

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, JANUARY 3, 1891.

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THE NEW YEAR,

We should be wanting in courtesy, as well as neglecting an obvious duty, if we allowed the present occasion to pass without tendering to our numerous friends and subscribers, both at home and abroad, our hearty good wishes for their prosperity and happiness during the New Year, and expressing at the same time our sincere thanks for the uniform kindness and consideration they have shown us during the year which has just terminated. We have endeavoured, as usual and to the best of our ability, to keep them well informed as to the events that have been passing in our world of Masonry; we have expressed our opinions freely on such topics of general interest as appeared worthy of comment; and, above all, we have done what lay in our power to promote the well-being of our Society and the Institutions in which it takes so great and so legitimate a pride. We dare not venture to think that all we have said or done has commanded the assent or approbation of our readers, but the increasing favour with which this Journal is everywhere received satisfies us that our efforts in support of Freemasonry are fully appreciated, and that more than at any previous period in our career we are the representative organ of the Craft in the United Kingdom. We reiterate our thanks for the kindness we have received during the past 12 months, and, at the same time, we renew the expression of our hope that the year which we have just entered upon may prove as successful as its commencement is, in our opinion, promising.

APPROACHING FESTIVAL OF THE ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

With the beginning of the New Year it is necessary that we should draw attention to the earliest of its important celebrations. We allude, of course, to the Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, which will be held at Freemasons' Tavern, on Wednesday, the 25th February, under the able and genial presidency of Bro. Earl AMHERST, Provincial Grand Master of Kent. A month since we described at some length the circumstances of this Institution, but they will certainly bear repetition in brief. Its two Funds together provide annuities for 409 Old People—180 Men and 229 Widows—and there is also a varying number of widows who receive half their late husbands' annuities for a period of five years, or in the event of their being elected within that period, to receive the benefits of their own Fund, till the 1st of June following the date of such election. The sum required for the payment of these annuities is, in round figures, £15,000, and there is also a further sum of about £3500 expended in maintaining the Asylum at Croydon and defraying the expenses of management, so that the total annual expenditure is £18,500. Towards this large outlay the Institution is possessed of a permanent income, consisting of grants from Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter and interest on invested capital, which amounts at the very outside to £4000 a year. There remains, therefore, a sum of about £14,500, which must be raised annually in order that the Institution may be enabled to fulfil the obligations it has contracted, and, as our readers are aware, it is by the means of the Annual Festival that the authorities look to obtain the bulk of this necessary sum. But there is still one circumstance which must not be overlooked—the authorities have gone as far with safety as they dare venture in the direction of increasing the number of annuitants on the two Funds, but, unfortunately, the number of applicants has increased instead of diminishing, and though it is too early yet to learn the effect of the measures taken with a view to keeping this number within manageable compass, there is no doubt whatever from the array of unsuccessful cases standing over from the election in May last, that the lists of candidates for this year's ballot will be about 150 strong, or as formidable as they were on the last occasion. In short, with a permanent income of about £4000 a year, the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution stands committed to an annual expenditure of

£18,500, while, in addition, it has about 150 worthy men and women with little or nothing to support them, and too aged and infirm to do anything for their own livelihood, applying for admission to its benefits. These are the circumstances which, in the discharge of our duty, we think it necessary to lay before our readers.

We have said the Committee of Management look principally to the Festival for the means with which to make good the annual deficit of about £14,500. Well, the prospects as they now present themselves are certainly encouraging. Bro. TERRY is not the man to miss any opportunity for enlisting the sympathy and support of the lodges and brethren, and to such excellent purpose has he laboured in his arduous vocation of Secretary since we last wrote on this Institution, that his Board of Stewards is, at this moment, nearly, if not quite, 200 strong. As may well be imagined, the Chairman's Province of Kent is numerously represented on the Board, while brethren from both London and several of the other Provinces have promised their aid, and are already engaged in the work of canvassing for donations and subscriptions. But though the position is slightly more favourable than it was at the corresponding period of last year, there can be no gainsaying the opinion that a very considerable increase in the number of brethren acting as Stewards is necessary if anything like the required sum is to be obtained. We earnestly appeal, therefore, to our friends in London and throughout the country to render all the assistance they can. Let those who can send in their names as Stewards at once, while there is still ample time for them to exert their influence and eloquence to good purpose. There is no knowing what may not be achieved in the course of the seven weeks' interval between now and the day appointed for the anniversary, if only those who have pledged their services will bestir themselves and a sufficient number of brethren will come forward now and support their efforts. The task before them is a hard one, much patience is necessary, and many disappointments must be borne, ere so large a total as between £14,000 and £15,000 is obtained. But the amount has been raised and even exceeded in previous years, and as the auguries are favourable, we trust the triumphs of past anniversaries will be repeated next month.

LODGE OF HARMONY, No. 133, FAVERSHAM, KENT.

Faversham is, in its way, a thriving, bustling, little inland port, connected with the outer world by the London, Chatham, and Dover Railway, on the one hand, and the creek which flows into the Swale on the other. An ancient member of the Cinque Ports, it has boasted of a corporate existence for many a century, and is one of the oldest boroughs in England. But before the railway was built its intercourse with the great city must have been fitful, and chiefly maintained by its trading vessels. To such a place the Masonic impulse must have come early, and yet we should expect the worthy Cinque Port Barons to have but an indifferent acquaintance with all the ins and outs of the great Masonic movement of the eighteenth century. And such, to judge by records which have only lately come to my notice, was the case. There is a fine old lodge at Faversham, and to verify certain surmises which had been forced upon me by the perusal of Bro. F. F. Giraud's "Freemasonry in Faversham" I lately paid the brethren a visit. My inspection of their records, dating in unbroken sequence from 1763, was perforce hurried, but sufficient for my immediate purpose, so that the majority of the particulars to be noted are extracted from Bro. Giraud's pamphlet.

Bro. Lane, in his "Masonic Records," states that a lodge was warranted by the "Ancients" in Faversham on the 20th May, 1763, as No. 114, and that there are "no records after 1763," thus leading to the supposition that the bantling expired incontinently. The warrant apparently was never returned, or it would probably, like other "Ancient" warrants, have been

re-issued. In fact, the lodge was completely lost sight of from the day almost of its birth. At page 90 Bro. Lane gives an epitome of the career of the present Lodge No. 133, and my suspicions, since proved correct, were that this lodge was the continuation, without break, of the former.

The Athol warrant was granted by the Earl of Kelly in 1763, as No. 114, to Bros. William Bennett, Thomas Wilkinson, and Julius Shepherd, as W.M. and Senior and Junior Wardens, to meet at the Sign of the Ship, &c. It is signed by L. Dermott, and presents no points of difference to the usual warrants of the period. Under this warrant the brethren met on the 25th May, and on the 27th December they elected new officers, the J.W., Bro. Shepherd, being made Worshipful Master. During the year several brethren joined, one being a "Modern" Mason, who, it is expressly stated, was made an "Ancient" Mason, and no less than 10 candidates were initiated. But during the year light must have been vouchsafed to the brethren, and somehow they discovered that they had gone to the wrong shop for their warrant, for on the 28th August, 1764, a warrant was granted them by Lord Blaney, as No. 319, under the "Modern" or original Grand Lodge of England. That it was not a new lodge, but the continuation of the old one, is proved by many circumstances. The minutes are in the same book, and without break, the same names appear, and the officers named in the new warrant are J. Shepherd, as W.M., who was J.W. under the old one; T. Wilkinson, S.W., the same office which he held in the old one; and Robert Lukyn, J.W., an initiate of 1763. The first W.M., Bro. Bennett, once more became Master in 1765. But on the old warrant the lodge had had a number, 114, given to it, whilst the new warrant specifies no number, and it almost looks as if the brethren were a long while in finding out what number they were entitled to, because for two years they made use of the old one, the only one, possibly, known to them. It was not till April, 1766, that we find them using their rightful designation of No. 319.

In 1773, Captain Charles Frederick, who in 1774 was P.G.M. of Kent, was initiated in the lodge.

In 1774 and again in 1777 the Provincial Grand Lodge of Kent was held under the banner of the Faversham Lodge.

In 1778 the lodge was visited by several brethren from the regiment of the Royal Scotch Greys. This led to important results, because on the 21st December a special lodge was held, when by the assistance of Bro. W. Sumpter, one of their own members, and of John Beattie, Alexander Leishman, sergeant, and George Penn, private, members of the Royal Arch Lodge of St. Andrew, held in the regiment of the Royal Scotch Greys, seven brethren were exalted to the Royal Arch Degree. From this time forth exaltations are noted on the minutes for a series of years.

In 1786 J. Shepherd, the first W.M. under the new warrant was appointed Deputy Grand Superintendent of the Royal Arch for Kent.

In 1789, application was made to Grand Lodge to call the lodge by the name of Harmony. Bro. Lane says the lodge was named in 1791. In 1795 the Provincial Grand Lodge was again held at Faversham. In 1797 the minutes record the visit of some Dutch prisoners on parole, whilst later in the year three Dutchmen on parole from Wye were initiated. The lodge had already once left the Ship, and gone to the Red Lion for a few years, but in 1804 it removed once more from the Ship and migrated to the Two Brewers. Lane gives the date as 1806. Provincial Grand Lodge was again held at Faversham in 1806, and in 1807 five brethren were made Ark and Mark Masons. On the 10th January, 1820, eight brethren took the Past Masters' Degree, and the lodge returned to the Ship. But after 1825 or 1826 affairs began to go wrong, the lodge was removed to the Sun Inn in 1835, the chapter followed in the next year, and a portion of the furniture was sold. In 1837 more of the chapter furniture was sold, and it ceased to meet.

In 1843 the members of the lodge were reduced to seven, and the next year they came back to the Ship. Then comes a long period of darkness, and the statements of men not long gone to their rest inform us that the lodge ceased also to meet, that the members were reduced to three, but that these three kept the warrant alive by regularly electing themselves in turn to the chair, and punctually paying up the lodges dues and quarterages, a financial transaction which was effected by selling off bit by bit the old lodge furniture. In 1856 Comps. S. M. Shrubsole and B. Jones petitioned Supreme Grand Chapter for leave to transfer the Royal Arch dispensation to the Maidstone Lodge, No. 741, but as this was refused, it was surrendered in July. The lodge possesses little of its old belongings except the minute books, charters, a Royal Arch tracing board, and a small Royal Arch pedestal, and it was during this time that the original Athol warrant went astray, it only lately having been returned to its rightful owners.

However in 1859 the regular meetings of the lodge were resumed, 10 members joined or were initiated, amongst them Bro. Giraud, the present Secretary, and since then, with slight ups and downs, such as every lodge must expect, all has gone well. In 1869 it received its centenary warrant acknowledging its existence from 1764. Probably nobody at that time knew of the previous one of 1763, which was perfectly valid. In 1813 many lodges which were similarly possessed of two warrants elected to stand by the "Ancient" document, and thus obtained a higher place on the Grand Lodge roll than their age entitled them to. Had No. 133 so done, it would now be known as No. 91.

Faversham is a fine old town, retaining much of the quaintness, with none of the squalor and dirt of a mediæval city. On every side old houses with overhanging floors and gabled roofs are to be seen, and its market, under the Town Hall, which is supported on pillars, is highly picturesque. Passing through the churchyard we come to a fine broad avenue planted with limes, the gift to the town in 1590 of John Smythe, Esq., of Sturry. Facing this is the fine old Grammar School, founded in 1527 by John Cole, clerk, Warden of All Souls' College, Oxford, and granted to the Abbot and Convent of St. Saviour at Faversham. At the dissolution of the Abbey the King of course got possession, but the school was re-established in 1567 by Elizabeth. The school-house was erected in 1587-8, and was used continuously till the erection of the new and larger school in 1879. It was sold by auction in 1880, and acquired by the lodge in 1886. Here, amidst the reminiscences of centuries, the brethren meet and prosecute our ancient rites; the upper room, originally the school-room, has been beautifully furnished with oak stalls constructed out of the old school-desks, and other appropriate fittings, while the original architecture has been religiously preserved, and I know of no lodge in the country meeting in a quainter or more interesting building. On the walls hang four warrants, of 1763, 1764, the centenary warrant, and the warrant of the present Royal Arch chapter, dated 1st February, 1888, besides the few mementoes of the olden time which the lodge has been able to gather together. It is worth a visit to Faversham, were it but to sit under the old oak rafters which have echoed to the voices of so many generations of school-boys, but when I add to this that the brethren are sure to afford any visitor a hearty welcome, that the work is excellently done, that the present W.M. and S.D., who are brothers, are lineal descendants, great-great-grandchildren, of the J. Shepherd who is named in the two old warrants, it will be evident that many a worse place for a Masonic pilgrimage might be chosen. The Old Ship still does a good business, and on the occasion of my visit "mine host" was passed to the Second Degree, and I myself took shelter for the night under its roof-tree.

G. W. SPETH.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF THE ISLE OF MAN.

The annual communication of the Provincial Grand Lodge of the Isle of Man was held in the Tynwald Lodge Rooms, Masonic Hall, Loch Parade, Douglas, on Thursday, the 18th December, by command of the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, Bro. John Senhouse Goldie-Taubman, J.P., C.P., Speaker of the House of Keys. The Past and Present Provincial Grand Officers, Worshipful Masters, Past Masters, and acting Wardens of the several lodges of the province were summoned to attend, and all Master Masons were cordially invited to be present; and taking into account the fact that the installation ceremonies and the accompanying banquets in connection with the Athole, St. Maughold, Tynwald, Ellan Vannin, St. Trinians, and St. Germans Lodges had all been held within three or four weeks from the date of meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge, there was a fairly good and representative attendance of the brethren qualified to attend. The Douglas lodges especially were well represented, whilst each of the lodges located in Ramsey and Peel contributed their contingent to the representation. Amongst those who signed the register of attendance were the following:

Bros. Major J. Senhouse Goldie-Taubman, Prov. G. M.; S. Webb, P.M., P.Z., P.S.G.W.; Rev. William Morris P.M., Prov. G. Chap.; James Hodgson, P.M., Prov. G. Reg.; Thos. H. Nesbitt, P.M., P.P.S.G.W.; Prov. G. Sec.; Edward J. Bowman, P.M., Prov. S.G.D.; Lewis G. Hannay, P.M., Prov. J.G.D.; Charles M. Challender, P.M., Prov. A.G.D. of C.; Walter J. Brown, P.M., P.P.G.S.B.; William Kissack, P.M., Prov. G. Std. Br.; Mathias W. Corran, P.M., Prov. G.S.B.; and many others.

The Provincial Grand Officers assembled in the Athol Lodge Room, and the brethren generally in the Tynwald Lodge Rooms.

The Provincial Grand Master immediately opened Prov. Grand Lodge, Bro. James Hodgson, Prov. Grand Registrar, acting as Deputy Prov. G.M., in the unavoidable absence of Bro. J. A. Brown, D.P.G.M., and Bro. E. J. Bowman, P.M., P.S.G.D., acting as Prov. J.G.W., in the absence of Bro. Henry Brearley, P.M., Prov. J.G.W.

The PROVINCIAL GRAND SECRETARY, having read the circular convening the meeting, called over the roll of lodges and the roll of Provincial Grand Officers, when it was found that each lodge was represented, and an increased attendance of Provincial Grand Officers as compared with those present at the annual meeting of last year.

The minutes of the proceedings at the annual meeting held at Douglas, on the 21st November, 1889, on which occasion Bro. J. A. Brown, D.P.G.M., presided, and the minutes of the proceedings of a special meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge, held on the 24th day of October, 1890, on which occasion the Deputy Grand Master of England and Prov. G.M. of West Lancashire, Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom, presided, were subsequently read, approved, and confirmed.

Letters of apology for inability to attend, and wishing success and continuous prosperity to Provincial Grand Lodge, were reported as having been received from a number of brethren.

The report of the Committee of General Purposes was submitted. Three meetings of the Committee have been held during the year, at which the ordinary executive and administrative business had been transacted. The Committee recommended that a Masonic ball be held upon the same lines as last year.

It was unanimously resolved, on the motion of Bro. S. WEBB, P.M., P.S.G.W., seconded by W. J. BROWN, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., that the report be adopted; and on the motion of Bro. T. H. NESBITT, P.M., P.G. Sec., seconded by Bro. S. WEBB, P.M., P.S.G.W., a thoroughly representative Committee was appointed to act in the matter, the Committee consisting of the Prov. Grand Master, the Deputy Prov. Grand Master, all the Present and Past Officers of Provincial Grand Lodge, the Worshipful Masters, Wardens, Immediate Past Masters, and Secretaries of all the Insular lodges, with Bros. Dr. Dearden, Dr. Wood, Dr. Black, and G. H. Quayle added.

The Charity Committee then presented their report, which was of a gratifying nature in every respect, and on the motion of Bro. CHALLENGER, P.M., P.A.G.D.C., seconded by Bro. G. H. QUAYLE, W.M., P.P.G.S., it was unanimously adopted.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER then called upon the Prov. Grand Secretary, Bro. Thomas H. Nesbitt, P.M., P.P.S.G.W., to read his annual report upon the nature and extent of the work done in the province during the year.

This report was of a very voluminous and exhaustive character and reflected the greatest credit on the Provincial Grand Secretary, who must have devoted a vast deal of time and thought on its production. It dealt with every conceivable topic that could interest the members of Provincial Grand Lodge—each lodge was treated separately, the number of meetings, average attendance, the finances, position of each lodge, &c. The report, which occupied nearly one hour in reading, concluded as follows:

"Freemasonry, brethren, is but one large family, of which we in this island are a component part; but considered apart from the great humanitarian objects which it professedly seeks to accomplish, and which may truly be described as the Alpha and the Omega of the Institution, it is undoubtedly the best regulated and best disciplined family or fraternity in the Universe. Whilst in one or two instances, paradoxical though it may appear, we have been unable to agree to disagree, I am glad to find that those instances may be characterised as especially exceptional, and that a more conciliatory, generous, and charitable spirit is likely to prevail; and whilst respecting the lawful commands of constituted authority when those commands do not conflict with our moral, civil, or religious duties, I trust we may be mutually forbearing and charitable. When the Great Architect of the Universe launched this beautiful world of ours into mighty space He wisely ordained that men and nations should be mutually dependent upon each other in order that they might learn the great and useful lessons of universal brotherhood, mutual dependence, mutual forbearance, and Charity, not merely as abstract propositions, but indicative of the forbearance and the Charity which suffereth long and is kind, Charity in *thought*, Charity in *word*, as well as Charity in *action*. We are all liable to human imperfections, brethren, but should any error of judgment or difference of opinion again arise, I sincerely trust that by deliberate or unconscious exaggeration a spirit born of Ananias may not become developed amongst us, and I also trust that your leniency will be fraternally extended towards those who may happen to differ from you in opinion, and that you will not readily be inclined to follow the already too prevalent fashion of condemning unheard. *Audi alteram partem* is an apposite truism which we would all do well to take to heart. I fully recognise the speciality of this occasion, brethren, and, although it is no part of my duty to read you a homily upon the extent and nature of your duties and obligations as men and Masons, or to deprive our eloquent Provincial Grand Chaplain of any portion of his work by usurping any of his especial functions or prerogatives—it would be presumption on my part to attempt it—I have, nevertheless, deemed it advisable in our common interest to utter these few words of counsel in the nature of a valedictory address, believing with Shakespeare that—

'Civil dissension is a viperous worm
That gnaws the bowels of this commonwealth.'

