; John Fenwick, P.D.G.W., D.G. Sec. Queensland; Charles A. Maxton, P.G.D.; E. Letchworth, P.G.D.; Charles H. Driver, P.G.S. of W.; Sir Lionel Darell, S.G.D.; T. Osborne, 1604; F. Faithfull Begg, 44 (S.C.); Arthur Gozzatt, J.W. 753; J. D. Church, J.W. 1365; George F. Brooking, 1604; John R. Stuart D. Forbes, P.M. 65; Sir Henry Morland, G.M. India (S.C.); A. W. Boileau (Capt. R.A.) No. 3, Nova Scotia; F. J. Beedle, P.M. 1441 and 2184; H. Sadler, G.T.; J. Herbert Shoppee, 99, P.G. Stwd.; H. Fletcher Campbell, No. 1 (S.C.) Mary's Chapel, Edinburgh; Clifford Probyn, P.M. 18 and 2021; and J. Lovett King, 2190.

The founders' of the lodge are Bros. H. Campbell-Beaver, D. Charteris, Geo. Edward, the Earl of Euston, D. F. Gellion, Thomas Grant, George Henderson, C. F. Matier, Roderick Mitchell, John Page, J. Plenderleith, Sir M. Shaw Stewart, George Shaw, Vero Shaw, James Thomson, Peter Tocher, and John Whitehead.

The Consecrating Officer was Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, G. Sec., who was assisted by Bros. Sir John B. Monckton, P.G.W., as S.W.; Thomas Fenn, P.G.D., President of the Board of General Purposes, as J.W.; the Rev. G. W. Weldon, P.G. Chap., as Chap.; Frank Richardson, P.G.D., as D.C.; and Robt. Berridge, P.G.D., as I.G.

The musical arrangements were under the conduct of Bro. Bryant, of the Alexandra Palace Lodge, ably assisted by Bros. Dutton, Lovett King, and Stanley Smith. After the lodge had been formally opened, and before the proceedings commenced,

Bro. Col. SHADWELL H. CLERKE said the brethren were honoured by the presence among them of a distinguished Mason hailing from another jurisdiction, the R.W. Bro. Sir Henry Morland, who exercised under the Grand Lodge of Scotland the office of Grand Master of all Scottish Masonry in India, and he called upon the brethren to salute him with all the honours.

The salute having been given, Bro. Sir H. MORLAND said he thanked the brethren sincerely for their kindly welcome, and for the honour they had done him. It gave him the greatest pleasure to be present on that occasion, and to add if possible to the celebrity of the event, by seeing the consecration of a lodge of Scotsmen under the warrant of the Grand Lodge of England.

Bro. Col. SHADWELL H. CLERKE next said that the occasion on which the brethren were met was one of very great Masonic importance, and he was sure that those who were present would be gratified in future years to think and remember that they took part in the meeting. He had on many similar occasions pointed out the fact that there were a very large number of lodges at present in London, and it was a difficult matter to get a warrant for a new lodge unless good and valid reason could be shown for the existence of such new lodge. The reason for the Scots Lodge was a unique one; it was because it had been considered by numerous and various brethren who hailed from the sister kingdom of Scotland who were resident in London that it would further their unity if they had a lodge to meet in, and have a local habitat where they could meet each other and where they could make brethren of their fellow countrymen, as they had a great number of distinguished Scotchmen in London. Such being the case, they put the matter before the M.W.G.M., and his Royal Highness having considered it he thought their case was such a strong one that he had no hesitation in granting the prayer of their petition. Therefore they were met to consecrate the Scots Lodge of London, and the English Masons as Englishmen felt very pleased that they should have another tie, if one were wanting, between themselves and the Masons of the north. The lodge was fortunate in having obtained the services of an illustrious nobleman and a distinguished Mason. His lordship's services in Freemasonry were so well known to everybody who was a Mason that he thought the lodge was most fortunate in having him as their first W.M., and he was sure that under such guidance, and with the assistance of such excellent brethren as those who had got this lodge up, it would succeed. They would be careful not to be in a hurry to increase their numbers. They would study its welfare in every way, and they would find their reward in the end.

The ceremony was then proceeded with.

Bro. the Rev. G. W. WELDON, P.G.C., in delivering the oration, said: Consecrating Master and Brethren,—Allow me to ask your kind indulgence for about five or six minutes while I endeavour to put before you, as suggested in the programme of our proceedings, something on the nature and principles of our Order, and that I may make my remarks as definite as possible I have selected for our consideration on this occasion the symbolic teaching of Masonry. The entire system of Freemasonry is intimately associated with what is commonly termed symbolism. In order rightly to understand the true meaning of that mode of instruction it is necessary that we should be accurately acquainted with the facts signified by the symbols. By the term symbol is simply meant the outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual truth. To use the impressive words of the ritual of our Craft—Masonry is "a system of morality veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbol." Nations which have been separated from each other by continents and by centuries, diverse in their habits, and alien in race, have adopted this mode of communicating their ideas, especially in the rites and ceremonies connected with the worship of a Supreme Being. This fact may be clearly traced in the outward emblems, by means of which the people of the old world as well as of the new have endeavoured to embody the yearnings of their religious instincts. This symbolism was a kind of universal language, well understood by the initiated, into whatever country they might wander, even though they were ignorant of the ordinary language spoken by the people. The sign or symbol used in these religious ceremonies plainly expressed to them the truth signified by it. This mode of communicating ideas has been handed down to us from periods of very remote antiquity. For example, look at the symbolic writing as seen in the sacred but mysterious characters called hieroglyphics on the ancient monuments of Egypt. On carefully examining the curious inscriptions on the outer coverings of the mummy cases you may frequently notice the symbol of a bird just in the act of taking wing. By this symbol it was meant to convey the idea, that while the body, elaborately wrapped up in the ceremonies of death, was mouldering away amid the rags and the rubbish within that coffin, the soul of the deceased had already entered upon its long aerial flight towards distant and unknown regions of space. You may notice, also, another symbol, which we ourselves have adopted—namely, that of the winged circle, the circle denoting Eternity, without beginning or ending, and the wings the perpetual flight of time. To go farther back in ancient history, you may see even at this very hour, in the galleries of the British Museum, those wonderful human-headed winged figures, with the body of a lion or of a bull, which once guarded the entrance to the marble halls of the Royal palaces of Nineveh. A more beautiful symbol it was impossible for a barbarous people of that bygone age of the world to have conceived. It was thereby intended to express the all-conquering force of the combined power of intelligence with strength. And now allow me to direct your attention very briefly to the symbolic literature of Freemasonry. Time forbids that I should do more than select just one out of the many, but that perhaps the most impressive of all our emblems intended to convey to us the solemn and all-important truth of the presence of the Grand Overseer of the Universe, under all circumstances, in every place, and at the very same moment. If we look around us in any of our Masonic lodges we are at once struck with the allegorical teaching—unless, indeed, constant familiarity may have blunted the keen edge of our perception—involved in the symbol of "The All-seeing Eye." To this our beautiful and impressive ritual alludes in the well-known words—"Then let us remember that wherever we are, or whatever we do, He is always with us, and His All-seeing eye beholds us." To this corresponds the statement in the Volume of the Sacred Law where we read that "The eyes of the Lord are in every place, beholding the evil and the good." In other words, this form of symbolism is intended to teach us the omniscience and the omnipresence of the Great Architect of the Universe.

Finally, before sitting down, I cannot omit referring to the adverse criticism, especially of late, which has been doing its worst to disparage and to misrepresent the principles of the Craft. Our critics undertake to pronounce their unjust verdict based on *ex parte* evidence. If they have any claim to be credited with the simplest and most rudimentary knowledge of logic, they should bear well in mind that the art of reasoning lays down for our guidance, as the first and unexceptionable rule, that we should never argue from the perversion of any system, but from its genuine tendencies. There may be, of course, bad Masons, who are unworthy of the name, but indeed and in truth not many; just as there are, and have been, bad men in the most jealously-guarded systems, even of Divine religion. Still, I maintain that every right-minded and conscientious Mason must be a good and gentle man, a true and loyal patriot, a sincere and devoted friend, and a moral and honourable citizen. Masonry, when rightly understood, and when its principles are rightly carried out in the tangled experience of the every-day concerns of human life, is eminently calculated to promote those courtesies and amenities, which consist in delicate attentions to the feelings and the failings of our fellow-creatures.

It develops the better part of human nature, and it helps us to live up to the standard of our true manhood. True Masonry never acts from selfish or secondary motives, but on the fundamental principle which lies at the root of all human sympathy—viz., the Fatherhood of God, and its invariable consequence, the brotherhood of man; for, if we love not the brother whom we have seen, how *can* we love God, whom we have not seen? Therefore, Freemasonry is a beneficent system of pure and practical religion, which teaches us how to work under the guidance of the three great lights—Brotherly Love, Charity, and Truth.

The oration was, at its conclusion, loudly applauded; after which the usual formalities in the consecration of a lodge were observed, and the Earl of Euston, P.G.M. for Norths and Hunts, was installed by Col. Shadwell Clerke as first W.M. of the new lodge, Bro. C. F. Matier appointed to act as I.P.M., and invested with his collar and jewel.

The other brethren invested were Bros. Vero Shaw, S.W.; John Whitehead, J.W.; George Shaw, Treas.; George Henderson, Sec.; John Page, S.D.; Thomas Grant, J.D.; H. Campbell-Beaver, I.G.; C. F. Matier, D.C.; J. Thomson, Stwd.; and Charles Thomas, Tyler.

All the officers, excepting of course the Tyler, made a present to the lodge of their collars and silver jewels. The silver jewels had inscribed on them the fact and date of the gift, and the name of the donor. All the founders of the lodge had an elegant and valuable founders' jewel, and one of these beautiful pieces of workmanship was presented to Col. Shadwell Clerke. A vote of thanks was, on the motion of the Earl of Euston, seconded by Bro. Matier, passed to Bros. Col. Clerke, Sir J. B. Monckton, Thomas Fenn, the Rev. G. W. Weldon, Frank Richardson, and Robert Berridge, who were also elected honorary members of the lodge. This last compliment was also passed on Sir Henry Morland and Bro. D. Murray Lyon, G. Sec. of Scotland.

A committee, consisting of the W.M., the S.W. and J.W., the Treasurer and Secretary, and Bro. Matier, was elected to draw up the by-laws of the lodge, after which the names of candidates for initiation and joining were given in, and the lodge was closed.

A choice banquet, provided in excellent style by Messrs. Hill and Sons, followed, the brethren being ushered into the banqueting-hall by a glorious piper playing the bagpipes.

The table was adorned with two magnificent rams' heads, as snuff boxes, and the walls were adorned with tartans and clan banners. Everything was conducted in the most hospitable Scotch fashion.

The usual toasts followed the banquet.

The W.M., in giving the first toast—"The Queen and the Craft"—said the toast needed very few words from him, because he was certain of one thing—that in Masonry every one was loyal, and there was another fact to be added—Scotchmen were loyal to the backbone.

The toast having been drunk most heartily,

The W.M. said that all Masons would receive the next toast as it ought to be received—"The M.W. G.M." On this occasion he would go somewhat out of the ordinary course, and, as it was the wedding day of the Grand Master's daughter, he would include the Princess of Wales, the Princess Louise of Wales, and the Earl of Fife, her husband, and wishing the bride and bridegroom health, long life, and prosperity and happiness.

This toast was also drunk most enthusiastically.

In giving "The Pro G.M., the D.G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," the W.M., after sympathising with the D.G.M. in the loss of his son, said the Grand Officers were always ready to do their duty. They had had very good proof that night of what they could do; that they would come forward and do their work both honestly, well, and cheerfully, showing that they had in their hearts the good and prosperity and the welfare of the Craft. Long might they live and prosper, and might they be followed by men who would make their mark in Masonry as well as the present Grand Officers.

Bro. Sir JOHN MONCKTON, who was called on to respond, said that, unlike the usual responses to this toast, when there was a difficulty to find something to say, there was that day so much to say that there was a difficulty in knowing how to cut it short. It had been a first day in many respects—a first day for a Royal wedding, and a first day for a Scotch lodge

in the old City of London. Of those two inaugurations they hoped the fruits might be satisfactory and lasting. As far as he was concerned, it was his first day of tasting haggis, and he did not like the look of it. But he was near the Church—which did not mean nearer to Heaven—and Bro. Weldon said to him, "Don't let it go," and he had some; and he liked it very much. The only sort of title he had to occupy the S.W. chair in the lodge that evening was an inordinate love of Scotch whiskey; he should henceforth have a love for haggis. Consequently, he should be happy to be a member of a Scots lodge, and he was very proud to be so.

Col. SHADWELL H. CLERKE, in proposing the toast of "The Worshipful Master," said it was a toast he was proud to propose, and was the most important of all on an occasion of that kind—the health of the noble brother who had been kind enough to accept the chair of this new lodge. It frequently devolved upon him to propose the toast of the first Master of a new lodge on the occasion of the consecration, and he generally thought it applicable to point out that the position of the first Master of a new lodge was a peculiarly important one, and it was exceedingly gratifying to himself, because the first Master of an ordinary lodge arrived, as a general rule, at his position by seniority. The other founders of a new lodge were generally good men and true, and they looked round to find a good man to become a Master. In the present case they had selected the Earl of Euston, and thus showed that among all the founders of the Scots Lodge no one was considered to be so fitted to be the first Master as the noble lord. Every one at the table warmly agreed in this, because they all knew the career of the Earl of Euston, and knew there had been no more brilliant career among the Masters than his among the Masons of England. During the time his lordship had been a Mason he had shown the most marvellous zeal, energy, and capability in every sort of Masons' work. He had thrown himself into the gap wherever the gap existed; he had performed every ceremony he had been called upon to perform; he had filled high offices which had entailed labour, work, and self-abnegation on him; and, therefore, he (Col. Clerke) thought the Scots Lodge was heartily to be congratulated on having a brother like Lord Euston at their head. He was sure the gratitude of the Scots Lodge would always be exhibited to Lord Euston for having taken the position of W.M., and he (Col. Clerke) congratulated him upon it. At the same time, he thought Lord Euston was to be congratulated upon being at the head of a noble organisation in London, one which would have a brilliant future. The brethren had it entirely in their own hands to make it the most splendid lodge in the world. Looking at the field from which they would draw their candidates, it was difficult to



BRO. LORD EUSTON, WORSHIPFUL MASTER.

say what the future of the Scots Lodge would be; but he was sure that in the hands of its first Master, and in the hands of those who at present constituted it, the success of the lodge was assured. He requested them to drink most heartily and sincerely the health of the W.M., wishing him a happy, pleasant, and prosperous year of office.

Bro. the Earl of EUSTON, in reply, said as he looked back on a very short Masonic career he could say this much—that he had been very lucky, and he hoped he would not be one of those who started well and did not run long. He could assure the brethren that he would strive to do his best for the good of Masonry. The Craft was their first consideration, and the Grand Lodge of England, of course, in this country was their first consideration. That night they had a brother of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, a brother who was most distinguished in that Grand Lodge. The Scots Lodge might call themselves a Scotch lodge, but they were a Scotch lodge under the laws and institutions of the Grand Lodge of England. Although he was only half Scotch himself, the brethren welcomed him among them, and he thanked them for the great honour they had done him in choosing him for their W.M., and for the honour they had done him by placing him in the chair of this lodge, and for placing him at the head of them when there were so many who were much more worthy and senior to himself, and who had done more work in Masonry. Although he had been a short time in Masonry, he could honestly say he had done his best. It was an honour when he was asked if he would accept the office of first Master of this lodge, and when Bro. Matier spoke to him about it, he replied he would take any office they wished him to take, but he thought there were other brethren who were more Scotch than he, and possessed more right to be in that noble position. But the brethren had placed him in that position, and he thanked them for it from the bottom of his heart. He would prove it to them by performing his duty, and working to the best of his ability in the Scots Lodge. He would be present whenever he could, and he believed their first meeting would be in August. August was a bad month for some persons, and they wanted to get some members who wanted to come in, and it was proposed to him that they should have an emergency on the 29th. If that day was fixed he would be most happy to be there and do any work. He was sure the brethren he had had the pleasure of investing as officers that evening would back him up, as they had placed him at their head. When a man was placed at the head he might do what he liked, but unless he was backed up by his officers he was as nothing. If the brethren would back him up, and work with him with the same fraternal feeling that he felt towards them, he was certain they could by degrees make this Scots Lodge one of the first in London. If he had health to do so he should give his best endeavours to the work. Before sitting down he had a toast to bring to the notice of the brethren, which was that of "The Consecrating Officers." Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, who was the chief Consecrating Officer, had spoken far too kindly about himself (Lord Euston), but the brethren knew that whenever they wanted anything in Freemasonry they had only to go to Freemasons' Hall, and ask to see Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, and they would receive that welcome and assistance which was so encouraging to them. His treatment of Masons showed he had Masonry at heart. Of the remaining Grand Officers who assisted him, it was well known that they were all able and sound in their work, and well up in the noble science. They had proved it that evening by the way they aided in the consecration of the lodge, and for the services they had all performed that evening. He trusted the brethren would drink this toast most warmly.

