

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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[PRICE 3d.]

THE APPROACHING GIRLS' SCHOOL FESTIVAL.

It was with very great pleasure that we announced in our last week's issue that the Girls' School authorities had at length succeeded in obtaining a Chairman for the approaching Festival in the person of Bro. Lord CARRINGTON, a Past Senior Grand Warden of England, Past M.W.G.M. of the United Grand Lodge of New South Wales, and Provincial Grand Master nominate of Buckinghamshire. After the many delays and disappointments they have experienced, Bro. HEDGES and his Committee must be highly gratified at having enlisted the support of so distinguished a Craftsman, and we trust the brethren both in London and throughout the Provinces generally will use their utmost efforts in order to ensure the success of the Anniversary at which his lordship has so kindly undertaken to preside. As we have pointed out on many previous occasions, the duties and responsibilities of a Masonic Festival Chairman are by no means light. It is quite true, as Bro. Earl AMHERST remarked in his principal speech at the recent Benevolent Festival, that the Stewards invariably do their work of canvassing so well as to leave the President of the day, be he never so eloquent and impressive, very little chance of extracting even a few additional guineas from the pockets of the guests. Yet a President has many opportunities beforehand of influencing other distinguished brethren and the lodges or Province with which he may happen to be connected, to support him on the occasion of his Chairmanship, and we have no doubt that Lord CARRINGTON will use his influence with the Buckinghamshire Masons to induce them to rally round him and give him all the assistance in their power in his advocacy of the claims of our Senior Charity. The Province, indeed, will not need much influencing. During the many years the late Bro. Sir DANIEL GOOCH was Provincial Grand Master of Berks and Bucks, the Bucks section of the Province, like the Berks section, always figured in the Stewards' lists, nor was there any Province in England which, for its size, was more uniform or more generous in its support of all three Institutions. We cannot, of course, expect a very heavy return from a Province which has only a dozen lodges on its roll, and which as yet is not completely organised under its newly-appointed chief. The time, too, is very short to allow of very much being done in the way of canvassing between now and the day on which the celebration will take place. However, we dare say the Craft generally, which is well aware how necessary it is that these annual fêtes should be loyally and generously supported, will co-operate with the Chairman and his Province with more than their usual energy. Indeed, Lord CARRINGTON fully deserves this much at their hands, not only because it will be his first appearance, at all events in England, in the capacity of a Masonic Festival Chairman, but also because his services to Freemasonry, albeit they have been rendered in a distant colony of the British Empire, and to a separate and independent Grand Lodge, have been of a most distinguished character. Under these circumstances, and with an increased and increasing Board of Stewards to assist him in his efforts, we trust that after all the 103rd Festival of the Girls' School will result more favourably than only a few days since we had reason to expect.

COLUMBIA LODGE, No. 2397.

The consecration of the Columbia Lodge, No. 2397, marks a further step in advance in the direction of strengthening and confirming those ties of brotherhood which have always existed, and which, we sincerely trust, will always exist, between the two great sections of English-speaking Freemasons. A few years since an American brother, when visiting this country, though our lodges were open and ready to receive him on the production of satisfactory evidence of his being a Mason, and though there is little doubt that his reception would have been most cordial, had nothing special in the way of Masonry

to attract him. There are lodges in all parts of London, and some of them are amongst the most distinguished on the roll of Grand Lodge. But to a brother hailing from foreign parts, one lodge would be very like another, while the difficulty, especially in the summer season, of ascertaining what lodges were in session and available, therefore, for him to visit would be very great. Moreover, the English, whether Masons or non-Masons, are the reverse of demonstrative. A lodge, as we have said, would admit a foreign brother on proof—if there were no obstacle in the shape of private business in the way—and extend to him a very hearty welcome, but his reception would be neither more nor less cordial than that of any other visitor. In our opinion, this is the greatest compliment that could be paid to a brother from a distant jurisdiction—that he should be received as one of us. All people, however, are not of the same mind, and many are apt to think they are—we will not say discourteously, but—coldly treated, if the outward and visible signs of the cordiality that is truly felt are not exhibited. However, some four years ago the genial idea occurred to some of our London brethren to establish a lodge, the membership of which should be open to American brethren resident in this Metropolis as well as to English brethren, and which, being thus constituted, should be in a position to offer a kind of special haven of Masonic beatitude to all Transatlantic members of our Order. Hence the Anglo-American Lodge, No. 2191, which was consecrated early in 1887 with a most distinguished brother as first W.M., a brother who is not only a member of our Grand Lodge, but the representative near it of over 20 American Grand Lodges. As regards the success which has attended this lodge from the very day of its consecration there is no need for us to enlarge on a matter which is so familiar to our readers. Suffice it to say that the many distinguished American Masons who have visited these shores during the last four years have one and all expressed themselves as delighted beyond measure with this special feature in our London Masonry. Indeed, so admittedly successful has been the career of the Anglo-American Lodge that it has been considered desirable that a second lodge of a similar character and to fulfil the same object should be established, and hence the Columbia Lodge, which was consecrated on the 19th ult., and which already gives promise of being as great a success as its elder sister. That a certain amount of rivalry will exist between the two lodges we do not for one moment doubt, but it will be an honourable rivalry, success in which will conduce more and more conspicuously to the prosperity of both. For ourselves we heartily wish them God-speed in their beneficent work, while to the more recently constituted of the two we say, in the opening words of the American National Hymn, "Hail, Columbia!"

THE GRAND MASTER OF CANADA ON THE CEREMONIES OF THE CRAFT.

The Grand Master of Canada, M.W. Bro. J. Ross Robertson, during his recent tour among the lodges of his jurisdiction, performed the ceremony of dedication of a new lodge at Brighton, and delivered the following address, prefacing his remarks by referring to the amount of work done by men like Bros. W. J. Hughan, R. F. Gould, and Geo. W. Speth, three men, he said, who stood to-day with more knowledge of early Craft work than any others in the world. The lecturer said that the work of these three men had given the Craft light and dispelled much of the nonsense that had been written by men of the olden time, who when history ran short drew liberally on their imaginations.

The audience was most enthusiastic, and seemed unanimous in their deep appreciation of the two hours' talk of the Grand Master.

The lecture being concluded, the ceremony of dedication was proceeded with. Before doing so, M.W. Bro. ROBERTSON said:—

W. Sir and Brethren of Oshawa—A feeling oftentimes prevails that many of the Craft ceremonies are either meaningless or that their symbolism is so far removed from the pale of average thought, that unless one is an adept in the theology of Craft work, he may be for ever in the dark as to the lessons that are to be drawn from our ceremonies. I need hardly state to you that those who entertain these notions are much mistaken, and advance a view of the case that should not be acceptable to any men who are not willing to admit that their minds are so narrow, their thoughts so brazened, that really, without listening to the merits of a cause, they remain fixed in their opinions, a foe to progressive thought, a clog to the chariot wheels, which are carrying this Fraternity of ours far beyond all other associations of men in the race for not only the improvement of our brethren, but the bettering of mankind at large. We are all members of the Masonic commonwealth, and, whether it be in this or other jurisdictions, it matters not in what clime or under what sky, we are all working with a single purpose to promote fellowship and sympathy, to live up to our principles and carry out the mission of the Craft, and thus be not only happy ourselves but give happiness to others. Of all fraternities, none perhaps have ceremonies that teach greater truths, and whether it be in the laying of a corner-stone, dedicating a lodge room, or in the exemplification of our esoteric work, we know that our mission is not fulfilled until we can look on all men as brothers, until our sincerity and frankness can never be impugned, and the spirit of truth, toleration, and Charity find in us exemplars that will incite others to the good works taught us in Holy Writ, the foundation and chief corner-stone of our great brotherhood.

This dedication of a lodge is one of the most important ceremonies in connection with the Craft. The royal art of Masonry derives its antiquity from the building of the heavens and the earth, and we fitly symbolise the work of the first Grand Master in these Craft ceremonies. When our best work is done, the best we can do is to consecrate it to the purpose of its erection and dedicate it to the first and inimitable Architect. Ancient and modern history, in connection with almost every nation, speaks of the rites of consecration and dedication performed by people of all ages and nations, in connection with their temples and altars used for religious purposes. The Holy Book itself tells us that Moses consecrated the Tabernacle and Solomon the first Temple, and even amongst pagan nations ceremonies of the most magnificent nature were performed in setting apart their gorgeous temples for purposes of worship. It is in accordance with these ancient examples that we with mystic ceremonies, consecrate our Masonic lodge and set it apart for the cultivation of the principles and tenets of the Craftsman's profession. These ceremonies should impress all Craftsmen; for the beauty of the ceremonial is no more instructive than its significance is suggestive. You all know that ancient altars were consecrated by offerings of barley cakes and libations of wine and oil. So, in like manner, Masonry illustrates the blessings which are showered upon us by the bounty of the Great Architect of the Universe. Corn is an emblem of wealth, wine of cheerfulness, and oil of peace, and the significance of these symbols is just as important in connection with the dedication of a lodge, as in the laying of a corner-stone. The pagans set apart their religious edifices to some particular deity, while the Jews reverently dedicated their temples to Jehovah, and, in this particular it is to be noted that while Jewish temples were both consecrated and dedicated, profane things, such as dwelling houses, were only dedicated. Christianity follows out this idea when it consecrates its buildings to God, and so we consecrate our lodges to the honour of God's glory. Historically I might give you much in connection with the value of the ceremony in which we are about to engage, but this is merely the objective value of the rite. Of far greater importance is its subjective value. Some may think that this ceremony is an empty one, void of life and meaning, the pageant of an idle hour, perhaps, to interest the brethren assembled and then pass out of mind, but those who will think for a moment will see that its import is solemn and instructive. The sweetness of the flower is of more value than the beauty of the vase, and the brilliancy of the jewel is greater than the casket which enshrines it, so the sentiments of this ceremony constitute its real value. This beautiful hall in which we are assembled, I think we may safely say, has been designed and built by wisdom, supported by strength and adorned with beauty, and dedicated to the glory of Him whose Holy Book lies unfolded upon our altar, a guide to us, not only in the paths of Masonry, but in the busy walks of everyday life. A Masonic lodge should be the home of harmony, and its vast influence for good is exemplified in that to-day we challenge the respect of the civilised world, knowing that our influence is felt in every department of the world's historic movements, impressing all those who are without the pale with the beauty and dignity of

our ceremonials, and calling forth from the thinking men and women of all lands kindly words of approbation for an organisation which, in the promotion of friendship, benevolence, and fraternity, is the greatest known to history.

Briefly, my brethren, these are the lessons which are taught us by the ceremony in which we are about to engage. When I look around this room and see such a large and intelligent assemblage of Craftsmen, it is to me but a repetition of the pleasant evenings I have spent during the past four months with my brethren in the lodges throughout this great jurisdiction. As Grand Master, I feel that the brethren of Oshawa deserve credit and kindly words for the erection of their beautiful hall, with its handsome appointments and fittings, enabling the Craft to carry on its work in a manner that will not only impress the membership, but convey to the mind the lessons of the ceremony performed to-night, the commemoration of which reflects credit upon Lebanon and Cedar Lodges, and honour upon your Grand Master, whose privilege it is to minister at your altar.

CONSECRATION OF THE GALEN LODGE, No. 2394.