When controversy does arise we, as Masons, ought to sink our own personal feelings so far as we can conscientiously do so, and work zealously and harmoniously for the good of the whole community, and if this is done it would be our privilege to realise Freemasonry in its ideal nature, as a perfect monument of wisdom, strength, and beauty, which ages cannot obliterate or time itself destroy. By this exemplary conduct, by defending each other when unjustly assailed, by boldly repelling calumny and slander, we will be enabled to convince the world that merit has been our title to the privileges we enjoy, and we will also be enabled to bear in mind and act according to the dictates of our Divine Creator, that when we shall be summoned from this sublunary abode we may be privileged to ascend to the Grand Lodge above where the world's Great Architect lives and reigns for ever. I trust, brethren, that I have not overtaxed your indulgence, and that you will receive these remarks in the same kindly fraternal Masonic spirit in which they are written."

On the motion of Bro. JAMES HODGSON, P.M., P.P.G. Reg., and seconded by Bro. C. M. CHALLENGER, P.M., P.A.G.D.C., the report was adopted.

Bro. Alexander Bruce was unanimously elected Prov. Grand Treasurer, and the PROV. GRAND MASTER announced that he had appointed Bro. T. H. Nesbitt, P.M., P.S.G.W., Deputy Prov. Grand Master.

The Provincial Grand Master then appointed and invested the other officers in the order named, the absentees, from whom apologies had been received, being invested by proxy, Bro. Challenger acting as Prov. G.D.C.

The following is a complete list of the officers of Provincial Grand Lodge:

Bro. J. S. Goldie-Taubman, P.M. 1242	...	Prov. G.M.
Thomas H. Nesbitt, P.M. 1004 and 2197	...	D.P.G.M.
Samuel Webb, P.M. 1004	...	Prov. S.G.W.
Edward J. Bowman, P.M. 1242...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
Rev. Edward Ferrier, P.M. 212 (I.C.)	...	Prov. G. Chaps.
Rev. Wm. Morris, P.M. 1075	...	
Alexander Bruce, 2049	...	Prov. G. Treas.
G. Harrington Quayle, W.M. 2049	...	Prov. G. Reg.
Lewis G. Hannay, P.M. 1004	...	Prov. G. Sec.
C. Morton Challenger, P.M. 2050, I.P.M. 2164	...	Prov. S.G.D.
Frank J. Johnson, P.M. 1242, I.P.M. 2197	...	Prov. J.G.D.
G. J. Nattan, P.M. 2050	...	Prov. G.S. of W.
William Kissack, P.M. 1242	...	Prov. G.D.C.
Matthias W. Corran, P.M. 1004	...	Prov. A.G.D.C.
Arthur W. Brearley, P.M. 1242	...	Prov. G. Std. Brs.
William Broughton, P.M. 2050...	...	
John C. Corris, P.M. 2164	...	Prov. G. Org.
John A. Mylrea, Org. 2049	...	
Thomas S. Aylen, S.W. 2197	...	Prov. A.G. Sec.
William P. J. Pittar, 2049	...	Prov. G. Purst.
William Colquhoun, S.W. 2050	...	Prov. A.G. Purst.
Thomas Cubbon, 1004	...	Prov. G. Stwds.
Thomas Whiteside, S.W. 1242...	...	
C. T. C. Callow, J.W. 2049	...	Prov. G. Tyler.
Robert B. Brierley, S.D. 2050	...	
C. Morrison, S.W. 2164	...	
Frank W. Spencer, J.W. 2197	...	
William Gorry, Tyler 1242, 2049	...	

The Provincial Grand Lodge was then closed.

A banquet afterwards took place at the Castle Mona Hotel, the D.P.G.M., Bro. T. H. Nesbitt, presiding.

We regret that we have not space to report the very excellent speeches that were made both from the chair and in response to the various toasts. The Chairman, who had in the lodge given proof of his zeal and ability in the preparation of his report as Provincial Grand Secretary, showed himself to an equal advantage in presiding at the banquet table, and all the speeches were in excellent taste and to the point.

An enjoyable musical programme was carried out, and this most successful gathering was closed by the singing of the National Anthem.

MASONIC BENEVOLENCE IN 1890.

We append the Statements of Receipt we have received from the Secretaries of our several Masonic Institutions for the year 1890. They are, as a whole, very satisfactory. Not only do they show an excess over last year's total of upwards of £7000, but in respect of the particular item of "Donations and Subscriptions," on which the success or failure of the year depends, the amount received by each Institution is considerably larger than was announced at its Anniversary Festival. Thus in the case of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution the Festival total, as announced at the time, was slightly less than £13,100, while the sum received during the year under this head is £15,704 10s. At the Girls' School Festival the Returns were announced as amounting to £11,010, while the total received during the year is £12,123; and in the case of the Boys' School the Festival total was given at the time as £9253, but the year's subscriptions, &c., are returned as £11,596. There is, unfortunately, in the figures of the last-named Institution a very considerable falling off as compared with those of 1889, but we consider this is fully accounted for by the unsettled state of things which prevailed during the greater part of the year, but which we both hope and believe is now at an end. As regards the Girls' School, it will be noticed that the receipts are swelled by two exceptional sums of £5000—compensation from Railway Company—and £1274 for the Centenary Hall Window Memorials, while the Benevolent Institution is in the fortunate position of being able to record the receipt of £1500 on account, in respect of a legacy bequeathed to it by some benevolent person.

The figures are as follow:

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.			
Donation from Grand Lodge	...	...	£150 0 0
Donation from Grand Chapter	...	...	10 10 0
Donations and Subscriptions...	...	...	12,123 0 10
Balance Life Presentation (Harlech) Centenary	...	...	275 0 0
One Admission by Purchase...	...	...	178 10 0
Admissions by Annual Payment	...	...	150 0 0
Dividends	...	...	2232 4 0
Interest on Deposit	...	...	106 10 9
Receipts for Musical Instruction	...	...	221 0 6
Sale of Old Pianos and Old Materials	...	...	42 0 0
Sale of Books of Subscribers...	...	...	1 3 0
Received from L.B. & S.C.R. (as per Agreement)...	...	...	5000 0 0
Window Memorials	...	...	1274 0 0
			£21,763 17 1

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.			
Donations and Subscriptions...	...	...	£15,074 10 0
Dividends	...	...	2,882 12 11
Interest on cash at call	...	...	98 10 5
Grand Lodge	...	...	1,600 0 0
Grand Chapter	...	...	150 0 0
Legacy (on account)	...	...	1,500 0 0
			£21,305 13 4

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.			
Donations and Subscriptions	...	...	£11,596 2 0
United Grand Lodge	...	...	150 0 0
Supreme Grand Chapter	...	...	10 10 0
Dividends	...	...	538 14 8
Music Fees	...	...	70 6 0
Miscellaneous	...	...	106 14 1
			£12,472 6 9

The table that follows shows (1) the amounts received by each Institution during the seven years 1884—1890, the fourth column containing the aggregate for each year; (2) the average per year for each Institution, as well as for the three together; and (3) the average receipt per year per Institution for the septennial period.

	R.M.B.I.	R.M.I.G.	R.M.I.B.	Total.
1884	£19,901 7 8	£14,928 19 0	£13,993 10 11	£48,823 17 7
1885	21,374 7 1	16,768 19 6	16,272 16 0	54,416 2 7
1886	18,194 13 6	15,546 18 10	13,956 15 5	46,798 7 9
1887	28,968 4 4	16,429 0 6	15,661 16 1	61,059 0 11
1888	21,361 15 1	49,259 4 4	12,283 2 5	82,904 1 10
1889	18,729 18 7	14,986 9 6	14,727 10 2	48,443 18 3
1890	21,305 13 4	21,763 19 1	12,472 6 9	55,541 19 2
Totals for the 7 years.	£149,835 19 7	£149,683 10 9	£98,467 17 9	£387,987 8 1
Average per year.	£21,405 2 9	£21,383 7 3	£14,066 16 10	£55,426 15 2
	Average per year per Institution			£18,475 11 9

The following is a statement, month by month, of the cases relieved, and the sums expended in relieving them, by the Board of Benevolence:—

	CASES RELIEVED.		AMOUNT.
January	...	36	£775
February	...	34	920
March	...	32	650
April	...	37	800
May	...	25	555
June	...	20	600
July	...	25	575
August	...	6	125
September	...	17	360
October	...	37	872
November	...	34	925
December	...	27	575
		330	£7732

This statement shows a further improvement. In 1888 there were 439 cases relieved with £11,468; in 1889 there were 358 cases relieved with £9144; while, as recorded above, in 1890 only 330 cases were relieved, and the total distributed amongst them was £7732, while, therefore, there is a further diminution in the number of cases relieved, the decrease in the amount expended is £1412. As compared with 1888, the decrease in the number of cases is 109, and in the amount expended £3736. There can be no doubt the Board of Benevolence has at length brought its expenditure within its receipts, and yet the amount they have expended is considerable.

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To Correspondents.

The following communications unavoidably stand over:

- CRAFT LODGES—
Manchester, No. 179.
Scone and Perth, No. 3 (S.C.).
- ROSE CROIX—
Percy Chapter, No. 113.
- CORRESPONDENCE—
"Old Provincial."



SATURDAY, JANUARY 3, 1891.

Masonic Notes.

We have given further careful consideration to the query submitted to us a fortnight since as to whether a W.M. can resign his office or not, and the conclusion we have come to is that the silence of the law—which, indeed, could not be otherwise than silent in the teeth of the Master's obligation—must be held as determining conclusively that the resignation of a W.M. is out of the question. We may add that an Installed Master becomes a Past Master on vacating the chair of his lodge, and that, too, whether he has performed the duties of his office wholly, in part, or after the day of his installation, or not at all.

It should also be stated that in accordance with Article 9, Book of Constitutions, a P.M., who has ceased to be a subscribing member of the lodge for 12 months, remains no longer a member of Grand Lodge, and in order to regain his membership thereof as a P.M. must again serve the office of W.M. of some lodge under the English Constitutions. By Article 81, a P.M., who is not a subscribing member of some lodge in a province or district, is not a member of its Provincial or District Grand Lodge. These are the only restrictions on the Past Mastership of a brother which the Book of Constitutions imposes.

For several years past the Lord Mayor of London has also been a member of the Craft, and has occupied the position of Worshipful Master of his lodge concurrently with the Mayoralty. This year is not to be an exception in that respect, Bro. Alderman Savory having been unanimously elected W.M. of the Lodge of Emulation at the last meeting. At the same time Bro. Robert Berridge, whom we heartily congratulate on being restored to health after his recent illness, was elected Treasurer. We may also add that No. 21, being a Red Apron Lodge, we may hope to see the Lord Mayor among the Grand Stewards of the year.

The Province of Derbyshire has always taken a special interest in the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and it was therefore quite appropriate that the late Secretary, as well as the present executive officer of that Institution, should have been closely identified with the proceedings of the Prov. Grand Lodge, held on the 15th December.

Bro. Percy Wallis, P.P.S.G.W., had the gratifying announcement to make that Bro. Binckes, on retiring from his office, had placed the whole of his "Boys" votes in the name of the Province of Derbyshire, as a mark of his esteem for the unvarying and continued support received from that province. Needless to say that the announcement was received with applause by the large assemblage, which accorded to Bro. Binckes a hearty vote of thanks for his generosity.

Bro. J. Morrison McLeod, the new Secretary, who is not only a P.M. of the Derwent Lodge, but its present W.M., was signalled out for the high distinction of Prov. Senior Grand Warden. The appointment was well received, and Bro. McLeod was paid some pretty compliments with kind remarks at the banquet table from the R.W.D.P.G.M. and other brethren. We congratulate the Boys' Institution and the province upon such a happy continuance of interest, which augurs well for the prosperity of all concerned.

The Lord Mayor and Bro. Sheriff Augustus Harris had projected a state visit, to the Alliance Lodge, of which Bro. Sir John B. Monckton is the senior member, on Wednesday, the 7th prox., and a large number of Grand Officers had accepted invitations to be present on the occasion, which promised to be of considerable Masonic interest. The sudden death, however, of the wife of Bro. E. F. Fitch, the estimable W.M. of the lodge, has caused a postponement of the visit, which the Lord Mayor and Sheriff have kindly promised shall be duly paid somewhat later in the year.

The announcement that the Lodge of Melrose has resolved by an overwhelming majority to relinquish its independence and become obedient to Grand Lodge will be hailed with acclamation by the Craft under the Scottish Constitution. Melrose St. John will, in consideration of documentary evidence of its antiquity, take precedence on the roll of Grand Lodge immediately after the Lodge of Edinburgh (Mary's Chapel), No. 1, with the number 1½, in terms of the conditions agreed upon by both parties. The Melrose records date in almost unbroken sequence from December 26, 1674; Mother Kilwinning resigned its independence in 1808; Glasgow St. John (No. 3½) joined Grand Lodge in 1850. There are now no independent lodges existing in Scotland. The union of Grand Lodge and the Melrose Lodge will be formally ratified in the first week of February. The negotiations which have been so successful were, on the part of Grand Lodge, conducted by Bros. Dr. Middleton Stowe, Elliott of Wolflee, General J. G. Boswell, and D. Murray Lyon, G. Secretary.

The proceedings of the "Grand Commandery" of Maine, U.S.A., for 1890, from the press of Bro. Stephen Berry, of Portland, make up an invaluable volume, not simply for the account of that body, which was held in the city aforesaid on May 8th, 1890. The transactions are not of a special character, and are not likely to interest many beyond the confines of the State, ably written and beautifully printed as they are.

The real interest lies in the report of the "Chairman of Correspondence," Bro. Stephen Berry, the other members of the Committee being the renowned Bro. J. H. Drummond and E. P. Burnham. The report is bristling with statistical information, both suggestive and startling, and revealing the extraordinary numerical increase of the Craft, Royal Arch, and Knight Templar Masonry in North America. We have frequently alluded to this point before, but the latest compilation by the trio of Masonic statistical authorities deserve more than a brief notice, such as we are now compelled to rest satisfied with.

For 1890 the record is 651,028 Master Masons, 157,898 Royal Arch companions (and *Mark Masons*), and 84,923 Knights Templars. This Degree of Knighthood is extremely popular in the United States especially, and also much in favour in Canada, the rate of percentage of Templars to the Master Masons being now 13—the largest yet noted. From 1870, when the rate was five, it has rapidly risen year by year until it has reached the present high proportion.

The largest Grand Commanderies are Pennsylvania, New York, and Massachusetts (including Rhode Island), with over 8000 members each. The most numerous subordinate commandery is the Boston, held in that city, with 629 members, the Apollo, Chicago, being recorded with 608, and our old friend Mary, Philadelphia, making a good third with 576. These are extraordinary figures.

We offer our sincere condolence to Bro. Col. Marmaduke Ramsay, District Grand Master of Malta, on the great loss he has just sustained through the death, after only a few days' illness, of his eldest son, Bro. Marmaduke F. J. Ramsay. The latter was initiated, passed, and raised by his father and exalted by him to the Royal Arch Degree.

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.]

ROYAL ARCH COLLARS IN CRAFT LODGES.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

With reference to the letters which have appeared under the above heading in your issue of to-day's date and of the 20th inst., the writers do not appear to have the very faintest notion that Masonic clothing has important mystic significance.

That significance, anything in the Book of Constitutions to the contrary notwithstanding, is clearly and distinctly opposed to the introduction in Craft lodges of clothing other than white and light blue, or, if jewels, other than silver.

As a sidelight on this matter, let me remind your correspondents as well as the larger circle of your readers that in the Catholic Church, where, as we all know, ceremonial is rigidly observed wherever the Virgin, or feminine, principle is the prominent object of worship, there the jewels are of silver, and the clothing is of white and light blue, whereas wherever Christ, or the masculine, personification is supreme, there the jewels are of gold, and the clothing, when correct symbolism is not departed from, is white and red.

In this matter the Catholic Church, as well as ourselves, has a "secret doctrine," but with us, unhappily, few know it, or we should not have the spectacle of our lodges being, as they so frequently are, polluted with the "tinsel and tawdry" of what I, for one, cannot regard as other than spurious Masonry.—Yours fraternally,

F. S. S.

December 27th, 1890.

Masonic Notes and Queries.

926] **WARDENS AND MASTERS.**

"A Student" makes a very proper use of the *Freemason* by recording two errors in lodge working for the information of the Craft. Officers, undoubtedly, must be *Master Masons*, or else they cannot officiate as such in the *Three Degrees*. The appointment, therefore, that "Student" notes of a F.C. as a Steward was not legal. The election of a brother as Master, who was not present to be invested as a Warden, and thus had not served the full term as such, is clearly opposed to the Constitutions, and in my opinion *he should not be installed*. Being his *first* office, it seems extraordinary that any lodge would act with such undue haste, but any way, his installation as W.M. when he has not been a Warden for 12 months would be illegal.

W. J. HUGHAN.



Craft Masonry.

METROPOLITAN MEETINGS.

New Cross Lodge (No. 1559).—A meeting of the above lodge was held at the Portland Hotel, Greenwich, on December 12th, Bro. C. N. McIntyre North, W.M., in the chair. There were also present Bros. E. Fry, S.W.; J. Faulkner, J.W.; F. D. Graham, I.P.M.; W. Cowley, P.M., Treas.; T. Grummant, P.M., Sec.; J. W. A. Sturdee, P.M., Chaplain; Carlo Grassi, P.M., Stwd.; R. Borrett, S.D.; W. P. Makeham, J.D.; J. S. Target, acting I.G.; Rowe, Tyler; Guffanti, J. H. Meyer, G. Manuel, A. Peria, Tinelli, Azario, Metham, Waters, Coccioletti, Boncey, Woodham, Unwin, Abba, and Frenquellucci. Visitors: Bros. G. G. Benedetti, P.M. 1155; T. Prior, S.D. 765; J. Faulkner, 1567; F. R. Winter, 2332; and W. T. Winsor, J.D. 1950.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Tinelli was raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason, and the W.M. gave the lecture in that Degree. Bros. Unwin and Abba were passed to the Second Degree. The Secretary then read the by-laws, and the brethren proceeded to elect a W.M. for the ensuing year. Bro. E. Fry, S.W., regretted that press of business would prevent him carrying out the duties of W.M. for the ensuing year; he asked leave to be passed over. This being granted, Bro. J. H. Meyer, Past S.W., was elected for the office. Bro. W. Cowley was re-elected as Treasurer, and Bro. Rowe Tyler, Bros. Meffan, Firminger, and Azario were elected as Auditors. A notice of motion was given to present a Past Master's jewel to the Worshipful Master on his retiring from office. The Secretary was instructed to write to Bro. Bell, on his retirement from the lodge, wishing him every success in his new sphere of action, and expressing regret at losing the services of so able a brother. "Hearty good wishes" were given, and the lodge was closed.

The brethren then adjourned to banquet, and the toast of "The Queen and the Craft" was afterwards received in the manner usually observed amongst Masons.

In proposing "The Health of the M.W. the Grand Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," the W.M. said he was sure that every Mason would join with him in expressing the gratification they must all feel at the additional proof H.R.H. had graciously given of his esteem for Freemasonry in not only appointing his son a Provincial Grand

Master, but also in deciding to install him in a manner befitting the auspicious occasion.

After "The Grand Officers," Bro. Graham, I.P.M., proposed "The Health of the W.M."

The Worshipful Master, in reply, thanked the brethren for their reception of the toast, and the I.P.M. for the flattering manner he had proposed it. As their chief he represented one of the most, if not the most, important Anglo-Italian lodges on the roll of the Grand Lodge of England. He was proud of the position he held, and trusted that when he had to speak in their behalf he would give utterance to words which should awaken a responsive echo in every Mason's heart. He had tried to discharge his duties faithfully and impartially, and his moments of office had "winged their way with pleasure," but

"Pleasures are like poppies shed,
You seize the flower the bloom is fled;
Or like the snow flake on the river
A moment white then gone for ever."

He could scarcely realise that it was 12 months ago since he had responded to the toast of "The W.M. elect."

