

THE FREEMASON.

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

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

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

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THE GIRLS' SCHOOL CENTENARY HALL.

What is very likely to prove the most important Masonic gathering during the present year was held at the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls on Thursday, when the Prince of WALES, accompanied by the Princess of WALES and their daughters, formally opened the new Hall, which has been erected as a memorial of the grand Centenary Festival in 1888, when his ROYAL HIGHNESS presided as Chairman, and upwards of £51,000 was subscribed by the Craft towards the support of the Charity. The ceremony itself was very simple, but the Hall was well filled with the leading Masonic notabilities and principal supporters of the Institution, who were in most instances accompanied by ladies while the children and the official and educational staffs were also in attendance, so that the scene was full of life and colour, and, thanks to the very admirable arrangements of the Committee and chief officers, everything passed off most successfully, without even the suspicion of a hitch, or of anything being wanting, from beginning to end. In fact, in all they have done in connection with the Centenary of the School, the House Committee and executive officers of our senior Institution have laid and carried out their plans with great skill and judgment, and for this they deserve, as we feel sure they will receive, the hearty commendations of the whole body of English Freemasons.

THE APPROACHING GIRLS' SCHOOL FESTIVAL.

Now that the Benevolent Festival for the current year has passed into the domain of history, the duty devolves on us of calling attention to that of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, which, in the ordinary course of things, will be celebrated some time during the second or third week in May. We regret we are unable to speak hopefully of the prospects of this anniversary. Since the magnificent success of the Centenary Festival in 1888 a belief appears to have gained possession of the minds of the brethren that the large sum then obtained, if not inexhaustible, must render any special efforts in support of successive anniversaries unnecessary, at all events for some years to come. But those who have allowed themselves to come under the influence of this belief appear to have lost sight of the fact that from the first the scheme of the Centenary celebration included a large outlay for the special purpose of enlarging the premises and erecting a Hall, which while it would serve to commemorate the Centenary, would at the same time be large enough to accommodate the whole of the very large number of children now in charge of the Institution. They appear likewise to have forgotten that almost before the work of building the new Hall was commenced, an addition was made to the establishment of 20 girls—an addition which it is necessary we should remind them has involved a permanent increase in the fixed expenditure of about £800 per annum. Lastly, there is the still more important fact which must never be lost sight of—that the existence of an Institution like our Girls' School and the other central Masonic Charities, which depend for support chiefly on voluntary contributions is one long series of struggles to obtain the necessary ways and means, and that any relaxation of the efforts to achieve this purpose, no matter how slight or for how short a time it may be, is certain to cause a very serious diminution in the sum total of annual donations and subscriptions. There is, in fact, in the case of all charities which are not largely endowed, no standing still at any time. If the contributions in any one year or for a series of years are larger than were expected, so much the better for the Institution, and so much the more necessary is it that the authorities should employ all the means at their disposal in order to convert into a fixed annual success what was only in the first instance an unexpected temporary one. We lay great stress on these matters, because it appears to us there is considerable danger that the great result of the 1888 Girls'

School Festival will be followed by a series of small returns such as will hardly suffice to meet the annual outlay. The Centenary total was in excess of £50,000; but the product of the 101st Festival was only some £5350, while last year's was £11,000, or about £1000 or £1500 below the average of recent years. As regards the 103rd Anniversary, which will be held in May next, we have already said that the outlook is very unpromising. In the first place, no one up to the present time has offered to give his services as Chairman, while, in the next, the Board of Stewards is weak in numbers and in constitution, considering that there is only an interval of two months between now and the date ordinarily fixed for the event. The important function of this week—the opening of the Centenary Hall by the Prince of WALES—has had the effect of increasing the number of Stewards, but up to the time of writing the number of brethren who had volunteered their services in this capacity was only about 200, and out of these a somewhat larger proportion than usual is composed of Unattached, the representative Stewards, the brethren on whose efforts a Festival depends for its success, being woefully short of what we have known it to be as a rule two months previous to the celebration. We sincerely trust that endeavours will be made forthwith to remedy this shortcoming. There are 264 girls now being educated in the Institution at Battersea Rise, and for their maintenance and training a sum of about £11,000 is annually required, of which over £9000 must be raised by voluntary subscription. It is most urgent, therefore, that more brethren should come forward as representatives of lodges, chapters, and other bodies, if anything like the sum required is to be obtained. We trust also that before we have occasion to write on this subject again the School Executive will have succeeded in obtaining the services of some distinguished brother as President for the day. Otherwise with a small organisation to do the work of canvassing, and a Chairman enlisted on the eve of the Festival, we greatly fear that between the success which attended the Benevolent Festival last month and the success which undoubtedly is in store for that of the Boys' School in June, the Girls' School will find itself unprovided with a considerable portion of the sum required for its support during the current year.

THE BOYS' SCHOOL ACCOUNTS AND BALANCE-SHEET FOR 1890.

The Report of the Provisional Management Committee of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and the audited statement of account and balance-sheet for the year ended the 31st December, 1890, enable us to form a tolerably correct idea both of what has been done during the period referred to and of the circumstances in which the School is placed at the present time. The Report is more satisfactory than we could have expected. About this time last year, Bro. the Rev. H. HEBB, who had just then entered upon his duties as Head Master, described the condition of the School as being the reverse of satisfactory, and expressed his opinion that it would be quite two years before its tone was raised to the level of what it should be in such an Institution. The Committee are now able to declare that a marked improvement has already taken place in this respect—a declaration which inclines us to believe that the efforts of the new Head Master and his staff have been more successful than he had reason to anticipate. We are also informed that a better dietary has been adopted, and that the clothing is better suited to the boys' requirements. We consider also the statement that the general expenditure for the year will compare favourably with that of former years is fully justified by the Auditors' report, the total outlay for the general requirements of the Institution being £10,821, which for 204 boys gives the average cost per boy for the year as £41. The receipts amounted to £12,451, but £1500 of this was on account of the Festival for the current year, so that if we deduct this, we shall

find, on comparing the receipts in respect of the year and its general expenditure, there is a balance in favour of the former amounting to about £130. Unfortunately for the funds, the Committee found it absolutely necessary to incur a heavy expenditure amounting to £2183 for sanitary improvements, baths, fire escapes and appliances, and for the repair of the organ, so that the account, instead of closing with a small balance, as stated, in favour of the Institution, closes with a balance against it of £860. Turning to the balance-sheet, we find the general result satisfactory, the surplus of assets over liabilities being £46,558; but as regards the principal items we notice the Institution is indebted to sundry creditors to the extent of £1999, and to the London and Westminster for over-drafts in respect of the Sustentation and Preparatory School Building Funds to that of £927; while the balance at bankers on the general account and in hand amounts to £486, and there are due to the Institution by sundry debtors £137, and by the Pension Indemnity Fund £761. From this last item it will be seen that of the £2500 which it was proposed to raise from the Craft to be presented to Bro. BINCKES in lieu of pension, there still remains between £700 and £800 to be obtained; and we trust those lodges which have not as yet contributed their respective quotas will lose no time in doing so, and thus save the Institution from a loss which, in the present state of its funds, it can ill afford to bear. We trust also that the Returns at the Festival in June next will not only clear off the adverse balance already referred to, but will at the same time enable the authorities to increase very considerably the amount of the investments, which are far too small for an Institution which has such heavy responsibilities to fulfil.

THE CENTENARY MEMORIAL HALL, R.M.I. FOR GIRLS.

The scheme for the celebration of the Centenary of the establishment of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls included, as our readers will remember, not only a Festival, on a far grander scale than in ordinary years, but likewise the extension and rearrangement of the existing premises at Battersea, and the erection of new class-rooms, dormitories, &c., and, above all, of a hall which, while on the one hand it would be available to accommodate the whole School and their friends on speech days and other important occasions, would at the same time serve as a memorial firstly, of the Centenary celebration itself, and the Provinces, lodges, chapters, and principal brethren who took part; and secondly, of Brother Chevalier Ruspini, to whose humanity and benevolence the Craft is indebted for the foundation of the School. As regards the new wing, with its class-rooms, dormitories, lecture theatre, &c., we need say but little now. Many have had an opportunity of inspecting both the new and the re-arranged premises, and there will be special facilities afforded to those who may be desirous of learning what has been done for inspecting the School to-morrow (Saturday) afternoon, as well as on the afternoon of Wednesday next, the 18th instant. It will, perhaps, suffice if we state that the School, as it now is, has been greatly enlarged and improved, the work of construction and re-arrangement having been entrusted to firms of established reputation, and carried out under the superintending care of Bros. H. A. Hunt and Ralph Clutton. But the new Hall, as it is the memorial of the Festival of 1888, and as such was opened on Thursday by the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., and President of the Institution, who occupied the chair at the Centenary celebration in the Royal Albert Hall, demands some special notice. In point of style it may be said to belong to the transition period between the Tudor and Elizabethan. As regards proportions, it measures 104 feet in length, 40 feet in width, and in height 50 feet, reckoning to the highest point of the ceiling. It is lighted by three principal windows at the end, and by seven windows on each side, the sills of the windows being 22 feet from the ground. All round the Hall the walls are arcaded, and a wall built between the extreme points of the buttresses, thus leaving seven deep-recessed alcoves on each side. But as these alcoves would have been too high, floors have been inserted and the buttresses perforated, so that by this means there is a complete ambulatory round the Hall. There is also at one end a Minstrels' Gallery, in which is a finely carved Royal Arms, which, with the shields placed at intervals round, are illuminated heraldically. The roof is of iron, and is cased with an enriched fibrous plaster ceiling with wooden ribs, and in appearance is a marvel of lightness, while the floor is of oak, and the walls to a height of 12 feet and the alcoves are lined with teak panelling, which, with the projecting balconettes of the several openings in the Gallery, has a very pleasing and rich effect. But undoubtedly one of the principal attractions is the chief window at the west end of the Hall, containing no less than 20 large panels, besides

the smaller lights which form the tracery, and which are filled in with the arms of the Chairmen of different Festivals. In four of the large panels are emblematical designs representing Faith, Charity, Love, and Hope, in four others are the four acts of Charity, and in the lower half of the window there are portraits of the Prince of Wales, the Duke of Connaught, the Duke of Clarence and Avondale, the King of Sweden, the late Duke of Albany, the late Duke of Sussex, the late Earl of Zetland, the late Earl of Carnarvon, and the Earl of Lathom, while in other panels are the arms of Grand Lodge and the Prince of Wales. In the other end windows and the 14 side windows are the arms of the lodges and provinces which took part in the Centenary Festival. The stained glass with which the windows are filled is the work of Mr. Edward Frampton, of 110, Buckingham Palace-road. The Hall wall framings have been executed by Mr. Thomas Gibbons, of Dunmow, Essex, while the builder is Mr. Nightingale. The statue of Bro. the Chevalier Ruspini has been executed by Mr. E. Roscoe, and the whole of the work has been superintended—as we have before said—by Bros. H. A. Hunt and Ralph Clutton. We trust this handsome building will be found to suffice for the requirements of the Institution for many, many years.

THE CEREMONY.

The ceremony of inaugurating the new buildings took place on Thursday afternoon, when a very large company assembled to meet his Royal Highness the Most Worshipful Grand Master. The arrangements throughout were excellent, and there was no crowding or confusion. A request was conveyed to the visitors on their tickets of admission to be seated by 3.15 p.m., and on their arrival they were immediately informed where to find their seats. The gallery, above the dais which was reserved for the Royal party, was set apart for the band and the representatives of the Press, while the galleries on either side, and at the lower end of the Hall, were set apart for the pupils. The visitors occupied the body of the Hall. Among the company were—

Bros. Lord Brooke, M.P.; Viscount Dungarvan, Lord Harlech, Sir G. Elliot, Beach, M.P., Prov. G.M. Hants and the Isle of Wight; T. F. Halsey, M.P., Prov. G.M. Herts; Col. E. C. Malet de Carteret, Prov. G.M. Jersey; Col. Le Gendre Starkie, Prov. G.M. East Lancashire; Sir Reginald Hanson; the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress; Sheriff Augustus Harris, G. Treas.; Sheriff Farmer; Dr. Jabez Hogg; Rev. C. J. Martyn, D.P.G.M. Suffolk; Rev. H. Adair Pickard, P.G.C.; Richard Eve, P.G.T.; Edward Terry, P.G.T.; H. Brooks Marshall, P.G.T.; J. S. Eastes, D.P.G.M. Kent; C. Hammerton, P.G.S.B.; Hy. Smith, D.P.G.M. West Yorkshire; Sir John B. Monckton, P.G.W.; P. de L. Long, P.G.D.; E. Letchworth, P.G.D.; J. H. Matthews, P.D.G.D. of C.; Frank Richardson, P.G.D.; E. M. Money; Col. Sir F. Burdett, Bart., P.G.M. Middx.; E. Monteuuis, P.D.G.D.C.; H. A. Hunt; R. Clutton; W. Chapman; T. Fenn, President Board of General Purposes; J. Chadwick, P.G.S.B., G. Sec. East Lincs.; W. Roebuck, P.G.S.B.; Henry Sutton, 4; R. Berridge, Col. A. Bott Cooke, Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, G. Sec.; Sir E. H. Lechmere, P.G.M. Worcestershire; James Willing, jun., George Kenning; W. F. Smithson, J.G.D.; George Faulkner, J. M. McLeod, Sec. R.M.I. for Boys; Col. James Peters, P.G.S.B.; Herr W. Meyer Lutz, G. Org.; W. Whitmarsh, P.G.P.; Thos. Cubitt, P.G.P.; Charles Belton; C. F. Hogard, P.G. Std. Br.; C. F. Matier, P.G. Std. Br.; Rev. Harry Hebb, Head Master R.M.I. for Boys; Sir Polydore De Keyser, P.G.W.; Dato Abdul Rahman, W. Lake, James Moon, R. Spaul, A. C. Spaul, and W. H. Spaul.

Prior to the arrival of the Royal party the string band of the Grenadier Guards (by permission of Col. Trotter) performed a selection of music under the direction of Bro. Lieut. Dan Godfrey.

Shortly after three o'clock the pupils took their places in the galleries, and so well had they been drilled that the act was performed without the slightest confusion. The junior girls formed the front row and the senior girls the second row, and Mrs. Roworth stood in the centre of the band gallery to conduct their singing, for which purpose she had been presented by the Earl of Lathom with a beautiful ivory baton mounted in silver. Miss Davis, the Head Governess, and Miss Buck, the Matron, had seats in the second row in the body of the Hall next to the dais, where they and another young lady held handsome bouquets for the Princess of Wales and the Princesses Victoria and Maud of Wales. All the servants of the Institution occupied places at the bottom of the hall. It was nearly four o'clock when a fanfare of trumpets heralded the arrival of the Royal Party. The Prince of Wales, the Princess of Wales, the Princesses Victoria and Maud, with Lord Suffield in attendance, conducted by the Earl of Lathom, entered at the lower end of the Hall, all the company rising, and the band playing the National Anthem. On their arrival at the dais the Prince of Wales stood at his chair, having the Princess of Wales, the Princesses Victoria and Maud, and Lord Suffield on his right, the Earl of Lathom, Bishop Barry, and the Dean of Battle on his left, and the children sang a verse of "God Save the Queen." Miss Davis, Miss Buck, and another lady then presented bouquets to the Princess and her daughters. The children immediately afterwards (accompanied by the band) sang the hymn "Oh! worship the King all glorious above."

The Earl of LATHOM, D.G.M., then said: May it please your Royal Highness, Most Worshipful Grand Master,—On the occa-

sion of the Centenary Festival of our Institution, which was held under the presidency of your Royal Highness at the Albert Hall, on Thursday, the 7th of June, 1888, in the presence of his Majesty the King of Sweden, and amid surrounding circumstances of great distinction, the magnificent sum of £50,500 was announced as the collection of the day. It became at once the agreeable duty of those having the management of the School to take active steps in the execution of such works as should increase the usefulness and efficiency of the Institution, and, at the same time, be a lasting memorial of the splendid liberality of the Craft. The result is before your Royal Highness to-day. The handsome Hall in which we stand, with the new schoolrooms and dormitories adjacent, have been constructed under the architectural superintendence of Bro. Henry Arthur Hunt, assisted by Bro. Ralph Clutton, who, both members of the House Committee, have generously given their valuable services. The various buildings forming the Institution, comprehending as they do a junior school, an infirmary, and a swimming bath, all detached from the main building, which is devoted to the senior school, and from one another, are now for the purposes of education, of health, and of recreation, as perfect as it is deemed possible to render them, and we venture to think that they form not only an appropriate and a useful School, but a happy and a healthy home for the 300 children to be maintained and educated therein, under a Head Governess, a Matron, and a staff of most satisfactory excellence. It now only remains for me in the name of the Committee, and indeed of the whole body of Governors extending as they do throughout the length and breadth of the land, to thank your Royal Highness most sincerely for your attendance to-day, and her Royal Highness, our Grand Patroness, for so graciously accompanying you, and to ask you, Sir, to complete the good work you commenced in 1888 by inaugurating and declaring open our Centenary Hall.

The Prince of WALES, in reply, said: Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, my Lords, Ladies, and Gentlemen: I have not forgotten that nearly three years ago I presided at the Centenary Festival of this Institution at the Royal Albert Hall, where I believe as large a gathering of Freemasons as ever existed was congregated together. On that occasion also, under the auspices of the King of Sweden and Norway, who was present, we received the unprecedented sum of over £50,000, which I believe is the largest ever known to have been received at any Charity dinner. I am glad to think that the result to-day has been so good, viz., that those who set to work to increase this excellent Institution by adding this handsome Hall, dormitories, swimming bath, and other buildings suited to the necessities of the Institution has been so crowned with success. I am glad also to hear so good an account of all the children, of whom 300 are being educated here, and that the education they receive is a thoroughly practical and excellent one. I can only assure you, ladies and gentlemen, that it gives the Princess, my daughters, and myself the greatest pleasure to take part in to-day's ceremony. I beg now to declare this Centenary Hall open. (Applause).

Another fanfare of trumpets followed, accompanied by the clapping of hands.

The Earl of LATHOM, when the applause which followed the speech had subsided, said: Your Royal Highness,—I have now, on behalf of the House Committee, to ask permission of her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales to call this Hall after her name. (Loud applause.)

The Princess of Wales, in response, bowed her assent.

The Right Rev. Bishop BARRY (in charge of the diocese) thereafter offered up prayer, and the children sang "O God, our help in ages past."

The two senior members of the staff—Miss Davis (the Head Mistress) and Miss Buck (the Matron)—then had the honour of being presented to the Most Worshipful Grand Master and the Princess of Wales by the Earl of Lathom, and this being the last act of the imposing ceremony of the day, the children, accompanied by the band, sang "God bless the Prince of Wales" as the Royal party left the Alexandra Hall.

The Royal party were conducted over the buildings, all the arrangements of which were explained to them.

ANNUAL ASSEMBLY OF THE GRAND IMPERIAL CONCLAVE OF THE RED CROSS.

