

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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SATURDAY, MAY 10, 1890.

[PRICE 3d.]

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

Next week will be a busy one with the Governors and Subscribers of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. On Wednesday there will be a Special Meeting for the purpose of considering and accepting, rejecting, or amending the changes in and additions to the rules prescribing the qualifications of candidates for the Male and Widows' Funds respectively. On the same day there will be held the regular Monthly Meeting of the Committee of Management, and on Friday, in Freemasons' Tavern, there will be the Annual General Meeting of Governors and Subscribers for the transaction of such ordinary or special business as may be brought before it, and for the election of candidates to fill the vacancies that have been declared since the meeting in May, 1889, as well as a limited number on each Fund of those that will occur between then and the third Friday in May, 1890. As regards the meeting of the Committee of Management, we have nothing to say, as we presume the business will be, for the most part, of the usual character. On the Special Meeting, however, which will be held the same day, will devolve the responsibility of dealing with the amendments proposed to be made by the Committee of Management in the existing rules relating to the qualifications of candidates. To the majority of these amendments we have no serious objection to raise. They leave the annuities on both Funds altered, but in the case of the Male Fund, a candidate must have been a subscribing as well as a registered Mason for at least 15 years; the amount of income disqualifying him from becoming a candidate, or, if an annuitant already, from necessarily retaining the whole of his annuity, is reduced from £40 to £32; while, if he has qualified as a Life-Governor at least five years before becoming a candidate, he will be entitled to 20 additional votes, for each Life-Governorship he may have purchased, at every election he shall take part in until he succeeds in obtaining an annuity. In the case of the Widows' Fund, the qualification as regards age is raised from 55 to 60 years, and the widow's husband must have been a subscribing as well as a registered Mason for 15 years; she must have been married to her late husband seven years, instead of five years, or, if he was an annuitant, five years instead of three years. The income disqualifying her from becoming a candidate, or, if already an annuitant, from necessarily retaining the whole of her annuity, remains, as before, at £30. As regards the widow of an annuitant, she must be 55 years of age, and *may*—not *shall*—be entitled to half her late husband's annuity; and this she will retain for five years, instead of three years, and if her husband was in residence at Croydon she *may* so continue if the Committee give their sanction, but not otherwise. For both Funds the exceptions are retained in favour of applicants who are blind, paralysed, or otherwise disabled from earning their livelihood, but they must produce certificates to this effect from two medical men, and the applications must be approved by the Committee. To these amendments, backed as they are by the recommendation of the Committee of Management, who must know better than others the value of such details, we do not suppose any grave objection will be taken. But, as we said in our article which appeared in the *Freemason* on the 29th March last, to the new law which lays it down that no brother, or brother's widow, shall be eligible as a candidate, unless he, or her late husband, had qualified as a Life-Governor two years previous to his proposed candidature, or had been a subscriber of one guinea per annum for five years, we now, as then, offer the most strenuous opposition. The other changes are mere changes of detail and leave untouched the principles on which the Institution was founded and has been since conducted. But this new law will change a strictly benevolent institution into a mere benefit society. It will certainly exclude the majority of those who are now accepted as candidates, while the donations and subscriptions obtained under this law will form scarcely an appreciable amount. Indeed, those who render themselves eligible under this additional law

will give their five guineas down or their guinea a year for five years, not because they care a button about the Institution, but as an investment which in the event of misfortune overtaking them, will bring benefit to themselves or their widows. It has been the boast of Freemasonry that it has never been a benefit society; that is to say, a society which yields certain benefits to its members in return for their contributions, which may be paid at fixed regular intervals, or which may be given irregularly at the option of the donor. What Freemasonry has done for its poor members, or the widows and children of poor members, has been done freely in accordance with its guiding principle, and not because the recipients of its help have established any claims upon the Society to be benefited; and we sincerely trust that Freemasonry will always retain this character, and for this reason, that the new law establishing these many qualifications will be rejected straightway.

At the Annual General Meeting on Friday next, the 16th instant, the chief business will be the election of candidates to fill sundry vacancies. We have already brought under the notice of our readers the principal features in connection with the approved lists of candidates, and therefore we need not say more now than that the list for the Male Fund contains 68 names, while the vacancies declared in February were 11, and five have occurred since, making a total of 16 immediate, to which must be added the three deferred, raising the total to be elected to 19. For the Female Fund there are, or were—for we believe one or two have died since—84 candidates and 10 vacancies, namely seven immediate and three deferred, nor, as far as we know, have any occurred since, so that in this case the contest will be a desperate one. As some of these candidates, both male and female, have been on the lists for years, we trust that efforts will be made in their behalf which at all events will have the effect of removing them into the more comfortable sphere of elected annuitants.

THE CRAFT IN HERTFORDSHIRE.

A further step in advance has been taken by the Province which only a few years ago was commonly spoken of as "Little Herts." We give elsewhere a brief account of the consecration of its newest lodge—the Broxbourne, No. 2353—and we most warmly congratulate the Prov. G. Master and the Province on this latest evidence of the great vitality which characterises the Craft in this favoured part. Its senior lodges, the Hertford, No. 403, and the Watford, No. 404, were constituted as recently as 1829, and though from this time forward there was always a considerable amount of activity among the Masons in Hertfordshire, firstly under the late Marquis of SALISBURY, and then under his successor, the late Bro. WILLIAM STUART, there were but eight lodges on the roll, the Gladsmuir, No. 1385, being the youngest, when the latter brother retired from office after a tenure of 29 years, and was succeeded by Bro. T. F. HALSEY, M.P., who has remained at his post ever since, and under whose auspices 12 new lodges have been added to the previously existing eight. Again, at the time of Bro. HALSEY'S installation in office, there were only two R.A. Chapters—the Hertford and the Watford—in existence. In February, a third—the Gladsmuir—was consecrated, and the number necessary to constitute an Arch Province being complete, a patent was issued a few days later for the appointment of Comp. HALSEY as G. Supt., and he was installed as such by the late Comp. JOHN HERVEY, then G. Scribe E., in October, 1875. As regards extra-constitutional Masonry, the Stuart Encampment of Knights Templar was constituted in the year 1840, and therefore, if it desires to do so, is in a position to celebrate during the present year the jubilee of its foundation; while as regards Mark Masonry there are four small Mark lodges, the oldest of which—the Watford—was constituted in 1879, and a Prov. G. Mark Lodge, with Bro. HALSEY as Prov. G. Mark Master, to watch over their interest. Thus, since the day in April, 1874, when the present Prov. G. Master was installed in the Shire Hall, Hertford, amid general rejoicing, there have been

constituted 12 Craft lodges, three Royal Arch chapters and a Prov. G. Chapter, and four Mark lodges and a Prov. Grand Mark Lodge. This great progress—especially as nearly all the new lodges and chapters are fairly prosperous—is evidence, firstly, of an amazing growth in the attachment of the Hertfordshire brethren to the principles of Freemasonry, and secondly, that the affairs of the Province must be administered in all its various branches by one who is well versed in the arts of good government. We trust the same solid ideas about Masonry will continue to prevail in this county, and that what further progress may be made in the future will be in keeping with that which has been during the last 16 years.

WEST YORKSHIRE MASONIC LIBRARY.

The report by the enthusiastic Craftsman Bro. William Watson, of Leeds, as Honorary Librarian of the West Yorkshire "Masonic Library and Museum," is a remarkable publication and of a most interesting character. Bro. Watson singles out for special mention the T. W. Tew MS., "a document unique in some respects, and dating back two centuries" (presented by Bro. J. W. Cocking); the "Clapham MS.," which "contains the ancient charges, history, and Constitutions of the Craft recently discovered, circa 1700-20" (presented by Bro. W. F. Tomlinson); the History of Staffordshire, A.D. 1686, by Dr. Plot; "Highly interesting and valuable as containing the first known reference, *in print*, to Freemasonry;" and "the beautiful Book of Constitutions, A.D. 1723, the premier Book of Constitutions of the world" (both presented by Bro. T. W. Tew, Prov. G.M.). These four are alone sufficient to stamp the collection as one of the most valuable of the kind, and are grand treasures.

Amongst the largest donors to the Library and Museum are R.W. Bro. T. W. Tew; Bros. Henry Smith, D. Prov. G.M.; J. W. Cocking, P.M. 2035; W. J. Hughan, of Torquay; William Watson, Prov. G.S. of W.; H. Sadler, Sub-Librarian G.L. of England; and T. W. Embleton, P. Prov. S.G.W.

The works include nearly a complete set of "Books of Constitutions" from 1723 to 1888; Ahiman Rezon, 1756 to 1813; Grand Chapter Regulations, 1823, &c., and numerous foreign statutes, Ancient and Accepted Rite, &c. Lodge histories are fairly represented, and the Masonic Calendars of the Grand Lodge of England, 1781-1890 (not complete), make a splendid series, and are invaluable, especially those from 1781 onwards. Hutchinson, Preston, and others of the old worthies are carefully noted, and bibliographical works are also duly looked after, but there is room yet for many more, and, doubtless, the publication of the excellent report, with the names of the donors, and particulars of their generous gifts—in which the Prov. G.M. takes the lead, financially and generally—cannot fail to induce many more donations.

I am glad to see that there is nearly a complete set of my Books, only the "Constitutions of the Freemasons," 1869, being absent. There is no lack of books relating to matters occult, mystic, archæological, antiquarian, biblical, and ritualistic, and the bibliographical notes supplied by Bro. Watson add much to the value of the pamphlet. The collection is rich in proceedings of the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter of England and foreign bodies from an early date; and complete sets of the *Freemason* and other magazines, &c., are special features of the Library. Bro. Watson may well be proud of the collection, which bids fair to prove alike worthy of the Prov. Grand Lodge, the Prov. G.M. of West Yorkshire, and all concerned.

W. J. H.

TRANSACTIONS OF LODGE No. 2076.

Part I. of the new volume (3) of "Ars Quatuor Coronatorum" ought to receive a particularly warm welcome from the *Associate Members* of the "Quatuor Coronati" Lodge, now rapidly extending in numbers, and likely soon to reach the thousand. The members of the select "Inner Circle" will, of course, know how to appreciate such a boon, especially those who are veterans in the study, and so can look back a quarter century and more to the barren times in relation to Masonic culture and literature.

As I have intimated before, even ardent well-wishers of this extraordinary movement almost felt assured that the variety, excellence, and freshness of the early Transactions could not be maintained, while not a few, like myself, nothing doubting as to these qualifications, were dubious as to the support the Craft would be prepared to give to such an extensive scheme of literary research and publication in relation to Masonic studies.

All these fears have been "put to sleep," through the readiness of Masonic Students—an ever-increasing number happily—to place their best at the disposal of the indomitable and inexhaustible editor, Bro. G. W. Speth, and, by the creation of an "Outer Circle" of Associate Members gathered from the "four

quarters of the globe," who are the honorary agents of the lodge far and wide, to make known the publications of the Society. These are so rapidly increasing that it must tax our Secretary considerably to keep pace with the demands on his time, energy, and a considerable amount of correspondence possible only to a born linguist.

Then, again, the delivery of Masonic lectures in lodges in Great Britain and abroad by *accredited* members of the lodge or of its "Outer Circle" is a mighty agency, scarcely as yet in its infancy, for there are no agencies for spreading a knowledge of Masonic history, comparable with lectures by competent brethren, and subsequent discussion, though down to the present such a means to that end has been but little employed outside the precincts of the lodge itself.

The Societies lately formed in Yorkshire and Lancashire and elsewhere are steps in the right direction, and the admirable and suggestive addresses of Bros. Gould, Speth, Macbean, and others cannot fail to do much good and lead to grand results. I suggest that a diploma be issued, so that members less known, but qualified, may be able to offer their services under the wing of Lodge No. 2076 to lodges generally.

The great attraction of this part is Bro. Gould's important paper "On the Antiquity of Masonic Symbolism," which is wonderfully well written and full of interest, as is all that we have to read from his prolific pen. Bro. Gould is not quite content with the *realistic school*, and in the company of Bro. Speth has been marking out some new ground, which may aptly be termed a *via media*, as it touches the "Traditional" disciples on the one side, and yet maintains close fellowship with the "matter of fact" adherents on the other. As I have so lately expressed my views in brief on the subject in an article on "The Regius MS. and Masonic Symbolism,"* it will not do to offer another deliverance on the subject just at present; besides which this able and original paper must be carefully studied by our Associate Members prior to any more remarks on the question. Suffice it to say that the interest is fully maintained from first to last, and the array of facts, extracts, and inferences are sufficient almost to stagger a beginner in Masonic research. Yet, as the paper is carefully examined, it will be seen that Bro. Gould notes the sources from whence he has obtained his views, which, therefore, can be tested by his readers, and thus save them much labour in groping about for evidence, much being of a curious character, little noticed by even experts in the past. My advice is *get this part*, and read and digest at leisure. It will well repay diligent study, and though rather beyond my ken in some respects in relation to the existence of Masonic Degrees before 1720, I nevertheless gladly recognise its conspicuous ability.

The discussion was a memorable one, the editor having done his utmost to give the views propounded as fully as possible. I should like to note the contributions by Bros. Macbean, Speth, and Riley as being exceedingly good, and also the excellent reply by Bro. Gould at the close of the important debate.

One of the charts by Bro. Lambert de Lintot, of 1789, is reproduced, and a capital explanation, which has long been needed, is supplied by the editor, of that curious and singular conglomeration of Masonic symbols. The set of engravings by this artist is not often to be obtained, and always fetch a considerable sum of money, so I hope this reproduction means that the remainder will follow in due course.

A learned contribution by Colonel Crease, C.B., on "The Masonic Character of the Roman Villa at Morton, Isle of Wight" (with many diagrams to illustrate the character of these old remains), is certainly a feature of this part, and cannot fail to please all who are archæologists as well as Freemasons. Its precise Masonic value has not yet been determined apparently, but I am not disposed to be too critical, and therefore accept it as a useful addition to our information as to these early indications of Masonic, if not *Free* Masonic, antiquities.

The evidence of "Steinmetz Esoterics," by Bro. Schnitger, of Newcastle, is a very able exposition in favour of the Steinmetzen having possessed an "esoteric science," and will put Bro. Speth "on his mettle," for from a cursory glance there does appear some slight grounds for Bro. Schnitger's contention.

The frontispiece is a fine portrait of Colonel Pratt, the respected W.M. of our lodge, which we shall all much value, and cannot fail to appreciate. It is another step in the right direction.

W. J. H.

J. CLAUDE BESUCHET.—A doctor born at Boulogne, near Paris, in 1790. He was a military surgeon from 1806 until 1816. He became surgeon-major, and served in all the campaigns of the French army. He retired in consequence of his wounds. He was one of the contributors to the "Encyclopédie Moderne," in which he wrote the article on Freemasonry. He published several orations, and a very useful work, "Précis Historique de l'Ordre de la Franc Maçonnerie, suivi d'une Biographie," in two volumes: Paris, 1829.—*Kenning's Cyclopædia of Freemasonry*.

**Freemason*, March 22nd, 1890.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF WEST YORKSHIRE.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire was held in the Cutlers' Hall, Sheffield, on Wednesday, the 16th ult., under the banner of the Britannia Lodge, No. 139, when there were present—

Bros. Thomas William Tew, J.P., Past G.D. of England, Prov. G. Master; Henry Smith, Past G.D. of England, Deputy Prov. G. Master; William Harrop, P.M. 290, Prov. S.G.W.; John Henry Burrows, P.M. 139, Prov. J.G.W.; Rev. J. Rosser, B.A., Chap. 2069, P.P.G.W., as Prov. G.W.; Rev. Vaniah Odom, B.A., S.W. 139, Prov. G. Warden; Edward Armitage, J.P., P.M. 275, Jonas Craven, P.M. 275, Wm. Hy. Brittain, J.P., P.M. 139, Simeon Hayes, P.M. 139, Ben. Broughton, P.M. 302, John Wordsworth, P.M. 1019, Lieut.-Col. J. E. Bingham, P.M. 296, Robert Arnison, P.M. 296, George Brooke, P.M. 242, Rev. J. J. Needham, M.A., P.M. 910, and Rev. J. Gilmore, M.A., Chap. 296, P. Prov. G. Wardens; J. Leach, P.M. 61, Prov. G. Treas.; J. H. Gratton, P.M. 1513, F. M. Tindall, P.M. 1239, and H. Oxley, P.M. 405, P. Prov. G. Treasurers; C. M. Wilson, P.M. 974, Prov. G. Reg.; J. C. Malcolm, P.M. 306, A. W. Stanfield, J.P., P.M. 1019, and Joseph Binney, P.M. 139, P. Prov. G. Registrars; Herbert G. E. Green, P.M. 1019, Prov. G. Secretary; W. F. Smithson, P.M. 1211, Prov. S.G. Deacon; W. C. Lupton, P.M. 974, P.P.S.G.D., as Prov. S.G.D.; G. A. Cubley, P.M. 296, and Fredk. Cleaves, P.M. 904, Prov. J.G. Deacons; Robert Craig, P.M. 304, Joseph Lowenthal, P.M. 275, John Foster, P.M. 139, Francis D. Walker, P.M. 242, J. R. Dore, P.M. 750, and John E. Wordsworth, P.M. 904, P. Prov. G. Deacons; William Watson, P.M. 2069, Prov. G. Superintendent of Works; G. W. Hawksley, P.M. 139, Charles Gott, P.M. 302, John Shaw, P.M. 139, Thos. W. Roome, P.M. 904, and James Lawton, P.M. 337, P.P. G. Superintendents of Works; J. R. Welsman, P.M. 600, Prov. G.D.C.; John Dyson, P.M. 306, Prov. D.G.D.C.; Wm. Fitton, P.M. 2035, Prov. A.G.D.C.; L. W. Roddewig, P.M. 296, T. Collinson, P.M. 139, Samuel Slack, P.M. 910, Alfred Stephenson, P.M. 2321, and Joseph W. Monckman, P.M. 1018, P.P.G. Directors of Ceremonies; John J. Rutherford, P.M. 1545, Prov. G.S.B.; H. J. Garnet, P.M. 139, and T. Bateman Fox, P.M. 208, P.P.G.S.B.'s; John H. Rayner, P.M. 380, and Alfred Stott, P.M. 1301, Prov. G. Standard Bearers; Henry Arnold, Org. 139, as Prov. G. Org.; J. Needham Pickering, P.M. 2268, John Wm. Phillips, Org. 139, A. Simonson, P.M. 1239, Wm. Ash, P.M. 1019, and Max Blume, P.M. 1001, P.P.G. Organists; J. Matthewman, P.M. 1019, Prov. A.G. Sec.; Richard Cliffe, P.M. 1542, Prov. G. Purst.; F. Whiteley, P.M. 61, P.P.A.G.P., as Prov. A.G. Purst.; Thomas Crossley, P.M. 1311, Thomas Barber, P.M. 652, and John Richardson, P.M. 1001, P.P.G. Pursuivants; J. B. Wostinholm, P.M. 1239, W. F. Tomlinson, P.M. 304, J. B. Knight, P.M. 302, W. R. Massie, P.M. 1513, John Shoesmith, P.M. 1783, and Thomas Riley, P.M. 600, Prov. G. Stewards; Samuel Barrand, Tyler 304, Prov. G. Tyler; Thomas Leighton, Tyler 139, Prov. A.G. Tyler; and other brethren from various lodges in the province.

The roll of lodges and the roll of Present and Past Provincial Grand Officers having been called, the minutes of the meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge, holden at Huddersfield, on Wednesday, the 16th October, 1889, were read and confirmed.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER then delivered an address, which embraced all the topics of Masonic interest connected with the province as well as matters of importance in the Craft in general.

Bro. W. F. SMITHSON, P.M. 1211, Chairman of the West Yorkshire Charity Committee, presented and read the annual report, and moved its adoption and confirmation.

This was seconded by Bro. T. BATEMAN FOX, Vice-Chairman, and carried unanimously.

Bro. A. W. STANFIELD, P.P.G.R., presented and read the report of the Sub-Committee appointed by Prov. Grand Lodge at Leeds, on Wednesday, the 10th ult., in relation to the Masonic Boys' School inquiry, and moved that it be received and adopted.

This was seconded by Bro. BINNEY, and carried unanimously.

Bro. JOHN LEACH, P.M. 61, Prov. Grand Treasurer, then presented a statement of the receipts and disbursements of the province for the year ending 31st March, and pointed out that whilst the balance in favour of the province at the commencement of the year was £993 13s. 8d., it now amounted to £1019 19s. 4d.

Bro. Leach's balance-sheet was received most favourably, and, on the motion of Bro. C. M. WILSON, Prov. G. Reg., was unanimously accepted.

Bro. WM. WATSON, P.M. 2069, Prov. G.S. of W., presented the inventory of the property and regalia of Prov. Grand Lodge, and reported its condition to be satisfactory.

This, on the motion of the PROV. G.M., was unanimously adopted.

Bro. WATSON then presented his report as Hon. Librarian of the province, accompanying which was a printed tabulated list of the donations, &c., to the Prov. Grand Lodge Library. He also moved that a grant of £10 be made to the Library Fund.

This was seconded by Bro. J. R. DORE, and carried *nem. con.*

The PROV. GRAND MASTER then moved—"That this Prov. Grand Lodge accept the invitation of the Building Committee to place the Coat of Arms of this province, with an inscription, in one of the stained windows of the Centenary Hall of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, at a cost of £13."

This was supported by Bro. F. R. W. HEDGES, Secretary of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, and carried unanimously.

The election of Prov. G. Treasurer then took place. Bro. JOHN LEACH, the retiring Prov. G. Treasurer, briefly, but very pleasantly, proposed as his successor Bro. Thomas Harrison, P.M. 296.

This was seconded by Bro. HAROLD THOMAS, W.M. 296, supported by Bro. GARRETT, P.M., and carried unanimously.

On being invested the new Prov. G. TREASURER returned thanks to the brethren for that mark of their confidence.

The Prov. G. Master then appointed and invested his officers for the ensuing year, as follows:

Bro. Edward Tozer, J.P., W.M. 139 ...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" Thomas Crossley, P.M. 1311 ...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" Rev. John Henry Evans, M.A., Chap. 2069 ...	...	Prov. G. Chaps.
" Rev. Benjamin Mayou, M.A., Chap. 974 ...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" Thomas Harrison, P.M. 296 ...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" Harold Thomas, W.M. 296 ...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" Herbert G. E. Green, P.M. 1019 ...	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" Joseph Beckett Wostinholm, P.M. 1239 ...	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" William Henry Jessop, P.M. 521 ...	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" James Blackburn Knight, P.M. 302 ...	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" William Ridgard Massie, P.M. 1513 ...	...	Prov. G.S. of W.
" William Greaves, P.M. 289 ...	...	Prov. G.D. of C.
" H. T. E. Holmes, P.M. 2263 ...	...	Prov. D.G.D.C.
" W. F. Tomlinson, P.M. 304 ...	...	Prov. A.G.D.C.
" Thomas Lang, P.M. 1102 ...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" George Henry Locking, P.M. 910 ...	...	Prov. G. Std. Br.
" Thomas Riley, P.M. 600 ...	...	Prov. G. Std. Br.
" John Throup, P.M. 2091 ...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" George Carbert, Sec. 495 ...	...	Prov. G. Org.

Bro. Joseph Matthewman, P.M. 1019 ...	...	Prov. A.G. Sec.
" Robert Henry Armitage, P.M. 275 ...	...	Prov. G. Purst.
" John Shoesmith, P.M. 1783 ...	...	Prov. A.G. Purst.
" John Hunt, P.M. 139 ...	...	Prov. G. Stwds.
" Joseph Thomas Walker, P.M. 1001 ...	...	Prov. G. Stwds.
" Arthur Tupman, P.M. 837 ...	...	Prov. G. Stwds.
" Fred Rand, P.M. 242 ...	...	Prov. G. Stwds.
" Robert Thompson, P.M. 1042 ...	...	Prov. G. Tyler.
" Joseph Wilson, P.M. 1034 ...	...	Prov. A.G. Tyler.
" Samuel Barrand, Tyler 304 ...	...	Prov. A.G. Tyler.
" Thomas Leighton, Tyler 139 ...	...	Prov. A.G. Tyler.

