

THE FREEMASON.

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

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

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

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THE PROVINCE OF NORTH AND EAST YORKSHIRE.

The duties of the Viceroy of Ireland, though they entail a considerable amount of responsibility, are not of so exacting a character as to deny to the nobleman who represents her MAJESTY in Ireland an occasional absence from his post in Dublin. Consequently, when the time came round for the brethren of North and East Yorkshire to hold the annual meeting of this Provincial Grand Lodge, their respected Provincial Grand Master, Bro. the Earl of ZETLAND, was able to be in attendance, and had the satisfaction of presiding at one of the most successful gatherings during the 16 years he has presided over the Province. The various reports showed that during the year then ended the Province had had a most prosperous career. The Albert Victor Lodge, No. 2328, York, had been added to the roll, and the number of lodges in the two Ridings having been thereby raised to 30, the Provincial Grand Master found himself in a position to appoint three additional Provincial Officers. The number of subscribing members was returned at 2118, giving the somewhat high average of 70 members per lodge. A new Masonic Hall at Howden was dedicated by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Bro. the Hon. W. T. ORDE POWLETT, to the purposes of Freemasonry in September last, while the second annual festival in aid of the Educational Fund was held at Hull towards the end of May, under the presidency of Bro. J. W. WOODALL, Past Grand Treasurer, the proceeds, though by no means on so large a scale as at the inaugural celebration, amounting to about £500. Reference was also made to the successful establishment of a Masonic Club at Hull, and last, but not least, to the interesting work recently published by Bro. W. J. HUGHAN, P.G.D., in which is set forth "The History of the Apollo Lodge at York." Such a record as this is not incomparable, but it is the privilege of very few of our Provinces to produce one that will equal it in variety and importance in the brief period of 12 months. The announcement that Bro. Col. SMITH had found it necessary to resign his post of Provincial Charity Representative was received with general regret, and a vote of thanks for his valuable services was heartily accorded to the retiring brother, but an able successor was found in the person of Bro. W. H. COWPER, Past Provincial Grand Registrar, who, when he has mastered the details of his duty, will no doubt be able to continue his predecessor's work efficiently and to the satisfaction of our North and East Yorkshire friends. In short, the "bill of particulars" was as gratifying as it was varied in its character, and Bro. the Earl of ZETLAND must have been delighted to hear that the lodges and brethren under his government were able to render so admirable an account of their proceedings during the past year.

FREEMASONRY IN QUEENSLAND.

Our brethren in the District of Queensland are heartily to be congratulated on the steady business-like fashion in which they perform their appointed duties; on the determination they seem to have adopted, that for the present, at all events, there shall be no disturbance of their relations with the Grand Lodges in the Old Country; and their adoption—for the present in mere outline—of a scheme for creating a Fund of Benevolence, which shall be administered much on the same lines as our own Fund of Benevolence in England. We have before now pointed out that the Queensland lodges—we are speaking principally of those under the English Constitution—are by no means in a hurry to sever the tie which has heretofore bound them to the Grand Lodge of this country. They do not appear to be frightened out of their senses at the very remote and absurd contingency that some other Grand Lodge than ours may some day grant a warrant for constituting a lodge, which, though it would be most irregular, and therefore unrecognisable by them, might nevertheless bring them some trouble. They do not occupy themselves during their spare moments in lamenting, much less

in condemning, the fact that it is their duty to remit certain fees to Grand Lodge, in return for which they have secured to them certain rights and privileges. They do not go about the colony bewailing their inability to act charitably because of these remittances home. The time may come when their ambition may incline them to set up a Grand Lodge of their own, but for the present they are content to remain under the old flag. Therefore, as we seen from the later lists of lodges that have been newly warranted, they are still busily extending themselves under our rules, and as they have funds at their disposal—precisely as the seceding New Zealand lodges had—which will enable them to relieve the necessities of their indigent brethren, their Board of General Purposes brought forward a scheme at the regular Quarterly Communication of their District Grand Lodge on the 4th June last, for establishing a Fund of Benevolence, on the lines we have indicated. The subject was very fully discussed, and it was resolved to vote from their Fund of General Purposes a sum of £500 to serve as a nucleus of such a fund, and to consider what steps shall hereafter be taken for the purpose of maintaining such a fund when once it has been established. Some time must elapse before a complete scheme has been carefully and completely worked out, but it was suggested that the details might be considered at the Quarterly Communication in September, and that, if then approved, they might be confirmed at the December meeting. It was further pointed out that, as the scheme would include a proposal to levy additional quarterages, three or four months more would be required in communicating with the home authorities; but, in spite of this additional delay, it was hoped and believed that before another year had passed the District Grand Lodge would have its Fund of Benevolence firmly set up, and would be able to administer material relief to all such deserving Masons as might be found worthy of receiving it. This is a bright contrast to the conduct of those New Zealand lodges and brethren who, with considerable funds in the shape of balances in hand at their disposal, were unable to find courage to be charitable, and have now converted what they erroneously described as lack of harmony and good feeling among the three original Constitutions into a state of confusion still more confounded. Our Queensland brethren deserve all praise for the efforts they are engaged in making with a view to strengthen and extend the welfare and beneficent influence of the Craft in their colony.

SURRENDER OF WARRANTS.

We have always been strongly of opinion that a late ruling that the law in our Book of Constitutions which provides for the surrender of lodge warrants was not applicable to those cases in which a lodge determines by a majority of votes to secede from the parent jurisdiction and enroll itself a member of some newly-constituted Grand Lodge. In the establishment of the United Grand Lodges of New South Wales and Victoria this ruling cleared the way of many difficulties which might and probably would have arisen, and on this account no doubt the interpretation of the law may be considered fortunate. But the point we have to determine is not whether a judgment as applied to this or that case is fortunate, but whether it is just, and with the utmost deference for the opinion of so learned an authority as Bro. Philbrick, Q.C., our belief is that, in this instance, his judgment is an erroneous one. It must be remembered that this particular law is stated very clearly. It provides absolutely and without any sort or kind of qualification that in the event of the majority of the members of any lodge retiring from it, the minority, provided it consists of three or more members, may retain the warrant, and carry on the duties of the lodge. It is only when the minority is less than three that the warrant must be surrendered to the Grand Lodge which issued it. Here, as we have said, the meaning of the law is clear enough, so that he who runs may read, mark, learn, and understand it. At all events it is clear from

certain correspondence which was read at the Quarterly Communication of the District G. Lodge of Queensland, and is published in the report of its proceedings, that Bro. Philbrick's ruling is not adopted either by the Prov. G.M. of the North Island of New Zealand under the Scotch Constitutions—Bro. the Hon. F. Whitaker—or the District Grand Master of the District Grand Lodge of Auckland under the English Constitutions—Bro. G. S. Graham. The former in a circular issued to the lodges in his province or district after stating that he has been informed that some of them "have resolved in the affirmative by a majority of those present" to transfer their allegiance to the newly-constituted Grand Lodge of New Zealand, goes on to say that it appears to him that "in this course there has been a grave misapprehension." He then lays down the law in the following words: "No lodge, whatever number of members are in favour of it, can transfer the allegiance of the lodge as a body, and by the laws of our Constitution it is prescribed that 'should the majority of any lodge retire from it, the power of carrying on the work remains with the minority.' Should the number of members of a lodge be reduced to less than three, the charter becomes extinct." As regards Bro. G. S. Graham, District Grand Master of Auckland, E.C., Bro. J. P. Clark, District Grand Secretary, acting under instructions from his chief, writes as follows: "In the event of his" (the Deputy Grand Master) "electing to erase or suspend the warrant of any seceding lodge, he intimates that if any members, not less than three in number, and not being connected with the so-called Grand Lodge of New Zealand, are desirous of retaining the lodge warrant and continuing the working of the lodge, he will be prepared to grant such request upon application."

We have only to quote the figures furnished by our correspondent of last week—Bro. John J. Williams, P.M., P.Z.—to show how harshly the ruling of the Grand Registrar will tell against the loyal brethren in New Zealand if it is permitted to pass unchallenged. According to his statement the figures furnished by Bro. Sir H. A. Atkinson, District Grand Master of Wellington, showed that 134 members of lodges voted in favour of establishing the Grand Lodge of New Zealand, and 125 against it, while 363 members "have expressed no opinion whatever, having been absent from the meetings." Again, as regards his own District of Westland, Bro. Williams has told us that only the youngest lodge in it, consisting of some "30 odd members on the roll," would allow the question to be discussed, and that in this case it was resolved at a meeting at which 13 members, or less than one-half, were present, by a majority of seven to six to declare in favour of secession. If these figures are correct and may be taken as pretty accurately representing public Masonic opinion throughout the whole colony of New Zealand, it is clear that only a little more than one-half of the brethren are in favour of having an independent Grand Lodge, and only a little less than one-half of them in favour of remaining as they are. Surely the law never intended that a minority of the members of a lodge should be called upon to surrender all the rights and privileges they enjoy under the English Constitution at the will of a bare majority.

GRAND LODGES IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Bro. L. L. Munn, Grand Secretary of Illinois, in his report for 1889, has favoured that Grand Lodge with a remarkable compilation respecting the various Grand Lodges in the United States of America. The chief table deals with these bodies during 1800, 1840, and each decade since to 1889: some, however, of the Grand Lodges did not respond to Bro. Munn's fraternal request, hence portions of the totals have had to be estimated. The figures are very striking and most suggestive in character. In the year 1800 there were 11 Grand Lodges in the United States of America, with 347 constituent lodges and about 16,000 members. In 1840 the estimate approached double that number, but during the *next decade* an immense advance is registered, no less than 1835 lodges and 66,142 members being noted by those Grand Lodges which made returns. In 1860 the figures are still more startling, having changed to 4406 lodges and 193,763 members. Another great advance is registered for 1870, viz., 7194 lodges and 445,898 brethren. The year 1880 witnessed another considerable increase, the figures being 9308 lodges and 536,867 subscribing members, all the Grand bodies being included. For the last term available (1889) Bro. Munn reports 10,088 lodges, returning 609,463 members. This vast number is based upon most exact reports from the several subordinates, and, as dual membership is not permitted in the United States, the grand total represents precisely the number of subscribing brethren in that great Republic.

The *largest* Grand Lodge is New York, with 74,065 members, followed by Bro. Munn's own organisation (Illinois) with 41,479.