The Galen Lodge, No. 2394, was consecrated at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C., on Wednesday, the 25th ult., under circumstances which augur well for a prosperous and useful career. The Consecrating Officer was Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, Grand Secretary, who was assisted by Bros. Sir J. B. Monckton, P.G.W., as S.W.; Thos. Fenn, Pres. Bd. Gen. Purps., as J.W.; Rev. R. W. M. Pope, D.D., P.G. Chap., as Chap.; Frank Richardson, P.G.D., as D. of C.; and T. B. Purchas, A.G.D.C., as I.G.

The founders of the new lodge are Bros. B. H. Paul, P.G. Stwd., W.M. designate; H. W. Roach, S.W. designate; J. B. S. Lancaster, J.W. designate; F. Bascombe, F. Bright, J. M. Broad, C. Butler, H. C. Everson, A. R. Fox, J. R. Green, J. Hodgkin, J. B. Mackey, P. C. Maitland, N. H. Martin, H. Mathews, J. W. T. Morrison, G. T. W. Newsholme, E. C. Patchitt, R. Patchitt, C. Probyn, J. G. F. Richardson, W. J. Rogerson, H. N. B. Spink, W. Thomas, and W. B. Trick.

The visitors present included :

Bros. John Taylor, W.M. 1402; W. H. Frost, 1728; T. W. Hanson, 1706; Rev. J. Cater, I.P.M. 2317; E. Witts, P.M. 144; T. Christy, P.M. 5; Dr. J. F. Haskins, Org. 1369; W. Hocken, P.M. 1815; R. Sharrah, 1194; J. Littlebury, 2317; Ernest Groves, P.P.G. Reg.; W. H. Dipstale, W.M. 55; J. Holding, 1538; C. Goddard Clarke, 1622; F. Deighton, 859; H. H. Nuding, W.M. 1924; J. Terry, P.G.S.B.; A. C. Doughty; C. Venning Burgess; F. J. Unite, P.M. 55; Sir H. Trueman Wood, P.A.G.D.C.; Jabez Hogg, P.G.D.; W. T. Farthing, P.M. 55; H. Greenish, 1287; C. Hunt, P.M. 194; G. L. Eyles, P.M. 197, P.G. Stwd.; S. H. Hodgkin, J.W. 1872; W. H. Kirby, S.W. 1965; G. R. Watts, P.M. 194; N. Gossen, 1532; H. S. Wellcome, J.D. 203; H. Boutelle, J.W. 42; H. Sadler, G. Tyler; Jubal Webb, P.M. 55; Dr. W. Cock, P.S.G.D. Middx.; Lennox Browne, P.P.S.G.W. Essex; R. De Lacy, 97; H. W. Stock, W.M. 253; J. H. Mathews, S.W. 194; A. Kenningham, 1706; T. S. Dowd; G. Groves, 55; and W. W. Lee, S.W. 2381.

Lodge having been opened, and a hymn sung,

The CONSECRATING OFFICER, addressing the brethren, said they had assembled on one of the most interesting and important occasions which occur in Masonry—that of the foundation and consecration of a new lodge. They were all probably aware of the large number of lodges in London, and therefore it followed that it was very difficult indeed to obtain a warrant for a fresh one. At the present day every application was very carefully weighed before the M.W.G.M. could feel himself satisfied in acceding to the prayer. In the present case a large number of brethren who belonged to one of the branches of the great medical profession were desirous of joining together in the bonds of Masonry, so as to have an extra bond beyond that of their profession. They had recently petitioned the Grand Master to grant a warrant for a lodge principally for their convenience, but brethren were aware it would be un-Masonic to grant a warrant for any class of persons especially, and these restrictions therefore were only an understanding among the brethren. The M.W.G.M. had been pleased to grant a warrant for a lodge to be called the Galen Lodge—a very significant name—which was not only for brethren in London, but those from the country were also joining, so that it would form a Masonic head-quarters for this branch of the profession. The field was a wide one, and if the founders would practise due caution and weigh the qualifications of every candidate who presented himself—refusing admission to those whom they had the slightest idea would not make good Masons—then in the future the lodge would be a success. The founders had done wisely in selecting as their W.M. a distinguished brother who had gone through other chairs, and was a Past Grand Steward, and whose previous Masonic experience afforded good cause for hoping he would guide the lodge to prosperity.

The ceremony was proceeded with, and an oration having been delivered by Bro. Rev. R. W. M. POPE, D.D., P.G. Chap., the lodge was solemnly dedicated and constituted according to the usual form.

Bro. B. H. Paul, Ph.D., P.G. Stwd., was next installed as the first W.M. by Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, Grand Secretary, and invested the following officers: Bros. H. W. Roach, S.W.; J. B. S. Lancaster, J.W.; Rev. J. Cater, Chap.; J. B. Mackey, Treas.; J. W. T. Morrison, Sec.; J. Hodgkin, S.D.; H. Mathews, J.D.; R. Patchitt, I.G.; P. C. Maitland, Stwd.; and G. Harrison, Tyler.

The Consecrating Officers were unanimously elected honorary members, a compliment for which the GRAND SECRETARY returned thanks. A Committee was elected to frame the by-laws, and five candidates were proposed for initiation, and eight brethren as joining members.

Lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the Crown Room, Freemasons' Tavern, where an excellent banquet was provided.

The first toast given was "The Queen and the Craft," the WORSHIPFUL MASTER observing that the sentiment of loyalty was so thoroughly associated with a Masonic lodge that the toast required neither comment or preface to recommend it.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER then gave "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," and said that all Masons were aware of the advantage that had accrued to the Craft from the circumstance that his Royal Highness presided over it. That was so thoroughly recognised at Masonic gatherings that it required no words to enlarge on the toast, but on that occasion he might venture to point out that they had a good reason for giving exceptional heartiness to it considering the fact that that was their first meeting, and the day on which their lodge had been called into existence. They were indebted to his Royal Highness for having graciously acceded to the petition.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER, in proposing "The Grand Officers," said it would require a very original person to entertain the idea that the Grand Officers were a body of ornamental individuals. They were arrayed in the very gorgeous raiment which distinguished them, but that distinction was a mark of the good services rendered to the Craft, which had entitled them to take that place of distinction. The Grand Officers were always rendering assistance in the promotion of the interests of Masonry and the benefit of the brotherhood, and were always received with great cordiality. The members of that lodge would look with great satisfaction upon the fact that they had such a galaxy of Grand Officers present.

Bro. Sir JOHN B. MONCKTON, P.G.W., said that not for the first time—and probably not for the 101st time—was it his privilege to respond. He always looked upon it as a privilege, but he felt it was particularly so when the occasion was one like the present when one had witnessed and assisted the accoucher in bringing forth a new Masonic baby. He congratulated them very much upon that evening, which was rather exceptional. He thought the Grand Officers would agree that they had scarcely ever attended the consecration of a new lodge with so much promise as the present. A large number of founders had assembled in the lodge room, and at the end of the proceedings the bill of fare for the W.M. and working officers in the ensuing year was an encouraging item. There had been joining members proposed in large numbers as well as an excellent list of men coming in for initiation. It was often said that it was not an easy matter to get a new warrant, and that should be so, and if it was asked for the aggrandizement of one or two it was right it should be refused, but in his lengthened experience if ever a new warrant was justified it was that new lodge—the Galen Lodge—which had been consecrated that night. Those who stood up with him wished their lodge, of which they had the privilege to be honorary members, every success, and if ever they wished for a Masonic pill they would know where to come, for they knew it would be served out well and wisely. On behalf of the Grand Officers he returned hearty thanks.

"The Consecrating Master and his Assistants" was next submitted by the WORSHIPFUL MASTER, who said that all the members of the lodge must feel under a deep sense of gratitude to the Grand Secretary and the Grand Officers who assisted him in the admirable ceremony they had had the opportunity of witnessing, and for having resisted all the distractions of Holy week and the approaching Easter holidays to call into existence that lodge. They all felt very grateful, and thanked them not only for their kindness, but for the very earnest way the impressive ceremony had been carried out. Especially were they pleased at the fact that they had had a P.G. Chaplain—Bro. Rev. R. W. M. Pope—to give that effect which could only be given by the presence of an ecclesiastical member. He gave them the toast of "The Consecrating Master and his Assistants."

Bro. Colonel SHADWELL H. CLERKE, Grand Secretary, in response, said his colleagues and himself were exceedingly pleased to have had the opportunity of taking part in the consecration of that lodge. He knew he spoke their feelings as well as his own when he said they had done a good work, because they had inaugurated a lodge which, as Bro. Sir John Monckton had so eloquently said, was one of a very important nature, and one he thought ought to have a very large field of operation. It would be the members' own fault if it was not an important lodge in a few years to come. They had taken their name after a good old medical man, and if he was a Mason and had been living, would no doubt have been delighted to see his name put at the head of such an excellent lodge. He must express his thanks to those very distinguished brethren who had assisted him. He had seldom had a more distinguished band of brothers to act with him, and without their able assistance he could not have done the ceremony. In their name and his own he thanked the brethren for their fraternal reception. He would now go on to the toast of the evening—"The Health of the W.M. and Success to the Galen Lodge." He often said on these occasions that the Master-ship of an ordinary lodge was arrived at practically by seniority, but on the occasion of the consecration of a new lodge it was somewhat different. The founders met together, and selected a brother whom they all thought was the most distinguished and the best fitted to take the chair. It was a great compliment to be paid to any brother to be selected as the first Master, and the brother was to be congratulated on the mark of confidence bestowed by the founders. Bro. Dr. Paul was in that proud position, having been selected to preside in an unusually large list of founders. He was a distinguished Mason, wearing the badge of Past Grand Steward, and was a Past Master of two lodges, and would, therefore, do justice to the new lodge. It was a curious fact that the night Bro. Dr. Paul was initiated in the Bard of Avon Lodge he was conducted round the lodge by Bro. Fenn, and was installed Master of the Jerusalem Lodge by Bro. Sir John Monckton. Having such an excellent brother to preside, the Galen Lodge was to be congratulated on its foundation, and he would ask the brethren to join in drinking the health of the Worshipful Master and success to the lodge.

Bro. Dr. B. H. PAUL, P.G. Stwd., W.M., said he could not delay, as the evening was getting late, in responding for the very genial toast that had been proposed by the Grand Secretary. Within the last few weeks, when the work of organising and presiding over the consecration had to be attended to, he must confess that when the collar pressed a little upon him he began to think that in acceding to the request of the founders he had done so with too light a heart, and that he might not altogether be equal to the occasion. However, the Grand Secretary had reminded him that in his Masonic career he was inoculated by two very distinguished members of the Craft, and therefore he must consider himself proud to manifest the symptoms that belonged to that operation, by fulfilling his duties at least in a creditable manner. If encouragement could confer upon the occupant of a chair the qualifications for his duties, he was sure the hearty response given to the toast and the very complimentary way in which the Grand Secretary had proposed it would make him a perfect Master. He should endeavour to exert his best endeavours to promote the success and welfare of the lodge and hoped to see it flourish and produce good fruit, not only Masonically but in outside circles by its happy influence. He thanked them very heartily for their cordial reception of the toast, and the Grand Secretary for the manner in which it had been proposed.