Petitions for relief were presented by Bro. W. F. Smithson, and one grant of £10 and two of £15 were made.

Bro. Colonel WEMYSS, P.M. 2127, thanked the brethren for their cordial greeting, and expressed his pleasure at being present at so large and influential a gathering of West Yorkshire Freemasons. Bro. Geo. Clay, W.M. 208, the Mayor of Dewsbury, also returned thanks, as did Bro. Rev. F. V. Bussell, M.A., Deputy Prov. G. Master of Notts. The latter took the opportunity of advocating the cause of Bro. J. M. McLeod, P.M. 113, as candidate for Secretary R.M.I.B., in the room of Bro. Binckes, the present Secretary, who retires on 30th June next.

The Dep. Prov. G.M., Bro. H. SMITH, in kindly and sympathetic terms proposed the confirmation of the resolution passed at the Charity Committee meeting at Wakefield, on Saturday, the 16th ult., that the balance in excess of 200 guineas raised by the West Yorkshire lodges for the Binckes Indemnity Fund be allotted as follows:—£10 towards a printing-press for the boys' school; £10 towards a lathe for the carpenter's shop; £5 towards the games fund; and the rest to defray the expenses incurred in postage, printing, &c., whilst collecting the money.

This was seconded by Bro. W. H. BRITAIN, and carried unanimously.

Invitations were announced for the meetings of Provincial G. Lodge from No. 448, Halifax, for the October meeting, and from Lodge 290, Huddersfield, for April, 1891.

Prov. G. Lodge was then closed.

Dinner was served in the Masonic Hall, Surrey-street, when 130 brethren sat down, the Prov. G. Master occupying the chair.

CONSECRATION OF THE WIGAN LODGE, No. 2326.

During the past few years Masonry has made rapid progress in the town and district, and on Saturday, the 12th ult., the consecration of the Wigan Lodge, No. 2326, took place in the Masonic Hall, King-street, Wigan.

The petitioners were Bros. W. E. M. Tomlinson, P.P.G.W.; M. W. Peace, P.P.G.W.; R. A. Farrington, P.P.G.W.; J. D. Murray, P.P.G.D.C.; Ralph Betley, P.A.G. Sec.; G. L. Campbell, P.P.G. Org.; Walter Simpson, Henry Ackerley, Jno. Browne, Walter Tomlinson, R. P. White, J.W.; Wm. Taberner, and Wm. Rogers, all of 1335.

The Provincial Grand Master, Bro. the Earl of Lathom, was expected to perform the interesting ceremony, but owing to his absence with his daughter in Madeira, he deputed Bro. W. Goodacre, P.G. Std. Br. Eng., and Prov. G.S., to act as Consecrating Master. The officers selected to assist him were Bros. S. G. Sinclair, P.P.G.W., as S.W.; L. R. Rowbottom, P.P.G.W., as J.W.; T. B. Spencer, P. Grand Chap. Eng., as Chap.; Ralph Betley, Prov. Asst. G. Sec., Sec.; J. D. Murray, P.P.G.D.C., as D.C.; J. N. Patterson, P.D.G.D.C., as I.G.; and J. W. Potter, as Org.

The ceremony of consecration was most ably performed by Bro. W. Goodacre, and the oration was admirably delivered by Bro. T. B. Spencer.

A large number of brethren from the district attended to witness the ceremony, amongst those invited being—

Bros. Lord Lathom, D.G.M. and P.G.M.; Lord Crawford, D.P.G.M. and P.G.M. Aberdeen West; Capt. C. R. N. Beswicke Royds, P.G.D. Eng.; Edmond Ashworth, P.G.D. England; Robert Wylie, P.G.D. Eng.; Thos. Forrester, P.G.S.B. Eng.; J. J. Lambert, P.P.G.R.; T. R. Jolly, P.G. Treas.; J. De Bels Adam, W.M. 680; G. A. Harrordon, W.M. 2316; Thomas Strowger, W.M. 178; C. E. Beazer, P.M. 1335, W.M. 2350; Rev. C. Hesketh Knowlins, W.M. 1070; J. S. Hargreaves, W.M. 333; J. S. Garner, W.M. 343; Joseph Brown, W.M. 2269; H. R. Haughton, W.M. 314; J. H. Pimblett, W.M. 113; Thomas Wilson, P.M. 149; Henry Riddlesworth, W.M., R. C. Snape, P.M., William Johnson, P.M., R. B. Seddon, P.M., H. J. Bouchier, P.M., J. E. Barlow, P.M., S. A. Oliver, P.M., William Rigby, S.W., James Smith, John Smith, R. Halliwell, H. T. Folkard, and J. W. Potter, all of 1335; Robert Layland, P.M. 178; P. Speakman, J. Haslehurst, W. P. Park, and Wm. Bryham.

After the ceremony of consecration Bro. W. E. M. Tomlinson, M.P., was installed as first Master of the Wigan Lodge, and appointed his officers as follows: Bros. Walter Simpson, S.W.; Henry Ackerley, J.W.; John Browne, P.M. 1335, Treas.; William Taberner, Sec.; Walter Tomlinson, S.D.; Ralph Betley, P.M. 1335, P. Asst. G. Sec., J.D.; J. D. Murray, P.M. 1335, P.P.G.D.C., D.C.; R. P. White, J.W. 1335, I.G.; G. L. Campbell, P.M. 1335, P.P.G. Org., Org.; and Anthony Swallowell, Tyler.

Subsequently the invited guests assembled at the Wigan Conservative Club, when an excellent banquet was served. During its progress the Wigan Old Borough Reed Band played several selections of music. The usual toasts were honoured, those of the Worshipful Master and Mayor of Wigan being most heartily received. The proceedings were also further enlivened by the singing of the Cambrian Quartette Party from Liverpool. The petitioners have been waiting since September last to have the lodge consecrated, which, though not the Century Lodge, was the hundredth lodge consecrated in the province.

The clothing and massive silver jewels were manufactured by Bro. George Kenning, 2, Monument-place, Liverpool.

CONSECRATION OF THE WEST LANCASHIRE CENTURY LODGE, No. 2349.

The consecration of the above lodge took place on Tuesday, the 16th ult., at the Imperial Hotel, Blackpool, the Consecrating Officer being Bro. S. G. Sinclair, P.P.G.W., who was assisted by Bros. E. H. Cookson, Prov. S.G.W., as S.W.; W. B. Richardson, Prov. J.G.W., as J.W.; Rev. J. Kirby Turner, Prov. G. Chap., as Chaplain; W. Goodacre, P.G.S.B. Eng., Prov. G. Sec.; J. D. Murray, P.P. G.D.C., as D.C.; and John Slyman, P.P.G.D.

The numerous visitors on the interesting occasion included—

Bros. J. H. Barrow, P.P.G.D.; John C. Robinson, P.A.G.D.C.; T. Barton Spencer, P.P.G.C.; John Wynn, P.M. 1256; H. Stoney, J.W. 1061; James Bowling, W.M. 986; S. Fisher, I.G. 1061; James Salmon, P.P.G.D. Cheshire (Mayor of Chester); J. Turnbull, P.G.S.B.; J. H. Greenwood, 1609; Thomas Bickerstaffe, J.W. 1476; E. Fletcher, P.M. 703; A. Hall, P.M., P.P.A.G.S.; G. L. Seed, W.M. 1256; Jas. Richardson, W.M. 1476; W. C. Fisher, I.P.M. 1476; Wm. Holland, P.M. 157; E.

Segar, P.P.G.W.; Rev. E. J. Reeve, P.P.G.C. East Lancashire; R. Williamson, P.M., P.P.G.D. West Yorkshire; James Taylor, P.M. 275; Samuel Hill, W.M. 703; W. J. Read, J.W. 1476; and H. Greenheys, P.P.G.D.C. East Lancashire.

After the lodge had been opened in the Three Degrees, the PRESIDING OFFICER addressed the brethren, and the P.G. CHAPLAIN delivered an oration.

After the imposing ceremony of consecration, Bro. E. H. Cookson (ex-Mayor of Liverpool) installed Bro. the Rev. S. Y. B. Bradshaw, P.P.G.C. of Northumberland and East Lancashire, as the first W.M. of the Century Lodge, and the following were the official appointments: Bros. John Bickerstaffe (Mayor of Blackpool) S.W.; James Fish (ex-Mayor of Blackpool), J.W.; James Heyes, P.M. 703, Treas.; Thos. Forrester, P.G. Std. Br. England, Sec.; William Hall Hampson, S.D.; William R. Brandwood, J.D.; George Bonny, P.M. 703, D.C.; Nathaniel Parkinson, Org.; William Henry Dean, I.G.; and James Lord and Henry Schofield, Stwds.

About 60 brethren subsequently dined at the Imperial Hotel, the banquet being served under the superintendence of Bro. Crewe, the manager.

After the usual loyal and Masonic toasts had been proposed and responded to, Bro. GOODACRE, Prov. G. Sec., proposed "Success to the West Lancashire Century Lodge," and, in doing so, gave a retrospect view of Masonry in West Lancashire, remarking that, although the 101st lodge in the province had been consecrated on the previous Saturday at Wigan, that was in reality the 100th warrant granted, and in a very few weeks would be the largest province in the kingdom as to lodges, as it was now with regard to its number of subscribing members. When Lord Lathom became Prov. G. Master, there were 60 lodges in the province, that day there were 101. Eighteen years ago there were 41 lodges, five years ago 82, the increase in the number of lodges in the last five years being 19; and he felt justified in saying the position of the province was a most healthy one, and he believed he was quite correct in saying no other province had made such rapid strides. Referring to the new lodge, Bro. Goodacre said he considered the lodge had before it a glorious future, that was if the officers of the lodge were any criterion. In the W.M. they had a P.P.G. Chap. of Northumberland and also of East Lancashire, a brother who had done good and valued work in both those provinces, and who was not afraid to engage in the laborious work which had been commenced that day.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER responded in an eloquent speech.

Other toasts followed, and a most pleasant evening was spent.

The lodge was furnished by Bro. George Kenning.

CONSECRATION OF THE ERMINE LODGE, NO. 2351, AT LINCOLN.

On Monday, the 21st ult., the Ermine Lodge, No. 2351, was consecrated at the County Assembly Rooms by Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, Grand Secretary, assisted by Bros. Capt. Nathaniel G. Philips, P.G.D., as S.W.; J. H. Matthews, P.G. Std. Br., as J.W.; and Frank Richardson, P.G.D., as D.C. There was a large attendance of brethren from a distance, and the province of Lincolnshire was well represented. Amongst those present were—

Bros. Major W. H. Smyth, Prov. G.M.; Rev. R. Thomas, P.G. Chap.; Chap.; W. H. Sissons, P.A.G.D.C., I.G.; Rev. F. Vernon Bussell, P.G. Chap., D.P.G.M. Notts; A. H. Moyes, P.G.S.B., D.P.G.M. Cambridge; Major G. Lambert, P.G.S.B.; M. C. Peck, P.G.S.B., P.G. Sec. North and East Yorkshire; H. Sadler, G. Tyler; James Fowler, D.P.G.M.; Geo. F. Burrell, P.P.A.G.D.C.; W. N. Kirby, P.G.S. of Wks.; W. Watkins, P.P.G.S. of Wks.; George Mager, 838, P.G.P.; Geo. H. Gregory, 838, P.P.G.O.; W. Challans, 838, P.P.G.S. of Wks.; H. Shepherd, 838, P.P.J.G.D.; J. A. Ferguson, 838, P.P.J.G.W.; John Allen, 838, P.P.J.G.W.; James Eley, 272, P.P.S.G.W.; B. Vickers, 297, P.G. Sec.; Henry Watson, 297, P.G.R.; A. Harrison, 469, P.P.G.S. of W.; C. F. Liversidge, 422, P.P.G.S.B.; P. P. Dickinson, 297, P.P.G.S. of W.; J. J. Allott, 1386, P.P.J.G.D.; E. H. Shepherd, 838, P.G.S.; Wm. Cocking, 1286, P.A.G.P.; C. Reeve, 1286, P.P.A.G.P.; W. H. Close, 1386, P.G.S.; Rev. C. E. Laing, 422, P.P.G.C.; F. Cartwright, 1893, P.P.A.G.P.; C. E. Ward, P.M. 985; Wm. Gray, 1447, P.P.S.G.W.; W. Dormer, 1447, P.G.T.; C. T. Wigelsworth, 362, P.S.G.D.; C. J. Fox, 1386, P.P.S.G.W.; and a large number of brethren from the various lodges in the province.

The most elaborate arrangements had been made for the convenience of the brethren, who, having vested themselves in aprons and regalia—only Craft and Royal Arch jewels being worn—filed into the lodge room, the principal hall of the County Assembly Rooms. This spacious room had been transformed into an elegant boudoir, the decorations of which were undertaken by Bro. Sims, from special designs, and under the direction of Bro. Mortimer, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br. These consisted of clusters of banners arranged in semi-circles, with red and white bannerets above, and coats-of-arms below, with Masonic, loyal, and heraldic emblems interspersed at intervals. Foliage plants relieved the highly coloured scene, and the *tout ensemble* may be described as a complete and picturesque success.

The brethren having duly assembled, the Consecrating Officer took the chair, and appointed his officers.

The lodge having been opened in the Three Degrees, the usual opening hymn was sung, and

The CONSECRATING OFFICER then addressed the brethren on the motive of the meeting. He said: We are assembled here to-day in this good old city of Lincoln to perform a most interesting and important Masonic ceremony. We are met on this occasion to give effect to a warrant which has been issued by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the M.W.G.M., establishing a lodge in this city, and placing another name in that honoured roll of the Grand Lodge of England. In this city, perhaps, as you are all aware, there already exists two lodges, one of which has almost completed its 100th year of existence, and another which was founded here some 19 years ago. Still, although you have two lodges here, it has been considered desirable that yet a third should be established for the furtherance of Masonry in this ancient city. A petition has been drawn up by certain brethren which had been favourably looked upon and recommended by your Provincial Grand Master, and his Royal Highness the M.W. Grand Master has been pleased to receive that request. The lodge had taken that well-known name of that magnificent old road, which, I believe, runs within a few yards of this building. As that road, built by Romans in former days, did much in bringing about the civilisation of England, so may the establishment of its namesake materially promote the welfare and prosperity of Masonry in Lincolnshire. The founders of this lodge have elected its Master, an excellent and energetic Mason, who has already had much experience in Masonic ruling, and I feel no doubt whatever that, under his able and judicious sway, this lodge will progress in the manner in which its founders hope it may. I only hope that at this lodge you will weigh and consider the qualities and antecedents of all candidates for membership. In the present day, when Masonry is so well known and widely canvassed and talked about all over England, there are, unfortunately, cases occurring where persons are admitted into the Order, not from good and worthy motives, but from the hope of receiving benefits

in later years. Such is contrary to the tenets and principles of the Order, and I trust that whenever a gentleman is proposed as a candidate for this lodge, the members will investigate his history and antecedents, and that they will be most scrupulous not to admit into that organisation anyone who is not fully deserving of that high honour and distinction. If this be not done, you will find that your ranks are filled by brethren who are not truly Masons.

An oration was delivered on the principles and nature of the Institution by the Chaplain.

The ceremony of dedication having been completed, Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke duly installed the W.M. designate, Bro. H. E. Cousans, in the chair of K.S. Bro. R. C. Carline was elected Treasurer. The appointment and investiture of officers followed: Bros. R. C. Carline, S.W. (*pro tem.*) for Bro. the Hon. Victor Anderson Pelham, whom the W.M. explained was unavoidably detained by his military duties; Col. R. G. Ellison, J.W.; E. Percy Dalton, Sec.; E. A. Cousans, S.D.; A. Trotter, J.D.; R. J. Ward, D.C.; R. Whetton, Steward; and Strangward, Tyler. The W.M. announced that Bro. T. Wilkinson had kindly consented to act as I.P.M.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER then rose and said: I beg to propose a very hearty vote of thanks to Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke and the other officers of Grand Lodge who have been good enough to come down here and consecrate our lodge and assist in the installation and investment of our officers. In proposing this vote of thanks I cannot but join with my proposal that we ask the Consecrating Officers to become honorary members of this lodge, and if they will honour us to that extent, I would ask the acceptance by our Grand Secretary and Bro. Richardson of founders' jewels.

Bro. WILKINSON had pleasure in seconding.

The GRAND SECRETARY said: W.M. and Brethren,—I do most heartily thank you for the fraternal way in which you have kindly recognised the services we have been able to give. It has been a great pleasure to us to come down here to-day and assist in consecrating this new lodge, and bringing it into existence, and we are exceedingly obliged to you for the kind way in which we have been received. As to Bro. Richardson, I thank you for the additional honour you have conferred on us by presenting us with this jewel.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER then proposed a vote of thanks to the Provincial Grand Master for his attendance, and also asked him to be an honorary member of the lodge, and to accept a founder's jewel. The lodge were under a great obligation to him for his presence there that day.

Bro. WILKINSON seconded.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER, in returning thanks, said: I assure you I value the compliment you have paid me very much indeed. You are probably aware that I have been attending a meeting elsewhere to-day, but I did my best to come as quickly as I possibly could. I was glad to be here before the end of the interesting ceremony, and allow me to add one word on behalf of the province to these Grand Officers who have been good enough to come here. It is a great compliment to the Province of Lincolnshire that Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke should come amongst us, and we feel the compliment very highly. I thank you very much for the kind present you have made me, as well as for being one of your honorary members.

The Worshipful Master, Past Masters, and Wardens of the lodge were elected; a Committee to frame the by-laws, and several propositions for initiation and joinings having been received, the lodge was closed.

The banquet was held at the White Hart Hotel, when about 60 brethren assembled, collars and jewels being worn. An excellent menu had been provided.

The toast of "The Queen" having been duly honoured,

The W.M. next gave that of "The M.W. Grand Master the Prince of Wales," followed by that of the "Pro Grand Master and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," expressing the pleasure they felt in welcoming so many at their lodge and banquet.

After referring to the great services of the Pro Grand Master and others, the W.M. said that, as to the other Officers of Grand Lodge, they had at their table now Captain Philips, P.G.D., a brother whom it was not only a pleasure to welcome for his own sake, but because he acted as Deacon when Colonel Ellison was initiated into the Craft at the time of the Crimean War. So intimately connected with one of the officers of this lodge was he that it was a great amount of pleasure he was welcomed at their banquet that evening; then, again, he had sitting next him Bro. Richardson and Bro. Matthews, well known in connection with the Charities and not unknown upon the Board of the Girls' School; Bro. Bussell, D.P.G.M., and a close neighbour of their own; an old townsman of theirs, Bro. Boyes, D.P.G.M. Cambridge; Bro. Major Lambert, one of the most active Masons in London; and Bro. Peck, whom they must all be pleased to see that night, as his was a name so well known by Lincoln men at Hull. They went to Hull for certain Masonic duties, though that was the first time they had had the pleasure of welcoming him at Lincoln. Bro. Sissons, who was a brother of their own province, and the only Grand Officer in it, with the exception of Bro. Locock. He called upon them to drink the health of those brethren.

Bro. Capt. PHILIPS, in rep'y, said it had been the greatest pleasure to him to be present there that day and witness the ceremony of consecration of that lodge. He could only say that he hoped on many future occasions to have the opportunity of visiting Lincoln. With regard to their previous Warden, he remembered perfectly well the day of his initiation. For the members of Grand Lodge, he returned them his sincere thanks.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER then gave "The Prov. Grand Master, the Dep. Prov. Grand Master, and the Prov. Grand Officers, Present and Past," and said that also was a toast which would be received with a considerable amount of acclamation. That was a toast which was difficult to propose in the presence of the Prov. Grand Master. He need hardly say what a great amount of pleasure it had been to welcome him amongst them, more particularly so when they knew what amount of personal inconvenience he had been put to be with them. He had not only been to their meeting, but had remained to the banquet. He could only assure him again what a great amount of pleasure it had been to them to see him and welcome him in their midst. They all knew how their Provincial Grand Officers were elected. Every man who worked at all was certain to be enrolled in his turn among the Provincial Grand Officers.

Bro. Major SMYTH, Prov. G.M., returned thanks, and said that he found himself with no less than seven invitations that day, all of which he should like to have accepted. He should like to say how very much complimented they were by so many Grand Officers being amongst them. He did not remember any occasion, except one, where they had so many Grand Officers with them, and that was when the Prince of Wales, the Duke of Manchester, the Duke of St. Albans, and Montague Guest came down to a Masonic ball there. They had also been honoured by two Grand Officers being appointed in that province. He had never heard of such a compliment being paid to Lincolnshire before. He thought their province had a good deal to be proud of in connection with their Prov. Grand and Past Prov. Grand Officers. At the time when he became connected with that province there were only 11 lodges, and now there were 24; there were then only 300 members, and now there were 1000. They had then no organisation for Charities, and since that time they had three Charities in their own province of 1000 guineas each in the names of Bros. Oliver, Sutcliffe, and himself, and they also had a Benevolent Fund of £500 or £600, whilst there was hardly a lodge that had not a Benevolent Fund of its own. He was very much obliged to them for the kind way in which they had proposed and drunk their health.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER then proposed "The Health of the Consecrating Master, Bro. Colonel Shadwell H. Clerke, Grand Secretary." He said that

toast was without doubt the toast of the evening. It was impossible for him to express to their Consecrating Master, the Grand Secretary, what an amount of pleasure it had given them to welcome him in their town that day. It was impossible for him to say in Col. Clerke's presence what he might have said in his absence, but he felt that after what they had seen that day, and the manner in which Col. Clerke had performed the work of consecrating their new lodge, and the way in which he had given effect to the beautiful ritual of that consecration ceremony, that the brethren had seen for themselves what manner of man their Grand Secretary was. It was impossible for him by any words he could use to impress upon them to a greater extent than his (Col. Clerke's) words and actions had done what an excellent Mason they had in that important post to which our M.W. Grand Master the Prince of Wales had honoured him by appointing him. Not only was the Grand Secretary skilled in the workings of the ritual of the Order, but in his office as Grand Secretary—he meant no words of flattery—he thought it would be simply impossible to get any brother to fill that office in the way in which Col. Clerke did. As they could imagine, he must have, day after day, week after week, personal interviews with brethren from all parts of the country, and correspondence from brethren asking trivial and ridiculous questions. It did not matter how ridiculous or how trivial those questions were they had the same courtesy of manner, the same kindness of reception, the same Masonic spirit that one could possibly wish to have, and he did feel that it would be almost impossible to find another man who could carry out the duties of the office in the way the Grand Secretary did. He had gone into Col. Clerke's office when he was busy, and had been received with the same courteous welcome, the same kindly manner and consideration if it might be a little detail as if it had been the weightiest matter that could be brought before the Craft. He knew that it was the same experience with other brethren who had had personal interviews with the Grand Secretary. They must know what a great amount of inconvenience Col. Clerke had submitted to to be with them that day. He had told them he was anxious to come there, but he (the speaker) knew that he had been confined to his room, and had only been away from home a few days to fulfil his promises to consecrate their lodge. That showed what an amount of energy and interest the Grand Secretary put into his work and the duties of his office. He could but express to Col. Clerke in the name of the founders, and other brethren who had been with them that day, their sense of what an amount of pleasure and honour had been conferred on them by Col. Clerke's kindness in coming down among them and doing the amount of work he had done. He had the greatest pleasure in submitting the toast.