Pennsylvania makes a good *third*, with 39,785, the fourth being Ohio, which has 33,500. Michigan and Massachusetts keep close company, being respectively 30,005 and 29,739, and Mississippi returns 27,000 as the *seventh* in size. Indiana has 23,339 as the *eighth*; Iowa, 21,969 as the *ninth*; and the *tenth* is Texas, with 21,459. The only other with over 20,000 is Maine. There are 11 Grand Lodges whose membership exceeds 10,000, but does not reach 20,000 each, the smallest of the 48 organisations being Arizona, with eight lodges and 417 members.

With regard to the question of the *senior* body, as Bro. Munn leaves that thorny point unsettled, it is not for me to seek to decide that question. The remarks, however, on the matter are very fair and judicious. He says truly that another tablet presents an ably digested and arranged account of the dates of origin of these 48 Grand Lodges, the number of lodges and members at formation, and the parentage of the lodges which were the founders. It appears to me that in this most useful compilation the important difference between a *Provincial* and a *Grand Lodge* organisation has not been observed, but however that may be, I consider the information thus afforded of great and abiding interest.

"Although there is in certain quarters a considerable scepticism regarding these Grand Bodies which claim an organisation before 1760, there would still seem to be evidence strong enough at least to explain the patriotic claims of certain Grand Lodges interested in boasting of their early formation."

The introductory observations by Grand Secretary Munn are in excellent taste, and enable the ordinary reader the better to appreciate the mass of figures thus collected, compiled, and presented.

"While numbers do not always prove strength, and while a small number of live lodges have a greater value than a number indefinitely larger of dormant bodies, still, with so large a field, the significance of numbers is more likely to be underrated than overrated. In certain localities special circumstances extraneous to the merits of an institution may foster its growth unduly, but throughout any great field increase in members justifies the generalisation that with such growth there has been an increase of strength and usefulness in the Institution."

These are wise words and are fully justified, for at no period has the usefulness of the Craft in the United States been so markedly conspicuous as at the present time, which is also the period of its greatest numerical strength. With few exceptions there has been an advance in the number of contributing members in the Grand Lodges of the United States from 1880 to 1889; the few which exhibit a decrease being mainly due to more stringent regulations, which apparently, from a British point of view, were quite stringent enough previously. Some of the Grand Lodges have increased considerably over 100 per cent. in 10 years, but such an enormous average is naturally the result of the rush of population to such States as Colorado, Nebraska, and New Mexico, the whole together not running up to the size of one of the larger Grand Lodges.

Personally, I feel much indebted to Bro. Munn for his well-directed labours, and especially because of the reliable character of the statistics thus so carefully compiled.

W. J. HUGHAN.

ADDRESSED TO WORSHIPFUL MASTERS.

Bro. W.M., you occupy the seat of the wise Solomon, and are *supposed* to have wisdom to open and close your lodge, set the Craft to work, and give them good and wholesome instruction for their labours. By what right do you occupy this exalted position among your brethren? You may say I am here by their free choice, and thus rightfully occupy this exalted station. True, but do you meet their expectation when they conferred upon you the highest honour within their power to bestow? Have you faithfully performed all you promised to do before being invested with the jewel of your office? You think so. Well, that is saying a good deal. There was a long list of interrogatories, fifteen of them, to which you made answer, "I do." Have you read them since, and do you remember what they are? If not, please look up the installation ceremony and read them over carefully. Change them then from the present to the past tense, and see whether you can respond, "I have," to each one of them in place of "I do." If you can stand this test, then read what follows concerning "The various implements of the profession," and see if your conduct in life has been in harmony with their teachings and instructions. Now turn back and read the solemn obligation you took, in connection with your associate officers, the first thing in being installed. Can you say that you have kept that oath?

Bro. W.M., we are not writing in this manner in a distrustful mood. There is no class of men in the world in whom we have greater confidence than those occupying the "Oriental chair." We wish to emphasise the honour and dignity of that position,

and the importance of a proper appreciation of what is due to it on your part. It requires constant study and earnest effort to meet the requirements of it, such as many thus exalted do not seem to appreciate. A W.M. cannot give "good and wholesome instruction" without a thorough knowledge of what is to be taught. Election and installation into office in one sense may qualify, but does not give one the ability to preside. Force of circumstances often elevates a brother to the East, who at the time has but an imperfect knowledge of Masonic law, the ritual, or the duties of a Worshipful Master. Some of these, notwithstanding their installation vows and pledges, never do qualify themselves to preside over a lodge. To this class all we have written is pertinent, and if it stimulates a single one to a more faithful discharge of its important trust, its purpose will be accomplished.—*Masonic Advocate*.

VACATION SEASON.

Freemasonry as a system and as an organisation is peculiar in many respects. It has an attractive individuality by reason of its teaching, its symbols, its ceremonies. And its uniqueness is signified in the expression it makes of itself; its separateness from other organisations is seen in the way and manner it administers its affairs, transacts its business, and in its general order of procedure. In this respect most certainly it stands apart from other fraternal societies, being a law unto itself.

Something of this individuality is made manifest by the rule that generally prevails in regard to lodge meetings—to intermit them during the greater part of the summer season. Other associations are not accustomed to take the vacations which are the rule among Masonic bodies. Some organisations are established upon a basis that makes frequent meetings a necessity all through the year. Their purposes and the character of their beneficial work will not allow of an interregnum even during "Dog Days." The Masonic organisation is not thus established or limited. It can fulfil its mission, do its work, administer its affairs to the satisfaction of all concerned, and yet call its members from labour to refreshment in July and August. No harm comes to the lodge or the Fraternity by this "calling off" during the heated term. The interests of the Craft are not jeopardised, for then is renewed strength and greater zeal made available for the promotion of those interests by reason of the vacation which is taken and enjoyed.

We look approvingly on the closing of Masonic halls in summer. We believe that the vacation helps the lodge as well as the individual members. Our thought is in sympathy with the expression of the *Keystone*, which closes a recent editorial, entitled "Called off from Labour," with the following glowing words: "All hail, then, Refreshment—for the Craft as a Craft, for the brethren as men and fellows, for all creation when it groaneth and travaileth in pain at the birth of summer. Summer was made for rest, and the wise man and Mason obtains all of it that in his wisdom he can. Of course he does not cease to breathe—if he can help it, but he breathes slowly, walks slowly, talks slowly, ever remembering that refreshment, not labour, is the best order of the day. He refreshes now in order that he may properly labour later on. We sleep at night so that we may work in the day. In like manner we should measurably rest in midsummer in order that we may labour profitably all the rest of the year. Nothing is gained, but much may be lost, by labouring equally all the time. Let us then 'call off' with a will, from our ordinary active Masonic duties, from over-effort in all the relations of life, and from racing after the 'almighty dollar,' as it rolls away before us. Give the dollar a rest. Even send some dollars after those which are rolling away, to keep them company. Be not improvident, but remember that life was given us for enjoyment as well as for strenuous effort, and we can best fulfil our duties, and accomplish our business, by calling off occasionally from labour."—*Freemasons' Repository*.

PROVINCIAL GRAND MARK LODGE OF BERKSHIRE AND OXFORDSHIRE.

Bro. Viscount Valentia, who was installed last year at Oxford as Provincial Grand Master of Mark Masons for the Province of Berks and Oxon, in succession to Bro. the Earl of Jersey, presided on Friday, the 18th ult., over the annual Provincial Grand Lodge, held in the Council Chamber, at Abingdon, under the banner of the Abbey Mark Lodge, No. 225, of which Bro. Sidney Payne is W. Master.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was opened by the Provincial Grand Master, who was supported by several officers of the Grand Lodge, including Bros. Margrett, Past Grand Deacon, who acted as Deputy Provincial Grand Master in the absence (through indisposition) of Bro. Charles Stephens; W. C. Gilles, Grand Treas.; Charles Fred. Hogard, P.G. Std. Br.; the Rev. Hayman Cummings, Past Grand Chaplain and Deputy Prov. Grand Master for Kent; T. J. Pulley, Past Prov. Grand Secretary, who officiated as Director of Ceremonies; Stephen Knight, Past Grand Steward; and a large number of past and present Provincial Grand Officers and brethren.

The Provincial Grand Master and the officers of the Grand Mark Lodge of England having been respectively saluted with the accustomed honours, the Pro-

vincial Grand Secretary called over the roll of the lodges in the province, and it appeared that there were representatives present from each of them.

The minutes of the Provincial Grand Mark Lodge, held at Oxford 12 months ago, having been read and confirmed, the PROV. GRAND SECRETARY presented his annual report, observing that it was not quite so satisfactory as he could wish, as they were not making the progress which he thought they should do. The resignations and deaths during the past year had numbered 26.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER said it might be well that he should ask the brethren who were present, and who took an active interest in Mark Masonry, to point out to those belonging to the Craft the advantages they would derive from joining the Mark Degree.

The Report of the Committee of General Purposes was next presented, and the PROV. GRAND SECRETARY explained that the Committee had met that morning, under the presidency of Lord Valentia, and had examined the accounts, and also the minute books of the various lodges, and had found everything in a correct and satisfactory state.

The P.G. TREAS. then presented the financial report for the past year, which was adopted on the motion of Bro. TENCH, seconded by Bro. COSBURN.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER said that he felt sure he should be acting in accordance with the feelings of the whole of the brethren in proposing the re-election of Bro. Tomkins as Provincial Grand Treasurer. They owed a debt of gratitude to Bro. Tomkins for having held the position and discharged the duties of the office with much credit to himself and to the entire satisfaction of the province. They were also much indebted to him for having so kindly and cordially invited the Prov. Grand Lodge to meet him at Stratton House that day, and also for the great interest he had invariably shown in everything calculated to promote the prosperity of Mark Masonry.

Bro. MARGRETT seconded the proposal, observing that he had never met a Mark Mason who had shown greater zeal in behalf of Mark Masonry, or rendered more valuable service in connection with the Mark Degree than Bro. Tomkins.

The resolution having been unanimously adopted,

Bro. TOMKINS thanked the brethren for having once more elected him as Provincial Grand Treasurer.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER then referred in feeling terms to the death of the Earl of Carnarvon, Past Grand Master, and moved a resolution recording the great loss which Mark Masonry had sustained by his lordship's death, and expressing the deep sympathy of the brethren with the Countess of Carnarvon and her family in their sad bereavement.