"Nae man can tether time or tide,
The hour approached when he maun bide "

in the chair of the I.P.M., and when that hour arrived he would be cheered and rewarded by the remembrance of the kind and loyal support he had received from the Past Masters, officers, and brethren of the lodge while discharging the duties of his important office.

The Worshipful Master then proposed "The Health of the W.M. elect," referring in a sympathetic manner to Bro. Meyer's unexpected return from South Africa. He presented him with an illuminated testimonial, which the brethren had originally intended to send out as an expression of their good-will and esteem. The concluding portion of the testimonial expressed a hope that the G.A.O.T.U. would grant their brother long life, health, and happiness, and assured him of a hearty welcome should fortune ever bring him back to the banks of the silvery Thames. Fortune had brought their brother back, and the W.M. not only repeated the assurance, but had also to congratulate him on his election to the Master's chair.

The testimonial was in album form of four pages, and was an admirable specimen of skill and ability.

Bro. Benedetti responded for "The Visitors" in a speech sparkling with wit and epigram. He said he had been at the New Cross Lodge before, but he was doubtful whether he should return thanks in English, Scotch, or Italian. The lodge was an emblem of that perfect love and harmony which should always characterise Freemasons. The work of the officers was well done, and from what he had seen the reputation of the W.M. for skill and ability in working the ceremonies was well earned.

The Worshipful Master, in proposing "The Health of the Past Masters, Treasurer, and Secretary," regretted that they were short of cash, but thanked those present for their cordial support. Bro. Graham, whom he somewhat irreverently styled his impudent Past Master, from the humorous joviality he had displayed since he had escaped the cares of office; Bro. Cowley, for his many admirable qualities and valuable assistance; the indescribable Bro. Tom Grummant; Bro. Carlo Grassi, the worthy son of a noble country; and his old friend, mentor, and Chaplain, Bro. Sturdee.

Bro. Graham replied in a manner which fully justified the title bestowed on him by the W.M.

Bro. Cowley thanked the brethren for having re-elected him as Treasurer. He was pleased to say that they had sterling cash in hand, although they were without, in the other sense of the word. With regard to the flattering manner in which the W.M. had referred to his services, under their able W.M. they had enjoyed a sinecure, and he cordially endorsed the remarks of Bro. Benedetti. He was proud to say that he (Bro. Cowley) had in years "lang syne" initiated and exalted their W.M., whose manner of working was equal to any Master in the Craft, and he was also proud to say that their W.M. had during his year of office given to the Masonic world that admirable work—wisdom, strength, and beauty—a copy of which every lodge should have, and if their lodge ceased to exist tomorrow, the name of the New Cross Lodge by that work had been preserved for ever.

Bro. Grummant, with his usual dry humour, said he was in a peculiar position. He had not been elected that evening like his Bro. Cowley, who was contentedly looking forward to a year's enjoyment of the sweets of office. He stood shivering on the threshold of a new year, where he would have to wait patiently until the night of installation; but, whether they turned him out next time or re-admitted him to that bed of roses—the office of Secretary—he should always do his best for the benefit of the New Cross Lodge.

The W.M., in proposing the toast of "The Officers," alluded to the fact of being supported by three Wardens. Bro. Fry, the S.W. for the year, was one of the oldest and most painstaking officers of the lodge. Years ago he had steadily worked up to the office of S.D., he then retired because he could not find the necessary time. Once again he accepted the lowest office in the lodge, steadily worked up to S.W., and sooner than fill the office of Master in the perfunctory manner observed in some lodges he had again retired for a time in favour of Bro. Meyer. Bro. Faulkner could be depended on to fill any office. Bros. Borrett and Makeham were able and painstaking Deacons. The I.G. had never attended once since he had been appointed, but his duties had been so ably performed by Bro. Winsler that the W.M. was greatly indebted to and thanked him heartily for the assistance he had given.

Bro. Faulkner responded for the officers, and the Tyler's toast concluded the proceedings.

During the evening Bros. Meffan, Grassi, Tinelli, and others ably punctuated the post-prandial eloquence with streams of melody.

Gallery Lodge (No. 1928).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Saturday, December 27th, at Anderton's Hotel, when there was a large attendance of members and visitors to witness the installation of Bro. W. T. Perkins. The lodge was opened by Bro. Herbert Wright, the W.M., who, after the confirmation of the minutes and other formal business, performed the ceremony of raising Bro. Dods to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason, and afterwards installed Bro. Perkins as his successor in the chair of K.S., performing the whole of the work in the most masterly manner. The newly-installed W.M. afterwards invested his officers as follows: Bros.

Basil Cooke, S.W.; E. E. Peacock, J.W.; H. Massey, P.M., Treas.; Thomas Minstrell, P.M., Sec.; C. K. Moore, S.D.; Pattison, J.D.; John C. Manning, I.G.; Percy W. Husk, Org.; Harry Bussey, P.M., D.C.; C. Lock, H. J. Sanderson, George Tarran, and Berthold Striem, Stewards; and James Very, Tyler. Before the closing of the lodge a resolution expressing the sympathy of the brethren of the lodge with Bro. J. Henwood Thomas, P.M. 101 (a member of the lodge from its commencement), in his serious and long continued illness, was passed, on the proposition of the W.M., seconded by Bro. Pattison.

The lodge having been closed, the brethren adjourned to the banquet room, where full justice was done to an excellent dinner admirably served.

At the conclusion of the banquet the customary loyal and Masonic toasts were proceeded with in their usual order, the W.M. commencing with the happily-phrased toast "The Queen and the Craft; and may that union long continue to the advantage of the Craft and the country." This and the succeeding toast—"The Health of the M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales"—having both been drunk with true Masonic enthusiasm,

The Worshipful Master said he had great pleasure in giving out the toast of "The D.G.M. and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past." The brethren would observe that there was a conspicuous blank in that toast, in consequence of the death of the Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Carnarvon. He was sure that there was no body of Masons who regretted the loss of the Earl of Carnarvon more sincerely than the brethren attached to the Gallery Lodge. In the Earl of Lathom they had an excellent Dep. G.M., and among the other Grand Officers there were many names that shed lustre on the Craft. The lodge was that evening honoured by the presence of two Grand Officers—Bros. Richard Eve and Edward Terry, both Past Grand Treasurers. Bro. Eve was still with them, but Bro. Terry, having to appear in a certain Chancery suit, had been obliged to leave. They had filled their high positions with honour to themselves and advantage to the brethren generally, and the Gallery Lodge was pleased to welcome them both, and he trusted that it would not be the last time they would be present at the social board of the Gallery Lodge. The W.M. concluded by proposing the health of the Grand Officers, coupled with the name of Bro. Eve, P.G. Treasurer.

Bro. Eve, in reply, said he had to thank the W.M. for the honour of being present that evening. The W.M. was quite right in saying that that was not the first time he had been there, and he might say in response that he was always glad to come. He was sorry his colleague, Bro. Terry, was not still with them. The W.M. had referred kindly and regretfully to the loss sustained through the death of the Earl of Carnarvon. He was a great loss to the Grand Officers, and it would be very difficult for the M.W.G.M. to fill the post Lord Carnarvon held. Lord Carnarvon did great service in the Colonies, whither he went at great trouble, and brought together a number of brethren who were not under our banner, and he succeeded in bringing about a fusion of Masonic interests there. He trusted that they would soon have a new Pro Grand Master who would be very useful to the Craft. It was quite true that the Grand Master had drawn to himself a large number of brethren who had distinguished themselves not only in Masonry but also in social life. All the professions were represented—law, divinity, physic, music, science, and art; all were recognised there, and they had now a representative of the drama in Bro. Terry. He would like to see a representative of the Press, and trusted that this Gallery Lodge would make its influence felt and would bring itself to the notice of the Grand Master in such a way that some of the Past Masters might have the honour of Grand Office conferred upon them. He and his Bro. Terry belonged to that class of Grand Officers who could not be made by the Grand Master, they were the elect of the Craft, and he trusted that the Craft would never lose the privilege of electing the Grand Treasurer.

Bro. Herbert Wright, I.P.M., then rose and said it became once more his duty to say a few words to the brethren, who would see by the card in their hands that the occasion of his rising was to propose what was in more senses than one the toast of the evening, namely, "The Health of the W.M." It was an old story how their W.M. of that night with one other brother now present, with another brother who had gone before, and yet another brother who ought to have been present but was not, were initiated nine years ago by Bro. Massey, P.M. He (Bro. Wright) had the distinguished honour to take the first place on that occasion, and the present W.M. came next, and now he (Bro. Wright) had just gone out of office Bro. Perkins had come in. That was preserving the sequence as it ought to be preserved. He thought that the lodge ought to take a peculiar interest in Bro. Perkins' year of office, as he had gone through every office below the chair till he had arrived at the chair itself, and they looked with perfect confidence to the way he would acquit himself in the chair. Of Bro. Perkins' personal qualities he need say nothing, as he was known to them all, and the brethren had shown their confidence in him by electing him. Bro. Wright said he would not detain them with a long speech, but would ask them to join with him most heartily in drinking long life and prosperity to the W.M., wishing him from the bottom of their hearts a happy and successful year of office, which they all looked forward to for him.

In reply, Bro. Perkins said he desired to tender to the I.P.M., the Grand Officers, and brethren his very sincere thanks for the compliment they had just paid him, and his grateful appreciation of the kind words which the I.P.M. had used towards him, and he hoped that at the end of his year of office he would not be found unworthy of their choice. He desired to secure their warm co-operation; he should consult their wishes in everything that concerned the welfare of the lodge, which had now attained a position which any lodge might be proud, and it would be his hope and endeavour to maintain that position. The lodge, in his opinion, had already exercised to the full extent of its power the distinguishing characteristics of a Freemason's heart, and he trusted that in his year of office he might do something to continue that most excellent feeling. He intended to serve as Steward for the Boys' School, a most excellent institution, and he intended to ask the brethren's approval to a confederation of lodges in connection with the Masonic Charities. Events had proved that singly they could do little, but by consolidation with a few other lodges he hoped those consolidated lodges would be placed in a position where, by a systematic exchange of votes, they would be able to secure the election of any candidate they

nominated. Bro. Cooke, the S.W., who could do much in that direction, had promised his earnest co-operation, and he trusted that the year would not pass without his being able to report to the lodge some substantial result. He also proposed, with their approval, to introduce a little innovation by arranging for what had become very popular in other lodges—namely, a ladies' night, accompanied by music and dancing. He desired to have the assistance of a committee of Stewards, and hoped they would be able to carry out the scheme. He would mention also that an admirable series of "Cinderellas" will take place at Brixton Hall on Saturday, and that is to be followed by a long night the first week in January. Bro. John Duckworth and himself had started them, and in his opinion, if not strictly Masonic work, dancing promoted the interests of the lodge. Again thanking the brethren for the compliment paid him, he should leave nothing undone to gain their good opinion in his year of office.

In proposing "The Health of the I.P.M.," Bro. Perkins said he had great pleasure in proposing what he claimed to be the toast of the evening. He thought they were all of one mind in thinking that the I.P.M. had had a most successful year in the chair of K.S., even if he had not been able to carry out his whole programme. Bro. Perkins went on to say that though the Benevolent Fund had had many calls upon it it now stood in a very satisfactory position, and in the course of a few hours the amount which now stood at £115 would be invested in a separate account in a bank, a step which he was sure would meet with their unanimous approval. Again, it had been in Bro. Wright's year that they had changed their habitation from Brixton to Fleet-street, a change which, so far as their experience went, they had had no reason to regret. It was not that Bro. Wright had had as many new members as any of his predecessors, but they had seen the interest he had evinced in everything that concerned the welfare of the lodge. There were several things he wanted to say about Bro. Wright, but he did not know how far he was justified in detaining them, but he wished to express his warm admiration, which was shared by every brother present, for the way in which he performed the ceremony of installation. Bro. Massey had always repudiated the title of Installing Master. It was well known that in many lodges there were brethren who claimed to install all Masters who were elevated to the chair. Hitherto they had depended upon Bro. Massey, but he rejoiced that the I.P.M. have taken the trouble and conferred the favour of installing his successor himself. Bro. Wright was possessed of most deserving qualities, and had borne himself as a true Mason. For those reasons it was no mere formality when the lodge voted five guineas for a presentation jewel to their Master, as well as a very pretty ring to be worn by his wife. The W.M. then invested Bro. Wright with the Past Master's jewel, and handed him the ring presented to Mrs. Wright.

Bro. Wright, I.P.M., in reply, said that he did not quite know how to shape his course in face of all the kind things that the W.M. had said of him. He felt that it would be rather conventional to say he did not deserve them, but he did not feel that he did deserve them. He had often thought what a gloomy sort of creature an outgoing Lord Mayor was; he had to yield up all his glory and honour to the gentleman who succeeded him; and he felt as he came to the lodge like an outgoing Lord Mayor at the Lord Mayor's Show. He found, however, that that was not altogether correct. He was in a better position than the outgoing Lord Mayor, because he had some functions to perform, and the brethren had expressed their approval of the work he had done. What he had done, however, was what every Master should do. He was not going to inflict on them a long speech, but there was just a sentence or two, not about himself but about the lodge, that he would like to say. The lodge, when he was placed in office 12 months ago, was not altogether in a good condition. He hoped and believed that he was leaving the lodge in a better position than he found it, and he said without any egotism that it was due, not to his own exertions, but to the brethren who had rallied round him, and to the support of the brethren who had served under him. In a social position the lodge was far above what it was then. They had got their own little Charitable Fund in a good position; the balance-sheet showed that during the year they had expended close upon £50 in relieving brethren of their own lodge, and had thus given immeasurable advantages to those brethren. Another aspect in which the lodge stood higher than of yore was seen in the way in which brethren who were coming on towards the chair were taking pains to fit themselves for the Mastership. It was the pride of the officers to do their work above the average, and there was every prospect of still further improvement in that respect. In the best Masonic sense he had, as Master, the great benefit that the lodge had effected by the bond of brotherhood among their 50 or 60 members. It had always been their boast that they had no cliques or coteries in the lodge. Personally, the past had been a most agreeable year to him, and he should always regard it as one of the milestones in his life, and he thought it was a milestone in the life of the lodge. He thought it was a mark of the stability of the lodge that two of its initiates should have been appointed to the chair. He hoped the same spirit would be in the lodge in the future that had inspired the brethren in the past, and he believed that a long course of usefulness was before the lodge. In conclusion, Bro. Wright thanked the brethren for the handsome jewel that had been awarded him, and also for the pretty ring which had been presented to his wife, who took great interest in the lodge, and had desired him to say how grateful she was to the brethren for their present.

"The Health of the Visitors" was then proposed by the W.M., and was responded to by Bros. J. H. Smith, P.M. 279; A. C. Morton, P.M. 9; W. E. Chapman, W.M. 2190; H. Joyce, P.M. 507; Dalgety Henderson, 2190; and Heneker Heaton, M.P.

The toasts of "The Past Masters" and "The Treasurer and Secretary" were combined, and were replied to by Bro. H. Massey, P.M., Treasurer, who said that for the first time since the existence of the lodge he had standing up with him as a P.M. his first initiate in the Gallery Lodge to acknowledge the toast that had been so kindly proposed. Other Past Masters had been compelled to leave, but Bro. Duckworth had requested him to respond. He assured them that the interest taken in the lodge by the Past Masters had in no wise diminished since they had passed the chair, and they would always do their very best to promote the interests of the lodge, and to assist in conducting its affairs successfully. It was with the greatest pleasure that he had seen Bro. Wright install his successor, a function he (Bro. Massey) had always impressed on the Masters

it was their bounden duty to perform. He felt sure that the example which had been set that evening would be followed by other Masters of the lodge, and he knew that it was the intention of Bro. Perkins when his time came to install his successor. On the last occasion, when the installation took place at Brixton Hall, he (Bro. Massey) had expressed the hope that that would be the last time that he should be called on to perform the ceremony, and he hoped that every Master who succeeded to the chair would assume that office with the conviction that he would not have performed the duties of the chair unless he had installed his successor.

The Worshipful Master then proposed "The Health of the Officers of the Lodge," which was duly responded to, and the Tyler's toast brought the proceedings to a close.

In the course of the evening there was some excellent vocal music, contributed by Bros. Dalgety Henderson, 2190; Sackville Evans, 1743; Merton Chatto, 2182; Schartau, McCall Chambers (visitors), and by Bros. J. D. Irvine, James Walker, and Rendle, members of the lodge.

The following brethren were among the visitors: Richard Eve, 1, P.G. Treas.; Edward Terry, 29, P.G. Treas.; A. C. Morton, P.M. 9; J. H. Smith, P.M. 279; E. Massey, P.M. 1297; W. E. Chapman, W.M. 2190; T. Preston, Sec. 1669; T. Betts, 2190; E. Barnes, 1362; F. Darlington, 1110; S. Knight, 574; A. Allison, 573; and H. Joyce, P.M. 507.

Queen's Westminster Lodge (No. 2021).

—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday evening, December 23rd, at the Holborn Restaurant, when there were present Bros. P. J. Canning, W.M.; A. Jones, I.P.M.; Walter R. Hunt, S.W.; F. W. Kingdon, J.W.; Charles P. Bellerby, P.M., Treas.; George Coop, P.M., Sec.; Charles Godfrey, S.D.; W. J. Rowe, J.D.; J. B. Jordan, D.C.; R. J. Harnell, I.G.; E. P. Delevanti, Org.; Frank Ford and R. W. Shipway, Stewards; Chas. Kempton, P.M.; Surgeon Robert Cross, P.M.; Payne, P.M.; and H. C. Lambert, P.M. Among the visitors were Bros. S. Rhodes, 190; G. S. Graham, 1851; F. Byrne, 1922; Frank Surrey, 858; H. Massey, P.M. 1928; J. N. Usher, 28; E. E. Elverston, I.P.M. 1155; W. C. Page, P.M. 1475; C. R. Ellis, P.M., Treas. 1982; T. Fleury, 2030; W. Power, 2030; C. Boizot, 1624; W. Mathews, 28; H. Gross, I.P.M. 1314; S. Webb, P.M., Treas. 1931, 1287; J. Hemming, I.P.M. 1287; T. Bowker, 504; W. Baleham, 1604; A. Bullock, P.M. 101; George Sawyer, 1415; F. Fisher and W. J. Lancaster, 101; A. E. Howard, 1445; J. Mumford, P.M. 109; T. Owen, P.M. 1287; W. S. Miller, 2264; J. D. Rees, 733; G. Mogford, 2362; J. W. Belsham, J.W. 733; W. Robinson, 860; W. H. Hobbiss, I.P.M. 858; B. H. Secker, 453, P.M. 435; and J. L. Cornu, P.M. 860. There were also present a large number of lay members of the lodge.

After the formal business of the lodge had been transacted, the W.M. initiated Mr. Adam Richardson, Sergeant-Major Queen's Westminster Rifle Volunteers, performing his work in an admirable manner. The Audit Committee's report, which was very favourable, having been received and adopted, Bro. Alexander Jones, I.P.M., at the request of the W.M., assumed the chair, and installed Bro. Hunt as W.M. of the lodge, after which the following brethren were invested as his officers for the ensuing year: Bros. F. W. Kingdon, S.W.; C. Godfrey, J.W.; C. P. Bellerby, P.M., Treas.; G. Coop, P.M., Sec.; W. J. Rowe, S.D.; R. J. Harnell, J.D.; J. B. Jordan, I.G.; E. R. Holton, D.C.; F. Ford, A.D.C.; Col. R. W. Shipway and E. Rosenberger, Stewards; E. P. Delevanti, Org.; and Sergt. Bradley, Tyler. Bro. Payne afterwards, as the oldest Past Master of the lodge, presented Bro. Coop, P.M. and Sec., in the name of the lodge, with a purse of sovereigns, subscribed for by 50 members of the lodge, and a handsomely-illuminated testimonial, framed and glazed, the object of which is expressed in the words of the testimonial as follows: "Queen's Westminster Lodge, No. 2021. This testimonial, together with a purse of sovereigns, was presented to Bro. George Coop, P.M. 2021, P.Z. 1604, at the installation meeting, December 16th, 1890, in recognition of his zealous and unstinted services as Secretary of the lodge since its consecration in 1883. W. Bro. Major George Lambert, P.G.S.B., W.M. 1883—84; Bro. P. J. Canning, W.M. 1889—90; Bro. W. R. Hunt, W.M. elect; Bro. F. W. Kingdon, J.W.; Bro. C. P. Bellerby, P.M., Treas.; and Bro. Charles Kempton, P.M., Sec."