The GRAND SECRETARY, in response, confessed himself somewhat overwhelmed with the eulogistic expressions used towards himself, and he was afraid his Masonic virtues had been exaggerated. His whole heart was in the work which was on his shoulders, and he was only too delighted if that day he had done anything to promote the Order and give any assistance to his fellow Masons. Of course it was not only his pleasure but his duty to receive brethren at his office. He hoped he should always do his best to carry out the onerous duties of that office which he had the honour to fill. Their Prov. Grand Master had been good enough to ask him to visit his province, and, indeed, he believed it was the only Masonic province in England in which he had not been before. He was glad to say that his wish had been fulfilled and that he had been able to come down, and that he had been permitted to take some small part in the work of that province, and meet many old friends and make many fresh acquaintances. It had been a great pleasure to come amongst them for the consecration of the Ermine Lodge. He thanked them exceedingly for the very kind, brotherly, and hospitable way in which they had received him on that, his first visit to Lincolnshire. He was now going to ask them to drink the health of their worthy and excellent brother who had been appointed to preside over them, and he would couple with his name a hope for the future prosperity of the Ermine Lodge. Although, as he had said in the opening proceedings, there were already two lodges in Lincoln, yet there was indisputably room for a third. The city had grown, and there were far more Masons in it than there used to be, and the time had come when there was room for a third lodge. It appeared to have been started very judiciously, and an excellent and good selection of officers made, and they had been most fortunate in obtaining such a charming place of meeting. He could do no other than congratulate them upon the way in which the room was decorated. He had seldom been in a better room, and never in any where more pains had been taken to arrange it. He would now asked them to drink "The Health of Bro. Cousans," selected by the founders to be their first master. That was an exceptional compliment, because there were other brothers qualified, but still the members unanimously agreed that Bro. Cousans was the best man for the place. He had no doubt and felt quite sure that that was a very high compliment and well deserved. He had been a Master before of one of the Lincoln lodges, and he (Col. Clerke) hoped he might have every blessing and a prosperous year of office, and might the future success of the lodge be all that its founders could wish it to be.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER said he lost no time in responding to that toast which had been proposed in such kindly terms. When that lodge was started, he had not the slightest idea that he would be selected as W.M. He remembered his feelings some years ago when he was selected to preside at a meeting of that sort as Master of the Witham Lodge. He felt then that that was the greatest honour he could receive in Masonry, but he thought that at the present time, when a new lodge had been started in Lincoln, and a number of Past Masters senior to himself, and whom, he was bound to say, had done more work than he had, had selected him as W.M., he felt it as a special compliment, and he took it that they wished him to carry out the office in a very efficient manner. He would say to the founders of the lodge that he would endeavour to discharge his duties in such a way as to give satisfaction to the founders. The officers they had appointed were already brethren of experience, and he had no doubt the work of the lodge would bear comparison with any other lodge in the province. It certainly would not be the fault of the officers if they did not. With regard to the room in which they had met that day, no credit was due to himself, but the whole of the credit was due to Bro. Mortimer, who had been at infinite pains to prepare the room, and he was sure they would agree with him that it was excellently prepared, and made a very inviting room. He must, before he sat down, in the name of the founders, thank Bro. Shaw and the other brethren for their assistance in the musical part of the ceremony. They would agree with him that the music had been excellently rendered, and the thanks of the officers were specially due to them. He thanked them again for the very kind manner in which they had received that toast, and also Bro. Col. Clerke for the far too complimentary manner in which he had proposed it.

Bro. Sissons, in proposing "The Masonic Charities," said there was a great and unobtrusive Charity which flowed from every lodge. There were the great Provincial Charities and the contributions which went to the Central Charities, which were dear to every English Mason. He should like to say a word as to the Provincial Grand Lodge Charities. Some few years ago the Freemasons in Lincolnshire promoted three great funds—the Sutcliffe, the Smythe, and the Oliver—for the education of boys and girls, and the help of aged Freemasons and widows. In supporting those Charities they meant nothing antagonistic to or subversive of the great Masonic Charities of England. In the first place they found there were many sons and daughters who did not want their whole education supplying, but by those means they could help a child, a boy or a girl, to be educated. They were told by the Masters and Mistresses of the Boys' and Girls' Schools that no sooner did the parents or guardians once get their children accepted than they ceased practically to educate them at all. The children went up from

Lincolnshire quite ignorant, and for some time they were unable to take advantage of the education offered them. They had now raised sufficient money to accomplish all the purposes they intended, and there was no reason now why they should not send their contributions to the Masonic Charities. Masonry in Lincolnshire had to deal with a widely scattered district, and there were only a few lodges spread over that large district, but in no part of England was the great question of Masonic Charity more seriously considered than there, and in no part of England did they more realise that Masonry without Charity was worth nothing. If Masonry ceased to be useful it must pass away and come to nothing. They realised that they must prove by their offerings that they were worthy of help. That feeling had been promoted in Lincolnshire, and he could assure the Grand Officers that had come amongst them that night that, notwithstanding the great agricultural depression that had prevailed in that district, they had always striven to help their poorer brethren, for there had been constant claims upon the lodges. He had great pleasure in proposing the Masonic Charities, and he coupled with that toast the name of Bro. Richardson, who had identified himself with the great Central Charities, and Bro. Vickers, who gave his time and ability to that question, who looked after the whole matter, and never lost a point in gaining votes, and never seemed to tire of doing the duties of his office.

Bro. RICHARDSON, in reply, remarked that Masonry without Charity was of little gain, and from the fact that Masons contributed about £50,000 in the course of the year, it was shown that they thought well of it. At the present time their Charities were flourishing, and they had that fine Institution—the Benevolent—where those who had borne the heat and burden of the day could find a haven of refuge in their old age and their trouble. There were very nearly 400 receiving assistance, either in grants or were accommodated in the almshouse. He referred to the splendid collection made of £13,000, and said he had no doubt that they would find that the Boys' School, which accommodated 250 boys, would shortly take the place it ought to take, and which some short time back it did take, in the affections of the brethren, and would receive the benefit of their subscriptions. They also had the senior Charity of the lot—the Girls' School—with which he was proud to say he was intimately associated as a member of the House Committee, in connection with his friend, Bro. Matthews. The House Committee of that School were in touch not only with the Institution, but with the whole of the children. They made a point of acquainting themselves with the children. They attended to the work themselves. They did not leave it absolutely to the Secretary, but the work of the Institution purposely went through the members of the Committee. He did not think he was going very far wrong when he said, and he admitted it with pride, that Bro. Matthews and himself could pick out two-thirds of the children educated there. The attention they gave was amply rewarded by the money subscribed to the Institution, which was well spent and well applied. They could go by results in that matter. This year they found that out of 18 children entered for the Cambridge Local Examinations they passed the lot, and 10 with honours. The next examination they took was the College of Preceptors, because they went on the ground that no child should leave without a certificate of merit. Thirty-seven offered themselves, and 31 passed, several of them passing very high indeed. Beside those examinations, there were others coming on in a month, but the result of those he could not guess, though he had no fear but that they would equal those of previous year. Out of the 30 they sent up, they passed 29, and he thought that was good work. The children, too, were healthy, notwithstanding all their work. He congratulated the province upon having one child—Ethel Croft, aged only 13—well up in the June list. The great object was fitting the girls for after life. At the present time they had 270 children, and were enlarging the place for another 30, so they would see that the money subscribed at the Centenary—£50,000—had been properly spent. Their first care was to fit the children for their duties in life, and, without putting them to menial work, they were taught those duties. They made their own beds and their own clothes, and the education they taught them fitted them for any station in life in which they might afterwards see them.

Bro. VICKERS said some doubt or suspicion had been cast upon them in Lincolnshire with regard to the central Masonic Charities, and in some of the Masonic papers it had been said that they were glad enough to avail themselves of the Masonic Charities and not send any subscriptions. Had that been the case they would not have been able to get their candidates in as they had done in past years. He could refer to the present position of the Charities, and show that they were loyal at heart to those Charities. So soon as they had got together those provincial funds, so soon they should bend their attention to the general Charities. They had sent several subscriptions up, and Bro. Cousans had been Steward to the Province several times, and although he had never been Steward himself, they had succeeded in getting Stewards, who would take up £600 to the Girls' Festival this year. This showed that while they were willing to work at home they were loyal to the central Charities and would do their best to support them. While he kept the position he did he should be glad to urge those claims upon the Province.

The toast of "The Visiting Brethren" was next given by Bro. Watkins, and responded to by Bro. E. Armitage, P.P.S.G.W. Cumberland; Bro. Speth, Secretary Quatuor Coronati Lodge, and Bro. Le Fay, W.M. St. Hugh Lodge.

"The Health of the Officers of the Lodge" and the Tyler's toast concluded a highly successful and enjoyable meeting.

The lodge was furnished by Bro. George Kenning.

CONSECRATION OF THE BROXBORNE LODGE, No. 2353.

The consecration of the Broxbourne Lodge, No. 2353, took place at the Crown Hotel, Broxbourne, on Tuesday, the 22nd ult. The chair was occupied by Bro. T. F. Halsey, M.P., Prov. G.M. Herts, who was assisted in his duties by his Deputy P.G.M., Bro. G. E. Lake; and Bros. Edward Taylor, Prov. S.G.W.; W. H. Norris, Prov. J.G.W.; the Rev. George Litting, P. Prov. G. Chap., as Prov. G. Chap.; Charles Bullock, P. Prov. G. Reg., Prov. G. Secretary; and James Terry, P.G.S.B., P. Prov. J.G.W., Prov. G.D.C. The following were present in the capacity of founders, namely: Bros. E. C. Mulvey, W. Rooke, and S. Lichtenfeld, W.M., S.W., and J.W. designate respectively; and Bros. Chas. B. Cooper, Sec. *pro tem.*; H. Lichtenfeld, H. G. Holland, E. J. Gittins, Henry Mason, and A. E. Carter. There was also a very formidable array of visitors, amongst whom were—Bros. D. P. Cama, P.G. Treas.; T. S. Carter, P.M. 403, P.P.J.G.W.; M. Slaughter, P.M. 404, P.P.J.G.W.; Charles E. Keyser, W.M. 2323 P.M. 404, P.P.J.G.W.; P. R. Taylor, P.M., Sec. 409, P.P.J.G.W.; H. C. Heard, P.M. 449, P.P.J.G.D.; P. L. Blackmore, W.M.; W. Gilbert, P.M., P.P.J.G.W.; W. A. Rogers, P.M., P.P.J.G.D.; G. Holdworth, P.M., P.P.G.S.; W. M. Metcalfe, I.G.; J. Tydeman, P.M., P.P. Asst. G. Purst. Essex; R. Middlehurst, J.W.; W. Warren, H. Beal, F. Godfrey, L. Speelman, H. Ghole, and J. Robins, all of 1327; W. A. Dingle, M.D., W.M. 869, P.G.P., J. D. S. Sim, I.G. 404; A. W. Nash, P.M. 409, P.P.A.G.D.C.; F. J. Myers, P.M. 1479, P.P.A.G.D.C.; A. Rattray, P.M. 2136, P.P. Asst. G. Sec. Essex; F. R. Adams, 2086; R. Brazier, S.W. 2136; P.G. Stwd.; H. H. Shirley, 1491; C. A. Pugh, 1624; W. Chapman, 2136; W. Rowe, P.M. 1543; Walter Lovell, 504; James Bott, 917; George Parsons and E. Slater, I.G., of 2136; Dr. N. Goodchild, 90; James Kerr, 179; G. S. Ward and C. N. Madgin, J.W., of 2086; W. R. Palmer, 143; James Kift, 1791; J. Bayne, 1697; J. W. Duvall, 404, F. Vallentine, 1017, and Richard Whiting, Tyler.

Lodge having been opened, and the brethren of the new lodge having expressed their approval of the officers named in the petition, a very eloquent oration was delivered by Bro. the Rev. Geo. Litting, P.P.G. Chaplain—who, in the unavoidable absence of the Chaplains of the year, took upon himself this duty almost at the last moment—in which our reverend brother very ably set forth the nature and principles of our Society. The ceremony of consecration was then proceeded with, and the lodge was completely constituted.

Lodge having been resumed in the Second Degree, the Prov. Grand Master vacated the chair in favour of Bro. George E. Lake, Dep. Prov. Grand Master, and Bro. E. C. Mulvey having been introduced, and having signified his acceptance of the usual terms and conditions, a Board of Installed Masters was formed, and Bro. Mulvey was very ably installed into the chair of K.S. On the return of the brethren into lodge, he was duly saluted in the Three Degrees, and then appointed the following brethren as his officers for the year, namely: Bros. William Rooke, S.W.; S. Lichtenfeld, J.W.; Chas. B. Cooper, Sec.; H. Lichtenfeld, S.D.; H. G. Holland, J.D.; E. J. Gittins, D.C.; H. Monson, I.G.; A. E. Carter, Stwd.; and R. Whiting, Tyler.

Votes of thanks were then passed to the Prov. Grand Master, the Dep. Prov. Grand Master, and the other Prov. Grand Officers, who had rendered their services in constituting the lodge, or installing the W.M., and sundry propositions having been handed in, lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet room, where, under the presidency of Bro. Mulvey, W.M., full justice was done to the excellent dinner which had been provided.

After grace, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, that of "The Prov. Grand Master" meeting, as it always does, with a most hearty reception, while that of "The W.M." was also welcomed.

We wish the new lodge, which ranks as No. 20 on the roll of Hertfordshire, a long and prosperous career. It starts under the auspices of some very good brethren, and we doubt not that, after the first few years have passed, it will settle down comfortably to its work.

SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER.

The Quarterly Convocation of Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of England was held at Freemasons' Hall on Wednesday evening, Comp. F. A. Philbrick, Q.C., Grand Superintendent of Essex, acted as M.E.Z.; Comp. the Rev. H. Adair Pickard, M.A., Grand Superintendent of Oxfordshire, as H.; and Comp. General Randolph, Grand Superintendent of Sussex, as J.; Comp. Colonel Shadwell H. Clerke occupied his position as G.S.E.; Comp. the Rev. Thomas Robinson acted as G.S.N.; Comp. Peter de Lande Long, as G.P.S.; the Comp. Rev. Thomas Barton Spencer, as 1st A.G.S.; and Comp. James Glaisher, as 2nd A.G.S.

The other companions present were:—

Comps. Robert Grey, President Committee General Purposes; Dr. Jabez Hogg, G.S.B.; Charles Belton, Grand Std. Br.; Frank Richardson, P.G.S., D.C.; Eugene Monteuais, D.G.D.C.; Henry Garrod, A.G.D.C.; M. Maybrick, G. Org.; C. J. Banister, P.G.D.C.; J. M. Case, P.G.D.C.; Baron de Ferrieres, P.A.G.S.; George B. Brodie, P.A.G.S.; F. Sumner Knyvett, P.G.S.B.; Henry Maudslay, P.G.S.B.; J. E. Le Feuvre, P.G.S.B.; J. H. Matthews, P.G.D.C.; J. V. Collins, P.G. Std. Br.; T. B. Purchas, P.G.S.B.; Wm. Bywater, P.G. Std. Br.; T. Weller-Poley, P.A.G.S.; C. F. Matier, P.D.G.D.C.; Magnus Ohren, P.G.D.C.; Edgar Goble, P.G. Std. Br.; Dr. W. R. Woodman, P.G.D.C.; J. C. Parkinson, P.G.S.B.; Charles Fredk. Hogard, P.D.G.D.C.; Herbert J. Adams, P.D.G.D.C.; W. E. Stewart, P.G.S.B.; E. Letchworth, P.G. Std. Br.; Rudolph G. Glover, P.G. Std. Br.; Ralph Clutton, P.A.G.S.; James S. Eastes, P.G.S.B.; J. Lewis Thomas, P.G.S.B.; Henry J. B. Dumas, P.G.S.B.; Charles H. Driver, P.G.S.B.; Sir John B. Monckton, P.G.P. Soj.; Ralph Gooding, M.D., P.A.G.S.; George Lambert, P.G.D.C.; F. G. Swinden, Z. 587; Thos. R. Arter, J. 43; A. Lucking, P.Z. 1000, Prov. G.D.C. Essex; Sir G. D. Harris, P.Z. 1383; S. Vallentine, Z. 9; F. Hilton, P.Z. 1275; Rev. W. Randall, P.Z. 43 and 482; W. G. Lemon, P.Z. 414 and 1601; Robt. J. Vincent, Z. 1389; George Read, P.Z. 19; Lennox Browne, P.Z. 2108; R. C. Sudlow, P.Z. 28; R. Joynes Emmerson, P.Z. 784, P.G.J. Kent; W. J. Spratling, Z. 1601; Augustus Harris, Z. 59; E. Mallett, Z. 1623; Carl T. Fleck, Z. 172; Samuel Green, Z. 10; H. Massey, Z. 1028; W. H. Rylands, J. 2; T. B. Whytehead, P.Z. 236, 1611; J. S. Cumberland, P.Z. 236, P.P.G.J. N. and E. Yorks; W. F. Smithson, P.Z. 289, P.P. G.D.C. W. Yorks; R. Loveland Loveland, P.Z. 175, P.P.G.J. Hants add Isle of Wight; T. C. Walls, P.Z. 3, P.P.G.P. Soj. Middx.; Henry Platt, P.Z. 384; Wm. Dodd, P.Z. 1194; T. E. Edmonds, M.E.Z. 1507; Francis H. Hannen, P.J. 150, Madras; Nevill Green, P.Z. 1524; James Hill, J. 1329; W. H. Perryman, P.Z. 1348; W. H. Murray, Z. 1201; G. S. Recknell, P.Z. 73; W. George Gilbert, Z. 257; L. Gordon Robbins, P.Z. 10; and Walter F. Crook, Z. 1275.

After the opening of Grand Chapter, and reading and confirmation of the minutes of the February convocation,

Comp. PHILBRICK announced that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the M.E. First Grand Principal, had appointed the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, Pro First Grand Principal, the Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom, G.H., and the Right Hon. Lord Leigh, G.J. of the Order during the ensuing year. His Royal Highness had also been again pleased to appoint Comp. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, G.S.E. during the ensuing year, and he had also been pleased to appoint as G.S.N. Comp. Viscount Valentia.

Comp. Col. SHADWELL H. CLERKE said he had received a letter from Lord Valentia, stating that he was unfortunately unable to be present that evening to receive the honour of investiture, and apologised for his absence.

Comp. PHILBRICK said the M.E. First Grand Principal had been again pleased to appoint Comp. Robert Grey President of the Committee of General Purposes.

The following companions were then invested:

Comps. Augustus H. Glossop Harris ...	...	...	G. Treasurer.
" Rev. W. Randall (Birmingham) ...	...	...	G.P.S.
" Sir George D. Harris ...	...	...	G. 1st A.S.
" R. Loveland Loveland ...	...	...	G. 2nd A.S.
" Col. Henry Platt ...	...	...	G.S.B.
" W. F. Smithson (Leeds) ...	...	...	1st G. Std. Br.
" W. G. Lemon ...	...	...	2nd G. Std. Br.
" T. B. Whytehead (York) ...	...	...	3rd G. Std. Br.
" R. Joynes Emmerson (Kent) ...	...	...	4th G. Std. Br.
" Frank Richardson ...	...	...	G.D.C.
" R. Clay Sudlow ...	...	...	D.G.D.C.
" Albert Lucking ...	...	...	1st A.G.D.C.
" W. H. Perryman ...	...	...	2nd A.G.D.C.
" A. A. Pendlebury ...	...	...	A.G.S.E.
" Henry Sadler ...	...	...	G. Janitor.

Comp. PHILBRICK informed the companions that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales had been pleased to appoint Bro. the Rt. Hon. Sir H. A. Isaacs, Lord Mayor of London, to the rank of Past Principal Grand Sojourner.

On the motion of Comp. ROBERT GREY, seconded by Comp. Frank RICHARDSON, the following report of the Committee of General Purposes was taken as read, received, and ordered to be entered on the minutes.

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 15th January to the 15th April, 1890, both inclusive, which they find to be as follows:

To Balance Grand Chapter	£239 12 0	By Disbursements during the Quarter	£329 15 6
" " Unappropriated	...	" Balance	359 0 7
" Account	188 11 7	" " Unappropriated	...
" Subsequent Receipts...	443 16 1	" Account	183 3 7
	£871 19 8		£871 19 8

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

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

1st. From Comps. John Paterson, as Z.; David Reece, as H.; Joseph Clifton Thompson, as J.; and 14 others for a chapter to be attached to the Sun and Sector Lodge, No. 962, Workington, to be called the Sun and Sector Chapter, and to meet at the Masonic Hall, Portland-square, Workington, Cumberland.

2nd. From Comps. Major James Tascher Ritchie, as Z.; William Alexander Weston, as H.; William Richard Arnold, as J.; and eight others for a chapter to be attached to the Ubique Lodge, No. 1789, London, to be called the Ubique Chapter, and to meet at the Regent Masonic Hall, Air-street, Regent-street, London.

3rd. From Comps. Samuel Hewett, as Z.; Simeon Jacobs, as H.; Frederick Kedge, as J.; and 16 others for a chapter to be attached to the Covent Garden Lodge, No. 1614, London, to be called the Covent Garden Chapter, and to meet at the Criterion, Piccadilly, London.

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

The Committee have also received memorials from the undermentioned chapters praying for charters of confirmation, the original charters being lost:

The Bective Chapter, No. 1074, Kirkby Lonsdale, in the Province of Cumberland and Westmorland.

The Mount Sinai Chapter, No. 19, London.

The Committee recommend that charters of confirmation be granted for the above-named chapters.

The Committee have likewise received memorials, with copies of minutes, for permission to remove the following chapters:

The Devonshire Chapter, No. 625, Glossop, from the Norfolk Arms to the new Masonic Hall, Glossop.

The Canonbury Chapter, No. 657, London, from Masons' Hall, Masons' Avenue, to the Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street, in the City of London.

The Guy's Chapter, No. 395, Leamington, from the Crown Hotel, to the Masonic Rooms, Holly Walk, Leamington.

The Committee recommend that the removal of these chapters be sanctioned.

The Committee have further received the following appeal of Comp. Albert Walsh, P.Z. Chapter No. 711, Port Elizabeth, South Africa (E.D.), against a decision of the Grand Superintendent of the District, appointing Comp. Darley Hartley as District Second Grand Principal at the meeting of the District Grand Chapter in June, 1888, the said Comp. Darley Hartley not being then qualified for the office under Article 37, Royal Arch Regulations.

The Committee submit this appeal for the consideration of Grand Chapter.

(Signed)

ROBERT GREY, President.

Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.,
16th April, 1890.

After the ordinary business had been disposed of, the following resolution was passed:

"That the cordial thanks of the members of the Committee be tendered to E. Comp. Robert Grey for the very able and courteous manner in which he has presided over the meetings of the Committee during the past year."

(Signed)

L. GORDON ROBBINS.

On the motion of Comp. ROBERT GREY, seconded by Comp. FRANK RICHARDSON, all the recommendations down to and including the removal of the Devonshire, Canonbury, and Guy's Chapters were granted.

Comp. PHILBRICK then introduced the appeal from South Africa, and begged the companions to remember that the appointment complained of in the petition was made in June, 1888, and we were now in May, 1890. At the time the District Grand Superintendent appointed Comp. Darley Hartley he was aware that Comp. Hartley was not an installed First Principal of any chapter, and under Rule 37 he was not qualified to be a Second Principal in District Grand Chapter. No one however challenged the appointment, and the District Grand Superintendent was not aware that any installed First Principal was present. He was, however, wrong, as it afterwards turned out, for there was certainly one, and probably two, one being Comp. Walsh, the now appellant. Shortly afterwards some companions became aware that Comp. Hartley was only an installed Second Principal, and was not eligible, but nothing was done; there certainly was no appeal, and not even a letter written or any statement or challenge made. But in the next Grand Chapter of the District in June, 1889, Comp. Walsh mentioned the matter, and called the attention of the District Grand Superintendent to it. The District Grand Superintendent having replied that when he made the appointment he did not know there was any other companion in the chapter who was qualified, but he promised to consult the home authorities. He did so on Nov. 24, 1889. The answer given by Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, who had consulted him (Comp. Philbrick) was to the effect that the thing was irregular, but that objection ought to have been taken at the time. An appointment of the kind ought only to be made under circumstances of unavoidable and inevitable necessity. There never was an appeal in the matter until more than 18 months after the events had happened. If an appeal had been made in time, another appointment could have been made in the year. Seeing that the petition had not been brought forward in time, he would recommend that it be dismissed.

The Rev. H. ADAIR PICKARD seconded the motion, and the appeal was, therefore, dismissed.

The next business being the election of the Committee of General Purposes for the ensuing 12 months,

Comp. PHILBRICK said the Prince of Wales had appointed the three Grand Principals—Comps. Robert Grey, as President, Sir G. D. Harris, and E. Letchworth—on the Committee.