"The Visitors" was next given by the WORSHIPFUL MASTER, who said the members were very much indebted to those Masonic friends who had honoured them with their presence, and given their countenance in a measure to the formation of that lodge, and assisted in the conviviality of the banquet. The list of the visitors was so formidable that he would not venture to go through it. The founders ought to be thankful for having their attendance and could not do less than drink their health.

Bro. LENNOX BROWNE, P.P.G.W. Essex, said it was difficult for him to return thanks for that toast, but everyone agreed that they had had the greatest pleasure to see the consecration of that lodge under such favourable auspices, and they appreciated the kind hospitality shown them. Those visitors who were of the same profession were very much indebted to the founders, who were colleagues and collaborators with them, and often their teachers and leaders. That was, perhaps, outside Masonry, but he felt that the bringing together of members of the profession to which the founders belonged was a happy idea, for the bond of Masonry would be enhanced. He was certain the lodge had a fine future before it. He thanked the W.M. for coupling his name with the toast, and apologised for having so imperfectly given expression to the feelings of his brother visitors.

"The Officers" having been given, the Tyler's toast closed the proceedings. The musical arrangements were ably carried out under the direction of Bro. J. F. Haskins, assisted by Bros. Kempton, Frost, Kenningham, De Lacy, and Hanson.

SUPREME GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF SCOTLAND.

The Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland held their annual meeting for election of office bearers on the 23rd ult., in Edinburgh, when the following elections were made:—

Comp. the Earl of Haddington	...	...	Grand Z.
" Col. Sir A. C. Campbell, of Blythswood	...	...	Past Grand Z.
" William Officer, S.S.C.	...	...	Depute Grand Z.
" James Crichton	...	...	Grand H.
" James Dalrymple Duncan, of Meiklewood	...	...	Grand J.
" Robert S. Brown	...	...	Grand S.E.
" Charles Baxter, W.S.	...	...	Grand S.N.
" George Dickson, M.D., F.R.C.S.E.	...	...	Grand Treasurer.
" James Melville	...	...	Grand Recorder.
" Major F. W. Allan	...	...	Grand Chancellor.
" Colonel P. Stirling, of Kippendavie	...	...	1st Grand Soj.
" Edward Macbean	...	...	2nd Grand Soj.
" J. M'Naught Campbell	...	...	3rd Grand Soj.
" C. C. Nisbet, W.S.	...	...	Grand Swd. Br.
" John Carruthers	...	...	Grand Supt. of W.
" Allan Mackenzie	...	...	1st Grand Std. Br.
" James Simpson	...	...	2nd Grand Std. Br.
" John Taylor	...	...	Grand Janitor.

At the banquet which succeeded the installation ceremony about 60 companions sat down together. The Earl of Haddington presided, and Comps. Dr. Dickson and Major Allan were the croupiers.

DIFFERENCE OF OPINION.

All men do not think alike, and it is fortunate for the world that they do not. It is by the friction of differences of opinion that the great problems of life are elucidated. If all minds ran in the same groove, if all thought was in the same channel, the monotony of life would be unbearable; and if by chance that channel should be evil the world would be worse than any conception of Dante or any description ever given of hell. It is the difference of opinion that leads to success in anything, because it stimulates effort, research, and determination to assert our own ideas.

No man has a right to thrust his opinion offensively upon another or the world; nor has he a right to withhold his opinion if it be for the good of his fellows. Many an improvement has been brought about in society, in government, in science, in mechanics, in everything, by a proper and persistent presentation of opinion. Columbus differed from most of his fellow men when he asserted his belief that there was another side to the world of his day. His perseverance in presenting it won his immortal fame.

In Masonry there are differences of opinion on many points of policy of origin, and meaning of symbols. Much that has been found out respecting the past of our Fraternity, has been learned because men differed regarding the establishment of the Craft. Pennsylvania is of the opinion that American Freemasonry was cradled within her honoured borders, and Massachusetts differs—the result, a careful investigation, that has brought to light much of interest and importance.

The Master of a lodge is an autocrat, if he will be; but no Master, with the good of his lodge at heart, will assert his opinion in direct and offensive opposition to that of his brethren. He is a servant king, and as such should rule. He is king, because his right to govern is supreme. He is servant, because his brethren have, by the exercise of their united opinion, placed him in that position of absolute power. There are times when one's opinion should be exercised and enforced if contrary to that of others, whether Master, Secretary, or lodge. No one should permit a substitution of his opinion of right. When that is done the man sinks his manhood beneath cowardice. Better stand alone and be right, than go with the multitude to do wrong. Thus it is the duty of a Mason, in lodge or elsewhere in the Fraternity to oppose all cliquism, and tricky political schemes to accomplish personal aims of ambitious but undeserving men.

There has been a great deal said and written about "peace and harmony," but peace and harmony begotten of wrongful opinions will soon become a stagnant pool, poisonous and destructive. It needs the stirring up of differences of opinion—the clash of swords. Thus, if a lodge permits one man to run it in the interest of his own schemes, it will soon be owned by that one man, and after a while there will be but one man in it. There must be peace and harmony that comes from brotherly love and a desire to benefit the lodge, the Fraternity, and the world. Thus counselling together, comparing opinions, will be secured that union of effort and sympathy in feeling that will produce the fruit of brotherly love, relief, and truth.—*New York Dispatch.*

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This Company are the Patentees and only Makers of
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as the practice of other Companies is the contrary."—
The Times.

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moderate, good health, strong voice, would be grateful for
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The Rooms reserved for the above business consist of DINING
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The RESTAURANT on Eastern Side of Hotel Entrance is open
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The branch railway from Harrow is now open. North-
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Every convenience for Masonic Lodges, Summer Banquets,
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**FREEMASON'S HYMN.—THE
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F. J. STEIN. Price 1s. 6d. nett.
London: GEORGE KENNING, 16 & 16A, Gt. Queen-st.

FOR SALE.—A Mosaic Table Top
with Masonic Designs. It is composed of stone and
marble obtained from the old fortifications of Portsmouth
in 1872. It is put together as a cement concrete, and as
solid as a piece of limestone. It is no ordinary piece of
Mosaic work, as the pieces are in angular shapes in place
of squares. Would make splendid Table for entrance of a
London Masonic Club, or Card Table; length, 3ft. 6½ ins.,
2ft. 7 ins. wide, in teak and ebony frame. All communica-
tions concerning same to Sergt. HUGH LAMB, late R.E.,
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**FREE GRANTS OF LAND IN
MANITOBA AND OTHER PROVINCES OF
CANADA.**—The reports of the twelve British tenant
farmers who visited Canada in 1890, and pamphlets issued
under the authority of the Imperial and Dominion Govern-
ments, containing full information as to land regulations,
bonuses granted to settlers who take up land in Manitoba,
the North-West Territories and British Columbia; open-
ings for capitalists, demand for labour, rates of wages,
cost of living, and all other particulars, may be had post
free on applying to the High Commissioner for Canada, 17,
Victoria-street, London, S.W.; to Mr. John Dyke,
Canadian Government Agent, 15, Water-street, Liverpool;
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penny stamps.

**GRAND MASTER'S LODGE OF
INSTRUCTION.**

The SEVENTH ANNUAL FESTIVAL of this Mark
Lodge of Instruction will be held at MARK MASONS' HALL,
on TUESDAY, the 14th APRIL, at 5.30 p.m., when the
Ceremony of Advancement will be worked—Bro. W.
VINCENT, P.G.I.G., in the chair—with musical accom-
paniment; and afterwards the Lecture on the Degree will
be given by Bro. J. R. GREEN, Grand Steward.

After the Ceremony a BANQUET will be held at FREE-
MASONS' TAVERN, at 7 p.m., when R.W. Bro. THOMAS
FENN, P.G.W., has kindly consented to preside.

Tickets for the Dinner, including admission to the Lodge,
Six Shillings, may be obtained from any of the Officers, or
at the Office at Mark Masons' Hall.

E. M. MONEY, P.G. Stwd., Secretary.

**ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT
INSTITUTION**

FOR
AGED FREEMASONS AND WIDOWS OF
FREEMASONS, CROYDON.

MAY ELECTION, 1891.

The favour of your VOTES and INTEREST is earnestly
requested on behalf of

BRO. E. C. COOMBS,

Who was initiated in Lodge Unity, No. 71, in 1858, passed
the chair, and Subscribing Member until 1873. One of the
Founders of Lodge St. Margaret's, No. 1452, and Sub-
scribing Member to that Lodge from 1873 to 1884. Pro-
moted the building of a Masonic Hall in Lowestoft.

The applicant, now in his 72nd year, was formerly
Captain in the Merchant Service, and having saved money,
retired, and invested his savings in shipping property; this
investment, owing to loss of ships and the great depreciation
in the value of property of this nature, resulted in the
applicant losing nearly the whole of his savings; what
remained he subsequently invested in Shares in a Steam
Ship, the managing owner of which a short time afterwards
became bankrupt. The steamer being sold, the amount
realised was insufficient to pay the amounts due on her.
Thus the applicant lost his all, and he, and his wife, who is
now in her 74th year, are totally without the means of sub-
sistence. The applicant has been unable, on account of his
age, to obtain employment of any kind.

*This case is strongly recommended by the following
Brothers:—*

The Rt. Hon. LORD HENRIKER, Prov. Grand Master of Suffolk.
R.W. Bro. SIR JOHN B. MOXERTON, F.S.A.; P.G.W.; P. Pres. Bd.
Gen. Purps.; The Guildhall, E.C.
* Bro. C. W. BACON, P.M. 213; P.P.J.G.D., P.P.G. Stwd. Nor-
folk; Blofield, near Norwich.
* N. TRACEY, P.G. Secretary Suffolk; Ipswich.
* J. K. PITT, P.M. 463; P.P.G.S.B. Surrey; 143, Minories,
London, E.
* W. OLDFHAM CHAMBERS, P.M. 71 and 1452; P.P.G.W.
Suffolk; 54, Cannon-street, London, E.C.
* J. W. WILTON, P.M. 71; P.P.G.S.W. Suffolk; Lowestoft.
* H. J. EASTAUGH, P.M. 1452 and Sec.; P.P.G.D. Suffolk;
Lowestoft.
* B. S. BRADBEE, P.M. and Treas. 1452; P.G.S.B. Suffolk;
Lowestoft.
* H. W. ELWES, P.M. 1452; P.P.G.D. Suffolk; Lowestoft.
* W. J. ROBERTS, W.M. 1452; Lowestoft.
* GEORGE KENNING, V.-Patron; P.M. 192 and 1657; P.P.
G.D. Middlesex; Upper Sydenham, S.E.
* JOHN RANDALL, Lodge Neptune, No. 22, will receive all
communications for Bro. Coombs, at 144, Minories,
London, E.

All Votes and Proxies will be received by the Brothers marked*.

**ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION
FOR GIRLS.**

THIRD APPLICATION.

APRIL ELECTION, 1891.

The Votes of the Subscribers to the above Institution are
earnestly solicited on behalf of

MAGGIE VIVIAN,

Daughter of the late FRANK J. VIVIAN (Hayle, Cornwall),
who died in 1886, leaving the Widow and Four young
Children in almost destitute circumstances, one of whom is
sadly and permanently disabled and disfigured by a fire
which occurred shortly before his father's decease.

Bro. Vivian was a P.M. of No. 450, Hayle, and besides
being an earnest and efficient Craftsman, was a contributing
member to his death.