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the Venetian Room to an elegant banquet. The usual toasts followed.

After the toasts of "The Queen and the Craft," "The M.W.G.M.," "The Deputy Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," had been honoured,

Bro. Canning, I.P.M., proposed "The W.M." In doing so he said that was a very easy task, because the subject of the toast was one who commended himself in the highest degree to the brethren. In Bro. Hunt's presence it would ill become him, and it would not accord with the ideas of the brethren, that he should say anything at all in praise of the W.M. It was with great feelings of pleasure that he vacated the chair in order that he should give place to so good a Mason and so dear a friend as Bro. Hunt. He and Bro. Hunt entered Masonry together hand in hand; they were initiated on the first working meeting of the lodge, and they had come up step by step. By a slight accident of seniority he (Bro. Canning) entered the chair first; he now vacated it and Bro. Hunt entered it, and he congratulated Bro. Hunt on his high position.

The Worshipful Master, in replying, said that he and the I.P.M. certainly did enter Freemasonry together. Since then they had gone up the ladder step by step in every Degree. He thanked the brethren sincerely for the way they had drunk that toast, and when he gave up the gavel he hoped to hand over the charter to his successor, and that it would not have suffered in his hands, but that lustre would be added to that which it had already gained.

The Worshipful Master, in proposing "The Installing Master, the I.P.M., and the Past Masters," said the toast required little praise, for all the brethren knew the qualifications of the brethren included in it. As for the Installing Master, it had been quite a treat to be present in the lodge while he was performing the ceremony of installation, and he congratulated him on his achievement. But all the Past Masters were good men and true, and had done good service in the Queen's Westminster Lodge. He had very great pleasure, on behalf of the lodge, to hand to Bro. Canning, I.P.M., a Past Master's jewel, which he now pinned on his breast. In doing so he was sure—he felt sure

—that Bro. Canning would receive it with as great pleasure as it gave the lodge to present it, and he hoped the I.P.M. would live many years of happiness to be among the brethren and exhibit it.

Bro. Canning, I.P.M., in acknowledging the toast and the presentation, said it was a fit ending to his year of office, because he had been so well assisted by everybody during that year. All had ably helped him to keep up the prestige of the Queen's Westminster year; they had attended regularly, and there had been a fair number of initiates. He hoped those initiates would prove to be second to none who had preceded them. The funds had not been squandered. He handed over to his successor a larger amount than he received at the commencement of his year, and altogether he showed a very fair record. He could all the more appreciate the way in which the brethren had drunk the toast. It only remained for him to speak of the kind memento they had given him. He thoroughly appreciated it, and as long as he lived he hoped it would be worn regularly in the lodge, for he trusted he should attend regularly, notwithstanding he had passed the chair. The jewel would be a very pleasing memento to him of his year of office.

Bro. Alex. Jones, P.M., said it was a matter of great pride and gratification to him, that he hoped he should be able to install the two first initiates in the lodge as W.M., and he thanked the brethren for the privilege thus conferred on him.

Bro. Dr. Cross, P.M., Surgeon-Major of the Queen's Westminster Rifles, who is 83 years of age, and has been a Mason for over 50 years, was received with the heartiest applause when he rose to respond in compliance with loud calls for him. He said that old as he was he still had a very warm heart not only for the Queen's Westminster Lodge but for the Queen's Westminster Regiment. It was a great satisfaction to him that he had been honoured by being permitted to wear the Queen's uniform. It was very true that he did not himself retire, but he "was retired" because he was too old. It might be that he was almost a fossil Freemason, and a fossil member of the Queen's Westminster Rifle Brigade. Nevertheless he felt great satisfaction in coming among the brethren. The uniform he wore associated him not only with his old comrades but also with his brother Freemasons, and he was greatly privileged thereby. He felt pleasure in meeting the brethren, not only in that lodge but also in his former regiment. He must add that he felt very much gratified to see Bro. Hunt in the position of W.M. He was an old comrade as well as a brother Mason, and had passed through the various gradations, which eventually ended in his being placed in the chair. He hoped Bro. Hunt would fill it well and ably, and show that he was the right man in the right place. He asked the brethren to accept his grateful thanks.

Bro. Major Lambert, P.M., also replied, regretting first the absence of their good old friend George Lambert, founder of the lodge. He could assure the brethren that Bro. G. Lambert told him that evening that he was grieved he was unable to attend, but he had had such a week of work that he was incapacitated from attending. Then as to the absence of Bro. Probyn, P.M., the brethren knew he held an important position in the London County Council, and that was the cause he was not present. With regard to all the Past Masters, he hoped they would live many years to be associated with and to assist that lodge.

Bro. Kempton, P.M., also replied. He said he was pleased to see the growth of the lodge, and he wished the W.M. a splendid and prosperous year.

Bro. Richardson responded to the toast of "The Initiate."

Several brethren responded to "The Visitors."

Bro. Bellerby, P.M., replied as Treasurer.

Bro. G. Coop, P.M., replying as Secretary, said: I feel I am particularly fortunate in being associated with so successful an institution as the Volunteer movement, and when I tell you that I joined the force in the autumn of 1859, and have been a sergeant in the Queen's for over 18 years, you can readily understand that many very agreeable and pleasant associations have to be remembered in the course of that time, but one of the most precious is in being associated with our Worshipful Bro. George Lambert, and with Bro. C. T. Bellerby (for the second time Treasurer of our Queen's Westminster Lodge) in its conception and consecration. For seven years I have had the honour to be the Secretary of 2021, and during the whole of that time I have received nothing but kindness and fraternal regard from you. This has now culminated in the very tangible token of your esteem, which was presented to me in the lodge to-day. Brethren, I assure you I prize it very highly, and this beautiful vellum will be placed in the most prominent place in my home, and it will always be regarded as an incentive to further effort to do all that is possible in order that this most successful lodge may continue to be renowned as a lodge second to none in usefulness and for the brotherly and right good feeling which is so prominent a feature in it. W.M. and brethren, I thank you.

The other toasts followed.

The evening was enlivened by some good singing by Miss Florence V. Hamilton, Bros. Henry J. Courtney, and Charlie Wood, under the direction of Bro. Delevanti, Organist.

Scots Lodge (No. 2319).—An emergency meeting of this lodge was held on Saturday, December 27th, at the Scottish Corporation Hall, Crane Court, Fleetstreet, under the presidency of the W.M., Bro. John Whitehead. Among the brethren present were Bros. John Page, S.W.; D. F. Gellion, J.W.; Thos. Grant, S.D.; Joseph Whitehead, J.D.; Capt. Campbell, D.C.; E. J. Gordon, A.D.C.; D. R. Duncan, Org.; James Thomson, Sec.; James Gray, P.M.; W. Craig, J. Plenderleith, D. Charteris, G. Henderson, R. Pennacchini, D. McKay, and W. Lawrie. Visitors: Bros. James Morrison McLeod, Prov. S.G.W. Derbyshire, Sec. R.M.I.B.; J. B. Atkins, P.M. 196 and 2253, G.D.C. Barbadoes; G. Arnold, P.M. 737, P.P.G.S. of W. Norths and Hunts; E. C. Mulvey, P.M. 179 and 2353, P.G.S.B. Surrey, &c.; W. T. Perkins, W.M. 1928; H. Massey, P.M. 1928; H. E. Coffin, P.M. 167; James Thom, W.M. 2331, St. George's Lodge (S.C.); James W. Gaze, I.P.M. 1768; T. C. Edmonds, P.M. 1507; H. E. Fraser, I.P.M. 2206; Jas. Cowan, P.M. 1572; Sergt. McLernon, 552; Jas. R. MacArthur, 508; Chas. M. Overton, 199; J. Manning, I.G. 1928; Walter Fraser, St. James Lodge (S.C.); D. Davidson, Rising Star Lodge, Rawal Pindi; H. Cronin, A. Nottingham, Dr. Anderson, and W. Powell, of 2206; T. W. Bintliffe, 2231; A. C. Whitaker, 1910; C. K. Moore, J.D. 1928; W. R. Waller, 1804; H. Comfort, 1572;

James Brown, J.D. 507; R. J. Smerdon, 1507; G. F. Fry, 1507; F. V. Mackenzie, Canongate Kilwinning Lodge (S.C.); and others.

The W.M. raised Bro. Pennacchini, passed Bro. Beaton, and initiated Messrs. Daniel McKay and W. Lawrie. This being the last Saturday in the year, a "Happy New Year" was drunk to all and each. The lodge was called off after the Third Degree, and the loving cup passed round, when each brother drank "To the Master, Past Masters, Officers, and Brethren, all Hail."

The Scottish New Year's Day refreshments consisted of the following homely delicacies: Currant-loaf, shortbread, oat-cakes, gingerbread, Pitcasthley bannocks, parlies, Dundee cake, cheese (a weel hained kebbuck), sweetsies (Ferguson's Edinburgh rock and Glasca' jeelie—i.e., carraways), whiskey, wine, and ginger-ale, with various beef, mutton, and ham sandwiches, and also cigars.

The W.M. gave the following Christmas card to the brethren:—"Christmas, 1890. Dear Sir and Brother,—I greet all the Past Masters, Wardens, officers, and brethren of the Scots Lodge with hearty good wishes for a merry Yuletide, and wish you and yours a blythe New Year, an' mony o' them, with plenty gear, guid health, and pleasour.—Yours very truly and fraternally, JOHN WHITEHEAD, W.M."

"Here's to the friends we can trust,
When the storms of adversity blow,
May they live in our song, an' be nearest our hearts,
Nor depart like the year that's awa'."

PROVINCIAL MEETINGS.

BATLEY.

Scarborough Lodge (No. 1214).—The annual festival of this lodge was held on the 23rd December, at the Station Hotel, in the presence of a goodly gathering of brethren from Leeds. Bro. I. Kenworthy Blakey was placed in the chair of K.S. by Bro. Fawcett, P.M., assisted by Bro. Cantrill, P.M. The officers for the ensuing year are Bros. Jno. H. Bomley, S.W.; Rev. J. H. Evans, M.A., P.G. Chap., J.W.; Hemmingway, P.M., P.P.G. Treas., Treasurer; Thos. Cantrill, P.M., Sec.; Hemmingway, P.M., S.D.; Critchley, P.M., J.D.; Fawcett, P.M., D.C.; Oldroyd, P.M., I.G.; and Ineson, Tyler.

At the subsequent banquet the usual Masonic toasts received due honour, and a most enjoyable evening was spent in speech and song.

CHELMSFORD.

Lodge of Good Fellowship (No. 276).

The annual installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Corn Exchange, on Thursday afternoon, December 18th, when there was a large attendance of members of the lodge and visitors. The principal business of the meeting was the installation of Bro. Charles Williams, S.W., as W.M. for the ensuing year, the ceremony appertaining to which was ably performed by the outgoing W.M., Bro. T. Rymer Jarvis, Prov. S.G.D. The officers for the year were appointed and invested as under: Bros. F. H. Meggy, S.W.; A. J. Pitts, J.W.; Rev. F. B. Shepherd, P.M., P.P.S.G.W., Chap.; Arthur Mead, P.M., P.P.G. Supt. of Works, Treas.; J. P. Lewin, P.M., P.P.G. Supt. of Works, Sec.; S. B. Baker, S.D.; E. J. Wick, J.D.; A. Durrant, P.M., P.P.S.G.D., D.C.; F. P. Suthery, P.M., P.P.S.G.D., Organist; F. H. Coppin, I.G.; De Buriatte and R. Cook, Stewards; and T. S. Sarel, Tyler. The W.M. was elected to represent the lodge on the Essex Provincial Charity Committee. It was announced by the Secretary that the Rev. F. B. Shepherd, a very old P.M. of the lodge, and one who had been in good health been a most active member, had expressed a wish to resign his membership. A suggestion that he should be elected an honorary member was unanimously agreed to. The W.M. proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the I.P.M. for the able way in which he had performed the installation ceremony. It was the first time, he believed, for several years since the work had been done by a member of their own lodge, and he felt particularly indebted to Bro. Jarvis for the trouble he had taken to perfect himself in the work. Bro. Meggy, S.W., seconded the motion, but hoped that one of the Past Masters would propose some more tangible form of recognition than a mere resolution. Bro. J. S. Brown, P.M., P.P.S.G.D., gave notice that at the next meeting he should propose that a Past Master's jewel should be given to Bro. Jarvis from the lodge funds if they would allow it, and if they would not, then it should be done by subscriptions amongst the members. Notice was also given of a motion to purchase new collars for the officers.

About 40 brethren afterwards sat down to a banquet at the White Hart Hotel, excellently served by Bro. A. M. Hipkins.

The toast list was interspersed with songs by Bros. W. J. Upton, E. Gowers, A. C. Durrant, W. Tanner, E. Moat, G. Sargent, and E. J. Wick. The guests included Bros. Geo. Cooper, P.G.D.; T. J. Ralling, P.A.G.D.C., P.G. Sec.; Rev. Thos. Lloyd, W.M. 2342, P.P.G. Chap. Staffs; Edmund Gowers, W.M. 1024, P.P.G. Org.; F. George Green, P.M. and Sec. 1024, P.P.G. Chap.; G. F. Smith, W.M. 1977; W. J. Harvey, W.M. 1734; J. Ashdown, W.M. 697; J. French Bromhead, W.M. 2318, J.W. 2374; F. Lardon, W.M. elect 214; and others.

CHINGFORD.

William Shurmur Lodge (No. 2374).

The first meeting of this lodge was held on the 23rd December, at the Royal Forest Hotel, when there were present Bros. William Shurmur, P.G. Treas., W.M.; H. J. Hallows, I.P.M.; D. P. Holness, S.W.; H. French Bromhead, J.W.; Natl. Fortescue, Treas.; James Pinder, P.M., Sec.; James Speller, S.D.; Richd. Kershaw, J.D.; D. Campbell, I.G.; Fred Taylor, Org.; Chas. H. Bestow, Joseph Holland, Christian Horst, and S. C. Kaufman, Stwds.; W. B. Whittingham, W. D. Church, D. Legg, J. M. Calver, J. Hall, Brown, Richard Perry, A. Botibol, Richd. Jeremy, Wm. Alcock, B. Nicholson, J. R. Cordell, W. E. Dring, R. A. Chillingworth, W. W. Cook, Wm. Kirkland, Geo. Chamberlain, and many others. The visitors present included Bros. J. H. Wildash, P.M. 1662; Sidney Napper, W.M. 1471; W. D. Church, W.M. 1365; James Bishop, P.M. 1066; W. F. Stauffer, 19; E. Wilson, 1662; W. Banks, 1365; W. Lintott, 1365; W. Bradbear, 1365; Arthur Church, 1365; and others.

Twenty-four candidates for initiation and 19 joining members were unanimously approved, and the following

five candidates, viz.: Messrs. Walter Fortescue, Henry Frederick Waring, James Henry Liebrecht Bishop, Alfred H. Wilson, and James Drysdale (all Lewises), were initiated into Freemasonry in the most perfect and highly impressive manner, reflecting the greatest credit on all engaged. The charge was delivered by the W.M. with thrilling effect. Ten guineas were voted to the Boys' School Pension Indemnity Fund. Many fresh propositions for initiation and joining were received.

The brethren then adjourned to the banqueting hall, where Bro. Major Gordon provided an excellent repast.

The usual loyal and complimentary toasts were duly and cordially honoured.

The Worshipful Master eloquently and gracefully proposed the toast of "The Initiates," all of whom suitably responded, proving they were worthy sons of worthy Masons.

The toast of "The Visitors" elicited very cordial and complimentary replies from Bros. J. H. Wildash, James Bishop, Eli Wilson, Sidney Napper, Walter Banks, Arthur Church, and W. Bradbear.

Bros. F. Taylor, Arthur Church, J. H. Bishop, Walter Banks, R. A. Chillingworth, and the Epping Forest Glee Union kindly entertained the brethren by their vocal and instrumental performances.

The Tyler's toast closed the proceedings.

DENTON.

Duke of Athol Lodge (No. 210).—The meeting for the installation of the W.M. was held in the lodge room at the Bowling Green Hotel, on Wednesday, the 17th December. There was a moderate attendance of members and visitors. The lodge having been opened, the minutes were read and confirmed and the balance sheet was received and adopted. The installation of Bro. S. Fidler, W.M. elect, was then proceeded with, the Installing Master being Bro. Thos. Milton, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br., D.C., who, it is needless to say, discharged the duties in a most efficient and impressive manner and to the satisfaction of the brethren present. The working tools were presented in the First and Third Degrees by Bro. Foreman, and those of the Second Degree by Bro. George Marsh, I.P.M. The W.M. afterwards appointed, and Bro. Milton, P.M., at the request of the W.M., invested the officers for the year, who were as follows: Bros. John Tew, S.W.; W. F. Chambers, J.W.; James Woolfenden, P.M., Treas.; Alfred C. Morris, Sec.; Thos. Milton, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br., D.C.; J. M. Veevers, S.D.; G. C. Taylor, J.D.; J. E. Smith, I.G.; D. Lever, Org.; Geo. Pugh, P.M., Tyler; S. Grundy and J. Worrall, Stwds. Bro. Milton explained their respective duties in a very appropriate manner, and then gave the address to the W.M., the Wardens, and the final address to the brethren.

The lodge was afterwards closed, and the Festival of St. John the Evangelist was held, and brethren to the number of 45 sat down to a *recherché* repast presided over by Bro. Fidler, W.M.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts having been suitably honoured,

Bro. Foreman proposed "The Health of the W.M., Bro. Fidler."

The Worshipful Master having replied, Bro. Captain Lingard, P.J.G.W., gave the toast of "The I.P.M. and Installing Masters," which was responded to by Bros. Milton, P.M., and Foreman.

Bro. Milton, in his reply, stated that during his uninterrupted attendance at the lodge meetings for over 20 years it had always been his endeavour to fulfil any office or perform any duty assigned to him, and, health and strength permitting, he trusted he would be able to continue to do so.

Bro. J. E. Smith, J.D., next proposed the toast of "The Past Masters," to which Bro. Epplestone, on behalf of the Past Masters, responded.

The toast of "The Newly-Invested Officers" was afterwards proposed, and suitably acknowledged by Bro. W. B. Chambers, J.W.

"The Masonic Charities" was proposed by Bro. Milton, P.M.

The last toast—"To all Poor and Distressed Masons"—having been duly proposed, a pleasant evening was brought to a close.

Songs were interspersed between the toasts by Bros. John Radcliffe, F. Moore, W. F. Chambers, Worrall Burgess, and T. W. Radcliffe.

HUDDERSFIELD.