The old elected members—Comps. Leopold G. Gordon Robbins, Charles E. Keyser, Lennox Browne, Capt. Thos. C. Walls, W. A. Dawson, and W. H. Perryman—were re-elected, and Grand Chapter was closed.

DEDICATION OF A NEW MASONIC HALL
AT ASHBURTON.

Three years ago, or little more, the town of Ashburton counted a few members of the Masonic body among its inhabitants, but they were as followers without a leader, and up to that time lacked, perhaps, the confidence necessary to establish a lodge in their midst. But a movement having at length been made, a lodge was started, and called after the name of the town in which it had its existence, with the additional advantage of having as its first W.M. Bro. the Hon. Richard Dawson, who has always taken a great personal interest in promoting a knowledge of Freemasonry in the Province of Devon. It has, in fact, made such progress in the art that the room in one of the hotels of the town in which the brethren have hitherto met has become too small for existing requirements, and "a new departure" had, in consequence, to be decided upon. The initiative was taken by Bro. H. Stevens, Treasurer of the lodge, who generously offered a site on which to build a Masonic Hall if the lodge would undertake the further responsibility of erecting it. The responsibility was not a light one, but the promised assistance of Bro. the Hon. R. Dawson made the task much easier than it otherwise would have been, and without loss of time the erection of the new hall, on a site just outside the railway station, was commenced. It has been erected at a cost, including the furniture of the lodge and all internal fittings, of about £400, under the supervision of Bro. Stevens, who has charged no more than the bare cost of the materials used. The lodge room is substantially fitted up and furnished, and the other rooms are of good size and in every way suitable for the purpose.

The ceremony of dedicating the new hall was performed on the 30th ult. by Bro. Viscount Ebrington, M.P., Prov. G. Master of Devonshire, in the presence of nearly a hundred brethren from many parts of the province.

The imposing ceremony of dedication was impressively carried out by the Prov. G.M., Bro. Viscount Ebrington, assisted by Bros. W. G. Rogers, D.P.G.M., and the Hon. R. Dawson. The P.G.M. presided during the ceremony, having as his Senior Warden Bro. the Hon. R. Dawson, and as his Junior Warden Bro. Ivimy, while Bro. H. Steele acted as Master of the Ceremonies. Corn, wine, oil, and salt were scattered and poured upon the floor of the lodge—corn as the emblem of abundance, wine as the emblem of joy and gladness, oil as representing cheerfulness, and salt as the emblem of hospitality. Then the P.G.M. formally dedicated the building to "Freemasonry, virtue, and universal benevolence." Hymns and prayers were sung and intoned during the ceremony, and these included the dedication ode, specially written and composed for the occasion by Bro. Fred. J. W. Crowe, S.D. and Org., by whom also the whole of the musical arrangements were admirably carried out.

Oh, Thou *Architect* Eternal,
Who of old Thine house didst bless,
Fill this Temple we have builded
With Thy love and holiness.
Fill it with Thy heavenly *wisdom*,
Let its walls in *strength* endure;
Grace it with the inward *beauty*
That shall keep it ever pure.
Let the golden *corn* of *plenty*
And of *joy*—the sparkling *wine*
With the flowing *oil* descending
Shed their influence benign.
Thus the *light* Thy presence lendeth
With a holy flame shall glow;
And each brother's heart enkindle
Love, relief, and truth to show.

So mote it be.

A dedication prayer by the Prov. G. Chaplain brought the ceremony to a close.

Immediately afterwards a banquet, attended by about 70 brethren, was held at the London Hotel. Bro. Gervis, W.M., presided, and the P.G.M., D.P.G.M., and many other Provincial Grand Officers, Present and Past, also attended.

After the toast of "The Queen and the Craft" had been honoured,

The **WORSHIPFUL MASTER** gave "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, our Grand Master," and said they regarded his Royal Highness from two points of view, in each of which he commanded their confidence and affection. As Heir to the Throne he lived in the affections of the people at large, while as the Grand Master of English Freemasons all who were connected with the Fraternity recognised how it had prospered under his leadership and guidance, and that he had made it far more popular than ever it was before.

In proposing the toast of "The Provincial Grand Master and Provincial Grand Officers," the W.M. said they were under great obligations to Viscount Ebrington, their Prov. G.M., and the other Prov. Grand Officers for the honour they had done the lodge in coming to Ashburton and rendering such valuable services as they had done that day. It was about three years ago the lodge was first formed, and he was glad to say they had now not only a lodge but a home of their own of which they had no reason whatever to be ashamed. They had done their best in the short time that had elapsed since the lodge was formed to establish a position among the lodges of the province, and he thought they had every reason to congratulate themselves that their efforts had succeeded so well.

Bro. W. ROGERS, D.P.G.M., responded. He said it was a great pleasure to him to be able to testify to the

able manner in which the brethren of Ashburton Lodge had discharged their duties, and he congratulated them on the success with which the lodge had been worked, a success which had resulted in their acquiring the excellent building which had been dedicated that day to the purposes of Freemasonry. It was a great pleasure to him also to be able to state that of all the lodges that had been started since he had had the honour of holding office in the province there was none in which the work had been more satisfactorily done than in the Ashburton Lodge.

Bro. DAVIE, P.G. Sec., also returned thanks. It was an especial pleasure to him to take part in that day's proceedings, because he had the honour of installing their first Master. He little thought when three years ago he installed Bro. Dawson in the W.M.'s chair that in so short a time they would have been called together for the purpose of dedicating a new hall. It was almost unprecedented in the history of Freemasonry that a lodge had advanced so rapidly in so short a time. If its example was followed throughout the province, Devonshire would be in a much better position than it was at present in the matter of providing for its poorer brethren.

Bro. Viscount EBRINGTON, P.G.M., who was heartily received, thanked the brethren for the cordiality of their reception, and asked them to drink to the next toast, "Prosperity to Ashburton Lodge." In his position as Prov. Grand Master, it gave him much gratification to wish prosperity to a lodge that had done so much to deserve it. As they had already heard, it was very little more than three years ago that the lodge was consecrated, but they now had something like three times as many members as they had then, and instead of meeting in a hired room, they had their own castle with their own roof above their heads. That was owing to the energy and public spirit of the brethren, and especially to the kindness and liberality of one of their members, Bro. Stevens, who not only gave them a site, but also superintended the erection of the handsome and commodious building in which they had just met. From what Bro. Stevens had himself told him, he was quite sure that that had been to him a labour of love, as it must also be a great gratification to him to see how the result of his labours was appreciated. But while their charity had begun at home he was glad to know that it had not ended there. Setting an example to many lodges in the province, they had made themselves Patrons of all the three great Masonic Charities, and had acquired permanent votes for the advancement of the poorer brethren of the province in connection with each of those great Institutions. Therein they had not only set a good example to other lodges, but had laid a solid foundation for themselves both in a practical form and in another shape which, though not, perhaps, so solid or so tangible, yet would be equally enduring—a foundation on which he hoped and believed they would raise up the edifice of a good name and reputation which would endure for many generations. He coupled with the toast the names of two of the founders of the lodge—their W.M., who had so ably presided over their proceedings that evening, and the Hon. R. Dawson, to whom they were also largely indebted for the valuable services he had rendered since the lodge was formed. The P.G.M., in conclusion, tendered his thanks to the Organist of the lodge, Bro. Crowe, for the admirable manner in which the musical portion of the dedication service in the lodge was rendered. Bro. Crowe, he said, must have taken a great deal of trouble with the choir, in order that the musical portion of the service should have been rendered so accurately and well.

The W.M. (Bro. GERVIS), and Bro. the Hon. R. DAWSON, both acknowledged the toast. Bro. Dawson said it was, as previous speakers had explained, little more than three years since the light of Freemasonry first reached Ashburton, and Masonry being a progressive art they had endeavoured to fulfil that principle and to progress. A good deal had already been said about the way in which they had progressed during the past three years, and certainly during the first year, when he filled the position of W.M., they had a great deal of work to do. Many new brethren joined the Craft, and successive initiations meant a good deal of anxious work for the officers of the lodge; but he was most ably supported by all the officers, and not only so, but a generous support was also given by the brethren of neighbouring lodges, who came from Newton, Totnes, and elsewhere, and showed a true Masonic spirit in thus coming to the assistance of the brethren at Ashburton. To their present W.M., and to the S.W., Bro. Acoc, they were also greatly indebted for valuable assistance rendered to the lodge. He hoped the success thus far attained would be continued in the future, and that now they were in possession of their new building, they would have many seekers after the true light of Masonry.

The other toasts were—"The Visitors," proposed by Bro. H. STEELE, and the Tyler's toast, submitted by Bro. ACOCK, S.W.

The toasts were interspersed with some excellent singing, and the whole proceedings, both in the lodge and at the banquet, were thoroughly hearty and harmonious.

The Princess Louise (Marchioness of Lorne) and the Marquis of Lorne met with a hearty welcome from the people of Torquay on Tuesday, when her Royal Highness opened an Arts and Crafts Exhibition at the Bath Saloons, and laid the foundation-stone of the new harbour works, which are being erected at a cost of £30,000. After luncheon the Marquis and Marchioness left for town *en route* for Windsor, which was reached about 8 p.m., on a visit to the Queen.

OPENING OF A NEW MASONIC HALL AT
BUCKINGHAM.

The Grenville Lodge, No. 1787, though comparatively young in years, has been a very progressive one, and, although consecrated but 10 years ago, it now numbers between 40 and 50 members, and this in a town of only about 4000 inhabitants. About 12 months ago the desirability of having a properly furnished and appointed room in which to hold the lodge meetings was discussed, and the S.W., Bro. J. Marshall, who is this year W.M., and also Mayor and Chief Magistrate of the town, came to the rescue. He made an offer to the lodge, which was most gratefully accepted, to build a proper lodge room, and let it at a nominal yearly rental to the Grenville Lodge.

On Thursday, the 10th ult. (the building being finished), the opening ceremony and consecration took place. The programme included a short service in the Parish Church, when a suitable address was given by Bro. the Rev. W. MILES MYRES, Chaplain to the lodge. The brethren afterwards proceeded to the new hall, when the ceremony of consecration was performed by Bro. the Rev. F. G. Kiddle, P.M., P.P.G.C., in the unavoidable absence of Bro. the Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg, P.G.C., D.P.G.M. in charge of Berks and Bucks, many brethren from the neighbouring lodges being present.

A luncheon was afterwards held in the Town Hall, at which a goodly company sat down.

The day's proceedings concluded most successfully with a ball in the Town Hall, at which nearly 150 guests were present.

The whole arrangements reflected great credit on the Committee and the hard-working Secretary, Bro. F. W. Attwood.

A "SOCIAL" AT THE LODGE OF
PERSEVERANCE, No. 345, BLACKBURN.

On Monday, the 28th ult., a "social" in connection with the Lodge of Perseverance, No. 345, was held in the Blackburn Exchange Assembly Rooms for the benefit of the Masonic Charities, and the result has been most gratifying to the promoters as well as to the participators in the enjoyment of it.

The management was in the hands of a Committee, consisting of the W.M., Bro. Roger Pye, Bro. T. W. Gregson, I.P.M.; the Wardens and officers; Bros. T. Butterworth, Hon. Sec.; and S. Goldstone, P.M., Master of Ceremonies.

Great praise is due to the artistes who gave their services voluntarily and performed their several parts in a most admirable and praiseworthy manner.

The programme consisted of 20 dances, every second dance being interspersed with vocal music, humorous and otherwise.

The band was under the leadership of Bro. James Southworth, and the music, selected from the most favourite operas, gave satisfaction to all.

The company numbered about 150. Everything passed off in a most pleasing and satisfactory manner, and a considerable balance has been realised, which will be handed over to the Charities.

Bro. A. D. Rayner was caterer, and the refreshments provided gave every satisfaction.

Amongst the company were representatives from Lodges Nos. 126, 269, 346, 369, 381, and 1145.

COLOURED LODGES.

The prospects of the coloured lodges of the United States are not very encouraging from a truly Masonic point of view, if we may judge from the following account of recent law proceedings which we take from the *Philadelphia Public Ledger*:—Court of Common Pleas No. 1, decided the equity suit of John Rhodes et al. against Charles H. Brown et al., a litigation which began about five years ago. The plaintiffs to the suit represented the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Ancient York Masons for Pennsylvania, an organisation of coloured men, and the defendants represented about 30 subordinate lodges of coloured Masons. The suit against the latter was for the purpose of forfeiting all the monies, jewels, regalia, books, papers, etc., belonging to these lodges because of their adherence to a union of coloured Masonic organizations formed in 1882. This new organization is called the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania. The suit was referred to a Master, and he decided in favour of the plaintiffs. It was upon exceptions to this report that the case was before Common Pleas No. 1. It appeared that the Supreme Court, on another branch of the litigation, had, in the meantime, decided that the union of 1882 is a valid union, and this having been brought to the attention of the Judges they thought it decisive of the controversy and the exceptions to the Master's report were accordingly sustained. This decision sustains the position of the subordinate lodges, which claimed that they owed allegiance only to the new Grand Lodge formed in 1882.

The British Silk Exhibition at the residence, No. 7, St. James's-square, of Bro. Lord Egerton of Tatton, which was opened on Tuesday by the Duchess of Teck, is in every way a success. Among those present at the ceremony were the Princess of Wales and the Princesses Victoria and Maud, Lady Wantage, Baroness Burdett-Coutts, Countess of Crawford, and the Countess Amherst.

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

In compliance with a requisition signed in conformity with the Laws, A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING of the Governors and Subscribers will be held at FREEMASONS' HALL, London, on WEDNESDAY, the 14th day of MAY, 1890, at FIVE o'clock in the afternoon precisely, to take into consideration a Proposed Revival of the Rules and Regulations as already agreed to by the Committee of Management, and to consider any further proposition or motion relating thereto that may then be brought forward.

By order.

JAMES TERRY,

Office—4, Freemasons' Hall, Secretary.
London, W.C.,
7th May, 1890.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION

FOR BOYS,
WOOD GREEN, LONDON, N.

OFFICE—6, FREEMASONS' HALL, W.C.

GRAND PATRON—
HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

PRESIDENT—
H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., M.W.G.M.

THE 92nd ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL

will be held at

FREEMASONS' TAVERN, LONDON,
ON WEDNESDAY, 2ND JULY, 1890,
under the Presidency of the

RT. HON. LORD GEORGE HAMILTON, M.P.,
*First Lord of the Admiralty, R.W. Past Grand Senior
Warden, P.M. No. 2012, V.-President of the Institution.*

Full particulars will be announced in due course.

The services of Brethren as Stewards representing Lodges or Provinces are—UNDER EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES—most earnestly solicited, and will be gratefully acknowledged.

By Order,

FREDERICK BINCKES (P.G. Stwd., P.G.S.B.),
V.-Pat., Secretary.

7th May, 1890.

THE friends of Bro. EDWIN STORR,
P.M., &c., will kindly note that upon the approaching retirement of Bro. F. Binckes, P.G.S.B., &c., he will duly present his credentials and offer himself as a Candidate for the Secretaryship of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

Robey Villa, Hornsey, N.

April 10, 1890.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION

FOR BOYS.

TO THE PATRONS, VICE-PATRONS, VICE-PRESIDENTS,
AND LIFE GOVERNORS OF THE ROYAL MASONIC
INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

Brethren desirous of assisting and supporting BRO.
GORDON SMITH (M.A.), P.G.S. Eng., P.M. 14 and
2041, Member of the Board of General Purposes, &c., &c.,
in his Candidature for the Secretaryship of the Institution,
are requested to kindly send their names to BRO. EUGENE
MONTEUUIS, P.M. 14, 2060, 2243, P.G.S., G. Swd. B.
Eng., &c., &c., Hon. Sec. to the Committee,

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11th April, 1890.

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24th April, 1890.

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GRAND PATRON AND PRESIDENT:

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

GRAND PATRONESS:

HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCESS OF
WALES.

THE 102nd ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL

of this Institution will take place

ON TUESDAY, THE 20th OF MAY NEXT,
under the Presidency of

COL. SIR FRANCIS BURDETT, BART., P.G.W.,
R.W. Prov. Grand Master of Middlesex.

President of the Board of Stewards—

Bro. Col. JAMES PETERS, Patron, Trustee, P.G.S.B.,
P.S.G.W. Middx.

Treasurer—

Bro. C. E. KEYSER, Vice-Patron, P.G.W. Herts.

Chairman of the Ladies' Stewards—

Bro. E. LUXMORE MARSHALL, P.M. 235.

Brethren willing to serve the office of Steward will greatly
oblige by forwarding their names as early as possible to the
Secretary, who will gladly give any information required.

F. R. W. HEDGES, Secretary.

5, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.

SECOND APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION.

MAY ELECTION, 1890.

TO THE GOVERNORS OF THE

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Rev. R. WHITTINGTON, M.A., Rector of St. Peter's-upon-Corn-
hill, E.C., and Prebendary of St. Paul's.

*Rev. R. W. B. MARSH, M.A., late Vicar of Plaistow, E., Ald-
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*Rev. E. P. HENDERSON, 10, Park-road, Plaistow, E.

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GEORGE KENNING, Esq., Upper Sydenham, S.E.

*Proxies will be thankfully received by those marked **

The friends of MARY LOUISA BRIND take this oppor-
tunity of thanking all those Subscribers who so kindly
supported her at the last Election, and earnestly appeal
for their assistance again in May next.

*Applicant's Father is now deceased. This renders the
case more distressing.*

To Correspondents.

The following communications unavoidably stand over :

CRAFT—Anchor and Hope Lodge, No. 37 ; and Richmond
Lodge, No. 2032.

INSTRUCTION—Robert Burns Lodge, No. 25 ; and Prince
Frederick William Lodge, No. 753.

Provincial Grand Chapter of West Yorkshire.

Masonic Lecture by Bro. Carson.

Masonic Ball at Leinster.

Grand Lodge of Scotland.

BOOKS, &c., RECEIVED.

"Liberal Freemason," "Masonic Review," "Victorian
Freemason," "Masonic Review," "Freemasons' Repository,"
"Keystone," "La Revista Masonica," "Freimaurer-Zeitung,"
"Boletin Oficial," "The Trestle Board," "Masonic World,"
"Voice of Masonry," "Australasian Keystone," "Masonic
Advocate," "South Australian Freemason," "New Zealand
Craftsman," "Masonic Constellation," "West Lancashire
Masonic Calendar, 1889-90," "Masonic Journal (Portland,
Me.)," "Die Bauhutte," "Proceedings of the Grand Chapter of
Quebec," "Victorian Freemason," "Canadian Craftsman,"
"Madras Masonic Review," "Proceedings of the Grand Lodge
of Pennsylvania, 1889."



SATURDAY, MAY 10, 1890.

Masonic Notes.

A convocation of the Supreme Council, 33°, will be
held at 33, Golden-square, on the 13th inst., at noon.
At 2.45 a Grand Consistory of the 32° is called; at
3.45 a Sovereign Tribunal of the 31°, and at 4.45 a
Grand Chapter of the 30°. Two candidates are on the
agenda for the 32°, eight for the 31°, and 19 for the 30°. The steady growth of the Ancient and Accepted Rite in this country is no doubt primarily due to the intrinsic merits of the Order, but it is in no small degree owing to the admirable organisation and administrative ability of the executive that its success is of so pronounced a character.

* * *

The dedication of the new Masonic Hall of the Ashburton Lodge, No. 2189, took place on the 30th ult., and was attended by a large number of brethren, including visitors. Bro. Viscount Ebrington, M.P., Prov. G.M., officiated, and had the assistance of Bros. the Hon. R. Dawson, P.M., and H. Steele, P.M. The dedicatory odes sung included one specially written and composed for the occasion by Bro. Fred. J. W. Crowe, S.D. and Organist. A banquet at the London Hotel followed, Bro. Viscount Ebrington presiding.

* * *

On Tuesday a grand Arabian Nights Bazaar was opened in the Winter Gardens, Southport, in aid of the Building Fund of the Church of St. Simon and St. Jude, and it will be continued during the week. A prominent feature in the bazaar is a Masonic stall, and very conspicuous on the stall is a lady Freemason, in the shape of a large doll, with apron, collar, gauntlets, and jewels. This and other objects of interest to Masons was contributed by Bro. George Kenning.

* * *

We have just received at the moment of going to press an interesting communication from the Past Grand Treasurer, Bro. Edward Terry, who was at the time of writing "up in the mountains" in Ceylon. As might have been expected, our genial brother has been received everywhere most heartily. True to his Masonic instincts he has not missed an opportunity of studying the working of the Craft in India during his tour, with the result that he has formed the strongest convictions that Masonry in that country is one of the great factors in uniting the many races of which it is composed—Parsees, Hindoos, Mahomedans, Jews, and Christians mingling in the utmost harmony with no caste restrictions—one common bond uniting them—Freemasonry.

* * *

At the Cyrus Lodge, at Bombay, Bro. Terry's reception was most cordial, and he was made an honorary member. After the lodge work, which was admirably carried out, the occasion being an installation meeting, the loyal toasts were drunk with the utmost enthusiasm, accompanied with a request that their guest would personally convey to H.R.H. the Grand Master their loyal obedience and respectful fraternal regard. Songs were sung in English, Persian, Hindustani, and Sanskrit, but we do not learn that Bro. Terry's repertoire included the latter, although in English he was, as always, "willing to oblige." He sailed on the 23rd ult. in the P. and O. ship Ganges for home.

* * *

The *World* of this week has the following: "The conferring of the brevet rank of Past Grand Warden of the Order of Freemasons on the Lord Mayor was a pleasant and well-deserved compliment to an old and energetic member of the Craft. In former years, and down to the time of Sir Robert Fowler, it was the custom to make any Lord Mayor, who was a prominent Freemason, Junior Grand Warden for the year, but as this was practically handing over the appointment to the City, it was then departed from, and it has not been revived. But Sir Reginald Hanson was made Past Grand Warden in the Jubilee year, and Lord Mayors Staples and De Keyser served as Grand Deacons in the year after their term of office in the City."

* * *

Bro. James Willing, jun., is to be the first W.M. of a new lodge for which the Most Worshipful Grand Master has granted a warrant. It is to be named the

Cricklewood Lodge, and, as its name indicates, will doubtless comply with the requirements of the Constitutions, and the desires of the founders, in being "for the convenience of our respective dwellings and other good reasons," while Bro. Willing can be trusted to fulfil the other conditions—"to exert our best endeavours to promote and diffuse the genuine principles of our art."

* * *

A special Masonic musical service was held on Sunday afternoon at the Bishop Lee Memorial Church, St. Mary's, Beswick. A dispensation had been granted by Bro. Col. Le Gendre Nicholas Starkie, D.L., Prov. G.M. of East Lancashire, to permit the brethren to wear Masonic regalia. Bro. J. H. Greenwood presided at the organ, and there was full choral service rendered by the large and efficient choir of the parish. Madame Webster and Miss Robberds sang special selections from various oratorios. The sermon was preached by the rector, Bro. Rev. E. Bigoe Bagot, Prov. G. Chap. East Lancashire.

* * *

It is hardly possible to avoid making some small mistake in the necessarily hurried account we give annually of the past services rendered by the newly-appointed Grand Officers. Thus in the case of the Junior Grand Warden, Bro. Lord Alfred Churchill, we said that his lordship became a joining member of Lodge 1145, whereas it should have been of the Marquis of Dalhousie Lodge, No. 1159, of which he is still a member. Again, we stated that Bro. Vallentine was exalted in the R.A. Chapter Orpheus, No. 1706, whereas it was in the All Saints Chapter, No. 1716.

* * *

Two other instances have been brought to our notice. One is that of Bro. R. C. Sudlow, whom we described as Past Prov. S.G.W., instead of Past Prov. S.G.D. of Kent, and of whom we ought also to have added that he was the immediate P.Z. of the Old King's Arms Chapter, No. 28. The other is that of Bro. T. B. Whytehead, whom we should have described as having been initiated in New Zealand in 1870, and as having, on his return to England the following year, joined the York Lodge, No. 236. We ought also to have added that he was one of the founders and first S.W. of the Albert Victor Lodge, No. 2328, York. For these errors of omission and commission, though we consider they are excusable under the circumstances, we most willingly express regret for their occurrence.