Under these peculiar and distressing circumstances, the
following Brethren, after due inquiry, have agreed to sup-
port the case and fraternally invite the co-operation of other
Subscribers, so that this application may prove successful:—

W. Bro. W. J. HUGHAN, Life-Governor; P.S.G.D. England;
P. Prov. G. Sec. and P. Prov. S.G.W. Cornwall;
Dunscrope, Castle-road, Torquay.
* N. J. WEST, Life-Governor; W.M. Cornish Lodge,
No. 2369, London; P. Prov. G. Treasurer, Cornwall;
36, Upper Park-road, Hampstead, N.
* FRANK HARVEY, Life-Governor; P. Prov. S.G.W. Corn-
wall; Ghanmor, Hayle, Cornwall.
* GILBERT B. PEARCE, Life-Governor; P. Prov. J.G.W.
Cornwall; Hon. Sec. Cornwall Masonic Charity
Association.
* WILLIAM LAKE, Life-Governor; P. Prov. G. Reg. Corn-
wall; Kenwyn, Queen's-road, Beckenham, Kent.
* F. W. THOMAS, Life-Governor; P.M. 450; Alverton,
Camborne.
* SEPTIMUS FARMER, I.P.M. Ellesmere Lodge, No. 730;
18, Edith-grove, London, S.W.
Bro. N. H. MARTIN, S.W. Hotspur Lodge, No. 1626; New-
castle-on-Tyne.

To whom Proxies may be sent, as also "Boys" or "Benevolent"
Votes for exchange, or to the Widow, Mrs. VIVIAN, Penpol-
terrace, Hayle, Cornwall.

TO FREEMASON GOVERNORS.
—A M.M. and R.A., twelve years' experience as
Schoolmaster, seeks for Grammar School Mastership on
moderate stipend. Good testimonials. Post of Lecturer
or Secretary would be accepted.—Address, CLERICUS, care
of the *Freemason*.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS,
WOOD GREEN, LONDON, N.

OFFICE—6, FREEMASONS' HALL, W.C.

GRAND PATRON:
HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

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

A QUARTERLY GENERAL COURT of the Governors and Subscribers will be held in the LARGE HALL, FREEMASONS' TAVERN, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, on FRIDAY, the 10th day of APRIL, 1891, for the transaction of the ordinary business of the Institution.

To receive the final report of the Provisional Management Committee.

To consider notices of motion.

To elect a Treasurer for the ensuing 12 months.

To elect a Trustee of the Sustentation Fund in accordance with Law VII.

To elect as members of the Council representing the Life and Annual Subscribers, 12 brethren not being Life Governors.

To elect 30 Life Governors from a list of 35 candidates nominated at the Council held 7th March, to act as a Board of Management.

To elect 28 Boys from an approved list of 45 Candidates. The Chair will be taken at Twelve o'clock at noon precisely.

The Ballot for the Election of Boys will be open at One o'clock, or so soon as the general business of the Court shall have terminated, and will close at Three o'clock precisely.

By order,
J. MORRISON McLEOD,
Secretary.

London, March 25th, 1891.

N.B.—Copy of the Agenda may be had on application to the Secretary, and will be handed to each qualified voter attending the Court.

The Ninety-Third Anniversary Festival will be held on the 24th June, 1891, under the distinguished Presidency of the Right Hon. the EARL OF LATHOM, R.W. Deputy Grand Master and Prov. G.M. West Lancashire. The services of brethren as Stewards representing Lodges or Provinces are earnestly solicited, and will be gratefully acknowledged, the present exceptional requirements demanding exceptional support.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS,
ST. JOHN'S HILL, BATTERSEA RISE, S.W.

INSTITUTED 1788.

CHIEF PATRONESS:
HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

ENTIRELY SUPPORTED BY VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS.

THE ONE HUNDRED AND THIRD ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL

Will be held

AT FREEMASONS' TAVERN, LONDON, W.C.,

ON TUESDAY, THE 12th OF MAY,

UNDER THE DISTINGUISHED PRESIDENCY OF

THE RIGHT HON. LORD CARRINGTON, G.C.M.G.,

M.W. Past Grand Master New South Wales,
and R.W. Prov. Grand Master Bucks.

Brethren willing to act as Stewards on the above important occasion are urgently needed, and will greatly oblige by sending in their names as early as convenient.

F. R. W. HEDGES,
Secretary.

Office—5, Freemasons' Hall,
Great Queen-street, W.C.

P.S.—As the Chairman of the Festival is Past Grand Master of New South Wales, the Committee will be delighted to welcome all subscribing New South Wales Brethren, not only at the Institution on the Prize Day, Monday, 11th May, but also at the Festival.

BRITISH ORPHAN ASYLUM,
MACKENZIE PARK, SLOUGH.

The Directors have the pleasure to announce that MR. ALDERMAN DAVIS, J.P.,

Has kindly consented to preside at the

ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL,

To take place at

THE WHITEHALL ROOMS, HOTEL METROPOLE,

ON THURSDAY, 14th MAY, 1891.

Gentlemen willing to act as Stewards are requested to intimate their desire to the Secretary.

The Committee earnestly appeal for funds.

Rev. CANON FLEMING, B.D., } Hon.
ALFRED MACKENZIE, Esq., } Secretaries.
CHARLES T. HOSKINS, Secretary.

Offices—62, Bishopsgate-street Within, London.
Bankers—Messrs. Williams, Deacon & Co., 20, Birchin-lane.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS,

ST. JOHN'S HILL, BATTERSEA RISE, S.W.

INSTITUTED 1788.

CHIEF PATRONESS:
HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

GRAND PATRON AND PRESIDENT:
HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES,
K.G., &c., M.W.G.M.

GRAND PATRONESS:
HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCESS OF WALES.

A QUARTERLY GENERAL COURT of the Governors and Subscribers of this Institution will be held in the Hall of FREEMASONS' TAVERN, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, on THURSDAY, 9th April, 1891, at Twelve o'clock precisely, on the General Business of the Institution, and to elect 19 Girls into the School, from a list of 25 approved Candidates. The Election will commence at One o'clock, or after the usual business is over.

F. R. W. HEDGES,
Secretary.

5, Freemasons' Hall,
Great Queen-street, W.C.,
April 2nd, 1891.

NEW VOLUME OF THE "FREEMASON,"

NOW READY, bound in cloth, lettered, price 9s., Vol. XXV. of "The Freemason."

London: GEORGE KENNING, 16 & 16A, Gt. Queen-st., W.C.



SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 1891.

Masonic Notes.

It is officially announced that the Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls will be held on Tuesday, the 12th May, when Bro. Lord Carrington, Past M.W.G.M. of New South Wales, Prov. Grand Master nominate of Buckinghamshire, will preside as Chairman. The distribution of prizes will be made at the Institution, Battersea-rise, the day previous by Lady Carrington. It is also announced that out of compliment to the noble Chairman as Past M.W.G.M. of the United Grand Lodge, all subscribing members of New South Wales lodges will be heartily welcomed by the Committee both to the Festival and on the day the prizes are distributed.

We call attention to the final report of the Provisional Management Committee, which we publish in another column, and which will be presented to the Governors and Subscribers at the Quarterly General Court, on Friday, the 10th inst. We think our readers will come to the conclusion that it is about as satisfactory a report of its kind as could have been expected, though it is probable that the critics who have made up their minds to be pleased with nothing that emanates from the Provisional Committee will find it too satisfactory to be quite agreeable.

We also call attention to a letter from Bro. E. V. Greatbatch in our Correspondence columns. This deals summarily with the alarmists, and proves, but by a different line of argument from ours, that the Provisional Committee has laboured manfully at its task, and is not very far from having accomplished it successfully.

Seeing that the recent changes in the dates of the School elections will come into operation for the first time this spring, it will be as well if we remind our readers that the Quarterly General Court of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls will be held at Freemasons' Tavern on Thursday next, the 9th inst., when 19 girls will be elected into the School from an approved list of 25. We have so recently drawn attention to the more prominent circumstances connected with the several candidates that we need not reiterate them, but there are one or two matters of general policy to which we shall take the opportunity of referring.

In the first place, among the 25 girl candidates there are no less than eight whose names will be removed from the list if they fail on this occasion to obtain places among the successful. These eight figure on the list as Nos. 1, 4, 8, 10, 11, 13, 15, and 22, and we

appeal to all Governors and Subscribers, who are not already committed to the support of any particular candidate or candidates, to use all the influence in their power, and all the votes they are themselves entitled to, in securing the election of these children. We are not personally interested in any one of them, but we think that as this is their only chance of obtaining the benefits of the School of which they have been adjudged worthy, we are fully justified in making this special appeal in their behalf. Others can wait, but these cannot; and as, since the institution of a Petitions Committee, the number of candidates is certainly diminished, there is no reason whatever why, so long as this restriction of numbers continues, every child who is approved as a candidate should not be admitted into the Institution.

There is another point to which we are desirous of calling attention. The number of candidates (25) and the number of vacancies to be filled (19) is so nearly on a level that it may possibly occur to some Governor or Subscriber to propose that a ballot be dispensed with, and that the whole of the children be placed on the establishment. If such a resolution is proposed we hope it will be rejected. The School is already large enough for its means and the difficulties in the way of raising the necessary funds. The Institution has just expended over £30,000 in the enlargement of its premises and the erection of the Alexandra Hall. Moreover, it is only two years since that an addition of 20 girls was made to the School, and as there is by no means an excess of candidates just now, there is absolutely no reason why a motion of the character we have indicated should be agreed to. There will, as matters stand now, be only six unsuccessful, and if the new cases placed on the list between now and July are not more numerous than the new cases on the present list, there is a likelihood that the vacancies and the candidates will be as nearly as possible equal in point of number.

The Quarterly General Court of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys will be held at Freemasons' Tavern on Friday next, the 10th inst., when 28 vacancies will be filled from an approved list of 45 candidates. Here the number of *last* cases is smaller, and only five of the children will have their names struck from the list in the event of their being unsuccessful. These are Nos. 2, 4, 19, 28, and 33, and, as in the case of the girl candidates who are similarly situated, we trust that every effort will be made in order to secure their election. In this Institution, also, since a Petitions Committee has been established, the number of candidates has been appreciably diminished, and though it is impossible to affirm that the diminution will be maintained, there is a chance that something like an equality between the number of vacancies to be filled and the number of candidates competing for them will be arrived at. But be this as it may, other boys can wait a further six months, but the five we have enumerated cannot, and we therefore appeal to all who have votes unpromised to spare to poll them on behalf of one or other of these five, so that not a single one of the number may be disappointed of benefits of which, when his name was entered on the list, he has been adjudged to be worthy.

We are very gratified to inform our readers of the election, by ballot, of Bro. John Lane, F.C.A., the well-known Masonic statistician, of Torquay, as one of the few honorary members of the Lodge of St. John the Baptist, No. 39, Exeter, on Thursday, the 26th ult. The members of this old lodge have honoured themselves in so doing, and we are glad to have such an opportunity of testifying our appreciation of Bro. Lane's services to the Craft, particularly in relation to points, else but little known or understood concerning the history of Freemasonry.

On these grounds, the brethren at Exeter decided unanimously and heartily thus to compliment our worthy brother and valued correspondent, and coming as it does just now, when he is laid aside by a serious illness, we hope it will cheer him to know how highly his devotion to the Fraternity is valued by the senior lodge in the West of England.