Bro. Col. SHADWELL H. CLERKE, in reply, said that in the name of his distinguished colleagues and himself he acknowledged the toast and expressed their gratitude for the kind expressions just used. So far as his experience went they were always most delighted to put their hands to the plough and to do anything they possibly could to advance English Freemasonry. He never had any difficulty when he had the honour of being appointed by the Grand Master to consecrate a lodge in getting most distinguished brethren to give up their private engagements in order to assist him. That night he had been unusually fortunate, for, as the brethren would acknowledge, he had had a most illustrious band of brothers who could not be surpassed. Bro. Sir John Monckton and Bro. Penn had a world-wide reputation, and there could be no more distinguished brethren to assist him. Then Bro. Weldon, with his silvery tongue, had given them the most beautiful, true, and purely Masonic remarks, that had gone deeply into the heart of every brother present. Bro. Frank Richardson was a veritable expert at these works, and the whole affair, with his assistance, ran like clockwork. Bro. Berridge, in a lower office, was good enough to act as Inner Guard. With the valuable assistance of all these brethren he hoped the work went fairly well, and that the brethren were satisfied. All his colleagues and himself were delighted to perform their duties, and they had done so that night in the firm belief and assurance that they had taken part in the foundation of a lodge which ought—and if it did not it was their own fault—in a few years to be one of the leading lodges in London.

Bro. C. F. MATIER said he had been honoured by being asked to propose the next toast, and it was in all cases a very large amount of pleasure to a brother to know when he proposed a toast that that toast was the most acceptable one that could possibly be proposed to those who were asked to drink it. The toast was one that would never be neglected in a lodge of kindly Scots—it was the toast of "The Grand Lodge of Scotland." If the Grand Lodge of Scotland was not the oldest or mother Grand Lodge in the world, she certainly ran a very good second, and several of her daughter lodges, one of which he belonged to himself—the ancient lodge of Edinburgh, Mary's Chapel, No. 1—the minutes of which were dated 1676, long before the establishment of Grand Lodge of England in 1713. The members of the Scots Lodge knew what the Grand Lodge of Scotland was capable of in years gone by; and were he not a Past Grand Officer of that Grand Lodge he might, perhaps, say a great deal more than he was going to do. But they had present a brother who was one of the bright and shining examples of what the Grand Lodge of Scotland was capable of sending out to our colonies and dependencies. They were honoured that evening by the presence of their brother, Sir Henry Morland, the G.M. of all Scots Masonry in India, who had for many years carried the banner of Scots Freemasonry, and had made everyone respect the banner, whether he was a Parsee, a Mahomedan, a Hindoo, English, or Scotch. Sir H. Morland had had the honour of having two Past Dist. G. Masters of Bombay and the present Dist. G. Master of Bombay, and the Duke of Connaught made Past G. Masters under his jurisdiction. That was a great record for any brother, and the Scots Lodge, that night, had a reasonable pride in having him as an honorary member of their lodge. He asked the brethren to drink health and prosperity to the Grand Lodge of Scotland and Sir Henry Morland.

Bro. Sir HENRY MORLAND, in acknowledging the toast, said he hoped the brethren would believe him when he said that he rose with considerable diffidence to return thanks, and to endeavour to respond to the very warm and eulogistic terms in which the Grand Lodge of Scotland had been proposed by Bro. Matier. He was not aware when he came to the lodge that he was to take any prominent position, or that he was to be responsible for the toast of the Grand Lodge of Scotland. It was not until they heard in the lodge the letter from the Grand Secretary of Scotland that the Grand Lodge would be represented by him (Bro. Sir Henry Morland), that he was aware that the honour was showered on him of being there in that capacity. The few thoughts that passed through his mind on coming were that it was possible he might have to make some remarks in the course of the evening; and when he told them that the few flitting ideas that came to his mind for the moment had been forestalled by Sir John Monckton, with regard to the Royal Wedding that day, he wished to say that the day had been fittingly finished, after the Royal nuptials in the morning, by the wedding of the Scots brethren and the English Constitution that evening. He wished now to echo the remarks of Sir John Monckton, wishing that the fruits of that double union might be doubly

sanctified, that they might meet with the best results, and that it might be merely the forerunner of establishing brother and sister Constitutions under the other Grand Lodges. Might they see a companion of brotherhoods of the English Constitution uniting under the Scottish Grand Lodge, and might they be knit closer in Freemasonry by a common band. It had been his great aim during the many years he had been associated with Scotch Freemasonry in India to unite the two Constitutions, and to work together in brotherly love and harmony. In India, which was a vast province and an extensive continent, they worked together, side by side, in harmony and with every characteristic that should unite Freemasons; they had the pleasure of welcoming English brethren at the meetings of the Scotch lodges and the English lodges welcomed the Scotch. On the occasion of his Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught being installed as District Grand Master of Bombay, he (Sir H. Morland) had the honour and pleasure of investing him with the badge of an honorary Past Grand Master under the Scotch Grand Lodge. The Duke of Connaught had not had the opportunity of having the hospitality returned which the Scotch brethren enjoyed that day, but he hoped that on St. Andrew's-day next he would welcome H.R.H. in Bombay under the banner of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and show how they appreciated his hospitality and the kind brotherly feeling that he and his officers showed to them for years past. He would congratulate the Scotchmen who formed the Scots Lodge on coming together and uniting to show that no factious opposition existed—that they had the same objects in view, whether they were the Constitutions of England, Scotland, and Ireland, or Scotland, England, and Ireland, or Ireland, Scotland, and England. Take them in what order they might, the glorious principles were the same that weighed with Freemasons; they would unite them, and so united they were determined to carry on those objects to the best of their power. The brethren would excuse him for paying one tribute to the grand Charities of English Freemasonry. He had had recently a record before him of the noble Charities of the Order, and the noble contributions in money which the English Freemasons had made towards Charity in the last few years—should he say the last six years—when he believed no less a sum than £320,000 had been contributed by the English Freemasons towards Charity. Much as he admired this he believed the Grand Lodge of Scotland was walking in the footsteps of the Grand Lodge of England; it was endeavouring to establish its own Masonic Charities, which, though they would not vie with, would be worthy to succeed to the English ones, and therefore he said that between the two Constitutions there never should be rivalry; let there be only emulation. This had been the banner throughout his career in Freemasonry. Although an Englishman himself, it was his fortune to be initiated under the Scotch Constitution, and he was loyal to it. He believed every Englishman would have been the same who was worthy of the name of Mason. But, although he said that, his sympathies were as true to England as to Scotland, and ever would be so. One word more upon this theme of Charity. He admired their English Freemasonry, their noble Institutions, and their providing money for Charity; but let him tell them this, he looked in his experience on a grander offspring of Masonry—the kind heart which induced them to look with gentleness on the backslidings and shortcomings of men, to look forward to a common aim, the general good of the human race, and distributing the benefits of the Craft as widely as in their sphere lay. He did not look merely on the pecuniary side of Charity, but on something more deep in the human heart, unity and sympathy, which were something more than offerings of money. It had been his aim to distribute as far as he possibly could the grand objects of Masonry among the races of India. Under his banner he had the pleasure to see natives of every class, and of every belief, and the Grand Lodge of England had the same pleasure. These races had their own peculiarities of belief, of religion, of observances, of moral and of social forms; but he believed Freemasonry to be the great civiliser, and to have been the greatest civiliser that it had been possible to introduce; it broke down all the barriers of caste in its one belief. He could dwell longer on this theme, but felt the brethren's patience was exhausted. He had trespassed too long on their kindness, but let him at once assure them of his appreciation of the kindly welcome they had extended to him, and of the good feeling of the Scotch brotherhood in London, which joined them together to celebrate the rituals and the rites of Freemasonry under the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of England. It would be a pleasure and a pride to him to see this grand system extended in every sphere of the universe under the two Constitutions, reciprocating brotherly love and friendship in the true spirit that it had been exhibited that evening. He thanked them again for their hospitality, and for the very kind and cordial reception the Grand Lodge of Scotland had had, and for the honour they had conferred upon him by enrolling him as an honorary member of the lodge.

The Earl of EUSTON next said he was certain the groove he was now going to start would be well received, because every Freemason, from the time of his initiation, was taught to extend a welcome to any stranger who came among them—not as strangers, he would say, but as sojourners in a strange land—visitors. They came among us, as we travelling in foreign lands hoped to go among them, and he hoped the brethren would join him in drinking a most hearty welcome to visitors who were present. In Masonry visitors were a great advantage, because occasionally—particularly when they were visitors from a foreign clime or visitors from another adjacent province or lodge—they helped to bring them all together, and this union gave them ideas of what their brethren were doing in other lodges and other provinces. As they went through life they should not be narrow-minded, and should not say, "We do this thing well, or that thing well; we are a first-class lodge." It might be so. The Scots Lodge might be a first-class lodge—he hoped it would be; but still they should never be above taking a wrinkle, an idea, from other lodges to their own benefit, and he quite thought that in receiving visitors from other lodges and countries they very often heard things they would not hear if they did not have those visitors among them. That night they were the youngest lodge in Great Britain, and he and the brethren would try to make it a great success. They had that evening most illustrious visitors, and he trusted the brethren of the lodge would give this toast a hearty welcome. There were several Grand Officers present, several from other countries, and he only hoped this would not be the last occasion when they would give them the pleasure of their presence. He would ask three brethren to respond—Bro. Letchworth, Bro. Fenwick, District Grand Secretary of Queensland, and Bro. Tilden, from America. Bro. Letchworth was always most ready to do whatever work came to his hand, and when it came to his hand he did it in an admirable manner. Bro. Fenwick was District Grand Secretary of Queensland, one of those colonies which were still under the Grand Lodge of England. They did not object to their forming new Grand Lodges, and they only wished them success in every endeavour they made. He thought he could speak with some experience, not as a Mason, but as a colonist, because he spent six years in Australia, that there were no more loyal or more hospitable people, no kinder race of Englishmen who lived in our colonies, than those who lived in Australia. Bro. Tilden, according to his own account, was a very young Mason, but he seemed to have gone into many Degrees, because he was present the other night at one of the Degrees not acknowledged in the Craft—the Royal and Select Masters. He asked the brethren to welcome the visitors who were present from all parts of the globe, and when they referred back to the initiation of any man who went into Freemasonry, they found they were told that Freemasonry spread its branches over every quarter of the globe, and therefore they welcomed as brethren and Masons those who came from every part of the earth, whether Americans, Englishmen, Scotchmen, or Irishmen. He could not call those from the colonies of Australia anything else but Englishmen. They had come forward and fought for us, and he believed also that America would never see England going down without giving her a helping hand to keep her up.

Bro. E. LETCHWORTH, P.G.D., said that, having been already the subject of one toast, he was not prepared for the great honour the W.M. had done him in associating his name with the toast of "The Visitors;" but as their very unworthy mouthpiece would they allow him to express their appreciation of the very kind manner in which the W.M. had introduced the toast, as well as for the splendid hospitality that had been extended to the visitors by the Scots Lodge. He could not but feel that it was a happy coincidence that the establishment of this lodge should have taken place on the day when the Prov. G. Master of one of the most important provinces of Scotland had been allied in marriage to a daughter of the Heir Apparent to the throne, and he felt sure he was expressing the feelings of all those who had been honoured by an invitation to the consecration of the Scots Lodge when he expressed the earnest hope that this lodge, which had been founded under such splendid auspices, might become, as he felt sure it would become under the rule of Lord Euston, its first Master, one of the most important lodges in the Craft.

Bro. FENWICK, Dist. G. Sec. Queensland, said, in attempting to respond on behalf of "The Visitors" he was afraid he was doing so under considerable disadvantage. This was his first visit to a lodge in England after an absence of 35 years in Australia, and he felt after his long sojourn in that sunny land that coming to a climate like England, however much they might boast of it, it did not quite agree with his chest and throat, and, therefore, they must excuse him if he did not say all that he would like to say. However, he had to thank, very sincerely, the brethren for the honour they had done him in connecting his name with the toast of the visitors. He was not exactly representing Queensland, but, as District G. Sec. of that colony for the last 20 years, he might call himself a representative of the English Constitution in Queensland. There they had, unfortunately, working side by side three Constitutions, the English, the Scottish, and the Irish, and although they worked in perfect amity and fraternal feeling together, he regretted very much to say that there was a feeling among two of the Constitutions particularly of separating and forming a Grand Lodge of Queensland. The Worshipful Master, Bro. the Earl of Euston, had said something to the effect that they would welcome new Colonial Grand Lodges. It was right, perhaps, where there was unanimity of feeling in the Colonies; right where there was a large majority in favour of separating from the parent stock and forming a Grand Lodge. They might be justified in welcoming another Grand Lodge, and allowing them to separate; but he could assure them there was no such feeling in Queensland; the majority of lodges in Queensland were in favour of the old banner; there were 31 under the English Constitution, and under the two other Constitutions there were 28 or 29; but even among them there were very many brethren who would still maintain the old flag. Another matter in connection with his visit to the Scots Lodge was that it was a very great pleasure for him to be there; it was one of those things he had looked forward to for years to see the ceremony of consecration performed by Officers of Grand Lodge of England, and now it was realised. He knew the names of many of the members now present by the press, by the *Freemason*, and by the reports, but it had been as myths, and not as meeting them face to face and seeing them. They were flesh and blood, perhaps, but evidently of a superior clay. Hitherto, in connection with the ceremonies of consecration and installation, he had been a principal actor, but now he was a hearer and a learner, and the lessons would bear fruit in Queensland. He was exceedingly happy to be present at the inauguration of this new Scots Lodge; he thought it had every prospect of a brilliant future. He was sure there was sufficient *esprit de corps*, or *esprit de pays* in the brethren to keep them together. He hoped it would be one of the most prosperous lodges in London. He was sure he was only speaking on behalf of the Masons of Queensland when he wished the lodge every prosperity, and that the brethren would realise all their wishes in that respect. He was particularly delighted to see the Grand Secretary, Bro. Colonel Shadwell Clerke, and to hear and see the impressive way in which he performed the ceremony. He had also had the pleasure of seeing again Bro. Frank Richardson, whom he met in Victoria two or three years ago, and of seeing him working as an expert in these ceremonies. The other brethren he had never met before, but still it was a great pleasure to have met them now. On behalf of Queensland he returned his thanks.

Bro. TILDEN, U.S.A., in replying, said he felt this was the most extraordinary honour that had ever been conferred upon him. He came among the brethren that night absolutely without any progress whatever in Masonry. It was true he had taken honorary Degrees in Masonry. He did not feel that being called upon to reply was intended to be an honour to him personally, but to him as representing the great cordial and fraternal feeling towards an outer fraternal feeling, not only as a man, because it had been his great privilege, while among Englishmen, to have experienced the greatest cordiality from a brother outside Freemasonry, but here, this evening, he felt it to be entirely different. He came among them as a brother, and was received as a brother, and if they would allow him to present himself as a self-appointed delegate from America, he would say he wished this lodge inaugurated in that way a most hearty God-speed. He was perfectly assured that if there were sufficient Americans in London to form an American lodge as there were Scotsmen to form a Scots Lodge, the Grand Officers of Grand Lodge would be no less ready to attend and consecrate an American lodge, and feeling as he did, he was sure that America presented her freest and best good wishes. He was of opinion that in a case of emergency they would find the brethren on the other side of the Atlantic what they had been said to be. It was the feeling throughout America to-day; the travel, the interchange of sentiments, the visits Americans made to England, and the visits Englishmen and Scotchmen made to America, created the hearty good feeling and fellowship which were felt throughout America. And there was something in the English language which bound them together if nothing else would, and if there came a time when anything which involved international considerations arose, the English-speaking people would be found together. In the name of the visitors, he thanked the brethren on behalf of America.

The Earl of EUSTON, in proposing the toast of "The Officers of the Lodge," said most of the officers were founders of the lodge who so generously and kindly did him the great honour to select him for the first W.M. He hoped that he should not only be their Master for the year, but that before his year of office was out he should be most intimately acquainted with them. He wished again to express to them his sense of the great honour they had done him by selecting him for their Master. He must say that if a Master did not get on well with his officers, it was the same as if an officer in the army or navy did not get on with his officers, and they could not expect affairs to go on smoothly in that state of things. He hoped that in the position he was now placed he would have the support which should be given to everybody who was at the head of affairs. He did not want to rule them with a rod of iron, but only wanted to rule them with brotherly love and affection, which should always reign in Masonry. He wanted to do what he could for the prosperity of the lodge, and he asked for the cordial support of the officers to help him in carrying out his duties during his year of office, and after that period was passed, he would do anything to help the lodge, and he should do it to the best of his ability and with the heartiest goodwill. He would call upon the Senior Warden to respond to this toast; he was the next officer to himself, and had done a great deal in inaugurating and forming the lodge. They were all to a certain extent Scotchmen. For himself he only had one qualification—that his motto was Scotch. (A VOICE: "That's enough.") He thought his first cousin also—Mr. A. J. Balfour—was a Scotchman—whatever Mr. Balfour had done had been done both honestly and well. His father and his (Lord Euston's) mother were brother and sister. As Master of the lodge he would not allow politics to be mentioned at any price; he mentioned this circumstance without any reference to politics. For

himself, he would give the most hard and indomitable work in order that the lodge might be placed in the proud pre-eminence in which they wished it to be.

Bro. VERO SHAW, in reply, assured the brethren he rose with the very greatest pleasure to respond for the first time to the toast of the Officers of the lodge. It was a pleasure at all times, but especially in that lodge, in which he hoped the best means would be taken to unite them more closely than they had ever been before. Many of the founders were Scotch Masons; some of them had been initiated in Scotch lodges, but some in English lodges, but they were none the less loyal to the Grand Lodge of England. He might say that in returning thanks for the officers of the lodge and himself, whom the W.M. had coupled with the toast, they would not have been there that night if it had not been for that one unflinching kindness that had been vouchsafed to them by the Grand Officers of the Grand Lodge of England. It was a very open point that when they had proposed this lodge and sent in their petition, they made a very unfortunate mistake, the particulars of which he would not mention. Time was short, they wished to have the consecration before the end of the season, and to meet for work before the brethren left town. Had it not been for the kindness of the Grand Secretary, they would not have been there that night. There would have been no Scots Lodge, and no officers to respond to the toast. Therefore he thought that in returning thanks, and drinking the health of the officers of the lodge, he should not lose sight of the great kindness rendered to them by the G. Secretary. With regard to what the W.M. had said as to the necessity of the absolute loyalty of his officers, he hoped that at the end of the W.M.'s year of office it would be found that they had done their duty, and that they were determined to support him. He thanked them very much, and assured the W.M. that the officers most cordially reciprocated the good wishes the brethren had offered towards them.