Bro. MARGRETT said he rose to second the motion with feelings of the deepest regret, and such as must fill the breast of every Mark Mason present. It seemed to him that from the date of his initiation the late Earl of Carnarvon had always been identified with the best characteristics that marked the Masonic Order. The earl's high personal character, his great scholarship, and his other good qualities rendered him particularly well fitted for the exalted positions which he held in Masonry as well as in Mark Masonry. Many of the brethren present would remember with pleasurable feelings the meeting of this Provincial Grand Lodge at Newbury a few years ago, when by Lord Carnarvon's kind invitation they had the privilege of visiting his delightful estate at Highclere. On that occasion Lord Carnarvon gave them a very hearty reception, and personally conducted them over the castle. He felt quite certain none of them could fully realise the great loss Masonry had sustained by Lord Carnarvon's death.

The resolution was then put, and adopted *nem. con.*

Bro. the Rev. W. A. HILL, on behalf of the brethren of the Jersey Lodge, then invited the Provincial Grand Lodge to assemble next year at Maidenhead, and the PROV. GRAND MASTER replied that he accepted the invitation with the greatest possible pleasure.

The PROV. GRAND SECRETARY announced that he had received letters of apology for non-attendance from Bros. the Earl of Euston, Col. Sir Francis Burdett, Bart., C. F. Matier, G. Sec., C. Stephens, Murdoch, M.P., Belton, Shepherd, and others. On the suggestion of Bro. MARGRETT it was resolved to send to Bro. Stephens, Deputy Provincial Grand Master, a telegram of hearty good wishes for his restoration to health.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER said that Bro. Stephens had written to him to the effect that owing to the state of his health he felt scarcely competent to hold the post of Deputy Provincial Grand Master, but he (Lord Valentia) was sure the brethren would be very sorry to see Bro. Stephens resign, and he had therefore re-appointed him as Deputy Provincial Grand Master.

The remaining Provincial Grand Officers for the ensuing 12 months were then appointed and invested by the Prov. Grand Master as follows:

Bro. Sidney Payne	...	...	...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" P. Colville Smith	...	...	...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" J. Tomkins	...	...	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" C. H. Tench	...	...	...	...	Prov. G.M.O.
" W. R. Bowden	...	...	...	...	Prov. S.G.O.
" Rev. H. Lewis	...	...	...	...	Prov. J.G.O.
" Rev. J. M. Guilding	...	...	...	...	Prov. G. Chaps.
" Rev. W. A. Hill	...	...	...	...
" F. Bacon	...	...	...	...	Prov. G.R. of M.
" W. Ravenscroft	...	...	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" C. D. Adkin	...	...	...	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" Corden	...	...	...	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" S. Wheeler	...	...	...	...	Prov. G.I. of W.
" C. Batting	...	...	...	...	Prov. G.D. of C.
" G. W. Whittingham	...	...	...	...	Prov. A.G.D. of C.
" W. Bonny	...	...	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" C. Bathurst	...	...	...	...	Prov. G. Std. Br.
" H. Gilligan	...	...	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" W. C. Long	...	...	...	...	Prov. A.G. Sec.
" Astley	...	...	...	...	Prov. G.I.G.
" C. E. Belcher	...	...	...	...	Prov. G. Stewards.
" G. H. Morland	...	...	...	...
" Hemmings	...	...	...	...	Prov. G. Tylers.
" Norwood	...	...	...	...

The Provincial Grand Lodge was closed shortly afterwards, and on the invitation of the Provincial Grand Treasurer (Bro. Tomkins) the brethren adjourned to his residence, Stratton House, in the pleasant ground of which luncheon had been provided in a *recherché* style beneath a spacious tent, and the repast being over, Bro. Viscount Valentia, who presided, thanked Bro. Tomkins for the great hospitality he had shown to the brethren, and for all the valuable services he had rendered to Masonry.

Bro. TOMKINS having briefly responded, the company proceeded to Abingdon Bridge, and having gone on board a house boat, enjoyed a trip up the river as far as the rustic bridge at Nuneham, where they alighted, and strolled through the grounds.

On returning to the boat a banquet was partaken of under the presidency of Bro. Lord Valentia, and the usual list of Mark Masonic toasts was gone through. The return journey to Abingdon was completed in good time in the evening, when the brethren separated, having spent a very happy day.

The brethren present in addition to those already mentioned in the report included Bros. L. D. Morland, R. Wheeler, Walter Sowdon, C. Longhurst Lovett, P. W. Margetts, James Jenkin, A. H. Simpson, Walter Graham, F. J. Harrold, B. Challenor, J. N. Day, R. Pocock, J. B. King, J. T. Stransom, H. G. Sherwin, E. Jackson, W. Ballard, C. A. Bacon, W. Hedges, W. W. Ridley, and others.

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SATURDAY, AUGUST 23, 1890.

Masonic Notes.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Oxfordshire will be held on Monday, the 20th October, under the presidency of the Provincial Grand Master, the Right Hon. the Earl of Jersey. A full assembly of the brethren is naturally looked for, this being the last opportunity afforded them of meeting his lordship previously to his leaving England on the 25th inst., to assume his new duties as Governor of New South Wales.

The annual Provincial Grand Lodge of West Lancashire has been convened for Wednesday, October 1st, at Preston. [Not Southport, as reported in last week's issue.] Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom, Provincial Grand Master, will preside, and it is expected that business of great importance will be transacted. No fewer than 104 lodges will be represented, the province of West Lancashire being the chief Masonic province in the world, both in the number of lodges and the numerical strength of the members.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom, Provincial Grand Master, has fixed the meeting of the Provincial Grand Mark Lodge of Lancashire for Friday, the 10th October, at Southport.

We learn that Bro. Capt. Nathaniel Philips, P.G.D., 33°, &c., is about to undertake a lengthened tour abroad. He will leave Liverpool by the Etruria on Saturday, the 30th inst., for New York, accompanied by Mrs. Philips, *en route* for Canada, Vancouver, San Francisco, Japan, China, Straits Settlements, Ceylon, Bombay, Egypt, &c., and will probably be absent about seven months. We wish them *bon voyage* and a safe return. Bro. Philips will be missed even for so short a time, especially from the deliberations of the Supreme Council, 33°, but we trust he will return with renewed vigour to continue his valuable services to the Craft.

The new Masonic Hall at Northampton, of which the Earl of Euston is the Provincial Grand Master, is now rapidly approaching completion, and will be one of the most, if not the most, perfect building, for its size in the country. All the rooms are remarkable for their admirable proportion and the beauty of their decorations, but the great feature of the place is the broad oak staircase leading round the entrance hall to the lodge room above. The social aspects of Masonry have been kept well in view, and there are three large reception rooms, while the floor of the lodge room has been specially laid for dancing. Contiguous to the hall is a Masonic club house, already completed and a popular resort.

One or two of the so-called society papers seem to have interested themselves intensely in the fund which is in course of collection for the "Augustus Harris Sheriff's Chain and Badge." It would have been as well, however, if the writers of the various paragraphs we refer to had first made themselves acquainted with fact before they dropped into fiction. So far from the fund having "hung fire," we are sufficiently acquainted with the doings of the Committee to be sure of the contrary. Money has been rolling in almost as quickly as the Secretaries could write receipts, and the next two days will see the closing of the list.

Bro. H. Whympier, C.I.E., author of "The Religion of Freemasonry," continues in the "Madras Masonic Review" for July his able article on "Women and Freemasonry," in which, if he proves nothing else, he has established the fact that women have exhibited a strong interest in the Craft, that many lady writers have dealt with the subject, and that in France, at least, popular feminine so-called Masonry existed in the last century, as shown by numerous published songs descriptive of the excellence of such Degrees.

Bro. Whympier, as we learn, about to visit this country. We can only hope that although the majority of the lodges are in vacation, and many of our brethren of light and leading distributed over earth and water,

there may be some left to do honour to one who has not spared himself in any way when the welfare of the Craft was to be promoted.

Comp. Wm. Vanderhurst, Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of California, presided at the 36th annual convocation held in San Francisco in April last, when 53 out of 64 chapters were represented, the number of subscribing members being 4650. The receipts for the previous 12 months reached \$5259, and the expenditure \$9285, of which however, \$4374 were invested in Stock of the Masonic Hall Association, so that the actual expenditure only amounted to \$4911. The General Fund is returned at being close on \$13,500. Comp. T. H. Caswell remains, as before, Grand Secretary, but the Grand High Priest elected for the current year is Comp. Franklin H. Day.

We shall be much obliged to Bro. E. T. Gillon, who, as Chairman of the Executive Committee for establishing a Grand Lodge of New Zealand, installed Bro. Henry Thompson as M.W.G.M. of the new body, will enlighten us on one of the points he urged as a Mason for starting the Grand Lodge. He is reported to have said in his address to Bro. Thompson that, "until a supreme governing body was established there was a danger of the intrusion of other foreign Constitutions." Does he mean that because the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, and Scotland hold concurrent jurisdiction in sundry of the British colonies and possessions, and exercise their authority not directly, but indirectly through their District or Provincial Grand Lodges. Colonies and possessions are Masonically unoccupied territory, and that any and every Masonic Power has the inherent right to grant warrants of constitution for the establishment of new lodges? If he means this will he state the authority on which he rests his assertion? If he does not mean this, will he explain more clearly than he has done yet what he does mean? We know that some time ago the Grand Chapter of Canada claimed the right to set up chapters, and did set up chapters in the city of Melbourne. We know, also, that our Supreme Grand Chapter protested most vigorously, yet with becoming dignity, against this claim. But the mere claim to exercise a right and the right itself are not yet one and the same thing. Perhaps Bro. Gillon will oblige us with the legal justification for his assertion.

And while we are instituting this very natural enquiry, it may be as well if Bro. Thompson, G. Master of the irregular Grand Lodge of New Zealand, will kindly give his authority for the statement in his speech after he had been installed in office to the effect that it "is now an undisputed fact that . . . not less than three lodges can convene and legally form a Grand Lodge in a territory not occupied by a Grand Lodge." We have often heard this statement made, but we have never been able to ascertain clearly from what recognised code of Masonic law it is obtained.