Lodge of Harmony (No. 275).—The installation of Bro. John Ward, S.W., took place in the Masonic Hall, South Parade, on Tuesday evening, the 23rd December, the ceremony being performed by Bro. R. H. Armitage, P.G.P. There was a large attendance of visitors and brethren, amongst the former were Bros. H. Smith, P.M., Deputy P.G.M., and H. Green, P.G. Sec. The following officers were invested: Bros. H. B. Kaye, S.W.; Norman Porritt, J.W.; A. J. H. Fletcher, Treas.; Ralph Cuthbert, Sec.; W. Storry, Reg.; R. H. Inman, D.C.; Joshua Marshall, P.M., P.P.G.O., Org.; Heaps, S.D.; J. N. Richardson, J.D.; Alfred Armitage, I.G.; H. N. Crowther, P.M., Armitage, P.M., T. D. Ruddock, E. Haley, and C. A. Swaine, Stwds.; and Geo. Platts, Tyler.

The brethren afterwards sat down to an excellent banquet, at which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given. Songs were given by Bros. Cuthbert, Edward Haley, W. Harrop, Jubb, and Ward, Bro. J. Marshall presiding at the pianoforte.

HULL.

Humber Lodge (No. 57).—On Saturday evening, December, 27th, Bro. J. Henderson was installed in the chair of K.S. The Installing Officer was Bro. G. Wilson, P.M., P.P.G.D., and the imposing ceremony was satisfactorily performed, Bro. Wilson being tendered a vote of thanks for his services. Subsequently the newly-installed W.M. invested the following brethren as his officers for the ensuing year: Bros. J. Matthews, I.P.M.; G. Latus, S.W.; W. C. Bradley, J.W.; D. J. O'Donoghue, Chap.; T. Thompson, P.M., P.P.S.G.D., Treas.; W. Tesseyman, P.M., Treas. Benevolent and Pension Fund; M. Kemp, P.M., Treas. Sinking Fund; W. D. Keyworth, P.M. Treas. and Almoner Poor Fund; M. Haberland, P.M., Lec. M.; T. G. Milner, Hon. Sec.; B. S. Oates, Asst. Sec.; H. Usher, S.D.; G. Pantom, J.D.; J. Hargreaves, D.C.; J. R. Stringer, Organist; W. W. Fletcher, Librarian; Dr. F. Wilson, I.G.; J. Milestone, Chapman, Hargreaves, Shaw, Haberland, Morrill, and Glassman,

Stwds. There was a large attendance of brethren of the lodge, and the following is a list of the visitors: Bros. T. Foley, W.M. 294; J. Edgar, S.W. 294; F. J. Brodric, W.M. 1010; G. Lamb, 1010; M. C. Peck, P.G. Sec., P.G. Std. Br. England; J. M. Towler, S.W. 250; J. M. Bell, J.W. 250; S. P. Brekke, 250; G. H. Metcalfe, 250; T. B. Redfearn, W.M. 2134, P.A.G. Sec.; G. Leigh, J.W. 2134; J. Snowden, 2134; F. Winter, J.W. 1605; E. P. Harmer, 1605; Haigh, Alexandra Lodge; A. J. Peacock, S.D. Aire and Calder Lodge; F. Goodridge, P.M. Aire and Calder Lodge; R. Hodgson, 566; and H. Brooks.

Subsequently the customary banquet was held, and afterwards the loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed by the W.M., who presided.

Bro. M. C. Peck, P.G. Sec., P.G. Std. Br. Eng., responded for "The Grand Rulers," and Bro. S. Rutter, P.S.G.D. North and East Yorks, for "The Prov. Grand Rulers."

Bro. H. Toozes, P.M., proposed "The W.M. of the Humber Lodge, and the Newly-Appointed Officers," and observed that Bro. Henderson, he believed, would do honour to the lodge, and to Freemasonry in general. He also complimented the officers upon their appointment.

The Worshipful Master, who was received with applause, said, in responding, that he was an untried and young Mason, and he felt very proud to be placed in the chair of the Humber Lodge, which was one of the largest and wealthiest in the kingdom. He could only say that while he held the position he would do the best he could to further the interests of Freemasons in general, and of the Humber Lodge in particular. He trusted that he could rely on the hearty support of his brethren. With regard to his officers, he had had very few appointments to make, and a host of brethren whom he should have liked to put into office, but if there were any disappointed ones their turn would come if they persevered. He hoped the selections he had made would be agreeable to the members of the lodge, and he hoped that all would unitedly work together to further the interests of the Humber Lodge.

The S.W. and the J.W. also responded.

The Worshipful Master then proposed "The Retiring W.M. and his Officers." He said Bro. Matthews had had a successful year of office, and his genial disposition had endeared him to a great many of the members of the lodge. The retiring W.M. had also been well supported by his officers.

The I.P.M., Bro. Matthews, replied, and, after alluding to the responsibility of the W.M.'s position, said he was pleased to say that he had been admirably assisted by his officers.

Bro. Roach, I.P.S.W., also responded in feeling terms.

The Worshipful Master submitted "The Health of the Installing Officer," to which Bro. G. Wilson, P.M., P.P.G.D., responded.

Bro. M. C. Peck, Prov. G. Sec., in proposing "The Founders of the Humber Lodge," observed that, whilst celebrating the time-honoured Festival of St. John, and offering their felicitations to the newly-installed W.M., he must be permitted to refer to the origin of the lodge, and in imagination conduct the brethren to the humble hostelry where it first saw light. Like many other great institutions that lodge commenced in a very small way, and the scanty record (which he read) of its first meeting, held at the Fleece Inn, in the Market-place, on the 16th March, 1809, was interesting and instructive, when contrasted with the position which the lodge had now attained as the largest and most opulent under the English Constitution. All honour, then, to those worthy Masons of old who laid the solid foundation upon which had been reared such a noble edifice. Well might those present, who reaped the benefit of their prudence and wisdom, annually pay a tribute of respect to their names, and dedicate a libation to the immortal memory of the founders of the Humber Lodge.

The toast was honoured in solemn silence.

Bro. J. H. Green gave "The Past Masters, Trustees, and Treasurers of the Humber Lodge," which was acknowledged by Bro. Walton, P.M., on behalf of the P.M.'s, by Bro. Beevers, P.M., for the Trustees, and Bro. Keyworth, P.M., on behalf of the Treasurers.

Bro. Corris appropriately submitted "The Sister Lodges," which was responded to by the several representatives.

Bro. Tesseyman, P.M., proposed "The Masonic Charities," and Bro. O'Donoghue, P.M., replied.

Other toasts followed, and the evening was agreeably spent. Bro. J. H. Stringer, P.P.G.O., presided at the pianoforte, and songs were sung and recitations given by a number of the brethren.

KIRKBRURTON.

Beaumont Lodge (No. 2035).—The annual meeting for the installation of W.M. for the ensuing year took place in the Masonic Hall on Saturday, December 20th. The lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. the Rev. R. Collins, M.A., P.P.G. Chaplain. Bro. Oswald Drummond, S.W., was then installed as W.M. by Bro. Collins, the ceremony being performed in a most impressive manner. Bro. W. H. Jessop, P.M., P.G.D., acting as D.C., Bro. L. B. Brierley gave the addresses to the W.M., Wardens, and brethren in his usual well known good style. The following officers were then invested: Bros. J. W. Cocking, S.W.; J. W. Senior, J.W.; Rev. T. M. Turnbull, B.A., Chaplain; Wm. Fitton, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., Treas.; C. Hargreaves, Reg.; B. H. Moxon, Sec.; H. Field, P.M., as S.D., for Bro. Gledhill; J. Kay, J.D.; Fillans, D.C.; Mitchell, Org.; W. Denham, I.G.; L. B. Brierley, P.M., P.P.G.D., and A. S. Jessop, Stwds.; and A. Shaw, Tyler. There were a great number of visiting brethren.

Afterwards the brethren sat down to an excellent banquet, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts being given, interspersed with music, and a pleasant evening was spent.

LEEDS.

Alfred Lodge (No. 306).—At the meeting on December 5th in the Masonic Hall, Great George-street, Bro. J. Cooper Malcom, P.M., P.P.G. Reg., was installed W.M. for the second time. The newly-invested officers are Bros. the Rev. Claude A. Lambert, B.A., S.W.; D. Wedderpoon, J.W.; J. Dyson, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., Treas.; W. Towers, Sec.; A. Neill, S.D.; J. F. Towers, J.D.; G. Darley, I.G.; S. E. Seanor, P.M., D.C.; Flockton, Org.; C. Fenton and E. Harlow, Stwds.; J. Thrippleton, Prov. Charity Steward; and S. Barrand, Tyler.

Bro. Malcolm celebrated his second term of office by a largely-attended and most successful "At Home," which was participated in by members of most of the Leeds lodges.

Excelsior Lodge (No. 1042).—The installation of this lodge took place on December 18th, in the Masonic Hall, Great George-street, in the presence of a large and distinguished gathering of the Fraternity of Leeds and district. Bro. Thompson acted as Installing Master, and very well did he go through this interesting ceremony. The newly-installed Master, Bro. John I. Booth, invested his officers as follows: Bros. H. Cowbrough, sen., I.P.M.; T. Thorp, S.W.; J. W. Blackburn, J.W.; H. Cowbrough, jun., Treas.; J. B. Mays, Sec.; A. Atkinson, S.D.; R. J. Smith, J.D.; Thompson, P.M., D.C.; Crosby, P.M., Org.; T. Sutton, I.G.; R. Waide and A. J. Dobson, Stewards; and S. Barrand, Tyler.

At the subsequent banquet a long list of toasts was duly honoured, and a happy and harmonious evening was spent.

LEVENSHULME.

Alexandra Lodge (No. 993).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Midway Hotel, on Saturday, December 20th, when Bro. James Fletcher was duly installed W.M. Bro. W. H. Peak, P.M., D.C., acted as Installing Master, assisted by Bros. Geo. Yates, P.M.; W. T. Allitt, P.M.; and C. D. Cheetham, P.P.G.D. The following were invested as officers for the ensuing year: Bros. Robert Goddard, I.P.M.; John Parker, P.M., S.W.; R. E. Walker, J.W.; W. H. Bibby, Treas.; H. Clulow, Sec.; Dr. J. E. Looker, S.D.; F. W. Edwards, J.D.; C. T. Green, I.G.; Samuel Lord, Org.; W. T. Allitt, P.M., D.C.; and George Ferguson, J. Kennedy, T. Plumpton, R. B. Osborn, A. Pearce, H. G. Ward, and F. F. Mottram, Stewards.

The newly-installed W.M. afterwards presided at a banquet in celebration of the Festival of St. John, when the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were honoured.

Songs were given by Bros. Bardsley, Peak, Robinson, and Walker, Bro. J. Varley, P.P.G.O., acting as accompanist, and Bro. R. Dottie, P.M., gave amusing recitations.

A very handsome Past Master's jewel was presented to Bro. R. Goddard, I.P.M., for his valuable services during the past year. The jewel was manufactured by Bro. George Kenning.

LEWES.

South Saxon Lodge (No. 311).—The ordinary monthly meeting of this lodge was held on December 17th, at Freemasons' Hall. After the usual routine business, Bro. W. Wright, P.M. 1303, Prov. G. Steward, S.W., was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year, and suitably returned thanks. Bro. P. Adames, P.M., P.P.G.D., was also elected Treasurer. Two gentlemen were proposed for initiation, and the lodge was closed.

OLD BROMPTON.

Brownrigg Lodge of Unity (No. 1424).—There was a large attendance of the members of this lodge in their lodge room, the King's Arms Hotel, on Tuesday afternoon, December 16th, on the occasion of the installation of Bro. Lawrence Salt as W.M. of the lodge for the ensuing year. The installation ceremony was performed by Bro. Wm. Browne, P.M., and the newly-appointed W.M. was inducted into the chair of K.S., where he received the salutations of the assembled brethren. The following were appointed as officers for the ensuing year: Bros. H. O. Mounter, I.P.M.; H. Chalfont, S.W.; J. J. Long, J.W.; S. E. Morgan, P.M., Treas.; S. J. Crabtree, Sec.; J. Trimble, S.D.; T. Greener, J.D.; W. H. McCarthy, I.G.; W. McEwan, D.C.; Mordy, Org.; G. Burrell and Presnail, Stewards; and C. Rose, Tyler.

At the close of the business of the lodge the brethren adjourned, and partook of their annual banquet under the presidency of the newly-installed W.M., the visitors present including several distinguished Provincial Grand Officers.

It was stated that the lodge, which is largely composed of members of the Army and Navy, was never in a more flourishing condition than at the present time.

PLYMOUTH.

St. John's Lodge (No. 70).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Saturday, the 27th December, at the Masonic Hall, Princess-square, when Bro. John H. Evans, S.W., was installed as W.M. for the ensuing year, the ceremony being ably performed by Bro. George Sercombe, P.M.; W. T. Hocking, P.M.; R. Pengelly, P.M. and Treas., P.P.G.D.C.; W. Frank Westcott, P.M., P.P.G.D.; James Griffin, P.M., P.P.G.D.; and J. B. Gover, P.M. and Sec., and P.P.G. Sec.; all of the lodge; assisted by the following Board of Installed Masters: Bros. the Rev. Dr. T. W. Lemon, P.M. 189, P.P.G. Chap., P.P.J.G.W.; R. A. Courtney, P.M. 510, P.P.G.W. Cornwall; S. Jew, P.M. 105, P.P.G.T.; John Lord, P.M. 1247, P.P.G.T.; J. W. Cornish, P.M. 223, P.P.G.T.; John Hifley, P.M. 223, P.P.G.D.C.; E. Aitken-Davies, P.M. 1091, P.P.G. Supt. of Wks.; W. Powell, P.M. 1205, P.G.T.; F. Hooper, P.M. 1212, P.P.G.D.C.; C. H. Cooper, P.M. 105, P.P.G.D.; B. S. Johns, P.M. 159, P.P.G.S.B.; James Gidley, P.M. 2025, P.G. Stwd.; R. Pike, P.M. 230, P.P.G. Org.; P. G. L. Pearce, P.M. 1247, P.P.J.G.D.; Thomas Goodall, P.M. 1550, P.P.G. Org.; John Dupré, P.M., P.P.G.D.C.; J. G. Kevern, P.M., P.P.G.D.C.; W. Bird, P.M., P.P.G.T.; J. Moyses, P.M., P.P.G.D.; C. Stribling, P.M., P.P.G.S.B.; W. King, P.M.; F. Wreford, the retiring W.M.; M. C. Lakeman, P.M. 1550; John Leonard, P.M. 202; N. Radmore, P.M. 159; R. Wyatt, P.M. 1247; Fred. R. Goodyear, P.M. 223; W. H. Williams, P.M. 1847; W. Alsford, P.M. 202; A. C. Titherly, W.M. 1550; Frank R. Thomas, P.M. 189; W. H. Crimp, P.M. 1255; G. H. Kitson, P.M. 548; Byron Elliott, P.M. 1247; R. Selmon, P.M. 159; John Wallis, P.M. 1255; J. Oldfield, W.M. 202; W. H. Burt, W.M. 230; Pelham C. Maitland, W.M. 1538; and W. L. Lavers, P.M. 1255.

The W.M. invested the following brethren as his officers for the year ensuing: Bros. Frederick Wreford, I.P.M.; W. L. D. Colling, S.W.; John Hicks, J.W.; V. Bird, P.M., P.P.G. Treas., Chap.; Richard Pengelly, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., Treas.; J. B. Gover, P.M., P.P.G. Sec.; Sec.; G. K. Stanlake, Asst. Sec.; J. Goad, S.D.; John Carr, J.D.; Mark Jacobs, D.C.; W. Holloway, A.D.C.; George E. Sercombe, Org.; J. Burton, I.G.; John Cory, A. G. Collings, George Leach, and George W. Vincet, Stwds.; and W. H. Phillips, Tyler.

Bro. the Rev. Dr. T. W. Lemon presented to the library connected with the lodge a reprint in fac-simile of "Anderson's Constitutions of 1723," and of the "Wilson

Manuscript," being Volume I. of Kenning's "Masonic Archaeological Library." Bro. C. G. Withell, P.M., was unanimously re-elected Librarian, and a cordial vote of thanks was accorded to him for his past services. Mr. Robert G. Edmonds offered for the acceptance of the lodge, through Bro. John B. Gover, P.M., P.P.G. Sec., Sec., the jewels which belonged to his late father, Bro. John Edmonds, P.M. 223, P.P.G. Reg. Devon. The offer was accepted unanimously, and Bro. Gover was specially thanked for the interest he had taken in the matter.

Among the brethren present in addition to those named were Bro. Henry W. Mayne, 189; Thomas Crocker, W. H. Colwill, Frederick Bickell, H. London, W. H. Treasure, J. H. Hamilton, E. Radden, W. J. Musgrove, and T. J. Horne, all of the lodge; W. J. Hooper, 1212; W. Thomas, J.W. 156; J. W. Penwarne, I.G. 1550; D. Webster, 548; J. Buchan, 1247; W. H. Oldfield, S.D. 202; F. Mabin, 105; and J. Gee, 1247.

A pleasant hour was afterwards spent in the refectory.

PORTLAND.

Portland Lodge (No. 1037).—The success which has attended this lodge during the last few years was shown not to have diminished in any way at its last meeting in the old year, held on the 18th December, at the Masonic Hall, Chesil, when the first and third ceremonies were performed, two members for initiation were balloted for, and two as joining members. There were present Bro. C. J. Freeman, P.P.G. Stwd., W.M.; E. Mills, P.G.S.B., I.P.M.; H. Cooke, S.W.; F. W. Crossgrove, J.W.; T. Eveleigh, Chap.; F. T. Dowdeswell, Treas.; N. Ruddock, Sec.; D. J. Lawson, S.D.; H. J. Butcher, J.D.; F. W. Young, I.G.; J. Baker, Org.; J. Hussey and W. Piercy, Stwds.; J. Cooke, Tyler; and A. Graham. The other brethren present, beside visitors, were Bro. J. Casey, A. Philpott, T. Bishop, A. Hodder, A. J. Manning, J. S. Christopher, S. H. Wallis, W. Leather, and H. Schutte.

At the early part of the meeting the W.M. drew the attention of the brethren to the great loss which the lodge was about to sustain by the removal to the north of England of Bro. G. J. Brady, P.P.J.G.W., D.C. This brother was initiated into No. 1037 in December, 1877, and served as Master in 1884 and 1885. He afterwards received two Provincial honours, viz., those of P.G. Org. and P.J.G.W. As D.C. of No. 1037 he was indefatigable, while his untiring energy and zeal became a by-word amongst, and a pattern to, the brethren.

After the business of the evening was concluded, and the brethren had partaken of a substantial repast, carefully provided by the energetic Steward, Bro. Hussey, the usual toasts were duly honoured, and briefly responded to.

Bro. A. Graham, however, found time to address a few words, to the younger brethren especially, recommending to their careful consideration the supporting of the Masonic Charities, especially that of their own county.

The Worshipful Master, in responding to the toast of "The W.M.," heartily wished the brethren the merriest of Christmases and the happiest of New Years.

ROCHDALE.

Probity and Freedom Lodge (No. 367).—

The installation of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall on December 18th, the Installing Master for the occasion being Bro. James Butterworth, P.M., P.P.G.D.