We are thankful to report that Bro. Lane is not only out of danger, but the serious symptoms having passed, he is now on a fair way to recovery, and we are but expressing the hope of thousands of the Brotherhood in saying how sincerely we shall rejoice when he can again resume his active duties.

Correspondence.

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

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

In the criticisms which have recently been published on the work of the Committee of Management, the deductions drawn have been based on the false premise that the *only* duty incumbent upon those brethren was to reduce the cost per boy per year, and the conclusion apparently drawn is, that if the Committee have failed in that one point they are a failure indeed. The true position, however, is that the existing Committee was elected to carry out the recommendations of the Committee of Inquiry, who found that the expenditure of the Institution was extravagant, not properly regulated, and that the feeding and clothing of the boys was not satisfactory, nor was their health and comfort properly attended to; in order to obviate which it was recommended (amongst other things) that—

"The questions of efficient playgrounds and proper appliances for the health and cleanliness of the pupils require immediate attention."

Now, if the Committee have successfully carried out this recommendation, even at a cost of £2111, they have simply stood firm and done their duty. The all important duty imposed upon them was to secure for the boys that which the Craft so generously intends for them, viz., a healthy home, cleanliness, comfort, a sound education, good moral training, with effective supervision in health or sickness. It never was intended that economy should be secured by the sacrifice of any of these benefits; the health and education of the boys ought always to be the first study of the governing body. That being done, it is then their duty to see that these advantages are secured at the lowest possible cost. The boys are now adequately provided for in every way; well fed, well and safely housed, properly bathed, and under careful medical supervision, whereas at the inquiry it was demonstrated that all these things were defective under the old régime. The pupils are not now sent home (as I saw one more than once) carrying filthy contagion and suffering from neglected festering sores. With respect to educational results, it is only necessary to point out that in the year brought under the notice of the Committee of Inquiry out of 258 boys only 12 passed Cambridge Local Examinations, whilst last year 23 boys passed out of 264.

But on the question of average cost per head, the results are eminently satisfactory. It is futile for the argument to be put forth that "improvements are on a par with repairs and renewals." The £2111 has been spent on alterations, extensions, and additions which were absolutely necessary for the health and safety of the residents. It is true that if the utility of these additional baths, &c., had exhausted within the circle of last year the cost in that case ought to be included as a whole in last year's average, but, as a matter of fact, the expenditure was for accessories which (subject to repairs and renewals to be paid as accrued) will be valuable to the Institution for many years hence, therefore the item is undoubtedly money laid out on capital account, because the property, as a whole, is thereby rendered so much the more valuable for the purposes for which it is specially required. Moreover the Committee spent last year (outside the £2111) £111 10s. for repairs and renewals, which it is fair to assume paid for everything which was needful to keep the property in good order. As compared with the year reviewed by the Committee of Inquiry (1887), the result is as under:

1887—Average cost per boy	£50 16 0
1890—Expenditure	£10,821 19 2
Pensions	106 4 0
Organ	72 0 0
10 per cent for interest and depreciation on	
£2111 16 7	201 4 0
Total for 264 boys	£11,201 7 2
Average cost per boy	42 8 7
Nett saving per boy	£8 7 5

Thus every boy has cost £8 7s. 5d. less than under the old dispensation, whilst he has had better attention physically and educationally. Surely every friend of the Institution owes a debt of gratitude to the Committee of Inquiry, who pointed out the improvements needed, and to the Committee of Management, who have brought about such excellent results.—Yours faithfully and fraternally,

E. V. GREATBATCH.

March 30th.

GRAND LODGE OF NEW ZEALAND.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Your editorial of November 8th on "The rights of minorities under Article 219" is a source of great satisfaction to a large and loyal section of the Fraternity in this colony. Your "A, B, and C" queries to the Grand Registrar should commend themselves to that distinguished brother, and in the interests of the Craft he should answer them without delay.

As an old Mason I have always regarded the Book of Constitutions as the statute laws of our Institution, framed by the collective wisdom of members of Grand Lodge duly assembled. In carefully perusing these regulations I am materially strengthened in my views, after reading Clauses 4 and 5, respecting the supreme power of Grand Lodge itself. In Clauses 31 and 32 I find the duties of Grand Registrar also clearly defined.

What I want to know is this—When did Grand Lodge, in its representative character, discuss Article 219 in connection with the New Zealand Grand Lodge question, and delegate its authority to the Grand Registrar, with full power to act upon whatever interpretation he arrived at with regard to the Article in question?

I am constrained to put that question, because if the Grand Registrar can exercise this supreme control, and the Craft be subjected to any capricious interpretation of the Book of Constitutions, it is only right that the brethren should know the fact.

I naturally assume that the Grand Registrar, as the legal adviser of Grand Lodge, should first of all bring up a report on any obscure point of Masonic law, and not arrogate to himself the power of deciding a question which would be clearly in contravention of Clause 4.

I am inclined to think, with many other brethren, that the Grand Registrar has complicated matters in connection with the self-styled Grand Lodge of New Zealand. It would be far better were he to retrace his steps and admit his error with regard to Clause 219, by helping the loyal brethren of the colony to nail their colours to the mast rather than in expressing doubtful views, and thereby indirectly encouraging the secessionists who are not slow to beat big drums and blow brass trumpets when favoured with such expressions from these exalted Grand Lodge Officers.

If all the clauses in the Book of Constitutions can be twisted and distorted in a similar manner to Clause 219, I am afraid the Craft would soon be in a sorry plight. Hitherto they have always appeared to me to be very clear and expressive. At any rate, lay brethren stand aghast at the marvellous and tortuous legal reading of that simple little clause, especially as the Grand Registrar's opinion does not agree with the many eminent legal brethren out here, who have been consulted on the subject, and who are quite as capable of deciding the knotty point. Common sense dictates that "some one has blundered," but let us hope that the loyal Masons of New Zealand may not be sacrificed to cover the retreat of those responsible for the middle.—I am, yours sincerely and fraternally,

JOHN R. HUDSON, P.D.D.G.M.,
President Board of General Purposes,
Westland District.
Hokitika, Westland, New Zealand,
January 16th.

CLEARANCE CERTIFICATES.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

It was not a little remarkable that two such letters as those which were printed in the *Freemason* of March 21st (on "Visiting Brethren" and "Lodge Records") should have appeared simultaneously; and I am induced to offer a suggestion with regard to Clearance Certificates. Occasionally there is great difficulty in dealing with a defaulting brother under Article 210 through inability to discover his whereabouts; and then arises the fear that he may improperly get admitted into another lodge in another part of the country. Such a fear, however, would not exist, and all would be fair and above board, were the plan universally adopted throughout the country of issuing Clearance Certificates and requiring their production on the part of every brother applying for admission as a joining member.

My own lodge has adopted a printed form, which is signed by the W.M., Wardens, and Secretary, and one copy has recently gone to the United States.

It can readily be imagined how serviceable such a document must be to a worthy brother, whilst its universal requirement would, it seems to me, render impossible the imposition which Article 212 is designed to prevent.—Yours fraternally,

F. PIGGOTT, W.M. 88.

THE ORIGIN OF "FREE" MASON.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Some kind friend (I cannot even guess whom) has sent me from Canada a copy of the *Toronto Freemason*, containing a long account of the Annual Reunion and Banquet of the members of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite held at Hamilton on the 23rd January last.

Among the many speeches that were made on the occasion I notice that the Rev. Bro. Bland says "It was from a Pope that Masons received the title of 'Free,' because they were to be free from all taxes, but which considerations on account of later blindness culminated in bitter fulminations in a manner which cannot be accounted for."

Is this so? and which Pope was it? I should be glad if any brother can enlighten me.

R. P. C.



Craft Masonry.

METROPOLITAN MEETINGS.

Peace and Harmony Lodge (No. 60).—

This old lodge met at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, on the 26th ult., when there were present, among others, Bros. E. Rogers, P.P.G.D., P.G. Stwd., W.M.; H. Slade, P.M., G. Stwd., S.W.; W. H. Kempster, M.D., J.W.; F. Binckes, P.M., P.G. Stwd., P.G.S.B., Sec.; Capt. Walls, P.P.G.W., J.D.; Masters, P.M., I.G.; W. H. Kempster, jun., Stwd.; H. J. Lardner, P.M., P.P.G. D.C.; Josling, P.M., P.G. Stwd.; and others.

The proposition that in future the installation meeting of the lodge should take place in October instead of June was unanimously confirmed. It was unanimously resolved that the summer banquet be held at the Mitre Tavern, Hampton Court, on the 26th June next. A proposition for initiation having been handed in, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment.

A few toasts followed, and the proceedings terminated.

Lodge of Unity (No. 183).—

The installation meeting of this ancient and prosperous lodge was held at the Ship and Turtle Tavern, Leadenhall-street, on Monday, the 23rd ult., when Bro. J. D. E. Tarr, Prov. G.D. Middx., was installed as W.M. in the presence of a goodly number of brethren. The members present included Bros. R. Corsham, W.M.; J. D. E. Tarr, S.W., W.M. elect; G. H. Lindley Renton, J.W.; G. W. Pinnock, P.M., Treas.; G. W. Speth, P.M., Sec.; A. Side, S.D.; E. Wareham, J.D.; A. Cook, I.G.; S. Richardson, P.M., D.C.; G. R. Langley, P.M., Stwd.; H. Hooper, P.M.; E. A. Francis, P.M.; T. C. Tassell, W. Burgoyne Watts, T. W. Heath, A. E. Johnson, B. Norman, W. Newbold, A. J. Hogg, W. E. Watson, and R. P. Angel. Visitors: Bros. R. F. Gould, P.G.D.; James Terry, P.G.S.B.; W. Hopekirk, P.G.P.; J. T. Ashby, W.M. 228; Col. H. M. Gordon, P.P.G.D. Middx.; W. H. Lee, W.M. 2381, P.P.G.D. Middx.; W. F. Pettigrew, 624; F. Burman, 1987; T. Taylor, Sec. 1677; J. E. Harding, P.M., Treas. 30; J. Lugg, P.M. 1366; B. Cull, P.M. 1446; H. W. Roberts, P.P.G.W. Middx.; Louis Hirsch, P.M., Treas. 1818; Sir N. Pringle, P.M. 92; F. A. Smith, P.M. 1609; A. Blenkarn, J.W. 2381; H. G. Cubitt, S.W. 2020; and W. W. Lee, S.W. 2381.

Lodge having been opened, the minutes were confirmed, and a satisfactory audit report presented and adopted. A candidate was then initiated into Freemasonry by the W.M., who then installed Bro. J. D. E. Tarr, Prov. G.D. Middx., into the chair, assisted by Bro. H. Hooper, P.M. The following officers were appointed and invested: Bros. Renton, S.W.; Side, J.W.; Pinnock, P.M., Treas.; Speth, P.M., Sec.; Wareham, S.D.; Cook, J.D.; S. Richardson, P.M., D.C.; Tassell, I.G.; and G. Langley, P.M., and Burgoyne Watts, Stwds. The Installing Master, Bro. Corsham, I.P.M., delivered the usual addresses, and was presented by the W.M. with a Past Master's jewel in recognition of his services.

Lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to a banquet served in excellent style under the superintendence of Bro. Ashby. Under the genial presidency of the W.M. a very pleasant evening was spent, in the course of which the customary loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured.

Bro. R. F. Gould, P.G.D., replying for "The Grand Officers," said if there had been a much larger attendance of Grand Officers present that night they would have said what the three who were present said with one voice, that the Lodge of Unity had left nothing to be desired, either in the work of the lodge room or the warmth and geniality of its welcome. He had great pleasure in visiting that lodge again, and had had great satisfaction in listening to the W.M. and I.P.M. The W.M. had coupled three brethren to reply to that toast, for which he thanked him very heartily, because there was an old and familiar maxim which, if he might venture to translate, was that one should pass to one's juniors all that one could. Without wishing to ignore the great responsibility of that toast he felt it would be done full justice to if he left that part in the hands of the other two brethren, and he would say a word on his own account. He was delighted to be present, and to have his knees under the mahogany of the old Lodge of Unity. He missed the faces of some worthy brethren present a few years ago, including that of Bro. Britten, whom they all wished well, and regretted his absence; but he met a great many friends, and those whose faces were new, but whom he hoped to number among his Masonic friends. He wished to congratulate the retiring W.M. on the way he placed his successor in the chair. He had seen it well done before in the lodge, particularly by Bro. Langley, P.M. It usually fell to his lot to install the W.M. in the Quatuor Coronati Lodge, and he always arranged for a brother to assist him. He always appealed to Bro. S. Richardson, P.M., and when the installation came round that brother, without waiting for any invitation, took his place, as a right, as the D. of C. That incident showed how much he was mixed up with the officers of the Lodge of Unity.

Bro. James Terry, in responding, said he represented the small piece of meat between the two slices of bread of a sandwich. He was the piece of meat between the upper crust of Bro. Gould and the under crust of Bro. Hopekirk, and flavoured with a little mustard and salt, he hoped they liked the pungency, and prayed them to accept his best thanks.

Bro. W. Hopekirk, P.G.P., also replied. Bro. R. Corsham, I.P.M., said it came as a matter of right that he should propose "The Health of their W.M." He had no doubt that during the past year they would have gathered that he was one of the quiet members not given to much speaking, and, as it seemed to be in the natural order of things, they were going from grave to gay. During the past year they had had a rather quiet Master, but they would have during the ensuing year one who would be a little more lively. He did not wish to deprecate himself, but he thought they were sent upon this earth with certain duties

Stafford, S.D.; A. Adam Dodds, J.D.; T. W. Bagnall, I.G.; H. Jackson and T. Chegwidden, Stwds.; Rev. W. Bowker, Chap.; Robert Ferry, Org.; and Joshua Curry, Tyler. There was a large attendance of members of the lodge, and also brethren from other lodges. Amongst the Past Masters of the lodge were Bros. R. S. Reed, R. F. Cook, Michael Corbitt, Robt. Whitfield, David Sinclair, J. G. Smith, W. Dalrymple, J. Moulton, W. M. Pybus, and E. Shawbrooks. The other members of the lodge were Bros. Col. Cowen, John R. Sinton, I. Iveson, B. Grice, W. J. Campbell, T. L. Hall, and W. Douglas; while amongst the visitors were Bros. Dr. Dixon, Dr. A. Wilson, T. Lambert, P.M. 111; A. M. Lodes, P.M. 24; W. C. Barrow, P.M. 111; W. E. Harker, W.M. 24; W. Mitford, P.G.S.B.; John Smith, 645; T. Spedding, P.M. 1643; J. H. Pittick, P.M., D.C. 1643; G. N. Patterson, I.P.M. 424; John M. S. Kay, P.M. 481; W. Salmon, 1643; G. Salmon, 1119; Robert Wilson, I.P.M. 1664; J. A. Armstrong, S.W. 1664; T. R. Short, W.M. 424; A. Bell, 1427; J. H. Richardson, S.W. 24; W. H. Nixon, Stwd. 406; W. C. Symonds, P.M. 1626; J. K. Elliott, 204; W. Harris Saunders, P.M. 889 and 1503, P.P.S.G.D.; Robert Jackson, P.M. 712; T. R. Jobson, W.M. 1664; and George E. Donkin.

At the close of the proceedings of the lodge the brethren proceeded to the Town Hall, where they were entertained to a banquet, which reflected great credit on the purveyors, Bro. J. S. Tait and Son. The newly-elected W.M. presided, and was supported by the Past Masters of the lodge. About 100 brethren were present.

After the usual loyal toasts were duly honoured, Bro. R. B. Reed proposed "The Health of the W.M., Bro. W. Richardson." In the course of a deeply interesting address, Bro. Reed referred to the history of the lodge, its formation, progress, and present satisfactory position.

The toast was received with great enthusiasm, and the W.M. responded in suitable terms.

Several other toasts, including that of "The Masonic Charities," followed.

The Tyler's toast brought a most successful gathering to a close.

LINCOLN.

St. Hugh Lodge (No. 1386).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on the 18th ult., when Bro. A. Ramage was duly installed as W.M. in the presence of a large number of brethren and visitors, the lodge room, which is small, being inconveniently crowded. Bro. J. M. Read, P.M., acted as Installing Master, assisted by Bro. Hardy, I.P.M., who has been acting as W.M. in the absence of the respected W.M., Bro. Le Sall, through severe illness.

The banquet was held at the Saracen's Head (Bro. L. J. Thornton's), and a very pleasant and harmonious evening was spent under the presidency of the newly-installed W.M., who was supported by Bros. H. Watson, P.G. Reg.; Vickers, P.G. Sec.; Scorer (W.M. Witham Lodge), Read, Hardy, Mortimer, Mansell, Cousins, and several others.

Bro. Vickers, in proposing "The Masonic Charities," made a very eloquent appeal on behalf of the Central Charities, particularly the Boys', that being the Charity recommended by the province for the year. A collection was made, which was very satisfactory, the same being handed to Bro. Cousins, the Steward acting for the Witham, St. Hugh, and Crannis Lodges.

MANCHESTER.

Integrity Lodge (No. 163).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held at Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, on Wednesday, the 25th ult., the Worshipful Master in the chair. The business included four passings. The following brethren were present: Bros. J. B. Bedson, W.M.; G. B. Keisham, I.P.M.; T. G. Sparkes, S.W.; T. H. Schofield, J.W.; J. M. Sinclair, Treas.; J. Wildgoose, P.M., Sec.; J. M. H. Blamey, S.D.; A. J. Youle, J.D.; T. Studd, I.G.; J. B. Kirk, Tyler; H. H. Warburton, P.M.; W. Livesey, P.M.; John Studd, P.M.; T. H. Wanesley, Isaac Taylor, J. H. Studd, Frank W. Mel, Isaac Bell, Ben Eastwood, J. E. Meade, F. Nield, Walter Stott, L. Gaskill, H. R. Yates, Geo. G. Hilton, J. Thornton, Thos. Carr, G. H. Chorlton, C. Slee, G. Langley, J. Mitchell, J. Allen, R. A. Hepworth, and J. W. Sparkes. Visitor: Bro. T. H. Perkins, Star of the South, 1025 (Beunos Ayres).

Albert Victor Lodge No. 1773.—The regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Town Hall, Pendleton, on Friday, the 20th ult. The following brethren were present: Bros. E. Holland, W.M.; F. Townson, I.P.M.; John L. Smith, S.W.; Thos. Threefall, J.W.; Sam Statham, P.M., Chap.; R. H. Berry, Treas.; Thos. T. Sefton, Sec.; Walter H. Barrett, S.D.; Wm. Mosley, J.D.; J. Clough, I.G.; Jno. M. Brown and Wm. Lambert, Stwds.; B. W. Sefton, P.M.; J. Harrop, P.M., P.P.G.D.; Eli Winterbottom, P.M.; Wm. Thos. Blease, Richd. Duxbury, P.M., P.P.G.S.B.; Thos. Ray, P.M.; Harry Carver, W. Bransby, and B. Kirk, Tyler. Visitors: Bros. B. Carr, P.M. 1161 and 1458; G. Jackson, J.D. 317; John Marshall, P.M. 61, and P.P.G.P. West Yorkshire; N. Ingram, 152; F. Hewitt, 2216; T. Fletcher, P.M. 350; W. Allen Smith, 877, Jersey; W. H. Hughes, 1730; and H. Thornton, S.W. 2324.

Minnehaha Minstrel Lodge (No. 2363).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Victoria Hotel, on Monday, the 23rd ult. The following brethren were present: Bros. Martin Thomas, W.M.; Wm. Wood, acting I.P.M.; H. Nall, acting S.W.; F. W. Wollaston, J.W.; F. Hilton, Sec.; W. A. Brabner, S.D.; C. H. Beaver, J.D.; G. R. Ward, I.G.; E. A. Smith, Org.; C. Mercer, Stwd.; J. B. Kirk, Tyler; F. Watson, C. Duckworth, C. H. Normanton, W. H. Hayes, O. Gaggis, J. W. Lloyd, and H. Geddes. Visitors: Bros. C. E. Stott, P.M. 999; A. Baynton, P.M. 1213; T. H. Jenkins, Org. 999, P.P.G.S.B.; John Cliffe, P.M., Sec. 204; C. Heywood, P.M., Sec. 1387; J. D. Hooper, 1170, P.P.G. Treas.; F. H. Gaggis, 2156; W. Goldthorpe, W.M. 2156, P.P.G.O.; C. D. Cheetham, P.M. 993, P.P.G.D.; F. Renshaw, S.W. 1387; and J. P. Wadsworth, W.M. 1458. Mr. H. C. Lilly was initiated, and Bro. F. Watson passed, after which the lodge was closed.

PLYMOUTH.

Metham Lodge (No. 1205).—On Thursday, the 19th ult., the brethren of this lodge held their annual banquet at the Masonic Hall, Bro. G. Perring, the W.M., presided, and an attendance of over 60 brethren included many Present and Past Prov. G. Officers. Special interest was attached to the proceedings by the presence of Bro. Col. Elliott, District Grand Master of Barbadoes, P.G.D. of England, and P.P.S.G.W. Devonshire. Bro. Col. Elliott was also the founder and first W.M. of the lodge, and his presence at the banquet was hailed by the brethren with great pleasure. There were also present Bros. S. Jew, P.P.G.T.; W. Powell, P.G.T.; D. Cross, P.P.G.T.; T. Gibbons, P.P.G.O.; R. Dickson, P.P.G.D.C.; C. Cooper, P.P.J.G.D.; Hiffley, P.P.G.D.C.; Browning, P.P.G.D.C.; Pike, P.P.G.O.; Major Dick, R.M.L.I., and S.W. of the Western District Service Lodge; Bros. A. W. King, I.P.M. 1550; Trout, Wilson, Dunn, Peek, Setters, W. Allsford, Marchant, Rawlings, Leonard, W.M.; Kennedy, Orchard, and W. H. Lister, of 1855; Maunder, Ewens, Williams, and C. Mutton, S.W. of 1550; Rodgman, Menhennick, Smith, Jackson, Hearn, Stevens, and Pengilly.

The dinner was well laid and served, and the dining hall presented a very pretty and attractive appearance, thanks to the efforts of Bro. Ewens, who had decorated it with great taste with flags, Japanese lamps, and other ornamentation.