Bro. Thompson will place us under an additional obligation if he will tell us whether or not New Zealand, up to the moment of his installation, was "territory not occupied by a Grand Lodge?" If it was "not occupied" territory, how came he to be appointed District Grand Master of Canterbury by the M.W. Grand Master of England? If it was occupied territory, how came he and his brother seceders to set up this clandestine Grand Lodge in the territory of our Grand Lodge? and what becomes of his statement made at the Special Communication of the District Grand Lodge of Canterbury, held on the 6th March last, "that no power in New Zealand could dissolve the District Grand Lodge of Canterbury?" Even, according to his own showing, the Grand Lodge of New Zealand is, at the present time, incapable of exercising a supreme authority, and New Zealand with its four Masonic Constitutions exercising concurrent authority within its territorial limits must be just as much open to the intrusion of other foreign Constitutions *now* as it was when there were only the Grand Lodges of England, Scotland, and Ireland exercising such concurrent authority by means of their District or Provincial Grand Lodges.

The fact is, that we are getting a little confused over the matter, and we shall be only too delighted if Bros. Thompson and Gillon, whose legal *dicta* appear to be so authoritatively laid down, and whose legal knowledge, we presume, must be on a level with their legal assurance, will enlighten us somewhat on the various questions we have propounded.

Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for 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.]

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF HANTS AND THE ISLE OF WIGHT.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I must beg to disclaim the interpretation you have put (p. 87, August 16) upon a recent remark made by me at the collation after the Provincial Grand Lodge of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, with reference to the appointment of Deputy Grand Master of England. I have heard no "rumour," and consequently did not "give form and substance" to such.

I had the honour of proposing the health of the Provincial Grand Master, and having in my mind the frequency and ability with which our Provincial Grand Master presides in Grand Lodge, and the high esteem in which he is held by its members, as also his deserved popularity in his own province, I ventured to make a remark which seemed to me a harmless one, but one, from the nature of which it never occurred to me would find its way from the privacy of "refreshment" into public print.

I now regret that I made the observation I did, and I ask you in fairness to myself to insert this letter to obviate any misunderstanding your notice of my words may have occasioned among your readers.—Yours fraternally,

August 19th.

J. N. PALMER.

GRAND ORIENT OF FRANCE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

You have from time to time expressed an opinion that, as the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, and Scotland had established District and Provincial Grand Lodges in this colony, it was most unlikely, and in fact virtually impossible, that foreign Masonic bodies would venture to invade a territory over which the three Grand Lodges held sway. This opinion was most certainly not shared by members of the Craft in New Zealand, as it was recognised that being in the same position as Queensland and Western Australia, where no Grand Lodges exist, this colony was "missionary ground," and, therefore, open to all.

One of the strong arguments made use of by the promoters of a Grand Lodge was that, on the establishment of a united Masonic body with supreme jurisdiction in New Zealand, no foreign Grand Lodge would, without violating time-honoured Masonic custom and courtesy, sanction the establishment of a lodge, or lodges, under its authority. The opponents of a Grand Lodge, consisting principally of brethren who have never done anything for Freemasonry, except to preach what they do not practice, scouted this idea, and, rather than give up their collars, fought tooth and nail against the amalgamation of the three Constitutions.

For the benefit of your readers I reproduce the following paragraph from the *New Zealand Times* of the 1st instant:

"On Sunday evening, at the Masonic Hall, Boulcott-street, Sir Robert Stout, under commission from the Grand Orient of France, formally opened a Masonic lodge under that Constitution. This is the first lodge opened under this jurisdiction in this Colony. There were some twenty-three brethren present, and the ceremony was most impressive. The officers of the new lodge are as follows: W.M., Bro. Sir Robert Stout; S.W., Bro. the Hon. John Balance; J.W., Bro. J. D. Wigglesworth; Orator, Bro. Walter Hill; Secretary, Bro. W. B. Hudson; I.G., Bro. Willis, of Wanganui. A candidate was proposed for initiation, and it was stated that a large accession of members was expected shortly. We understand that the rules of the Grand Orient of France required the lodge to be opened in the month of June, and as Sir Robert Stout only arrived from the South on Sunday morning, and the lodge room was engaged last evening, there was no alternative but for the ceremony to take place on Sunday night."

It is very generally felt that less hesitancy on the part of Bro. the Earl of Onslow to accept the Grand Mastership on a majority of 100 lodges, out of a total of 142 working lodges (and with a certainty of having an absolute majority six months afterwards), would have, without doubt, prevented the opening of a lodge by the Grand Orient of France, and the introduction of a class of Masonry which, although having probably some good points, is not recognised by the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, and Scotland.

It does not say much for the prestige of the English Constitution in this part of the world when one finds that most of the promoters of Lodge L'Amour de la Vérité are English Masons, and one a Deputy District Grand Master.

It will be interesting to note what action the Grand Lodge of England will take in the matter.—I remain, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

CRAFTSMAN.

Wellington, N.Z., July 10th.

Bro. Lieut.-Col. Perry Godfrey, Central London Rangers, having obtained leave of absence, has left London for Austria and Bavaria for the benefit of his health.

Masonic Notes and Queries.

911] K.T.—BROS. HUGHAN AND FINDEL.

My old friend, Bro. J. G. Findel, as we all know, is strongly opposed to all Masonic Degrees additional to the "Third." I am not. His History, notwithstanding, is far superior to all previous works of the kind, and though of late years Brother R. F. Gould's great work has to a great extent superseded it and all other histories of the Craft extant, yet in many respects Bro. Findel has proved both an able and an accurate historian. I do not, any more than my friend, believe in the antiquity of the "Charter of Larmenius," and a perusal of my article on the "Knights Templars" in the *Freemason* for August 2nd, 1890, will abundantly prove that fact. The work by the lamented Bro. Wolfe (or "Woof") was quoted mainly in relation to the convents at London and Liverpool, so as to illustrate the value and importance of the "Manual" of 1830, a copy of which I had only seen quite recently for the first time. My verdict that the phraseology of the spurious document reads more like 18th century style rather than 1324, and a query put to that year, besides describing the "supposed Grand Master," appeared to me sufficient to indicate my views on the subject. I should like to refer Bro. Findel to pp. 107-8 of my "Origin of the English Rite of Freemasonry" (1884), as well as that volume generally, to prove that I am entirely with him in believing that there was but one ceremony in connection with the Craft until the Grand Lodge era (A.D. 1717), and that the "Three Degrees," and all other Masonic Degrees additional, date from that or a later period. The value of these is quite another question.

W. J. HUGHAN.

REPORTS OF LAMM MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

METROPOLITAN MEETINGS.

John Hervey Lodge (No. 1260).—On Wednesday, the 13th inst., the members were summoned to a regular meeting at Freemasons' Hall, but, owing to absence from home on holiday and other explained reasons, the attendance was but sparse. Especially was that so with regard to the officers, the W.M. and J.D. being the only holders of office in their proper places. As there was work in the Second and Third Degrees, the W.M., Bro. F. Dangerfield, was somewhat disconcerted, as there was but one Past Master present, and he (the I.P.M.) took the S.W.'s chair, Bro. Reep, Steward, taking the chair in the south; Bro. Packman, A.D.C., and Bro. Lethbridge, who as yet has not taken office, acted as S.D. and I.G. respectively, and with their united efforts the W.M. was able to proceed. This extraordinary lack of Past Masters and officers gave a gratifying proof that the future good working in the lodge is assured. Bros. Warr, Cameron, and Pitt-Smith were raised to the Third Degree, and Bro. Athelstan Dangerfield passed to that of F.C., and, though the W.M. had no experienced prompter by his side, he delivered the whole of the ritual both accurately and impressively, doing credit thereby to himself and to the teaching of those who have gone before him in office.

The following day—the 14th inst.—the annual summer excursion took place. Just over a score of the brethren left Waterloo in a saloon carriage and detained at Hampton Court, where Bro. Harry Tagg's new steam launch, "Merrie Thames," was in readiness, and on that taut and elegantly fitted craft a pleasant trip was made towards Windsor. A mishap to the steering gear cut the journey shorter than was intended, but the needed repair was effected and the starting point safely regained.

On reaching East Molesey other members joined the party and increased the numbers to close on 30, and after the group had been photographed by Bro. Potter, S.W., in accordance with his custom for several years past, all left the lawn at the Mitre Hotel, Hampton Court, and went up into the banquetting room, where one of Bro. Sadler's *recherché* repasts was served in faultless style.

Under the genial presidency of the W.M., three hours pleasantly and quickly passed, and then, having taken farewell of the good host, who was complimented upon and thanked for his excellent catering, both on the launch and at table, all returned to town by the 9.15 train, the unanimous verdict being that up the river to Hampton Court was a trifle better than down the river to Greenwich.

PROVINCIAL MEETINGS.

BRADFORD.

Acacia Lodge (No. 2321).—A very successful meeting of this young lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, on Thursday, the 14th instant, when representatives of no less than 12 lodges were present. The lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. A. Stephenson, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., who was supported by Bros. J. Ramsden Riley, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., acting I.P.M.; S. A. Auty, P.M., S.W.; Joseph Wilson, P.M., P.G.S.; J.W.; E. P. Peterson, Treas.; J. T. Last, Sec.; T. Wainman Holmes, P.M., P.P.G. Org.; Organist; S. A. Bailey, P.M., D.C.; G. Althorp, P.M., P.P.G.P.; John Haigh, P.M., Chap.; Thos. Jowett, S.D.; John Niven, J.D.; John Thornton, I.G.; John Hill, Tyler; Chas. H. Ellis, Goodman Root, David Milner, and James Banks Fearnley. Visitors: Bros. R. Williamson, P.M. 521, P.P.G.D.; John Dawson, P.M., 521; W. Murphy, W.M. 275; J. W. Balme, P.M.,

Francis Flemming, I.P.M., and Walter Wright, S.W., of 61; Henry Mitchell, P.M., Sec. 387; Pelham Browne, W.M. 1648; Richard Revell, P.M. 1034; Rev. B. Mayon, 974, P.G. Chap.; Geo. Niven, S.W. 750; J. W. Barber, P.M., Sec. 1648; F. C. Robinson, P.M., Treas. 1648; Thos. Woodhead, P.M. 302, 1522; A. W. Sonenthal, 974; S. Whiteley, Org. 974; Rev. Jas. Brown, Chap. 1648; F. P. Carter, J.W. 1648; S. Mortimer, S.W. 603; A. Holmes, 603; C. Booth, I.G. 1648; A. Day, J.D. 1324; Wm. Miles, 1648; F. W. D. Durant, 1648; and others.