The annual assembly of the Grand Imperial Conclave was held at Mark Masons' Hall, Great Queen-street, on Monday, the 2nd inst., when Col. Sir Francis Burdett, Bart., the M. Ill. Grand Sovereign, presided, and was supported by Sir Knights Baron de Ferrieres, M.E.G. Viceroy; Lord Euston, G. Senior General; Capt. T. C. Walls, Dep. Intendant-General Middx., G. Junior General; Dr. W. R. Woodman, P.G.V., G. Treasurer; C. F. Hogard, G. Recorder; G. Mickley,

G. Chamberlain; C. H. Driver, G. Architect; W. G. Lemon, G. Marshal; W. H. Lewthwaite, G. High Almoner; G. Powell, P.G.S. General; J. G. Marsh, P.G.S. General; H. H. Shirley, G. Orator; T. Cubitt, P.G.S. General; C. F. Matier, Intendant-General Lancs.; H. C. Heard, P.S., G. Inspector of Regalia; A. H. Bateman, G. Vice-Chancellor; Belgrave Ninnis, Intendant-General Jamaica; G. R. Cobham, P.S., G. Organist; R. Berridge, G. Sub-Prelate; C. E. Keyser, G. Prefect; S. Brice, 147, D.G.V.E. Kent; W. M. Bywater, 15; F. W. Driver, 15; G. Robinson, 1; C. Chauffourier, Nelson Prower, W. A. Scurrah, W. T. Nudie, J. A. Gartley, G. Preceptor; and W. W. Lee.

The Most Illustrious Grand Sovereign having entered Grand Conclave, attended by the Grand Officers, Grand Conclave was opened.

The minutes of the meeting held 3rd March, 1890, were read and unanimously confirmed. The annual report of the Executive Committee was read, a good balance being shown in the hands of the Treasurer. The Committee recommended that 10 guineas should be given to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution in view of the forthcoming jubilee of that Institution, and also that the best thanks of the Grand Conclave should be tendered to Sir Knight Hogard for his invaluable services as Grand Recorder during the past six years, he having intimated his intention of withdrawing from that office.

On the motion of Sir Knight WOODMAN, seconded by Sir Knight LEMON, the report was unanimously adopted.

On the suggestion of Sir Knight WALLS, supported by Sir Knight NINNIS, the 10 guineas voted to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution was ordered to be placed in the name of Sir Knight Hogard.

Sir Knight Dr. WOODMAN then said he felt proud to nominate their present M.I. Grand Sovereign for re-election. Colonel Sir Francis Burdett had become almost an institution among them in the Order.

The nomination was seconded by Sir Knight MICKLEY, and carried *nem. con.*

The M.I. Grand Sovereign having been proclaimed, returned thanks for his re-election. The longer he was with them the greater was his wish to be present. His great object during the time he had been connected with the Order—now some 20 years—had been to see it flourish in a manner creditable not only to themselves but also to hold a high position in the Masonic world. He hoped it would be strengthened in the future, and had no doubt but that it would prosper. He trusted to be with them for some years to come—he could not say many years—but as long as he held his own he would do what he could for the benefit of the Order, and as long as he filled his present position he should be pleased to see them, and to be received in the kind manner in which they had always welcomed him.

Sir Knight Baron DE FERRIERES said the next business was the election of Grand Viceroy, and he rose to anticipate any sir knight who might feel disposed to nominate him for re-election. The Executive Committee had had some conversation on the position of the Order, and it was felt that the acting officers should be men who could give more time to the duties. He felt that the Grand Viceroy should be one who was constantly in London, and who could give his time and attention to the welfare of the Order. He therefore felt compelled to decline re-election, and begged to propose Lord Euston as a fit and proper person to be elected as Grand Viceroy. Nothing he could say could recommend Lord Euston to them, and he unhesitatingly stated that he knew of no Mason holding a high position who so entirely threw himself into Masonry, and gave so much time to promote the Order to which he belonged.

Sir Knight W. G. LEMON seconded the nomination, which was carried unanimously, and Lord Euston was formally consecrated as the Grand Viceroy for the ensuing year, and proclaimed by the Grand Herald.

Sir Knight W. R. WOODMAN, expressed his desire not to be re-elected as Grand Treasurer, and proposed Sir Knight Hogard for election to that office.

Sir Knight Baron DE FERRIERES seconded the proposition, which was carried unanimously.

On the motion of Sir Knight BATEMAN, supported by Sir Knight HOGARD, hearty and cordial thanks were tendered to Sir Knight Woodman, and ordered to be recorded on the minutes, for his energetic and valuable services to the Order, more especially as the Grand Treasurer for so many years.

The Most Ill. Grand Sovereign appointed the following members of Grand Council:

Sir Knight W. H. Lewthwaite	...	...	G. Senr. General.
" Dr. Mickley...	...	...	G. Junr. General.
" Rev. S. Maude	...	...	} G. High Prelates.
" Rev. A. W. Oxford	...	...
" C. H. Driver	...	...	G. High Chancellor.
" C. F. Hogard (elected)...	...	...	G. Treasurer.
" C. F. Matier	...	...	G. Recorder.
" W. G. Lemon	...	...	G. High Almoner.
" H. H. Shirley	...	...	G. Chamberlain.
" H. J. Lardner	...	...	G. Architect.
" H. Venn	...	...	G. Marshal.
" C. E. Keyser	...	...	G. Orator.
" R. Berridge...	...	...	G. Historiographer.

GRAND SENATE.

Sir Knight Viscount Dunganvan	...	...	G. Preceptor.
" A. H. Bateman	...	...	G. Examiner.
" G. Reading	...	...	G. Prefect.
" F. Graves	...	...	G. Sub-Prelate.
" H. C. Heard	...	...	G. Vice-Chancellor.
" G. R. Cobham	...	...	G. Asst. Recorder.

The following were elected as Grand Senators, and were appointed to office, namely:

Sir Knight J. A. Gartley	...	...	G. Sub-Almoner.
" W. O. Robinson	...	...	G. Insp. of Regalia.
" T. Le Seelleur	...	...	} G. Std. Bearers.
" W. Lake	...	...
" J. H. Thompson	...	...	G.S.B.
" H. Roberts	...	...	G. Organist.
" J. D. Murray	...	...	G. Preceptor.
" W. M. Bywater	...	...	G. Vice-Chamberlain.
" S. J. Brice	...	...	G. Asst. Marshal.
" G. Dalrymple	...	...	} G. Heralds.
" Valentine Brown	...	...
" C. V. Cotterell	...	...	G.D. of C.

The Illustrious Grand Sovereign appointed the Earl of Euston as President, and Sir Knight J. L. Thomas as member, and Sir Knights Woodman, Mason, Walls, Lemon, and Powell were elected to the Executive Committee, and Sir Knights Woodman, Shirley, and Venn to the Grand High Almoner's Committee.

A notice of motion by Sir Knight Baron DE FERRIERES—"That Intendants-General while actually in charge of divisions shall rank in the Grand Council immediately after Grand Viceroy, and that the statutes be altered accordingly"—was next considered and agreed to.

A Grand Sovereign's Council was appointed to consider the position of the Order, and report thereon to a special meeting of the Grand Conclave to be convened for that purpose.

The Grand Conclave was closed, and the sir knights subsequently dined together at Freemasons' Tavern, under the presidency of the Most Ill. Grand Sovereign.

INSTALLATION OF H.R.H. THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT AS PROV. GRAND MARK MASTER OF SURREY.

Tuesday last was a red-letter day in the history of Sussex Mark Masonry, which will not be readily forgotten by the members of the Mark Degree throughout the length and breadth of the county. The events of the day included the installation of the Duke of Connaught as Prov. Grand Master, and the consecration of the new Brighton Lodge, No. 426, of Mark Master Masons, with the installation of Bro. R. Willard as its first W.M. His Royal Highness reached the Brighton Station from Portsmouth at 1.37 p.m., having travelled in a reserved first-class carriage, and was met on arrival by Bros. the Very Rev. E. R. Currie, Dean of Battle, P.G. Chap., Deputy Prov. Grand Master; S. H. Soper (Mayor of Brighton); Richard Clowes, W.M. of the Royal Connaught Lodge, Prov. G. Treas.; J. P. Slingsby Roberts, W.M. of the Hova Ecclesia Lodge, Prov. Grand Sec.; and Colonel A. M. Egerton, Equerry to the Duke of Connaught.

After the formal ceremony of hand-shaking, his Royal Highness at once proceeded to his carriage outside the station, a slight cheer being raised by the small concourse of spectators assembled. There were two private pair-horse carriages brought into use, and in these the party drove to the Royal Pavilion, where luncheon was served, and where a large gathering of brethren had assembled.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught presided at the luncheon, and was supported by the following brethren:

Bros. the Marquis of Hertford, Pro G.M.; the Earl of Euston, Deputy G.M.; the Very Rev. E. R. Currie, Dean of Battle, P.G. Chaplain, Deputy Prov. G.M.; Lord Dungarvan, C. F. Matier, P.G.W., Grand Secretary; General Randolph, P.G.O.; Rev. Barton Spencer, Grand Chaplain; Gilles, Grand Treasurer; Marsden, S.G.D.; V. P. Freeman, Prov. G.W.; Strachan, P. Dep. P.G.M.; F. Richardson, P.G.W., Grand Registrar; R. Clowes, Prov. G. Treasurer; R. Berridge, P.G.W., G.D. of C.; Col. Cook, P.G.A.O.; C. J. Smith, P.D.P.G.M.; H. Ward, P.G.D.; Shepherd, P.J.G.D.; and Col. Burney.

The brethren who were present at the banquet, and also those who were present at the subsequent ceremonies—many of them being present at the luncheon—included a large number from the immediate neighbourhood and visitors from distant provinces.

During the evening a pleasing selection of music was played in the room by a band under the direction of Bro. H. S. Gates. The excellent and liberal arrangements made by the Provincial Grand Stewards—Bros. W. W. Turner, Joseph Farncombe, E. S. Medcalf, and T. Bullock—contributed largely to the comfort of the large assemblage.

On the termination of the luncheon H.R.H. the Duke of CONNAUGHT, who met with a most enthusiastic reception, briefly proposed "The Queen and Mark Masonry."

The toast having been duly honoured, he said he had a toast to propose which was always received with acclamation, and which he was sure would be heartily responded to by the brethren present, viz., that of "The M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales." (Applause). They would, he said, all remember the visit of the Prince of Wales to Brighton, when he installed him (the Duke of Connaught) as Provincial Grand Master of Sussex Freemasons, and he and they would never forget the ceremony on that occasion. (Applause). He ventured to think the toast would be received with greater enthusiasm when he recalled to their minds that that day was the anniversary of his brother's wedding. (Applause). Without further preface he said he would ask them to drink cordially to "The Prince of Wales." (Applause).

Bro. the Marquis of HERTFORD then rose, amidst applause, and said it was his pleasure and privilege to submit the next toast, and he was sure it would be received with enthusiasm, for it was "The Health of the Prov. Grand Master, his Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, Past Grand Master." (Applause). He had had the pleasure of seeing how the brethren of the Craft received the Duke of Connaught, and he was sure the Mark Master Masons would receive him with equal enthusiasm. (Applause.) The Duke of Connaught had distinguished himself in his Masonic service in many parts of the world, and had held the post of District Grand Master of Bombay—a link which bound the brethren of the distant East to those at home. (Applause.) He felt proud to be permitted to install him as Provincial Grand Master.

The Duke of CONNAUGHT, on rising to respond, was enthusiastically applauded. He said he felt very grateful to the brethren for the hearty manner in which they had received the toast. He also experienced great pleasure in being able to come amongst them again, and highly appreciated the honour conferred on him by his appointment as Provincial Grand Master of Mark Masons. It had been a source of great regret to him that, owing to his service abroad, he had been prevented from being often amongst them. In future he hoped to be with them on many official occasions, and he was especially happy to find that during his absence from England Mark Masonry had made such advances in the county. He trusted the province would continue to flourish. He then asked permission to propose a toast not on the programme—"The M.W. Bro. the Marquis of Hertford, Pro G.M." He thanked him sincerely and also the other Grand Officers who had come to assist in the day's ceremony, and hoped that on many future occasions they would pay them a visit. (Applause.)

Bro. the Marquis of HERTFORD, who was warmly received, thanked H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught for so kindly proposing the toast, and the brethren present for the hearty manner in which they had responded to it. It gave him and the other Grand Officers great pleasure to see Mark Masonry making such progress in the province. There were now eight Mark Mason lodges, and two of those had been added since the appointment of his Royal Highness as Prov. G.M. of the Craft. (Applause.)

The short speeches were pleasantly interspersed with vocal selections given by Miss Minnie Freeman, who sang the National Anthem, "God bless the Prince of Wales," and "A legend of spring" (Cotsford Dick), the pianoforte accompaniments being ably given by Bro. W. N. Roe, Prov. G. Org. A word of praise is due to Bros. R. Clowes and J. P. Slingsby Roberts, who were mainly responsible for the general arrangements of the highly enjoyable gathering.

His Royal Highness then retired to his private room, where the following brethren were presented to him by the Pro Grand Master, the Marquis of Hertford: Bros. the Earl of Euston, D.G.M.; C. Fitzgerald Matier, P.G.W., G. Sec.; Frank Richardson, P.G.W., G. Reg.; R. Berridge, P.G.W., G.D.C.; and Col. A. B. Cook, P.G.M.O., Pres. G.B.

The Marquis of Hertford invested his Royal Highness with the apron and collar of Past Grand Master, which exalted rank had been conferred on him by Grand Lodge on 3rd March.

After a brief interval, the brethren adjourned to the Music Room, where the Prov. Grand Lodge was held. The lodge was opened by Bro. the Very Rev. E. R. Currie, Dean of Battle, D.P.G.M., Bros. V. P. Freeman and S. R. Legg occupying the Wardens' chairs. The summons convening the meeting was read, and the Installing Master, the Marquis of Hertford, presided. The Installing Master was informed that the Provincial Grand Master was without, and requested to be installed. H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught was received in due form.

The INSTALLING MASTER briefly addressed H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught on the nature of his duties and the qualifications of the office to which he had been nominated.

Having taken the necessary obligation, his Royal HIGHNESS was inducted into the chair. Addressing the brethren, he expressed his sincere thanks for the hearty reception given him. He deeply felt the honour conferred upon him. It would be his earnest endeavour to be true to the solemn obligations he had taken, and he trusted that while he was Provincial Grand Master every Mark Mason in the province would be satisfied with the manner in which he carried out his duties. (Applause).

The lodge was then closed, and the Duke of Connaught, still presiding, requested the brethren to remain during the consecration of the new Brighton Lodge of Mark Master Masons.

CONSECRATION OF THE BRIGHTON LODGE.

The Wardens' chairs were occupied by Bros. Richardson and Cook. The lodge was opened by his Royal Highness the Duke of CONNAUGHT, who addressed the brethren on the nature of the meeting.

The following founders of the lodge were arranged in order: Bros. H. W. G. Abell, Grand Std. Br.; S. R. Legg, Prov. J.G.W.; Rev. Heathcote Smith, R. Willard, Prov. G.D. of C.; S. Peters, P. Prov. S.G.O.; T. Packham, P. Prov. G.S.B.; W. Gill, W. B. Isworth, J. J. Clark, J. Wood, H. Dyer, H. Packham, J. A. Thilthorpe, W. E. Hughes, A. P. Dollman, E. A. Buchanan, H. E. M. Ffennell, E. Mitchell, J. Flinn, J. Sayers, and T. Shrivell.

The Prov. Grand Chaplain, Bro. the Rev. J. PUTTICK, delivered an appropriate oration on the nature and principles of the Institution.

The new lodge was impressively dedicated and constituted by the Consecrating Master, the sacred music being rendered by a small choir of brethren under the direction of Bro. W. N. Roe, who presided at the organ.

On the termination of the Benediction the Consecrating Officer, H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, left to catch his train, Bro. S. H. Soper (the Mayor of Brighton), and Bro. R. Clowes accompanying his Royal Highness to the station. The Duke of Connaught expressed his entire satisfaction with all the arrangements, and his gratification at his kindly reception, and a hope that at a no distant date his engagements would allow him to visit Brighton again.

The installation of the W.M. was then performed by Bro. the Very Rev. E. R. Currie, Deputy Prov. G. Master. Bro. R. Willard was duly installed, and the officers of the lodge were appointed as follow, and were invested with the insignia of their respective offices: Bros. H. W. G. Abell, acting I.P.M.; W. Gill, S.W.; W. B. Isworth, J.W.; Rev. Heathcote Smith, Chaplain; E. A. Buchanan, Treasurer; H. Dyer, Secretary; J. J. Clark, S.O.; B. Burfield, M.O.; J. Wood, J.O.; E. Mitchell, R. of M.; R. Lloyd, S.D.; A. J. Carpenter, J.D.; J. A. Thilthorpe, D. of C.; S. H. Gates, Organist; H. E. Hughes, I.G.; J. Sayers and J. Flinn, Stwds. A Committee was appointed to frame by-laws, and the lodge was closed.

The brethren then adjourned to the banqueting room, where they sat down to a banquet.

The newly-installed W.M., Bro. R. Willard, presided, and was supported by Bros. Earl of Euston, the Very Rev. E. R. Currie, Dean of Battle, Deputy Prov. G.M., and the Officers of Grand and Provincial Grand Lodge.

The loyal toasts having been duly honoured, the WORSHIPFUL MASTER proposed "Bro. the Marquis of Hertford, Pro G.M., Bro. the Earl of Euston, D.G.M., and the Officers of Grand Mark Lodge, Present and Past." He said a great honour had been conferred upon the lodge by the presence of so many Grand Officers, not only at the installation, but at the banquet. The Marquis of Hertford had expressed his regret at being unable to stay at the banquet, but the Earl of Euston was present, and the brethren cordially welcomed him and the other Grand Officers.

Bro. the Earl of EUSTON, in responding, thanked the brethren for the hearty manner in which the toast had been received. The Marquis of Hertford was always ready and willing to help Mark Masonry, and had travelled from Warwickshire to attend the installation meeting. He himself had Mark Masonry at heart, and would always be pleased to assist the Degree in Sussex. The new Brighton Lodge had started its existence on the same day that H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught had been installed, and he was glad to hear that it had a promising career before it. (Applause.) He then proposed "H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, P.G.M., Prov. G.M." The toasts, he said, needed but feeble efforts to elicit a hearty response. (Applause.) He had, 20 years since, been a companion of the Duke in the Army, and found their Provincial Grand Master one of the truest of friends, and a true and thorough Mason. (Applause.)

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER then proposed "The V.W. Bro. the Very Rev. E. R. Currie, Dean of Battle, Past Grand Chaplain, Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and the Officers of Provincial Grand Lodge, Present and Past." He said the brethren knew the lively interest Bro. Currie had taken in Masonry for many years, and also the assistance he had given the Brighton Lodge by advancing 20 members, and thus enabling them to be present at the installation ceremonies that day. (Applause.) The advance of Mark Masonry was largely due to the great interest he had taken in the Degree. (Applause.)