The brethren then separated.

The lodge was furnished by Bro. George Kenning.

SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER.

The following is the business to be transacted on Wednesday, the 7th inst.—
The minutes of the last Quarterly Convocation to be read for confirmation.

THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

To the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of England.

The Committee of General Purposes beg to report that they have examined the accounts from the 17th April to the 16th July, 1889, both inclusive, which they find to be as follows:

To Balance Grand Chapter	£123 13 7	By Disbursements during	
" " Unappropriated		the Quarter	£304 14 0
" " Account	192 19 7	" Balance	175 3 7
" Subsequent Receipts	358 11 6	" " Unappropriated	
		Account	195 7 1
	£675 4 8		£675 4 8

Which balances are in the Bank of England, Western Branch.

The Committee have to report that they have received the following petitions:

1st. From Comps. Col. Henry Platt, as Z.; Donald Cameron, as H.; William Hugh Thomas, as J.; and eight others, for a chapter to be attached to the St. David's Lodge, No. 384, Bangor, to be called the Star of Gwynedd Chapter, and to meet at the Masonic Hall, Bangor, in the Province of North Wales.

2nd. From Comps. George Joseph Westbury, as Z.; Thomas Edward Lucy, as H.; Edward Arthur Hicks, as J.; and six others, for a chapter to be attached to the Lodge Semper Fidelis, No. 529, Worcester, to be called the Semper Fidelis Chapter, and to meet at the Masonic Hall, High-street, in the City of Worcester.

3rd. From Comps. Alfred Rixon, as Z.; Walter Galt Gribbon, as H.; Thomas Blanche White, as J.; and six others, for a chapter to be attached to the Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 34, London, to be called the Moriah Chapter, and to meet at Freemasons' Hall, London.

4th. From Comps. Jehanghir Kursetji Rustomji Cama, as Z.; Nathaniel John Goodchild, as H.; Ebenezer Charles Mulvey, as J.; and seven others, for a chapter to be attached to the Regent's Park Lodge, No. 2202, London, to be called the Regent's Park Chapter, and to meet at the York and Albany Hotel, Gloucester Gate, Regent's Park, London.

The foregoing petitions being in all respects regular, the Committee recommend that the prayers thereof be respectively granted.

The Committee have also to report that they have received memorials, with extracts of minutes, on the removal of the following chapters, and, being satisfied of the reasonableness of the requests, recommend that the removal of these chapters be sanctioned, viz:—

(1). The Joppa Chapter, No. 188, from the Albion Tavern to the Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, London.

(2). The Westbourne Chapter, No. 733, from St. John's Wood to the Holborn Restaurant, Holborn.

(3). The Phoenix Chapter of St. Ann, No. 1235, from the Court House to the Town Hall, Buxton.

The Committee have further to report that in consequence of the formation and recognition of a Grand Lodge of Victoria, there are, with the exception of the Meridian Lodge of St. John, No. 729, and the Combermere Lodge, No. 752, Melbourne, which have not yet signified their intention of joining the Grand Lodge of Victoria, no longer English Craft lodges in that colony to which the chapters meeting in the District of Victoria can be attached, as required by Article 45, Royal Arch Regulations.

The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Charters of the undermentioned chapters be withdrawn and cancelled, and that the chapters be erased from the Register of the Grand Chapter.

- No. 474, Australasian, Melbourne.
- " 530, Victorian, Melbourne.
- " 641, Royal Golden of Bendigo, Sandhurst.
- " 692, Eureka, Castlemain.
- " 713, Yarrawee, Ballarat.
- " 727, Collingwood, Melbourne.
- " 728, St. John, Beechworth.
- " 747, Melbourne, Melbourne.
- " 930, South Yarra, Melbourne.

(Signed) ROBERT GREY, President.

Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.,
17th July, 1889.

BERKELEY HOTEL (late St. James's), 1, Berkeley-street, and 77, Piccadilly, London, W. First-class accommodation for residents, with a restaurant newly-attached for high class luncheons and dinners, at fixed prices and à la carte.—C. DIETTE, Manager.—[ADVT.]

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THIRTY-FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT, MAY, 1889.

NEW BUSINESS.

1184 policies issued for £226,398
New premium income 7,046

BUSINESS IN FORCE.

27,323 policies, assuring 5,979,327

REVENUE OF THE YEAR.

Premiums 148,278
Interest, &c. 50,276

198,554

ACCUMULATED FUND.

Laid by in the year 49,850
Accumulated Fund on 31st January, 1889 1,256,420

Claims and Bonuses paid under Company's Policies 1,216,510

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FROM Mr. FRANK WRIGHT, The Comedian.

Mr. G. Eade, Comedian.

Prince of Wales Theatre, Birmingham, Feb. 19th, 1887.

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FREDERICK BINCKES, Secretary.

Office—6, Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.
July 31st.

THE "GOULD" TESTIMONIAL.

A scheme has been set on foot to recognise the eminent literary services of Bro. R. F. GOULD, P.G.D., author of "The History of Freemasonry," which is admitted by all authorities to be the ablest and best Masonic work ever written. Since its production, it is no longer possible to affirm, as has been constantly done by foes and friends alike, that the great body of Freemasons are without a reliable and critical history of their Society. Individual subscriptions (but not those of Lodges or other Bodies) are limited to one guinea.—Chairman of Committee, the EARL of CARNARVON, Pro Grand Master; Hon. Sec. and *ad interim* Treasurer (by whom contributions will be received), Dr. RALPH GOODING, P.G.D., Heath Lodge, The Grove, Blackheath, S.E.

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To Correspondents.

BOOKS, &c., RECEIVED.

"Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Scotland," "Masonic Chronicle," "South African Freemason," "Annual Report of the Grand Lodge of All Scottish Freemasonry in India," "The Freemason" (Toronto), "Loomis' Musical and Masonic Journal," and "Keystone."



SATURDAY, AUGUST 3RD, 1889.

Masonic Notes.

We have been favoured with a copy of the full report of the first meeting held in aid of the Educational Fund of the Province of North and East Yorkshire, which was held under the presidency of the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland, R.W.P.G.M., in the Masonic Hall, York, on Wednesday, the 8th May last, the most prominent among the guests being H.R.H. Prince Albert Victor of Wales, Past S.G.W. of England. The particulars of this successful gathering are already well known to our readers, but it is worth while stating that the number of brethren who gave their services as Stewards was 113, and the balance of clear profit to the Fund, after all expenses had been defrayed, was £1054 14s. 11d.

The total of the sums subscribed by the Craft, Arch, and Templar Masons of the United States towards the relief of the Masonic sufferers at Johnstown by the recent flood amounted, according to the Philadelphia *Keystone*, at the time of its issue of the 13th ult., to a fraction over \$40,000, or £8000. The contributions are chiefly from bodies in Pennsylvania, but New York and other jurisdictions are well represented. Such generosity is most honourable to our American brethren.

A still finer illustration of Masonic Charity, and that, too, on the part of an individual brother, is recorded in the same issue of the *Keystone*, in the shape of a gift by Bro. the Hon. Charles W. Hutchinson—it is not so stated, but we presume he is a member of our Society—of Utica, N.Y., amounting to \$25,000 (£5000) to the Masonic Home of New York which is about to be erected.

On the 10th ult., the centenary of the constitution of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut was celebrated with all possible éclat at Hartford, Conn. The proceedings included an historical address by Bro. Joseph K. Wheeler, Grand Secretary, a poem by Bro. the Rev. John T. Potter, an oration by Bro. the Rev. J. W. Richardson, and also—but this took place the evening previous—a reception by Bro. John H. Swarthout, M.W.G.M., at the Tontine House, which was attended by a numerous and brilliant gathering of prominent brethren.

According to the report furnished by the Masonic Relief Committee at Johnstown, Pa., by the recent floods the total loss sustained by the Masonic community amounted to \$783,524, namely, by the brethren of the Cambria Lodge, No. 278, \$334,214, and by those of the Johnstown Lodge, \$449,310. There were 18 brethren included among those who perished in the waters.

The newly-appointed rulers of Craft, Arch, and Templar Masonry in the State of Vermont are Bro. George W. Wing, M.W.G.M. of the Grand Lodge; Comp. Edwin O. Hibbard, M.E. Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter; and Sir Knight William F. Lewis, G. Commander of Knights Templar. The number of affiliated Craft brethren in Vermont, according to the latest returns, is 8544—a very fair number for so modest a State.

The death of Bro. W. Deamer, M.D., P.A.G.D.C. of England, D.D.G.M. of Canterbury, New Zealand, was referred to by Bro. H. Thompson, D.G.M., in a brief address at the Quarterly Communication of District Grand Lodge, held at the St. Augustine Masonic Hall, Christchurch, on the 18th April last. Bro. Thompson gave full expression to the grief which he, in common with the rest of the Masonic fraternity in the District, felt at the loss thus sustained. He spoke in terms of unqualified praise of the high qualities which their deceased brother had shown throughout the whole of his Masonic career, and concluded by moving a resolution of regret at his death, and of sincere condolence with his family. The resolution was carried without a dissentient voice, and it was afterwards agreed, on the recommendation of the Standing Committee, that a portrait in oils of the late Deputy should be obtained for the Hall.

From the returns presented at the annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba, held at Winnipeg on the 13th and 14th February last, it appears that the number of subscribing members in the jurisdiction on the 27th December, 1888, was 1704, the number of chartered lodges being 38, with two lodges under dispensation. The following are the principal Grand Officers for the year now current, namely: Bros. the Rev. Canon J. D. O'Mearn, M.W.G.M.; W. G. Bell, D.G.M.; T. Lewis Morton, S.G.W.; Thomas McPherson, J.G.W.; John McKechnie, G. Treas.; and W. G. Scott, G. Sec.

Bro. Tunnick sends us a letter relative to the recent final meeting of the Board of Stewards for the late Boys' School Festival. It is not on account of its length or of its not being to the point, that we summarise it instead of printing it in full. One or two personal references are better omitted we think, so we will merely say that Bro. Tunnick considers Bro. Seager has done rightly in condemning the action of the Board in voting the surplus of the fees after all expenses are paid to the Hon. Sec., &c., and suggests that the Steward's fee of £2 2s. might be reduced. This, we must point out, is a matter for the Stewards themselves to decide, and if they express their opinion in what appears to us to be the only practicable way, viz., by giving their votes at the meeting; those who cannot or do not attend have no right to complain of what is done in their absence.

As regards the question of a balance sheet, we have already said that we see not the slightest objection to one being prepared. Indeed, it is a matter which rests entirely with the Stewards themselves whether one shall be made out by their Secretary or not.

The Scots Lodge, No. 2319, is to be congratulated on having started on its career under the auspices of so energetic a Master as the Earl of Euston, of whom we publish a portrait this week. It is but two years since that his lordship became a conspicuous member of the Craft, but in that brief period he has been installed Prov. G. Master, has presided at one of our Anniversary Festivals, and has been appointed to one of the most important positions—that of President of the General Board—in Mark Masonry. In addition, he has won golden opinions from all sorts and conditions of the brethren, and we are confident the Scots Lodge will flourish under his genial and capable direction.

The *Staffordshire Advertiser* of last week contains an ably written history of the Sutherland of Unity Lodge, No. 460, which celebrated its Jubilee at Newcastle-under-Lyme on Friday, the 26th ult. Fifty years ago the Sutherland of Unity was one of six lodges in that province—now there are no fewer than 28, all of them more or less prosperous. Next week we may give some particulars of the meeting.

"The Elms," Avenue-road, Regent's Park, was the scene of a very pleasant gathering on Saturday last. In response to an intimation from Bro. and Mrs. Augustus Harris that they were "At Home" on that particular afternoon, a large number of visitors assembled in the charming house and grounds, where every preparation had been made by the hospitable owner to receive and entertain them. The Band of the Scots Guards discoursed sweet music on the lawn, and within was a warm and generous welcome which Bro. Harris and his amiable wife so well know how to offer. Amongst those present we noticed a large number of well known Craftsmen, including the Grand Secretary, Bro. Fenn, and others. Bro. Harris often produces startling effects in "another place," but we presume the thunderstorm which wound up the proceedings was an unhearsd effect, although there were many to declare that it had all been arranged.

The Hereford Masonic Charity Association has just held its annual meeting at Hereford, and the balance sheet shows that the organisation had been the means of raising a considerable sum for the three Institutions. The work of the Association is all the more satisfactory, as it appears from the report that until its establishment in 1878, "The Province of Herefordshire was somewhat noted in the Masonic world for the smallness of the sum it had contributed to the Central Institutions, although several Herefordshire children had been boarded and educated in the Masonic Schools, and some of the ancient local brethren and their widows had for many years received annuities from the Institution." We commend this candid avowal to the attention of the brethren in any other province who may consider they ought to raise a little "conscience money."

Correspondence.

OUR BENEVOLENT INSTITUTIONS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I am sorry to trouble you again, but there is a misprint in my letter of the 22nd inst., which you kindly inserted in your issue of last Saturday.

In the paragraph—"Are you serious in calling attention to the cost of investing £5325? At a quarter per cent. commission, at which rate any respectable broker will be glad to invest money, it amounts to £136 3s." These last figures should be £13 6s. 3d.—Believe me, faithfully yours,

C. LETCH MASON.

July 29.



THE "REGIUS MS."*

What has been entitled for many years as the "Halliwell," but lately altered to the "Regius" MS. by Bro. Gould's suggestion, should most certainly be better known to the "rank and file" of the Craft. With the exception of the late Mr. Halliwell's reproduction in 1840, and a second edition in 1844, no separate work on the subject has been published until this year. These early books are rarely to be obtained, the two editions being very limited as to numbers (as in fact all works are by that well-known antiquary), and always fetch high prices whenever any occur for sale. But even with either of these before one, especially the first edition, there is much to be desired, the transcript being far from perfect, and the facsimile portion being only a few lines of the precious original. Now, however, we are vastly differently situated, as by the opportune issue of a complete reproduction of the original MS. in exact facsimile by Mr. F. Compton Price, thanks to Bro. Henry Josiah Whymper, C.I.E., P.D.D.G.M. of the Punjab, we have practically this scarce and valuable document in our hands for consultation, as required, without having to journey to the British Museum whenever an examination of its text was needful. Our opinion is that nothing could possibly be better done than this facsimile, the skilled lithographic artist entrusted with the duty having carefully traced, word for word, the whole of the MS., and, therefore, Bro. Whymper may take it for granted that "the present production is absolutely accurate." We wish we could say so much for the transcript or ordinary re-production of the text which follows the original. It is much to be regretted that this portion has not been done with such scrupulous exactitude, Bro. John Lane having detected several errors in the transcription. Not that these at all affect the general nature of the work, but it will be as well for all students to compare the Transcript, line by line, with the facsimile, before accepting the former as final; or, better still, read the original only. The "Introductory Remarks" by the editor, Bro. Whymper, are both appropriate and interesting, besides being an important addition to our information on the subject. Whatever Bro. Whymper undertakes, he goes at it with all his heart, as we can tell by referring to his celebrated work on the "Religion of Freemasonry" (which is causing such a stir in India, as well as in this country), or to any of his famous addresses. Mr. Halliwell-Phillips was the first to draw attention to the character of the MS., hence its title, though, strange to say, he was not a Mason. We believe, however, that Bro. Hughan does not admit that this Masonic MS. was unknown as such until the fourth decade of this century. Bro. Whymper will kindly set us right if in error; but we understand that, whilst it is true that its present cover was not made until 1838, it was an exact imitation of the binding of the MS. in 1757—that being the year when it and the other valuable books and MSS. of the old Royal Library were presented to the nation. If such be the case, the title on the cover (most artistically reproduced for Bro. Whymper) bears the words "Poem on the Craft of Masonry," as also the "press mark," as per Casley's Catalogue of 1734. Bro. Gould has ably treated of the whole question in his "Commentary" on the MS., forming the first of the volume of the reprints now published by the "Quatuor Coronati" Lodge, No. 2076. Bro. Hughan has also written a critique in the *Freemason* of this wonderfully able examination of the "Regius MS.," but, as we have neither by us for perusal, we can only advise our readers to obtain them for careful study. The small quarto on vellum is believed to be of the fourteenth century, though some seek to lower it by about 50 years, and "is admitted to be the oldest genuine record of the Craft of Masonry known." Bro. Whymper does not hazard an opinion on this point, but puts the matter fairly as follows: "The age of the MS. has been variously estimated. Mr. Halliwell and the late Rev. A. F. A. Woodford supposed it to have been written about 1390 or earlier. Mr. E. A. Bond, C.B.,

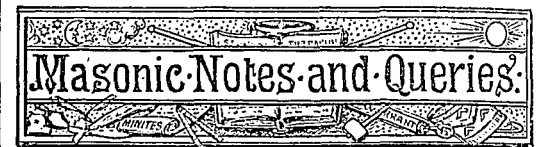
* "Constitutiones Artis Geometriæ Secundum Euclidem." London: SPENCER & CO., Great Queen-street. 1889.