The minutes having been read and confirmed, Bro. David Milner was raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M. by the W.M., in his usual excellent manner. The working tools were presented and explained to the candidate by Bro. Wilson, P.M., J.W., and the charge in the Third Degree was delivered by Bro. Bailey, P.M., D.C. A resolution of sympathy, relative to the recent death of Bro. John S. Swithenbank, P.M., one of the founders of the lodge, was moved in appropriate terms by Bro. Althorp, P.M., and passed. Two of the brethren were elected to act with the W.M. and Wardens as a Committee to audit the Treasurer's account prior to the next lodge. Notice of motion was given to present the retiring W.M. with a Past Master's jewel at the October lodge.

The Provincial Grand Chaplain read the 121st Psalm, and, after "Hearty good wishes" from the visitors and brethren the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment, and what with speeches, songs, and recitations, a most enjoyable evening was spent.

CANTERBURY.

Ethelbert Lodge (No. 2099).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Rooms in Beach-street, on the 12th inst. There was an unusually large assembly of brethren, including visitors from Canterbury, Whitstable, Ashford, &c. The W.M., Bro. J. S. White, passed Bro. G. F. Bagley to the Degree of Fellow Craft. The next business was the ceremony of installation, Bro. E. A. C. Larkin succeeding to the important office of Worshipful Master for the ensuing year. The Immediate Past Master, Bro. White, was invested with a Past Master's jewel in consideration of the valuable and substantial services he had rendered to the lodge during his year of office. The new W.M. next proceeded to appoint his officers as follows: Bros. C. Salari, S.W.; C. W. Welby, J.W.; E. C. Fenoulhet, P.M.; J. Barnwell, Sec.; Rev. J. R. Buchanan, Chaplain; H. C. Jones, P.M., D.C.; T. E. Dinot, S.D.; W. T. England, J.D.; Hellyar, I.G.; W. J. Flower and G. Upex, Stwds.; A. Carey, Org.; and R. Griggs, Tyler. The services of the officers resigned were duly acknowledged, particularly those of the ex-Treasurer, Bro. E. T. J. Adams, by whose assiduity the finances of the lodge have been brought to a highly satisfactory condition. The report of the Audit Committee having been passed, the lodge was closed, after which the brethren repaired to the new dining room of the Dolphin Hotel, where a banquet awaited them.

A most enjoyable evening was afterwards spent, in which the loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, and at intervals a programme of music was capitally rendered by Messrs. Byron, Dewhurst, and C. Kenningham, of Canterbury Cathedral choir.

DATCHET.

George Gardner Lodge (No. 2309).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Saturday, the 16th inst., at the Village Hall, when there were present Bros. W. B. Fendick, P.G.S., W.M.; A. Skinner, S.W.; Dr. Stanley Mansfield, S.D.; J. Hannam, J.D.; C. P. Bellerby, Sec.; George Gardner, P.G.S.B., I.P.M.; J. Corp, I.G.; J. Broderick, D.C.; R. Dennis, A. Druce, W. Pritchard, Sourel, G. Kirkham, J. H. Manning, and Ellis, Tyler.

The lodge and brethren were in mourning. The lodge having been opened, the minutes were read and confirmed. Two gentlemen were balloted for, and Bro. Pritchard was passed to the Second Degree, Bro. G. Gardner acting as W.M. The W.M., having arrived, assumed the chair, and Bro. Sonrel was duly raised to the Third Degree. Messrs. Manning and Kirkham were initiated, and a vote of condolence was, on the proposition of the W.M., Bro. Fendick, seconded by Bro. G. Gardner, adopted, and ordered to be placed on the minutes, on the death of the Pro G.M., the Earl of Carnarvon.

All business being ended, the brethren were grouped, and a photograph was taken by Messrs. Elliot and Fry.

The brethren then adjourned to dinner in the hall, after which the usual toasts were given, special attention being given to the Prov. Grand Officers, the lodge having the honour to congratulate its first and second W.M. in having been made Prov. Grand Sword Bearer and Prov. Grand Steward respectively.

Ten guineas was subscribed to the Boys' Festival among the members, which will increase Bro. Geo. Gardner's list, the first of the lodge, which it is hoped will become an annual donor to our great Institutions.

The harmony was, as usual, well sustained by Bro. Louis Lee, Organist, and others.

The lodge held their first summer outing on Saturday, September 6th, a steam-launch being engaged, starting at 11 a.m. from Tagg's Island, returning at dark, when they hope to have a pleasant day.

ELSTREE.

Kingswood Lodge (No. 2278).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on the 14th inst., at the Plough Inn. Present: Bros. John Petch, Prov. G. Std. Br., W.M.; J. G. Cobb, S.W.; C. M. Coxon, J.W.; Wm. Ball, P.M., Sec.; G. T. Chretien, as S.D.; H. T. Nell, P.M., J.D.; E. H. Moore, D.C.; R. W. Nicole, Steward; and others. Visitors: Bros. Scott-Young, P.G. Std. Br. Lancs., and Sidney Napper, W.M. 1471.

Notice having been given, it was proposed that the day of meeting be altered to the second Saturday in the month, and agreed to. A candidate for initiation was proposed and seconded, and the W.M. was congratulated on his appointment as a Prov. Grand Officer. The lodge was then closed.

The brethren afterwards dined under the presidency of the W.M., and the usual toasts were proposed.

Bro. Scott-Young, P.G. Std. Br. Lancs., proposed "The Health of the Prov. Grand Officers," coupling with it the name of the W.M.

Bro. John Petch, P.G. Std. Br., W.M., in reply, said it was the first time he had the privilege of responding to that toast. He was proud of the honour that had been conferred upon him and, through him, on the lodge.

The W.M. proposed "The Health of the Visitors." He said Bro. Scott-Young was a frequent visitor, and they were always delighted to welcome him. Bro. Napper, who was W.M. of a most successful lodge, with which some of the brethren present were intimately connected, was with them for the first time. They hoped he had enjoyed himself, wished him success in his own lodge, and hoped they might see him amongst them again.

Bro. Scott-Young, in reply, said that hospitality was a strong point in the lodge. He had much pleasure in visiting it because of the kind way in which he was always received. Freemasonry was flourishing in the Province of Herts, and he wished the lodge prosperity in the work they had put their hands to.

Bro. S. Napper, W.M. 1471, said he had heard a good deal about the lodge he was now visiting for the first time. He was pleased to hear they were in such a prosperous condition. The energy put into the lodge could not do other than ensure success if they went on as they had commenced.

Replying to the toast of "The Treasurer and Secretary," Bro. W. Ball, P.M., Sec., said he felt very much like Dickens' two single gentlemen rolled into one, only that he was not a single gentleman. He was about to take a long journey, and did not like to say good-bye; he could not say it with a light heart. He should meet with many good and true Masons. Some of them had a good opinion of the Kingswood Lodge; they had visited it during the first year of its existence, and carried away happy recollections of it. He had met them since on the other side of the Atlantic, and they did not fail to make kindly inquiries as to its progress. To meet brethren on the "other side" who had sat at their board and enjoyed their hospitality, and who took a personal interest in their welfare, showed that the Kingswood Lodge was doing something to extend the influence of Freemasonry.

The Worshipful Master next proposed "The Officers," which was replied to by the J.W. and the other officers present.

The Tyler's toast brought a pleasant meeting to a close.

ERITH.

St. John and St. Paul Lodge (No. 615).

—The installation meeting of the above excellent lodge took place at the Schools, Avenue-road, and was well attended. The lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. C. Watkins, and the minutes of the previous meeting being confirmed, Bros. C. S. Heithersay and W. S. Heithersay were passed. Bro. G. H. Letton, S.W. and W.M. elect, was then presented to Bro. Watkins, to receive at his hands the benefits of installation, and, with the usual ceremony, Bro. Letton was placed in the chair of K.S. and saluted. He invested his officers as follows: Bros. George R. Cashfield, S.W.; C. G. S. Godwin, J.W.; George William Mitchell, P.M., P.G.D.C., Treas.; Herbert King, P.M., Sec.; Arthur C. Doddrell, S.D.; William Thos Doddrell, J.D.; Montague Willingale, I.G.; George Dyer, D.C.; W. L. Doddrell, P.M., and W. H. Keeble, Stwds.; and William Larder, Tyler. Bro. Watkins then gave the addresses with rare eloquence and feeling, and so concluded the ceremony. He was presented with a Past Master's jewel and a vote of thanks, for which he returned thanks. Bro. Mitchell then presented the lodge with a new banner, for which he was thanked and was re-elected to represent the lodge on the Provincial Charity Committee, for which he returned thanks, and the lodge was closed.

Among the other brethren present were Bros. J. Aillud, P.M., P.P.G.D.C.; J. Gould, P.M.; G. W. Kendall, and J. H. Loveridge, of the lodge; T. Wills, P.M. 209, P.P.G. Std. Br.; C. C. Potter, P.M. 1343, P.P.G. Std. Br.; C. Hind, W.M. 299; J. H. Roberts, P.M. 700; W. J. Akers, P.M. 13; W. Busbridge, S.W.; C. J. Clapham, I.G.; G. H. Campbell, and W. A. Tucker, of 913; H. Pamment, D.C.; G. H. Porter, Stwd., J. Vallon, and H. J. Roberts, P.M. of 700; and C. Jolly, P.M.

The banquet having been discussed, the usual loyal and Grand Lodge toasts were honoured, then came that of "Earl Amherst, P.G.M. Kent," which we need hardly say was drunk most enthusiastically.

The next toast was that of "Bro. Eastes, the D.P.G.M., and the rest of the Prov. Grand Officers, Present and Past. The W.M., in giving it, said his lordship could not be present, or otherwise he would have graced the board and presided over them with that zeal and assiduity that distinguished him, while in Bro. Eastes, who was also unable to attend, they had a brother to whom they owed a deep debt of gratitude. They were proud to know that among the Grand Officers of the province were gentlemen of high social standing and high Masonic knowledge, and he was proud to say they had a present Prov. Grand Officer with them that night, Bro. Mitchell, who had worthily won, and would worthily wear, the honour of the purple, and who was known as much for his services to the Charities as to Masonry generally. They had also Bros. Aillud, Wills, and Potter with them, and he asked them to drink the toast in bumpers.