Bro. CURRIE, in responding, claimed a right to be considered a Sussex man, for he had resided in the county for a quarter of a century. That day had been a proud day for Sussex Masons. He could remember when at a meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge only 15 or 20 brethren attended, and few could have anticipated such a brilliant gathering as that they had seen during the day. Mark Masonry had made marvellous strides, but he hoped it would be a steady growth, and that they would secure good men and true, who would make the province second to none. That day they had been specially favoured by the large attendance of Grand Lodge representatives. They were all proud of their newly-installed Provincial Grand Master, who had not only high rank but a genial kind manner. They were proud of him as a straightforward, upright gentleman—one who embodied what they believed to be the true definition of a Mason. Speaking of the Provincial Grand Officers, he said they were all prepared to assist Mark Masonry, and he would ask the brethren to help to make Mark Masonry as flourishing in West as in East Sussex.

Bro. the Very Rev. E. R. CURRIE, in proposing "The Worshipful Master and Success to the Brighton Lodge," said their Worshipful Master had made the lodge a most appropriate present of three ivory gavels. He trusted their W.M. would be like a gavel—pure as that was white, harmonious as that was smooth, as rigid and stern as that was hard and stiff. He regarded the lodge as his child, for he had advanced its first members by the request of the W.M. of the Royal Connaught Lodge, Bro. R. Clowes. He had installed three Masters, but never previously had he advanced a brother, and when he found himself confronted by eighteen he felt that he had some hard work before him. He hoped the short past life of the lodge would be a type of its future prosperity. (Applause.)

Bro. R. WILLARD, in rising to respond, was warmly received. Thanking Bro. Currie for so kindly proposing the toast, he said he would do his utmost to see the work of the lodge carried out thoroughly. He had selected officers who, he believed, would ably support him, for they had all been working bees in Freemasonry. (Applause.)

Bro. S. H. SOPER (Mayor of Brighton), in submitting the toast of "The Visitors," said as a young Mark Mason, he felt honoured in being asked to propose it. The eight lodges have excellent W.M.'s, and he hoped to see Mark Masonry continue to flourish. He was surprised to hear there was no Mark Masons' lodge in West Sussex, and trusted the desired improvement in that district would be speedily effected.

Bros. LAMETTE, CLOWES, and TOOTH responded.

Bro. W. B. ISWORTH proposed "The Visitors."
 Bro. S. H. SOPER responded. He said he was pleased to support his old friend, Bro. Willard, with whom he had worked in the Royal Brunswick Lodge. He congratulated the lodge in having such a W.M. (Hear, hear).
 The WORSHIPFUL MASTER gave "The Officers," to which Bros. GILL and DYER responded.

The Tyler's toast brought the list to a termination, after an enjoyable and successful gathering.

During the evening a pleasing programme of music was ably sustained under the direction of Bro. H. S. Gates, by Miss Beatrice Harrington, Bros. J. P. Slingsby Roberts, F. Clements, H. Dyer, R. Clowes, and Mr. Marten Barling, vocalists, and Mr. Lewis Mennich, violin; the duties of accompanist being shared by Bros. H. S. Gates and W. N. Roe.

THE ALLIANCE LODGE, No. 1827.

BANQUET TO BRO. THE RT. HON. JOSEPH SAVORY, LORD MAYOR.

A meeting of this lodge was held at the Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, on Wednesday, the 11th inst., when Bro. the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor was entertained, together with a large number of distinguished guests. The lodge was opened by Bro. Edwin F. Fitch, W.M., and, after routine business had been disposed of, he presented Bro. J. E. Turner, P.M., with a Secretary's jewel, on his retirement from office, in recognition of invaluable services rendered to the lodge in that capacity.

Bro. J. E. TURNER, P.M., acknowledged the gift, and thanked the members for the uniform kindness and courtesy he had received.

Bro. F. J. Horniman was then unanimously elected a joining member.

Bro. the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor was then announced, he having been received at the entrance by a guard of honour, furnished by the 4th V.B. Essex Regiment.

The lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet, which was followed by the customary toasts.

Bro. Col. Sir R. HANSON, Bart., P.G.W., in response to the toast of "The Grand Officers," said he was in hopes the W.M. would have accepted his plea of a bad cold—although he could not claim distinction in that respect—and allowed him to remain silent. There was one brother present of superior rank to himself who was sheltered under the plea of being an honorary member of the lodge, and therefore could not speak. That brother was much senior to him in every way—in his rank in the Craft as well as in his work. Still, as he had been called upon, he would return thanks for the Past Grand Officers, leaving Sir G. Harris to reply for the Present Grand Officers. He would he had had that brother's opportunity of having really served in the Craft, but he was one of those Past Grand Officers who was never a Present Grand Officer. He thanked them for the way the toast had been received, and assured them of the great interest he as a member of the Corporation took in the lodge. They had watched its career in connection with those who were more or less under the roof of Guildhall, and had seen it grow from an infant and become a giant in Masonic work. There were many Past Grand Officers still discharging duties, including Colonel Shadwell H. Clerke, who enjoyed nothing better, for in spite of his illness he came up smiling, and was always ready to give assistance and show his friendly countenance at the festive board. He would again thank them on behalf of the Past Grand Officers, and would only say in connection with the first name included in the toast—the Deputy Grand Master—that he hoped, before the lodge met in May, that the Deputy Grand Master would be in a more distinguished position to which his merits fully entitled him.

Bro. Sir G. D. HARRIS, G.D., also replied, and thanked the W.M. for allowing him the privilege—probably for the last time—of responding as a Present Grand Officer. Their days were numbered, for in a few days the Present Grand Officers would become things of the past. During the past year he had had the privilege of attending at many such pleasant banquets as the present, but at none had he enjoyed himself more heartily and thoroughly. He hoped that when their year of office had expired the same verdict would be passed as on those who had preceded them, and that it would be said they had done their duty.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER then said they would receive the next toast with great satisfaction, because it was the toast of the evening. He was about to ask them to drink to the health, happiness, and long life of Bro. Right Hon. the Lord Mayor of the City of London. They were doubly honoured by the presence of the Lord Mayor on that occasion. It would be in the knowledge of most of them that the Lord Mayor had accepted an invitation to that lodge upon an early date in January, but a certain event having taken place which was brought to his knowledge, he, with the utmost courtesy and kindly sympathy postponed that date, and promised to attend on a future occasion. He (the W.M.) asked the Lord Mayor to accept, on behalf of the lodge and himself personally, their grateful thanks for so kindly altering his engagements for this particular occasion. When they considered the demands made upon the time and energy of the Lord Mayor, they could comprehend what a very great amount of kindness and courtesy had been awarded their lodge. During 12 years the Alliance Lodge had had the honour of entertaining every Lord Mayor during his year. Many good and true men had filled that high office, but he would venture to say that of all those true and good brethren, no one had filled it more faithfully or more truly than the present Lord Mayor. He asked the brethren present to assist him in drinking to the health, long life, and happiness of the Lord Mayor—their guest of the evening.

Bro. the Right Hon. the LORD MAYOR, in reply, said: I can assure you I feel very touched by the kind manner in which you, Worshipful Master, have been good enough to propose this toast, and you, brethren, for the hearty and enthusiastic reception given to it. I can assure you I felt it my bounden duty to do my utmost to meet your wishes in regard to the alteration of the day on which you had been good enough to invite me, not only as an expression of my sympathy with you, Worshipful Master, but my sincere respect for the lodge. There are many invitations which are accorded to the Lord Mayor during his year, but I venture to think there are none which he, as a Mason, regards with more interest, more satisfaction, and more gratitude than those he receives from Masonic lodges who may do him the honour to welcome him. Especially is this the case with the lodge at whose hospitable table we are assembled. I understand they have done honour to all my predecessors who have been Lord Mayors during the existence of the lodge, but to none have they done greater honour, and I feel especially grateful for the enthusiasm and loyalty to my office which induced you to arrange for a guard of honour to receive me to-night. There are many incidents connected with the lodge which are matters of peculiar interest and pleasure. First of all its name. I think it is a happy name—an alliance between members of the Corporation and those officers who serve them so faithfully, and who are so highly esteemed by every member of the Corporation. But this lodge is

peculiarly happy in its number. I notice it is No. 1827, and that contains the mystic 9, for if we add 1 and 8, and 2 and 7, it makes 99, which you will find reducible to 9. There is another happy feature in that it was founded by one whose name has been so cordially alluded to by Sir G. Harris—Sir John Monckton—a man so highly beloved and esteemed by all who have the privilege of his acquaintance, and who does the Corporation the honour of being its Town Clerk, and devoting himself to its welfare. This lodge is especially a Corporation lodge, and I venture to say the Corporation itself is really a Masonic Institution, for it possesses Masonic virtues. I always recollect with pride that some of the chief features of Masonic inspiration are that first of all Masons have no party, no political party, and recognise none. Secondly, they recognise no creed. We never find any question as to religious faith. Thirdly, they devote themselves to Charity, and the same excellent maxims, the same good precepts, prevail within the Corporation of which I have the honour to be, for the time being, the head. I believe those precepts and those maxims are most excellent and highly to be cherished. The Corporation has for many years been anxious to protect religious and civil liberty, and anxious to do its utmost to promote Charity and good feeling among the nations of the world, and I believe has succeeded, and as long as it keeps before it the honour of God, the good of the citizens, and the welfare of the country so long will it retain, as it does to-day, the good feeling not only of Masons, but of the citizens at large. I thank you for the kind way in which the toast has been proposed and received.

Bro. Lieut.-Colonel J. PERRY GODFREY, I.P.M., said he did not know a more pleasant task falling upon the I.P.M. than proposing "The Health of the Worshipful Master," and particularly of one so highly popular as Bro. Fitch. It had been his pleasing duty to serve with the W.M. for three or four years as an officer of the lodge, and during that time he had been thankful to him and to other officers for assistance in the performance of the duties. Bro. Fitch with that genial manner which characterised him, and that Masonic principle which accompanied him everywhere, not only in the lodge but outside, had the good wishes and hearty feeling of every officer to assist him in his office, and therefore he (the I.P.M.) was proud to be able to ask the brethren to drink his health, and long might he continue a member of this lodge, to which he was thoroughly and heartily wedded.

Bro. EDWIN FITCH, W.M., thanked the I.P.M. for the kind manner in which he had been pleased to propose the toast of his health, and the brethren for their kind and enthusiastic reception. He had been now some years a member of that lodge, and year by year his interest had grown. He commenced at the foot of the ladder, and had ascended step by step until the brethren had been good enough to place him in the position of W.M. He was proud of that position, and he hoped that while he continued to hold it the brethren would have no cause to regret the honour conferred upon him. In any way in which he could assist the interests of that lodge he was always pleased to do so, and he should always endeavour to promote everything that would conduce to the happiness and prosperity of his mother lodge.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER then said he wished to interpolate a toast—that of "The Health of Bro. Sir John B. Monckton, P.G.W.," the father and founder of the lodge. Every Master had had reason to thank that distinguished brother, and for himself he could not speak in terms sufficiently appropriate of the kind and sympathetic way in which he had assisted him on every occasion on which his advice had been asked. Sir John Monckton had often had his health proposed by men of eloquence and ability, and they had given that toast in words which had gone to the hearts of the hearers, but he (the W.M.) would venture to say that no man ever rose to propose his health with stronger feelings of respect and esteem than he did on the present occasion.

Bro. Sir JOHN MONCKTON, P.G.W., appreciated the interpolation of the toast as a mark of esteem and kindness. He regarded the lodge as a successful and useful one in the Craft, having been founded some 12 years ago by some of them at the Guildhall. He thanked the W.M. for what he took to be a mark of goodwill, and, as the founder of the lodge, was bound to do all he could, and was never better pleased than when he saw a number of good Masons assembled.

Bro. FRANK GREEN, Alderman Elect, P.G.D., in proposing "The Visitors," said they had been told of the three great principles of brotherly love, relief, and truth, and the members of that lodge were proud to think it was in their power to add one other great principle—that of hospitality. If they looked at brotherly love he imagined it was that which had induced them to invite so many visitors. If they referred to relief, it would be impossible for any to gauge the immense amount of relief given to those who had honoured them. As far as truth was concerned, he imagined truth consisted in their having extended a most truly and most hearty welcome. He would associate the name of a brother who did most estimable work for them in another sphere that redounded to his credit, and redounded in usefulness to his fellow countrymen throughout the length and breadth of the kingdom. He associated the name of Bro. John Aird, M.P., the I.P.M. of the Prince of Wales's Lodge.

Bro. JOHN AIRD, M.P., P.G.S., in acknowledging the toast, returned sincere thanks on behalf of the visitors, who one and all sympathised with the W.M. in his recent trouble and anxiety. They also desired to congratulate Bro. Frank Green upon the proud position—that of Alderman—he was about to occupy. The enjoyment of the visitors had been complete, and all they could wish for or desire had been placed before them, associated with that kindly reception and good feeling of which the Craft to which they belonged were always so proud.

"The Past Masters" and "The Officers" having been given, the Tyler's toast closed the proceedings.

The orchestral band of the 4th V.B. Essex Regiment played an excellent selection of music during dinner, under Bro. T. Bidgood, Nelson Lodge, No. 700.

The following brethren were present:

Bros. Edwin F. Fitch, W.M.; the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor; Col. Sir R. Hanson, Bart., P.G.W.; H. Brooks Marshall, C.C., P.G.T.; Sir G. D. Harris, G.D.; Dr. E. E. Wendt, G. Sec. German Cor.; Sir Somers Vine, G.D.; W. F. Smithson, G.D.; Lieut.-Col. J. Perry Godfrey, P.M., I.P.M.; Alderman Sir Polydore De Keyser, P.G.D.; Sir John B. Monckton, P.G.W.; Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, Grand Secretary; P. de Lande Long, P.G.D.; E. Letchworth, P.G.D.; R. Berridge, P.G.D.; F. S. Jackson, S.W.; the Rev. G. J. Scott, J.W.; Col. T. Davies Sewell, P.G.S., P.M. 21 and 1827, Sec.; W. G. Lemon, Dep. G.D.C.; Ex-Sheriff George Burt, J.P., P.A.G.D.C.; Magnus Ohren, P.A.G.D.C.; J. Aird, M.P., W.M. 259; F. J. Horniman, Deputy G. Rose-Innes, Deputy J. E. Walford, P.M. 192; W. Bruce Clarke, M.A., Steward; G. A. Pickering, W.M. 890; F. Courtenay, S. Vallentine, A.G. Purst.; F. W. Coles, P.M. 136 and 1150; C. Monckton, P.M. 1150; Alexander Ritchie, C.C.; H. Percy Monckton, J. Salmon, C.C., P.M., P.P. G.R. Essex; F. A. Jewson, Org.; Capt. Vickers Dunfee, I.G.; Frederick Hill, W. Westcott, Stwd.; J. Anstey Wild, W.M. 96; Col. E. Rodney Wilde, W.M. 1718, S.D.; the Rev. J. H. Smith, P.M., Chaplain; J. Easterbrook, P.M. 2157; G. Singer, P.M. 21, Past G. Stwd.; Ex-Sheriff Thomas E. Clarke, J. Hebert Marshall, Captain W. H. Thomas, P.M. 1491; Captain E. Pugh, Captain J. W. Benningfield, P.M. 1589; Capt. H. C. Fraser, P.M. 2206, W.M. elect 2331; R. Carter, W.M. 2157; Col. L. G. Dundas, P.M. 370; Barrow Emanuel, M.A., A.D.C.; H. P. Boulnois, L. Oakley, G. J. W. Winzar, Sword Bearer; Dr. Ernest Clarke, Capt. C. Brown, Major H. Lyon, Edgar Wills, J. E. Turner, P.M. 181; W. Roebuck, P.P.S.G.W. Middx., P.G.S.; G. Manners, C.C.; P.M. 1589; Major H. A. Joseph, C.C., I.P.M. 96; F. C. Hill, W. T. Roberts, E. Seaman, C.C.; J. L. Sayer, C.C.; H. Lynn, W.M. 177; J. C. Whiddington, J. Lobb, C.C., L.S.B.; T. Hastings Miller, C.C.; Frank Green, Alderman elect, P.G.D.; R. C. Sudlow, G. Sid. Br. Eng.; Henry Clarke, C.C., L.C.C., P.M., Freas.; G. N. Johnson, C.C., P.G.S., P.M. 1; Capt. H. Wright, P.M.; Henry Squire, CC., P.M., D.C.; J. C. Chubb, C.C.; Deputy R. C. Halse, Harry S. Foster, L.C.C., M.S.B.; Matthew Webb, J.P., W.M. 1657; and A. J. Altman, C.C., P.M.

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EXTRACTS FROM THE
 FORTY-SECOND ANNUAL REPORT,
 For the year ending 31st December, 1890.

ORDINARY BRANCH.—The number of Policies issued during the year was 55,846, assuring the sum of £5,615,676, and producing a New Annual Premium Income of £340,699.

The Premiums received during the year were £1,162,649, being an increase of £257,734 over the year 1889. The increase in the Premium receipts for the years 1887-90 was £765,709, giving an average increase for the first four years of the Quinquennium, of £191,427 per annum.

The number of Policies in force was 220,545.

INDUSTRIAL BRANCH.—The Premiums received during the year were £3,517,925, being an increase of £181,183. The increase in the Premium receipts for the years 1887-90 was £606,630, giving an average increase for the first four years of the Quinquennium, of £151,657 per annum.

The Claims of the year amounted to £1,489,204. The number of Deaths was 169,890.

The number of Policies in force was 9,099,204; the average duration continues to increase, and now exceeds six and a half years.

The total Assets of the Company have been raised during the year from £10,946,156 to £12,579,870 being an increase of £1,633,714.

The Balance Sheet has been again submitted to the independent professional audit of Messrs. DELOITTE, DEVER, GRIFFITHS & Co., whose certificate is appended to the accounts.

THOS. C. DEWEY,
 WILLIAM HUGHES, } Managers.

W. J. LANCASTER, Secretary.

The full Report can be obtained upon application to the Secretary.

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 will be held
 IN MAY NEXT, UNDER DISTINGUISHED
 PRESIDENCY.

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THE
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 Will take place at the WHITEHALL ROOMS, HOTEL METROPOLE, on FRIDAY, March 20th, 1891.

PATTERSON NICKALLS, Esq., will Preside.
 LIST OF STEWARDS.

The Lord Herschell.	J. Dix Lewis, Esq.
The Viscount Portman.	G. J. Lough, Esq.
Andrew N. Agnew, Esq.	The Rev. Hugh M'Sorley, M.A.
W. R. Ashurst, Esq., M.D.	Thomas Millhouse, Esq.
Francis F. Belsey, Esq., J.P.	Arthur Mills, Esq., J.P.
Bertrand Y. Bevan, Esq.	R. C. Morgan, Esq.
John Brinton, Esq.	Hon. Roden Noel.
Frank C. Capel, Esq.	Colonel W. Pimney.
Sir J. Colquhoun, Bart.	The Rev. H. B. Rashleigh, M.A.
John Cory, Esq.	Alfred D. Rothschild, Esq.
William Dunn, Esq.	John Scott, Esq.
Sir W. Hart Dyke, Bart., M.P.	Robert Sinclair, Esq.
Sir T. R. Edridge.	Abel Smith, Esq., M.P.
Henry E. Fisher, Esq.	Reginald A. Smith, Esq.
Charles R. Ford, Esq.	Henry Spalding, Esq.
Joseph Freeman, Esq.	Burnett Tabram, Esq., J.P.
T. D. Galpin, Esq.	Alderman Sir F. W. Truscott.
Cecil E. Green, Esq.	Robert T. Turnbull, Esq.
Edmund S. Hanbury, Esq., J.P.	Joseph Weatherley, Esq.
George Hanbury, Esq.	W. H. Willans, Esq., J.P.
Walter Hazell, Esq.	Treas.