† His name, of late years, has been altered to *Halliwell Phillips*.

believes it to belong to the middle of the fifteenth century. Mr. Price, who has been copying old MSS. for thirty or more years, agrees with the period assigned by Mr. Halliwell. At his suggestion, typical facsimiles of writing of both centuries are given." The two facsimiles introduced in the work are from Wycliffe's Bible, late fourteenth century, and Occleve's poem of 1412 circa. These two are not far removed from each other in point of date, but we are bound to take the side of those who favour the older period, though, of course, the differences between the two standards are not very marked or strongly depicted. Like with later versions—if this may be so described as one—the scribe commences with a stirring description of home difficulties in respect to due provision for large families, when Euclid opportunely stepped in and had them taught Geometry or Masonry. The introduction of the Craft into England is then narrated, and the laws and customs of the Fraternity are duly recited. Fifteen "Articles" and as many "Points" contain the germ of our present Book of Constitutions, and are so quaint and suggestive that they need but to be read to secure for the wee treasure a most hearty welcome by all lovers of the Fraternity. The religious, moral, and social duties and observances then follow, which assuredly did not concern the Craftsmen of that period in their entirety or even generally, the last two lines being—

"Amen! Amen! so mot hyt be!
Sey we so alle per charyté."

The corrections, supplied so as to bring Halliwell's transcript in harmony with the original document, add to the value of Bro. Whymper's very elegant little book, which has been reproduced in the most choice style, without regard to the heavy outlay, and has made the Craft a great debtor to our brother, whose pleasure it is to aid Masonic Students whenever and wherever possible. As an organ of the Universal Craft, and particularly of the English speaking Fraternity, we tender him our heartiest thanks for this important contribution to Masonic literature.



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A GROTESQUE MASONIC CEREMONY.

In reply to B. B. (note 849), I have no recollection of having seen in any French Masonic work an allusion to the ceremony which he describes. In it, however, there is nothing inconsistent with the way the French brotherhood undoubtedly have of casting out from among them an erring member with every manifestation of ridicule and contempt. . . . Of this a good example is given by Perdiguier in his "Livre du Compagnonnage," which is thus quoted in Vol. I., p. 228, of my "History of Freemasonry": "The Grenoble convoy (*conduite de Grenoble*) is called into requisition when a companion has disgraced himself or his Society. In full assembly he is forced on his knees, the fellows standing round, and drinking to his 'eternal damnation' in flowing cups. Meanwhile, he is compelled to drink until nature rebels, and he is unable to imbibe any more, when it is poured over him in torrents. The glass which he uses is broken into fragments; his colours are torn from him and burned; the *Rouleur* then leads him by the hand round the room, each companion bestowing a buffet, less to hurt him than as a sign of contempt; and the door being opened he is finally led towards it. The concluding scene can only be decorously hinted at by comparing it with a verse of the 'Lay of St. Nicholas'—

'And out of the doorway he flew like a shot,
For a foot flew up with a terrible thwack,
And caught the foul demon about the spot
Where his tail joins on to the small of his back.'

R. F. GOULD.



Craft Masonry.

Metropolitan Meetings.

Henry Levander Lodge (No. 2048).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Railway Hotel, Harrow Station, on Saturday, the 27th ult., when Bro. Philip Check, the W.M., was so far recovered from the illness, which has necessitated his absence for some time past, as to be able again to be present at the working. He was not sufficiently well, however, to do more than open the lodge, and therefore Bros. Axford, P.M., and Scurrah, P.M., performed the work between them. This included the raising of four brethren—Bros. T. E. Check, G. A. Wall, Thomas Henry, and John W. John to the Sublime Degree of M.M., which was done by Bro. E. J. Axford, P.M. The next business was to install the W.M. elect, Bro. R. M. Surrige, the S.W. for the past 12 months, and this duty was performed by Bro. W. A. Scurrah, P.M., and Treas., who was presented for installation by the W.M., Bro. Check, Bro. Stiles, P.M., acting as D.C. during the remainder of the ceremony. There is no necessity for recording the performance of each step in the ceremony; it is sufficient to say that Bro. Surrige was installed into the chair of K.S. by Bro. Scurrah in the presence of a numerous Board of Installed Masters. The newly-installed Master

Bros. Edwards and Chambers were passed. Bro. Webber was then presented to the W.M. to receive at his hands the benefits of installation, and, in due course, our worthy brother was installed and saluted. He appointed and invested his officers as follows: Bros. J. M. Miller, I.P.M.; S. E. Southgate, S.W.; J. McCollough, J.W.; J. H. Roberts, P.M., Treas.; J. Warren, P.M., Sec.; G. F. Taylor, S.D.; W. Lawson, J.D.; H. Tufnell, I.G.; J. Warren, P.M., D.C.; G. Nichols, A.D.C.; W. J. Bidgood, Org.; and R. Naylor, P.M., G. Porter, and H. Pammant, Stwds. Bro. Miller then concluded the ceremony by reciting the charges well and impressively, for which he was accorded a vote of thanks, the same to be inscribed on the minutes of the lodge, and he was also presented with a Past Master's jewel, for which he returned thanks.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the New Falcon Hotel, Gravesend, where Bro. Shrubsole simply surpassed himself in his endeavours to make this, the last of the Woolwich district banquets, a success, and well did he succeed, to the infinite pleasure and satisfaction of every one present.

Among the other brethren present were Bros. F. Dawson, T. Butt, E. Bowles, P.M.; E. B. Hobson, A. J. Woodley, T. Ovenden, J. Sanderson, Capt. W. Ward, R.A., C. W. Benstead, S. West, J. Swanson, J. Tees, H. J. Roberts, A. Fenn, T. C. Mason, H. King, T. Smith, H. Pettifer, H. A. Abbey, H. Palmer, J. Bull, A. Webbe, G. West, G. Brown, J. Carty, W. Long, W. Bennett, F. Marfleet, G. Harris, J. Noakes, J. Trodd, H. Smith, H. Brooks, J. A. Martin, W. Wray, T. H. Day, W. Wilson, and H. Barrett, all of the lodge. Among the visitors were Bros. R. Pidcock, P.M. 913, P.P.G.D.C. Sussex; T. D. Hayes, P.M. 913, P.P.S. G.D.; Capt. J. McCaffery, R.A.; J. Aillud, P.M. 615, P.P.A.G.D.C.; G. Mitchell, P.M. 615, P.G. Steward; A. Hamilton, P.M. 917; J. J. Woolley, P.M., 2191; H. Grice, W.M. 13; J. W. Jull, W.M. 1414; C. H. Canning, W.M. 1472; G. Davies, P.M. 13; E. Palmer, P.M. 913; H. Mason, P.M. 913; W. Tailbey, P.M. 13; A. T. Ives, P.M. 1472; T. West, P.M. 1815; H. J. Spurling, W.M. 83; J. Bell, S.W. 13; L. Chasteaneuf, J.W. 13; W. Laurance, 1638; J. Hollings, 1045; J. W. Knight, 1223; J. Bain, 1414; C. Bridgeman, 1815; J. Walker, 1441; T. Emms, 829; Quartermaster Rankin and H. Surnherel, of 1536; H. Mills, 829; W. H. Keeble, 13; A. Mallord, 508; G. H. Campbell, 913; W. Turvey, 1472; W. C. Halsey, 1789; W. J. Skinner, 13; F. W. Higgins, 20; J. W. Haire, 1446; W. B. Leaver, 913; G. Laurance, 913; T. Doogan, 730; F. W. Huddleston, 1744; T. H. Knight, 1223; D. C. Capon, 913; T. Clark, 13; and C. Jolly, P.M. 1472.

The usual loyal and Grand Lodge toasts were drunk most heartily, and then the I.P.M. proposed "The Health of the W.M." He said he deemed it a very great honour to have to propose the toast, and felt sure they would receive it with a great deal of enthusiasm. Bro. Webber was well known to everyone present, and from the first of his career in the Nelson Lodge he had filled every office with credit to himself and honour to it, and no better selection could have been made than in the person of Bro. Webber. He need not tell them that Bro. Webber was a master of the ritual and of the festive board. But there was one thing he must warn them of, and that was—"beware of the sound of Bro. Webber's gavel," for they would find him as strict in his rule of the lodge as he was genial at the festive board. He asked them to drink the toast with all their hearts.

The W.M., in response, said he hardly knew how to thank them for their hearty reception of the toast. The I.P.M. had flattered him to a very great extent, but as he (Bro. Webber) had told them at the time of his election that he would try and make them all happy so far as he could, so he said now. So far as the ritual was concerned, that they must judge for themselves when the work came on. All he asked them was to get him good sound candidates, worthy of being members of the lodge, and then he could assure them that they would have nothing to complain of.

The next toast was that of "The Visitors," and in putting it, the W.M. said visitors always received hearty welcome at the Nelson Lodge. They had that night no less than 39 visitors present, among whom were many of the most prominent in the district and its surroundings, and some of the best friends he had in his life, and he called upon the brethren of the Nelson Lodge to drink the toast heartily.

Bro. Palmer, in response, said it was a great honour for him to respond for the Pattison Lodge in conjunction with others of that lodge present, and in their names thanked the Nelson Lodge for its hearty reception of them as visitors that day. He congratulated the lodge on the admirable manner in which Bro. Miller had carried out the installation ceremony, and also upon its unbounded hospitality. It also afforded him gratification to think that in 1884 he was initiated in the Nelson Lodge by one of its oldest and most respected Past Masters. His late partner, Bro. Cook, being the senior Past Master, he, Bro. Palmer, found it very inconvenient for them both to be away together, and so he, Bro. Palmer, joined the Pattison Lodge. It gave him great pleasure to see the nephew of that old and excellent Mason, Bro. Cook, with whom he had been so intimately connected, placed in the chair that day, and he hoped he would have a good year of office and be worthy of those who had preceded him.

Bros. Grice and Jolly having briefly responded, Bro. Pidcock thanked the brethren for their cordial reception of his name. It had always afforded him the greatest gratification to visit lodges, but the gathering that night was more like a Provincial Grand Lodge meeting than the meeting of a private lodge. He was delighted with the installation ceremony, and felt sure that their W.M. would do honour to his position and the lodge. On behalf of the Province of Sussex he thanked them most cordially.

Bro. Hayes also thanked the brethren on behalf of the Province of Kent, a province he felt proud to represent at that, or any gathering of the Craft. He was indebted to the Nelson Lodge for much of his Masonic knowledge, and as Bro. Jolly had so eloquently said, the fundamental principles of Masonry, brotherly love and Charity, were apparent on every side, and on every occasion that he had an honour of an invitation to its meetings. He thanked them most sincerely for their hospitality, and concluded by apologising for the absence of Bro. Lopez, the W.M. of the Pattison, who was detained in town by the marriage of his sister.

Bro. Mason responded for the Province of Essex, and spoke highly of the W.M., whom he had known for the last 25 years as a good and true Mason.

Bro. Butt, in responding for "The Past Masters," spoke

highly of the abilities of Bro. Miller, and welcomed him among the ranks of the Past Masters, and congratulated him upon the admirable manner in which he had carried out his duties during the past year.

Bros. Woodley, Warren, Hobson, and Roberts also responded, and after Bros. Southgate and McCollough had responded for "The Officers," the Tyler's toast concluded the proceedings, which were most enjoyable.

Bros. H. J. Palmer, J. Sanderson, Hobson, H. Tufnell, and Skinner sang some capital songs; Bro. Brown played an oboe solo grandly; Bro. W. Long played a cornet solo, and Bro. Bidgood a violin solo. Bro. H. J. Roberts presided at the piano.

Royal Arch.

Provincial Meetings.

CAMBRIDGE.

Fidelity Chapter (No. 441).—The regular convocation of this chapter, attached to the Lodge of the Three Grand Principles, No. 441, was held on the 24th ult., at the Lion Hotel. The Principals' chairs were occupied by Comps. E. H. Jennings, Z.; T. Watts, H.; and J. King, J. Bro. Philip Henry Young, 441, raised February, 1881, was elected and exalted. The work of the Principal Sojourner was afterwards performed with ability by Comp. John Fuller, and the lectures from the chairs followed. After the acceptance of the Auditors' report on the Treasurer's accounts, the election of Principals and officers for the ensuing year was proceeded with. Comps. Thos. Watts was elected as Z.; H. King, as H.; John Fuller, as J.; A. Morell, as Scribe E.; C. A. Vinter, as Scribe N.; J. Sheldrick, P.S.; and J. Vail, Treasurer.

The visitors included Comps. E. Armitage, 859; and J. V. Pryor, 88.

The companions afterwards sat down to banquet.

HITCHIN.

Cecil Chapter (No. 449).—A meeting was held on Thursday, the 25th ult., at the Sun Hotel. Present: Comps. John Read, P.Z. 720, M.E.Z.; C. B. Cooper, H.; H. H. Shirley, H. 2, J.; James Shilcock, P.Z. 403, P.P.G.S.N., Treas.; R. Shillitoe, as S.E.; S. P. Nash, S.N.; W. G. Weiss, as P.S.; F. H. Weiss, as 1st A.S.; E. C. Mulvey, as 2nd A.S.; G. Austin, as Janitor; and Heard, P.Z. 403. Visitors: Comps. C. J. Axford, M.E.Z. 2048; H. E. Vickers, M.E.Z. 1556, P.P.G.O. Surrey; E. C. Mulvey, Z. elect 2246; and Rev. Geo. Sitting, P.S. 403.

The chapter having been opened by the Principals, the acting S.E., Comp. R. Shillitoe, read the minutes of the consecration meeting, held on the 20th June, which were confirmed. The by-laws of the chapter were considered, read, and passed. A ballot was taken for Bros. Bannister, Woodford, J. H. Gilbertson, G. F. Fuller, and P. Franklin as candidates for exaltation, which resulted in their favour, and these brethren (with the exception of Bro. Woodford) being in attendance, were regularly exalted to the Degree of R.A. Masons by the M.E.Z. A ballot was taken for Comps. R. Shillitoe, 403; W. G. Weiss, 749; F. H. Weiss, 2; and Rev. H. F. Oliver, 771, as joining members, which resulted in their favour. The following companions were elected and invested to vacant offices: Comps. R. Shillitoe, S.E.; W. G. Weiss, P.S.; F. H. Weiss, 1st A.S.; A. Bannister, 2nd A.S.; J. H. Gilbertson and G. F. Fuller, Stewards.

Nothing further offering, the chapter was closed, and the companions adjourned to banquet, at which Comp. J. Read presided.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and the meeting separated at an early hour.

PLUMSTEAD.

Pattison Chapter (No. 913).—Never was the old axiom "Unity is strength" better exemplified than in the extraordinary progress made by the above chapter since its consecration in the year 1874. It has had, since that date, an uninterrupted course of success, and now numbers no less than 50 members, comprising the *elite* of the Craft in the district where it is situated, and where, we trust, it may long continue to flourish. The exaltation meeting took place at the Freemasons' Hall, Mount Pleasant, on Thursday, the 18th ult., and was well attended. The M.E.Z., Comp. R. J. Cook, opened the chapter, with the assistance of Comps. J. H. Roberts, H., and M.E.Z. elect; E. Palmer, J.; and others, and the minutes of the previous chapter being confirmed, the ballot was taken for Comp. G. Mitchell, 829, and proved unanimous. Comp. A. Penfold, P.Z. 13, 1472, P.P.G. 1st A.S., assumed the chair as Installing Officer, and grandly did this veteran and esteemed Mason carry out his duties. He installed Comps. J. H. Roberts into the chair of Z., E. Palmer into the chair of H., and S. Clarke into the chair of J. in eloquent and impressive form, and afterwards gave the charges in a manner rarely equalled, and certainly never excelled. The following officers were then invested, viz.: Comps. H. J. Butler, P.Z., P.P.G.S.E., Scribe E.; C. H. Lawson, Scribe N.; A. Penfold, P.Z., P.P.G. 1st A.S., Treas.; E. Morris, P.S.; C. Clapham, 1st A.S.; W. C. Taylor, 2nd A.S.; H. Mason, P.Z., P.P.G. Std. Br., P.G. Soj. Essex, D.C.; W. Musto, P.Z., and G. R. Nichols, Stwds.; F. R. Tyler, Org.; and W. Larder, Janitor. A cordial vote of thanks was tendered Comp. Penfold for his splendid working of the installation ceremony, for which he simply returned thanks; while the magnificent reading of the Scriptural portion of the ritual by Comp. T. S. Warne, P.Z. 20, P.G. Scribe E., was warmly acknowledged. A handsome and costly P.Z.'s jewel was then presented to Comp. Cook as a mark of the esteem of the companions, and for services rendered the chapter during his year of office, for which he returned thanks, and then the chapter was closed, and the companions adjourned to the Holborn Restaurant for banqueting purposes.

Among the other companions present were Comps. C. Coupland, P.Z., P.P.G.J.; E. Denton, P.Z. 13, P.P.G.P.S.; T. D. Hayes, P.Z., P.P.G. 2nd A.S.; Capt. Eugene Sweny, P.Z., P.P.G.R., of the chapter; the Rev. R. Jamblin, M.A., P.Z., P.P.G.S.N., and C. Jolly, M.E.Z. 1472 (Hon. Members); L. Chasteaneuf, J. Farrier, W. Busbridge, G. H. Porter, S. Horton, G. Frost, G. H. Letton, H. Wilson, R. S. Courtman, J. Horton, D. Campbell, H. Ough, D. C. Capon, Dr. E. Bryceson, W. Harris,

G. F. Taylor, J. Topp, and C. Ellis, all of the chapter; Capt. D. Deeves, M.E.Z. 13; E. West, P.Z. 13, 1472; Dr. H. W. Roberts, P.Z. 1293, P.P.G.S. of W.; F. A. White, P.Z. 907, P.Z. and founder of the Francis White Chapter, P.P.G.S.E. Essex; A. J. Woodley, H. 13; J. Rawdon, 140; H. De Gray, 13; A. Fenn, 13; F. G. Nichols, H. 1973; and others.