Bro. Mitchell, after thanking them heartily for their reception of the toast, said last year his lordship gave him the crimson, and that year the purple. It was, he considered, a great honour to the lodge. He had worked hard to get the lodge a good name in the province, and was proud to say they were now holding their own with any of its lodges. There had been invitations sent out to the Prov. G. Officers, and he fully expected to have seen more present. On behalf of the Present Prov. Grand Officers he thanked them.

Bro. Wills said he was pleased to be present, and was exceedingly pleased to see that the Grand Officers were not forgotten. His lordship was all that a Mason could desire, while so far as Bro. Eastes was concerned he was a "jolly good fellow." The position of Provincial Grand Officer was a bright star that they should all follow, and try, as Bro. Mitchell had, to reach it.

Bro. Aillud also briefly responded.

Bro. Watkins then proposed the toast of "The W.M.," and said he felt sure he had that day installed a Master who would do honour to the lodge and promote its interests. He had always found Bro. Letton a true Mason, who was endowed with the principles of the Craft and a gift of conciliation that would make the lodge a good one, for the grand teaching of Masonry was to have in view the happiness of the brethren. He asked them to drink the toast most cordially.

Bro. Letton, in response, said he felt diffident because he was totally unable to thank them sufficiently for their hearty

reception of the toast. He trusted to have a year of concord, and should do all he could to promote the happiness of the brethren. He had been treated with the greatest courtesy by every member of the lodge. His was an honourable office, and one that every Mason from the moment of his initiation strove for, and if he only emulated those who had already gone through the chair he now occupied he felt that he should have done his duty.

The W.M. having proposed the toast of "The Installing Officer," who, he said, had done the work *par excellence*.

Bro. Watkins, in response, said it did not seem so many years ago since he was initiated a member of that lodge, and now, as it were, he was in his turn placed on the shelf. He had had the good fortune to be able to attend every meeting of the lodge since he received office in it. That day he had installed his successor, and they were pleased to say that he had done it to their satisfaction, and that was his reward, and now he had but one feeling in view, and that was to help the W.M. create a good feeling amongst the brethren and those who visited the lodge.

Bros. Wills, Potter, Roberts, Busbridge, and Jolly responded for "The Visitors," and several other toasts were honoured.

Bro. H. J. Roberts presided at the piano, and the harmony was only equalled by the unbounded hospitality of this ancient and honourable lodge.

FELTHAM.

Lebanon Lodge (No. 1326).—The first meeting since the installation was held at the Railway Hotel, on Saturday, the 16th instant. The W.M., Bro. John Alfred Wilson, was on that morning most unexpectedly called away on most urgent business, but after travelling some 300 miles, arrived just as lodge was closed. In his absence the I.P.M., Bro. C. W. Baker, took the chair, and the business, which consisted of two passings and four raisings, was carried out in a most satisfactory manner by all officers concerned. Several notices of motion were carried, and a proposition that Bro. James Morrison McLeod, P.M. 113, 804, 1661, and P.P.G. Std. Br. Berkshire (newly-elected Secretary for the Boys' School), who had favoured the lodge with a visit, be offered honorary membership of the lodge, which offer our worthy brother kindly accepted. Other business being ended, the lodge was closed. The following officers and brethren were present: Bros. J. Lamsen, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., acting S.W.; S. Wheeler, J.W.; J. W. Baldwin, P.M., P.P.J.G.D., Sec.; F. Dunstan, S.D.; E. Whelan, J.D.; J. Amy, D.C.; W. H. Daye, Org.; A. Robertson, I.G.; D. Moss, Stwd.; J. J. Marsh, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., I.P.M.; P. Lodge, R. Solomon, J. E. Poole, A. Russell, W. Freestone, P. Bick, G. Andrews, G. Roberts, and W. Dachtler. Visitors: Bros. G. Jenkinson, 1319; and Morris Hart, 1816.

On re-assembling the chair was taken by the W.M., Bro. J. A. Wilson, who, although having undertaken such an arduous journey, most ably conducted the business, evincing to all present the great zeal and interest he ever takes in all connected with the Order, giving the usual toasts in a very terse manner.

That of "The Masonic Charities" eliciting from Bro. J. McLeod a most eloquent speech and appeal on behalf of the Boys' Institution, resulting in Bros. C. W. Baker and D. Moss handing in their names as Stewards for the next festival.

"The Health of the Worshipful Master and Visitors" was most cordially accepted.

The usual excellent repast was served, and a pleasant evening spent.

LIVERPOOL.

Duke of Edinburgh Lodge (No. 1182).

A meeting of this lodge was held recently at the Masonic Temple, Hope-street, when Bro. William Rawsthorne was duly installed as W.M. for the ensuing year. The ceremony of installation was very efficiently performed by Bro. Edwards, who retired from the chair after a most successful year of office. The officers of the lodge present included Bros. John Edwards, W.M.; R. Martin, P.M., P.P.G.T.; J. Pittaway, P.M.; T. Davies, P.M.; Joseph H. Tyson, P.M.; John Williams, P.M.; William Rawsthorne, S.W.; Andrew Morris, J.W.; A. D. Hesketh, P.P.G.S.B., Treas.; W. F. Ferguson, Sec.; R. Tunnicliffe, J.D.; David Lothian, I.G.; A. Barclay, P.M., D.C.; H. B. Wright, Org.; John T. Shutt and John H. Mills, Stwds.; and W. H. Ball, Tyler. Among the visitors, who numbered nearly 100, were Bros. W. Goodacre, P.G.S.B., Prov. G.S.; Robert Foote, W.M. 2335, P.P.G.T.; John C. Robinson, P.M. 2294, P.A.G.D.C.; J. R. Jolly, P.M. 113, P.G. Treas.; T. H. W. Walker, W.M. 2316, P.P.G. Treas.; Joseph Sparks, P.M. 1289, P.P.J.G.D. Cheshire; Joseph Bell, P.M. 1609, P.P.G.D.; John W. Baker, P.M. 203; Thomas Vernon, W.M. 2290; Joseph Moynaux, W.M. 1756; D. McFarlane, W.M. 1356; James Bowyer, W.M. 667; Robert Rawlinson, W.M. 1673; E. Collister Jones, W.M. 1325; W. Lewis, W.M. 2042; W. Hogarth, W.M. 1473; John W. Wensley, I.P.M. 292; Harry Round, I.P.M. 1609; Lawrence Phillips, I.P.M. 1356; E. R. Latham, I.P.M. 594; T. Wood, I.P.M. 203; J. Lees, I.P.M. 607; J. B. Barker, P.M. 673; H. Marshall, P.M. 1756; Charles Birch, P.M. 203; G. R. Ashton, P.M. 203; Joseph Shield, P.M. 2335; Alfred Woolrich, P.M. 1356; Harry J. Nicholls, P.M. 2042; and Edward Paul, P.M. 1356.

Having been duly installed in the chair, Bro. Rawsthorne proceeded to invest his officers as follows: Bros. John Edwards, I.P.M.; Andrew Morris, S.W.; W. F. Ferguson, J.W.; A. D. Hesketh, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., Treas.; R. Tunnicliffe, Sec.; D. Lothian, S.D.; J. T. Shutt, J.D.; J. H. Mills, I.G.; A. H. Nicholas, Thomas Holme, and Dr. George Johnston, Stwds.; H. B. Wright, Org.; and A. Barclay, P.M., D.C.

The brethren subsequently sat down to the annual installation banquet, supplied by Bro. James Casey, the House Steward.

The evening's proceedings were pleasantly enlivened by the musical contributions of Bros. J. Lane, W. Lewis, T. Fargher, W. H. Latham, R. A. Parkin, H. Round, Webster Williams, W. Hudson, J. Busfield, and H. J. Nicholls, Bro. H. J. Wright officiating as accompanist.

TORQUAY.

Jordan Lodge (No. 1402).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall on Tuesday, the 12th instant, when a large number of the brethren were present, including Bros. T. H. Wills, W.M.; J. W. McKellar, S.W.; John Taylor, J.W.; J. Dodge, P.M.,

P.P.G.T., Treas.; J. Chapman, P.M., P.P.S.G.D., Sec.; T. J. Crossman, S.D.; S. Wills, J.D.; W. Winget, D.C.; W. Hersey, I.G.; T. Brooks, Org.; George West and J. Risdon, Stwds.; W. J. Huggan, P.G.D. England; J. Lane, P.M., P.P.G. Reg.; F. S. Hex, P.M.; T. W. Morgan, I.P.M.; W. Taylor, P.M., Sec. 328, P.G.D.C.; R. L. Mugford, P.M. 328; H. R. Beer, J.D. 328; W. Thomas, 189; W. H. Rowland, H. R. Beer, E. J. Pratt, J. G. Turle, W. T. Gale, P. Waite, W. Richardson (of Denver, Colorado), and J. E. Newton, Tyler.

The lodge was opened by the W.M., and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. W. T. Gale was raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M. by the W.M., who carried out this highly impressive ceremony in an exceedingly able and eloquent manner. Bro. J. Lane then proceeded to deliver an oration touching the recent sudden death of our highly esteemed brother, Thomas Prust, P.M., who, at the time of his decease, was Chaplain of the lodge. As our distinguished brother continued his address at length the emotions of some of the brethren were with difficulty suppressed. The fine traits in the Masonic career of our late brother since his initiation in the lodge were portrayed in beautiful and eloquent language, and his life and character held up as worthy of imitation by all the brethren. Our genial and indefatigable Secretary and founder of the lodge (Bro. J. Chapman) also contributed a feeling tribute to the memory of the departed. At the wish of the brethren Bro. Lane was requested to print his address, which he has consented to do. Upon the motion of Bro. Lane, seconded by the W.M., a vote of condolence was sent to the widow of our brother. Bro. John Taylor, J.W., was then elected as the W.M. for the ensuing year. Bro. John Dodge, the Treasurer, having intimated his desire to retire from that office, after serving 13 years, it was resolved that the best thanks of the lodge be given him for his efficient services, many of the brethren bearing testimony to the marked ability with which that brother had managed the finances of the lodge. Bro. John Lane was then elected as the Treasurer and representative on the Committee of Petitions, and Bro. J. E. Newton Tyler for the 16th year in succession. A quantity of routine general business then occupied the lodge for some time, and, after "Hearty good wishes" from the visiting brethren, the lodge was closed.