* * *

There is also the case of Bro. W. F. Smithson, one of the new Junior Grand Deacons, to whose services in connection with the Charity work of the province to which he belongs—West Yorkshire—we paid no more than a just compliment, but whose precise position in the West Yorkshire Charity Committee we described erroneously. We said he was "the Secretary of the Masonic Charity Organisation of his province," by which, as the context shows, we meant that he was Secretary of the Association Committee, or Organisation, which watched over the election of West Yorkshire candidates, and aroused among the brethren in the province a deep interest in the several Charities. It seems, however, that we ought to have described the body we had in mind as the "West Yorkshire Charity Committee" and Bro. Smithson as its Chairman for the last five years, after having acted for a previous five years as its Vice-Chairman. Therefore, Bro. Smithson's services in this quarter have extended over 10 years, and they have been rendered in a higher and more commanding position than we assigned to him. For this slip we beg to express to Bro. Smithson our regret.

* * *

The number of brethren now constituting the Board of Stewards for the 102nd Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls is 243, or seven more than it was at the corresponding period in last week. This is a smaller increase than we had looked for, but it augurs favourably for our prognostication that the Board will ultimately be quite 250 strong.

* * *

The *Canadian Craftsman* having in one of its April articles very keenly criticised the accounts of the Board of Relief of Toronto, concludes by remarking "whether the Board of Relief has outlived its usefulness or requires simply new blood and a better Masonic spirit is a question for the consideration of the Craft in Toronto." It strikes us there is a still more important question to be considered, namely, whether members of the Toronto Board of Relief should not be compelled to take lessons in book-keeping until they can prepare a statement of accounts which is intelligible by the brethren to whom it is issued.

Correspondence.

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

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Kindly permit me to say that I will gladly receive from those who can spare them, votes for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution on behalf of Mrs. Mary Cooke, by whose husband I was initiated into Freemasonry some 30 odd years ago.

I am, fraternally yours,

JOHN B. MONCKTON.

Guildhall, E.C., May 5.



FREEMASONS' CALENDAR AND DIRECTORY FOR THE PROVINCE OF OXFORDSHIRE, 1890-91.

Bro. W. R. Bowden, W.M. 1515, the editor and publisher of this *vade mecum* for Oxon, has no lack of official patronage for his excellent directory, and, moreover, he has laboured so assiduously on behalf of his province for many years past that he surely should obtain all possible encouragement from the leading Masonic "dons" of Oxfordshire. The present issue is on the same lines precisely as the later numbers of the publication under Bro. Bowden's editorship, only this year it is adorned with a capital photo of Bro. the Earl of Jersey. "It is the supreme pleasure of the editor this year to present to the brethren of the province an excellent portrait of the Prov. G.M., with his kind permission;" a boon we feel certain all the members will appreciate, especially as it is particularly well done. The 11 lodges in the province return 572 members in all, being an increase on last year, which yielded but 543. The four R.A. chapters have 178 members, and appear to be well supported generally. The various rolls of officers and past officers of these bodies represent a brilliant galaxy of Masonic worthies, and the officers and past officers of the province are alike suggestive of "high degree." From 1875 to 1889 the large sum of £4718 14s., raised for the Charities, indicates that Oxford, Masonically speaking, is active in the support of our Benevolent Institutions, as well as illustrious in its membership. Various reports and the list of the votes in the Central Masonic Charities, &c., add much to the usefulness of the calendar, and prove that Bro. Bowden spares no pains as editor to render his annual as complete and accurate as possible. *Eighteen stamps* sent to him at High-street, Oxford, will secure a copy of the directory, and we hope a few, at least, will be sent for.



894.] A CURIOUS MEDAL.

Referring to "Lex Scripta's" medal [888] mentioned in your issue of the 26th ult., I know it, but do not possess one in my collection. Marvin, the greatest authority on Masonic medals, refers to it in his "Medals of the Masonic Fraternity," in a note on spurious Masonic medals, in the following terms: "There is another piece, mentioned by Merzdorf, of which I have an impression, that may very easily be mistaken for a Masonic, and may, therefore, properly be described here. The obverse has a beehive on a low platform, with shrubs on either side, and the legend CHAMBRE DES ENTREPRENEURS DE MACONNERIE (Chamber of Master of workmen in Masonry). In exergue—ROGAT. Reverse—a wreath of oak enclosing the inscription in three lines LE 13—JANVIER—1810 (January 13, 1810). It is octagonal, of bronze, and size 21. It has, as Merzdorf remarks, only an apparent connection with the Fraternity, having been struck for some gathering of operative Masons in Paris early in the present century. The reverse is found with an obverse apparently bearing a still closer connection with the Order, the compasses, plumb, and rule being interlaced, and the legend REUNION DES ENTREPRENEURS DE MACONNERIE DE PARIS, and under the device L'AN 1810 JALEY FECIT. This latter obverse is also muled with one or more reverses unnecessary to describe." These medals are engraved in *Tresor Numismatique*, Napoleon plate 46, Nos. 11 and 12. I should hesitate very much before admitting it as Masonic. I have carefully searched Charlot's *L'Indicateur de la Teune des Loges a L'Orient de Paris* for the year 1809, but can find no lodge of any such name. Would "Lex Scripta" forward it to me to the address below to examine. I might then be able to give him a clue to further information.

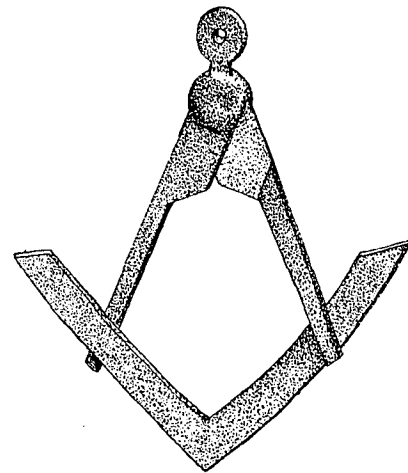
GEO. L. SHACKLES,

Member of the Quatuor Coronati Correspondence Circle.

7, Land of Green Ginger, Hull.

895.] AN OLD JEWEL.

The square and compasses, of which a sketch is here given, was presented to the Quatuor Coronati Lodge by Lieutenant Carr, H.M.S. Scout, and Colonel M. Ramsay, Dist. G.M. of Malta, conjointly. Its history is briefly as follows: The family of Bro. Lieut. Carr owns property in Corfu, and, as the Scout was cruising off the island last summer, our brother ran over to see the estate. The gentleman in charge showed him a large collection of coins and vessels of the 8th and 9th centuries, which had recently been unearthed in digging out new wine vaults. Among these relics was the jewel in question. He was allowed to keep possession of it, as of no intrinsic value, but the rest of the find was claimed by the Greek Government. On his return to Malta he offered it to Col. Ramsay, but, at the latter's suggestion, it was decided to deposit it



with the Quatuor Coronati. The jewel is of bronze, and very much corroded, and there can scarcely be a doubt that it is Masonic. Its age, however, is difficult to ascertain with any certainty. The other relics found with it are no guide at all, or rather, may be very misleading, because, in most places that have had a succession of occupants, antiquities are generally found of all the periods of the occupiers; much depends on the various levels at which they occur, and information is always vague on this point. In this case it is altogether absent. Any attempt at a decision is, therefore, merely a matter of opinion based upon general appearances, but experts in such matters, including the British Museum authorities, are inclined to ascribe it to the 17th century—a very early date for a jewel of this form.

G. W. SPETH, P.M.,

Sec. Quatuor Coronati.

896.] OLD MASONIC JUGS.

The correspondence recently published in your columns on this matter has been of a most interesting and instructive character. I am the fortunate owner of two old Masonic jugs, which, with your permission, I will endeavour to describe. I must, however, first state that I am entirely ignorant of everything relating to the ceramic art, so that if Bro. Capt. Walls or Bro. Ferguson can tell me anything about them, I shall be greatly obliged. They are similar in every respect, except as to size—one holds about two and the other about five pints. On one side and to the left is depicted a ruined church or abbey; between two of the arches enclosed by a heavy moulding, a female figure holding, what I take to be, an infant. This, I presume, is a representation of the Virgin Mary and Our Lord. In the foreground there is a monk, sitting on a piece of the ruin with folded hands, looking up at the Virgin Mary. Other pieces of the ruin lay scattered around; to the right is a river with a bridge, and in the middle distance a fortress, or castle, on the brink of the river, with a mountain in the far distance; the whole surrounded by a rooted tree. On the other side of the jug is the Masonic part—a mosaic pavement raised on three steps, at the further end of which is the letter G within an irradiated triangle; above this and between two pillars the compasses on a chevron, between three castles—two over one. The crest is an arm holding a trowel towards the left. Above these a curved and floriated ribbon, bearing legend *Amor honor et justitia*, and a representation of a man, evidently a Worshipful Master, sitting in a chair, clothed with an apron, having on a collar with square attached, and holding in his left hand a pair of compasses. By his side a sun-dial; to his left part of the radiant sun, and to his right a crescent moon, surrounded by seven stars. To the right of the pavement, and standing on a pedestal, his feet "forming a square," another figure clothed with an apron and wearing a collar and level. Near his feet a square, pair of compasses, a M.S., the capital of a broken pillar, and a pinnacle supporting a sphere. The pedestal seems to be resting on a species of floriated bracket, from which hangs a protractor, enclosing an irradiated face. To the left is a similar pedestal, on which stands another clothed figure, with an apron and a collar and a plumb rule on. At his feet a beehive, the capital of another broken pillar, a pair of compasses, and what I take to be "the Volume of the Sacred Law," and a similar pinnacle and sphere to the other. From the bracket on this side hangs a pair of crossed pens, enclosed by a ribbon. On the top step of the mosaic pavement are three lights, at either corner a rough ashlar with a gavel on it, and a perfect ashlar with lewis attached. On a ribbon traversing three sides of the pavement the legend SIT

Regent's Park Lodge (No. 2202).—The election meeting of this lodge was held on Saturday, the 3rd inst., at the York and Albany, Gloucester-gate, Regent's Park, N.W., when there were present Bros. Dr. N. J. Goodchild, W.M.; J. K. R. Cama, I.P.M.; Dr. J. Powdrell, S.W.; W. H. Hosegood, J.W.; Dr. N. Goodchild, P.M., Treas.; C. Sheppard, P.M., Sec.; E. C. Mulvey, P.M., P.P.G. Stwd. Surrey, acting S.D.; Lane, I.G.; Whiting, Tyler; J. Pointer, H. Bangs, J. Bangs, C. Rex, G. Clampitt, F. Goodhall, W. Holden, F. Holden, A. J. Ward, and J. Podger. Visitors: Bros. Maddam, S.W. 1066, and J. H. Kew, S.W. 179.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed. Bro. Podger having been passed to the Second Degree, a ballot was taken for Worshipful Master and Treasurer for the ensuing year, which was unanimous in favour of Bro. W. H. Hosegood, J.W., and Bro. Dr. N. Goodchild, P.M. Bro. Whiting was re-elected Tyler. It was proposed, and carried unanimously, that a Past Master's jewel of the usual value be presented to Bro. Dr. N. J. Goodchild, W.M., for the able manner in which he had presided over the lodge. Bro. Jordan's resignation having been accepted with regret, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to dinner. The toasts which followed being enlivened by some excellent singings.

Tyssen-Amherst Lodge (No. 2242).—The installation meeting of this successful lodge was held at the Amherst Club, Rectory-road, Hackney, on Monday, the 5th inst. Bro. Chas. C. Cheston, P.G.D., W.M., was supported by Bros. E. G. Lewis, P.M., S.W.; S. J. Cross, S.D.; A. F. Lay, P.M., J.D.; Jas. Godwin, P.P.A.G.D.C., Essex, Treas.; Chas. Beaumont, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C., Essex, Sec.; C. C. Paine, I.G.; G. Allan, D.C.; and F. Goodbody, Stwd. Visitors: Bros. W. W. Hayworth, J.D. 1361; I. P. Cohen, P.M. 205; J. W. Hobbs, P.M. 1579; E. Wright, P.M. 1364; W. Hicklin, W.M. 1261; J. Kift, 1791; Howard H. Room, P.M., Prov. G. Sec. Middx.; C. E. Milner, P.M. 99; H. J. Walker, 373; R. J. Cushing, P.M. 1607; W. P. Earl, 1872; D. J. Reddall, I.P.M. 2148; G. Sawyer, 1415; W. Hughes, G. Std., S.W. 99; W. Oldham Rew, S.W. 1118; E. W. Ball, J.D. 1704; J. Godwin, S.W. 1577; J. J. Reynolds, P.M. 534; and W. W. Lee, 1897.

Lodge was opened, the minutes confirmed, and the Audit Report received and adopted. Bro. E. G. Lewis was then presented as the W.M. elect, and duly installed into the chair by the retiring Master, Bro. Cheston, P.G.D.. The following officers were appointed and invested: Bros. S. J. Cross, S.W.; A. F. Lay, P.M., J.W.; Jas. Godwin, P.P.A.G.D.C. Essex, Treas.; Charles Beaumont, P.P.A.G.D.C. Essex, Sec.; C. C. Paine, S.D.; G. Allan, J.D.; F. Goodbody, I.G.; R. S. Ellis, D.C.; H. J. Coard, W. H. Thompson, and W. H. Turner, Stwds.; and J. Very, Tyler. The addresses were rendered by the Installing Master, Bro. C. Cheston, P.G.D. Mr. Palmer Bryant was unanimously approved by ballot, and impressively initiated into Freemasonry by the W.M. Bro. Cheston, I.P.M., was presented with a handsome Past Master's jewel by the W.M., on behalf of the members, in recognition of his services to the lodge, and as a mark of their esteem and regard. The gift having been appropriately acknowledged and propositions received, the lodge was closed.

An excellent banquet was followed by the usual toast list, and a selection of music was rendered by Bro. Kift, assisted by Bros. G. Allan, D. G. Reddall, P.M., and S. J. Cross.

In proposing "The Grand Officers," the Worshipful Master said they had in their own lodge two very good specimens of the Grand Officers, and, therefore, they could speak of them with greater confidence than lodges generally. They had their first Master, Bro. Amherst, and the I.P.M., Bro. Cheston. There was also a visitor present that evening who was a member of Grand Lodge.

Bro. W. Hughes, G. Stwd., in reply, said that were it not that in an assembly of Freemasons it was the duty of all, however humble, to obey the calls of the W.M., he should have thought it presumptuous on his part to respond for that toast. He was a very junior member of Grand Lodge to return thanks on behalf of those distinguished members of the Craft whose names were on the programme of the elegant entertainment given to them that evening. It might be that in calling upon him there was an idea of impressing upon the initiate that his first duty was obedience. Every visitor must have been gratified at his reception and at the excellent way in which everything had been performed.

Bro. C. Cheston, P.G.D., said he had only been one year a Grand Officer, the date of his appointment being identical with the commencement of his year as Master. He was confident that if the distinguished Grand Officers who consecrated the lodge could see how well and worthily the working officers discharged their duties, it would be a satisfaction to them, and they would feel that if the W.M. who had just attained the chair was not so fortunate in getting the purple, he would show how deserving he was of it. Before resuming his seat he would propose the toast of the evening, and ask them to drink "The Health of their excellent and worthy W.M." He took it that in a new lodge the choice of a Master was of more importance than in one which had a long list of Past Masters to guide the brethren in the way they should go. For his part, he felt that the year they were commencing would be marked by entire confidence in all work, and he was glad to see they had one initiate in hand and another in the bush. It was a good thing for a lodge like that to have as much work as possible. The good working had been brought about by the strong desire of all to learn the duties of all the offices. There was nothing so pleasant as for a Master to initiate his first Mason, for he felt they were giving back some reward for the benefit they had received in Masonry. The W.M. had that evening proved that he was a Past Master in every sense of the word, and was the right man in the right place, and would carry on the work in a way that would leave nothing to be desired. He hoped that if Grand Lodge did not see its way to give Bro. Lewis the purple he deserved, the province with which he was connected would give him some recompense for his work.

Bro. E. G. Lewis, P.M., W.M., said that after the kind words in which the I.P.M. had proposed the toast he should be able to find but few words to reply. If he deserved a quarter of the I.P.M.'s remarks he should feel he had done something of his duty already, but that had to be proved in the forthcoming year. He should be glad to get as much work as possible, being fond of work, for he thought that a Master could not be happier than to have an initiate every meeting as well as other ceremonies. He thanked them for the kind way they had received the toast of his health. He would next propose "The Health of the I.P.M. and Installing Master." Those who had the pleasure of hearing the ceremony of installation that evening would remember with great gratification the treat they had had. No one could perform the ceremony better than Bro. Cheston, and the brethren would excuse him enumerating the I.P.M.'s virtues.

Bro. Charles C. Cheston, P.G.D., I.P.M., said it was with great pleasure that he had to thank them, on leaving the chair of the lodge, for their kindness, not only that evening, but in the choice they made a year ago, and for their kindness during his year of office. It had been a great

satisfaction to him to be the second W.M. of a lodge founded in the place with which he was so intimately associated, and in which he was born. It had been a great satisfaction to see the lodge grow up in the way it had with great promise, and he could say that of all his Masonic duties he had performed none with greater pleasure than those of that lodge, and especially in the installation of so worthy a successor. He hoped that as years went by and as initiates came in, they would learn what was impressed in the installation ceremony, that Masonry was not a mere matter of ritual, nor a mere excuse for eating and drinking, but that it was a great beneficent Institution, and one of the best the world had ever known. Masonry had never been associated with disorder or factious opposition to properly constituted authority. Masonry had never meddled in political or religious controversy, but had let men enjoy their own religious opinions or political creeds, and it had taken its stand in the great basis of humanity, and all disturbing elements were left outside its doors. There was a tie in Masonry like the touch of humanity that made all mankind kin, for it made all men brothers in more than name.

"The Initiate" was next given, and duly responded to by Bro. Bryant.

Bro. Howard H. Room, Prov. G. Sec. Middx., replying for "The Visitors," returned sincere thanks to the W.M. for having given him the opportunity of thanking Bro. Cheston for the privilege of enjoying what all the visitors would agree was one of the pleasantest Masonic evenings they had spent. He thought that anyone who neglected to make comment upon the work that evening would be ungrateful for the honour of being present. Being one of those slaves to Masonry—a Prov. G. Sec.—and attending so many meetings, he heard the installation ceremony at least fifty times in the year, and he might, therefore, be considered a judge, and without any attempt at flattery he could say he had never more appreciated that beautiful ritual than as performed by the I.P.M. It was a young lodge, but the officers performed their duties in a careful manner, and showed they were determined to do their best.

Bro. J. Goodwin, P.P.A.G.D.C. Essex, P.M., Treas., on behalf of "The Officers," said it afforded him immense pleasure to see the lodge making such strides. He was associated with the worthy Secretary in its formation, and he was, therefore, proud to see it in its present state of prosperity, and from the character of the men in it it could not fail to be a very prosperous lodge. He felt proud to be a founder, and esteemed it an honour to be the Treasurer. So long as his life was spared, and he resided in the neighbourhood, he hoped to retain that post.

Bro. S. J. Cross, S.W., also returned thanks, and said how much they all deplored the circumstances which led the W.M. to appoint him to his present office. He was last year S.D., but owing to the lamented illness of Bro. Cusworth he was appointed S.W. In Bro. Cusworth they had lost a most worthy member, and he had lost a sincere friend, and he hoped that their absent brother would be restored to health to return to them.

The Tyler's toast closed a very enjoyable evening.

PROVINCIAL MEETINGS.

BRIGHTON.

Earl of Sussex Lodge (No. 2201).—A large and influential gathering of Freemasons took place on Saturday, the 20th ult., in the Music Room, Royal Pavilion, on the occasion of the closing meeting of the year of the lodge. The lodge was opened by Bro. R. Clowes, W.M., P.S.G.W., who was assisted by Bro. T. Billing, P.P.J.G.W., acting S.W.; Bro. H. E. Price, P.P.J.G.W., J.W.; and the following officers, viz.: Bros. Major-General Barnett Ford, P. Dist. G.D. Bengal, Treas.; Dr. A. King, P.P.G.O., S.D.; C. W. Hudson, P.P.J.G.W., J.D.; C. Bampfylde Warre, P.P.S.G.D., D.C.; J. Knight, I.G.; J. P. Slingsby Roberts, Org.; R. Percy Clowes, Stwd.; and H. H. Hughes, Tyler. The members of the lodge who were present also included Bros. Sir W. T. Marriott, O.C., M.P., D.P.G.M., I.P.M.; Lieut.-General C. W. Randolph, P.M.; Gerald Loder, M.P.; Chapman Marshall, Montague S. Pilcher, T. J. Cantrell, H. D. Pilcher, A. Scott, E. Letchworth, P.G.D.; Lennox Browne, P.S.G.W. Essex; P. Sailard, and S. Burrows, P.M., P.J.G.D.; and numerous visitors. After an initiation, the ceremony of which was performed by Bro. E. Letchworth, P.G.D., the following brethren were raised by Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, Grand Secretary, viz.: Bros. Gerald W. E. Loder, M.P., Chapman Marshall, and Alfred Scott. It was proposed by the W.M., seconded by Bro. W. Seymour Burrows, and carried, that a vote of condolence should be sent to the widow and daughter of the late Bro. Crawford J. Pocock, Prov. S.G.W. It was also resolved that a letter, expressive of the sympathy of the lodge, should be written to the brethren of the Yarrowborough Lodge, No. 811, of which Bro. Pocock was W.M. at the time of his death, and the Royal Clarence Lodge, No. 271, of which he was an old and valued P.M. A letter was read from the Prov. G. Secretary announcing that the Deputy Prov. G.M. had been pleased to appoint the W.M. of the lodge, Bro. Richard Clowes, P.P.S.G.W. Essex, to be Prov. S.G.W. in succession to the late Bro. Pocock. A portrait of the late Bro. Gavin Eliot Pocock, P.G.S.B., and Prov. Grand Secretary for many years, was presented to the lodge by Mrs. Pocock, and the W.M. supplemented it with one of the late Bro. Crawford J. Pocock. The portraits were received with pleasure, and special thanks to Mrs. Pocock and the W. Master carried by acclamation. A letter was read from Mrs. Gerard Ford enclosing a cheque for 50 guineas, to include the amount left by her late husband as a donation to endow the chair of the lodge. The legacy, after the duty was deducted, was £45, so she had herself made up the difference, and sent the amount required. It was resolved "That the best thanks of the lodge be given to Mrs. Gerard Ford for her generosity, and that she be informed that the brethren have decided to give the amount to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, and to place it on the list of Bro. Richard Percy Clowes, who had undertaken to represent the lodge at the next Festival." Another letter was received from Mrs. Gerard Ford enclosing for the acceptance of the lodge a copy of the Masonic addresses given in the province by her late husband, with a brief history of his career as a Mason. It was resolved "That the brethren of the lodge are much obliged to Mrs. Gerard Ford for her kind memorial of the late Dep. Prov. Grand Master, of whom the Craft was so justly proud, and whose association with the Earl of Sussex Lodge was of such

an intimate character." The lodge jewel was then presented to Bro. Philbrick, G. Reg., an honorary member of the lodge, in appreciation of services rendered to the lodge and Masonry in general. A ballot was taken for a W.M. for the ensuing year, when the S.W., the Very Rev. E. R. Currie, Dean of Battle, P.M. 1184, Prov. Grand Chaplain, who was absent through ill-health, was unanimously elected. Bro. Major-General Barnett Ford was re-elected Treasurer.

The lodge having been closed, the brethren adjourned to the banqueting room, where they sat down to an elegant banquet, served up in faultless style by Bro. D. Mutton. The W.M., Bro. R. Clowes, Prov. S.G.W., presided, and was supported by the Grand Officers and the Deputy Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Sir W. T. Marriott, O.C., M.P.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured. Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, Grand Secretary, in responding for "The Officers of Grand Lodge, Present and Past," bore testimony to the active interest taken in the Craft by the Earl of Carnarvon and the Earl of Lathom. Those present, and all Sussex Freemasons would, he said, be pleased to hear that on Wednesday next, Bro. the Very Rev. E. R. Currie, Dean of Battle, and Prov. G. Chap., would be appointed Grand Chaplain of England, and that one of the guests of the lodge that evening, Bro. Lord Alfred Churchill, would be installed J.G.W.