After the toast of "Her Majesty the Queen" had been given, the W.M. proposed "The Most Worshipful H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Grand Master of England, and the Grand Lodge of England."

The toast was acknowledged by Bro. Col. Elliott, the District Grand Master of Barbadoes, and Past Grand Deacon of England. Bro. Elliott, who was received with great cordiality, said their Grand Master, the Prince of Wales, who had descended from a long line of Royal Masons, was loved and honoured by all classes of the community. His princely position and conduct specially qualified him to preside over the Masonic body. Under his patronage, and under his superintendence and guidance, the Order had achieved marvellous successes, and had made prodigious strides. Annually it was distributing thousands of pounds through its Charities, whose hands were always open to assist brethren who, by age or misfortune, were reduced to indigence and want. The Grand Lodge was no institution of yesterday; it was nearly a thousand years old. It was an Institution of which he believed the first Grand Lodge was established in the year 926, and the first Grand Master, Edwin, had the warrant conferred upon him by his brother, King Athelstan. From the oldest times kings, princes, and other eminent persons had paid homage to that grand assembly. Masonry had declined and risen as the times had varied and fluctuated, and now as then, in proportion as Masonry had received encouragement its influence for good was felt throughout the length and breadth of the world. They were now living in an age when Masonry received every encouragement. Her Majesty the Queen was Patron of the Order, the Prince of Wales was Grand Master of the Order, and other members of the Royal Family occupied prominent positions in the Order. It was due to the interest taken in Masonry by the Prince of Wales and other members of the Royal Family, coupled with the fact that the Grand Lodge itself put forth its powerful energies for the good of the Order, through the Board of General Purposes, that Masonry owed its prosperity, and that its members were able to congratulate themselves on belonging to a Society that did so much for the good of their fellow creatures.

Bro. Kennedy proposed, and Bro. S. Jew acknowledged the toast of "The R.W. the Viscount Ebrington, M.P., P.G.M., and the Provincial Grand Officers, Present and Past." Both brethren spoke in sympathetic terms of the illness of Bro. Viscount Ebrington, whose services as Prov. Grand Master they warmly eulogised, and their expressions of hope that his lordship might soon be restored to perfect health, were warmly applauded.

Bro. Setters gave the toast of "The R.W. the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, Prov. Grand Master, and the Grand Lodge of Cornwall," and Bro. Marchant responded.

"The Health of the Worshipful Master" was proposed by Bro. A. W. King, and received with great heartiness.

Bro. Perring, in reply, said he hoped to fully realise the responsibility attaching to the position he held, and that during his year of office the harmony and good feeling that had always existed in Metham Lodge would be continued and maintained without interruption.

Bro. W. Powell, P.G.T., in proposing "The Health of the I.P.M. (Bro. King)," reminded the brethren that Bro. King had recently been the recipient of a handsome Past Master's jewel in recognition of the excellent manner in which he had filled the W.M.'s chair during the past year. No Past Master had more richly deserved the honour than Bro. King had, for whatever office he had occupied he had discharged his duties with care, courtesy, and ability.

Bro. King briefly replied, cordially thanking the brethren for the valuable assistance they had given him during his year of office.

The toast of "The Past Masters of Lodge Metham" was proposed by Bro. G. Perkins, and responded to by

Bro. Colonel Elliott, who reminded the brethren that Lodge Metham was originated by himself. His reasons for doing so were these. He had been Master for two successive years of a lodge abroad, and was then ordered home from a place where he found it absolutely impossible to find a Past Master in the whole community to whom he could entrust the warrant of that lodge. There was nothing for it but for him to bring home that warrant, and the Ascension Lodge ceased to work from that time. He regretted very much the action he was called upon to take, but he did it in the conviction that he was acting rightly, and his action was approved by the Grand Lodge. He came to the three towns, and his first idea was that they wanted brethren in the services who would go through the chairs and become Past Masters, so that in the event of their going abroad any difficulties, such as he had mentioned, might be obviated. Hence it was that the Metham Lodge was started, and he was glad to know that during all the years that had since gone by it had worked in perfect harmony, and with continued success.

Bro. Dunn, who proposed "The Health of the Treasurer and the Secretary, Bros. D. Cross and W. Powell," highly eulogised the services which they had for many years rendered to the lodge. The brethren were, he said, largely indebted to Bros. Cross and Powell for the splendid services

they had rendered to the lodge as its executive officers, and the position which the lodge occupied in the province was largely due to the care and attention they had always paid to their duties.

Bros. Cross and Powell briefly responded.

The toast of "The Wardens and Assistant Officers" was proposed by Bro. Dixon, and acknowledged by Bros. G. Perkins, S.W., and E. Hughes, J.W.

Bro. D. Cross proposed "Our Sister Lodges and Visiting Brethren." He remarked that he knew of no other society in existence, except that of Freemasonry, the members of which could go to any part of the world and claim admission into a lodge. Such a privilege was, he believed, unique, and it was a privilege which all Masons ought to fully appreciate and value.

The toast was acknowledged by Bro. Major Dick, S.W., who, in the course of some excellent practical remarks, strongly recommended the Masonic Hall to the support of the lodges in the three towns. He believed that if the position of the hall was placed before the brethren of the lodges of the three towns they would come to its support, and add to its influence for good by subscribing the capital that yet remained to be taken up. There were, he believed nearly 20 lodges in the three towns, and if each lodge would do its part there ought to be no difficulty in subscribing all the money that was required, and thus adding to the usefulness of the Institution. There was a club in connection with the hall, and in his opinion every member of the club should be a shareholder in the hall. If that were done the shares would soon be subscribed, and the company would be placed in a sound financial position.

Bro. Jew, in very appropriate terms, proposed "Masons' Wives and Sweethearts," and the last toast was that of "Our Poor and Distressed Brethren," given by Bro. Gidley.

Before the proceedings terminated, Bro. Cross proposed a vote of thanks to Bro. Ewens for the trouble he had taken in so handsomely decorating the dining hall. Bro. Ewens had done this at great inconvenience to himself, and had decorated the hall in a manner that did him the greatest possible credit.

Bro. Perkins seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

During the evening the toasts were interspersed with songs and recitations by Bros. Rawlings, Mutton, Kennedy, Hughes, Peek, Jew, Setters, and Menhennick, and a specially attractive and enjoyable contribution was a clever whistling solo by Bro. Col. Elliott, who accompanied himself on the piano.

TEDDINGTON.

Sir Charles Bright Lodge (No. 1793).—This lodge met at the Clarence Hotel on the 25th ult. Among those present were Bros. J. R. Barns, W.M.; W. Middleweek, S.W.; W. H. Windeatt, J.W.; J. Piller, P.M., Treas.; E. W. Warren, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C., Sec.; J. E. Ruffle, J.D.; F. Chandler, I.G.; J. Hall, Org.; W. R. Plaford, D.C.; Capt. T. C. Walls, P.M., P.P.G.W., and W. Smith, Stwds.; A. J. R. Simmonds, I.P.M.; and W. J. Porter, P.M. The visitors were Bros. C. Hopwood, P.P.G.S.B.; Prince, and Webb.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Mr. D. E. D. Morris was duly initiated by the I.P.M., the ceremony being admirably performed. A proposition for initiation having been handed in the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet.

The usual toasts followed, Bro. Hopwood, P.M., acknowledged the toast of "The Provincial Grand Officers."

"The Health of the W.M." was given in kindly terms by Bro. Forge, P.M.

Bros. Prince and Webb responded on behalf of "The Visitors."

During the evening an excellent programme of music was furnished by Bros. E. J. Hall, J. E. Ruffle, W. J. Porter, T. Middleweek, W. Middleweek, and others, which gave unqualified satisfaction.

Royal Arch.

SHIPLEY.

Moravian Chapter (No. 387).—A regular meeting of this chapter was held at the Masonic Rooms, Saltire Institute, recently. The chapter was opened by Comp. Wm. Oddy, Z., assisted by Comps. Thos. Denby, P.Z., as H., and John Tiltson, J.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been confirmed, and a candidate proposed for exaltation at the next meeting, and nothing further having been advanced for the good of Royal Arch Masonry the chapter was closed, and the companions adjourned for refreshment.

Mark Masonry.

Borough of Greenwich Lodge (No. 332).—The installation meeting of the above lodge took place on Tuesday, the 24th ult., at the King William the Fourth, East Greenwich, Bro. George Burney's famous hostelry, when Bro. James G. Thomas, J.W. and W.M. elect, was duly installed in the chair of A., the S.W., Bro. W. Burney, not having passed through the chair of a Craft lodge not being eligible.

Bro. W. T. Hunt, W.M., opened the lodge, and the minutes of the previous meeting having been confirmed, Bro. Dr. Ralph Gooding, M.D., P.J.G.O. England, Hon. P.M. of the lodge, at the invitation of the W.M., assumed the chair as Installing Officer and installed Bro. Thomas. The new W.M. appointed and invested those present as his officers: Bros. W. T. Hunt, I.P.M.; W. H. Burney, S.W. (reinstated); S. J. Gore, J.W.; G. P. Carter, M.O. and Sec.; E. W. Carpenter, S.O.; T. P. Newton, J.O.; F. Couldrey, P.M., Treas.; H. T. Fryer, R. of M.; G. Burney, I.G.; and E. Spinks, Tyler. Bro. Gooding then delivered the several addresses splendidly, and concluded a most impressive ceremony, for which he received the thanks of the brethren, the same to be inscribed on the minutes of the lodge. The I.P.M., Bro. Hunt, was then presented with a Past Master's jewel as a token of the esteem of the brethren, and for valuable services rendered the lodge during his year of office, for which he feelingly returned thanks.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to one of Bro. Burney's elegantly served banquets, to which due attention was paid.

Among the other brethren present were Bros. H. Roberts, P.M., P.P.G.S.B.; H. W. Partridge, P.M., P.P.G.M.O.; P.M., P.P.G.S.B.; Dr. W. C. Burney, W. Kipps, P.M. (Hon.), P.P.G.O.; Dr. W. C. Burney, W. Kipps, P.M. (Hon.), P.P.G.O.; A. Escott, P.M. 294, P.S.G.W.; M.D., P.M., P.P.G.D.; C. Jolly, J.W. 226, M.O. 309, P.P.G.O.; and others.