The following were present: Bro. G. T. Dews, W.M.; J. M. Hepworth, Robert Wrigley, J. Butterworth, P.M., P.P.J.G.D., Treas.; S. B. Swain, Sec.; John Ashworth, P.M.; J. Schofield, P.M.; J. Cragg, P.M.; A. R. Rigg, P.M.; J. Ridahaugh, J. Thompson, S. Fletcher, F. Smyth Ross, W. R. Norris, J. W. Hartley, Herbert Dews, J. Brindle, J. Scott, W. Pattison, James Mason, and W. Brierley. Visitors: Bro. J. Brindle, P.P.G.S. of W.; J. H. Kenyon, P.P.S.G.W.; G. H. Barnes, Thos. Margeson, J. Brindle, W. H. Baker, James Brierley, P.M.; G. S. Smith, P.M. 1170; J. T. Ogden, T. Hargreaves, T. H. Williams, P.M.; J. Colvard, R. Hartley, P.M.; W. Norris, T. Parker, P.M. 208; C. Parker, 1129; E. T. Fletcher, P.M.; E. Sykes, 816; and James Bury, 816.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes of the last regular meeting were read and confirmed. The ballot was taken for Mr. Ripley, which proving favourable he was initiated by Bro. Isherwood, P.M. Bro. Butterworth, I.P.M., then took the chair and Bro. J. M. Hepworth, S.W., W.M. elect, was presented by Bro. Schofield, P.M., when the usual ceremony was conducted. The W.M. was saluted and proclaimed in the Three Degrees, and invested his officers as follows: Bro. G. T. Dews, I.P.M.; J. H. Isherwood, P.M., Chap.; R. Wrigley, S.W.; S. Williams, J.W.; J. Butterworth, P.P.G.D. Treas.; L. B. Swain, Sec.; J. Schofield, P.M., D.C.; J. Scott, I.G.; and W. R. Norris, J. Whitworth, and J. Ashurst, Stewards. Bro. Butterworth was heartily congratulated upon the masterly manner he conducted the installation, which was performed entirely by himself.

SLAITHWAITE.

Colne Valley Lodge (No. 1645).—Bro.

Godfrey Woodhead, S.W., was installed W.M. of this lodge on Wednesday, December 24th, in the Masonic Hall, by Bro. John Shaw, P.M., assisted by Bro. John Shoemsmith, P.M., P.G.P. After the installation ceremony the W.M. invested his officers as follows: Bro. J. S. Walker, S.W.; L. A. Dean, J.W.; Robert Bower, Chap.; W. Crowther, I.P.M., Treas.; Jno. Gledhill, Sec.; Samuel Meal, Reg.; Thomas Mallinson, S.D.; Thomas Cocks, J.D.; J. W. Beaumont, I.G.; J. Berry and Edwin Brook, D. of C.'s; John Allen H. Eagland, Org.; John Shaw, P.M., Thomas Varley, Eli Dyson, Wright Blackburn, and P. H. Dean, Stewards; and W. Sykes, Tyler. There was a good attendance of brethren and visitors.

The usual banquet afterwards took place, and the loyal and Masonic toasts having been given, an excellent selection of songs were sung.

SOUTHEND.

Priory Lodge (No. 1000).—A meeting of this

lodge was held on Thursday, December 18th, at the Middleton Hotel, when there were present Bro. W. E. Bridgland, P.M. 933, Prov. G.S.B., W.M.; T. Hood, S.W.; B. Thomas, J.W.; 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, Stewards; A. W. Martin, Tyler; G. J. Glasscock, P.M. 1817, P.P.G.S.B.; G. R. Dawson, P.M., P.P.G.D.; C. Floyd, P.M. 1817, P.P.

A.G.P.; G. Reed, J. J. A. Mason, A. Adams, G. F. Vandervord, B. Fearnside, and J. N. Hobday.

The lodge having been opened, and the minutes read and confirmed, Bro. G. Reed was raised, and Bro. J. J. A. Mason passed, after which Bro. T. Hood, S.W., was unanimously elected W.M. Bro. F. Wood, P.M., P.P.S.G.W., was unanimously re-elected Treasurer, for the 20th year, Bro. A. W. Martin being unanimously re-elected Tyler. Auditors were appointed, and after the W.M. had been congratulated on his recent marriage, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment.

VENTNOR.

Yarborough Lodge (No. 551).—The installation meeting of this flourishing lodge took place on Tuesday, December 16th, at the new Masonic Hall (late Ventnor Club). The lodge having been opened, Bro. Alfred Scott, P.M., P.P.J.G.D., duly and impressively installed the W.M. elect, Bro. J. S. Ineson, into the chair of K.S., who then invested and appointed his officers as follows: Bro. E. Swane, S.W.; F. Sheppard, J.W.; Rev. J. Alloway, P.M., P.P.G.C., Chap.; J. J. Webber, P.M., Treas.; Cole Norman, Sec.; W. Bidgood, S.D.; J. G. Jolliffe, J.D.; R. Woodman, I.G.; E. S. Hope, D.C.; W. Knight, Org.; W. Taylor and W. J. Knight, Stewards; and C. Small, Tyler.

There was a goodly number present considering the inclement weather, amongst others Bro. A. Houston, P.P. A.G.D.C.; F. Trueman, I.P.M.; Theodore Saunders, P.M.; M. Hibberd, F. P. Anslie, P.M., P.P.G.D.; J. Williams, W. Taylor, W. Knight, E. Hope, E. Swane, C. Norman, J. Scott, J. G. Jolliffe, J. Baker, R. H. Woodman, and others. Visitors: Bro. Geo. Mursell, P.M., P.P.G.D.; G. Brannon, W.M. 151; Rev. T. W. Fair, S.W. 175; Shaw, P.M. 1869; Armstrong, M. Linfield, Woodward, G. H. Matthews, and J. E. Shand, P.M. and Sec. 1563 and founder and Sec. 2030 (who came especially from Camden Town upon Bro. Anslie's invitation to attend the lodge). The outgoing Master, Bro. Trueman, was presented with a Past Master's jewel for his services.

Compliments and congratulations were offered upon the successful decoration of the new premises, and after "Hearty good wishes" the lodge closed, and the brethren adjourned to the Royal Hotel, where a capital banquet awaited them.

The customary loyal and Masonic toasts were submitted and duly honoured, also that of "The Visitors," responded to by those present, all expressing their pleasure and gratification with their visit as regards lodge work and the hospitality accorded.

During the evening some excellent songs were sung by Bro. Houston, Trueman, Williams, Hope, Wavell Knight, Swane, and Norman; recitations by Bro. Sheppard and Taylor; and altogether a most enjoyable evening was spent.

YORK.

Albert Victor Lodge (No. 2328).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, December 23rd, in Freemasons' Hall, St. Saviourgate, when there were present Bro. T. B. Whytehead, W.M.; H. L. Swift, S.W.; Carr, as J.W.; Rev. H. Lowther Clarke, as Chap.; J. E. Jones, S.D.; F. Shann, J.D.; Col. Russell, I.G.; C. G. Padel, P.M., Org.; P. Pearson, 1611; and J. R. Parker, Tyler.

The business consisted of the passing of Bro. Rev. E. Bulmer to the Second Degree and the initiation of Mr. J. P. Carr, after which ceremonies the lodge was closed. The brethren dined together previous to the opening of the lodge.

Royal Arch.

CAMBRIDGE.

Pythagoras Chapter (No. 88).—The half-yearly convocation of this chapter was held at the Lion Hotel, on December 17th, when Comp. James Terry, P.G. Std. Br., attended to install the Principals. The officers who retired were Comps. W. I. Pashler, Z.; Thomas Nichols, H.; Oliver Papworth, J.; G. McCallum, Treas.; A. H. Moyes, P.Z., Scribe E.; F. Piggott, Scribe N.; and W. Purchas, P.S. The installation of Principals took place, when Comps. T. Nichols was placed in the chair of M.E.Z., and Comp. J. V. Pryor in that of J. Unfortunately Comp. Oliver Papworth was unable to attend to be installed in the chair of H., which will now be performed in Fidelity Chapter (by invitation). At the general assembly of the chapter the attendance included, besides those named, Comps. J. T. Youngman, P.Z. 441; Jas. M. Harvey, P.Z. 1008; W. Pead, P.Z. 1008; Geo. Cornish, Treas. 1008; J. Campbell Smith, 1008; C. Geldard, P.Z. 859; and a good attendance of the members of the chapter.

After the minutes had been confirmed, the officers appointed in June were invested, namely: Comps. G. McCallum, Treas.; A. H. Moyes, P.Z., Scribe E.; F. Piggott, Scribe N.; W. P. Spalding, P.S.; A. E. Chaplin, 1st A.S.; J. H. Moyes, 2nd A.S.; W. Purchas, Org.; T. Hunnybun, Stwd.; and C. H. Ellis, janitor. Bro. Edwin Cash, 88, was balloted for, elected, and exalted. The work of P.S. was ably performed by Comp. Spalding. The lectures from the Principal's chair were subsequently given in a most impressive manner by Comps. Nichols, Terry (as H.), and Pryor. The Auditors' report on the Treasurer's accounts was of a satisfactory character. The chapter was then closed.

At the subsequent proceedings, Comp. Terry, in responding to the toast of "The Installing Principals," warmly congratulated the Pythagoras Chapter on the excellence of its work, the like of which he had not seen in any part of the country. It was quite unique, he said, and he should have no hesitation in recommending it to his friends in London as worthy of adoption.

The toast of "The Masonic Charities," proposed by Bro. Oliver Papworth, also elicited a happy speech from Comp. Terry.

The toast of "The Supreme Grand Chapter" was suitably acknowledged by Comp. A. H. Moyes.

The Grand Superintendent of the Province, Comp. R. T. Caldwell, was unable to be present through temporary indisposition.

The Duke and Duchess of Teck, accompanied by their daughter, the Princess Victoria of Teck, visited the Criterion Theatre on Monday evening and witnessed a performance of "London Assurance."

Lodges and Chapters of Instruction.

ROBERT BURNS LODGE (No. 25).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, the 16th December, at Tupp's Restaurant, 8, Tottenham Court-road, W., when there were present Bro. W. Shales, W.M.; F. Klein, S.W.; R. Blum, J.W.; E. C. Mulvey, Preceptor; F. G. Bonham, Sec.; F. Marx, S.D.; F. J. Deaton, I.G.; J. W. Harvey, P.M.; C. Grove, P.M.; and others.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Marx, Asst. Preceptor, worked the 1st and 2nd Sections of the Lecture. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Harvey being candidate. The S.W. was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and was pleased to appoint his officers in rotation. It was unanimously carried that a hearty vote of thanks be recorded on the minutes of the lodge for the very able and efficient manner in which Bro. W. Shales fulfilled the office of W.M. for the first time in this lodge. The lodge was then closed.

ZETLAND LODGE (No. 511).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, the 15th December, at the York and Albany, Regent's Park, N.W., when there were present Bro. H. Hazel, W.M.; E. Styles, S.W.; Hunt, J.W.; E. C. Mulvey, P.M., Preceptor; J. P. Pointer, Sec.; T. Casely, P.M., S.D.; Heilbrun, J.D.; C. W. Rex, I.G.; J. A. Myzoul, S. Stretch, jun., E. Robinson, W. J. Ward, and T. J. Patrick.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The 2nd Section of the Lecture was worked by Bro. Casely, P.M. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. T. J. Patrick acting as candidate. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and Bro. E. Robinson answered the questions leading to the Third Degree. The lodge was closed in the Second Degree. The W.M. rose for the first and second times, and the S.W., Bro. E. Styles, was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week. The W.M. rose for the third time, and all Masonic business being ended, the lodge was closed.

RANELAGH LODGE (No. 834).—A meeting was held on the 11th December, at the Six Bells Hotel, Queen-st., Hammersmith, when there were present Bro. James Sims, P.M., W.M.; John Davies, W.M. 169, S.W.; A. Williams, P.M., J.W.; Jesse Collings, P.M., I.P.M.; F. Craggs, Sec. (pro tem.); H. W. Dyne, S.D.; R. Reid, J.D.; T. Jobson, I.G.; H. Blackman, Stwd.; R. H. Williams, P.M., P.P.J.G.D. Middx.; J. B. Cory, A. Chapman, J. Arlidge, Joseph Cox, C. C. Barber, David Stroud, P.M.; H. Wake, F. A. Barth, W. Hillier, E. F. Nash, H. P. Gilbert, P.M.; and M. Spiegel, P.M.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The Fifteen Sections were worked by the brethren as follows, the lodge being opened in the Degrees as occasion required: First Lecture, Bro. Joseph Cox, H. W. Dyne, R. Reid, R. H. Williams, T. Jobson, and John Davies; Second Lecture, Bro. Barth, D. Stroud, T. Jobson, J. Collings, and F. Craggs; Third Lecture, Bro. E. F. Nash, W. Hillier, and R. H. Williams. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree. Votes of thanks were passed to the officers and section workers. Bro. Arlidge, Chapman, and Barber were elected joining members. Bro. Craggs was elected W.M. for the meeting on Friday, December 26th next, Friday being supper night, and the lodge was closed.

COVENT GARDEN LODGE (No. 1614).—The usual meeting of this lodge was held at the Criterion, Piccadilly, S.W., on the 18th December, when there were present Bro. G. H. Foan, W.M.; F. M. Noakes, S.W.; J. Rowe, J.W.; G. Reynolds, Treas. and Sec.; G. H. Reynolds, S.D.; C. O. Burgess, J.D.; J. R. Harnell, I.G.; T. E. Weeks, Tyler; 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. C. O. Burgess having offered himself as a candidate to be raised to the Third Degree, was duly examined, entrusted, and retired. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree. The W.M. rehearsed the Degree of M.M. The W.M. vacated the chair in favour of Bro. G. H. Reynolds. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree. Bro. G. H. Foan having offered himself as a candidate to be passed to the Second Degree, and having answered the necessary questions, was entrusted and retired. The lodge was resumed to the Second Degree. The W.M. rehearsed the Degree of F.C. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree. On rising for the second time, Bro. F. M. Noakes was unanimously elected W.M. for the 1st January, and appointed his officers in rotation. On rising for the third time, Bro. G. Reynolds, Secretary, said that, as the lodge of instruction would not meet till New Year's Day, he thought that evening would be a fitting opportunity to propose that a hearty and cordial vote of thanks, to be entered on the minutes, be given to Bro. G. H. Foan for his kindness, not only that evening, but on several other occasions, for acting as Preceptor, and so helping the lodge of instruction to carry on its work. Seconded by Bro. C. O. Burgess. The W.M., in putting the motion, said he himself, as W.M. elect of the mother lodge, was much pleased to know that amongst his officers he should have a good working Mason beside him in Bro. G. H. Foan—carried unanimously. Bro. G. H. Foan, in a few kind words, thanked the brethren for the great compliment paid him. Nothing further offering for the good of Freemasonry, the lodge was closed. The brethren on parting wished each other all the compliments of the season.

KENSINGTON LODGE (No. 1767).—A meeting was held on Tuesday, the 30th December, at the Scarsdale Arms Hotel, Edwardes-square, Kensington, W. Present: Bro. T. W. Heath, W.M.; J. R. Roberts, W.M. 1642, S.W.; Joseph Cox, J.W.; Geo. Read, P.M., Preceptor; F. Craggs, Sec.; G. Swann, W.M. 865, S.D.; H. Wake, J.D.; E. Ellenden, I.G.; W. C. Williams, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br. Middx.; James Wiggins, W. B. Neville, C. G. Hatt, and C. Woods.

The lodge was duly opened in the Three Degrees, and resumed to the First Degree. The 1st and 2nd Sections of the First Lecture were worked by the Preceptor, assisted by the brethren. The lodge was resumed to the Second

Degree, and Bro. Heath vacated the chair of W.M. in favour of the Preceptor, who proceeded to rehearse the ceremony of installation, Bro. Heath acting as W.M. elect, and Bro. W. C. Williams, as D.C. Bro. Heath rehearsed the investment of officers, and Bro. Read gave the concluding address. Bro. Roberts was elected W.M. for the next meeting, and the lodge was closed.

CREATON LODGE (No. 1791).—A meeting was held on Thursday, December 18th, at the Wheatsheaf Hotel, Goldhawk-road, Shepherd's Bush, W. Present: Bros. Alfred Love, W.M.; W. Hillier, S.W.; J. Arnott, J.W.; James Sims, P.M., Deputy Preceptor; E. Austin, P.M., Treas.; F. Craggs, Sec. (*pro tem.*); W. G. Jennings, S.D.; J. Brown, J.D.; H. J. Richardson, I.G.; H. P. Gilbert, P.M.; R. H. Rogers, P.M.; H. J. Martineau, T. S. Stevens, and W. F. Harbord.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the ceremony of initiation rehearsed. The 1st and 2nd Sections of the Lecture were worked by Bro. Sims, assisted by the brethren. Bro. Hillier was elected W.M. for the next meeting, and the lodge was closed.

CHISWICK LODGE (No. 2012).—A meeting was held on Saturday, December 27th, at the Windsor Castle Hotel, Hammersmith, W., when there were present Bros. A. Williams, P.M., W.M.; W. S. Whiteley, S.W.; W. Hillier, J.W.; J. Sims, P.M., Preceptor; G. Gardner, P.M., Treas.; J. Brown, Sec.; J. N. Baxter, S.D.; F. Craggs, J.D.; M. Spiegel, I.G.; and T. W. Biggs.

Lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The W.M. rehearsed the ceremony of initiation, Bro. Baxter being the candidate. The lodge was opened in the Second and Third Degrees. The 1st Section of the Third Lecture was worked by the brethren, under the direction of Bro. J. Sims, P.M. The lodge was resumed, and on the usual rising, Bro. Whiteley was elected W.M. for the next meeting. Notice was given that the installation ceremony would be rehearsed by the W.M. of the mother lodge on Saturday, the 10th inst. After "Hearty good wishes," the lodge was closed.

THE ABBEY (WESTMINSTER) LODGE (No. 2030).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Friday, the 19th December, at the Town Hall, Westminster, when there were present Bros. Badderley, W.M.; Roberts, S.W.; Barber, J.W.; Brindley, P.M., Preceptor; Coughlan, P.M., Sec.; Budd, Asst. Sec.; Hobbs, S.D.; Bristow, J.D.; White, I.G.; and Balchin, Stwd.

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. Balchin, a candidate to be raised to the Third Degree, answered the usual questions, and was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree. The ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. Balchin being the candidate. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree. Bro. Brindley, a candidate to be passed to the Second Degree, answered the usual questions, and was entrusted. The lodge was resumed to the Second Degree. The ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Brindley being candidate. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree. Bro. Roberts was unanimously elected W.M. for next lodge meeting. Nothing further offering, the lodge was closed.

LOUGHBOROUGH LODGE.—A meeting of this lodge was held at the Gauden Hotel, Clapham, on Monday, the 15th Dec., when there were present Bros. Russell, W.M.; Windsor, S.W.; J. Mitchell, J.W.; Westley, Preceptor; King, S.D.; Steele, J.D.; Lyell, I.G.; Cochrane, Langdon, Poole, Penn, Janau, Livett, Nettleship, Wyer, Balcombe, and George Everett.

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 Degree, and the ceremony of raising being announced, Bro. Langdon offered himself as a candidate, and having answered the usual questions, was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and Bro. Langdon raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason, the W.M. giving the traditional history. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree. The W.M. rose for the first time, and dues were collected. Bro. Penn, 1381, was unanimously elected a joining member, and returned thanks. Bro. Everett returned thanks to the brethren for their kindly help given to him in his nomination to the honourable post of Grand Treasurer. Bro. Russell expressed the satisfaction of the lodge at the event. The W.M. rose for the second time, and Bro. Windsor was unanimously elected W.M. for the next meeting. Bro. Windsor returned thanks, and appointed his officers in rotation. The W.M. rose for the third time, and all Masonic business being ended, the lodge was closed.

ANDREW CHAPTER (No. S34).—A meeting of this chapter was held on Wednesday, the 10th December, at the Windsor Castle Hotel, King-street, Hammersmith, when there were present Comps. W. Hillier, M.E.Z.; J. H. Wood, H.; James Sims, P.Z., J.; W. J. Coplestone, P.S.; and T. Jobson, S.N. The convocation was declared open, and the ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, and the meeting adjourned until Wednesday, the 24th inst.