The W.M. proposed "The Prov. Grand Master of Sussex, H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught." The Duke, he said, was on his way home, and, on his arrival, would doubtless embrace the earliest possible opportunity of visiting the province, where he would receive that cordial welcome which he so richly deserved. Bro. E. Letchworth, P.G.D., next submitted the toast of "The Deputy Prov. Grand Master, the Right Hon. Sir W. T. Marriott, O.C., M.P., P.G. Steward, and P.M. of the Earl of Sussex Lodge, and the Officers of Provincial Grand Lodge, Present and Past." He said the pleasure he felt in proposing the toast was tinged with regret, for there was one subject uppermost in the minds of all present—the loss the province had recently sustained by the death of their late Senior Grand Warden, Bro. Crawford Pocock. He ventured to think that Bro. Pocock would live long in the memory and affection of the brethren of the province. He offered his congratulations to Bro. Clowes on his appointment as Provincial Senior Grand Warden, and to the brethren of the province in possessing in Bro. Clowes one who had done so much to advance the interests of Freemasonry. No words, he said, were needed in praise of Bro. Marriott, for all knew how ably he carried out the duties of his office.

Bro. Sir W. T. Marriott, in responding, said his Masonic work in the lodge had been lightened by the admirable manner in which the distinguished brethren of the Grand Lodge had come to his assistance; in fact, he had not been tried. If he required further assistance he was sure Bro. Loder, who was two or three years younger than himself, and was loyal to the core, would help him. Concluding a humorous speech, he proposed the next toast, "The Worshipful Master of the Lodge." It was not possible, he said, for the lodge to have a better W.M. than Bro. Clowes, whose heart and soul were in Masonry, and who would prove a worthy successor to Bro. Pocock. He himself deeply lamented the death of Bro. Pocock. Their late brother had done all he could to assist him, and had displayed the genuine principles of Freemasonry. In appointing Bro. Clowes Prov. Senior Grand Warden he (Bro. Marriott) felt he had selected a truly worthy brother to succeed Bro. Pocock. It was a great thing, he said, to know people at home; and it could be truly said of Bro. Clowes that all his brethren in Essex were delighted to come down to Brighton to do him honour. Bro. Philbrick had often told them how much their W.M. had been appreciated in Essex, and Sussex Freemasons now realised their good fortune in having Bro. Clowes amongst them.

Bro. R. Clowes, on rising to respond, was received with enthusiastic applause, again and again renewed. That evening was, he remarked, the last occasion on which he should respond as their W.M., and he thanked them for the hearty manner in which they had received the toast. When he was installed last October he made up his mind to do his best to further the interests of the lodge, and he hoped he had given satisfaction. During his tenure of office five initiates and seven joining members had been introduced to the lodge. He took the opportunity of thanking the Secretary for his assiduity and zeal, and the remaining officers for the great assistance they had given him. He regarded his appointment as Prov. S.G.W. as a great honour, though he deeply felt the loss of Bro. Pocock. He would endeavour to carry out what he knew Bro. Pocock wished to do, and trusted to be able to secure the approbation of the brethren of the province.

The Worshipful Master next proposed "The Initiate," to which Bro. Pilcher responded and "The Visitors," which was briefly acknowledged by Bros. Lord Alfred Churchill and Shurmur.

"The Royal Masonic Benevolent Institutions," given by the Worshipful Master, was responded to by Bro. J. Terry. Bros. Major-General Barnett Ford and H. E. Price acknowledged "The Officers of the Lodge."

The Tyler's toast completed the list. During the evening a choice selection of vocal music was sustained in admirable style by Miss Edith Welling, Miss Minnie Freeman, Miss Edith Hands, Miss Darlington, Miss Maud Bond, and Bro. J. P. Slingsby Roberts, Organist of the lodge; the last named deserving a word of praise for his excellent arrangements. The duties of accompanist were in the safe hands of Bro. W. N. Roe, P.P.G.O.

GRANTHAM.

Doric Lodge (No. 362).—The usual meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 1st inst., additional interest being imparted to the proceedings by the presence of the D.P.G.M., Bro. Jas. Fowler. Present: Bros. Porter, P.M. 1178; Dann, 1405; A. G. Gamble, P.P.S.G.W.; C. Elsmere, P.P.G.C.; E. T. Wigelsworth, P.S.G.D.; J. Scarborough, P.P.J.G.D.; S. G. Gumble, P.P.G.S. of W.; J. C. Basker, P.P.A.G.D. of C.; Capt. Russell, P.P.A.G.D. of C.; H. P. Dickenson, P.P.G.O.; R. Collingwood, P.P.G.S.; B. Beeson, S.W.; R. W. Anderson, J.W.; F. J. Lyne, S.D.; F. W. Robinson, J.D.; R. F. Lee, I.G.; T. Jackson, Tyler; J. R. Bailey, T. A. Palmer, B. K. Morton, W. H. Lincoln, G. A. Buckle, P.M.; Capt. White, T. Vincent, F. C. Southwell, J. Bothamley, S. Sparkes, W. Padgett, W. Fillingham, J. Harmston, J. Seager, and J. Mossop.

The minutes having been read and confirmed, Bro. J. Seager was raised to the Third Degree, the ceremony being

ably performed (in the unavoidable absence of the W.M., Bro. Beaumont) by Bro. A. G. Gamble, P.P.S.G.W.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment to the George Hotel.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured.

Bro. Buckle, in proposing "The Prov. Grand Master, the Deputy Prov. G.M., and the rest of the Prov. G. Officers, Present and Past," congratulated the brethren upon the visit to Doric Lodge of the Deputy Prov. Grand Master, a period of 14 years having elapsed since the lodge was similarly favoured. After a feeling allusion to the prominent part taken by their distinguished visitor a few years back in raising £1000 for the Oliver Memorial Fund, Bro. Buckle concluded an eloquent speech by expressing an earnest hope that the D.P.G.M. might find an opportunity at no distant date, to visit Doric Lodge again.

Bro. Fowler, D.P.G.M., in responding, expressed the pleasure it gave him to be present, and passed a flattering encomium on the manner in which the ceremony had been performed by the W.M. (*pro tunc*) and officers that evening, which, he added, would bear comparison with the working of any lodge in Lincolnshire.

Bro. R. Collingwood, I.P.M., proposed "The W.M.," who, in response, after expressing regret that through business engagements he had been unable to take that active part he could have wished in the conduct of the lodge assured the brethren that during the recess he would repair the omission, and strive to emulate the working of his predecessors.

Bro. B. H. Russell, P.M., proposed "The Charities," and pointed out the great benefits conferred by the Central Charities to which the lodge, by the aid of their Benevolent Association, had been able to afford liberal support.]

Bro. E. T. Wigelsworth, Treasurer, in responding, congratulated the lodge upon its increased voting power, which since the establishment of the Benevolent Association to which Bro. Russell had referred had risen from 54 votes in 1886 to 170 at the present time.

"The Visiting Brethren," proposed by Bro. J. Scarborough, P.M., was responded to by Bro. Porter, P.M., who expressed the pleasure he felt at being present, and impressed upon the brethren, as an old Mason of great experience, how important lodges of instruction were in order to keep up the Doric Lodge to that high pitch of perfection which at present appeared to characterise its working.

Bro. S. Sparkes proposed "The Officers of the Lodge," to which Bros. B. Beeson, S.W., and A. G. Gamble, Sec., suitably responded.

The toasts of "The Past Masters" and "The Youngest Master Mason" were given, being followed by the Tyler's toast.

Bro. H. P. Dickenson, P.P.G.O., presided with his usual ability at the harmonium in the lodge room, and songs were given during the evening by Bros. B. Beeson, Porter, E. T. Wigelsworth, and other brethren.

LEWES.

Pelham Lodge (No. 1303).—The installation of the W.M. of this lodge took place on Friday, the 25th ult., at Freemasons' Hall, in the presence of a numerous and distinguished company of visitors. The ceremony of installation was ably performed by the outgoing Master, Bro. W. Wright, who also gave in a very efficient manner the usual addresses to the officers and brethren. Bro. G. Wilson, who had been chosen as W.M. of the lodge, having been duly installed, appointed the following as his officers for the ensuing year: Bros. W. Wright, I.P.M.; R. Weston, S.W.; A. Fraser Hill, J.W.; T. R. White, Treas.; W. Woolgar, Sec.; A. F. Lamette, S.D.; J. C. Berry, J.D.; S. R. Hunt, I.G.; G. Langridge and F. R. Bruce, Stewards; and H. Hall, Tyler. Bro. W. Webb Turner was unanimously re-appointed Charity Steward. An elegant Past Master's jewel and the hearty thanks of the brethren were accorded Bro. Wright for his services to the lodge during the past year. In acknowledging this mark of appreciation, Bro. Wright presented the lodge with a handsome banner as a memento of his pleasurable connection with the lodge as Master, and the kind fraternal feelings extended towards him during that time. The banner (which was uncovered on presentation) is exceedingly handsome, being of purple silk, richly ornamented with scrolls bearing the name and number of the lodge, and having the "Pelham" arms emblazoned in proper heraldic colours in the centre. It is heavily fringed and corded in gold. The work was much admired. It is needless to add that the hearty thanks of the brethren were unanimously passed to the donor for his gift. A copy of a volume of addresses delivered by the late D.P.G.M., Bro. Gerard Ford, collected and arranged by his widow, was presented to the lodge by Mrs. Ford, and, on the motion of Bro. Wright, W.M., a letter of thanks for the kind gift was ordered to be sent by the Secretary in the name of the W. Master and brethren of the lodge.

The presentation jewel was manufactured by Bro. George Kenning.

At the conclusion of the lodge business, an adjournment was made to the Bear Hotel, where Bro. Whitcomb had provided a sumptuous banquet.

The newly-installed W.M., Bro. G. Wilson, presided, and those present included Bros. R. Clowes, Prov. S.G.W.; V. P. Freeman, P.G.D., Prov. G. Sec.; T. Billing, Prov. J.G.W.; J. C. Lucas, P.M. 311, P.P.S.G.W.; J. Farncombe, P.M. 311, P.P.J.G.W.; W. E. Morrison (Mayor of Eastbourne), P.M. 916, Prov. G. Stwd.; T. R. White (Mayor of Lewes), P.M. 1303; A. J. Howard, W.M. 1110; G. B. Simpson, W.M. 1141; R. Fitzmaurice, W.M. 1465; G. Mitchell, W.M. 1619; J. P. Slingsby Roberts, S.W. 1466; F. Parsons, W.M., and Aleck F. Hill, 271; G. T. W. Murchiston, P.M. 1688; J. C. Buckwell, W.M. 2187; J. W. Broad, W.M., S. Tanner, P.M., G. Holman, P.M., J. H. Every, P.M., J. Kennard, W. Constable, and J. Farncombe, jun., all of 311; Wood, 1364; A. G. I. Hunt, 134; C. A. Sahlstrom, Nordeska Lodge, No. 1, Stockholm; W. Wright, I.P.M., R. H. Ellmen, P.M., W. Webb Turner, P.M., R. Weston, S.W., Woolgar, Sec., A. F. Lamette, S.D., J. C. Berry, J.D., S. R. Hunt, I.G., G. Langridge, F. R. Bruce, A. Cox, W. Lintott, and M. Langridge, all of 1303.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and acknowledged with great heartiness, that of "The Worshipful Master of the Lodge, Bro. G. Wilson," being well received, mention being made of the excellent and praiseworthy manner in which Bro. Wilson had filled the minor offices in the lodge, and of his earnestness in the work of the Craft.

The toast of "The Installing Master, Bro. Wright, also came in for a large share of applause, particularly when allusion was made to the satisfactory position the Pelham Lodge now stood in, mainly owing to the energy and ability characterising Bro. Wright during his year of office.

The proceedings were enlivened by the excellent vocalisation of Misses Minnie and Amy Freeman, Bros. R. C. Wells and J. Farncombe.

Bro. Sahlstrom also contributed to the enjoyment of those present by his pianoforte playing, consisting of some laughable musical sketches and a brilliant fantasia, executed in a masterly manner.

LIVERPOOL.

Antient Briton Lodge (No. 1675).—On Tuesday evening, the 29th ult., Bro. J. R. Bottomley, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C., was, in the presence of a large assembly of members of the lodge and visitors, at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, installed as W.M. for the ensuing year. The W.M. elect was presented for installation by Bros. S. J. Hughes and T. H. W. Walker, and the ceremony of installation was performed by Bro. Dr. J. Kellett Smith, P.P.G. Reg. After being installed, Bro. Bottomley proceeded to invest his officers as follows: Bros. S. J. Hughes, I.P.M.; W. Hawkings, S.W.; R. McGee, J.W.; W. E. Coxon, P.M., Treas.; S. M. Leigh, Sec.; J. H. Peak, S.D.; John Thomas, J.D.; R. R. Ellis, I.G.; T. H. W. Walker, P.P.G.T., D.C.; Jno. Lane, Musical Director; J. K. Cave, Org.; and J. J. G. Little, R. Lloyd, W. Plumb, and W. Cottrell, Stwds.

Subsequently the brethren dined together, when the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and responded to, and a choice musical programme rendered by the musical brethren.

During the evening the W.M. presented the retiring W.M. with a Past Master's jewel.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

Howe and Charnwood Lodge (No. 1007).—The regular meeting of this flourishing lodge was held at the Bull's Head Hotel, on Tuesday, the 29th ult., after the termination of the business of the Charnwood R.A. chapter, the following being present: Bros. T. B. Laxton, W.M.; Silverthorne, S.W.; Raven, J.W.; Rev. J. Bird, Chap.; G. Oliver, P.M., Treas.; Birch, Sec.; Knowles, S.D.; C. F. Oliver, J.D.; Hamerton, D.C.; W. Vial, P.M., Org.; Silver, I.G.; Walker, Tyler; G. C. Oliver, I.P.M.; H. Dean, P.M., P.P. J.G.W.; G. Oliver, P.M., P.P.G.P.; R. L. Gibson, P.M., P.P.G.P.; Chas. Oliver, P.M., P.P.G.S.B.; J. H. Marshall, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C.; Carl Lowenstein, P.M., P.P.A.G.P.; T. F. Corcoran, P.M., P.P.J.G.D.; J. Griggs (Mayor of Loughborough); Anderson, Bromley, Allen, Parr, Tyler, Cooke, Armstrong, and others. Visitors: Bros. W. Kelly, P.P.G.M.; S. S. Partridge, D.P.G.M.; J. T. Thorp, P.P.S.G.W.; J. Young, P.P. S.G.W.; M. J. Walker, P.P.J.G.W.; T. Cox, P.P. S.G.W.; Edgar Horne, and Walker, of Derbyshire; Dr. Hargreaves, P.P.A.G.D.C. West Yorks; W. M. Williams, P.M., and Michie, P.M., of 279; New, W.M. 1130; Lead, P.M. 2081; Bennion, Wand, and others.

The interest of the meeting was very considerably enhanced by the attendance of Bro. the Most Hon. the Marquis of Granby, M.P., who was raised to the Degree of Master Mason. The ceremony was performed in a very able manner by the W.M., Bro. Laxton, assisted by his officers, who one and all were perfect in their several duties. The candidate also had been properly instructed and prepared for the occasion, and, to the gratification of those present, showed his proficiency in the previous Degrees by most satisfactorily answering the usual questions. The lodge already numbers on its roll the names of such worthy and distinguished Masons as Bros. the Right Hon. the Earl Howe, Past Deputy Grand Master of England, and the late Major-General Burnaby, M.P., both of whom in their time filled the W.M.'s chair, and is sincerely to be congratulated on the accession of so worthy a nobleman as Lord Granby, as the fact cannot fail to increase its influence and prestige. That the members are sensible of the position their lodge holds is well shown by the admirable way the business and ceremonies of the lodge are conducted, and the continually increasing additions to its ranks of many worthy and influential brethren. After the ceremony of raising, the D.P.G.M., Bro. Partridge, addressed the lodge upon the subject of Bro. Binckes' Indemnity Fund, very strongly advocating the adoption of the Committee's recommendation, with the gratifying result that the desired sum of £2 10s. was very willingly voted. This being the first occasion that the scheme has been considered in the province, it is trusted the excellent example of the Howe and Charnwood Lodge will speedily be followed by the various other lodges in Leicestershire and Rutland.

Other Masonic business having been disposed of, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment.

MARPLE.

Benevolence Lodge (No. 336).—This ancient and distinguished lodge held its monthly meeting on Saturday, the 3rd inst., at the Jolly Sailor Hotel. There were present Bros. J. E. Radford, W.M.; Ralph Andrew, P.P.G.D.; John Phythian, P.M.; J. Sherwin, P.M.; J. E. Steward, P.P.G.D.; Jos. Boardman, P.M.; W. Hardy, P.M.; J. Crompton, P.M.; W. Caldwell, P.M., D.C.; Jesse Tymms, P.M.; T. E. Mason, P.G. Treas.; W. H. Lazenby, S.W.; W. Tindall, J.W.; T. Schofield, P.M., Chap.; H. Jackson, P.P.G.P.; W. Fielding, J.D.; A. Taylor, Org.; A. J. Heyworth, Asst. Org.; J. Oswaldstone, Tyler; G. Sam Smith, P.M. 1170; S. Arden, J. Hollingworth, and R. J. Farmer.

Apart from Masonic work, the meeting was a very interesting one, inasmuch as this old assembly place has lately changed proprietorship, and on this occasion the brethren had determined to present the retiring hostess, Mrs. Shirley, with something to recognise the great and devoted attention she had always displayed for their comfort during a great many years. It was decided to take the form of a beautifully arranged album, adorned by the signature of every subscribing member of the lodge, accompanied by a photographic group of the members in Masonic clothing.

The lodge was opened by Bro. J. E. Radford, W.M., and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The W.M. then introduced the presentation for the

inspection of all assembled, which evidently gave great pleasure and satisfaction.

At the termination of the business, the lodge was closed. The presentation was afterwards made at the residence of Bro. Shirley by Bro. Radford, W.M., in brief but kindly terms, and was acknowledged with suitable expressions.

This lodge located itself at the Jolly Sailor Hotel early in the year 1843, and this connection has been an unbroken one. It is interesting, and worthy of record, that the proprietorship of the house has, throughout this period of nearly half a century, rested in the same family, and that the most cordial relations have existed between the management and the lodge during the whole of this time. The old lady, whom increase of years and failing health have compelled to relinquish the life of activity in which she was deservedly the most popular of local hostesses, had a pride of a genuine and old-fashioned kind in the lodge which has so long furnished the opportunity for one of her numerous activities. Nothing was ever allowed to interfere with "the Masons' day," and a suggestion that any lodge in the province was in any sense comparable to "hers" would have put the person making it outside her sympathies in a moment. Under such circumstances, it is not surprising that the brethren should desire to place on permanent record their appreciation of the connection and their sense of regret at its termination.

PARKGATE.

Dee Lodge (No. 1576).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 1st inst., at the Union Hotel. The W.M., Bro. Joseph Clarke, presided, and the attendance included Bros. G. D. Richmond, I.P.M.; Hon. H. Holbrook, P.D.G.M. British Columbia; S. W. Ramsden, P.S.G.D. Cheshire; J. Morris, P.M., Treas.; W. Jones, P.M.; T. B. Bowers, 425; and others.

The lodge having been duly opened, and the minutes of the previous meeting confirmed, a ballot was taken for Mr. Chas. Cordery, which proving unanimous, he was initiated into the mysteries of the First Degree by the W.M. Bro. Wm. Mason was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason by the W.M., who performed the ceremony in a most impressive manner. A resolution was carried to change the night of meeting from the Thursday on or before full moon to the Wednesday on or before full moon, it having been found that Thursday was an inconvenient night for many brethren.

In the course of the after-dinner proceedings, the I.P.M. proposed "The Health of the Visitors," and, in doing so, took occasion to relate his experiences at a London lodge about a fortnight previous, and at which he presented himself as an unvouched for brother.

The narration created much amusement, and at the same time occasioned some surprise, the reception he had met with being scarcely that which he had anticipated from representatives of Metropolitan Masonry.

The Tyler's toast closed the proceedings.

SOUTHEND.

Priory Lodge (No. 1000).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 1st inst., at Middleton Hotel. Present: Bros. W. E. Bridgland, P.M. 933, W.M.; G. R. Dawson, P.M., P.P.G.D., as S.W.; B. Thomas, J.W.; Rev. T. W. Herbert, P.P.G.C., Chap.; F. Wood, P.M., P.P.S.G.W., Treas.; A. Lucking, P.M., P.G.P., Sec.; A. Vandervord, S.D.; C. W. Barnard, J.D.; F. J. Cumine, I.G.; E. J. Bowmaker and C. H. Bowmaker, Stwds.; A. W. Martin, Tyler; G. J. Glasscock, P.M. 1817, P.P.G.S.B.; C. Floyd, P.M. 1817, P.P.A.G.P.; R. J. Smith, J. Pritchard, W. Tyler, L. Warren, B. Fearnside, and W. H. Scratton. Visitors: Bros. H. Harper, P.M. and Sec. 160, P.P.G.S.B.; C. Tichiaz, W.M. 917; A. H. Lee, W.M. 1223; W. G. Green, 653 (S.C.); and J. White, 1734.

The minutes were read and confirmed. Bro. G. E. Underwood was unanimously elected a joining member. Bro. B. Fearnside was raised, and Bro. W. H. Scratton was passed. A joining member was proposed.

The lodge was closed until September, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment.

STAFFORD.

Staffordshire Knot Lodge (No. 726).—The anniversary of the above lodge, with installation of W.M. for the ensuing year, took place in the lodge room, Swan Hotel, on Wednesday, the 19th ult. The installation ceremony was very ably performed by the retiring W.M., Bro. E. J. Mousley, in the presence of Bro. Lieut.-Colonel Bindley, Dep. P.G.M., and a large number of members and visiting brethren. The newly-installed W.M., Bro. F. Taylor, appointed and invested his officers as follows: Bros. Edward J. Mousley, Prov. G.S., I.P.M.; Thos. Masters, P.P.G.S., S.W.; Dr. Taylor, Prov. G.O., J.W.; the Rev. A. H. Talbot, M.A., Prov. G.C., Chap.; N. Joyce, Treas.; W. G. Taylor, Sec.; C. John Nevitt, S.D.; George Wormal, J.D.; James T. Marson, D.C.; A. N. Newling, Org.; John E. Evans, I.G.; Thomas Bennett and William Hall, Stewards; and J. J. Tomlinson, P.P. A.G. Tyler, Tyler.

The installation banquet followed.

Among those present, in addition to the D.P.G.M. and the W.M. and his officers, were the following visiting brethren: Bros. the Rev. Dr. Gordon, Doughty, T. Evans, Heape, Kyle, Buttery, Hackett, G. Gee, C. Gee, J. J. Perkins, Gladman, Gribble, Willmore, Wheway, W. E. Allen, Barker, Treas. Staffordshire Masonic Charitable Association; J. Mottram, F. Wooley, J. Wooldridge, W. D. Batkin, and E. J. Mousley.

After dinner, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were honoured.

Bro. Col. Bindley, in responding to the toast of his health, and of the Officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge, proposed by Bro. Joyce, expressed his great satisfaction with the way in which the business of the lodge had been transacted, and of the admirable manner in which the duties of Installing Master had been performed by Bro. Mousley.

In responding to the toast of "The Visitors," Bro. Dr. Gordon so far complimented the lodge as to say that he had not seen better working for 50 years; London could not excel it.

Bros. Dr. Willmore, Evans, and Ryle also responded.

Among the other toasts "The Health of the W.M." was very cordially honoured.

It should be stated that during the course of the anniversary proceedings Bro. W. D. Batkin was presented with a Past Master's jewel, and was highly complimented on his many services to the lodge and the Craft generally.

TWICKENHAM.