Ladies will dine at the Banquet, which will be served punctually at seven o'clock.

SUBSCRIPTIONS and DONATIONS earnestly solicited and thankfully received by the Secretary,

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MASONIC ORATIONS, by Bro. L. P. METHAM, P.G.D. Eng., P.D. Prov. G.M. Devon, &c., delivered in Devon and Cornwall, from A.D. 1866, at the dedication of Masonic Halls, Consecration of Lodges and Chapters, Installations, &c. With an Introduction by Bro. WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN, P.G.D. Eng., P. Prov. S.G.W. and G. Sec. Cornwall, &c., on Freemasonry in Devon and Cornwall, from A.D. 1732 to 1889. Edited by Bro. JOHN CHAPMAN, P.M. 1402, &c., P. Prov. G.D. Devon, Author of "The Great Pyramid and Freemasonry." London: GEORGE KENNING, 16, Great Queen-st., W.C.

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Last Verse.

"Thus together we labour, thro' foul day and fair;
Our Masonic ladder be'ng Faith, Hope, and Love.
And as we meet on the level and part on the square,
So may we all meet in the Grand Lodge above.
For Masons true are we,
And our motto still shall be,
Fidelity, Fidelity, Fidelity,
Peace, Love, and Harmony.
So mote it be."

To Correspondents.

The following communications unavoidably stand over:

- CRAFT—
Adam's Lodge, No. 158.
Phoenix Lodge, No. 904.
Bisley Lodge, No. 2317.
- ROYAL ARCH—
Rose of Denmark Chapter, No. 975.
- KNIGHTS TEMPLAR—
Mount Grace Preceptory, No. 118.
Provincial Grand Chapter of Cambridgeshire.

We are again reluctantly compelled to omit numerous reports of lodges of instruction, in consequence of press of matter this week of greater general importance, but we hope in future issues to devote as much space as possible to these interesting records of Craft work.



SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 1891.

Masonic Notes.

We shall defer our usual commentary on the School balloting papers till next week, but there is one point incidental to that of the Girls' School which is outside the scope of our ordinary remarks, and to which it seems desirable we should make the earliest possible reference. It will be seen that in the case of this Institution there will be elected 19 children from an approved list of 25 candidates, and we have heard it suggested that, seeing how nearly equal in number are the vacancies and candidates, some governor or subscriber will propose that the ballot be dispensed with, and the whole of the 25 candidates admitted into the School. Such a proposal, if carried, will involve an addition of six to an establishment which is already 264 strong.

* * *

We trust no such motion will be brought forward, or, if it is, that it will be rejected. We yield to none in our desire to see the Institution for Girls flourishing, and its benefits still further extended, whenever such

extension is justifiable. But there is nothing to justify any addition to the existing establishment being made just now or for a considerable time to come. Indeed, there are several strong reasons against the adoption of such a policy, some of which we will take leave to enumerate.

* * *

In the first place, during the 18 years from 1872 to 1890 the number of children in the establishment was by successive augmentations increased from 100 in the former year to 264 in the latter, while the increase in the permanent income during the same period was on a considerably smaller scale. It is to this permanent income, or rather to the investments which furnish the bulk of it, that the Institution must look for aid in the event of two or three of its Anniversary Festivals proving unfavourable. In fact, what is wanted now is *not* an increase in the responsibilities resting on the Institution, but an increase in the permanent resources on which it will have to rely in time of need to enable it to fulfil those responsibilities. Again, as one of the results of the success of the Centenary Festival, the number of children has already been increased by 20—from 244 to 264. This has increased the fixed expenditure by about £800 a year; that is, by a sum about equal to the annual interest on some £28,000 Government Stock. This, we think, is enough in the way of increase for some time to come.

* * *

In the next place, though the Centenary Festival yielded upwards of £51,000—and this magnificent success was offered at the time as the justification for augmenting the number of children by 20—it must not be forgotten that a very large sum—upwards of £30,000—has been expended in the reconstruction of the existing premises, and the erection of a new wing, and the Centenary Memorial Hall. Therefore it appears to us that having increased the establishment, and spent this large sum on enlarging and improving the School premises, any further addition to the number would be an act of rashness.

* * *

Again, there is no doubt the appointment of a Petitions Committee, by ensuring that the examination of the candidates' petitions is more strict, has had the effect of diminishing the number of children who are periodically approved and have their names added to the list. The number of new cases for the approaching election is only 10, while the number standing over from last October is only 15. Therefore, if the children were elected in order of seniority as they stand on the list, it would require all the 15 old cases and four out of the 10 new cases to fill the vacancies which are to be balloted for. There would thus remain only six who would stand over till next October, and if the new cases were in the same proportion as for this election, and the vacancies to be filled about as numerous, all would be declared elected without a ballot being necessary. In fact, as matters now stand, there is no reason why, with a certain amount of management on the part of the friends, a child, whose name is once entered on the list, should not be elected, as a matter of course, within 12—or at the very outside 18—months. We do not think the trifling hardship involved in a girl remaining on the list of candidates for such a period justifies any increase being made just now under the circumstances we have described. Let the School authorities look, as we have before said, to increasing their permanent income rather than their permanent responsibilities.

* * *

A "Past Master" asks us the following question—"Has it not struck any of the members of the Fraternity that since the existence of the Board Schools that at least the Boys' School could be abolished?" We venture to think we may take upon ourselves to answer for the Fraternity generally, that such a discreditable method of providing for the sons of our deceased or indigent brethren has not occurred to more than a few members of the Fraternity whose opinions on any subject are never listened to and never likely to be listened to. Masons have not quite lost all want of decency merely because they happen to be "rate-payers" and Board Schools are in existence. They are proud of their Institutions, of the labour and money expended in building them up, and as regards the two Schools, of the educational benefits they are the means of dispersing among the children of brethren who were once in reputable circumstances, and they have no intention of selling the School premises and sending the girls and boys they now accommodate to Board Schools. They have not yet descended to this level.

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.]

LODGE RECORDS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I venture to submit, for publication or destruction as you may deem fit, the following suggestions for which I prefer no sort of claim to originality, but which may, perhaps, be thought useful in young lodges as laying the foundation of what will prove, in future years, to be very interesting as a record of the past. It is well known that many old lodges are in existence which have but little to show as to their past history. register or minute books have been lost or accidentally destroyed, or they have been imperfectly kept, or the ink with which they were written has faded. These books once gone the history of the lodge goes with them, as they are seldom, if ever, kept in duplicate.

In some lodges it is the custom to print annually and to circulate to the brethren a list of members, but such a list necessarily shows existing members only, while those who have gone out by resignation or by death being omitted are soon forgotten. This would be obviated by appending to the lodge by-laws a full list of all members from its foundation, showing how and when they joined, and how and when they ceased to be members, in some such form as the following:—

Complete list of the members of Lodge
from its foundation in 18 .

I. Initiated. J. Joined.	NAME.	R. Resigned. D. Died.
J. 1885 ...	A.B. ...	R. 1890
I. 1885 ...	C.D. ...	D. 1888
I. 1886 ...	E.F. ...	
J. 1886 ...	G.H. ...	{ R. 1887 D. 1889

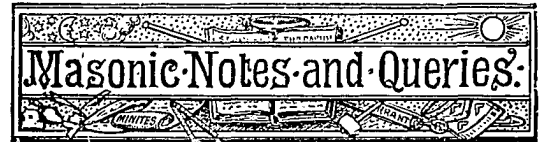
Of course, a blank in the final column would indicate that the brother is still on the effective roll of the lodge. It is clear that, with such a provision, the loss of a register would be, comparatively speaking, but trifling, as a printed record would be in the possession of every member. Two or three blank pages might be left for the addition of many of those who would like to keep their copies up to date.

I would further suggest, as an appendix to by-laws, a chronological list of Masters in the chair. Again, I think that the endorsement by each W.M. on his installation of his name on the back of the lodge warrant would form a very interesting record in future years. A warrant, being in thick vellum, does not suffer by such endorsements, and when (say) in the year 2000, it becomes covered with signatures, I venture prophetically to promise that the Grand Master of the day will not hesitate to renew it, free of charge.

I would like to add one or two more small suggestions, but feel that I have already trespassed too much on your space. If you think the above worthy of notice I shall be only too glad to continue the subject.—I am, yours fraternally,

10th March.

H. D. S.



937] THE NEW MASONIC WORK.

I should like to add to your very kind and appreciative article on our new "Masonic History and Concordant Orders," that, from a letter just received from the President of the "Fraternity Publishing Company," Boston, U.S.A. (Bro. L. C. Hascall), the bulky volume will be ready for circulation at the end of the month. Owing to the considerable additions to the original estimate of 650 pages—the work now running to about 900 pp.—there has been a delay in the publication, but the subscribers will gain thereby, though the company will not. Prices will range from one to two guineas, according to binding, the *edition de luxe* being limited to 1000 copies only. I can speak with great confidence as to the merits of many of the contributions, as several are of conspicuous ability and thoroughness, and doubtless within the next few days the whole of the proof sheets will be in my hands. So far, the volume far exceeds my expectations, and bids fair to be—as you state—"one of the most important works ever published in relation to Freemasonry." Bro. Sereno D. Nickerson (P.G.M.), the esteemed Grand Secretary of Massachusetts, has written a monograph relative to the introduction of Freemasonry into that State, to accompany Bro. C. E. Meyer's chapter on the general question of the origin of the Craft in America; a fact of which I am personally very glad, as it is but fair that two such doughty champions should be heard on that important subject. Bro. John Lane has also contributed a brief sketch of our Central Masonic Charities in England, so as to make their

beneficent work more widely known, besides doing the chapter devoted to lodges chartered in America by the Grand Lodges of England, for which he is so well fitted. The editor-in-chief, Bro. H. L. Stillson, has done his utmost to render the history all it should be by the careful selection of contributors, the most scrupulous attention to all details, and by his determination to spare neither labour nor expense to secure accuracy and thoroughness in all the departments of the history. I have never co-operated in any Masonic work with more pleasure and satisfaction than in this, the latest history of the Craft.

W. J. HUGHAN.



Craft Masonry.

METROPOLITAN MEETINGS.

Temple Lodge (No. 101).—The regular meeting of this flourishing lodge was held at the Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street, on the 3rd inst., when there were present Bros. Frank Williams, W.M.; Sidney Smith, S.W.; John Sparks, J.W.; Edwin Lardner, P.M., Sec.; Harry Wood, S.D.; Frank Wint, J.D.; George, P.M., D.C.; Charles Plant, I.G.; Horace Petley, Org.; Jas. Budd, Stwd.; Flegg, P.M.; H. Wynne, P.M.; J. Brandon White, P.M.; Ruff, H. Eyre, Harrison, Sparks, Payton, J. Wint, J. Shelvey, Wm. Briant, Lankester, Dr. Keates, Green, and others. The visitors were Bros. R. Greenwood, P.M. 1611; Chas. Henry Stone, J.D. 507; W. H. Moore, J.W. 1625; Dr. Frank Oldfield, P.M. 134; Wm. Price, S.D. 28; Saml. Cross, S.W. 2202; Edmund Petley, 1672; Dr. G. Etheridge, 303; Thos. Roe, S.W. 1641; Frank Swinford, 2272; and Rushton O'dell, 2077.

The minutes of the installation meeting having been confirmed, the ceremonies of passing and initiation were rehearsed by Bro. George, P.M., in an excellent manner. Messrs. Lankester and Keates were duly initiated, and Bro. Payton passed. The W.M. having resumed the chair, stated that it was the desire of the brethren that the warrant of the Canonbury Chapter be transferred, and that the name be altered to that of the Temple Chapter. Accordingly the Secretary announced that a petition was drawn up to be signed by the brethren, and would be forwarded to Grand Chapter for that purpose. The W.M. gave the following notice of motion: "That a ladies' night take place the first Tuesday in May."

The lodge being closed, the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet, personally superintended by Bro. Ashley. This finished, the customary loyal and Masonic toasts were given in admirable speeches by the W.M., and were drunk right loyally.

The toast of "The Deputy Grand Master, the Earl of Lathom, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," was next given, the W.M. remarking that since the last meeting he had had the pleasure of attending the Board of Benevolence, and he could testify to the enormous time that was given by the Grand Officers for the benefit of the Craft, and most ungrudgingly.

The toast of "The Worshipful Master" was next given by the I.P.M., who stated he had only to mention the name and there was the greatest enthusiasm among the brethren, for they all knew he had the welfare of the lodge at heart. He certainly would say that he had been the means of resuscitating the lodge. The number of worthy brethren he had introduced, and especially the two initiates that evening, were worthy of any lodge. He trusted the W.M. would be spared for many years to grace the Temple Lodge.

The toast was received with acclamation. In reply, the W.M. thanked all for such a cordial reception, and the great pleasure it gave him to preside over such a lodge. It was a proud position, and one that had been his ambition for many years. He knew he had the confidence of the brethren, and with the assistance of the Past Masters the work would not in the least suffer during the present year. He assured the brethren that his interest in the lodge would not lapse, and he must state the delight it gave him to see the manner the lodge was advancing. He could safely say it was second to none in London as regards its members, working and its splendid musical talent.

The next was the toast of "The Initiates," which the W.M. gave with great feeling. His greatest desire was to keep up the prestige of the Temple Lodge, and he was confident that in introducing such highly esteemed brethren as Bros. Lankester and Dr. Keates, he had endeavoured to do so. Bro. Lankester was his worthy cousin, and on hearing he had become W.M. elect, he asked that he might be proposed, which the W.M. said he was delighted to do. Bro. Dr. Keates he had known for many years, and he was certain that they would both prove worthy members.

In reply, Bro. Lankester remarked that he spoke with feelings of regret and diffidence, of regret to think the many years he had allowed to slip by before being introduced into such a noble Institution, and diffidence because he felt such a humble member among such an array of distinguished brethren. He was delighted to see so many brethren around who had been friends for many years, and to whom he knew he could go for advice at any time. He had felt for some years that very fraternal feeling which existed among Freemasons, which had led him to ask the W.M. to admit him into such a noble Order. The ceremony performed by Bro. George, P.M., had deeply impressed him, and though only an unit in such a great and honoured assembly, he hoped to prove himself a worthy brother.

Bro. Dr. Keates thanked the brethren heartily for drinking to their healths, and thoroughly endorsed all that had been said by his brother initiate. He trusted that he might follow in his footsteps, and would do all he possibly could for the good of Freemasonry.

The toast of "The Visitors" followed, which the W.M. said gave him extreme pleasure in proposing. He said that they were always welcomed, and he believed the lodge was more favoured in that respect than many other lodges. He had received a letter from Bro. Simpson, P.G.C., who

regretted his inability to attend, but wished the brethren every happiness and prosperity. They had many worthy brethren present, and the lodge gave them all a most hearty greeting.

Bros. Cross, S.W.; Oldfield, P.M.; and Greenwood, P.M., very ably responded.

The Worshipful Master next gave the toast of "The Past Masters," remarking that no one knew their value until the brother was installed. He would say he was most ably supported by them, in fact they had all that evening filled most important positions. He must specially thank Bro. George, P.M., for so kindly performing the ceremonies. Of the I.P.M. also, who had been most ready to do all he possibly could and promised to do so, he would ask the brethren specially to drink to his restoration to health, as he was about to take a voyage to that end. He would say may the Temple Lodge always boast such a splendid array of Past Masters.

Bro. Wynne and Flegg, I.P.M., responded most heartily, assuring the W.M. he might ever look to them for whatever assistance he required.

The toast of "The Treasurer and Secretary" followed, which was given by the W.M. very feelingly, who said that toast was always drunk with great enthusiasm. Our Bro. Thomas, P.M., Treas., we heartily sympathise with in his severe illness, and trust he may speedily be restored. He was deeply grateful to Bro. Lardner, P.M., who had undertaken the combined duties, remarking that he was positive no lodge could boast such a Secretary, and if he were to speak for an hour he could not eulogise him more than he deserved. He was proud to think he had induced him to join the Temple Lodge some few years ago, and no brother could be more thankful than he to him for undertaking the onerous duties during his year of office.

In reply, Bro. Lardner, P.M., stated the W.M. had praised him so highly, but he would state that it was only for the love he had for the lodge and every brother in it that he undertook the duties. It was one of the happiest times in his life to be present in the lodge, and see such happy gatherings. It redounded upon the W.M., who was in himself the host of all hosts, and no one could but discharge their duties ably and well when they had such a W.M. to serve. He heartily thanked them for drinking to his health, and he trusted that they might go on and prosper, and keep up the prestige of the Temple Lodge.

The toast of "The Charities" was given by the W.M., who remarked that he was proud to have represented the lodge at the late Festival of the Benevolent Institution.

The toast of "The Officers" was given, and the S.W. responded in an admirable manner.

The Tyler's toast closed a most enjoyable meeting. The musical arrangements were under the direction of the able Organist, Bro. Horace Petley, who was most effectively assisted by the following: Bros. J. Budd, John Wint, Wm. Price, Frank Swinford, Rushton O'dell, Dr. G. Etheridge, Edmund Petley, John Shelvey, and Green.

Duke of Edinburgh Lodge (No. 1259).—A regular meeting of the above lodge was held at the Cape of Good Hope Tavern, Commercial-road, E., on Tuesday, the 3rd inst., under the presidency of Bro. Geo. Parrett, supported by the following officers: Bros. R. Fielder, S.W.; W. J. Trappitt, J.W.; C. Wakefield, P.M., Treas.; J. W. Buchan, P.M., Sec.; J. Lusty, S.D.; J. F. Foulds, J.D.; Munro, acting I.G.; G. T. H. Seddon, Org.; and Very, P.M., Tyler. There were also present Bros. J. R. Omer, I.P.M.; E. W. Esmond, P.M.; J. P. Moore, P.M.; S. J. Beale, W. Harding, M. Alf. Snelling, J. F. Foulds, J. F. Munro, Frank Adams, and H. Busbridge. Visitors: Bros. A. W. Tranmer, 1382; J. Nightscales, 1382; J. Morrison, P.M. 1382; J. Horn, 1306; T. Hallet, 1816; and Jno. Mills, 1765.