The toast of "The Queen and Royal Arch Masonry" having been drunk with Royal honours, that of "The M.E. the Grand Z. of the Order, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," followed, and was received most enthusiastically. "The Earl of Carnarvon, Grand H., and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," was also honoured.

The M.E.Z. said he was getting nearer home when he proposed "The Health of Earl Amherst, Grand Superintendent of the Province of Kent"; for all who knew his lordship acknowledged that he was the right man in the right place.

The toast was drunk amid rounds of cheers, and then the M.E.Z. proposed the toast of "M.E. Comp. Eastes, P.G.H., and the rest of the P.G. Officers, Present and Past."

Comp. Warne, in responding, said that among the many excellent qualifications of their M.E.Z. was that of brevity, and he intended to follow his example in that respect. He was quite of the opinion of a prisoner he once heard on his trial at Maidstone, who, when the judge asked him if he had anything to say in his defence, replied, "No; there has been too much said about the case already." Well, to the surprise of everyone present, the jury acquitted him; and the judge, in dismissing him, said: "You have had a narrow escape; don't you come here again." "No," said the prisoner, "I don't intend to, and if I had had my will I would not have come now." Now, he meant to follow the example both of the M.E.Z. and of the prisoner, and say very little; but must confess that he was proud of the invitation he received year after year to attend their installation meeting, and assist their beloved Comp. Penfold in his arduous labour of love; in the first place, because in visiting the Pattison Chapter he was visiting the premier chapter in the province, and, in the next place, because of the cordial and kind greeting he always received from every companion of the chapter. He heartily thanked them, and hoped to be spared to be with them next year.

Comp. Jamblin said it was a hard task to follow such an eloquent speaker as Comp. Warne, but nevertheless he intended to, and would at once say that, although he was sorry not to be present at their working, he was exceedingly glad to be at their dinner, and in that he believed he had the suffrages of every companion present. It was, of course, a great pleasure to be able to attend the working of a lodge or chapter, and those who knew him would admit that he did not often come to the festive degree without attending first to the working. Now, he had heard it said, "Oh, I would sooner see the working, and then go home, than come late, and stay for the festive board." Would they? Well, there was no hypocrisy about him. He would, of course, prefer to come to the working, but would sooner come to the festive degree alone than stay away altogether. There was something about that chapter that was always jolly and comfortable, and every time he came amongst them he found it ever the same. Now, Comp. Warne had told them a tale, and he was going to do the same. No, no; it was no use Comp. Warne to prevent him; they could see at once that he (Comp. Warne) wanted a monopoly of the yarn business. ("Go on, go on.") Well, there was once a distinguished divine who had to go to some Mediterranean station, and on the way it came on to blow hard, and the D.D. complained to the captain of the rolling of the ship. "Well," said the captain, "most ships roll a bit in the Atlantic." "But," said the D.D., "how awfully the sailors swear—it is simply blasphemy." "Ah," said the captain, "while they swear like that the ship is all right." And so comforted, the D.D. went to bed. In the middle of the night the storm increased terribly, and up came the D.D. on deck, fully expecting the ship to go to the bottom every minute, when, to his great comfort, he heard the sailors swearing even more loudly than before. "Ah," said he, "the ship's all right, they are still at it," and off he went to bed and slept soundly, fully confident in the captain's declaration that the more the sailors swore the safer was the ship. Well, that was just how he found the Pattison Chapter; he did not mean that they were always swearing—no, no, not that—but they were always, and had always been, jolly and happy with one another; and as long as that good feeling existed, he, like the distinguished divine at sea, felt sure that the good ship Pattison was all right, no matter how hard the storm might blow. He quite endorsed what Comp. Warne had said with respect to the pre-eminence of the chapter in the Province of Kent, and he further agreed with him in his hope that he might never have to go to Maidstone on such an errand again as told by him in his story, which it struck him was after all a biography. ("No, no," from Comp. Warne.) Our esteemed companion concluded a brilliant and most humorous speech, assuring Comp. Warne that he believed him, but trusted he would not do it again, the laughter being kept up for some time after he sat down.

The I.P.Z. proposed the toast of "The M.E.Z.," and said it was in itself a great honour to be First Principal of any chapter, but to be the First Principal of such a chapter as the Pattison was honour itself, and it, therefore, was a great honour to him to be in a position to propose a toast of so much importance as that of the M.E.Z. of the Pattison Chapter. Without dilating further upon the point, he would ask them to drink the toast with all the honours it deserved.

Comp. Roberts, in response, said it afforded him a very great amount of pleasure to be in a position to respond to the toast—to follow in the footsteps of those brilliant Masons who had filled the chair he now occupied. Their chapter had been called the premier chapter of the Province of Kent; that was a proud distinction, and it would be for him during his year of office to see that its brilliant prestige was not soiled or tarnished. He trusted he should be enabled to carry out the duties of his high position in such a manner that at the end of his year he could give a good account of his stewardship.

Comp. Palmer, in responding for the toast of "The Second and Third Principals," thanked them for their kind reception of the toast. He felt the extra responsibilities imposed upon him by his acceptance of the office he now held, and he should endeavour to do his duty to their satisfaction and with some credit to himself. If he did so he trusted they would deem him worthy of further advancement. Comp. Clark said that as he occupied so very humble a

position they would not, he trusted, expect a long speech from him. He had been a Mason for many years, but not so long a Royal Arch Mason. The reason for that was that he was so modest he did not like to apply, but directly he was asked by Comp. Sweny he took advantage of the offer, and was exalted in the Pattison. He trusted the chapter would long flourish, and none the less because he should now have the honour of assisting in its most important ceremonies.

The M.E.Z. then proposed the toast of "The Installing Officer," and said he quite agreed with Comp. Warne, who had said to him privately that the ceremony, as performed by Comp. Penfold, was so perfect and impressive that he was sorry the companions generally could not witness it. He (the M.E.Z.) hoped, however, that they would restrain their curiosity until they arrived at the proud position held by those on his right and left, and then they would agree with him that it was a most sublime and comprehensive ceremony.

Comp. Penfold said it was a pleasant office, that of Installing Officer in the Pattison Chapter. As had been so well said, theirs was the premier chapter in the province, and it was an honour they must maintain, and, after what they had heard at Bromley from their Prov. G.M. and G. Superintendent, Earl Amherst, there was no fear of their leaving the province. They were too well delighted to be under the rule of Grand Superintendent to want to leave it, and go under the colours of the London district. For him and self it had been said that it was an effort for him to do what he had done, but it was no effort but rather a pleasure, and if he had pleased them that was his reward. Now, the M.E.Z. had entrusted a toast to him which he felt sure they would all be pleased to honour. It was that of their esteemed, though suffering, Comp. Past Principal Butter. Comp. Butter had been most anxious to be present with them that day, but found it impossible, and had sent them a telegram from Brighton, wishing the M.E.Z. and companions a pleasant evening, and they were very glad to know that he was recovering, and would soon be with them again. Their M.E.Z. had immediately sent a return telegram to Comp. Butter to tell him that exactly as the clock struck nine they would all rise and drink his (Comp. Butter's) health in bumpers, and as it was now just on the stroke of nine, he asked them to stand up and drink the toast heartily.

This was done, the room ringing with the cheering of the companions as they wished a speedy recovery to their beloved and suffering companion and brother.

Comp. Col. Hughes, M.P., responded for Comp. Butter, and said he felt it a great honour to be allowed to respond for an absent friend and esteemed companion like Comp. Butter, because it would certainly would add to his pleasure and satisfaction when he knew that, although absent himself, there were among the companions present some one to respond for him; and thank the companions for their kindness. He had heard it said in the Army that one of the greatest incentives to deeds of valour was the thought "What will they say in England?" and he believed it would be a great comfort to Comp. Butter to know that they sympathised with him in his trouble, and wished him a speedy and safe recovery; in fact, they would knock the bottom out of Masonry altogether if they did not solace a brother in his distress, as well as rejoice with him in his prosperity. Now, with regard to the gathering that night, it was one of the choicest things in Masonry to meet such friends as he saw round him. He was sure that amongst those present were the best and choicest friends that during a not uneventful life he ever had confidence in. He felt sure that the feeling of Comp. Butter was that it was the happiest moments in his life to be with them, and one of his deepest regrets not to be with them; and it would be a great comfort to him to know that amid these festivities they had not forgotten him, and that his many splendid qualities were admitted and acknowledged by every one present.

Comp. Haynes having spoken as to the excellent qualities of Comp. Butler both as a man and a Mason,

Comp. White, in returning thanks for "The Visitors," spoke highly of the hospitable reception afforded him and every visitor present, but neither he nor those who knew the Pattison Chapter were surprised at it. It was now 15 years since he first had the honour of visiting the chapter, and had always been well received. He asked them to return the compliment by visiting the Francis White Chapter at Romford, and promised those who did so a hearty reception.

Comps. Deeves, West, Nichols, De Gray, Fense, Woodley, and Jolly also responded.

After "The Officers" had been responded to by Comps. Lawson and Morris, the Janitor's toast concluded the proceedings.

The musical portion was under the management of Comp. Tyler, and the contributors were Mr. J. D. Fitzgerald and Bro. Arthur Weston, and Madame Fanny Atkinson and Miss Carrie Curnow.

WIGTON.

St. John's Chapter (No. 327).—The annual installation meeting in connection with this chapter took place on Wednesday, the 24th ult., at the Lion and Lamb Hotel, High-street. The Installing Master was Comp. A. Walter, P.Z. 371, P.P.A.G. Soj., assisted by Comp. J. Gardiner, P.Z., P.G.J.; and the officers inducted were as follows: Comps. H. Bewes, P.Z., as M.E.Z.; J. N. Kirkland, H.; W. S. Ponton, J.; J. Harris, P.Z., S.E.; J. Lazony, P.Z., S.N.; F. Richardson, Principal Soj.; S. J. Burgess, 1st Asst. Soj.; John Gate, P.Z., 2nd Asst. Soj.; W. H. Hoddless, P.Z., Treas.; and Jos. Pearson, Janitor.

Comp. Bewes, Z., presided at the refreshments, and a very agreeable evening was spent by the companions, who are always "happy to meet, sorry to part, and happy to meet again."

Allied Masonic Degrees.

Metropolitan Council (T.I.).—A meeting of this old council was held on the 26th ult., at the Masonic Hall, Red Lion-square. Among those present were W. Bro. Baron de Ferrieres, W.M.; R. L. Loveland, P.M., acting S.W.; W. Lemon, J.W.; George Powell, Treas.; Capt. T. C. Walls, P.M., acting Sec.; T. Cubitt, Conductor; Britain, I.G.; Pigeon, jun., Org.; Sweny, Mills, Tyler; and others.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, and the ballot was taken on behalf of Bro. Thomas Poore as a re-joining member, and it proved to be unanimous. The election of W.M. resulted unanimously in

favour of Bro. Capt. W. B. Williamson, J.P., S.W. Bro. G. Powell was re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. Mills, Tyler, A Past Master's jewel was unanimously voted to W. Bro. Baron de Ferrieres. The election of Auditors having taken place, the Treasurer announced the balance he had in hand. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Bros. C. F. Matier, G.S., &c. (Hon. Mem.); Major Geo. Lambert, P.M.; A. McDowall, H. J. Lardner, Capt. Williamson, George Graveley, and many others.

The council was then closed. The brethren dined at the Holborn Restaurant, under the genial presidency of the W.M.

A few toasts were duly honoured.

Lodges and Chapters of Instruction.

RANELAGH LODGE (No. 834).—A meeting was held on Friday, the 26th ult., at the Six Bells Hotel, Queen-street, Hammersmith. Present: Bros. W. G. Coat, W.M.; H. Perdue, S.W.; M. Rice, J.W.; J. Sims, P.M., Preceptor; D. S. Long, Sec.; J. Pattison, S.D.; G. E. Higginson, J.D.; T. Jobson, I.G.; J. H. Wood, P.M.; and R. H. Hatton.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Second and Third Degrees, and resumed to the First Degree, and the ceremony rehearsed, Bro. Jobson being the candidate. Bro. Higginson having given proof of his proficiency, was entrusted. The lodge was resumed to the Second Degree, and the ceremony rehearsed. The lodge was resumed to the Third Degree, and closed in the Third and Second Degrees. The W.M. having risen, Bro. H. Perdue, P.M., was unanimously elected W.M. for the next meeting. After "Hearty good wishes," and the expressions of appreciation and gratification of the brethren at the able working of the W.M., the lodge was closed.

HYDE PARK LODGE (No. 1425).—A meeting was held on Monday, the 29th ult., at the Porchester Hotel, Leinster-place, Cleveland-square, Paddington, W. Present: Bros. A. Cadbury-Jones, W.M.; C. G. Wetzlar, S.W.; M. T. Tuck, J.W.; W. H. Chalfont, P.M., 1425, Asst. Preceptor; H. Dehane, P.M. 1543, P.P.S.G.D. Essex, Sec.; J. Crutenden, S.D.; E. F. Ferris, I.P.M. 1543, J.D.; J. R. Allman, I.P.M. 1425, I.G.; W. J. Hakim, W.M. 141, Stwd.; and Major E. Ferris.

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. Dehane being candidate. The lodge was called off and on, and opened in the Second and Third Degrees and resumed to the First. Bro. Wetzlar was elected W.M. for the next meeting—the officers to be in rotation. A cordial vote of thanks to be recorded on the minutes, was unanimously carried for the able manner Bro. Cadbury-Jones had presided as W.M. for the first time, which compliment was duly and suitably acknowledged. A vote of condolence was unanimously passed with Bro. Mickelburgh, P.M. 1425, on the occasion of the death of his mother. After "Hearty good wishes," the lodge was closed.

UNITED MILITARY LODGE (No. 1536).—The usual weekly meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, the 29th ult., at the Earl of Chatham, Thomas-street, Woolwich, when there were present Bros. Wheeler, W.M.; Bilton, S.W.; Sayle, J.W.; Sinnette, S.D.; Carr, J.D.; Benstead, I.G.; and C. Woods.

The lodge was opened in the First Degree. Bro. Woods answered the usual questions, and was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the ceremony of passing was rehearsed, with Bro. Woods as candidate. The lodge was closed in the Second Degree. The W.M. rose for the first, second, and third times, after which the lodge was closed, and adjourned till Monday, the 12th inst., next Monday being Bank Holiday.

KENSINGTON LODGE (No. 1767).—A meeting was held on Tuesday, the 30th ult., at the Scarsdale Arms Hotel, Edwardes-square, Kensington, W., when there were present Bros. Jobson, W.M.; Hubbard, S.W.; Heath, J.W.; R. H. Williams, Treas.; Cox, S.D.; Woods, J.D.; Thomas, I.G.; Read, P.M., Preceptor; Knight, Swann, Rice, Hillier, Sims, P.M., W. C. Williams, P.M., Fayers, and J. Davis.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Second and Third Degrees, and resumed to the First Degree, and the ceremony of initiation rehearsed, Bro. Swann being candidate. The lodge was resumed to the Third Degree, and the 1st and 2nd Sections of the Lecture were worked by the Preceptor, assisted by the brethren. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree. Bro. Hubbard was elected W.M. for the next meeting and the officers were appointed in rotation. Bro. Hillier was elected a joining member, and a cordial vote of thanks was carried to Bro. Jobson for the able manner in which he carried out the duties of W.M. for the first time in the lodge, and ordered to be entered on the minutes.

CREATON LODGE (No. 1791).—A meeting was held on Thursday, the 25th ult., at the Wheatshaf Hotel, Goldhawk-road, Shepherd's Bush, W. Present: Bros. Jobson, W.M.; F. Craggs, S.W.; W. Jennings, J.W.; J. Davies, Preceptor; J. Sims, P.M., Deputy Preceptor; E. Austin, P.M., Treas.; W. H. Chalfont, P.M., Sec.; H. Cotton, S.D.; F. W. Woodard, J.D.; W. Hellier, I.G.; P. Burton, P.M.; W. Williams, P.M. 1791; E. Child, P.M.; Stonnill, Arnott, L. Cox, B. Browne, Higginson, Head, and Sansom. Visitors: Bros. Cory, 860, and Boyd, Minerva Lodge.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Browne having answered the usual questions, was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the ceremony of passing rehearsed. The 3rd and 4th Sections of the Lecture were worked by Bro. Davies, assisted by the brethren. The lodge was closed in the Second Degree. Bros. Boyd, Minerva Lodge and Cory, 860, were elected joining members. Bro. Craggs was elected W.M. for the next meeting, and the lodge was closed.

CHISWICK LODGE (No. 2012).—A meeting was held on Saturday, the 27th ult., at the Windsor Castle Hotel, King-street, Hammersmith. Present: Bros. G. Gardner, P.M., W.M.; T. Jobson, S.W.; J. Davies, J.W.; E. Ayling, P.M., Preceptor; F. Craggs, Sec. (pro tem.); M. Spiegel, S.D.; D. S. Long, J.D.; W. Hillier, I.G.; J. Sims, P.M.; J. H. Wood, P.M.; W. W. Williams, Hiscock, and S. Boyd.

The lodge was opened in due form in the Three Degrees, and resumed to the Second Degree. Bro. Boyd offered himself as a candidate for raising, and was examined and entrusted. The lodge was resumed to the Third Degree, and the ceremony rehearsed. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree, and the 2nd Section of the Lecture worked by Bro. J. Davies, assisted by the brethren. Bro. S. Boyd, 250, was elected a joining member. Bro. Thomas Jobson was elected W.M. for the next meeting. "Hearty good wishes" were given and acknowledged, and the lodge was closed.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

A Quarterly Court of Subscribers to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls was held on Saturday last at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. Horace Brooks Marshall, P.G.T., Treasurer of the Institution, was in the chair. There were also present Bros. George Powell, J. J. Cumberland, Herbert Dicketts, James Brett, C. H. Webb, Charles G. Hill, H. Massey, W. M. Bywater, Col. F. Gadsden, J. Terry, Arthur E. Gladwell, and F. R. W. Hedges (Secretary).