Era Lodge (No. 1423).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Albany Hotel on the 12th ult. The lodge having been opened, the minutes were read and confirmed. After the Auditors' report, showing a balance in favour of the lodge, had been adopted, Bro. C. Kingsley Milbourne was raised. Bro. A. E. Carter, the W.M. elect, was presented to the Installing Master, Bro. J. Faulkner, P.M., P.P.S.G.D., to receive the benefit of installation, and, after the usual formalities, was inducted into the chair of K.S. as W.M. of the lodge for the ensuing year. The W.M. having been proclaimed and saluted, appointed and invested his officers as follows: Bros. J. Hart Davies, S.W.; F. Tallack, J.W.; J. Beresford Ryley, M.D., P.M., P.P.S.G.D., Treas.; G. L. Wingate, P.M., Sec.; H. T. Tallack, S.D.; F. W. Tallack, J.D.; J. Kanitz, Org. and I.G.; H. T. Perkins, Steward; H. Saunton, D.C.; and F. G. Mitchell, Tyler. "Hearty good wishes" were expressed to the W.M., and a vote of thanks was accorded to the Installing Master. Other business having been attended to, the lodge was closed.

The brethren then partook of a banquet, when the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and responded to.

Royal Arch.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

Charnwood Chapter (No. 1007).—Tuesday, the 29th ult., will long be remembered as a red-letter day in the history of Freemasonry in Loughborough, as, in addition to the proceedings in connection with the above chapter, of which a brief record is here given, a meeting of the Craft lodge was also held for the purpose of raising the Most Hon. the Marquess of Granby, M.P., particulars of the last-named ceremony appearing elsewhere in these pages.

An exceedingly large gathering of Royal Arch Masons, including a considerable contingent from Leicester, who journeyed down by rail in a saloon carriage, provided by the courteous Midland station-master, Comp. Michie, assembling to do honour to the Principals elect, especially to the popular First Principal designate, Comp. J. H. Marshall, to whose Masonic zeal and abilities the success of this chapter, as well as of other Masonic bodies with which he is connected in the province, is largely due.

Previous to opening the chapter, the companions were entertained at an elegant luncheon, on the invitation of Comp. Marshall, after which the special business of the day was proceeded with, and the Principals duly installed, Comp. Marshall being inducted into the chair of Z., Comp. R. L. Gibson into that of H., and Comp. Carl Lowenstein as J. These very interesting and impressive ceremonies were perfectly rendered by Comp. W. Vial, P.Z., P.P. G.S.N. The other officers were then invested as follows: Comps. Corcoran, S.E.; G. C. Oliver, S.N.; C. J. Wilkinson, P.Z., Treas.; Silverthorne, P.S.; W. M. Williams, 1st A.S.; F. Birch, 2nd A.S.; Amatt, P.Z., D.C.; Vial, P.Z., Org.; and Walker, Janitor. A handsome P.Z.'s jewel was presented to Comp. Charles Oliver on his retirement from the chair, and the presentation duly acknowledged by him. Other routine business followed, after which the chapter was closed.

The gathering was specially honoured by the presence of the G. Supt., Comp. W. Kelly, F.S.A., and amongst the other companions present were Comps. S. S. Partridge, P.G.S.B., Prov. G.H.; H. Deane, P.P.G.J.; J. T. Thorpe, P.P.G.J.; J. Young, P.P.G.J.; T. Worthington, P.P.G.J.; Rev. C. Henton Wood, Prov. G.S.E.; Miles J. Walker, Prov. G.D.C.; Thompson, Prov. G.S.B.; J. Griggs (Mayor of Loughborough); T. Colman, 1130; T. Wright, Head, Michie, Wand, Laxton, and Vaughan, of 279; and many others. Derbyshire was represented by Comps. T. Cox, Edgar Horne, and Walker, and West Yorkshire by Comp. Dr. Hargreaves.

Lodges and Chapters of Instruction.

ROBERT BURNS LODGE (No. 25).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, the 29th ult., at Tupp's Restaurant, 8, Tottenham Court-road, when there were present Bros. Hewett, W.M.; Densham, S.W.; Marx, J.W.; Bonham, P.M., Sec.; Shales, J.D.; Brown, I.G.; Robinson, P.M.; and Blundell, P.M.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Second and Third Degrees, and resumed in the First Degree. The W.M. rehearsed the ceremony of investiture of officers. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Brown as candidate. The S.W., Bro. Densham was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and he appointed the officers in rotation. All Masonic business being ended, the lodge was closed.

MANCHESTER LODGE (No. 179).—A meeting was held on the 3rd inst., at Tupp's Restaurant, 8, Tottenham Court-road, when there were present Bros. Scheu, W.M.; Wilson, S.W.; Marx, J.W.; J. C. Smith, Preceptor; Wood, Sec.; Curzons, S.D.; Mason, J.D.; Griffiths, I.G.; Greenway, Mathews, R. J. Harvey, Shales, J. W. Harvey, and others.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the former meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was then opened in the Second Degree, and the Preceptor worked the 1st Section of the Lecture. Bro. Matthews having offered himself as a candidate for raising, was examined and entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and the ceremony of raising rehearsed. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree, and the S.W. was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed his officers in rotation. All Masonic business being ended, the lodge was closed.

CLARENCE LODGE (No. 263).—The usual weekly meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 24th ult., at Tupp's Restaurant, 8, Tottenham Court-road, when there were present Bros. H. Pritchard, W.M.; G. Imlay, S.W.; H. T. Sykes, J.W.; Kirby, Preceptor; W. Freemantle, Sec.; W. Baker, S.D.; Hastings, J.D.; C. Hurst, I.G.; G. Cook, 820; Nugent, Stallabrass, R. Horne, F. Mason, W. J. Rowe, and others.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree. Bro. Mason having offered himself as a candidate for raising, was entrusted. The lodge was then opened in the Third Degree, when the ceremony was very impressively rehearsed by the W.M. It was proposed and seconded that Bros. Pritchard, P.M., Cook, P.M., and Nugent become members of this lodge of instruction. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Pritchard for his services.

A meeting was also held at the above address on Thursday, the 1st inst., when there were present Bros. Hastings, W.M.; Taylor, S.W.; Baker, J.W.; W. H. Kirby, Preceptor; Freemantle, Sec.; Cubitt, S.D.; Imlay, J.D.; Mason, I.G.; Corp, Corp, jun., Horne, and Stallabrass.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Stallabrass offered himself as a candidate, and the W.M. rehearsed the ceremony of initiation in an able and pleasing manner, Bro. Corp, jun., delivering the charge. The brethren were then called off, and, on resuming duty, a ballot was taken for Bros. H. Pritchard, G. Cook, and H. Nugent, who were unanimously elected as joining members. The W.M. having risen for the first and second times, and a Master having been elected for the ensuing week, it was announced that the ceremony of passing would be rehearsed and an explanation of the tracing board given. The lodge was then closed, and a pleasant and instructive evening brought to a close.

HYDE PARK LODGE (No. 1425).—A meeting was held on Monday, the 5th inst., at the Porchester Hotel, Leinster-place, Cleveland Gardens, Paddington, W. Present: Bros. C. G. Wetzlar, W.M. 141, W.M.; J. C. Conway, S.W.; H. Campbell, J.W.; W. H. Chalfont, P.M. 1425, Asst. Preceptor; H. Dehane, P.M. 1543, Sec.; W. Hillier, S.D.; J. R. Allman, P.M. 1425, J.D.; W. J. Millington, I.G.; O. W. Battley, Steward; W. J. Hakim, I.P.M. 141; E. Rogers, S.W. 60, P.M. 1238, P.G. Stwd. England; E. F. Ferris, P.M. 1543; M. Rosenberg, H. Windeatt, and J. Cruttenden. Visitor: Bro. E. Steinfeld, 141.

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 closed down to the First. After the usual preliminaries, the ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. Steinfeld being candidate, and he was afterwards elected a member, and acknowledged the compliment in suitable terms. Bro. Conway was elected W.M. for the next meeting, and appointed his officers in rotation. An indigent brother was relieved from the funds of the lodge, the amount to be handed to his wife. After "Hearty good wishes," the lodge was closed.

ISLINGTON LODGE (No. 1471).—The usual weekly meeting was held at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, on Tuesday, 6th inst., when there were present Bros. J. Duncan, W.M.; E. H. Moore, S.W.; G. T. Chretien, J.W.; W. Hancock, Preceptor; J. Petch, P.M., Treas.; C. M. Coxon, Sec.; C. G. Gray, S.D.; C. Hiller, J.D.; C. Horst, I.G.; A. Wolter, R. W. Nicole, F. M. Sutter, and R. Loomes.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Wolter being the candidate. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, when Bro. Duncan vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Wolter, who rehearsed a portion of the ceremony of installation, Bro. Hancock, as Installing Master, investing the officers. Bro. Moore was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed his officers in rotation. Nothing further offering, the lodge was closed.

KENSINGTON LODGE (No. 1767).—A meeting was held on Tuesday, the 6th inst., at the Scarsdale Arms Hotel, Edwardes-square, Kensington, W. Present: Bros. G. Swann, W.M.; G. A. Knight, S.W.; W. Hillier, J.W.; R. H. Williams, P.M., P.P.J.G.D. Middlesex, Treas.; F. Craggs, Sec.; W. T. Marsh, S.D.; C. Woods, J.D.; J. H. Morrish, I.G.; H. Wake, C. E. Betts, A. J. Turner, H. G. Danby, J. R. Hubbard, W. Dresden, A. J. Talbot, J. Gilbert, and James Sims, P.M.

The lodge was opened, and the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Hubbard acting as candidate, and Bro. Williams as Preceptor. Bro. Turner gave the charge. Bro. Gilbert offered himself as a candidate for passing, and having answered the usual questions in an exemplary manner, was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the ceremony rehearsed. The lodge was then resumed to the First Degree. Bros. Gilbert and Talbot were elected joining members. Bro. Swann was elected W.M. for the next meeting, and the lodge was closed.

CREATON LODGE (No. 1791).—A meeting was held on Thursday, the 1st inst., at the Wheatsheaf Hotel, Goldhawk-road, Shepherd's Bush, W. Present: Bros. F. W. Woodard, W.M.; W. G. Jennings, S.W.; J. Arnott, J.W.; John Davies, W.M. 169, Preceptor; E. Austin, P.M., Treas.; F. Craggs, Sec. (pro tem); G. E. Higginson, S.D.; A. Love, J.D.; W. Hillier, I.G.; T. Stevens, Stwd.; C. R. Cross, P.M.; H. D. Gilbert, W.M. 1828; L. Cox, Major Ferris, R. Hollins, T. Jobson, C. F. C. Walker, W. J. Tatton, T. J. Head, and H. Cotton.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Cox having offered himself as a candidate for passing, and proving his proficiency, was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the ceremony of passing rehearsed in an excellent manner. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and the 1st Section of the Lecture was worked by the Preceptor, assisted by the brethren. The lodge was closed in the Third and Second Degrees respectively. The 5th Section of the First Lecture was worked by Bro. Higginson, the questions being put by the Preceptor. Bro. Jennings, S.W., was elected W.M. for the next meeting. Bro. R. Hollins was elected a joining member, and the lodge was then closed.

CHISWICK LODGE (No. 1012).—A meeting was held on Saturday, the 3rd inst., at the Windsor Castle Hotel, King-street, Hammersmith. Present: Bros. J. Sims, P.M., W.M.; G. E. Higginson, S.W.; G. Gardner, P.M., J.W.; J. Davies, acting I.P.M.; J. Brown,

Sec., M. Speigel, P.M., S.D.; J. Cox, J.D.; W. Hillier, I.G.; H. Bright, Steward; T. C. Edmunds, P.M.; A. Williams, P.M.; W. S. Whiteley, W. E. Macey, W. W. Williams, R. J. Steel, T. W. Biggs, R. Kerr, F. Craggs, H. F. Williams, D. S. Long, H. W. Dyne, L. Lee, J. W. Woodard, H. Cotton, E. J. Hiscock, and H. P. Gilbert. Visitors: Bros. C. C. Barber, 1585; L. Cox, 1791; J. Arnott, 1828; G. A. Knight, 1585; J. N. Baxter, 904; C. W. Bovis, 811; R. Scovell, 1321; and Larter, 1791.

Just before the lodge was formed, a telegram was received by Bro. J. Sims, P.M., from Bro. E. Ayling, P.M., Preceptor, stating his inability to attend, and asking Bro. J. Sims, P.M., to take his place. The lodge was opened in the First Degree, 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. The Fifteen Sections were then worked by the following brethren respectively: First Lecture: 1st Section, Bro. J. Cox, 1585; 2nd, Bro. W. Hillier, D.C. 1366; 3rd, Bro. A. Williams, P.M. 2090; 4th, Bro. W. W. Williams, J.D. 834; 5th, Bro. G. E. Higginson, I.G. 1791; 6th, Bro. M. Speigel, P.M. 1991; and 7th, Bro. J. Sims, P.M. 834. The lodge was resumed to the Second Degree. Second Lecture: 1st Section, Bro. F. Craggs, S.W. 834; 2nd, Bro. J. Davies, W.M. 169; 3rd, Bro. H. F. Williams, J.W. 834; 4th, Bro. J. Davies, W.M. 169; and 5th, Bro. T. W. Biggs, Steward 1275. The lodge was resumed to the Third Degree. Third Lecture: 1st Section, Bro. A. Williams, P.M. 2090; 2nd, Bro. G. E. Higginson, I.G. 1791; and 3rd, Bro. D. S. Long, S.W. 1275. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree, and on the first rising, Bro. J. N. Baxter, 904, was elected a joining member of this lodge of instruction. On the second rising, a hearty vote of thanks was unanimously passed to the W.M., the officers, and the brethren who had so kindly assisted in working the Sections. Bro. Higginson, the S.W. of the evening, was elected a honorary member. After "Hearty good wishes," the lodge was closed.

WARNER LODGE (No. 2256).—This lodge held its usual weekly meeting at the Railway Bridge Chambers, Hoe-street, Walthamstow, on the 5th inst., when there were present Bros. J. J. Briginshaw, W.M.; Richard Kershaw, S.W.; Dr. Speller, J.W.; Wm. Shurmur, Preceptor; W. Peter Allen, Sec.; H. F. Bromhead, S.D.; W. Cooke, J.D.; Long, I.G.; Blenkinsop, C. Horst, J. Ives, Urban Smith, Geo. Fry, R. Jeremy, C. Wood, Wm. Alcock, and A. Botibol.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Fry being the candidate. The lodge was afterwards opened in the Second and Third Degrees. Bro. C. Wood, W.M. 1742, was unanimously elected a joining member, and Bro. Kershaw was elected the W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed his officers in rotation. Bro. Shurmur proposed that the sum of £2 10s. be subscribed to the Boys' School Pension Indemnity Fund, which was seconded by Bro. Bromhead, and supported by Bros. Kershaw and Allen, and carried unanimously. Bro. Shurmur returned thanks. The lodge was then closed.

LOUGHBOROUGH LODGE.—The usual weekly meeting of this lodge was held at the Gauden Hotel, Clapham-road Station (L.C. and D. Railway), on Monday, the 5th inst., when there were present Bros. J. Lyell, Stwd. 2345, W.M.; Windsor, S.W.; Evans, J.W.; Westley, P.M., W.M. 1381, S.W. 2345, Preceptor; Gilbert, 2345, S.D.; J. Mitchell, 2345, J.D.; Smith, P.M., I.G.; Cochrane, P.M., W.M. 2345; Poole, Woods, Sec. 2345; Elliott, King, Steel, S.W. 172, Treas. 2345; Ellison, Hudson, Morris, 2345; Balcombe, Roberts, Winny, and Harvey.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Langdon personating candidate. The charge was ably delivered by the W.M. The ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Steele personating candidate. Bro. Elliott, 1772, was elected a joining member. The acting Secretary was instructed to write a letter of deep sympathy with Bro. Folkard, J.W. 2345, in his illness, and trusting that he may be speedily restored to health. Bro. Windsor was elected W.M. for the next meeting.

ISRAEL CHAPTER (No. 205).—A meeting of this chapter was held on Monday, the 5th inst., at Tupp's Restaurant, 8, Tottenham Court-road. Present: Comps. J. A. Gartley, M.E.Z.; H. J. Phillips, Preceptor, H.; W. Rooke, J.; W. H. Harvey, Treas.; H. J. Lyon, S.E.; and S. V. Abraham, S.N.

The minutes of the last convocation were confirmed. The ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, Comp. Harvey candidate. Companions are cordially invited; meetings at 8 o'clock.

HORNSEY CHAPTER (No. 890).—A meeting was held on Friday, the 2nd inst., at the Porchester Hotel, Leinster-place, Cleveland Gardens, Paddington, W., when there were present Comps. W. C. Williams, Z. elect 733, M.E.Z.; W. H. Chalfont, J. 975, H.; John Davies, J. 730, J.; J. Davies, 733, Treas.; H. E. Dehane, P.Z. 803, S.E.; G. Gregory, 862, S.N.; J. Cruttenden, 779, P.S.; W. H. Dean, P.Z. 77, P.P.G.R. Dorset, 1st A.S.; J. C. Tilt, 862; W. Hillier, 834; and O. W. Battley, 2206.

The chapter was opened, and the minutes of the last convocation were read and confirmed. The ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, Comp. Tilt being candidate. The officers were elected for the ensuing two weeks by Comp. Williams, M.E.Z., who presented a very convenient stand for the five banners, and received a vote of thanks for the same, to be entered on the minutes. After "Hearty good wishes," the chapter was closed.

STAR CHAPTER (No. 1275).—The usual weekly meeting of this chapter was held on Friday, the 2nd inst., at the Stirling Castle, Church-street, Camberwell. Present: Comps. G. Powell, P.Z., M.E.Z. 1185, M.E.Z.; S. N. Grummant, P.Z. 1275, H.; F. Hilton, P.Z. 1275, S.N. 172, J. and Preceptor; C. H. Stone, S.E.; Osterstock, S.N.; Stone, P.S.; Goodwin, A.S.; G. L. Moore, P.Z. 169; Price, Bannister, Dale, and H. Martin, 1275.

The chapter having been opened, and the minutes read and confirmed, the ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, with Comp. Bannister as candidate. Comp. Grummant, P.Z., was elected M.E.Z. for the next meeting. Comp. F. Hilton

P.Z., Preceptor, announced that on the last Friday in May, before the adjournment for three months, he would rehearse the three installation ceremonies and exaltation ceremony. A letter of condolence was ordered to be sent to Comp. W. Eckersall, 1275, on account of the sad and almost sudden bereavement by loss of his son.

Ancient and Accepted Rite.

KESWICK.

Border Chapter (No. 102).—The quarterly convocation of this chapter was held at the Masonic Room, Keswick Hotel, on Wednesday, the 30th ult. Ill. Bro. Col. F. R. Sewell, 30°, M.W.S., occupied the chair, there being also present E. and P. Bros. G. Dalrymple, 18°, Treas., as P.; J. Hall, 18°, 1st Gen.; J. Paterson, 18°, 2nd Gen.; P. de E. Collin, 18°, I.P.M.W.S., Recorder; S. Broadbent, 18°, as H.; T. Usher, O.G.; Dr. C. Gore Ring, 18°, P.M.W.S., and others.

The chapter was opened in due form, and the roll called and minutes read and confirmed, when subsequently, at the suggestion of the M.W.S., E. and P. Bro. Hall, moved, and E. and P. Bro. Dalrymple seconded the motion, and it was unanimously agreed to—"That the money that had been collected in the chapter be placed upon E. and P. Bro. Collins, Steward's list, to purchase a vote in the R.M.B.I. in the name of the chapter." The Recorder having read several letters of apology for absence, E. and P. Bro. Broadbent was presented with his certificate, and, with other routine business, the chapter was closed.

Knights Templar.

PROVINCIAL PRIORY OF NORTH- UMBERLAND, DURHAM, AND BERWICK-ON-TWEED.

The Provincial Priory of Northumberland, Durham, and Berwick-on-Tweed was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne, on the 28th ult., under the banner of the Royal Kent Preceptory, which was opened by the E.P., Sir Knight W. F. Carmon, assisted by his officers.

Business of the preceptory being over, and the Prov. Prior and his officers being in attendance, they were received under an arch of steel.

The Prov. Prior, Sir Knight Charles James Banister, then ascended the throne and opened the Prov. Priory, assisted by the Prov. Sub-Prior, Sir Knight Henry Maddison, and the Prov. Officers.

The V.E. Prov. Prior was saluted in due form, and thanked the sir knights for their kind reception.

The E. Prov. Sub-Prior was saluted, and returned thanks.

The V.E. Prov. Prior of Staffordshire, Warwickshire, and Leicestershire was also saluted in due form, and thanked the sir knights for their very kind reception.

The minutes of the last Provincial meeting were read and confirmed.

The roll of preceptories was called, and the E. Preceptor of each reported very satisfactory accounts of the working and prosperity of each.

The V.E. Prov. Prior delivered his annual address, and complimented each Preceptor on their report of the condition of their preceptories.

Sir Knight W. F. Carmon was re-elected Treasurer.

The V.E. Prov. Prior then appointed and invested his officers for the year as follows:

Sir Knight H. Maddison	...	Prov. Sub-Prior.
" Rev. Canon Tristram,	...	
" D.D.	...	Prov. Prelate.
" S. Wilson	...	Prov. Chancellor.
" J. M. Barron	...	Prov. Constable.
" T. J. Armstrong	...	Prov. Marshal.
" W. F. Carmon	...	Prov. Treasurer.
" W. Logan	...	Prov. Registrar.
" John Burn	...	Prov. Sub-Marl.
" Rev. T. Randall	...	Prov. Chaplain and Almoner.
" Seymour Bell	...	Prov. Herald.
" W. H. Dodd	...	Prov. Std. Br.
" C. D. Hill Drury	...	Prov. Aide de Camp.
" John Usher	...	Prov. C. of G.
" Payne	...	Prov. S.B.
" H. McDonell	...	Prov. Org.
" Thos. Price	...	Prov. 1st Equerry.
" J. Appleyard	...	Prov. 2nd Equerry.

Business of the priory being over, and before it was closed.

Sir Knight HENRY HOTHAM, P.E. Prov. Sub-Prior, at the unanimous wish of the fratres, said that he had a most pleasing duty to perform, which gave him infinite pleasure in doing, to present, in the name of the knights of the province, to his very old and dear friend, their excellent chief, V.E. Sir Knight Charles James Banister, a tribute of esteem and affection on the celebration of his "golden wedding," an event which did not often occur in this transitory life. It was doubly gratifying to him (Sir Knight Hotham), seeing that it was over 33 years since he had the pleasure of proposing his worthy friend as a candidate in the Royal Kent Preceptory. Since that time he had watched the progress of their worthy brother, and he spoke the sentiments of all present, he was quite sure, that he reigned in the hearts of all under his rule, and he was delighted to see their worthy chief in such excellent health. They had not forgotten his worthy partner, his dear wife, and they were sorry that, in consequence of illness in their family, Mrs. Banister could not be present to receive their unanimous and heartfelt congratulations in conjunction with their dear friend.

The address was then read—

To Charles James Banister, Very Eminent Prov. Prior of Northumberland and Durham, Sovereign Grand Inspector-General 33° of the North Eastern District of England.

We, members of the Grand Cross, Knights Templar, and Rose Croix, of the Province of Northumberland and Durham, have great pleasure in congratulating you on the auspicious occasion of celebrating your "golden wedding," and offer for your acceptance the accompanying gifts in token of our most sincere esteem and regard.

Trusting that you and your beloved partner may, by the blessing of the Great Architect of the Universe, be spared to enjoy many more years of happiness together is the heartfelt desire of your truly fraternal friends of the northern province.

28th Feby., 1890.

Then follow the signatures of the members of the province, nearly 40 active members.

Sir Knight HOTHAM then presented V.E. Sir Knight Banister with three very beautiful solid silver embossed and perforated dessert fruit stands, one centre and two smaller, very handsome works of art, and greatly admired by all present, proving the exquisite taste of the Committee who were deputed to select them.

The brooch for Mrs. Banister's acceptance was in the shape of a crescent and star set with diamonds and pearls, with aigrette to be attached as an ornament in the hair. Also a massive embossed gold pen and pencil case, with the following inscription engraved on it:

Presented to Charles J. Banister by members of his mother Grand Cross, Knights Templar, and Rose Croix of the Royal Kent, Newcastle-on-Tyne, in celebration of his "golden wedding."—28th Feby., 1890.