The lodge having been opened, the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. By the courtesy of the W.M. and brethren, Bro. Tranmer, of the Corinthian Lodge, who, through the exigencies of his calling, was unable to await the next meeting of his own lodge, was, after the usual questions, allowed to take the full privileges admitting him to the rank of M.M. In due degree Bros. Alf. Snelling and A. G. Watts were made participants of the mysteries entitling them to the rank of Craftsmen. In the further Masonic business a handsome contribution was voted towards a testimonial to Bro. Atkins, P.M., on his retirement from the duties of Preceptor of the Duke of Edinburgh Lodge of Instruction, which he has so long and worthily fulfilled.

The lodge being closed, the brethren adjourned to an ample and well-served repast, in which Bro. Busbridge maintained his character as a good ministrant to inner requirements. On this occasion he was assisted by a much appreciated contribution from Bro. J. Lusty, whose "real" article does not often appear further east than the "Ship and Turtle."

The usual loyal toasts and those of "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," and "The Grand Officers, Present and Past," were warmly proposed and accepted.

"The W.M." was proposed by Bro. Omer, I.P.M., in brief and suitable terms, in which he pointed out the W.M.'s energetic and efficient discharge of the duties of his high office.

Bro. G. Parrett, in reply, expressed his satisfaction with the assistance he received both from Past Masters and his officers, and trusted such co-operation would continue.

For "The Visitors" Bro. Tranmer expressed his thanks for the favour he had received at the hands of the lodge in granting him the coveted Degree. Had they not done so it might have been put off to an indefinite time.

Bro. Nightscales and other visiting brethren also responded.

Other toasts followed. The Tyler's toast brought a pleasant evening to a close. During the intervals Bro. Seddon played a brilliant pianoforte solo—"Mentana, valse brillante"—and the following brethren sang: Bros. Buchan, Foulds, Horn, Fielder, and Parrett. Bro. Very recited and sang a humorous ditty.

Kennington Lodge (No. 1381).—This prosperous transpontine lodge held its last meeting of the season at the Horns Tavern, Kennington Park, on Tuesday, the 3rd instant, when the following were present, among others: Bros. J. La Feuillade, W.M.; Dennis, S.W.; Lundy, J.W.; George Everett, P.M., Treas.; W. Stuart, P.M., Sec.; Hearn, S.D.; Mecham, J.D.; G. Millson, I.G.; Colwell, D.C.; Burrows and Thornley, Stewards; J. Burn, Org.; H. Higgins, P.M.;

Capt. T. C. Walls, P.M., P.P.G.W.; C. H. Köhler, P.M.; J. Cockburn, P.M.; H. F. Foalé, P.M.; and W. W. Westley, I.P.M. Among the visitors were Bros. Jenkins, I.P.M. 860; J. H. Rose, 975; Smithers, 1804; C. Hurl, 1348; and others.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bros. E. Archer and A. Durie were raised to the Third Degree, and Bros. A. J. Llewellyn and H. M. Wolsey passed as F.C.'s. The ballot was then taken on behalf of Messrs. R. B. Hopkins and A. Harris, and it proving to be unanimous, they were duly initiated. The W.M., with the able assistance of the I.P.M., discharged his duties effectively. Previously to the lodge being closed, the W.M. announced that it was his intention to serve as Steward to the next Festival of the R.M.I.B., when he hoped to be well supported by the brethren. The Secretary to that Institution, Bro. McLeod, unfortunately, by the pressure of other engagements, could not attend that evening.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet, which was capitally served by Bro. Buxton.

Upon the removal of the cloth, the usual toasts received full justice.

Bro. G. Everett proposed "The Health of the W.M." He said that he felt sorry that the I.P.M., whose privilege it was to discharge that duty, had been compelled to leave. Bro. Westley, the I.P.M., during his year had shown younger Masons how the work of a lodge should be carried on, and they had all seen how well and worthily he had assisted the W.M. that day. The W.M. had done very well, but he hoped to see him do better before the expiration of his year of office. The W.M. had called attention to the fact that as he, Bro. La Feuillade, was Steward to the Boys' Festival 1891 he hoped that the brethren would give him their hearty support. He, the speaker, being a member of the Provisional Committee of that deserving Institution, also echoed that wish.

The toast having been warmly received, the W.M. briefly replied.

"The Health of the Initiates," coupled with the names of Bros. Hopkins and Harris; "The Visitors," with the name of Bro. Jenkins, P.M.; and "The Past Masters," acknowledged by Bro. Walls, followed.

In giving the toast of "The Treasurer and Secretary" the W.M. said that the name and Masonic services of Bro. G. Everett had been mentioned so often and by so many good speakers, during the last two years in particular, that he felt quite incompetent to say anything fresh. However, he felt confident that no better Treasurer existed than Bro. Everett. The last balance-sheet, which showed nearly £100 in hand and no liabilities, was a proof that Bro. Everett was the right man in the right place. When the lodge met next it would be in the proud position of welcoming the Grand Treasurer of England in the person of Bro. Everett. Bro. Stuart, their venerable and respected Secretary, was also worthy of the highest possible praise.

Bros. Everett and Stuart having replied, the toast of "The Officers," coupled with the names of Bros. Dennis and Lundie, terminated the proceedings, which were considerably enhanced by the instrumental and vocal abilities of Bros. Burn, Hopkins, Lundie, Buxton, and others.

Corinthian Lodge (No. 1382).—A very numerous-attended meeting of the above lodge took place on the 18th ult. at the George Inn, East Ferry-road, Cubitt Town. No less than between 50 and 60 brethren were present, in spite of the untimely November fog outside. Bro. R. Perry, W.M., presided, and was supported by the following: Bros. W. J. Millington, P.M., D.C.; H. Devine, P.M.; G. B. Smith, P.M.; J. Morrison, P.M.; W. Blois, acting as S.W.; R. J. Pitt, J.W.; J. Carnaby, Treas.; A. H. Oakley, Sec.; G. A. Saunders, S.D.; J. S. Limn, J.D.; Bassett, Stwd.; A. H. Flint, H. A. Bailey, Lewis Klein, H. A. Dunn, Chas. Allen, R. Allen, H. Lane, F. Bassett, H. G. Bonner, Lewis W. Innocent, W. J. Buchanan, G. Plant, H. Rogers, R. W. Cosker, F. J. Anthony, W. C. Flint, E. H. B. Wilde, A. W. Tranmer, J. H. Nightscales, E. Jones, E. Brindley, F. W. Cayley, B. Bareham, Jas. Hood, W. Gine, C. Mackenzie, F. S. Hince, and many others.

The lodge having been opened, the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Bros. L. Klein, Jas. Hood, and E. B. H. Wide having been passed, Bros. Buchanan and D. Tooney were raised. Further business having been transacted, Bro. R. J. Pitt, J.W., was elected to fill the chair of King Solomon for the ensuing year. Bro. Carnaby was re-elected as Treasurer, and Bros. Reynolds, Flint, and Rogers were appointed Auditors.

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

On account of the lateness of the hour the speeches were much curtailed.

The loyal toast, and that to "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," and "The Grand Officers, Present and Past," were proposed, and accepted with the spirit peculiar to the brethren in Freemasonry.

The toast of "The W.M." was pithily and fittingly proposed by Bro. Millington, P.M., and briefly responded to by Bro. Perry, W.M.

Other toasts were equally summarily disposed of, and during the short intervals Bro. Parrett, and others contributed to the harmony.

Gallery Lodge (No. 1928).—A meeting of this—the only exclusively Press lodge in the world—was held on Saturday, the 7th inst., at Anqueton's Hotel, Fleet-street, Bro. W. F. Perkins, W.M., presiding. Bro. F. Moore was elected a joining member, and Messrs. C. W. Kent and A. Bettany, having been unanimously elected, were initiated by the W.M. The raising of Bro. Kirby followed, the ceremony being performed by Bro. Herbert Wright, I.P.M., who had previously initiated and passed the candidate. On the motion of the W.M., the lodge made a grant to the expenses incidental to the formation of the Metropolitan Masonic Charity Federation.

In the proceedings which succeeded dinner, the brethren received with gratification the announcement of the W.M. that during his occupancy of the chair he intended to adopt the practice which had been so well received in some of the best-regulated lodges—of distributing the toasts, as far as possible, round the table. Thus Bro. Minstrell, P.M., and Sec., was invited to submit the toast of "The M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales;" Bro. H. Massey, P.M., Treas., "The D.G.M., the Earl of Lathom, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past;" Bro. H. J.

Fisher "The Visitors;" and Bro. Scott "The Treasurer and Secretary." The W.M. undertook the remaining toasts, and also responded to that specially affecting himself, proposed by Bro. Wright. The W.M. thanked the officers and the Committee of Stewards who had contributed so much to the success of the first "Ladies' Night," promoted by the lodge in February, and said the event had left nothing but pleasant recollections. He now solicited the assistance of officers and lay members in making arrangements for the summer excursion of the lodge.

Southgate Lodge (No. 1950).—The installation meeting of this prosperous lodge was held at the Station Hotel, New Southgate, on Thursday, the 5th instant, when about 40 members and visitors were present. Amongst the members were Bros. S. Stretch, W.M.; T. J. Phipos, S.W.; W. J. Duck, J.W.; A. Lefebvre, Treasurer; Treivinnard, Secretary; G. R. Newman, S.D.; W. J. Winsor, J.D.; B. Clarke, D.C.; R. E. Gilmore, I.G.; F. Matthews, P.M.; W. Lewis, P.M., P.P.G.D.C. Herts; F. H. Tibbetts, P.M.; W. C. Gay, J. C. Enery, T. E. Davies, I. M. Carr, and F. Foulkes. Visitors: Bros. H. Godwin, J. W. 1673; C. N. Pochin, P.M. 1201; T. C. Kauffman, J.D. 1760; S. Tryon, S.W. 1385; W. J. Gompertz, P.P. S.G.D. Herts; J. F. Haskine, 1364; R. S. Parker, 1524; H. Bennett, 1245; J. Brutton, 228; J. Brown, W.M. 2012; W. Wright, S.W. 1897, P.G. Org. Middx.; H. Sadler, P.M. 45, Grand Tyler; E. C. Mulvey, P.M. 179, 2202, 2246, W.M. 2353, P.G.S.B. Surrey; E. Dixon, 1950; J. Askew, P.M. 1385; and several others.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Mr. J. Caie was initiated by the W.M. in a most able and efficient manner. Bro. F. Falkes was duly passed to the Second Degree. The W.M., Bro. S. Stretch, then installed Bro. T. J. Phipos in the chair of K.S. in an impressive manner. The newly-installed W.M. then appointed and invested his officers for the ensuing year. The W.M. presented the I.P.M., Bro. S. Stretch, with a Past Master's jewel, and said that it gave him the greatest pleasure, as Bro. Stretch had really earned it, and if any brother deserved to be a Past Master it was Bro. Stretch, as he had given so much of his time to the lodge, and was such a good worker in all the three Degrees, and he sincerely hoped that he would be a member of the lodge for many years to come.

After the usual business had been disposed of, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banqueting room, where a splendid spread was provided for them.

The customary toasts were then given.

The first toast on the list given by the W.M. was that of "The Queen and the Craft." The W.M. said he knew that all the members and visitors sitting round the table were loyal subjects, therefore he knew that in giving the toast of the Queen it would receive a very hearty response.

The toast of "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," was duly honoured.

The W.M. then gave the toast of "The Deputy Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past." In speaking of the Deputy Grand Master, he was sure that he was one of the best men in Freemasonry, and he was also pleased to say they had a Grand Officer amongst them that evening who was a well-known man in the Craft—he meant Bro. Sadler, Grand Tyler. Bro. Sadler was one of the founders of that lodge, and he never would have left it, but through over-pressure of his other duties. He had great pleasure in coupling the name of Bro. Sadler with the toast of the Grand Officers.

Bro. Sadler, replying for the Grand Officers, said it afforded him great pleasure to respond to that toast. He had been, as the W.M. had told them, one of the founders of the lodge, and if he had been able to attend to the duties he should never have left them; but he had so many engagements it was impossible for him to attend to all. He wished the lodge every success and happiness, and hoped he should be able to pay them another visit.

The I.P.M., Bro. Stretch, gave the toast of "The Worshipful Master." In a few kindly words he said: For the first time in my life I have the pleasure of proposing the health of the W.M. His good name and kindly ways have endeared him to all the brethren. There is no member of the Southgate Lodge who does not like our W.M. From the desire he has always evinced to promote the good of the lodge, and the happiness of all its members, I sincerely hope he will have a very prosperous year, with plenty of good candidates, and may he enjoy good health to be with us for many years to come. I ask you to be upstanding and drink the health and happiness of our Worshipful Master.

The W.M. said: I thank you, Bro. Stretch, for the kindly manner in which you have proposed the toast of my health, and you, brethren, for the way in which you have received it. I think that the officers who have been appointed this evening are well placed, and it is a good augury for the coming year that we have such workers amongst us.

The toast of "The Installing Master" was proposed by the W.M., who said he was not a very old Mason, but he could say that he had never heard the ceremony done better than it had been done on that occasion. The I.P.M. had done good suit and service to the lodge as a worker, and had brought some good men into the lodge as initiates, and he felt that the brethren would never forget the happy year they had spent under his kindly rule.

Bro. S. Stretch, Installing Master, said: W.M. and brethren, this is a very proud moment for me. I have been ambitious for years to attain the high honour which I have received to-night. I was initiated in this lodge, and it is the only one to which I belong. I hope and trust that I shall remain a member for many years. I may at some future time have to leave England, but if ever I return to America, my native country, I shall always have the Southgate Lodge in kindly remembrance. I put the lodge as one of the first in regard to the working, and have met more friends here than in any other place. I thank you again for the kind feelings expressed towards me.

The toast of "The Initiate" was very favourably received, the W.M. saying they were pleased to see the initiate that evening amongst them, and their Bro. Caie, who was proposed by his friend and fellow countryman, their esteemed I.P.M., Bro. Stretch. He was sure it was a great recommendation to the candidate to be proposed by such a worthy brother, and they were sure from that recommendation that he would prove a good member of the lodge.

The Initiate, in reply, thanked the W.M. and brethren for the kindness they had shown by making him a member that evening of the lodge. He should never forget the

ceremony, and he might say that he was deeply impressed by it, and he hoped to prove himself a worthy member of the lodge.

The W.M., in proposing the toast of "The Visitors," said there would be very little life in lodges were it not for the visitors.

Bros. Gompertz, P.P.S.G.D. Herts; E. C. Mulvey, P.G.S.B. Surrey; and H. R. Bennett responded.

The toast of "The Past Masters, Treasurer, and Secretary" was replied to by Bros. S. Stretch, I.P.M.; Tibbetts, Treivinnard, and Lefebvre.

Bro. Stretch said he had only been a Past Master about 20 minutes, but he had great pleasure in replying to the toast, but, as he had already spoken, he would leave it to the other Past Masters.

Bro. Matthews, P.M., said it was with much pleasure he responded as a Past Master. He had also to thank the members for making him an honorary member. He should not have given up regularly attending that lodge, but his time was so occupied with other duties. He was one of the founders, and their present W.M. was a baby in the lodge when he held the office to which he had attained that night. They had been pleased to give him honorary rank in the lodge, and he could but thank them for it, and the splendid manner in which the Installing Master had performed the ceremony of installation that night made him feel proud of being one of the founders.

The toast of "The Officers" was responded to by Bro. Newman.

The Tyler's toast closed a very pleasant and enjoyable evening.

Quatuor Coronati Lodge (No. 2076).—

This lodge met at Freemasons' Hall on Friday, the 6th instant, when there were present Bros. W. M. Bywater, W.M.; R. F. Gould, P.G.D., D.C., as I.P.M.; Dr. W. Wynn Westcott, J.W., as S.W.; C. Purdon Clarke, as J.W.; G. W. Speth, Sec.; Rev. C. J. Ball, S.D.; C. Kupferschmidt, Stwd.; and W. H. Rylands, P.G. Stwd. Also the following members of the Correspondence Circle: Bros. Colonel J. Mead, Major-General W. J. Vizard, J. Bodenham, P.A.G.D.C.; F. King, Professor F. W. Driver, F. A. Powell, C. Fletcher, E. H. Ezard, C. N. MacIntyre North, W. Masters, F. W. Levander, Hamon Le Strange, D.P.G.M. Norfolk; R. A. Gowan, J. H. Hughes, H. Chintamon, Jabez Hogg, P.G.D.; A. Escott, Dr. E. Howard, J. Newton, G. R. Cobham, Dr. G. Gregson, and Sir Norman Pringle, Bart. The following visitors were present: Bros. F. Taylor, W.M. 726; J. W. Stevens, 2234; F. F. Giraud, P.M. 133; A. W. Gerrance, 1415; and Dr. W. G. Walford, 1584.

The following five lodges and 39 brethren were elected members of the Correspondence Circle: Witham Lodge, No. 297; Hengist Lodge, No. 195; Tyrian Lodge, No. 1110; Camalodunum Lodge, No. 600; Mount Edgecumbe Lodge, No. 1544; and Bros. W. MacCurrough, Auckland, D.P.G.M. (S.C.) North Island, New Zealand; F. C. Krichauff, Adelaide, 28; A. G. Brice, P.M. 158, and W. J. Collins, 1, both of New Orleans; H. C. Field, Providence, R.I.; A. A. Burnand, P.M. 51, Leadville, Colorado; G. Nelson, Buenos Ayres, D.A.G.D.C. Argentine Republic; P. A. Renner, 772, Cape Coast; J. H. G. Dekker, 2232, F. H. Ansdell, 2213, P. R. Costhurzen, Star of the Rand Lodge, and Thomas J. Smith, Star of the Rand Lodge, of Johannesburg; H. M. du Preez, 2232, Krugersdorp, Transvaal; W. M. Denholm, W.M. 553 (S.C.); W. C. Smith, 495 (I.C.); F. J. F. Bailey, 1992; J. James, P.G. Sec. South Wales, W.D.; Major J. P. Groves, W.M. 84; W. S. Weeks, 369; H. Nall, W.M. 1375; J. J. Lambert, P.P.G.R. West Lancs.; J. Illingworth, 1522; T. W. Embleton, P.P.G.W. West Yorks; J. Constable, W.M. 1482; J. R. Clarke, P.A.G.P. Lincolnshire; T. H. Vials, 1764, P.G. Org. Norths and Hunts; R. W. White, 52; H. F. Nash, W.M. 1769; Thomas Archer, 2140; F. B. Phillips, 2265; Dr. H. W. Williams, W.M. 2029; Dr. John Gordon; George Gardner, P.G.S.B. Bucks; G. Baker, W.M. 108; F. H. Curtis; W. H. Purkiss, 860; J. H. Hamm, P.M. 238; F. Zehetmayn, 238; and C. E. Cassal, W.M. 1415.

The Secretary brought up a design for a jewel for the use of the members of the lodge, which was approved and ordered to be proceeded with. In the absence of the author, Bro. Rev. Oliver Minos, the Secretary read a paper entitled "Masonic Landmarks among the Hindus." The paper, which gave copious extracts from the sacred books of the East, presented many analogies of a remarkable nature between the ceremonious rites of the Hindus and those of the Craft, and the subject was carefully and lucidly treated, evoking much interest. It was discussed at considerable length by Bros. Westcott, Rylands, Ball, Clarke, and Hurrychund Chintamon, himself a learned Hindu, but the general opinion went to the effect that the resemblances, although existing, were more or less fortuitous and such as must be expected from the very nature of things. Unfortunately we must wait for the lecturer's reply on the discussion till the next number of the "Lodge's Transactions" appears. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the author.