After the reading and confirmation of the minutes of the meeting of 27th April, and the reading of the minutes of the Special Court of 30th May, and summaries of minutes of General Committees for information, the Court agreed to the recommendation of the General Committee, that the 32 eligible candidates remaining from the last election, together with the 17 whose petitions have been since approved, be placed upon the list for the October Election, and that nine vacancies, caused by girls leaving the School, be declared.

On the motion of Bro. HERBERT DICKETTS, Vice President, seconded by Bro. C. H. WEBB, the following alterations were made in the laws of the Institution:

In Law 35, omit words "and audit."

In the first heading, on page 32, omit the words "and audit."

In Law 47, in first line, substitute "twelve" for "nine."

In third and fourth lines, after the word "finance," omit words "and audit."

In sixth line, substitute "three" for "two."

In Law 49, after word "meet" in first line, omit words "in the months of January, April, July, and October," and substitute "monthly, or oftener, if necessary."

After word "payment," in sixth line, omit all up to the word "report," in the twelfth line.

Add, as a fresh paragraph, headed "Audit," "The accounts of the Institution shall be annually audited by a chartered accountant, to be elected annually by the General Committee at the meeting in May."

In Law 79, add, after word "Trustees," "and be annually examined by the accountant."

On the suggestion of Bro. JAMES TERRY, the words "and audit," occurring in Law 43, were also struck out.

With reference to the new paragraph respecting the auditing of the accounts by a chartered accountant,

Bro. J. S. CUMBERLAND said he hoped the auditors would go through the accounts quarterly, as well as yearly. Perhaps they might not be able to examine them monthly. If there were errors, they would be more easily discovered in a tri-monthly investigation than in a yearly.

Bro. HEDGES said it was in contemplation that there should be a quarterly examination.

Bro. HERBERT DICKETTS said the accounts would be audited monthly.

Bro. CUMBERLAND observed that he did not mean examined by the auditors—he meant audited by the chartered accountant. He wanted that the accountant should go through the accounts quarterly, as well as annually.

Bro. C. H. WEBB said that, anyhow, the chartered accountant would be responsible.

Bro. H. B. MARSHALL intimated that they might now carry these resolutions, and then afterwards make an additional regulation.

Bro. CUMBERLAND moved that the auditor go through the accounts quarterly, and once a year make out a balance sheet, and examine the documents of the Institution.

Bro. H. B. MARSHALL: And securities.

Bro. CUMBERLAND: Yes, whatever is in the bank concerning the monetary affairs of the Institution.

Bro. DICKETTS: In Law 79 it says:—"All deeds and securities shall be deposited for safe custody with the bankers of the Institution in the names of the trustees," then add to that, "and annually examined by the accountant."

The motion having been seconded, was carried, and a vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the meeting.

Mr. and Mrs. Gladstone celebrated their golden wedding on Thursday, the 25th ult. Among the telegrams and letters of congratulation received by the right honourable gentleman were messages from the Queen, the Prince of Wales, and the King of the Belgians; and among the presents were a portrait of Mr. Gladstone by Sir John Millais, presented by the lady members of the liberal party; a gold inkstand from the Prince and Princess of Wales; a gold-headed Malacca cane from the Earl of Rosebery, &c.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

QUARTERLY COURT.

The Quarterly Court of the Subscribers to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys was held on Friday, the 26th ult., when there was a full attendance of brethren. Bro. Eve, P.G. Treas., was elected Chairman of the meeting. There were also present: Bros. E. Terry, G. Treas.; Langton, W. Lake, Bourne, Plucknett, Smithson, Cubitt, Scurrah, Brett, Cohen, Jones, Marwood, Hastings Miller, Mather, Hogard, Carter, Kidder, Dicketts, Morgan, J. Terry, Powell, Dr. Morris, John Stevens, Hemming, Hoppett, Paas, Storr, Still, Blyth, Spaul, Dixie, Webb, Cumberland, Binckes, and others.

Bro. BINCKES, Secretary, having read the advertisement convening the Quarterly Court, the minutes of the last Quarterly Court were read and confirmed, after which the minutes of the Special Court of 6th June were read and passed as correctly entered. Minutes of the General Committee of 4th May, 6th and 29th June, and 6th July were also read.

One petition deferred by the General Committee for further information was considered and accepted, making a total of 70 candidates, from which 16 boys are to be elected in October.

The CHAIRMAN said that, as a member of the Provisional Committee, and as their Chairman at the meeting held that afternoon, he had only further to report, in addition to the report which they had already made and which was now in print (and which he now moved might be taken as read), that the Provisional Committee had appointed as Matron, to enter on her duties on the 1st August, Miss Harcombe, Matron of the Royal St. Ann's Society at Red Hill. They had also made an *ad interim* appointment of a doctor for two months, during which time advertisements would be issued for applications for the post. The gentleman appointed pro tem. was Dr. John Joseph Lock, who practised in the neighbourhood of Wood Green. Further, in accordance with the authority conferred on the Provisional Committee, they had conferred with Bro. Binckes in regard to the terms on which he should retire, and that matter was still under consideration.

It was proposed by Bro. BEVIR, Prov. G. Sec. Wilts, and seconded—"That the report of the Provisional Committee be received, and that its proceedings and recommendations do receive the sanction of this General Court, which authorises the Provisional Committee to carry the same into effect."

The motion was opposed by Bros. DICKETTS, SCURRAH, and CUMBERLAND, who considered that the Provisional Committee should complete their report on all matters before them before asking the approval of the Committee; but, after some discussion, Bro. Bevir's motion was put, and carried by a large majority.

There being no other business before the meeting, the usual vote of thanks to the Chairman closed the proceedings.

SUMMER EXCURSION OF THE QUATUOR CORONATI LODGE, No. 2076.

A most enjoyable trip, which even the showery weather of the forenoon was unable to seriously mar, was undertaken by this lodge on Saturday, the 20th ult. We have it on good authority that "absence makes the heart grow cold," and the chief object of the brethren in undertaking the excursion was, possibly, to break the long interval between the stated lodge meetings in June and October, thus, by a timely outing, renewing the pleasures of social intercourse.

True, however, to the antiquarians' tastes and studies encouraged by the lodge, a spot of abiding interest to Freemasons was chosen, the city of St. Alban, England's proto-martyr and the traditional founder of the Craft in these isles. Does not the Grand Lodge MS. of the "Old Charges" (which is dated 1583) state distinctly "Inglande in all this season stoyde voyd of any chardge of Massonrie untill St. Albon's tyme, and in his dayes the Kyng of England that was a pagnym he did wall thee towne aboute that is called St. Albon's, and St. Albon was a woorthy knyght & stewarde of the kyngs householde and had the goument of thee realme and also of the towne walls and loved Massons well and chirished them muche and he mayde their paye right good (standing as the realme did) for he gave them ijs vjd a weeke and three pence to their cheire, fore before that tyme throw the land a Masson toke but a peny a daye and his meate untill St. Albone amended it and gave them a charter of thee kyng & his counsell for to houlde a gen'all counsell And gaue it the name of an Assemplye and was thereat himself and healed for to make Massons and gave the chardges as yee shall heare afterwarde righte sone."

Bro. W. Simpson, the W.M., was unfortunately detained at Balmoral on business, and a few other brethren who rarely miss a lodge meeting were unavoidably absent, but the following members assembled at St. Pancras, under the S.W., Bro. Col. S. C. Pratt—viz., Bros. W. M. Bywater, P.G.S.B., J.W.; Professor T. Hayter Lewis, S.D.; Dr. W. W. Westcott, J.D.; G. W. Speth, Sec.; Prof. W. Mattieu Williams, and Dr. W. J. Chetwode Crawley (of Dublin). With these were the following members of the Correspondence Circle, viz.: Bros. Dr. W. R. Woodman, P.G.S.B.; S. Richardson, C. B. Barnes, F. A. Powell, J. S. Cumber-

land, C. E. Ferry, Col. J. Mead, and G. H. Piper, D.P.G.M. Herefordshire; and the following visitors: Bros. D. B. W. Richardson, F. Pegler, Sydney T. Klein, C. Bowley (of Belfast), Mahaim (of Liege), and R. T. Webster (of Margate).

A saloon carriage, attached to the 11.10 a.m. train, took the party comfortably to St. Alban's, where a frugal lunch awaited them at the Pea Hen Hotel; after which a visit was first paid to the church of St. Peter's. Here they were met by the curate, Bro. Rev. Valentine Faulkner, under whose auspices the church was inspected, the chief point of interest being the monument of Edward Strong the elder, for whom Dr. Anderson claims the honour of having been appointed Junior Grand Warden under Grand Master Sir Christopher Wren in 1685. The truth of this can scarcely be admitted, but the Strong family appeals to our sympathies as Masons in a high degree. Timothy Strong was a quarry owner and builder in Gloucestershire and Oxfordshire. His son, Valentine, was a notable builder in his day, and on his tomb at Fairford, Oxfordshire, 1662, is described as "Valentine Strong, Free Mason." Valentine's son, Thomas, was engaged at Trinity College, Oxon, in 1665, under Sir C. Wren, and in 1675 made the first contract with the commissioners for re-building St. Paul's. According to the family memoirs, written in 1716, he laid the first stone in the foundation with his own hands. Dying in 1681, he was succeeded by his brother Edward, buried at St. Peter's, St. Alban's, who associated with himself his son Edward, the younger. The "memoirs" state—"About the year 1706, Edward Strong, junior, began the lantern on the Dome of St. Paul's, London, and on the 25th Oct., 1708, Edward Strong, senior, laid the last stone upon the same." This last claim is reasserted on the monument in question.

Skirting the city, the old church of St. Michael's was next visited. Apart from its high architectural interest, the church is noticeable for containing the body and statue of Lord Bacon, "the wisest, greatest, meanest of mankind."

Sauntering through the fields and along the banks of the river, and under the spreading elms, a typical scene of English rural beauty, at its best, the brethren made their way to the Abbey, where they were met by the Rev. W. Urwich, who has made the register and archives of the edifice his special study for years. Under his capable guidance every part of the structure was visited and its history explained, the old work admired, and the restoration criticised. Some difference of opinion was apparent as to the taste, but none as to the solidity and thoroughness of the restored parts, or as to the public spirit and generosity of Lord Grimthorpe, who for years has borne the enormous cost of what is more than restoration, for it was necessary in many parts to entirely reconstruct. Lord Grimthorpe himself now joined the party, and kindly submitted to a course of "heckling," the reasons for this and that alteration being fully explained by his lordship in answer to home questions, and he incidentally supplied many details as to the structure of the abbey, its foundations, vaults, &c., which were of great interest. The party having been generously admitted by the Rector, the Venerable Archdeacon Lawrence, free, thus entailing a loss on the restoration fund, a collection was made, which, we are glad to say, considerably more than covered the charge for admission. Lord Grimthorpe was thanked for his explanations, and, there being still an hour to spare before dinner, the brethren struck once more across the fields, visiting the old Roman walls and moat, and reached an eminence whence a beautiful view of the Abbey and its surroundings was obtained.

Dinner was served at the Pea Hen at six o'clock, after which votes of thanks were moved and carried to Bro. Rev. V. Faulkner, and to the Rev. W. Urwich for their kindness in affording the brethren so much instruction and the pleasure of their company, and suitably acknowledged, Mr. Urwich eloquently pointing out that St. Alban's was the scene of more than one martyrdom, interesting in ecclesiastical history.

Bro. Speth was thanked for making the arrangements, and indicated that Bro. Klein would be their guide next year through a district of great interest around his own residence at Stanmore; whilst in 1891, he (Bro. Speth) hoped to introduce them to Sandwich, the city of the dead, the Roman ruins of Richboro' Castle, Minster Church and Abbey, Dandelion Gateway, near Margate, and other monuments in the Isle of Thanet.

The party returned by the 8.32 train, to which a saloon carriage had been added for their separate use, it being unanimously admitted that the day had been most enjoyable.

ANGLO-AMERICAN LODGE, No. 2191.

ENTERTAINMENT TO AMERICAN BRETHREN.

A special meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, the 23rd ult., at the Criterion, Piccadilly, for the purpose of extending a hearty Masonic welcome to several distinguished American Masons, on that day passing through London on their way home from the Paris Exhibition, on which occasion there was a large assemblage of the brethren of the lodge and their English guests to the number of about 100 brethren.

The lodge was opened by Bro. Fred. Kedge, the W.M. of the lodge, the other offices being filled as follows: Bros. John Skinner, acting as S.W.; G. H. Reynolds, acting as J.W.; W. Hancock, S.D.; James Rowe, J.D.; J. B. Cumming, Treas.; G. Reynolds, Sec.; Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, Past G. Chap.; F. Jackson, acting as I.G.; Herbert W. Schartau, P.G. Org. Middx., Org.; J. B.

Grieve, Stwd.; R. F. Potter, Tyler; and others. The names of the American guests were Bros. Charles E. Meyer, P.M. 295; W. J. Kelly (Chairman of the Masonic Temple Committee), 59, Washington; W. Millett, Philadelphia; F. P. Case, 32, Sakatah; and Dr. C. V. Hart, 1, and B. W. Rogers, P.M. 5, of Denver, Colorado. Bro. J. J. Tomlin, P.G.D. of the United Grand Lodge of Victoria, was also present. Among the English guests were Bros. W. J. Hughan, P.M. 131, P.S.G.D.; A. Pendlebury, Asst. G. Sec.; George Nugee, 1691, P.J.G.W. Middlesex; T. B. Whythead, 1611, P.P.S.G.W.; John Read, I.P.M. 2105, P.P.G. Org.; Lewis Thomas, P.A.G.D.C.; F. W. West, P.G.D., D.P.G.M. Surrey; C. Parsons, 1637, P.A.G.D.C. Middlesex; Dumas, P.J.G.D.; Richard Eve, Past Grand Treas.; W. Cope, 1351; C. Beckett, 2000; R. Hovenden, 2140; J. J. Carody, 1685; Wm. Groves, P.M. 749; A. Hamilton, I.P.M. 917; W. S. Heath, 766; J. Baudin, P.M. 930; C. J. Cutler, P.M. 212; M. Callaway Gossett, P.M. 2140; Gerald A. Shoppee, 2140; E. C. Massey, 1297, and many others.

As soon as the lodge was opened, the W.M. briefly gave a hearty greeting and welcome to the American brethren, in whose honour the meeting of the lodge had been convened, and the business of the lodge proceeded, which included the raising of Bro. Jessurun to the Sublime Degree of a M.M. Bro. Brackstone Baker, P.G.D., and Representative of 20 Grand Lodges of America to England, rose and said that he was extremely glad to see so large a meeting both of members and visitors. As Bro. Kedge, the W.M., had welcomed the American brethren at the opening of the lodge, so he, on behalf of the lodge, at its close, begged to renew the hearty gratitude and heartfelt welcome, and the sincere acknowledgment of the advantage the brethren of the lodge had in the presence of their distinguished American brethren—Bros. C. E. Meyer, Kelly, Millett, Case, Hart, and Rogers. Were it not invidious he should have singled out Bro. Meyer, who had hastened his journey from Paris in order to be present at that meeting, and who would embark on the following day for the United States. When he was here a year ago the very object of the establishment of the lodge was vindicated by his presence; the institution of the Anglo-American Lodge having arisen in consequence of there being a great many Masons in London who were connected with brethren in the United States frequently feeling the want of a suitable Masonic home to which they could introduce well-vouched-for American Masons when on a visit to this country. With that idea the English brethren referred to had put their heads together and had formed this lodge for the purpose of welcoming their American brethren who were passing through London, either on their way to the Continent, or on their return journey. They were now glad to entertain those American brethren who had honoured them with their presence, persuaded that when they went back they would carry with them a pleasant flavour of the welcome they had received. Then addressing Bro. Meyer and his companions personally, Bro. Baker said—We extend the heartiest welcome to you with the sincerest desire to give you a hearty reception, knowing that if we went over to your side we should receive a like greeting at your hands. Of this we had a living instance in our Bro. Secretary and in Bro. Skinner, who, taking a journey to America, were treated as sumptuously as the Shah of Persia has recently been treated in this country. We are glad to see you, and whenever you or your countrymen come to this country properly recommended, we shall be glad to give them the same welcome as we are now glad to give to you.

Bro. Kelly, in reply, said that one of the conditions which he made upon leaving the States was that he should not be called upon to make any speeches, but now that condition had been broken by Bro. Meyer, for by command of Bro. Meyer, he had now to rise and reply to Bro. Baker's speech. Bro. Baker was acknowledged in America to be a large-hearted Freemason; and while they in America were by no means moderate of their abilities, they certainly did know what were their shortcomings. They were, however, a young country, and that very fact of their being so young a nation was their excuse; and in the violation of any forms Masonic or social he distinctly said that their apology should be their youth. This reception to himself personally and to his colleagues had been peculiarly pleasant, for they had been taught that, come from what quarter of the world they might, they were, among the Masons they met, among brothers and friends. Some few years ago he himself happened to be standing in the corridor of the Masonic Temple in Philadelphia when a gentleman came in who, from his dress and appearance, seemed to be an Englishman, and he looked about him in a strange way as if he were lost. It was his (Bro. Kelly's) good fortune to note this gentleman, and on approaching him to know if he could serve him in any way, learned that he was an Englishman on his way from the Province of Ontario, and that he was a Mason, and had concluded that he would like to see the Masons of Philadelphia. The Grand Master and the Grand Secretary were fortunately to be found and they all had a long talk with the Englishman, who related the eventful experiences of a life of travel, but said that in no connection and in no place did he feel such confidence and find such friendship as amongst Masons. The effect produced upon those three Americans by that incident had never been effaced, and when he came into that room, a perfect stranger to every one there, he did not seem strange, for every body seemed ready to give him a welcome and they generally came to him and asked him how he was, and altogether he had felt perfectly at home. The position, however, was somewhat novel. He was not in any condition for making a connected address to the meeting, because in listening to Bro. Baker's speech and noticing his words he had felt so interested that everything else was driven out of his head, except the cordiality and geniality of the brethren, and last but not least, the kind-hearted Masonic address of Bro. Baker.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren of the lodge and their guests repaired to the Victoria Hall, where a banquet of a recherché kind was served, under the superintendance of Bro. G. P. Bertini, assisted by Mr. J. Hoogan, after which the usual list of loyal and Masonic toasts was dealt with with all the enthusiasm so characteristic of Freemasons.