Sir Knight HOTHAM then, in the name of the brethren, presented these tokens of esteem, which was supported by the E. PRECEPTOR of the Royal Kent Preceptory, and the M.W.S. of the Royal Kent Chapter, Rose Croix.

Very appropriate addresses were made by V.E. Sir Knights CHARLES FENDELOW, Prov. Prior of Staffordshire, Warwickshire, and Leicestershire; Prov. Sub-Prior, HY. MADDISON, 30°; P.P.S. Prior, COL. JAMES MONKS, 30°; and others.

Sir Knight BANISTER, Prov. Prior, thanked his dear friends for their very handsome presents to his dear wife and himself. He said he was sorry that she could not be with them, particularly after Bro. Armstrong's very kind invitation to them both. She was a thorough Mason at heart, and was always pleased to second his endeavours to fulfil his various Masonic duties, and was with them in spirit on that auspicious occasion. They were blessed with their children. One he had pleasure in stating was then M.W.S. of the Prince of Wales Chapter, Rose Croix, Huddersfield. He (Bro. Banister) was delighted to see his old and dear friend, Sir Knight H. Hotham, who had been over 50 years a member of the Royal Kent Encampment and Chapter Rose Croix, looking so well, and he trusted that they might welcome him for many years to be able to come amongst them. He was full of years, but young in spirit—a pattern to all of them. He sincerely thanked all his dear friends. They were always kind and considerate to him in his visits to them in the various Degrees. Might every blessing attend them and theirs through life. He trusted and hoped that he might be spared to come amongst them for a few more years; but when one celebrates his golden wedding it was a proof that he was descending the ladder. Bro. Banister, in concluding, said: May you, my dear friends, receive the same honour and blessings that I have received, and when we are called away from this active Masonic life may we all meet together in a happy eternity.

The Prov. Priory was closed, and the V.E. Prov. Prior and Prov. Officers retired under an arch of steel. The Royal Kent Preceptory was then closed.

The banquet was held in the dining hall, under the presidency of the E. Preceptor, Sir Knight Carmon, having on his right the V.E. Prov. Prior, the V.E. Prov. Prior of Staffordshire, Sir Knights Chas. Fendelow, Col. James Monks, Thos. J. Armstrong, and others, and on his left Sir Knights Hotham, H. Maddison, C. D. Hill Drury, Wm. Logan, and others. Sir Knight Seymour Bell was Vice-President. About 30 sat down.

The loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and responded to with truly Masonic spirit, and a happy and instructive evening was spent, which will be long remembered by all present.



Although we are not so much in love with Mr. Pinero's newest play as with his "Sweet Lavender," "The Magistrate," or many other pieces from his versatile pen, yet anything coming from this clever dramatist is worth seeing, and "The Cabinet Minister" is so full of brilliant dialogue, smart lines, shafts of satire, and overflowing with witty expressions that success seems stamped on the new Court play. Its chief fault, to our mind, is that it is too hybrid a work, that it is lacking in a substantial story, but that no one who is a theatre-goer should think of omitting "The Cabinet Minister" from his or her repertoire of plays to see. Lady Twombly, unknown to her husband, has outrun the constable, and has recourse to a money-lender, to whom she is introduced by his sister, Mrs. Gaylustre, a designing "widow or something" of a peer, who is a fashionable dressmaker, and whose chief ambition is to cut a dash in society. By a letter

having been left about, which she takes up and reads, she becomes acquainted with the needs of the Twombleys, and compels them to introduce her to their friends, and ride with them in their carriage. Mr. Joseph Lebanon, the money-lender, has the aspirations of his sister, and, though snubbed by Lord Drumdurris and all his guests, he is quite happy, knowing he is "in society" (without a large S). He forces Lady Twombly to tell him some official secrets of Sir Julian Twombly, a Secretary of State, but it turns out a case of the bitter bit, for Sir Julian, having been an eavesdropper, substitutes another paper for the one Mr. Lebanon wanted, the price being the return for Lady Twombly's acceptances. These she gets back, the money lender, having walked into a trap, is ruined, and Lady Twombly, by a speculation of a rather shady character, becomes a rich and once more a free woman. Mrs. John Wood for once has a serious part, although she occasionally bursts out in that comical line in which she is unrivalled. Mrs. Wood has a big following of her own, who go to her theatre to see Mrs. Wood, so that whatever the price may be she is sure to draw. In her new line she is very effective, and bears the burden of the play with all her own peculiar humour and pathos. Mr. Arthur Cecil as Sir Julian is not furnished with a part which demands so much talent as is usually the case in characters written for him. Mr. Weedon Grossmith, as Lebanon, made the best money-lender we have ever seen on the stage. Mr. Brandon Thomas is very droll in the part of a Scotch laird. His is one of the best performances in the comedy. Miss Filippi follows the success she made in "The Red Lamp" as the French maid, and as the fashionable dressmaker she is "too" charming in her vulgarity and persistency, as one of the young ladies in the piece would say. There are some others who have minor parts to go through, and from their number become a little bewildering, which necessitates a constant turning to the programme. "The Cabinet Minister" is beautifully mounted, and the dresses worn are sure to prove attractive, for we have three or four ladies on the stage at once who are supposed to have just returned from one of the Queen's Drawing Rooms, and are in their full Court costume. We hear the booking is enormous, and are not surprised, for it is a brilliantly written and clever play, though its sentiment is not so sweet nor interesting as "Sweet Lavender."

* * *

We mentioned in our notice of the Haymarket play that Sir William Marriott, D.P.G.M., Sussex, and Professor Thorold Rogers, present and past M.P.'s, were in Holy Orders. It may be interesting to state that the Rev. the Earl of Mulgrave, who a few days since succeeded to the Marquisate of Normanby, owing to the death of his father, is a member of our Craft, and is also a Royal Arch Mason. There are two other peers in Holy Orders, Earl De la Warr, who succeeded his brother, and Lord Scarsdale, whose heir, the Hon. Mr. Curzon, is a marked young man on the Conservative benches in the House of Commons, and who lately has made a long tour on horseback through Persia. Amongst other clergymen who have sat in the Upper House in recent years have been the late Marquis of Donegal, the Marquis of Waterford, father of the present peer, and Bro. Lord Charles Beresford, P.G.W., Lord Hawke, father of the present peer, the renowned cricketer, Lord Dynevor, Lord Saye and Sele, who was well known as the Venerable the Archdeacon of Hereford, and Lord O'Neill. Viscount Molesworth is the Rector of St. Petroc, Cornwall, and a well-known Mason, but he has not a seat in the House of Lords, being an Irish peer. The new Marquis of Normanby, who is Vicar of Worsley, near Manchester, is an excellent preacher as well as a Mason.

Marriage.

MAKEHAM—PARKINS.—On the 26th ult., by license, at St. Margaret's, Lewisham, by the Rev. G. W. Griffith, Henry William Payne Makeham, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., L.S.A., M.D., of 330, New Cross-road, to Frances Emmeline, only surviving daughter of John W. Parkins, Esq., of Ennerdale, Burnt Ash Hill, Kent.

CHOKING ASTHMA.

HAVE you awakened from a disturbed sleep with all the horrible sensations of an assassin clutching your throat and pressing the life-breath from your tightened chest? Have you noticed the languor and debility that succeed the effort to clear your throat and lungs of this catarrhal matter? What a depressing influence it exerts upon the mind, clouding the memory and filling the head with pains and strange noises! It is a terrible disease. These symptoms warn you to send at once to The Geddes Manufacturing Company, 249, High Holborn, London, who will send you, post free, their illustrated book entitled "ASTHMA: Its Treatment and Cure," by E. Edwin Spencer, M.A., M.D., &c., &c., which treats every phase of Asthma, Bronchitis, and Catarrh. It prescribes a course of treatment which is instant in relieving, permanent in curing, safe, economical, and never failing.

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The regular monthly meeting of the Committee of Management of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution will be held at Freemasons' Hall on Wednesday next, the 14th inst., at the hour of 4 p.m.

Bro. Lord Herschell presided at the annual meeting at Westminster Palace Hotel, on Monday, of the International Arbitration and Peace Association.

The Thrush gun vessel was commissioned by Lieut. Prince George of Wales on Tuesday for service with the North American and West Indies Squadron.

The Duke of Connaught has consented to become Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Gordon Boys' Home in place of the late Field-Marshal Lord Napier of Magdala.

H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge, the Marquis of Salisbury, and Bro. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Bart., M.P., have accepted invitations to dine with the Merchant Taylors' Company on Thursday, the 22nd inst.

The Duchess of Albany has given her patronage to, and consented to be present at, a musical and dramatic *matinée* at the Meistersingers' Club, on the 12th prox., in aid of the Royal Hospital for Women and Children, Waterloo-road.

Mr. H. M. Stanley will be the chief personage at a conversation and reception which will be given at the Guildhall on Tuesday next, the 13th inst., and at which upwards of 100 Members of Parliament have expressed a wish to be present.

At the Morley Hall, Hackney, on Tuesday, Lady Randolph Churchill opened a bazaar with the pleasant name of "Spring Flowers," with the object of raising £1500 for the purchase of larger premises for the East London Home for Blind Children, Lower Clapton.

The 40th birthday of his Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, who was born on the 1st May, 1850, and had the illustrious Duke of Wellington for one of his sponsors, was celebrated with the usual honours at Windsor, on Thursday, the 1st instant.

Bros. the Lord Mayor, Sir H. A. Isaacs, and Alderman Sir J. W. Ellis, Bart., M.P., have joined the Executive Committee of the London Cart-horse Parade Society. Entries must be sent in for the next meeting not later than Saturday, the 17th inst., and the prizes will be distributed by the Baroness Burdett-Coutts.

The Queen will unveil the equestrian statue of the late Prince Consort, in Windsor Great Park, on Monday next, in presence of several members of the Royal Family, and many of the subscribers to the memorial. The military arrangements will be in charge of Major-General Philip Smith, commanding the Home District.

Bro. Lord Mayor Sir H. A. Isaacs presided at a meeting held on Tuesday at the Mansion House, at which Bro. Alderman Sir Polydore de Keyser was presented with a testimonial by the British Committee of the recent Paris Exhibition. The testimonial consisted of an address on vellum in a silver frame, and a handsome silver epergne to Lady de Keyser.

The death of one of the oldest, if not the oldest, Freemason in Scotland, took place at Annan on the 28th ult., in the person of John Jardine, tailor. He joined the Lodge Caledonian, No. 238, in 1821, and has thus been a member for the long period of 69 years. His age at the time of his decease was 90. For many years he held the office of Tyler in the lodge, of which he was a prominent member, up till a year or so ago, when he was laid aside through illness.

Among the congregation present in the Royal Military Chapel on Tuesday at the marriage of Col. Reginald T. Thynne, C.B., Asst. Adj.-Gen. of the Home District, and late of the Grenadier Guards, with Mrs. Ewing, widow of Major Ewing, were Bro. the Earl and Countess of Thynne, Bro. Lord and Lady Claud Hamilton, Bro. Lord Henry and Lady Ulrica Thynne, Bro. Lord and Lady Burton, Bro. Lord Cheylesmore, and Viscountess Wolsey. This is but the third marriage which has been celebrated in the chapel.

CITY OF LONDON TRADESMEN'S CLUB.—A smoking concert will be held on the 22nd inst., at the Rainbow Tavern, Fleet-street, Bro. Sheriff Harris in the chair. The Committee have made considerable progress with their arrangements for the concert, which bids fair to prove very successful, both with regard to the quality of the talent which will be engaged and the music which will be performed. Miss Florence Lowndes, who has recently distinguished herself at the Crystal Palace concerts as a violinist and pianist of no ordinary capacity, has been specially engaged. Her scarcely less talented sister, Miss Beatrice, has also been engaged, and will play the violin and violoncello, and act as accompanist. A quartet selection from "Faust" for violins and pianoforte will be given by Herr Fickentsche and the Misses Lowndes and Rosa Kent. Tickets can only be obtained from members of the club.

The grand reception of Mr. H. M. Stanley by the Royal Geographical Society took place on Monday at the Royal Albert Hall, the vast building being crowded in every part. Mr. Stanley briefly described his recent journey and the country through which it was made, and, on the motion of the Prince of Wales, seconded by the Duke of Edinburgh, a vote of thanks to Mr. Stanley was carried by acclamation. A special medal, it was announced, would be given to Mr. Stanley and his officers. Among the distinguished personages present were the Princess of Wales and her daughters, the Princesses Victoria and Maud, the Duchess of Teck, and Princess Victoria of Teck, the Duke of Cambridge, the Comte de Paris, Prince Christian, several of the foreign Ambassadors and Ministers, Bro. the Earl and Countess Granville, the Baroness Burdett-Coutts, Bro. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Bart., Bro. Lord and Lady George Hamilton, Bro. Sir Edward and Lady Clarke, Bro. Sir Fred and Lady Abel, Bro. Lord and Lady Sherbrooke, Bro. Baron H. de Worms, M.P., Bro. the Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress, Bro. the Duke of Fife, and Bros. Burdett-Coutts, M.P., and Lord Kinnaird. The medal to Mr. Stanley and others were presented by the Prince of Wales,

The Prince and Princess of Wales, Prince Albert Victor and Prince George of Wales, and the suite in attendance, visited the Lyceum Theatre on Tuesday evening.

The dinner which is to be given to Bro. the Marquis of Hartington, on Tuesday next, the 13th instant, will be attended by upwards of 50 peers and 64 members of Parliament.

The Lord Mayor has extended his patronage to the ball to be given at the Hôtel Métropole on Monday, the 23rd prox., in aid of the London Hungarian Association of Benevolence.

The visit of the Queen to Waddesden Manor, the Buckinghamshire seat of Bro. Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild, M.P., is definitely arranged to take place on Wednesday next, the 14th inst.

The Marquis of Hartington will preside at the annual meeting of the Children's Country Holidays Fund (10, Buckingham-street, Strand), which will be held at Devonshire House on Monday afternoon, the 19th inst.

Her Majesty will hold a Drawing Room this (Friday) afternoon at Buckingham Palace, whither in all probability she will have arrived the day previous, and where she will remain till to-morrow (Saturday). Her Majesty will leave for Scotland about the 20th inst.

The Royal Military Exhibition at Chelsea was opened on Wednesday by the Prince of Wales, who was accompanied by the Princess of Wales, Prince Albert Victor, and Princesses Victoria and Maud, there being a large and brilliant gathering of notabilities present.

The annual festival dinner in aid of the Metropolitan Hospital, Kingsland-road, Shoreditch, was held on Tuesday, in the Whitehall Rooms of the Hôtel Métropole, under the presidency of the Earl of Derby, K.G., the amount announced in the way of donations and subscriptions being £1770.

The Baroness Burdett-Coutts will present the prizes to the successful competitors at the annual parade of the London Cart Horse Parade Society in Regent's Park on Whit Monday. The Lord Mayor and Alderman Sir J. W. Ellis, Bart., M.P., have joined the Executive Committee of the Society.

Princess Beatrice opened a very pretty bazaar at the Portman Rooms, on Tuesday, in aid of the Samaritan Free Hospital for Women and Children. Her Royal Highness was received by Bro. Lord Leigh, who explained that the object of the bazaar was to obtain new furniture for the new building in the Marylebone-road.

On Monday, the 28th ult., the brethren of the Haven Lodge were entertained at the Lyric Hall, Ealing, after an emergency meeting, by their Master, Bro. Dr. C. A. Patten. A very enjoyable evening was spent, and the brethren were very enthusiastic when the health of their popular Master was proposed.

The annual supper of the Emulation Lodge of Instruction was held at the Bull's Head, Dartford, on the 29th ult. Bro. C. Hind presided, being supported by Bro. F. Barton in the vice-chair, and a numerous company of brethren. A very good menu was placed before the guests, after which the usual list of toasts was gone through.

A warrant has just been granted for a chapter to be attached to the Covent Garden Lodge, No. 1614, to be called the Covent Garden Chapter. The meetings are to be held at the Criterion, Piccadilly, S.W. The Principals designate are Comps. S. Hewett, Z.; Simeon Jacobs, H.; F. Kedge, J.; and G. Reynolds, Scribe E.

Lady George Hamilton and Lady Magheramorne will open a fancy fair and garden fête on Friday, June 27th, and Saturday, June 28th, respectively, on behalf of the building fund of Hornsey new parish church. The event is arranged, by permission of Mr. H. C. Stephens, M.P., of Aldersgate-street, to take place in the beautiful and extensive grounds of his residence, Avenue House, Finchley.

The new building in course of erection by the Telegraph Office in St. Martin's-le-Grand, to meet the increasing expansion of the Post Office business, was designed by Mr. Henry Tanner, of H.M. Office of Works, and, when completed, will form one of the handsomest buildings in the metropolis. Sixteen months have been already spent in laying the foundations and bringing the walls up to the street level, and three years will be yet required to finish it. The building will then cover an acre of ground.

The *Citizen* says that the Lord Chancellor will re-open the Commission of the Peace of the Borough of Reigate for the purpose of inscribing thereon the name of Bro. John Seex, the present Mayor, who has held the office during the past two years. Bro. Seex is a citizen and liveryman of the Needle-makers' Company. He has twice held the office of Master of The Great City Lodge, and is well-known in connection with public affairs in the Borough of Southwark, and he will be heartily congratulated by a large circle of friends upon this official recognition of his public services.

Mr. J. H. Darnley, who, in collaboration with Mr. Manville Fenn, made so great a hit with "The Balloon" and "The Barrister," and who, more recently, has scored "off his own bat" with a comedy called "Wanted, a Wife," soon to be seen in London, has made another conspicuous success with a three-act farce called "The Solicitor," performed for the first time on Monday at the Court Theatre, Liverpool. The local Press is unanimous in praising the ingenuity and humour of the work, and a Liverpool correspondent says that the laughter engendered by "The Solicitor" reminds him of nothing so much as the cachinnation that used to be aroused by "The Guv'nor." "The Solicitor" has already been secured for the Metropolitan market. The Liverpool cast includes Miss Susie Vaughan, Miss Ruth Rutland, Mr. J. Tresahar, and Mr. E. Girardot.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Rheumatism and Neuralgia.—Though the former disease remorselessly attacks persons of all ages, and the latter ruthlessly selects its victims from the weak and delicate, the persevering use of these remedies will infallibly cure both complaints. After the affected parts have been diligently fomented with hot brine, and the skin thoroughly dried, Holloway's Ointment must be rubbed in firmly and evenly for a few minutes twice a day, and his Pills taken according to the printed directions wrapped round each box of his medicine. Both Ointment and Pills are accompanied by instructions designed for the public at large, and no invalid who attentively reads them can now be at any loss how to doctor himself successfully.—*Advr.*

Bro. J. D. Allcroft will preside this day (Friday) at the annual meeting of the Church Pastoral Aid Society in Exeter Hall.

The child Crown Prince of Germany was, on his ninth birthday, inscribed as a soldier of the first-class in the 1st Company of the 1st Regiment of the Infantry of the Guard.

Bro. Earl Granville will take the chair at the Princes' Hall, Piccadilly, on Monday, at the presentation of the Cobden Club address to Mr. T. B. Potter, M.P., by Mr. Gladstone.

The Earl of Warwick, who is suffering from the effects of a cold, had a fainting fit on Wednesday, which caused much anxiety to his family and medical advisers. His lordship has slightly rallied.

Besides her earnings in solid cash, Madame Patti returns from America loaded with presents, among them a gold crown and earrings in rubies and diamonds, the gifts of President Diaz, of Mexico, and his wife.

The Prince of Wales, accompanied by Prince Albert Victor and Prince George, and attended by Capt. Stephenson, R.N., dined with the officers, present and past, of her Majesty's yachts, on Wednesday evening, at the Hôtel Métropole.

The trustees and council of the Printers' Pension, Alms-house, and Orphan Asylum Corporation have received a further contribution of £386 17s. from the Rev. Francis Jacox, with which to increase the Jacox Pensions—Nos. 2 and 3—to £26 5s. a year.

The stamp exhibition being organised by the London Philatelic Society will be held at the Portman Rooms, opening on Monday, 19th inst., and closing on the following Monday. The Duke of Edinburgh has consented to be present at the opening ceremony.

The Prince and Princess of Wales visited Windsor Castle on Monday in order to pay their respects to the Queen on her return home from the Continent. Their Royal Highnesses having lunched with her Majesty returned to town shortly after 4 p.m.

The Dowager Lady Westbury, being unable to be present at the opening of the Royal Military Exhibition, in consequence of the death of a relation, the purse she collected for the Soldiers' Institute was presented to the Princess of Wales by her daughter-in-law, the Hon. Mrs. Edward Bethell.

At the next evening meeting, to be held at the Whitehall Rooms, on Tuesday next, Colonel John T. Owen, R.A., late Commandant of the Forces in South Australia, will read a paper on "The Military Defence Forces of the Colonies." The Right Hon. Hugh C. E. Childers, M.P., will preside.

Mr. J. Passmore Edwards has decided to give £20,000 to the extension fund now being raised for the erection and endowment of the Bethnal Green Free Library, on condition that the institution should be erected in some central and convenient position, and that it should remain open free to the public.

The death is announced of Mr. James Carlyle, formerly of Scotsburg, the last surviving brother of Thomas Carlyle. He had lately resided with his son at the Farm of Pingle, a few miles from Ecclefechan, in Dumfriesshire, where his famous brother was born. Mr. James Carlyle had a large circle of friends.

In order to make himself personally acquainted with the Institution on whose behalf he is to plead at the forthcoming festival dinner, Lord Lorne visited the Royal Caledonian Asylum on Saturday, and was received by Sir John Heron Maxwell, the Chairman of the Court of Directors, who conducted him over the building. Lord Lorne expressed himself greatly pleased with everything.

An interesting feature of the entertainments given on Wednesday, at the Westminster Town Hall, in aid of the Society for Befriending Young Servants, was the performance of "Cupid's Messenger," with Miss Ellaline Terriss in the rôle of Mary Herbert (made popular by Miss Kate Rorke), Miss Laura Graves (of the Avenue) as Fanny Walsingham, Miss Field Fisher (with song) as Lucette, and Mr. Benjamin Webster as Sir Philip Sidney. Miss Terriss played very prettily, and the *petite comédie* went very well, being favoured with a large and interested audience.

At an unusually large meeting of the Langley Lodge of Mark Master Masons, No. 28, on Wednesday, the 30th ult., at Cardiff, the W.M., Bro. John Sheridan, was presented with a handsomely-framed illuminated memento of his year of office, together with a full list of his officers, the work of one of the brethren. Among those present were the Prov. G.M.M. of Monmouth, Bro. Captain Geo. Homfray, and several distinguished visiting brethren. The lodge afterwards adjourned from labour to refreshment, when some capital songs and recitations were rendered by Bros. Bonnsall, J. H. Taylor, and F. H. Simpson.

Sir William John Clarke, the popular Victorian Baronet, is still distributing money with a lavish hand for charitable and philanthropic purposes in his Colony. He is just bordering upon sixty, and of most vigorous habits. He is one of the richest living Australian squatters, but the vast properties which he owns in Victoria were accumulated by his father. Sir William Clarke has been a member of the Legislative Council of Victoria for many years, and he is also a prominent figure in the Masonic fraternity. He was created a Baronet in 1882, and the crest he adopted—"Signum querens in vellere" ("Seeking the sign in the wool")—is what some people would call particularly appropriate as the motto of an Australian squatter.—*Echo.*

Mr. H. M. Stanley had the honour of being received as the Queen's guest at Windsor Castle on Tuesday evening. Mr. Stanley, on reaching Windsor, was welcomed by the Mayor and Corporation in their robes of state, and on entering the Royal carriage, which had been sent from the Castle, was loudly cheered by the immense crowds that had assembled to greet him. The route taken was by High-street and Park-street to the Long Walk, and thence into the Great Park as far as the memorial statue of the late Prince Consort, and thence to Cumberland Lodge, returning by way of High Standing Hill and Windsor to the Castle, which was reached shortly before 7 o'clock. In the evening Mr. Stanley had the honour of being included in the Royal dinner party, the other guests being the Prime Minister and the Home Secretary. The visitors remained for the night at the Castle.