HORNSEY CHAPTER (No. S90).—A meeting was held on the 19th December, at the Porchester Hotel, Leinster-place, Cleveland-square, Paddington, W., when there were present Comps. H. Dehane, P.Z. S90, S.E. and M.E.Z.; W. Hillier, H.; J. C. Tilt, 1st A.S. S62, J.; E. C. Mulvey, M.E.Z. 2246, J. 2202, S.N. 179, and P.G.D.C. Surrey, S.N.; and G. Gregory, 2nd A.S. S62, P.S.

The chapter was opened, and the minutes of the last convocation were read and confirmed. Royal Arch ritual was discussed, and instruction generally imparted. The M.E.Z. rose the usual number of times. It was agreed that there be no meeting until Friday, the 2nd inst. After "Hearty good wishes," the chapter was closed.

STAR CHAPTER (No. 1275).—The usual weekly meeting of this chapter was held at the Stirling Castle, Camberwell, on the 19th December, when there were present Comps. Phillips, M.E.Z.; Grummant, H.; North, J.; F. Hilton, P.Z., Preceptor; C. H. Stone, S.E.; Stone, S.N.; and Towers, P.S.

The chapter was opened, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, Comp. Hilton personating the candidate. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Comp. Phillips, P.Z., for filling the position of M.E.Z., it being the first time in this chapter of instruction. Comp. J. Grummant, P.Z., was elected M.E.Z. for the next meeting.

BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE.

The monthly meeting of the Board of Benevolence, the last for the year 1890, was held on December 24th, at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. Robert Grey, P.G.D., President of the Board, occupied the chair, Bro. James Brett, P.G.P., Senior Vice-President, was in the Senior Vice-President's chair; and Bro. C. A. Cottebrune, P.G.P., Junior Vice-President, was in the chair of Junior Vice-President. Bros. A. A. Pendlebury, Asst. G. Sec.; W. Dodd, and W. H. Lee represented the office of Grand Secretary, and there were also present Bros. W. P. Brown, D. D. Mercer, Chas. H. Driver, H. Garrod, S. Vallentine, G. B. Chapman, J. B. Grieve, T. W. Whitmarsh, S. H. Goldschmidt, A. C. Woodward, N. Tracy, H. F. Youle, G. C. Whitley, Joseph R. Waller, G. A. Littlewood, C. H. Webb, G. H. Finch, J. Ralling, E. White, H. Massey, J. H. George, C. N. McIntyre North, J. E. C. Winkfield, W. Beasley, J. A. Wilson, W. Fisher, E. Brooks, C. A. Woods, F. M. Bilby, J. J. Pakes, H. Lloyd, A. Ferrar, T. P. Collings, and H. Sadler, G. Tyler.

After the Board had been formally opened, the PRESIDENT announced the reception of letters from candidates who had been relieved. Among them was one from a brother who, with his family, had been assisted to go to Australia, thanking the Board for their aid, and informing them that since he and his family had arrived in the colony he had obtained a situation and two of his sons had also obtained appointments there.

The brethren then confirmed recommendations to the Grand Master made at the November meeting to the amount of £540. On the new list were 35 cases from the London district, and from Malton, Margate, Ipswich, Nottingham, Hertford, Haverford-west, Wisbech, Leigh (Lancashire), Salford, Filey, South Shields, Hull, Hong Kong, Meerut, Poona, Stourport, and Manchester.

Two cases were dismissed and seven deferred. The remainder received recommendations or grants to the amount of £575. There were three recommendations to Grand Lodge for £50 each, one to the Grand Master for £40, and two of £30 each. Twelve grants were made of £20 each, two for £15 each, four for £10 each, and three for £5 each.

In two of the cases relieved, which were London cases, the petitioners did not appear in person, owing to ill-health, and the cause of their non-appearance was explained by the visiting brethren who supported them. But, according to the rules of the Board, when a petitioner cannot present himself on account of illness, he must send a medical certificate to that effect. In these cases no medical certificate was sent, and Bro. ROBERT GREY requested that it should be made known that where illness prevented a candidate from attending, it was absolutely necessary that a medical certificate should be forwarded.

AN ORATION.

The following oration was delivered at the consecration of the Collin Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners, at Maryport, by Bro. the Rev. JAMES ANDERSON, P.P.G. Chap., recently:—

"Masonry is evidently a progressive science in the west of Cumberland. It is on the rise in Maryport. Amid its elevation of chapels and restoration of churches, its creation of institutes and erection of houses, the point within the circle from which every part of the circumference is equally distant attains to still greater prominence and multiplicity. It is not obscured by the influx of architectural surroundings, nor buried out of sight by the commendable innovation of moral and religious improvements, but seems determined to increase with the increasing activity, and shine like the morning star in the visible and undying existence of a Masonic perpetuity. About 2000 years ago, in the early stages of the Christian era, there lived a man brought up at the feet of Gamaliel, learned and intellectual, and laying claim to inspiration, who told the people of Galatia that it was good to be zealously affected always in a good thing. The brethren of Maryport seem to have endorsed that apostolic statement, and adapted it as their motto in regard to Masonry. They clearly consider it a good thing, and are affected towards it with a zealous affection. They rest not contented with one Degree, or even two, but have advanced from one Degree to several in succession, until their Masonic catalogue now embraces the Craft, the Arch, the Mark, the Allied, and to these there is this day to be added the Collin Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners. If that is not a zealous affection for Masonry, and a most significant appreciation and admiration of the mystic rite, I do not very well know what is. Such progress must arise out of a spirit of Masonic enthusiasm, which one would desire to become more and more infectious, until every nook and crannie far and near, where Masonry has obtained a footing, has caught the Masonic contagion, and learned to vie with each other in the extension and multiplication of that ancient and honourable institution which boasts of having as its solid foundation the practice of every moral and social virtue. That may safely be denominated the beautiful in Masonry of which it is impossible to have more than enough, and the system which rests its pillars and its pedestals on that infallible basement can never degenerate into disuétude nor crumble to decay. The saying has resolved into a proverb that it is possible to have too much of a good thing. That may apply to meats and drinks and other convivial things

and pastimes; it is possible to be killed with kindness, a species of extinction in this naturally selfish world, which I should say forms the exception and not the rule, but it does not apply to Masonry. We would rather apply to it those appropriate lines of Keat's, who, if he was not a Mason, from his correct and prophetic, although, in all likelihood, unintentional description of the art, deserved to be one, and which should be written on the vertibule of every lodge and imprinted upon our ritual and regalia.

"A thing of beauty is a joy for ever;
Its loveliness increases, it will never
Pass into nothingness."

That thing of beauty in one other of its phases we consecrate anew to-day. We inaugurate in this place and at this sacred hour the Collin Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners. No better title could be found; a title founded upon the name of one, not after the fashion of a mere complimentary acknowledgment, but of one who merits this record of his greatness; a brother of superior rank, and possessed of those component qualities which are indispensable to a Free and Accepted Mason. Henceforth the names of Sewell and Collin are enshrined in the temple of Cumberland Masonry. We have a Sewell Lodge of Ark Mariners at Whitehaven, and now we have a Collin Lodge of Ark Mariners at Maryport, and before very long we shall have a Sewell Lodge of Mark Master Masons at Egremont. Thus the names of Sewell and Collin are destined to predominate in the united Provinces of Cumberland and Westmorland, and by the distinguished and distinguishing laurels of lodge titles they are to be immortalised and handed down from generation to generation. Can any good thing come out of Maryport? The answer to that question is the same as the one returned a long time ago to a similar question in the case of Nazareth, come and see. May Masonry in our midst long be adorned with the active presence of two such worthy brethren, and overshadowed with the virtue of their illustrious names. And may this little ark which is launched to-day ride safely on the billows and rest calmly on the Ararat of tranquillity and peace; may it be a joy for ever, may its loveliness increase, and may it never pass into nothingness. It has begun well; may it run well, and none to hinder. Ten Mark Masons all pass within its door, and that door is not yet shut unless it be to the strains of discord and impropriety. It is open for more to follow. This beautiful Degree which gives scope for memory and for elocutionary effect, is strictly of Bible origin and history. It is founded upon the seas and established on the floods. You trace it to the Volume of the Sacred Law. Masonry did not first see the light in the seventeenth century. A thread of the Rosicrucian may run through it, but it dates not its being to Christian Rosy Cross. We simply go further back to the first and second temples, and to a period even more remote, when Noah reared his alters and sacrificed thereon to the Most High. The Ark is an appendage of the Mark, because, perhaps, of its similarly operative character. In every other respect it stands alone, having its own regulations, constitutions, and ceremonies. Its ritual is expressive and withal religious. Its prayer of elevation is sublime and scriptural, full of confidence in the Divine promises, mellowed with the graces of benevolence and Charity, and breathing hopes of everlasting rest and blessedness. Who would presume to say that Masonry is infidelity, or that a Mason is not a religious man? This, at least, must be his creed, "I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth;" and this, at least, must be his confession, as in the initial sentence of the Church's Litany, "We praise Thee O God; we acknowledge Thee to be the Lord." It is not a fiction but a fact that among those notorious sins and crimes which stain and disgrace our country a Mason is not to be found; and if every man in the kingdom were a Mason, and walked up to the laws and doctrines of Freemasonry, there would not be a dishonourable and obnoxious criminal in the land. The three points of beauty, strength, and wisdom; the chosen language of its solemn obligation; the splendid definition of its signs and working tools; the grandeur of its five cardinal virtues, interwoven as they all are with the sanctity of Holy Writ, and closely welded together by the Volume of the Sacred Law, form an Eiffel Tower of colossal proportions, a moral and religious structure of magnificence and magnitude, which admit of no rival, and with which there are none to compare. For which prime reason we laud Masonry, and we extol Ark Masonry, and we wish it to extend and prosper the wide, wide world around. It is already on the upward tendency, although its march thus far has been somewhat slow. Its assiduity has not been commensurate with the progress of the Mark, to which it is appended. At the end of March, 1889, there appeared to have been 403 Mark lodges, with warrants issued for additional ones, and a registered total of 25,339, thus giving an average of over 60 to each lodge; whilst of the Ark there was a registered total of 2733 certificates, with warrants issued for additional lodges. The disparity speaks for itself, and points out the necessity for more sailing power, that the speed may be increased until every Mark shall have its Ark. That is nothing more than what ought to be. Every Mark Mason should be an Ark Mason, seeing that the one is the complement of the other, just as much so as the Arch is the complement of the Craft. In that union of equality there is strength. We must look at these Degrees in their connection, in the relation which the one maintains to the other, in order to trace their adoption, and not in their separate and isolated character and capacity. By that process we settle the intelligent choice of a Degree, and claim to

answer the description of an intelligent Mason. And yet, after all, what are our lodges and our Degrees without that Masonic *furor* which should fill the breast of every son of the widow? What are subscriptions without the subscribers? What are names without the named? A valley of vision; a body without a soul; a Masonic chamber of death, where there is not visible even a glimmering ray. Half-hearted, indifferent Masons are equivalent to no Masons at all. Like the barren fig tree, they are only cumberers of the ground. To be enrolled in membership, and then turn languid; to pass the chair, and then retire into apathy and inglorious ease; to reach the envied purple, and then fail to display its colour, is not the way to proclaim the value of Freemasonry; to sing "Join all in harmony, and prosper the Art," to advance the interests, and mark our appreciation of that institution, which is the glory of the accepted and the free. By self-denial and self-sacrifice, by attention and attendance, by punctuality and perseverance, by merit and ability, by very love of the Art and devotion to its cause, which is the motive power impelling to true and faithful Masonic action, which finds every officer at his post and every brother in his place, we carry out into practice the spirit of the Junior Warden's song—

"Unite, unite, your voices rouse,
Loud, loudly sing Ark Masons' praise,
Spread far and wide their spotless fame,
And glory in the sacred name."

MASONIC LECTURE AT DERBY.

Under the united banners of the Tyrian Lodge, No. 253, and the Arboretum Lodge, No. 731, Bro. James Stevens delivered a lecture on the ritual and ceremonial of Craft Freemasonry at the Masonic Hall, Derby, on Friday evening, December 19th. The W.M.'s chair was occupied by Bro. W. Naylor, P.M. 253, P.G.S.B., P.P.S.G.W., Prov. G. Sec. Derbyshire; the S.W. was Bro. A. J. Flint, W.M. 253, and the J.W., Bro. W. H. Wright, J.W. 731, representing Bro. John Walker, the W.M. of that lodge, who, to the generally-expressed regret of the brethren, was unavoidably absent in consequence of temporary indisposition.

The very inclement weather interfered materially with the anticipated attendance of numerous brethren connected with the four Derby lodges, and apologies were numerous. The large hall was, nevertheless, occupied by a considerable number of earnest Freemasons, who listened with keen interest to the eloquent address of the lecturer during a period of more than two hours.

Bro. STEVENS introduced his address by prefatory remarks in reference to the constitution of speculative Freemasonry antecedent to the year 1813, when, in the formation of the United Grand Lodge of England under H.R.H. the Duke of Sussex as Grand Master, the form of ritual and ceremonial to be observed by all English lodges alike was determined and promulgated throughout the Craft, which at that time comprised, as we understood him to say, some 300 lodges. His own experience during more than 33 years, and a close research into the works of several reliable Masonic and other authors, as well as the published rituals of modern days, have enabled him to ascertain the almost innumerable errors, discrepancies, and diversities which have arisen, during recent years, in the performance of both ritual and ceremonial, to the positive disturbance of the purity of the original composition, and the introduction of unmeaning, and, in many instances, utterly untrue definitions of allegorical and symbolical instruction. A very lengthy address was listened to without diminution of interest from commencement to conclusion, and yet many points were but casually referred to, there not being time to expound them at length.

At the conclusion of the lecture a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Stevens, Bro. NAYLOR, P.G.S.B., Prov. Grand Secretary, expressing, on behalf of all present, their deep sense of the value of the instruction which had been afforded them. He regretted that the limit of time prevented the still further information which the lecturer was evidently qualified and prepared to give, and sincerely hoped that at an early date Bro. Stevens might take up the thread of his discourse in their hearing, and expound even more fully the interesting points in ritual he had selected for that evening's consideration, and those others which, as he had stated, he had felt compelled to pass over.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to supper, after which the interest of the earlier proceedings was enhanced by the free discussion of some of the most important points referred to in the lecture, Bro. Stevens willingly answering the several questions put by the brethren, and thereby imparting further useful information.

This was the second visit of Bro. Stevens to Derby, and hopes were openly expressed that a third might be made at a not very distant date.

MASONIC SOCIAL CONCERT AT BOLTON.

A social concert of a very enjoyable nature, promoted by the five Masonic lodges in Bolton, took place in the Freemasons' Hall on Thursday, December 18th. The attendance was large and fashionable, some two hundred ladies and brethren assembling. The hall had been tastefully decorated for the occasion, and had a bright and charming effect.

The following was the programme, all the vocalists and instrumentalists giving their services: Part I.—Pianoforte solo, valse in D flat (*Chopin*), Mr. W. V. Cooper; song, "The Flight of Ages" (*Bevan*), Bro.

Urmston; song, "Daddy" (*Behren*), Miss Martin; song (humorous), Bro. Johnston; pianoforte solo, "La Tet D'Eau" (*Sidney Smith*), Miss Amy Barrett; song, "Espanita" (*A. L. Mora*), Miss Miles; oboe solo, Donizetti's "Don Pasquale" (*Verroust*), Mr. Percy Staton; song, "The Skipper," Bro. Binns; song, "Angus Macdonald" (*Roedel*), Mrs. Mantell; duet—flute and piano—"Deh con te mira, O norma si fino All'ore" (*Bellini*), Mr. C. F. and Miss Murphy; Part 2.—Pianoforte solo, Selection from "Faust" (*Gounod*), Miss Greenhalgh; song, "Only once more" (*F. L. Moir*), Miss Miles; song, "The fine old Irish gentleman," Bro. Johnson; song, "When the heart is young" (*Dudley Buck*), Miss Martin; pianoforte solo, Miss MacColl; song, "The last watch" (*Pinsuti*), Bro. Binns; song, "Scenes that are brightest" (*Wallace*), Mrs. Mantell; oboe solo, "Donizetti's "Lucrazia Borgin" (*Barrett*), Mr. Percy Staton; song (humorous), Bro. Johnson.

The whole of the items were admirably rendered, and Bros. Staton, Miles, and Binns efficiently acted as accompanists.

At the close Bro. JAMES NEWTON, P. Prov. S.G.D., Chairman of the Freemasons' Hall Committee, proposed a cordial vote of thanks to the vocalists, instrumentalists, and the Arrangements Committee, and in doing so extended a hearty welcome to the ladies who had graced the proceedings with their presence, and trusted that it was only the beginning of many similar entertainments in that hall.

The motion was seconded by Bro. Ald. BARRETT, Prov. S.G.D., ex-Mayor of Bolton, in a few appropriate remarks, and carried with acclamation.

The singing of the National Anthem then concluded the proceedings.

During the evening light refreshments were served to the ladies in one of the ante-rooms. The whole of the arrangements reflected the highest credit on the Arrangements Committee, which consisted of representatives from all the Bolton lodges.

Obituary.

BRO. JAMES W. LAMBERT, P.M., P.Z.

It is with very great regret that we announce the death of Bro. James William Lambert, who, during a period extending over nearly 18 years, rendered much valuable service to the various Masonic bodies of which he was or had been a member. The deceased was initiated in the Universal Lodge, No. 181, on the 20th February, 1873. The year following he joined St. Thomas's Lodge, No. 142, and in time was elected and installed its W.M. In 1878 he joined the Campbell Lodge, No. 1415, Hampton Court, and occupied its chair in 1881. He was also a Royal Arch Mason and was a founder and first J., and in due course M.E.Z., of St. Thomas's Chapter, No. 142. He was likewise a Past Prov. G. Registrar of Middlesex, and was a Life Governor of and had served as Festival Steward for both our Schools and the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. Such a record of service is most honourable, and will be remembered to his credit by the many friends both within and outside Masonry who are now mourning his loss.

BRO. JAMES BLYTH.

We also have to announce the death of Bro. Jas. Blyth, the sad event happening on Christmas Day, while to enhance the mournful circumstances, his daughter died the day following. The double funeral took place at Highgate Cemetery, the earlier portion of the service being held in St. James's, Marylebone, when the Rev. Mr. Hawsis, who conducted it, delivered an eloquent and impressive address. The funeral was attended by a large number of relatives, friends, and brother Masons of the deceased, while the coffin was almost hidden from view by the wreaths which the family and friends had sent. Bro. Blyth, we believe, was a member of the Sphinx and Granite Lodges, and was a Life Governor, and had served sundry Stewardships for our three Institutions. Latterly he had taken a great interest in the Boys' School and was a member of the Provisional Management Committee, which was represented at the funeral by Bros. S. J. Attenborough, W. Masters, and J. M. McLeod. Among the wreaths on and around the coffin being one presented by Bro. McLeod on behalf of the Provisional Management Committee.