United Northern Counties Lodge (No. 2128).—

The installation meeting of this rapidly progressing lodge was held on Tuesday, the 3rd inst., at the Inns of Court Hotel, Bro. W. H. Bullock, W.M. There was a large gathering of brethren, among whom were Bros. G. J. Wood, I.P.M.; Geo. B. Davis, S.W.; S. B. Bolas, J.W.; T. Bateman Fox, P.M.; R. Ralliffe, P.M.; J. S. Cumberland, P.M.; Robert W. Brown, P.M.; Charles G. L. Kipling, P.M.; Henry Smith, P.M., Deputy G.M. West Yorkshire; E. Carr, P.M.; and Wm. F. Smithson, P.M., G.D. Visitors: Bros. Col. Harding, P.A.G.D.C.; G. Haynes, S.D. 1479; G. A. Cumberland, 475, P.P.G.T.; E. Barrows, P.M. 32; W. H. Atkinson Grimshaw, I.P.M. 928; J. M. Small, 10; J. Kent, 107; T. Cumberland, P.M. 938; J. de Couray Meade, P.M. 142; W. D. Church, W.M. 1365; E. West Flint, J.D. 33; Wm. Hy. Brand, P.M. 1524; J. G. Cobb, S.W. 2278; John Petch, W.M. 2278, P.G. Std. Br.; W. Jennings, S.W. 142; Sidney Jennings, J.W. 142; Horace Slade, S.W. 60; R. F. Gould, 92, P.G.D.; F. B. Cameron, 1260; and Blinkhorn.

The installation ceremony and the consequent new appointments were the only business before the lodge, except a motion by the incoming Master for gifts to two of the Masonic Institutions, and Bro. Bullock installed Bro. Thomas Bateman Fox (who has been three times Mayor of Dewsbury), P.M. 208, and Prov. S.G.W. West Yorkshire,

as Master of the lodge. The brethren appointed and invested as his officers were Bros. W. H. Bullock, I.P.M.; S. Brittain Bolas, S.W.; Frank Wright, J.W.; Rev. Harry Hebb, M.A., P.M., P. Prov. G.C. Devon, Chap.; W. F. Smithson, G.D., Treas.; W. Masters, P.M., Sec.; J. S. Cumberland, P.M., P.P.G.W. North and East Yorks, D.C.; Cuthbert R. Lee, S.D.; R. Porter Keates, J.D.; R. Davison, I.G.; W. G. Stott, Org.; H. J. Giller, P.M., E. Leonard, and H. L. Bating, Stewards; and H. Evenden, P.M., Tyler. The Worshipful Master presented Bro. Bullock with a handsome Past Master's jewel, and then moved that 10 guineas be voted to the Benevolent Institution and 10 guineas to the Boys' School, both of which motions were carried unanimously. Lodge was thereafter closed, and the brethren partook of a charming banquet, and subsequently honoured the usual toasts.

The W.M., in proposing "The Most Worshipful Grand Master," said it was not necessary that he should say anything to commend the toast to the brethren. They hoped to have the unanimous re-election of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales again as Grand Master. As long as his Royal Highness ruled the Craft as he had done with that authority and grace which had marked his reign since he came before the Craft in the country they would all be proud to recognise him as the Grand Master of Freemasons.

The W.M., in giving the toast of "The Deputy Grand Master, and the Grand Officers, Present and Past," said they had present that evening two Present Grand Officers and other Past Grand Officers. He asked the brethren to drink their health most heartily, and he coupled with it the name of Bros. Smithson, G.D., and Col. Harding, P.A.G.D.C.

Bro. W. F. Smithson, G.D., in reply, said he was deeply sensible of the honour which had been placed in his hands to respond to that very important toast. He felt somewhat regretful, and everyone present would be regretful that the Earl of Lathom was not present to speak for himself. The brethren would remember that last year his lordship made a magnificent speech on his first visit to that lodge. Court functions, however, detained him that day.

Bro. Col. Harding also replied.

Bro. Wood, P.M., proposed "The Prov. Grand Masters and Deputy Prov. Grand Masters of the Northern Counties." The United Northern Counties Lodge in London was one thing, but the Provincial Grand Masters and the Deputy Provincial Grand Masters of the Northern Counties were altogether different. He only hoped that as years rolled by the United Northern Counties Lodge would be able to reflect in a greater degree than hitherto the great work the Northern Counties did in Masonry. The Metropolitan brethren would admit that, so far as Masonry was concerned, the United Northern Counties had nothing to be ashamed of. It was quite true that they were represented by brethren bearing the same name as themselves. What was in a name? What was in a Smith, or a Smithson, or a Cumberland, or a Westmorland? But, whatever their names, they were delighted to meet them, and it was in that spirit he asked the brethren to drink the toast.

Bro. Henry Smith, D.P.G.M. West Yorkshire, replied, and said he felt delighted to renew his old acquaintance with the brethren. He hoped and trusted it might be his good fortune to be spared some little time longer to have the honour and pleasure of visiting that lodge, to which he wished every prosperity. He thought Bro. Wood in his remarks was going to say he desired the membership of the lodge to be increased, and identified by the addition of all northern Provincial Grand Masters and Deputies. That was a deeply interesting point if it could be brought about. However, they had several good men, Lord Zetland and Bro. Tew, who he trusted might be long spared to be an ornament of the lodge. They regretted the absence of the Earl of Lathom. Going to the work of the lodge, he expressed his pleasure at seeing it done in so perfect a manner by the retiring W.M. Having cognisance of 75 lodges in his province, he (Bro. H. Smith) could not help saying that if all lodges had as good an Installing Master as Bro. Bullock, and as good a D.C. as Bro. Cumberland, who could give the addresses to the Master and Wardens so perfectly, the brethren would learn to appreciate more the ceremonies they had to witness.

Bro. W. Masters, P.M. and Secretary, proposed "The Masonic Charities," the pride of the Order, and while coupling the name of the Head Master of the Boys' School, Bro. the Rev. H. Hebb, with the toast, detailed the good work that had been done during the last two years in re-arranging that Institution.

Bro. the Rev. H. Hebb, in reply, after referring to the atmosphere of home, which was so remarkable about the Girls' School, said that he could not say that of the Boys' School at present, but there was a promised land before it, which, though they had not reached it, they had done a great deal to arrive at. Many members of the United Northern Counties Lodge, who were on the Committee, had done a great deal towards making it what it was now. He hoped the brethren would support Bro. Bolas, the Steward for the next Festival, with all Masonic generosity, because they would be doing good to the generation which was rising up, for the voice of the children was the voice of the future.

Bro. Bullock, I.P.M., proposed "The W.M.," who had recently been selected by the Grand Master of West Yorks as his S.G.W. Bro. Fox's history in the past in the Craft would bear looking into, as well as outside the Craft. He was a man of good report, true and trusty, and held in high estimation among his brethren and fellows. He had filled the office of Mayor of his native town three years in succession; he was a magistrate; the head of the Chamber of Commerce; a member of several committees; a chairman of this, a chairman of that. He was a thorough John Bull, and he (Bro. Bullock) liked him the better the more he saw of him and the more he heard from others about him. He was a great acquisition to the lodge, of which he was not a founder. But Bro. Tew was, and he acted as the first I.P.M.

The Worshipful Master, in reply, said he had now to justify his election as Master, and especially the remarks of Bro. Bullock. He certainly took great interest in the lodge, and with regard to his size he should be able to fill the chair. He did not propose to say anything about the appreciation of himself in his native town, but when, 10 years ago, he became Master of Lodge 208, he felt it a very great honour. He felt quite as much the honour of being Master of the United Northern Counties Lodge, of which he was not a founder, though very soon after its consecration he became a member. The lodge was of great value as a link between

metropolitan and provincial Masonry. While the provincial ritual was slightly different, both metropolitan and provincial Masons were actuated by the principles of Masonry; they had the same motives and objects in view. He would have to ask the indulgence of the brethren during his year, because living at a long distance it might not be convenient for him to attend every meeting, but he would come whenever he could as a matter of duty. There were many ways in which a Master could be of service to his lodge, and there were many ways in which all the members might contribute to the prosperity of the lodge. The Marquis of Ripon when occupying a distinguished Masonic position said they ought always to remember that the strength of Freemasonry consisted not in the number of its lodges or in the increase in numbers of its members, but in the spirit of fraternal love, esteem, and regard which animated its members. He was sure they would all endeavour to strengthen their lodge in these respects, not only by increasing the number of its members, but by adopting and strengthening that spirit which ought to animate them all. He trusted that during the year they would have prosperity, and that that prosperity might not be the less in the pleasure they would all have in meeting each other.

The toast of "The Visitors" was responded to by Bros. Petch, T. Cumberland, and G. Cumberland.

The W.M., in proposing "The Installing Master and Past Masters," said everyone who saw Bro. Bullock perform the installation ceremony would admit that it was a sufficient call on them to drink the toast. Bro. Bullock had done all his work as Master so well that he was a very difficult predecessor to follow, but he hoped in some degree to be able to emulate him. He looked upon Bro. Bullock as one of the pillars of the lodge; he had brought two sons into the lodge, and had initiated them, and another was almost ready to come in. All the Past Masters were sincerely desirous for the prosperity and success of the lodge, and in that way the strength of the lodge would be consolidated.

Bro. Bullock, I.P.M., asked the brethren to remember when they measured his shortcomings that he had been preceded in the chair by such brethren as Bros. Cumberland, Smithson, Masters, and George Wood. Referring to what the W.M. had said about his (Bro. Bullock's) sons coming into the lodge, he was very pleased that it was so. He performed the ceremony of installation after consultation with many Past Masters, and Bro. Cumberland prepared him. He had heard in the Gallery Lodge a Past Master say it was the duty of an outgoing Master to install his successor, and that so much impressed him that he was determined to install his successor. Having done so, he could assure the W.M. that he would do all in his power to assist him during his year of office. Respecting the origin of the lodge, he said that when he came to London he wanted to start such a lodge, and being recommended to write to the Masonic papers on the subject, he did so, and in that way became acquainted with Bros. Cumberland and Masters. He was much indebted to the Masonic press for its support, and he hoped the brethren would all support the Masonic press.

The other toasts followed before the brethren separated.

Scots Lodge (No. 2310).—A meeting of emergency of this lodge was held in the Scottish Corporation Hall on the 26th ult., to initiate Mr. James Balfour, who is about to leave for Canada on a visit to the dominion. At the same time Messrs. Ashley Gordon and W. Bailey Smith were also initiated. Bro. J. Whitehead, P.M., W.M., occupied the chair, and there were present Bros. Jno. Page, S.W.; D. F. Gellion, P.M., J.W.; J. Thomson, Sec.; T. Grant, S.D.; J. Rimer, J.D.; Capt. Fletcher Campbell, D.C.; E. Johnston, Gordon, A.D.C.; Dr. D. F. Forbes, I.G.; J. Joyce Murray, as I.P.M.; and D. R. Duncan, Org. Bros. Dr. Sinclair, Lawrie, and McKay were passed to the Second Degree, and Bro. Beaton was raised to the Third Degree. A special welcome was given Bro. T. Templeton Laidie, of Glasgow, who sailed for New Zealand that day, "pursuing fortune's slidd'ry ba'."

PROVINCIAL MEETINGS.

BOLTON.

Anchor and Hope Lodge (No. 37).—A meeting was held on Monday, the 2nd inst., at Freemasons' Hall, when there were present Bros. John Booth, P.M., as W.M.; J. Naylor, as S.W.; T. Murphy, J.W.; H. L. Hinnell, Sec.; J. W. Thompson, S.D.; T. Barnes, J.D.; F. W. Broadbent, A.D.C.; F. W. Brockbank, I.G.; F. W. Isherwood, Stwd.; G. E. Greenhalgh, S. Rawthorne, and T. Higson, P.M., P.P.G.T., Tylers; J. Walker, P.M., P.P.J.G.W.; J. Newton, P.M., P.A.G. Sec.; J. Hardcastle, P.M.; W. H. Horrocks, P.M.; T. Cooper, jun., A. L. Briggs, H. O. Bailey, G. J. French, and others. Visitor: Bro. C. E. Beager, P.M.

In consequence of the absence of the W.M., Bro. Forrest, who was away in the South of Europe, recouping his health, the chair was occupied by Bro. J. Booth. The lodge having been opened, the minutes were read, and Bro. G. J. French was afterwards raised to the Sublime Degree of a M.M. by the acting W.M. in a very creditable manner, the address and working tools being explained by Bro. Jas. Walker, P.M., P.P.J.G.W.

"Hearty good wishes" having been expressed by the provincial and visiting brethren, the lodge was closed, and a pleasant evening was afterwards spent.

CHESTER.

Clarence Lodge (No. 2386).—A meeting was held on Thursday, the 5th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Queen-street, when there were present Bros. W. H. Finchett, W.M.; T. Litherland, S.W.; Captain F. E. Cooper, J.W.; Staff Quartermaster - Sergeant G. McFarlane, Sec.; Sergeant-Major R. H. McKay, S.D.; Staff-Sergeant J. Goodwin, J.D.; J. Matthews-Jones, P.M., D.C.; R. Cariss, I.G.; Quartermaster-Sergeant F. P. Cameron and Sergeant J. Osborne, Stwds.; Stephen Smith, Tyler; Herbert Ellis, P.M.; Thomas Knowles, P.M.; F. W. Pilcher, Sergeant-Major J. Thomas, Quartermaster-Sergeant Fred Fox, J. L. Jones, Wm. Peers, Major A. W. McKinstry, Colour-Sergeant H. Brown, Sergeant-Major J. Russell, C. S. Major, A. Truckle, Sergeant-Major E. E. Bryant, J. P. Forster, Thos. Hart-Davies, Thos. Browne, A. H. C. Davies, M. Rogers, Wm. Mason, Frank Coveney, Wm. Minshull, Colour-Sergeant John Mellor, J. W. Evason, and H. J. Price. Visitors:

Bros. Geo. Tinkler, S. W. Ramsden, and Francis H. Tait, W.M., of 425; H. Wharton, G. B. Richmond, and Wm. Taylor, of 1576; E. Blane, 1477; D. Rose, 730 (I.C.); F. R. Price, 721.

The lodge having been opened, the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Fred Fox was invested as Organist. Bros. Major Drury, 425; Captain F. A. Walker-Jones, 425, P.M. 321; and Wm. Mason, 1576, were balloted for and approved as joining members. Messrs. Minshull and H. J. Price were balloted for and approved. Messrs. Evason, Mellor, Minshull, and Price were duly initiated. Bros. McKinstry, Davies, Pilcher, and Rogers were passed to the Second Degree. One candidate was proposed for initiation, and one brother as a joining member. Bros. Sir Horatio Lloyd, D.P.G.M.; R. Newhouse, Prov. G. Sec.; and J. Curnow, 721, were unanimously elected as honorary members of the lodge. The by-laws were approved and confirmed by the W.M. and Wardens. "Hearty good wishes" were received from brethren representing the following lodges: Nos. 425, 477, 721, 1477, 1576, and 1890.

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

DARWEN.

Harmony and Industry Lodge (No. 381).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 19th ult., at the Masonic Hall. There was a very good attendance, including brethren from various lodges in Blackburn, Clitheroe, Church, and London. Bro. J. H. Wraith having been unanimously elected W.M., was installed by Bro. Franklin Thomas, P.M., P.P.S.G.W., P.P.G.R. Oxon, who conducted the elaborate ceremony in a highly impressive manner. Bro. J. Wardley, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., afterwards invested the following officers for the ensuing year: Bros. S. H. Shorrocks, S.W.; J. Heald, J.W.; Rev. W. G. Procter, B.A., P.A.G.C., Chap.; W. Stubbs, Sec.; T. Duxbury, S.D.; M. Duckworth, J.D.; J. E. Place, Org.; C. Hindle, I.G.; R. Shorrocks and H. Woodcock, Stwds.; and B. Horrocks, Tyler. Bro. T. Shorrocks, I.P.M. and Treas., was unfortunately prevented by illness from attending, and his place was taken by Bro. J. Aspden, P.M., his immediate predecessor. Bro. Aspden was appointed Charity Representative, and Bro. Wardley, D.C. and Almoner.

The brethren afterwards celebrated the Festival of St. John the Evangelist, an excellent banquet having been provided by Bro. Pinder. This was followed by the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, and a very pleasant evening was spent.

HULL.

Kingston Lodge (No. 1010).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Kingston-square, on Wednesday, the 4th inst., when the W.M., Bro. F. S. Brodrick, presided, and was supported by Bros. T. A. Baldwin, M.D., S.W.; F. C. Bishop, J.W.; C. J. Todd, P.M.; J. Bilson, P.M.; F. Fullerton, P.M.; M. H. Wellsted, P.M.; and others. Bros. J. Henderson, W.M.; G. Latus, S.W.; A. King, P.M.; J. Mackaill, P.M.; and also several other members of the Humber Lodge, No. 57, were present as visitors.

The business included the passing of a brother, and a sum of 15 guineas was voted for the purchase of a testimonial of respect to the energetic and popular Secretary of the lodge, Bro. J. Carlill Savill, upon the happy occasion of his approaching marriage.

Labour being over the brethren adjourned to refreshment, and after partaking of an excellent supper they enjoyed the fragrant weed, whilst a conversational lecture was delivered by Bro. M. C. Peck, Past Grand Std. Br. of England, and Prov. G. Sec. The subject was "Freemasonry in the last Century," and it was treated in an interesting and amusing manner, being enlivened by anecdotes and the ancient toasts of the Craft.

At the termination of the address a cordial vote of thanks to the lecturer was proposed by the W.M. and carried by acclamation.

During the evening some excellent singing was rendered by several brethren.

NORTH WOOLWICH.

Henley Lodge (No. 1472).—The installation meeting of the above flourishing lodge took place on Tuesday, the 3rd inst., at the Three Crowns Hotel, and was well attended by the brethren of the lodge and visitors from far and near, no less than 84 sitting down to the subsequent banquet.