TWICKENHAM.

Strawberry Hill Lodge (No. 946).

A regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Town Hall, on Wednesday, the 13th inst., when there were present Bros. E. Hopwood, P.G.S.B., W.M.; W. H. Rohrs, P.M., acting S.W.; T. Inglis, P.M., P.G. Std. Br., acting J.W.; J. M. Wohlgenuth, P.M., Treas.; W. Beard, P.M., P.G.D.C., Sec.; George Mayor Cooke, P.M.; J. Auton, P.M.; Machin, P.M.; H. E. Gomme, J.D.; Barton, I.G.; Oliver; and Walkley, Tyler. Visitors: Bros. Davies, 201; Edmunds, 1793; Mason, 2241; and Forge, 1793.

The lodge was opened in regular form, and the minutes of the last meeting confirmed. Bro. Davies, 1402, was, by request, raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M. The W.M. in feeling terms referred to the great loss sustained by Masonry in general by the recent death of the Pro Grand Master, Bro. the Earl of Carnarvon, and moved a vote of condolence, which being seconded by Bro. Rohrs, P.M., was unanimously adopted.

Masonic business being ended the lodge was closed, and the brethren retired to banquet at the King's Head Hotel, which was served in Bro. Barton's usually efficient style.

The Worshipful Master briefly gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, which were duly honoured. In giving the toast of "The Past Masters and Officers," the W.M. feelingly alluded to the presence once more amongst them of Bro. Wohlgenuth, their esteemed Treasurer, who, notwithstanding his serious and long illness, had stuck to his post and most efficiently carried out the duties pertaining to his office. He felt sure in according to Bro. Wohlgenuth a right hearty welcome he echoed the sentiments of every brother of the lodge, and sincerely hoped that that was only the first of many meetings they anticipated the pleasure of his attendance.

Bro. Wohlgenuth cordially thanked the W.M. and brethren for the hearty reception. It was indeed a red letter day with him to be able once more to resume his position in the lodge, and he cordially echoed their sentiments that that was only the forerunner of many such gatherings. He, however, must bear testimony to the careful and valuable assistance rendered by their esteemed Secretary, Bro. Beard, without which it would have been almost impossible for him to have carried out his duties.

Bro. Beard also briefly responded.

Bros. Davies, Beard, Inglis, and Barton contributed to the harmony, and altogether a most pleasant and enjoyable evening was spent.

WHITEHAVEN.

Sun, Square, and Compasses Lodge

(No. 119).—An emergency meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, the 12th instant, at the Masonic Hall, College-street. Bro. George Starkey, Worshipful Master, presided, supported by Bros. W. C. Johns, P.M., P.G. Std. Br., as S.W.; Rev. Jas. Anderson, P.P.G. Chap., J.W.; S. Hind, Sec.; J. Thompson, S.D.; H. Meageen, J.D.; B. Cowie, D.C.; D. H. Cook, P.P.G. Organist, Org.; J. P. Bennett and J. Lachlison, Stwds.; Thos Richardson, Tyler; J. Barr, P.M., P.P.S.G.W.; Dr. Harris, I.P.M.; Thos. Allinson, P.M., P.P.G. Purst.; Thos. Studholme, P.M., P.P.G. Purst.; W. R. Moore, P.M.; Geo. Dalrymple, P.M., P.S.G.W.; J. S. Moffat, W.M. 872; J. Taylor, J. Matthews, P.M. 1532; A. Moordaff, 1267; J. Bird, J. Selkirk, and others.

The lodge was opened, and two candidates were balloted for, accepted, and initiated. That being the chief of the business, the emergency lodge was closed with "Hearty good wishes."

Lodges and Chapters of Instruction.

CAMDEN LODGE (No. 704).—The weekly meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 14th inst., at the Masonic Rooms adjoining the White Hart Hotel, 116, High-street, Lewisham, S.E. Bro. James Clark officiated as W.M., and amongst those present were Bros. G. A.

Pickering, S.W.; H. R. Trant, J.W.; James Stevens, P.M. and Preceptor; Walter Robin, Sec.; J. A. Shelton, S.D.; C. Thomas, J.D.; J. Morley, I.G.; A. A. Drew, P.M.; J. T. Axford, P.M.; S. Lancaster, P.M.; H. T. Bonner, Wimbush, Dow, White, and others.

The lodge was efficiently worked in the first and Second Degrees, Bro. Clark rendering the F.C. ceremony in a very able manner, Bro. Lancaster assisting as candidate. The lodge being closed to the First Degree was called off and on, and the 1st Section was worked by the Preceptor. Bro. G. Pickering was elected W.M. for the ensuing meeting, and a cordial vote of thanks was voted to Bro. Clarke for his first presidency in this lodge. The lodge room being spacious, lofty, and well ventilated, is particularly adapted for meetings during the summer months, and on no occasion has the work of Masonic instruction been attended with discomfort to those present. We are asked to mention this, and to add that brethren who may desire to visit will always find work in progress and will be heartily welcomed.

RANELAGH LODGE (No. 834).—A meeting was held on the 15th inst., at the Six Bells Hotel, Queen-street, Hammersmith, when there were present Bros. F. Craggs, W.M.; J. Cummings, S.W.; F. Barth, J.W.; J. Sims, P.M., Preceptor; A. Williams, Treas.; D. S. Long, Sec.; W. Hillier, S.D.; H. Bright, J.D.; J. Snooks, I.G.; L. Bryat, P.M.; D. Stroud, P.M.; H. Wake, J. D. Haylock, H. Tatton, R. Reid, J. Pattison, and J. Hiscock.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed. Bro. A. Williams offering himself as a candidate for passing, was questioned and entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the ceremony rehearsed. The lodge was closed in the Second Degree. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. R. Reid being the candidate. An event of more than ordinary interest occurred this day (Aug. 15). No less than three of the brethren members of this lodge of instruction celebrated the anniversary of their birth, and two of them had seen the same number of rising and sitting suns—Bros. James Sims, P.M. 834, and W. Coplestone, P.M. 834, who were each 55 years of age; while Bro. W. W. Williams, J.D. 834, musters some 41 summers and winters of this sublunary pilgrimage. As may be supposed, a goodly number of the brethren mustered on the occasion, and after work, lodge being closed, the loving-cup was passed round to the tune of "Many Happy Returns of the Day." The indefatigable Bro. F. Craggs giving recitations, and one brother, it was whispered that it was Past Master Cochrane, gave the brethren a specimen of Queen's English done into verse in honour of Bro. James Sims, P.M. 834. As a matter of course hearty congratulations were the order of the hour, and the evening passed pleasantly into the limbo of expired but not forgotten days.

HYDE PARK LODGE (No. 1425).—A meeting was held on Monday, the 18th inst., at the Porchester Hotel, Leinster-place, Cleveland-square, Paddington, W., when there were present Bros. Edmund Coleman, W.M.; W. Hillier, S.W.; H. Campbell, J.W.; W. H. Chalfont, P.M. 1425, Deputy Preceptor, and I.G.; G. Read, P.M. 511, Treas.; H. Dehane, P.M. 1543, Sec.; W. Death, P.M. 511, S.D.; D. W. Battley, J.D.; J. C. Conway, Stwd.; J. R. Allman, P.M. 1425; C. S. Mote, P.M. 1732; R. T. Godfrey, and John Smith.

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. The 1st Section of the Lecture was worked by Bro. Read, assisted by the brethren. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and after the usual preliminaries the ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. Godfrey being candidate. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree, and Bro. Hillier was elected W.M. for the next meeting, and appointed his officers in rotation. After "Hearty good wishes," the lodge was closed.

KENSINGTON LODGE (No. 1767).—A meeting was held on Tuesday, the 19th inst., at the Scarsdale Arms Hotel, Edwardes-square, Kensington, W. Present: Bros. R. H. Williams, P.M., &c., W.M.; G. A. Knight, S.W.; W. G. Danby, J.W.; W. C. Williams, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br. Middlesex, Preceptor (*pro tem.*); F. Craggs, Sec.; W. Hillier, S.D.; J. H. Morrish, J.D.; J. Spraggs, I.G.; H. Wake, J. R. Hubbard, C. E. Betts, S. Sidders, P. J. Davies, J. H. Neville, E. E. Geflowski, T. W. Heath, and W. Dresden.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Neville acting as candidate. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree. Bro. Betts offered himself as a candidate for raising, and having given the necessary proofs, was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and the ceremony was rehearsed in a very impressive manner. The W.M. also gave the traditional history in perfection. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree. Bro. Knight was elected W.M. for the next meeting, and the lodge was closed.

CREATON LODGE (No. 1791).—A meeting was held on Thursday, the 14th inst. at the Wheatsheaf Hotel, Goldhawk-road, Shepherd's Bush, W. Present: Bros. G. E. Higginson, W.M.; F. Woodard, S.W.; A. Love, J.W.; W. H. Chalfont, P.M., Sec.; Redfern Hollings, S.D.; W. Hellier, J.D.; F. Craggs, I.G.; Cubitt, P.M.; Gilbert, W.M. 1828; Tatton, Cox, Stonnill, Cotton, and Stead.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Tatton being candidate. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree. The 1st Section of the Lecture was worked by the W.M., assisted by the brethren. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree. The lodge was closed in the Third and Second Degrees. The 1st Section of the First Lecture was worked by the W.M., assisted by the brethren. The lodge was then closed.

ST. AMBROSE LODGE (No. 1891).—A meeting was held on Wednesday, the 13th inst., at the Baron's Court Hotel, West Kensington, when there were present Bros. C. C. Barber, W.M.; F. Craggs, S.W.; J. N. Baxter, J.W.; Jesse Collings, P.M., Preceptor; J. H. Morrish, S.D.; Joseph Cox, J.D.; Humphrey Bright, I.G.; W. G. Danby, and W. E. Macey.