By a process, we presume, of natural selection and the survival of the fittest, Drury Lane is now the only West-End house in which a pantomime is produced this year, and it is just possible that but for Bro. Augustus Harris it would, as far as fashionable London is concerned, be a thing of the past. But the marvellous success which attends the annual production at the National Theatre is a proof that there is much life in it yet, and that it will survive at least the present generation. "Beauty and the Beast" is certainly a magnificent show, and as pretty and entertaining as any of its predecessors. The grand old theatre was on Boxing Night filled to its utmost capacity, crowds having waited for hours at the pit and gallery entrances, while in the stalls and boxes were

seen nearly all the artistic and social celebrities who usually muster on these occasions. The charming old nursery tale has been admirably retold, the book being full of smart and witty dialogue, and the gorgeous spectacular setting is a thing to be seen and not described. The ball-room scene is, perhaps, the most superb that has ever been put on any stage. The first ballet, in which the dancers appeared as roses in every variety of form and colour, is one of the most beautiful things that even Bro. Harris has ever given us; but it is useless to linger on details, when all is perfect in everything that goes to make up a great stage spectacle. The fun, as might have been expected when such comedians as Bros. H. Nicholls, H. Campbell, Dan Leno, and the Bros. Griffiths are engaged, was excellent, and when they have fairly settled down to their work, we may expect them to develop an increasing measure of fun and diverting whimsicalities. Lady Dunlo (Miss Bilton) looks very pretty and attractive as Beauty, but we cannot say much of her qualifications as an actress, although her dancing was graceful. Mr. Wallace was very droll as a wooden soldier, and caused much laughter whenever he appeared. There can be no doubt that the pantomime as a whole is one of the best, if not the best, that has been produced at Drury Lane under the present management.

* * *

The Grand pantomime is really a grand pantomime, and one which will bear witnessing more than once before all its many points of fun and frolic are exhausted. Mr. Wilmot will find that the merry Islingtonians will not be permitted to monopolise his theatre, for crowds will travel from west and south to the north to see Bro. C. Townelly's (Geoffery Thorne) "Babes in the Wood," represented by a strong and effective company, including such old favourites as Messrs. Geo. Capel, Austin Ashton, Misses Kate Everleigh, Daisy Hughes, and Adison (a member, we suppose, of that talented family whom as boys and girls we have so often laughed at), and a new favourite Baby Langtry. From beginning to finish there is nothing but good wholesome amusement. The dresses are handsome and the colours beautifully arranged. There are not too many ballets but just ballets enough, as Bro. Lionel Brough would say. The dancing is graceful, and the *tout ensemble* leaves nothing to be desired. Bro. H. A. Freeman, the manager, is to be congratulated upon having arranged for Mr. Wilmot's many patrons such a pretty and unique show. In the dialogue and songs both old and young will find plenty of entertainment, and the whole is quite free from coarseness.

* * *

To no one more than Masons should the new London panorama be of interest, which occupies the site so long held by Niagara. The painting of Jerusalem, depicting the crucifixion in all its awful reality, is sure to draw crowds for months to come. On the spot where stood the Temple of our Grand Master, King Solomon, rebuilt by Herod, stands now the Mosque of Omar, and is clearly depicted in the panorama. At intervals a lecture is given, by which one easily learns and sees all the chief points of vast interest of that portion of the Holy Land. To those who cannot visit the city in *person*, and those who have been there, this painting cannot fail to be of value. The time taken by the painter is evidently just at the dawn after the ninth hour, when there had been darkness between the sixth and ninth hours, therefore, about three o'clock in the afternoon. At the cross on Calvary we see before us figures representing the Centurion, Joseph of Arimathea, Mary Magdelene, the Virgin Mary, St. John, Lazarus, and other holy men and women. Hidden from the audience a choir render sacred music, which all adds to the immense interest attached to this huge painting of Karl Froesch, which took, with the assistance of many other artistes, six months to paint.

Death.

RAMSAY.—On December 23rd, 1890, at Upper Norwood, after a few days' illness, Marmaduke F. J., the eldest and much-loved son of Col. M. Ramsay, District Grand Master Malta.

Bro. Lord George Hamilton, M.P., returned to town on Tuesday from Coates, Sussex, where he had been spending Christmas with his mother, the Dowager Duchess of Hamilton, and after spending some time at the Admiralty, left for the Wilderness, Sevenoaks, on a visit to Lord Hillingdon.

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MASONIC AND GENERAL TIDINGS

THE GROWTH OF FREEMASONRY.—One hundred years ago there were not 2000 lodges and scarcely 50,000 members in the world, whereas now there are over 15,000 lodges and some 2,000,000 of Craftsmen, the income from all sources being about £500,000 per annum.—*W. F. Hughan.*

Bro. Dan Godfrey, whose band is delighting the frequenters of the Glasgow East-End Industrial Exhibition, was made a member of Lodge Dramatic, No. 571 (S.C.), last week.

The Duchess of Albany has consented to open on Thursday, the 15th inst., the new building in which the Trinity College (Oxford) Mission propose to carry on their work at Stratford.

Bro. Lord and Lady Algernon Gordon-Lennox and Bro. the Earl of March were among the guests whom the Duke and Duchess of Portland entertained at Welbeck during Christmas.

In our list of Grand Officers present at the installation of the Duke of Clarence at Reading we omitted the following: Bros. Revs. R. J. Simpson, R. P. Bent, H. A. Pickard, and Dr. Pope, P.G. Chaplains.

The second annual Christmas Eisteddfod took place at the Music Hall, Chester, on Friday, December 26th, and attracted some thousands of visitors from Liverpool, Cheshire, and North Wales. There were several competitions and the whole proceedings passed off most successfully.

As an instance of the popularity of Bro. W. J. Hughan, and the estimation in which his utterances on Freemasonry are held, we may point to the fact that his recent oration delivered on the dedication of a new Masonic Hall recently, has been reprinted in full in the *Cape Argus*, the leading paper of South Africa.

The annual ball in connection with St. Matthew's Lodge took place on the 20th December at the Science and Art Institute, Walsall, the large art room being used for dancing, and the lecture hall as a supper room. Mr. A. W. Gilmer's band played for dancing, and the guests numbered about 160.

The sum announced in the form of donations and subscriptions to the various Charities in London, the provinces, and abroad during the past 12 months amounts to £2,347,122, including £41,000 raised for the Hospital Sunday Fund and £20,000 for the Hospital Saturday Fund. The sums raised for our three Masonic Charities and the Mark Benevolent Fund reached to close on £37,000.

At the regular monthly meeting of True Love and Unity Lodge, No. 248, held at the Freemasons' Hall, Brixham, on Monday evening, December 15th, Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Churston, J.W., was unanimously elected as W.M. for the ensuing year. Bro. W. C. Gregory, P.M., was unanimously re-elected as Treasurer, and Bro. J. Scwell, Tyler. The installation ceremony and annual banquet will take place on the 20th inst.

A largely-attended meeting of the Committee entrusted with the arrangements for the 42nd annual Masonic ball and festival at the Town Hall, Liverpool, on the 13th instant, was held on Friday, December 19th, at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, Bro. Dr. T. Clarke, P.P.G. Reg., Vice-Chairman, presiding. The reports as to the prospects of success were exceedingly satisfactory, and it was announced that there were now on the Stewards' list the names of about 250 brethren. The badges of the Stewards will be generously given by Bro. Councillor Bamford.

Under the presidency of Bro. J. M'Nab, P.J.G.W., a meeting of the Governors of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution was held at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, on Friday, December 19th, when two candidates were elected to the full benefits of the Institution, combining maintenance, clothing, and education. The recent concert and dance at St. George's Hall, held under the auspices of the Everton Lodge, No. 823, realised over £56 for the various Masonic Charities in the province. Bro. E. Kite, J.W., acted as the Hon. Sec. of the successful charitable effort.

The military brethren, principally belonging to the head-quarter staff, of Chester have petitioned the Grand Master for a warrant for a new lodge in Chester, which has been duly granted. The consecration, we understand, will take place towards the end of January. The brethren requested the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Sir Horatio Lloyd, to name the new lodge, and he, in deference to their wishes, named it "The Clarence Lodge," intimating that he considered that name would be specially appropriate, as his Royal Highness the Duke of Clarence would probably be the future Earl of Chester, and possibly at some period Grand Master of the Order. Many of the military brethren being already members of the Lodge of Independence, No. 721, Chester, have requested the retiring W.M. of that lodge, Bro. W. H. Finchett, to be the first Master of the Clarence Lodge, and he has signified his assent.

Since Olympia was converted into a roller skating rink, now about nine months ago, the fortunes of this large building have been considerably in the ascendant. During this time the average daily attendance has been over 7000, and as yet there is no indication of any falling off, indeed, the pleasant pastime of roller-skating seems to be fast regaining the popularity it enjoyed when first it became the fashion, and in the last few months this vast building in Kensington has been voted a great success, and a favourite resort by the pleasure-seeking public. Many thousands find their way to Addison-road to enjoy recreation and healthy physical exercise under the genial auspices of the Olympian Club Roller Skating Rink. From 10.30 a.m. to 11 p.m. adults and children are seen whirling around to the jolly strains of the Honourable Artillery Company's band, and in the evening additional amusements are provided. During the week a burlesque of "The Wild West" is given each evening at nine, and there are over 200 accomplished skaters who take part in this exciting performance. The sketch on the Deadwood coach causing screams of laughter. Owing to the great success of the last costume carnival, another will be given on the 22nd inst., when there will be over 60 prizes given away at a cost of over £300.

The German Emperor has addressed a telegram of condolence to the widow of Dr. Schliemann, for whose character and achievements he expresses great admiration.

The annual soiree and ball of the Birkbeck music class (conducted by Mr. J. Henken) will take place at the Holborn Town Hall on Thursday, February 5th.

There was a great gathering of literary men at the church of St. François de Sales, in the Monceau Quarter of Paris, on Wednesday, to pay a last tribute of respect to Octave Feuillet.

Mr. C. P. Sainton's exhibition of sketches from a caravan window from the North to the South of France will open at Messrs. Dowdeswell's Galleries on January 10. The series comprises pictures and silver-points.

Bro. F. J. Potter announces that his annual matinée will take place at the Tivoli on Monday, February 2nd. Many popular artistes from the principal theatres and music halls have volunteered their services, and an extensive programme will be provided.

Bro. Lord Onslow, as Past G.W. of England, has issued a circular to all lodges in the colony working under the English, Irish, and Scottish Constitutions, with a view of bringing about an amicable understanding of the unpleasantness which has arisen in connection with the establishment of the Grand Lodge of New Zealand.

The Prince of Wales arrived in London from Sandringham on Monday for the purpose of visiting the Duke and Duchess of Fife, with whom he dined. In the evening, in company with the Duke of Cambridge, Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar, and the Duke of Fife, his Royal Highness inspected the Guelph Exhibition at the New Gallery. On Tuesday he returned to Sandringham.

The Railway Benevolent Institution, which has distributed nearly £140,000 among necessitous cases during the past 10 years, makes its customary New Year's appeal. Of the 96,172 railway servants who subscribed last year, 3752 were relieved. All classes of railway employés are invited to contribute, as all are entitled to participate in the benefits. Donations are also solicited, and may be sent to Mr. W. F. Mills, the Secretary, 57, Drummond-street, Euston-square.

Sir John Cowell, as Master of the Queen's Household, crossed from Osborne to Portsmouth on Tuesday in order to arrange with the naval authorities respecting the launch of the Royal Sovereign and the Centaur. The ceremony, at which her Majesty has signified her intention of being present, will take place on Thursday, the 26th February. Sir John Cowell, after conferring with Bro. Sir E. Commerell and other naval officers, returned in the afternoon to Osborne.

Mr. and Mrs. Kendal's personal friends in England have received from them a very pleasant souvenir in the shape of a card adorned by the united English and American flags, and bearing the legend "A Happy New Year.—William and Madge Kendal." The cards come from Philadelphia, where the popular artistes are repeating the triumphs which they obtained in New York. Mr. Willard (who has just made a great success in New York in "Judah") has sent good wishes by telegram to his friends in England.

The third annual ball in aid of the Masonic Benevolent Fund of the Barnato Lodge, No. 2265, will take place at Whitehall Rooms, the Hôtel Métropole, on Thursday, February 12th. Application for tickets (which are strictly limited) should be made, together with names of proposed guests, to Bros. E. J. Acworth, Homeleigh, Hamilton-road, Ealing; H. I. Barnato, 37, Maida Vale, W.; C. F. Hogard, 89, Balfour-road, Highbury New Park, N.; J. Joel, 20, Devonshire-terrace, Hyde Park, W.; or to M. J. Jessop (Hon. Sec.), 11, Priory Villas, Sydenham.

The Mayor of Newbury, Bro. Stephen Knight, who recently had the honour of being appointed by the Duke of Clarence as Senior Grand Deacon of the Province of Berkshire received at the municipal buildings on Friday morning, December 19th, a numerous and representative body of his fellow townsmen, including the members of the corporation, the local clergy, magistrates, the principal borough officials, &c. When all had assembled the Mayor led the way to the council chamber, where luncheon was partaken of. The party subsequently attended Divine service in the parish church.

So great has been the demand for the eloquent oration delivered recently at the dedication of a new Masonic Hall at Dawlish by the Right Wor. Bro. W. J. Hughan, Past Grand Deacon of England, that it has already reached a second edition, and is still being eagerly sought for. The new edition has been printed by Bro. W. F. Westcott, of Plymouth, Prov. G.D. of Devon. It is enclosed in a neat light blue cover, and both for its size and shape will be found of great convenience for future reference. The oration, which has been reprinted from the *Western Morning News*, was a masterly exposition of Masonic principles, and deserves to be, as it already has been, very largely read.

The secretary of the Midland Railway Company has written to Messrs. Isaac Pitman and Sons on the adoption of their system of shorthand by the Company, as follows: "It is perfectly true that we endeavour as far as possible to diffuse a knowledge and an efficiency of shorthand writing among those employed by this Company, and it will at once occur to anyone that it would be inexpedient to do otherwise than teach the same style throughout. Yours is the system we adopt. (Signed) J. Williams." The secretary of the Company has also intimated that not only is Pitman's system of shorthand adopted but it is exclusively taught by the Company.

With the New Year the London *Daily Chronicle* makes a new departure. On January 1st, and every Wednesday morning after, it will issue a Literary Supplement, which, in addition to reviews of books and periodicals, and brightly-written notes on current events in the world of letters, science, and art, will contain an instalment of a serial story by some popular author. Mr. William Black leads off with a spirited and picturesque romance, entitled, "Donald Ross of Heimra," for which the sole right of publication in this country has been secured by the *Daily Chronicle* proprietors. These enterprising gentlemen, we learn, have gone to an enormous expense in putting down an entirely new plant of type and machinery in order to meet the increasing demand for their journal. The new *Daily Chronicle* machines, it is stated, are capable of turning out the papers, all cut, folded, counted in quires, and with the Supplement neatly pasted in.

For many years the *Globe* has received by the post an annual greeting from an old subscriber signing "J. S." He has just renewed his congratulations at the close of his 65th year of subscription to the paper.

The *Gardeners' Chronicle* is about to enter its jubilee year, the first number having been issued on January 2nd, 1841. A notice in the first number announced that "the horticultural part" was edited by Professor Lindley.

Miss Edna Lyall, the novelist, who is a resident at Eastbourne, has given £100 towards a local fund in aid of General Booth's scheme, which has been raised as a protest against Professor Huxley's criticisms.

Under the presidency of the Lord Mayor a meeting will be held on Wednesday, the 14th prox., at Parkhurst Hall, Holloway, in support of the movement for the erection of the Northern Technical and Recreative Institute. Some members of Parliament and other influential speakers have been secured.

Amid general rejoicings, a new lifeboat, presented by Lady Erle, was launched at Swanage on Monday. Headed by a band and Mr. ex-Sheriff Burt, the philanthropist of the "island," a procession was formed to the lifeboat house, where, after a religious ceremony, the boat was named "William Erle. In the evening a banquet was given in the Town Hall.

In the notice of the centenary celebration of St. John's Lodge, Leicester, in our Summary of the Year, in last week's issue, we printed the name of Bro. William Kelly, P. Prov. G.M., as Bro. John Kelly. The great majority of our readers will, no doubt, have discovered the mistake for themselves, but we think it well to make the correction.

At the instance of Prince zu Schoenaich Carolath, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge Royal York, negotiations are proceeding between the principal Continental lodges for the establishment of a Central Court of Reference. A member of the Craft, deputed by the Prince, is at the present time carrying on negotiations to this end with Signor Adriano Lemmei, Grand Master of the Grand Orient in Rome.

Enormous quantities of produce are shipped every year from Guernsey and Jersey to the metropolitan markets. During the past year nearly 60,000 baskets, mostly containing grapes and tomatoes, were consigned from these islands to one leading Covent Garden salesman. Large quantities of flowers are also received from the islands, and sold in the London Flower Market.

According to present arrangements, Mr. George Edwardes will produce the new "Joan of Arc" burlesque at the Opera Comique on or about the 17th of this month. Miss Alma Stanley will have a part in the piece, room in which will also be found Miss Grace Pedley and Miss Katie Seymour. These, with Miss Loie Fuller, Miss Phyllis Broughton, Mr. Arthur Roberts, Mr. J. L. Shine, Mr. C. Danby, and Mr. W. Warde make up the cast.

On Thursday afternoon, at two o'clock, the Chapel Royal, Whitehall, was officially handed over to the Royal United Service Institution as their museum. Mr. H. W. Primrose and Mr. Taylor, of the Office of Works, attended, and handed the keys of the building to Captain Burgess, secretary of the institution. As soon as the necessary alterations have been made, the various relics and exhibits will be removed from the old building.

The Queen's New Year gifts to the poor of Windsor, Holy Trinity, and Clewer, were distributed on Thursday morning in the riding-school, at Windsor Castle, in the presence of the clergy of the different parishes, and of other persons. The gifts consisted, as is usual, of beef and coals. The joints of meat varied from 3lb to 7lb in weight, according to the number of persons in each family, the total weight being more than a ton and a-half. The coal, which weighed over 60 tons, was delivered at the homes of the recipients in quantities of from one to three hundred-weight. The total value of the gifts amounted to £300, including £100 presented to the Royal-Clothing Club.

The boats of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution have done excellent services during the year, resulting in the rescue of 547 persons. In addition to these, the crews were the means of preserving a large amount of property, including assisting to save, or absolutely saving, 26 vessels. The lifeboats went out 146 times in response either to signals of distress or what were supposed to be such, only to find that the vessels were either out of danger or that incorrect signals had been made. The institution has also granted rewards for the saving of 218 lives by means of shore and fishing boats, therefore, the Committee bestowed rewards for the saving of 765 lives, making a total of 35,435 lives saved since the establishment of the society in 1824. Every effort is made to place and maintain the lifeboat service in the highest state of efficiency, but this cannot be done without a very large annual outlay. Funds, which are urgently needed, are therefore solicited.

In an appreciative and interesting account of Bro. James Judd, C.C., the *City Leader* observes: "Mr. Judd is a great lover of horses and of outdoor sports generally; he rides to hounds, and is an inimitable host and raconteur. As an after-dinner speaker he is celebrated, having a full share of humour and pathos, and, however dry his theme, can sustain the attention of even the most critical. Probably no man in England can so readily dress up an old story in new clothes, and deceive his hearers into the belief that it is charmingly new and original. This is a gift which should serve him in good stead when he woos the electors of the Lowestoft division. Some of the old political chestnuts sadly need refurbishing up and presenting in a more appropriate and attractive dress. Few public men could come so well out of the ordeal which fell to Mr. Judd's lot recently, when, as Chairman of the City Lands Committee, he entertained at a banquet a large and distinguished company. As Chief Commoner Mr. Judd fully sustained the reputation he had earned as a public man and perfect chairman."

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Rheumatism and Gout.—These purifying and soothing remedies demand the earnest attention of all persons liable to gout, sciatica, or other painful affections of the muscles, nerves, or joints. The Ointment should be applied after the affected parts have been patiently fomented with warm water, when the unguent should be diligently rubbed upon the adjacent skin, unless the friction should cause pain. Holloway's Pills should be simultaneously taken to reduce inflammation and to purify the blood. This treatment abates the violence, and lessens the frequency of gout, rheumatism, and all spasmodic diseases, which spring from hereditary predisposition, or from any accidental weakness of constitution. This Ointment checks the local mischief. The Pills restore the vital powers.