The lodge was opened by Bro. C. Wood, W.M., and the minutes of the previous meeting having been confirmed, the ballot was taken for Mr. Lait, and proved unanimous. Bro. Marshall was then raised. Bro. A. T. Ives, P.M., D.C., then presented Bro. A. Knight, S.W., the W.M. elect, to Bro. Wood, to receive at his hands the benefit of installation, and in due course Bro. Knight was installed in the chair of K.S., and saluted by the brethren. He invested his officers as follows: Bros. C. Wood, I.P.M.; C. Powing, S.W.; B. Curtis, J.W.; C. H. Canning, P.M., Treas.; S. Jolly, P.M., Sec.; J. Glading, S.D.; J. Delo, J.D.; T. Reeves, I.G.; W. Turvey, D.C.; C. Barwick, A.D.C.; J. Palmer and J. Baldie, Stwds.; and J. Gaskell, Tyler (*pro tem*). Bro. Wood then gave the addresses eloquently and impressively, and concluded the ceremony, which he worked without a hitch or falter. He was presented with a handsome Past Master's jewel, of the nominal value of 10 guineas, but of much higher intrinsic value, and also a vote of thanks, the same to be inscribed on the minutes of the lodge, and it was further resolved, "That a copy of the same be emblazoned on vellum, mounted, and framed, at a cost of five guineas, and presented to him as a mark of the esteem of the brethren, and as some slight recognition of his valuable services that day as Installing Officer," for which Bro. Wood feelingly returned his sincere thanks. The candidate having been previously initiated by the new W.M., who did the work with the skill and *verve* of a veteran, and the Secretary having read several letters of apology from invitees, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned by specially reserved carriages to Fenchurch-street, close to which, at the London Tavern, a superbly appointed and well-served banquet awaited them.

Among the other brethren present were Bros. James Terry, P.G. Std. Br., and Secretary of the R.M.B.I., and P.M. (Hon.), A. J. Manning, P.M. (Hon.), P.P. S.G.D. Essex, J. Ives, P.M. (Hon.), C. T. Lewis, P.M., P.P.G.S.B. Essex, Dr. W. Vance, P.M., A. T. Ives, P.M., J. Savage, P.M., W. Ball, S. Bow, W. Baker, C.

Carter, S. Chaplin, J. Cordell, J. Cocks, F. Charlton, C. Davidson, S. Evans, W. Edwards, H. Golding, W. Harris, G. Harnwell, J. Howe, C. Hengist, H. Hayes, A. H. Jones, H. Lewis, F. Langton, T. Low, W. McQuinnis, F. Markwick, T. Neasby, H. Painter, G. Richardson, T. Stewart, W. Richardson, E. Steer, C. Staniford, O. Stephens, D. H. Tumber, G. P. Weaver, J. Weir, J. Ward, G. Webb, H. Wooster, and G. Wooster, all of the lodge. Among the visitors were Bros. J. Aillud, P.M., P.P.G.D.C. Kent, and G. Cashfield, S.W., of 615; S. E. Southgate, W.M., J. McCollough, S.W., G. F. Taylor, J.W., J. H. Roberts, P.M., Treas., J. Warren, P.M., Sec., T. Butt, P.M., J. Vallon, G. Grant, and W. Long, of 700; J. Etheridge, W.M., W. L. Crow, S.W., and C. Doyley Mears, P.M., of 1076; A. T. Dale, S.W. 2184, P.M. 1076; C. J. Tijou, P.M. 1804; W. Seager, P.M. 1536; J. Davidson, A. Stamford, and J. Dixon, of 13; J. Reed, 731; F. Welch, 1327; E. Chinery, 184; J. Dares, 876; G. A. Duke, J.D. 1608; Hiscock, 878; H. Earle, 1050; and J. French, 1987.

The speeches were brief but to the purpose, and a most loyal and hearty reception was given to the toasts of "The Queen and the Craft," "The M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," "The D.G.M., the Earl of Lathom, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past."

The latter toast was coupled with the name of Bro. Terry, who was enthusiastically cheered as he rose to respond. He desired to be permitted to thank them very sincerely as one of the Past Grand Officers of Grand Lodge for their kindly reception of the toast; a reception that was accorded it, not only in that lodge, but every lodge under the jurisdiction of their Grand Master. The Officers of Grand Lodge endeavoured to do their duty for the best interests of the Craft. He was sorry that he was unable to attend the lodge and witness the ceremony of installation, but from what he had heard their I.P.M. had performed it to their satisfaction. He was proud of his position as an honorary member of the lodge, and thanked them again for their cordial reception of the toast.

The I.P.M., Bro. Woods, then proposed the toast of "The W.M." He said it needed no words of his to recommend it to their especial notice, for he felt sure they must have all been delighted at the admirable way their W.M. had commenced his year of office by the initiation of a candidate. It gave promise of future excellence, and assured them that the prestige of the lodge would be safe in the hands of their W.M. He asked them to drink the toast heartily, and they did.

The Worshipful Master, in reply, briefly said he should do his best endeavour to be worthy of the confidence reposed in him.

Bro. Wood, in responding to the toast of "The Installing Officer," said he attributed it principally to the unremitting care of Bro. A. T. Ives, P.M., that he had been able that day to carry out the installation ceremony to their satisfaction, and he trusted in a manner worthy of the lodge. It was a ceremony that most likely a man would have to carry out not more than once in his lifetime, but yet was worth all the trouble to acquire it. If he had done the work to their satisfaction he was satisfied.

Bro. Vance, in responding for "The Past Masters," said the position was a glorious one, and one he was proud of.

Bro. Lewis also responded, saying he had been a member of the lodge for the last 14 years, and was proud to say that during the whole of that time the lodge had been in a most flourishing condition. He was delighted with the manner in which the installation ceremony had been worked, and felt sure that in Bro. Knight they had a Master worthy of the Henley Lodge.

The other toasts were "The Initiate," "The Visitors," "The Charities," "The Masonic Press," and "The Officers," and then the Tyler's toast concluded the proceedings.

Bro. H. Roberts presided at the piano, and with Bros. Delo, Manning, Barwick, French, Golding, Neasby, Burton, and Staniford, contributed to the excellent harmony which prevailed.

The jewel was manufactured by Bro. George Kenning.

SOUTHALL.

Jersey Lodge (No. 2163).—A regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Railway Hotel, on Monday the 2nd inst. There were present Bros. John Tidmarsh, W.M.; S. Meech, I.P.M.; G. Harper, S.W.; W. A. Cocks, Sec.; C. Mead, J.D.; J. Passmore, I.G.; W. Freemantle and T. Payne, Stwds.; W. Seward, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br.; W. C. Hall, P.M., Prov. G. Std. Br.; T. W. Jamieson, W. F. Sanger, C. G. Sanger, A. L. Butters, E. H. Moseley, E. Purnell, R. C. Pontifex, J. J. Fewkes, J. Webb, J. A. Webb, and G. L. Duffin, Tyler. Visitors: Bros. D. G. Imlay, 2148; and T. Smith, 152.

The minutes of the last regular and those of an emergency lodge were read and confirmed, after which a ballot was taken for Messrs. Thomas Sunter Hardman, H. Bishop, and William Alfred Buckland, and it having proved unanimous in their favour, they were initiated into the mysteries of the Order. The ceremony was very impressively rendered, and the W.M. so arranged the work that, while he managed to do the whole of the ceremony of initiation, he also gave Bros. Hall, P.M., and Meech, P.M., an opportunity of taking a share in the same with two of the candidates. He also delivered the charge in a very effective manner. On announcing his intention of offering himself as a Steward for the forthcoming Girls' Festival, the sum of five guineas from the lodge Benevolent Fund, and the balance arising from the Jersey Masonic Ball, were unanimously voted to Bro. Tidmarsh's list.

The lodge having been closed, the brethren sat down to an excellent supper served in Mrs. Freemantle's usual admirable style.

The usual toasts were duly honoured, and the proceedings were enlivened by some capital songs by Bros. Webb, Passmore, Pontifex, Meech, and Purnell. Bro. Hardman gave one of his favourite recitations.

WHITEHAVEN.

Sun, Square, and Compasses Lodge (No. 119).—The regular meeting of the above lodge was held on Monday, the 2nd inst., in Freemasons' Hall, Colledge-street. Bro. G. Starkey, P.G. Steward, W.M., occupied the chair, the following being present: Bros. S. Broadbent, S.W.; Rev. J. Anderson, P.P.G.C. J.W.; W. C. Johns, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br., Treas.; S. Hinde, Sec.; J. Thompson, Asst. Sec.; H. Mageen, S.D.; W. H. Chapman, J.D.; D. H. Cook, P.P.G. Org., Org.; R. D.

Metcalfe, I.G.; T. Richardson, Tyler; J. Barr, P.M., P.P.S.G.W.; Wm. Pagen, P.M., P.P.J.G.W.; Thos. Allison, P.M., P.P.G.P.; George Dalrymple, P.A.G. Sec.; W. Gaffney, J. Lachlison, A. Sisson, J. Woodley, W. Thornburrow, and others.

The lodge having been opened, the minutes were read and confirmed. There being no other business of importance before the lodge, the W.M. invited the brethren's attention to a circular from the R.M.I.B., and said he was much pleased that Bro. Dalrymple—a member of that lodge—was going to represent the province at Bro. McLeod's first Festival as a Steward, and felt sure there could only be one opinion amongst the members—that was to make his list as long and heavy as possible, which was unanimously agreed to. The lodge having been closed, a pleasant hour was subsequently spent in the banquet hall.

YORK.

York Lodge (No. 236).—A regular meeting, presided over by Bro. Thomas S. Brogden, the W.M., was held at the Masonic Hall, Duncombe-place, on the 16th ult., the W.M. being supported by his officers as follows: Bros. E. W. Purnell, S.W.; J. B. Sampson, J.W.; A. Laughton, acting S.D.; M. Bryson, J.D.; H. Foster, P.M., Sec.; C. Linley, I.G.; Archey and Laughton, Stwds.; and J. Hall, Tyler. Also the following Past Masters: Bros. J. Todd, P.P.S.G.W., Treas.; S. Border, P.G.R.; G. Kirby, P.P.G.D.C.; A. Buckle, B.A., P.P.G.D.; C. F. M. Forbes, I.P.M.; G. Garbutt, P.P.G.D.; and T. G. Hodgson, P.P.G.D. The following members of the lodge were also present: Bros. A. F. King, P.S.W.; John Biscomb, W. Douglas Rudgard, S. G. Crummack, W. F. Hey, C. Henderson, T. Smith, A. Jones, R. H. Oakley, and W. N. Stimpson. The visitors included Bros. W. C. Forster, P.M. 24; and J. Horner, 1611.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes of the last regular lodge having been confirmed, the report of the Refurnishing Committee was submitted and discussed. "Notes on the Early Records and Proceedings of the York Lodge (1777-87)," embracing the first 10 years of its history, was next the subject of an able and exhaustive paper by Bro. Josh. Todd, P.M., Treasurer, in the course of which it was stated that nearly 114 years had elapsed since the lodge, under whose banner they were privileged to meet, was constituted in the ancient, historic, and Masonic city of York, under the title of the "Union" Lodge. That was in the "good old days when George the Third was King," but he (the lecturer) thought none of them would care to exchange the present period of progress and scientific culture for the so-called "good old days" in which our forefathers delighted. After referring to that period being interrupted by such stirring events as the War of American Independence, the French Revolution, the Irish Rebellion, and the Peninsular War, the lecturer said that at the time the lodge was formed, England was in the thick of the American War, and the thought had sometimes struck him as to whether the founders of the lodge bearing that in mind, had appropriately adopted the name of the "Union" Lodge, not only in regard to the union of the brotherhood, but in the hope that the union of the two countries might be maintained. The States had gained their independence, and there was no country where Freemasonry had made such progress, or where the bond of Masonic brotherhood was more faithfully carried out than amongst their American brethren, whose veneration for York Masonry and for the city of York, as the mother city of Freemasonry in this country, was something remarkable. Only recently he had been told by an American Grand Master when visiting the York Lodge that the ceremonies in his jurisdiction were worked in accordance with the old "York" ritual. Touching upon the meeting places of Masons at that period, which were generally at inns or coffee houses, and the apparently free and easy manner in which the proceedings in the early days of the lodge were conducted, the lecturer said that if the founders could be present that day to see the Masonic work as now carried out in the magnificent hall in which they were assembled, they would scarcely be able to realise it as the outcome of the "Union" Lodge of long ago. At the time of the formation of the Union Lodge, the only other Masonic organisations in York were "the Grand Lodge of All England" and the "Apollo" Lodge, of which lodge an admirable history had been recently written by Bro. W. J. Hughan. After remarking upon the constitution of other lodges in York, the lecturer discussed some of the customs prevailing at the period under review, and entered into particulars of the by-laws and management of the lodge, interspersed with humorous and interesting references relating to several of its early members and of the great services rendered by two of them in particular, to whom a well deserved tribute was paid. The lecture, which occupied an hour in delivery, was listened to with marked attention, and at the close was loudly applauded. A hearty vote of thanks was passed to Bro. Todd, on the motion of Bro. Anderson, seconded by the W.M., and supported by Bro. Buckle. Bro. Todd suitably acknowledged the compliment. Bro. Rymer presented to the lodge a copy of the Masonic work recently published, entitled "Wisdom, Strength, and Beauty," and was thanked by the lodge. After the proposition of a candidate for initiation and of a joining member, the lodge was closed.

Royal Arch.

Fidelity Chapter (No. 3).—This old chapter met at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, on the 6th inst. Among those present were Comps. W. J. Collens, M.E.Z.; Capt. W. Williams, H.; Birch, J.; Radcliffe, S.E.; Stevens, S.N.; Heming, P.Z., Treas.; Larcomb, P.S.; Capt. Walls, D.C.; Cordwell, P.Z.; McDougal, P.Z.; Weeks, P.Z.; Pearce, P.Z.; H. J. Lardner, P.Z. 1745, P.P.G. Std. Br. Surrey; Mapleton, Heming, Birch, Nash, and others. Comp. Epstein, P.Z. 1196, was a visitor. The minutes of the previous convocation having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken on behalf of Bros. Stretton, May, and Pratt, but from unavoidable circumstances they were prevented from attending. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Comps. C. Greenwood, P.Z.; F. Graves, P.Z.; Kinsey, Cochrane, and others. The chapter was then closed, and the companions adjourned to the banquet. Upon the removal of the cloth the usual toasts were duly honoured.

"The Health of the M.E.Z." was fluently proposed by Comp. F. McDougal, P.Z. He said that they all regretted that from circumstances of an untoward nature, the candidates were not able to attend that evening. The M.E.Z. in particular had been most anxious and ready to give the companions an exposition of his working. The old Chapter of Fidelity had had many good workers in the past, but he (the speaker) felt confident that the present occupant of the First Principal's chair was quite equal to his predecessors in every respect.

This toast having been honoured, the M.E.Z., in response, briefly said that he certainly felt disappointed that night by the non-advent of the three brethren for exaltation. He was particularly fond of the Royal Arch Degree, and he had been at some pains to perfect himself in the work. However, he trusted that on the next occasion all of the candidates would find it convenient to attend.

In proposing "The Health of the Past Principals," the M.E.Z. passed some very flattering remarks on the good qualities of those distinguished companions. He was pleased, he said, that evening with the support that they had given him, and he particularly greeted one, namely, Comp. Weeks, who had been too long an absentee.

This toast was acknowledged by Comps. Cordwell, McDougal, and Weeks.

The toast of "The Treasurer, S.E., and Officers" terminated the proceedings, which were throughout most successful.

Empire Chapter (No. 2108).—The installation meeting of this young chapter was held on Monday, the 2nd inst., at the Criterion, Piccadilly, when the chapter was opened by Comp. Lennox Browne and other Past Principals. Subsequently Comp. C. Moser was installed M.E.Z.; Comp. H. Shurmur, H.; and Comp. Andrew Miller, J. Comp. W. Shurmur, P.Z., P.G.P.S. Essex, was invested as Treasurer; Comps. E. C. Berlandina, S.E.; G. C. Herbert, S.N.; Frank Jameson, P.S.; Dr. George Wellton, 1st A.S.; C. Harrison, 2nd A.S.; and Evenden, Janitor. There were present, among others, the following: Comps. C. W. Randolph, Grand Superintendent Sussex; E. Monteuis, P.D.G.D.C.; Sir J. B. Monckton, P.G.P.S.; H. Mackintosh, P.Z. S.; Wilhelm Ganz, P.G. Org.; and T. H. Gardiner, Z. S.

After the investiture of officers, Bro. Walter Clifford was exalted into R.A. Masonry by the new Principals and officers. A banquet followed, and the toasts were proposed.

Comp. General Randolph, in responding, said he was very happy to come and be of any service he could to the chapter, and he hoped the companions would go away from the chapter believing that Sussex was proud and happy to come and help.

Comp. Sir John Monckton proposed "The Principals," and was pleased to find they were burning to do work.

Comp. Moser hoped the remarks of Sir John Monckton would bear fruit. The Principals were anxious to do work and exalt brethren in that chapter. He was sorry that during the last 12 months, owing to no fault of the Principals, they had had a dull year, there being no exaltees. This year he hoped it would be different, and that there would be a large accession of members of the chapter. It would be no fault of the officers of the chapter if the work was not done well. When their term of office expired he trusted the companions would have no cause to regret the present Principals' year of office.

Comp. Sinauer also replied, and endorsed the words of the M.E.Z.

The M.E.Z. proposed "The Exalte," whom he did not know personally, but as he had been introduced by Comps. Lennox Browne and Jameson, there was no doubt he was a good and worthy companion.

Comp. Walter Clifford responded, and hoped he would improve in Masonry, to do which he would follow in the footsteps of his proposer and seconder.

Comp. Sinauer proposed "The P.Z.'s." Although the I.P.Z. was not present, his heart was in the work. But they were fortunate in having Comp. Lennox Browne with them, of whom it was impossible to speak too highly. The companions had to thank him for a great deal, not only in the chapter, but in the mother lodge, of which he was the life and soul. He loved doing plenty of work, and there were few in the world who knew how to do it so well.

Comp. Lennox Browne, replying, said the M.E.Z. had spoken of him very kindly and affectionately, but it was all very well to talk of love of work. He had received every encouragement, and it was his duty to work. To say he did not try to work would be affectation, but it was true he felt a pleasure in it, and he was delighted to see the chapter progress.

Comp. Gardiner replied to the toast of "The Visitors," which was proposed by Comp. Miller.

Comp. Mackintosh also replied, and praised highly the working of the chapter, and the hospitable banquet.

Comp. Berlandina, S.E., responded to the toast of "The Officers," and was followed by Comp. Jameson, P.S., who received just praise for the excellent way in which he performed his duties for the first time.

The Janitor's toast closed a charming evening.

Dark Masonry.

TENBY.

Five Arches Lodge (No. 256).—The annual installation meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, the 2nd instant, at the Masonic Rooms, South Parade. The lodge was opened by Bro. F. E. Remfry, P.J.G.W., W.M. The Deputy Prov. G.M., Bro. Rev. J. Marsden, P.G.C., was announced and received according to custom. After the regular business had been finished, the retiring W.M., Bro. F. E. Remfry, installed his successor, Bro. John Bancroft, in a most impressive manner, the charges being given by Bro. Gilbertson, P.M. Bro. Bancroft invested his officers as follows: Bros. F. E. Remfry, I.P.M.; A. T. Lewis, S.W.; C. W. Rowland, J.W.; H. E. J. Smith, M.O.; Rev. D. Bowen, S.O.; G. Freeman, J.O.; W. H. Richards, P.M., Treas.; J. G. Lock, P.M., R. of M.; J. A. Jenkins, P.M., Sec.; Col. W. Lewes, S.D.; C. Mathias, P.M., J.D.; R. Lock, P.M., D.C.; R. D. Gilbertson, P.M., Org.; and Pratt, Tyler.