The lodge was opened with the usual formalities. Bro. Macey offered himself as a candidate for passing, and

having given the necessary proofs, was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the ceremony rehearsed in a creditable manner. Bro. Preceptor gave the Lecture on the tracing-board. The 1st and 2nd Sections were worked by Bro. Preceptor, assisted by the brethren. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree, and the 1st Section of the Lecture was worked by Bro. Cox under the direction of Bro. Collings. Bro. Craggs was elected W.M. for the next meeting. The lodge was then closed.

CHISWICK LODGE (No. 2012).—A meeting was held on Saturday, the 16th inst., at the Windsor Castle Hotel, Hammersmith, W. Present: Bros. Baxter, W.M.; Bright, S.W.; Whiteley, J.W.; Ayling, P.M., Preceptor; Sims, P.M., Dep. Preceptor; Willcox, Sec.; Craggs, S.D.; Hillier, J.D.; Cox, I.G.; Biggs, Stwd.; A. Williams, P.M.; Stroud, P.M.; Cummings, P.M.; Harbord, and Hiscox.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The W.M. rehearsed the ceremony of initiation, Bro. Cummings candidate. The W.M. rehearsed the ceremony of raising, Bro. Harbord candidate. Bro. Bright was elected W.M. for the next meeting, and the lodge was closed.

WARNER LODGE (No. 2192).—The usual weekly meeting of this excellent and authoritative lodge was held on Monday evening, the 18th inst., at Bridge Chambers, Hoe-street, Walthamstow, when there were present Bros. James Pinder, P.M., P.Z., W.M.; T. Scoresby-Jackson, Prov. S.G.D., S.W.; Chas. Bestow, J.W.; William Shurmur, Prov. G. Treas., Preceptor; W. P. Allen, Sec.; G. W. Knight, P.M., P.Z., S.D.; John Ives, P.M., J.D.; Urban Smith, I.G.; Wm. Blenkinsop, Hon. Stwd.; P. D. Parsons, W. W. Cook, E. Gray, N. Fortescue, Richard Kershaw, Geo. Long, J. J. Briginshaw, W. Alcock, R. Jeremy, Joseph Wilson, P.M.; H. H. Browne, J. Speller, and others.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been confirmed, after the usual preliminaries, the ceremonies of raising and installation were rehearsed in a manner that commanded the earnest attention of all present. Bro. T. S. Jackson was elected W.M. for the ensuing meeting, and appointed his officers in rotation. The Preceptor then proposed that a very hearty and cordial vote of thanks be inscribed on the minutes to Bro. Pinder, P.M., for the highly impressive and perfect manner in which he had rendered the ceremonies of raising and installation. This was carried with acclamation, and Bro. Pinder responded in most felicitous terms. Thus terminated a very pleasant and instructive meeting, and after "Hearty good wishes" the lodge was closed.

WEST MALLING.—MALLING ABBEY LODGE (No. 1063).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, the 18th inst., at the Bear Hotel, when there were present Bros. D. Lyle, W.M.; E. Weller, S.W.; W. M. Apps, J.W.; H. F. M. Pope, S.D.; T. Kennett, J.D.; 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 and Third Degrees, and the Wardens' and Deacons' work rehearsed. Bro. R. B. Stedman, P.M., Treasurer, owing to ill-health, resigns his office, which has been accepted by Bro. S. Wagon, P.M. Bro. D. Lyle was elected W.M. for the ensuing month, and after the usual number of risings, the lodge was closed.

ST. ANDREW CHAPTER (No. 834).—A meeting of this chapter was held on Wednesday, the 13th inst., at the Windsor Castle Hotel, King-street, Hammersmith, when there was a goodly muster of companions present, under the guidance of Comp. James Sims, M.E.Z. The ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, and the meeting was adjourned until Wednesday the 27th inst.

HORNSEY CHAPTER (No. 890).—A convocation was held on the 15th inst., at the Porchester Hotel, Leinster-place, Cleveland-square, Paddington, W., when there were present Comps. W. C. Williams, Z. 733, M.E.Z.; John Cruttenden, 779, H.; W. H. Chalfont, J. 775, J.; H. Dehane, P.Z. 890, S.E.; W. E. Jameson, 176, S.N.; G. Swann, P.S. 733, P.S.; C. E. Betts, 733; C. G. Hatt, 733.

The chapter was declared opened. The minutes of the last convocation were read and confirmed. The ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, Comp. Hatt being candidate. The M.E.Z. rose the usual number of times, and after "Hearty good wishes" had been accorded, the chapter was closed.

Ireland

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

ENNISKILLEN.

Tyrone and Fermanagh Preceptory (No. 332).—The regular quarterly meeting was held at the encampment in the Town Hall, on Wednesday, the 14th inst. Two Royal Arch companions having been ballotted for, and the usual routine business transacted, the encampment was closed.

The sir knights present included W. F. Jones, C.P.S., Preceptor; Colonel Irvine, J.P., P.P.; Wm. Teele, J.P.; O. Ternan, M.D., P.P.; Wm. Purdon, C.E.; and J. L. Carson.

LAYING FOUNDATION-STONE AT CRAWSHAWBOOTH.

Bro. Colonel Le Gendre N. Starkie, Provincial Grand Master of East Lancashire, laid the foundation-stone of St. John the Evangelist Church at Crawshawbooth, in the Rossendale Valley, on Saturday, the 2nd inst., with full Masonic ceremony, in which he was assisted by Bros. J. H. Sillitoe, P.G. Std. Br., acting D.P.G.M.; J. O. S. Thursby, P.S.G.W.; N. A. Earle, P.J.G.W.; G. Hunt, P.G. Treas.; J. Chadwick, P.G. Sec.; and C. E. Collingwood, P.G.D.C.; and about 100 brethren. Immediately preceding the laying of this stone Mr. Thomas Brooks, of Crawshaw Hall, laid the corner-stone, assisted by the vicar, the Rev. A. Spencer,

the Rev. Canon Champneys, the Rev. Canon Parker, and a number of clergymen from neighbouring parishes. An immense assembly of school children and adults were present. Bro. the Marquis of Hartington, Prov. Grand Master of Derbyshire, was also present, but took no part in the Masonic proceedings.

The weather in the early part of the day was fine, but before the ceremonies were completed rain descended in a heavy downpour. Very great dissatisfaction was expressed by the brethren at the want of conveyances from Rawtenstall Railway Station, a distance of over two miles, to Crawshawbooth and back, the return journey having to be accomplished on foot (excepting by a favoured few) in drenching rain, and in an exceedingly short space of time.



Last Wednesday "Dr. Bill" celebrated his 200th performance at the Avenue, where it will be remembered Mr. George Alexander put it on as a sort of stop-gap until he could be released from the Adelphi and produce the adaptation of the French play he is known to be anxious to bring before London audiences. At the time we ventured to say that the new and young lessee would have to postpone his own creation, as "Dr. Bill" was quite likely to be there to be consulted by his patients every evening for months to come. At present the original cast is nearly gone. Some are holiday-making—amongst them Mr. Alexander—and some have gone to other engagements, such as Miss Fanny Brough, who is actively rehearsing at Drury Lane. Her place as Mrs. Brown being taken by Miss Alma Stanley, whom we were pleased to notice strikes out a rendering of the part quite her own, and, playing it very differently from Miss Brough, does not call for comparisons. Mr. Alexander need not have any anxiety as to the change in the cast as far as Miss Stanley goes. Mr. J. G. Grahame is now taking duty for Mr. Alexander, and Mr. Chevalier has been succeeded by his understudy. Those who contemplate a visit to the Avenue should go early and see "Miss Cinderella," a beautiful and pathetic little piece, played most heartily by Misses Laura Graves, L. Young, Leston, and Mr. G. Capel. It may bring a few tears, nevertheless it is worth seeing.

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The Tivoli, though the youngest of the London music-halls, has at once taken its place in the front ranks, not only on account of the beauty and comfort of the building, but because it is so well managed and gives such a first-class programme. The artistes just now numbering, amongst others, Misses Harriet Vernon, the majestic; Lottie Collins, the graceful dancer; Dell Thompson, Eunice Vance, and Vesta Victoria, the Sisters Reed, the Paradise Troupe, Jolly John Nash, Imro Fox, the clever conjuror; the Two Mikes, Mr. Ben Nathan, who recites the "Charge of the Light Brigade" as it would be done by a West-end swell, an East-end costermonger, a Frenchman, German, and a man suffering from influenza; and last, but not least, there are Mr. A. Lloyd and Mr. Charles Godfrey. Certainly a long and varied bill of fare enough to tempt any who appreciate entertainment of this order, and their name is legion.

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Mr. Nat Goodwin has now given us an opportunity of seeing how he can act. We said "A Gold Mine" was too weak a play to have any effect on a London audience, it having failed to draw. Mr. Pigott's "The Bookmaker," which was produced in January of last year at Terry's Theatre, at a trial *matinée* has now been placed on the boards at the Gaiety, Bro. Edward Terry's rights having lapsed. We hear that Mr. Nat Goodwin has appeared in the play in America with much success. This he is unquestionably repeating over here. "The Bookmaker" is an artificial representation of aristocratic life, in which not much regard is paid to either possibility or probability, notwithstanding much amusement is derived from the extraordinary position of a bookmaker, who so unexpectedly falls into a baronetcy, and becomes a sort of guardian angel to a family of blue-blood who, of course, are in pecuniary straits. Mr. Nat Goodwin is particularly happy in his conception of the benevolent bookmaker. Where he has learnt the cockney dialect so thoroughly is a marvel, and near the end he gets into pathos which is quite touching, thus showing he is a versatile actor. He is well supported by Mr. Wm. Farren, Mr. Chas. Glenny, Miss Carlotta Leclercq, and Miss McNulty. We hope yet that our new American actor will show us his burlesque acting next.

The Queen's Speech was delivered by Royal Commission on Monday, when Parliament was formally prorogued, and many legislators are now scattered in all directions, many having gone to Scotland, many to the Continent, and many to their country seats, while others have gone yachting, so that for a time, at all events, we are likely to hear very little about politics. The holidays, however, will only last for some three months, as Parliament will meet again for the dispatch of business somewhere near the middle of November. Let us hope that by that time the peers and gentlemen of the House of Commons will have recovered from the fatigue of the session which has just closed, and will be able to get through a month's good work this side of Christmas, when they will again break up for a further spell of holiday.