It is not unworthy of notice that when "The Health of Her Majesty" had been drunk, and the National Anthem followed as a matter of course, not a brother present joined more heartily in singing "God save the Queen" than the ten American brethren who were the guests of the evening.

It is only fair to add that "The Health of the President

of the United States" received an equally cordial response from the English brethren present.

The next toast proposed by the W.M. was that of "The M.W.G.M., the Prince of Wales," and after referring to the impetus which his Royal Highness had given to Masonry through his connection with it, he said in indirect connection through that toast he must remind the brethren that on Saturday next the M.W.G.M. would be called upon to take part in a ceremony which was of peculiar interest to himself and in the country at large. He was sure Masons would all rejoice that the princess, the daughter of his Royal Highness, was about to be wedded to a native of Great Britain.

The next toast was that of "The Pro Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, and the Grand Officers of England, Present and Past." Very little that he (the Worshipful Master) could say was necessary to recommend this toast—the Grand Officers were well known to the brethren, and were approved by all who came in contact with them or who saw their work. The lodge was honoured with the presence of several Grand Officers that evening, and he should, therefore, in proposing the toast call upon Bro. Eve, P.G. Treasurer, to respond.

Bro. Eve said he felt a difficulty in rising to respond to that toast, inasmuch as he had on his immediate left two brethren who were his seniors as Grand Officers, and were so well known to the Order, namely, Bro. Hughan, who was so well known in connection with Masonic records, and Bro. Brackstone Baker, who represented not only himself, but that great Masonic territory which was under the control of the President of the United States of America; and when he found that he was responding for a body of Grand Officers of such eminence, he felt the disadvantage at which he was placed. Then there were the Provincial Grand Officers who were not only distinguished in the Craft, but had, many of them, distinguished themselves in this great Empire. The Earl of Carnarvon they all had a great love for because he had a great love for Masonry, and made himself useful to the Craft in all parts of the world. The Earl of Lathom, the Deputy Grand Master, stood in a high position in the State, and the whole body of Grand Officers consisted of brethren who had distinguished themselves in all phases of life. When one had to respond for such a body the difficulty was great, but the honour was also great, which he for one appreciated. It was especially an honour to reply to this toast in such a lodge as this, in which there were a great many brethren who came from other continents, and who had had a large experience of Freemasonry in all parts of the world. It was a great treat to have an opportunity of meeting brethren from other countries, and the Grand Officers appreciated the honour of being invited as visitors to witness and take part in the welcome offered to the American brethren. Members of Grand Lodge were only too happy to meet them and show that they had a sympathy with them in the great country from which they hail, and to acknowledge as far as possible that they were doing good work in their country, as we were trying to do in ours. The Grand Lodges in America were all Grand Lodges which cemented and brought together a large number of brethren of different creeds and modes of thought, and the Grand Officers of England were pleased to meet the representatives of those Grand Lodges under the flag of America which hung side by side with our own behind the Master's chair. The Grand Officers thanked the brethren for the kind way in which the toast had been proposed and received.

The W.M. then rose, and said the next toast he had to propose was "The Health of the President of the United States." He could well wish that this toast had fallen to other hands than his, because he was in the singularly unfortunate position of having no special knowledge of the position of the present President of the United States. But he might tell the brethren that his object was not only to do honour to their American visitors, but to honour the American President through them; and he should therefore give them without further preface the health of the President of the United States.

This toast, as already remarked, was enthusiastically received and greeted with a hearty fire.

Bro. Brackstone Baker then rose to propose the toast of the evening, "The Sister Grand Lodges of the United States and the Dominion of Canada, coupled with the American Visitors." Bro. Baker said that all extraordinary events were celebrated with a banquet. If it were a foundation-stone laid, or the opening of an asylum, or a hospital, or the launching of a ship, a banquet was sure to be one of the concomitants. It was said that the way to an Englishman's pocket was through his stomach; charity dinners were universally accompanied by a collection, and the collection of funds was very much more rapid after than before the dinner. How much more, if such events were perfected by a banquet, how much more perfect ought to be that union under the universal flag of Freemasonry—that banner that embraced all nations, and colours, and languages. One flag that adorned the walls that night bore upon it the stars and stripes, but the flag of Freemasonry that he alluded to bore a strange device, the square and compasses, and that was enough to answer the fraternal reason of all who hail under the same banner. Among the foreign Grand Lodges there were none which contained so many constituents with whom English Freemasons had so strong and abiding and permanent a sympathy as that of the Americans. It was jocosely said that they spoke our language and we spoke theirs, but he believed that we had lost our language in a great measure, and that it was preserved in some of the New England States. And if we had lost some of the conformation of words which were in use when the Bible was first translated, we should find them in some of the New England States. The great point he wanted to insist upon was this, that in this great brotherhood of nations there were none with whom the English had more entire sympathy than the Americans; both were of the same language; their grandfathers were born in our countries; and if Americans had to look up their forefathers, they had to come here to trace their genealogies. If any American were entitled to a large inheritance in this country they would be the first to rush down, say, to Lincolnshire, to search the parish registers. They might be separated geographically and politically, but they were all united under the square. They were then welcoming samples of the American Mason, and perhaps they had sent out the best articles as samples. They had samples from Massachusetts and Pennsylvania, and elsewhere, and if American Masons were all up to the samples to hand, it would be a better country even than it is. Our sympathy with American Masons did not end in mere talk. The Anglo-American Lodge was formed to afford them a Masonic home when they were here. Their presence was greeted with delight and pleasure. He needed not to remind them that this was

an emergency lodge meeting, called to welcome American brethren who had come over for the French Exhibition. As to that exhibition he would match their exhibition here against it as regarded a kind hearted greeting. They were favoured with the society to-day of some American Masons who had shown themselves ready to make sacrifices on account of the lodge; four or five of them were to have left for Liverpool that day, but they had postponed their departure on the lodge's account. The brethren from Massachusetts had disappointed them, but he had just been informed that they found at the last moment they were unable to be present. He would couple with the toast the name of Bro. Meyer, but he should ask Bro. Kelly, as Chairman of the Committee of the Temple at Philadelphia, to respond. That Temple Bro. Kelly had been at a large expense to adorn and decorate in honour of one of his friends. He was very happy to see present a representative of the new United Grand Lodge of Victoria, Bro. Tomlin, the P.S.G.D. These were the sort of brethren the Anglo-American Lodge liked to see, that they might afford them that Masonic comfort which they were only able to get in that lodge. Bro. Baker concluded by mentioning the toast and coupling with it the names of Bro. Kelly and Bro. Tomlin.

Bro. Kelly said that the W.M. and brethren could hardly imagine how embarrassing it was for one who came from the other side of the water, to pretend to address such an assemblage as that. They knew that John Bull was full of prejudices. As to pretending to give John Bull information—well he would say that the most courageous American would hardly do that. To try to amuse John Bull they hardly knew how, his temperament was so different from theirs that it would take a week or two for him to get round the joke, by which time they would be at home, and not able to enjoy it themselves. He had been surprised with the noble gentility of the English. He had felt happy and good with them. They seemed to think that nothing was good enough, and did not think it good enough to let you get away. But when Americans asked Englishmen to come to them, they said that they found Americans too long. They had Bro. Reynolds on one occasion, and he thought Bro. Reynolds stayed about 15 minutes. The Senior Warden also came, but he had to go away too. That was not fair, and it was selfish. Well, in that new country they did not pretend to teach Englishmen, but they could try to amuse them, and Englishmen might find what would be of service when they came back home. One of the great characteristics of an American when he got up to make a speech was to make the American eagle scream; they excited the old bird, and pulled his wings, and called that oratory. Then they twisted the British lion's tail, and called that oratory. It didn't hurt any, but it amused Americans. When he came there on that business it was on the distinct understanding that there would not be time to give that thought necessary for making up a speech, and he stipulated that he was to come to look and to study up what he had seen; but this invitation was pressed with such preternatural kindness, that he and his colleagues would have been ingrates indeed if they had not come to the lodge. He had, however, consulted with a distinguished member of the lodge, saying that he knew one of us would have to make a speech, and guessed which one that would be. He, therefore, asked the distinguished member to give him some hints. "Oh," he said, "God bless you, my boy," and that small countenance seemed to expand. Then he said "If I was in your place I would be pretty careful and give some solid material." That had frightened him to such an extent that he did not know what to say, but coming into that room and seeing that dear old flag restored him somewhat. The great body of Americans, those who represented the United States, knew and felt that there was a bond of sympathy, of education, and feeling that went away beyond the question of a common language. They were perfectly ready to admit English achievements. He admitted that in coming to England it was not to see London on this occasion, or any part of the British dominions, except Edinburgh, in Scotland. His mother was born there, and he felt it his duty to go there, that he might be able to say he had walked in the streets which she once trod. And after that he could not help a kindly feeling towards all who had maintained the native place of his mother in such beautiful shape, and he should go home feeling happier and better than he had ever expected to do. When Americans came to look at their flag, if they were truly American, they loved it, and they loved it in the same spirit that Englishmen loved that other flag which hung beside it. They did not lose respect for the English because of their respect for their own country, but they came to England for solid information. They did not care where the improvements came from that made the rapid dollar; they took the improvements and very likely took the idea. They did everything they undertook the best they knew. There were different kinds of society in the various parts of America. New York City was dominated by the Irish very much, and out at Chicago, that was dominated by the Germans; and in Bethlehem, in Pennsylvania, that was Pennsylvania Dutch. The Master of the lodge at Bethlehem was an ardent politician. But of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, of which he (Bro. Kelly) had been a member for 26 years, he would say it was composed of about 400 subservient lodges, and there were 5500 votes in that Grand Lodge. It was an harmonious body, a grand conservative old body. It did not reach out for novelty, it kept down to the old working, which was more English than the work that had been done in the lodge that day, and he believed it would have the courage to preserve that work to the end. Bro. Kelly concluded by thanking the brethren for the way in which the toast had been received.

Bro. Tomlin added a few words for the United Grand Lodge of Victoria.

The W.M., in proposing the toast of "The P.M.'s," said he was most fortunate in having such able brethren beside him, and he felt sure that they would do all they could for the prosperity of the lodge.

Bro. Adolphus Clark, I.P.M., having briefly replied, Bro. Major George Lambert said that he had only acted as their first I.P.M., but hoped some day to be Master of the lodge. He would do all in his power for the benefit of the lodge, and he was delighted to see the American brethren with them. He had occupied the chair once or twice during the sad affliction of their first Master, whom every one loved, and it was on one occasion when some American brethren were visiting them, and he was glad to see the lodge doing the work for which it was formed in entertaining the American brethren, and cementing the good fellowship of the two nations. The lodge was making great progress, and thanks were due to their Secretary for the interest he had taken in

the lodge from the first, and he hoped he would be with them for many years to help in the good work.

The W.M., in proposing the toast of "The Officers of the Lodge," said he was most fortunate in having such good officers, who knew their work, and would help and assist him during his year of office. The Treasurer took every care of their cash, and was very careful, and as to the Secretary, all who knew how indefatigable he was in his duties, and had the interest of the lodge at heart. He would call upon the Treasurer and Secretary to respond.

Bro. J. B. Cumming, Treas., in responding, said that it was a pleasure for him to know that his services gave satisfaction, and assured the lodge that the more money they entrusted into his care the better he was pleased, and would take care that it was properly disposed of. That night he was very happy, for in one of the visiting Philadelphia brethren he found a very dear and old friend of his father's, and from them had heard news of his relatives in Philadelphia. He only hoped that the American brethren had enjoyed themselves that evening, and would return to America giving a good account of the reception they had had in the Anglo-American Lodge.

Bro. G. Reynolds, Sec., thanked the W.M. for the kind way in which he had proposed his health, and also the brethren for the hearty way in which they had drunk to the toast. From the time of founding the lodge when he went to their worthy P.M., Bro. Brackstone Baker, P.G.D., who received him most heartily, asking him to sign the petition to Grand Lodge and to be its first Master, and to their other worthy P.M., Bro. Major Geo. Lambert, P.G.S.B., who was a dear neighbour, asking him to recommend the petition to Grand Lodge, the Anglo-American Lodge had been a success, and he hoped it would continue so, and carry out the work for which it was formed, viz., a lodge where American and English brethren could meet. The W.M. had been pleased to speak of the satisfactory manner in which he performed his duties. That night he had been well repaid for all hard work, in having such a successful evening in every way. All had enjoyed themselves, and it must be pleasing to their W.M. to be so well supported. He was delighted to see it, as he had known their worthy W.M. a long time before they came into Masonry. Their W.M. and himself were initiated and raised in the same lodge. There was no brother whom he loved or respected more, and to hear from all that his (the W.M.'s) working and carrying out of the duties of the chair had given satisfaction they could guess his feelings. They worked well together, not forgetting Bro. Treasurer, who was looking so beaming and happy with the Philadelphia brethren, and so long as the Masters and the lodge had confidence in him as their Secretary he assured them he would work to the best of his ability to the end of his days, and for the success of the lodge. Bro. Kelly, of Philadelphia, had told them that on the visit of Bro. J. Skinner, I.G., and himself to America last year they had but 15 minutes with them. He could tell the brethren it was a very elastic "fifteen minutes," for the Philadelphia brethren, headed by Bro. C. E. Meyer, had done all in their power to make them happy, and gave them a reception lasting three days—not to be forgotten. He felt sure that if the Anglo-American Lodge were to go across to America in a body they would be as well received as they had been both in Philadelphia and Baltimore. Individually, he felt he had made but a poor return for kindnesses received from the Philadelphia brethren, but Bro. Skinner and himself had done their best under the circumstances. He himself had been "fixed" by illness and domestic troubles at home, but was glad he had been able to give a portion of some days to them to see a few of the sights of London and "Faust up to Date," through the kindness of a genial brother well known to many of the brethren (Bro. Freddie Potter). That night another link had been added to the Anglo-American Lodge, which would strengthen the Masonic feelings that should exist between the two great nations of England and America, and trusted all would be spared to give the American brethren such another reception as that of this evening. He knew and felt that they would carry back to America all the good wishes of the lodge, and wish them them a successful voyage, with "God speed."

The remaining toasts, which want of space prevents our publishing, were all duly honoured before the Tyler's toast closed the proceedings.

Letters of regret at not being able to be present were received from Bros. Lord Euston, Sir Henry Morland, Sir Polydore De Keyser, J. Thruswell (on his honeymoon), James J. Woolley, S.W. (domestic affliction), J. Woodward, D.C., and others. Telegrams were received from Bros. Theodore H. Tilton, S.W. (Berlin), and C. H. Cummings (Holland), regretting their absence on account of special business, sending "Hearty good wishes" to the lodge and the American brethren.

The musical arrangements were under the direction of Bro. H. W. Schartau, Organist, P.G.O. Middx., assisted by several brethren, and gave great pleasure to all present.

RECENT FESTIVAL OF THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

The following sums have been received on account of the recent Boys' School Festival since our last report:

Lodge	LONDON.	£	s.	d.
193	Bro. G. P. Nightingale, additional	5	5	0
	(raising his list to £72 9s.)			
2060	„ St. Clair	26	5	0
	PROVINCES.			
Lodge	BERKS AND BUCKS.			
1101	Bro. C. Slaughter, additional	7	15	0
	(raising his list to £57 15s.)			
414	Comp. H. Creed, additional	2	16	0
	(raising his list to £37 16s.)			
Lodge	DERBYSHIRE.			
253	Bro. W. H. Marsden, additional	5	5	0
	(raising his list to £26 5s.)			
	ESSEX.			
2184	Bro. G. J. Westfield	23	12	0
		£	70	18
	Additions brought forward	351	0	6
		£	421	18
	Less amount twice entered	1	1	0
	Total addition to sum announced	£	420	17



The regular monthly meeting of the General Committee of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys will be held at Freemasons' Hall to-morrow (Saturday), at 4 p.m.

It is with very great regret we hear that the Countess of Zetland, wife of the Prov. G. Master of N. and E. Yorkshire, is laid up with an attack of typhoid fever at her residence in town.

It is officially announced that the Queen's visit to Llan-gollen will take place on Monday, the 26th, instead of Tuesday, the 27th, inst. Her Majesty's stay in North Wales will last till the 29th inst.

ORDER OF THE SECRET MONITOR.—The installation meeting of the Cleve Fast Conclave, No. 8, was held at the Mitre, Hampton Court, on Saturday, the 20th ult., when Bro. E. C. Mulvey, P.G. Stwd., was installed Supreme Ruler by Bro. John J. Pakes, P.G. Grd.

We are pleased to notice that Bro. Voisey's company of boys again received the banner presented by the Society of Arts for proficiency in drill. The Duke of Cambridge entrusted it to their keeping for a second year.