The lodge being closed, the brethren adjourned to the Cobourgh Hotel, where a capital dinner was provided. A good number of guests came to partake of it, and to congratulate the new W.M.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and "The Mark Benevolent Fund" well proposed, and the appeal heartily responded to in the practical manner of a substantial sum for that fund.

The toasts were interspersed with many good songs, and the brethren spent a most enjoyable evening.

Ancient and Accepted Rite.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Royal Kent Chapter (No. 8).—The installation meeting of this chapter was held on Friday, the 27th ult. The usual preliminary business being transacted, E. and P. Bro. Dr. Hill Drury, M.W.S. elect, was presented for installation. The ceremony was performed, in the unavoidable absence through ill-health of the S.G. Inspector-General, Illus. Bro. Banister, by the M.W.S., Bro. W. F. Carmon, in a very efficient manner. The M.W.S. then appointed his officers as follows: Bros. Rev. Dr. Randell, 30°, Prelate; M. H. Dodd, 1st General; T. J. Armstrong, 30°, 2nd General; J. Usher, Recorder; J. J. Forster, G.M.; G. E. Macarthy, Raphael; F. F. Schnitger, D. of C.; L. Booth, M.D., 30°, Herald; and J. B. Payne, C. of G. Illus. Bro. Seymour Bell, P.M.W.S., was invested as Treasurer. Ill. Bro. C. Fendelow, 33°, S.G. Inspector-General W.C. District, was then announced, and was received with full honours. The Treasurer's accounts were then received and adopted. On the motion of Ill. Bro. Jas. Monks, seconded by the M.W.S., a letter of condolence was ordered to be sent to the widow and family of the late Ill. Bro. Henry Maddison. The M.W.S. having received the congratulations of the visitors, closed the chapter, and the brethren adjourned to the banqueting room.

After dinner the usual loyal toasts having been given, the M.W.S., Bro. Dr. Hill Drury, proposed the toast of "The Supreme Council," to which Ill. Bro. Fendelow replied.

Bro. Hill Drury, in proposing "The Health of the S.G. Inspector-General, Ill. Bro. Banister," spoke of the indefatigable manner in which he attended to the duties of his district, expressed his regret at his absence that evening, and assured the brethren that nothing short of his state of health would have prevented Bro. Banister being there on that occasion.

"The Health of the Visitors" was responded to by Ill. Bros. Jepps and Sheehan.

Ill. Bro. T. J. Armstrong, 2nd General, in well-chosen terms, proposed "The Health of the M.W.S.," and spoke of the energy and high reputation of Bro. Hill Drury.

The M.W.S. thanked the brethren for the way they had received the toast, and for the honour they had done him in electing him to so high a position in Masonry in his native town.

"The Health of the Officers" and of "Bro. Carmon, I.P.M.W.S.," brought a very pleasant evening to a close.

YORK.

Hilda Chapter (No. 23).—At a meeting of this chapter, held on Thursday, the 5th inst., at the Masonic Hall, St. Saviourgate, Bro. the Rev. William Valentine, M.A., was installed in the chair by Bro. T. B. Whytehead, 30°, and appointed his officers. A vote of sympathy was passed with Bro. Banister, S.G.I.G., who was unable to be present through illness, and with Bro. D. Grant, the M.W.S., who was similarly detained from duty. The brethren dined together previous to the ceremonies.

Red Cross of Rome and Constantine.

Premier Conclave.—This old and distinguished conclave met at Mark Masons' Hall, Great Queen-street, on the 2nd instant. Among those present were Sir Knights H. C. Heard, M.P.S.; Nelson Prower, M.A., V.E.; C. Keyser, S.G.; T. Cubitt, P.G.G., P.M.P.S., Treas.; John Mason, P.G.G., Recorder; H. H. Shirley, M.A., P.M.P.S.; Dr. Mickley, P.M.P.S.; Capt. T. C. Walls, G.J.G., P.M.P.S.; Robinson, Scurrah, and others. Sir Knight F. W. Driver, M.A., was a visitor.

The minutes of the previous conclave having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken on behalf of Bro. F. E. Remfry, W.M. 1529, but from unavoidable circumstances he was unable to attend to be installed as a member of the Order. Sir Knights N. Prower, V.E., was unanimously elected M.P.S.; C. Keyser, V.E.; T. Cubitt, Treasurer, and Reinardt, O.S. A vote of thanks and a Past Sovereign's jewel were unanimously voted to Sir Knight H. C. Heard, who duly acknowledged the compliment. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Sir Knights W. Lake, P.M.P.S.; H. J. Lardner, P.M.P.S.; Purrot, J.G.; Pakes, and others. The conclave was then closed.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The Committee of Management of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution held their regular monthly meeting at Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday, under the presidency of Bro. Jabez Hogg, P.G.D., among those present being Bros. C. H. Webb, S. C. Haslip, A. Mullord, W. Belchamber, C. J. Perceval, G. E. Fairchild, J. Newton, R. Griggs, G. Everett, Chas. E. Keyser, Louis Stein, James P. Fitzgerald, William Fisher, Thomas G. Bullen, P.G. Std. Br.; W. Smith, T. B. Daniell, F. Mead, P.G.S.B.; H. J. Strong, M.D., Charles Kempton, John Barnett, jun., W. H. Hubbert, W. Making, Hugh Cotter, C. F. Hogard, P.G. Std. Br.; and James Terry, P.G.S.B. (Secretary).

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and verified, the SECRETARY reported the deaths of one male and one widow annuitant, and the Warden's report for the past month was read. The receipt of a further £1000, being the balance of the Wilson legacy, was also reported.

The SECRETARY announced that the Annual Festival

had been held on Wednesday, the 25th ult., and that the donations and subscriptions were announced as £15,043 1s. 6d., with 20 lists to come in, which sum has been since increased to £15,643 11s. The thanks of the Committee were voted to Earl Amherst, who had presided as Chairman, and the Board of Stewards who had supported him, and it was further agreed that the thanks to the Chairman should be engrossed on vellum and presented to him together with a fan to the Countess Amherst.

A letter was read from one of the candidates withdrawing her name from the list, and the application of the widow of an annuitant for half her late husband's annuity was granted.

A Committee, consisting of Bros. J. A. Farnfield, Treas., George E. Fairchild, Brooks, Hogard, Webb, Everett, and Newton, was appointed to make suggestions as to the Jubilee Festival of 1892.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the proceedings.

THE RECENT FESTIVAL OF THE ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The following sums have been received since our report of last week, namely:

LONDON.			
Lodge			£ s. d.
108 Bro. George J. Baker	...	additional	15 15 0
822 ,, E. M. A. Seaton	...	new list	31 10 0
			47 5 0
Total as reported last week	...		15,612 1 0
TOTAL TO DATE	...		£15,659 6 0

NORTH LONDON BENEVOLENT BALL.

The final meeting of the Committee who arranged this most successful ball of 1891 has now been held, and the balance-sheet approved. Bro. Herbert Sprake was President; Bro. R. Pye, Vice-President; Bro. A. E. Sarti, Hon. Treas.; and Bro. Capt. Surcott, Hon. Sec. The accounts show a profit of over £80, and out of this sum the Committee resolved to pay to the Masonic Charities £78 15s., or 15 life subscriptions of £5 5s. each, in the names of the following brethren, who were successful in the ballot for this privilege: Bros. Dr. Hunter, T. Heath, R. Pye, M. de Leeuw, S. Wootton, W. Lee, G. R. Dix, J. Potter, A. E. Sarti, G. Cook, A. Tarling, Capt. Surcott, S. Stretch, jun., W. Watts, and T. Glass.

At the dinner which followed the meeting the President, Bro. HERBERT SPRAKE, said he believed it to be an unprecedented occasion when so large a sum was made out of a ball.

A very handsome diamond pin and stud were presented to the Hon. Sec. (Bro. Capt. Surcott), in recognition of his services to the Committee.

BRO. STEVENS' LECTURES.

There was a large gathering of brethren at the regular meeting of the Pattison Lodge, No. 913 (Bro. Col. Edwin Hughes, M.P., W.M.), at the Freemasons' Hall, Plumstead, on Thursday, the 5th inst., when Bro. James Stevens delivered his interesting lecture on "The Ritual and Ceremonial of Craft Masonry." The lodge was opened at a somewhat earlier hour than usual, and three brethren were passed to the Second Degree, in which the lodge was continued during the delivery of the lecture.

If deep and earnest attention during two full hours by a large and intelligent audience to a lecture on Masonic ritual, interrupted only by frequent outbursts of appreciative agreement with the instructive arguments of the lecturer, and received at its termination by general applause, means anything, it should be sufficient evidence that Bro. Stevens is doing good work in his endeavours to expound the hidden meanings of our mystic rites, without a knowledge of which the work of the lodge becomes purposeless. Bro. Stevens considers that we ought to conserve the absolute integrity of the 1813 ritual, which has been defined as that to be universally observed in all lodges holding under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of England—the old principles, the old usages, the old landmarks, the old traditions—as they have been transmitted by our forefathers, and are expressed in the forms and language of that ritual, and which we are morally and Masonically bound to transmit to our posterity pure and unadulterated as we then received it. He certainly makes out a good case for a revision of the indifferent working in most of our present-day lodges, and indicates the way in which such revision could be easily effected. His points are numerous, his interpretation of them concise and logical, and his address is not by any means devoid of humour. There can be no doubt that in many respects his suggestions will receive consideration and adoption by those who benefit by hearing him.

Amongst the brethren present on the above occasion were Bros. Col. Edwin Hughes, M.P., W.M.; A. Penfold, P.M.; F. Barry, P.M.; W. Busbridge, S.W.; W. Sanders, J.W.; C. Coupland, P.M., Treas.; E. Denton, P.M., Sec.; W. C. Taylor, S.D.; E. Bryceson, J.D.; C. J. Clapham, I.G.; J. J. Collins, D.C.; D. K. Somers, A.D.C.; J. H. Bull, Org.; J. J. Murphy, Stwd.; J. Griffiths, Rev. J. W. Horsley, W. J. Freeman, R. L. Pollard, J. O. Widger, W. Wren, J. Rich, T. G. Wills, G. Roberts, J. W. Dickinson, D. Sedgely,

H. Towns, J. Turton, W. Davidson, A. Moore, J. Farrier, H. Martin, T. F. Nell, E. M. Foster, W. H. Pryce, A. D. Capon, D. C. Capon, H. G. Baker, A. Wallis, E. A. Trapnell, J. G. Tucker, B. Littlewood, E. M. Taylor, G. H. Campbell, J. T. Taylor, W. H. Lewis, J. J. Messent, J. Stratton, S. Horton, T. Hambrook, G. Frost, J. Oliver Cook, H. G. Spencer, R. E. B. Saunders, C. J. Swiss, L. Mills, and others. The following visitors represented their respective lodges: Bros. F. A. White, P.P.G.R. Essex; G. W. Mitchell, G.D.C., Union Waterloo Lodge, No. 13, by W. Turlby, P.M.; G. R. Davies, P.M., J. Templeman, T. Ferguson, G. Dennison, T. Clark, J. Keevil, R. A. Steed, T. Beisley, A. C. Durrant, H. Richman, and A. Cleall; Nelson Lodge, No. 700, by W. Webber, I.P.M., G. R. Nichols, H. Pamment, and A. Fenn; Florence Nightingale Lodge, No. 706, by E. Sweny, P.M.; United Military Lodge, No. 1536, by George Spinks, P.P.G.S.B., W. S. Edwards, J. Winsborough, and H. H. Barrett; A. Hoefman, 1076; R. J. Cox, 1326; J. Fenn, 1950; and G. H. Graham, 2041.

After the lecture, the F.C. lodge was closed, and in the First Degree the W.M. expressed, on behalf of himself and all present, his sense of the great importance of Bro. Stevens' address, and the instruction and entertainment it had afforded them, and moved—"That the best thanks of the lodge to the lecturer be recorded on the minutes, and a written communication thereof be forwarded to Bro. Stevens officially."

Bro. PENFOLD, P.M., in terms of high commendation, seconded the proposition, which was carried unanimously and by acclamation.

Candidates having been proposed for admission, and "Hearty good wishes" expressed by the visitors, the lodge was closed.

Supper was served in the large and handsome banqueting hall, the W.M. presiding, and promoting the geniality of the remainder of the evening by quaint introductions of the few toasts submitted by him.

The visitors expressed their gratification with the proceedings generally, and the lecturer came in for a large share of compliments and congratulations.

A few songs and Masonic recitations added to the harmony and enjoyment of all who had had the privilege of sharing in a very pleasant Masonic function.

Obituary.

BRO. J. L. STOTHERT.

The funeral of this brother took place on Monday, the 9th inst., at Bath, the first portion of the burial service being read in Christ Church, while the interment was made at the Abbey Cemetery. A large number of friends of the deceased, employees of Messrs. Stothert and Pitt, Limited, and Masonic brethren attended, the last-named including Bros. R. C. Else, D.P.G.M.; J. C. Hunt, Prov. G. Sec.; C. W. Radway, P.P.S.G.W.; and the Rev. J. A. Lloyd, P.G. Chaplain. Directors and officials of the Bath Gas Company also attended. The Revs. B. Norton Thompson, J. Dunn, and E. Lascelles were the officiating clergymen. Many beautiful floral wreaths and crosses were sent.

The Theatres.

If Mr. Pinero never writes a better play than "Lady Bountiful" (a sweet contrast to "Lady Barter") we shall be satisfied. The last two years some plays have been written which are bound to leave their mark on the dramatic literature of our day, and will be referred to as masterpieces of the playwright's craft long after our readers have passed from this sublunary abode, and their authors will be reverently spoken of as past masters of the drama. We refer to such plays as "The Middleman," "Judah," "The Profligate," "The Dancing Girl," "A Pair of Spectacles," and now we add "Lady Bountiful." For full three hours we sat on Monday—in proximity to a box containing the M.W.G.M., the Princess of Wales, and the Princesses Victoria and Maud of Wales—spellbound, listening to Mr. Pinero's brilliant dialogue of his fascinating story, looking at Bro. Hare's unsurpassed stage-mounting of the four acts, and in raptures with the acting of the clever company of comedians Bro. Hare has gathered round him. We did not miss a word—we should have been losers if we had, instead of which we are gainers. We defy anyone to go to the Garrick Theatre and sit out "Lady Bountiful" and not come away the better for having seen it. There is nothing new in the plot. We do not want it in such a lovely play. We can dispense with thrilling situations. The people are not stage puppets, they are real men and women. "I know that man and woman—they come from everyday life." "Lady Bountiful" may not be an ideal heroine, but she is human. There is not a character in the piece which is not true to life, and the author has not exaggerated in bringing those different people together. There may be such persons. We go farther and say they do exist, and Mr. Pinero doubtless has come across all of them. What happens in the play might—we do not say exactly does—happen in real life. It is a sad play, and we are not ashamed to own that it drew tears from hardened playgoers—men as well as women. Such perfection of acting must move the most callous. We agree that one of the objects of the theatre is to amuse, but to be elevated and taken, as it were, out of one's self is also a good thing. Has anyone ever closely followed "Caste" and not wept? "I don't go to the theatre to cry," it may be said. No! true,

but go and see Bro. Hare's company act and talk as human beings, and you cannot help being moved. It would only spoil our adoration of the new play were we to describe its plot, as to compress it in a few lines would be an injustice to the author. We, therefore, conclude by urging our readers to make a pilgrimage to the Garrick to the shrine of "Lady Bountiful," and see Bro. Hare, Messrs. Forbes Robertson, Charles Groves, Gilbert Hare, and Byron; Misses Kate Rorke, Carlotta Addison, Dolores Drummond, Marie Linden, and Webster in their respective parts, and they will want to go again and yet again. Those who have the welfare of the drama at heart owe a deep debt of gratitude to Bro. Hare. He was always a favourite. Since he built the Garrick he has produced only four pieces, all of them successes—"The Profligate," "La Tosca," "A Pair of Spectacles," and now "Lady Bountiful." The three English plays are true to nature and teach more than many sermons. One cannot help having good thoughts put into one's mind in witnessing such as these. The little first piece—"Dream Faces"—should be added to his repertoire.

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Mr. George Alexander, the lessee of the St. James's Theatre, Mr. Haddon Chambers, the author of "The Idler," and the actors and actresses in the piece are to be congratulated upon having what appears likely to be a thoroughly successful play. For once the verdict of New York audiences has been accepted over here. It cannot be said that "The Idler" opens up any new ground in the way of plot; on the contrary, its story has been done before, but it fascinates the audience by the skilful construction and by the exquisite acting of all engaged in it. In "Captain Swift" three years ago Mr. Chambers showed great promise, but many, we think, have forgotten that he previously dramatised with no little skill one of Mr. Rider Haggard's novels, which was called "Devil's Caresfoot." Though "The Idler" reminds us vividly of several well known plays, it is all the same a highly interesting play, and will be sure to draw for at least the present London season. The mounting is perfection—that we might expect, Mr. Alexander having been for so long with Bro. Irving. The acting is in every case faultless, no better cast could have been arranged. Mr. Alexander is very powerful and sincere. Miss Marion Terry has never been seen to greater advantage; she makes the tenderest and sweetest of wives. Mr. Herbert Waring is quite safe as the outraged husband, an unsympathetic part carefully played. Miss Maude Millett and Mr. Nutcomb Gould supply the comedy element, and are ever ready to score, but yet do not yield to temptation to over-emphasise their lines, which many would do. Lady Monckton does all she can in a difficult part. Already nearly every member of the Royal Family have been to see "The Idler," our Grand Master having honoured the first performance with his presence.

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Had Mr. Coghlan's "Lady Barter" kept up to the standard of interest of the first act its success would have been assured, but gradually disappointment overtook it, and at the end the curtain fell amid dead silence. We do not wish to see every play end by virtue being triumphant and vice punished, but a different ending ought to be made if "Lady Barter" is to hold the stage for any time. It is the old tale of an adventuress here, calling herself Lady Barter, who is about to form an alliance with a young peer who has become enamoured of her. But Col. Pearce steps in and knowing her history informs her he will prevent the marriage with his friend, Lord Brent. She defies him. The play then settles down into a duel of words. A man whom she had ruined has left all his fortune to her as Nellie Maxwell. Col. Pearce informs her of this, so she has to choose between owning herself to be a fraud and winning £200,000, or masquerading as Lady Barter without the money. She boldly says she is Nellie Maxwell, and so releases Lord Brent of his promise to marry her. About the acting there can be no question. Mrs. Langtry is seen at her very best as Lady Barter. We have before said she ought to keep to modern plays as most suitable to her acting and appearance. In a series of gowns she looks lovely, and rivets the attention of the ladies to study them. Mr. Coghlan is artistic in the highest degree. Mr. Lewis Waller, Bro. Arthur Stirling, Mr. F. Everill, and Miss Helen Forsyth are in the cast, but they have small chances of distinguishing themselves. The piece virtually is a duel betwixt Mrs. Langtry and Mr. Coghlan. The Prince of Wales and the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, and Bro. the Earl of Lonsborough were at first night.

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