The special fireworks, at the Crystal Palace, in honour of the marriage of H.R.H. the Princess Louise of Wales with Bro. the Duke of Fife, were marred by the rain on Saturday. The day's programme was very interesting, including two very successful concerts by the Tonic-Sol-fa Choral Association, conducted by Mr. J. Proudman.

At the annual presentation of medals and diplomas of the London Academy of Music, held at St. George's Hall, Langham-place, W., on Wednesday last, the coveted distinction of diploma of Associate to Gold Medalists, for Vocalists, was secured by Miss Emily Foxcroft, daughter of Bro. W. M. Foxcroft, P.M. 177, and 2063, P.P.A.G.D.C. Essex.

St. Ives, in Cornwall, is to have a new Masonic Hall. Mr. Robert Toy, having secured the contract for Tregenna Lodge, No. 1272, commenced operations on the 22nd ult. This lodge will have a magnificent suite of rooms, and from the healthy state of the Order one thing is very certain, viz., that the honourable Order at St. Ives is fully alive to the times.

The Prince and Princess of Wales, with Prince Albert Victor and the Princesses Victoria and Maud, were present at the marriage at St. Paul's, Knightsbridge, on the 25th ult., of Mr. H. C. Hay with Miss Lepel Sayer, daughter of the late Capt. Sayer, 23rd Welsh Fusiliers. The wedding presents included a moonstone and diamond bracelet given by the Prince and Princess, a diamond heart bracelet given by Prince Albert Victor and George, and a gold bracelet from the Princess Louise, Marchioness of Lorne.

On Wednesday, the 17th ult., the summer outing of the members of the Deptford lodges was held. Sixty-two ladies and brethren left New Cross by saloon carriages for Windsor, where steam launches were provided, and a most enjoyable day was spent up the river. Lunch and dinner were provided at the New Thames Hotel, Maidenhead. Bro. E. G. Bax, W.M. 871, presided, supported by Bro. Emblin, W.M. 147; Bro. Jones, W.M. 548; Bro. Dealer, Brokenshire, Pitt, Dingle, Green, Speight, and Weston, acting as Stewards, and John J. Pakes, as Secretary.

On Friday, the 26th ult., the Provincial Grand Lodge of Perthshire East held their usual quarterly communication in the Scon and Perth Hall. Bro. Colonel Campbell, S.P.G.M., presided, and there was a good attendance. An application was made by the lodge at Tullicallan for a subscription to their hall building fund. The acting Prov. Grand Master expressed his great regret that the state of the Prov. Grand Lodge funds would not permit of their contributing to the object. Bro. James MacLeish was installed as Provincial Grand Master. The other business was routine.

GOULD TESTIMONIAL.—Donations to this fund have been recently received from the following brethren: Bros. R. J. Miller, 33°, Kentucky; Surgeon-General Theobald Ringer, F. M. Gratton, Dist. G.W. North China; C. Thorne, Past Dist. G.M. North China; J. J. Miller, Dist. G.M. North China; J. W. Kingsmill, D.D.G.M. North China; D. R. J. Sevan, D.S.G.D. North China; W. S. Emens, Org. Northern Lodge of China; James Newton, P.P.S.G.D., Prov. A.G. Sec. East Lancashire; W. K. Bradford, 1574; C. Palmer, W.M. 1469; A. E. Austen, P.M. 1469; and the Hon. Sir Henry J. Burford-Hancock, Dist. G.M. Gibraltar; also from the Meridian Lodge, 1469, Cradock, Cape of Good Hope, and the Cosmopolitan Lodge, 1409, Kimberley, South Africa. Further donations will be gratefully received by the Hon. Secretary, Bro. Dr. Ralph Gooding, P.G.D., Heath Lodge, The Grove, Blackheath, S.E.

The Ubique Lodge, No. 1789, Bro. W. R. Arnold, R.A., W.M., will hold its usual quarterly meeting at the Café Royal, Regent-street, W., on Monday, the 12th inst., at 5.30 o'clock p.m., when the following brethren will be balloted for as joining members, viz.: Bro. Capt. A. Crawford, R.A., 1465; Capt. E. H. Elliot, R.A., 6; Lieut. V. F. W. A. Paget, R.H.A., J.W. 1971; and Lieut. W. Jarvis, R.A., P.M. 491, 2195, P.P.J.G.D. of Jersey. The under-mentioned gentlemen will be initiated, if approved, viz.: Capt. S. W. Lane, R.A., and Sergt-Major G. Allen, R.A. Bro. Capt. W. V. Faber, R.A., A.D.C. to the General commanding the Woolwich District, and Capt. T. Y. Osmond, R.A., Adjutant of the Aberdeen Volunteer Artillery, will be passed; and the raising of Bro. Lieut. R. J. Wilson, R.A., will complete the work. The Secretary is Bro. George Mason, R.A., 139, Alderney-street, S.W., to whom all communications concerning the lodge should be addressed.

SCIENCE (EXTRAORDINARY).—TERREY'S "HOUSEHOLD PURIFIER" (Registered) for Universal Purposes.—Acts like magic. A strong and pleasant Disinfecting Fluid for Sanitary Use. Treble the Disinfecting Strength of Carbolic. A new and valuable Discovery has been made in the manufacture of this Fluid, there being no Sediment. Dissolves at once in Water, making a Milky appearance. Where this is used all Infectious Diseases are kept away. Sold by Chemists, Stores, Grocers, Oilmen, &c., in 6d. and 1s. bottles, or in gallons 4s., delivered free. 1s. charged for cans (returnable).—TERREY BROS., 55, Chester-street, Kennington.—ADVT.

We are glad to hear that our American brethren—Bros. C. E. Meyer, Kelly, &c., of Philadelphia, and elsewhere—who recently visited this country and so thoroughly enjoyed their reception by the Anglo American Lodge, No. 2191, have reached home safely, the City of Paris, on which they were passengers, being reported among the arrivals at New York.

Bro. Sir John Puleston, M.P., entertained the American Minister in London at dinner at the House of Commons, on the 26th ult., Bros. Sir James Fergusson and T. Sutherlands being among the guests invited to meet his Excellency.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Somerset will be held in the Town Hall, Weston-Super-Mare, to-day (Friday). Bro. the Earl of Carnarvon, Pro. G.M. of England, Prov. G.M. of Somerset, will preside. We shall report the proceedings next week.

We thank Bro. Dr. Hambleton for a copy of his pamphlet entitled "Cure of Consumption," which has been laid before Professor Vernem's Committee, formed for the purpose of discovering a cure for tuberculosis. It is ably and concisely written, and contains several cases in evidence of the correctness of his theory.

The members of the Royal Albert Edward Lodge, No. 906, Weston, have subscribed for and presented to the lodge the portrait of Bro. George Henry Bartlett, I.P.M., P.P. J.G.W. Somerset, in recognition of his Masonic services. Bro. Bartlett's successor in the chair of K.S. is Bro. Arthur Wadoux. He was installed recently by the D.P.G.M. of the province, Bro. R. C. Else. Bro. Col. Laurie, C.B., M.P., has been appointed by the Earl Amherst, Prov. G.M. Kent, S.G.W. of the province.

The marriage of the Princess Louise of Wales with Bro. the Earl of Fife, K.T., was solemnized in the Private Chapel at Buckingham Palace on Saturday last, in the presence of the Queen, the Prince and Princess of Wales, the King of Greece, the Crown Prince of Denmark, the members of the Royal Family in England, the Ministers, Grand Officers of State and Household, and the leading members of the aristocracy. The Archbishop of Canterbury, assisted by the Bishop of London and several clergymen, officiated, and the Prince of Wales gave away his daughter. At the close of the ceremony, the congregation left the chapel, and the wedding breakfast was partaken of. The bride and bridegroom, and the Prince and Princess of Wales and their sons and daughters returned to Marlborough House, and shortly before 5 p.m. the Duke and Duchess of Fife—the Queen in the interim having conferred a dukedom on the bridegroom—left in a carriage and four for Sheen House to spend the honeymoon. Here the reception was most enthusiastic, as indeed it had been throughout, on the way to Buckingham Palace, on the return to Marlborough House, and en route for Richmond.

The restoration and enlargement of Yaverland (Isle of Wight) Church was undertaken by the present vicar, Bro. the Rev. J. N. Palmer, P.G.C. England, and he is to be congratulated upon the completion of his self-imposed task. The church is very old, although there is some doubt about the exact period at which it was built. Time's all-corroding touch has left its mark on the building, portions of which had fallen into a sadly dilapidated condition, and urgent need had arisen for the interposition of the reverently-restoring hand. That need has been very judiciously met by the energy of Bro. Palmer. When lowering the floor, a cinerary urn was found, which is stated to be of pre-Roman date. A carved monk's head was also discovered, and it has been placed over the entrance porch. Some very beautiful ecclesiastical needlework has been presented, and the majority of it bears the emblem of St. John the Baptist, after whom the church is henceforth to be called. In speaking of the restoration at the luncheon which was held in honour of the re-consecration by the Bishop of Guildford, our rev. brother said that the ancient parts of the church remained precisely as they were. The beautiful specimen of Norman architecture, the chancel arch, was in precisely the same spot where it had stood for ages, and the entrance arch also remained exactly as it originally was. When they came to restore the chancel wall they discovered a relic of antiquity—namely, a hagioscope, or, as some people called it, a squint. He further said that he considered that all parties in the church were bound to make the House of God beautiful, and the accessories of public worship should be beautiful also.

THE ESSEX GRAND TREASURERSHIP.—An Essex correspondent sends us the following:—More than ordinary interest attaches to the meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Essex on Tuesday next, from the fact that it will be held at the residence of Lord Brooke, M.P. At this meeting the appointment of Provincial Grand Treasurer will be decided. It will be within the recollection of many that this office has been occupied by Bro. Durrant now for upwards of nine years, and that of late a feeling has gained ground in this province, as in others, against perpetuating the principle of continuous election. This fact obtained ascendancy last year, when Bro. E. J. Acworth, P.M. of the Epping Lodge, was proposed for the collar, and lost the election by two votes only. Beyond the desire which obtains to break through the custom of re-electing the same brother year by year to the post, it must be admitted that Bro. Durrant has performed the duties of his office with ability, and that he still maintains, in the highest possible degree, the undiminished confidence and best wishes of the Craft, but it will be impossible to withstand the widespread feeling which prevails, that other brethren should have placed within their reach the office in question. We shall be much mistaken if this feeling does not manifest itself prominently at the meeting of Tuesday, when the claims of Bro. Acworth, who was first invited to test the principle, will be pressed upon the Provincial Grand Lodge. In the event of Bro. Durrant declining nomination, it would be graceful on the part of the brethren, considering the narrow majority by which the election was decided last year, to recognise the prior claims of Bro. Acworth, and if possible to bring about the transfer of the collar with a feeling of unanimity.

THE UNEMPLOYED IN EAST LONDON.—At a time when much thought is being given to this matter, a practical suggestion may be of service. Last year more than £300,000 worth of foreign matches were purchased by inconsiderate consumers in this country, to the great injury of our own working people, so true is it that "evil is wrought by want of thought, as well as want of heart." If all consumers would purchase Bryant and May's Matches, that firm would be enabled to pay £1000 a week more in wages.—ADVT.

We regret to announce the death on Tuesday of Bro. C. Spence Bate, F.R.S., of Malgrave-place, Plymouth, and The Rock, South Brent. Bro. Bate had been a Freemason for upwards of 30 years, and was highly respected amongst our Devon brethren.

A Masonic bazaar was opened on the 20th ult., at Millport, by Bro. G. Y. Hendry, of Tourville, who was introduced by Bro. Wm. Hastie. The drawings for the three days were as follows: Thursday, £102 os. 6d.; Friday, £61 3s.; Saturday, £67 10s. 3d.; donations, £15 10s.—total, £246 3s. 9d. As there are still a few articles left over, a sale of work will be held this month (August).

The Massachusetts Rifle Team, which came over to England to attend the meeting at Wimbledon of the National Rifle Association, visited the Mansion House on Monday, when they were most hospitably received by Bro. Lord Mayor Whitehead, and by him conducted over the official residence of the Chief Magistrate of London. In the evening they dined with the Honourable Artillery Company at their headquarters, Finsbury-square, E.C.

Many of our readers will doubtless call to mind that Bro. J. C. Parkinson, P.G.D., presided at the 42nd Anniversary Festival held at the Albion, Aldersgate-street, on the 13th March last, in aid of the Earlwood Asylum for Idiots, when subscriptions amounting to close on £2000 were announced. The full report of the speeches on the occasion and a complete list of the moneys entrusted, "printed by the inmates, at the Asylum, Red Hill, Surrey," has been published, and will be found all the more worthy of perusal from the fact of its production being the work of the poor people on whose behalf the Festival was held.

Mr. Freeman Thomas announces his eighth series of Promenade Concerts at Covent Garden Theatre, commencing August 10th. The following distinguished artistes have been exclusively engaged: Nikita, Mdme. Clara Samuelli, Mdle. Colombati, Miss Fanny Joyce, Miss Beata Francis, Mdme. Pauline Rita, Mdme. Rose Hersee, Mdme. Valleria, Mdme. Patey, Mdle. Tremelli, Mdme. Belle-Cole, and Antoinette Sterling; Mr. Sims Reeves, Signor Runcio, Mr. Valentine Smith, Mr. Charles Chilly, Mr. Holberry Hagyard, Mr. Henry Piercy, Mr. Orlando Harley, Signor Foli, Mr. Walter Clifford, Signor Ciampi, Signor Abramoff, and Mr. Barrington Foote; solo pianoforte, Mdme. Roger-Miclos, Herr Arthur Friedheim, and Miss Florence Wand; solo violin and leader, Mr. Carrodus; solo flute, Mr. John Radcliffe; solo piccolo, Mr. J. A. Hamilton; solo violoncello, Mr. E. Howell; solo oboe, M. Vandenberg; solo clarinet, Mr. Julian Egerton; solo cornet, Mr. A. H. Smith; solo euphonium, Mr. C. Bourne; solo bassoon, Mr. J. F. Hutchins; accompanist and assistant conductor, Mr. H. M. Higgs; and musical director, Signor Arditi. The admission will be 1s., and Mr. Freeman Thomas has provided, at the price of one guinea, season ticket books containing 60 admissions available for any evening, a liberality which will undoubtedly be appreciated by the music-loving public.

MASONIC PICNIC.—The members of the Temple Lodge, No. 1094, with their lady friends and visitors, held one of their annual enjoyable excursions, which are so conducive to friendly intercourse and harmony, on the 24th ult. Bro. W. Pye, W.M., took charge of the party, and was loyally supported by Bros. Alexander, I.P.M.; J. Alexander, P.M., Sec.; G. Alexander, S.W.; A. Lett, J.W.; C. Knowles and Matthew Yeoman, Stwds.; J. Casey, P.M. 1570; P. Ball, P.P.G.T.; J. Travis, James Wylie, and others; and Messrs. M'Clury and R. Summer, who contributed much to the enjoyment of the members, were also present. The party assembled at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, at 12 noon, and after lunch and the singing of the "Old Hundred," proceeded in drags to Billinge, taking by the kindness of Lords Sefton and Derby, the picturesque route through Croxteth and Knowsley Parks. Notwithstanding the somewhat gloomy state of the weather, the drive was most enjoyable, and after the ascent to the ancient beacon, the party, after visiting the quaint old church, sat down to a substantial tea supplied by the lodge through Bro. Casey at the Stork Hotel, the landlord of which, Mr. J. G. Howard, did his best for the comfort of the visitors, who subsequently enjoyed themselves thoroughly in music and dancing, the latter being largely contributed to by some of the best local step dancers. The return was made at 7.30 p.m., and great credit is due to the Committee for their arrangements.

His Majesty the Shah of Persia, after a stay of exactly four weeks in this country, left Cowes for Cherbourg on board the Queen's yacht Victoria and Albert, on Monday. Last week, after inspecting the wonders of Elswick, under the guidance of Lord Armstrong, his Majesty travelled further south, taking Leeds and Bradford by the way. At each of these towns he was enthusiastically received, and was shown the principal manufactures for which they are severally known. On Friday he arrived at Brighton, where he remained till Monday morning, Sir Albert Sassoon, at whose house he stayed, and the Corporation sparing no effort to make his visit as pleasant as possible. The inhabitants, too, accorded him a splendid welcome, and on his part, his Majesty seems to have had exhibited unusual interest in the residents, and their pastimes and occupations. On Monday he left Brighton for Portsmouth, and on arriving at the latter was conducted on board the Royal yacht, which landed him at Cowes, whence he was driven to Osborne, where he took formal leave of her Majesty, who presented him with her portrait set in diamonds, and also conferred sundry decorations on his chief ministers and officers. On his trip to Cowes the Shah had the opportunity of seeing our fleet, which lies anchored in a triple line five miles long off Spithead, and which gave his Majesty such a salute as has probably never been heard before, the ships in line being 112 in number. The sight appears to have impressed his Majesty with a good deal of our power. After taking leave of the Queen the Shah went on board the Victoria and Albert, and sailed at once for Cherbourg, where he arrived the same evening, and continued his journey to Paris the next day.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT.—The attention of all sufferers is drawn to these well-known remedies, for they possess conspicuous advantages as a safe and reliable aid in all those emergencies to which travellers, emigrants, and sailors are so especially liable. They have been largely patronised by way of the land and sea, and, in fact, by all classes of the community, to their very great advantage. The Pills are beyond all doubt one of the most effective remedies ever discovered for cases of obstinate constipation, confirmed indigestion and colic, complaints which are engendered by exposure and irregular feeding. The Ointment will be found of the very greatest service in cases of piles, abscesses, erysipelas, and all kinds of local ulcerations.—ADVT.