The toast of "The Queen and Mark Masonry" having been honoured, and also that of "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, G. M. of the Order," Bro. Gooding's name was coupled with that of "The Pro G.M., the D.G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," and in the course of a lengthy and eloquent reply, our brother said they had asked him to respond as a member, although a past one, of Grand Lodge. He pleaded guilty to the fact, and could safely say that the Officers of Grand Mark Lodge had done good work for the benefit of the Degree and would continue to do so in the future. Now in the past, and would refer to the fact of his being the party, and as they had referred to the fact of his being the first Master of the lodge, he would say that he remembered with pleasure the great interest taken by Grand Lodge in the foundation of it some seven years ago. It might not have increased in numbers so much as they anticipated, but he believed that in that Borough of Greenwich there was plenty of room for Mark Masonry, and if they did not find plenty of recruits from the ranks of the Craft, seeing how the Craft was increasing in the immediate neighbourhood, it would be a most astonishing thing to him. So far as any service that he might have done them by acting as Installing Officer, he could only say that as he had installed every Master of the lodge but one, and then he was away on the Continent, they might easily believe him when he said that if it had afforded them any pleasure he was fully repaid, and he would promise them that as often as they required him, and he had the power of doing it, he should always esteem the invitation an honour. As a Mark Mason of some slight experience, he could advise them, especially as their lodge was not so flourishing in numbers as in quality, to recommend the solidity and benefits of the Order. They had a Grand Lodge, with their future Sovereign at its head. They had good funds, and had given no less than £527 to the Charities. They had their own Benevolent Fund, and had during the last 20 years spent £2500 on the educational branch. Fifty-five children had been educated at their own homes; that was to say the fees for their schooling were paid at their homes, and £5 per annum was allowed for the purchase of their clothing. The annuities given to old Mark Masons were £25 per annum, and to Mark Masons' widows £20. This would show them that the Mark Degree was a concrete Degree. He then enumerated the good work done for the Order by Bros. Lords Egerton of Tatton, Hereford, and Euston, F. Richardson, Col. A. B. Cook, C. F. Matier, and others, and asked could he fail to thank them for coupling his name with so noble and important a toast? No, for he and all of them were deeply indebted to those excellent Masons for good work, not only in the Mark, but in the Craft and other Degrees. He thanked them for the generous manner in which they always received the toast, and for their hearty reception of his name coupled with it.

The Worshipful Master, in giving the toast of "The Grand Officers of the Province of Kent," spoke highly of the work done by Bro. Robinson, their esteemed Prov. Grand Master, and also of Bro. Cummings, their D.P.G.M., at the late Provincial meeting at Tunbridge Wells, and coupled the toast with the name of Bro. Escott, who, in reply, regretted the present illness of Bro. Robinson, and spoke eloquently of the great services that brother had rendered to Masonry generally, and especially in the Province of Kent.

The I.P.M., in proposing the toast of "The W.M.," said he himself felt like the Lord Mayor of London must feel on the 9th of November when he had to propose the toast of the new Lord Mayor, but it was a great pleasure for him to propose the toast of Bro. Thomas's health, as he had had the pleasure of knowing him for many years both in that and other Degrees, the chief offices of which he had filled most efficiently, and he had not the slightest doubt that if they had candidates Bro. Thomas would do his duty in that lodge as he had in other Degrees.

Bro. Thomas, in response, said it was some seven years ago that he was advanced, and then he thought that it was a very beautiful Degree, and a continuation of the Second, which every Master Mason ought to take. He was J.W. of a lodge at Deptford, but that would not make the slightest difference to him, nor would it take any one single candidate from this lodge. He thanked them most heartily for the toast.

Bro. Gooding responded to a hearty reception of "The Installing Officer," Bros. Escott and Jolly for "The Visitors," "The Past Masters," "Officers," and the Tyler's toast concluding the business and pleasures of the evening.

BRADFORD.

Old York Lodge (T.I.)—The regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Salem-street, on Tuesday, the 24th ult., when, in the absence of Bro. J. R. Welsman, Prov. G. Stwd., W.M., Bro. Charles J. Schott, Prov. G.D., I.P.M., presided, and was supported by Bros. Thos. Norfolk, S.W.; S. O. Gaulke, J.W.; T. H. Greenough, M.O.; Wm. Laycock, as S.O.; M. Hayes, J.O.; Geo. Althorp, P.P.G.W., Treas.; J. T. Last, Sec.; John Niven, R. of M.; J. R. Lumb, S.D.; J. Martin, as J.D.; R. H. Bonsor, as I.G.; John Hill, Tyler; J. W. Monckman, P.G. Stwd. England; Charles Crabtree, P.P.G.W.; Simeon Whiteley, P.P.G.D., Org.; and H. Grindel, P.P.G. Sec., Staffordshire.

The lodge was opened, after which the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, and Bro. Grindel was elected a joining member of the lodge. The ballot was taken for Bro. John Ingleby, of the Lodge of Hope, No. 302, which proving in his favour, he was admitted and advanced to the Degree of a M.M.M. by Bro. Schott, the acting W. Master, assisted by Bro. Whiteley, P.P.G.D., who explained the symbolical meaning of the working tools, and signs of the Degree. The report of the Revision Committee with regard to the lodge by-laws was adopted, and as nothing further was advanced for the good of Mark Masonry, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment, and a pleasant evening was spent under the presidency of Bro. Schott.

EGREMONT.

Sewell Lodge (No. 421)—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held in the Oddfellows' Hall, on Thursday, the 26th ult., Bro. J. Stout, P.G. Std. Br., W.M., presided. Among those present were Bros. J. Lowery, S.W.; J. Wakefield, P.G. I. of W., J.W.; J. Nelson, M.O.; W. Irving, S.O.; J. A. Parker, J.O.; H. Hartley, P.M. 216, P.J.G.O., Treas.; W. Bosward, Sec.; T. McLeod, Reg. of M.; J. Miller, S.D.; R. K. Bouch, I.G.; S. Braithwaite, Tyler; G. Dairymple, P.M., P.A.G.D.C. England; B. Craig, P.M., P.P.G.M.O.; W. Robinson, J.W. 216; and W. Shaw, J.D. 216.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes confirmed, and Bro. W. Armstrong, who had been previously balloted for, was advanced to the honourable Degree of M.M. A draft of by-laws was subsequently considered, and other general business having been transacted, the lodge was closed.

Lodges and Chapters of Instruction.

ST. LUKE'S LODGE (No. 144)—A meeting was held on Friday, the 27th ult., at the Somerset Arms, Fulham-road, when there were present Bros. Jesse Collings, P.M. 1585, W.M.; A. Carlstrom, 733, Preceptor, S.W.; R. O. Moody, S.W. 1853, J.W.; J. Markland, P.M. 144, I.P.M.; W. H. Tucker, S.W. 144, Sec.; Cursons, 1681, S.D.; Blyth, 1861, J.D.; H. Bullen, 160, I.G.; Mulvey, P.M. 179, 2246, and 2202, W.M. 2353, P.G.S.B. Surrey; Cobham, P.M. 141; Kirk, P.M. 1608; Sedgwick, P.M. 180; Cleghorn, P.M. 1287; Alexander, 1257; J. Cox, 1585; E. Holland, 141; Whyman, I.G. 2046; Morrish, 1585; G. A. Gunton; Ham, 858; Reid, 1910; Ambler, 1585; Foster, 975; and Hargrave, 66.

According to ancient custom this lodge met for the purpose of working the Fifteen Sections, and having been opened in due form, the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Second and Third Degrees, and then resumed to the First Degree. The First Lecture was then worked by the following brethren: 1st Section, Bro. Ham; 2nd Section, Bro. J. Cox; 3rd Section, Bro. Ambler; 4th Section, Bro. Mulvey, P.M.; 5th Section, Bro. Kirk, P.M.; 6th Section, Bro. Blyth; and 7th Section, Bro. A. Carlstrom. The lodge was then resumed to the Second Degree, and the following brethren worked the Second Lecture: 1st Section, Bro. Mulvey, P.M.; 2nd Section, the W.M.; 3rd Section, Bro. Cursons; 4th Section, Bro. Cleghorn, P.M.; and 5th Section, Bro. Sedgwick, P.M. The lodge was resumed to the Third Degree, and the Third Lecture was worked: 1st Section, Bro. Cobham, P.M.; 2nd Section, Bro. J. Cox; and 3rd Section, Bro. Whyman. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree, and the W.M. rose for the first, second, and third times. A very hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the W.M., to be entered in the minutes, for the very able manner in which he had conducted the proceedings. A hearty vote of thanks was also accorded the brethren who had so kindly worked the various Sections, also to be entered in the minutes. Nothing further offering for the good of Freemasonry in general, or this lodge in particular, it was closed.

HORNSEY LODGE (No. 890)—A meeting of this recently-constituted lodge was held on the evening of Thursday, the 26th ult., at the Lewisham Masonic Rooms, adjoining the White Hart Hotel, High-street, Lewisham, S.E. Bro. Walter Martin, P.M., presided as W.M., and amongst others there were present Bros. James Stevens, P.M., S.W.; H. Pynegar, J.W.; A. A. Drew, P.M., Preceptor; Wimbush, Treas.; Walter Robin, Sec.; G. A. Pickering, W.M. 890, S.D.; J. Clarke, J.D.; J. Morley, I.G.; C. Blanchard, Homes, Livermore, Harris, and Humphrey.

The lodge was worked in the Third Degree, the impressive ceremonial being admirably conducted throughout by the W.M. and his officers. It was announced that the ceremonies of consecration and installation would be performed by Bro. James Terry, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.B.I., on the 16th instant, and arrangements were being made for making the occasion a notable one amongst the Fraternity in the South London district. After the customary routine business, the lodge was closed.

ISLINGTON LODGE (No. 1471)—The usual weekly meeting was held on Tuesday, the 31st ult. (this being the fifth Tuesday in the month, or the Secretary's night), at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, when there were present Bros. C. M. Coxon, W.M.; J. W. Clarke, S.W.; C. G. Gray, J.W.; W. Hancock, Preceptor; J. Duncan, acting Sec.; E. H. Moore, S.D.; J. M. Scarlett, P.J.G.W. Essex, J.D.; H. J. Kembell, jun., I.G.; R. Loomes, H. B. Harding, H. J. Kembell, sen., and R. Scarlett.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. R. Scarlett then answered the questions leading to the Second Degree, and was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the ceremony of passing rehearsed, Bro. R. Scarlett being the candidate. Bro. Harding answered the questions leading to the Third Degree, and was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and the ceremony of raising rehearsed, Bro. Harding being the candidate, the Preceptor giving the traditional history. The lodge was then closed in the Third and Second Degrees. Bro. R. Scarlett was unanimously elected a member of the lodge. Bro. Nicol was announced as W.M. for the ensuing week, and the lodge was closed.

CREATON LODGE (No. 1791)—A meeting was held on Thursday, the 26th ult., at the Wheatheaf Hotel, Goldhawk-road, Shepherd's Bush, W. There were present Bros. J. Arnott, W.M.; F. W. Woodard, S.W.; L. Cox, J.W.; J. Davies, P.M., Preceptor; E. Austin, P.M., Treas.; G. E. Higginson, Sec. (pro tem.); Jennings, S.D.; Elkin, J.D.; Richardson, I.G.; M. Speigel, I.P.M.; Gane, and Cotton.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The W.M. then vacated the chair in favour of the Preceptor. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the 1st Section was worked by the brethren, under the guidance of the Preceptor. The lodge was closed in the Second Degree, and the 2nd and 3rd Sections of the First Lecture were worked in a similar manner. Bro. F. W. Woodard was unanimously elected W.M. for the next meeting, and appointed his officers in rotation. "Hearty good wishes" were given and the lodge was closed.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

FINAL REPORT OF THE PROVISIONAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE, TO BE PRESENTED TO THE QUARTERLY COURT OF THE INSTITUTION ON APRIL 10, 1891.

Although our proceedings have been from time to time fully reported, by minutes and reports read at the regular meetings of the Quarterly Court and General Committee, we think it desirable before closing our labours to shortly summarise the progress we have been able to accomplish in the work with which we were entrusted when the administration of the affairs of the Institution was committed to our care.

It will be within the recollection of the Court that the Provisional Management Committee was appointed for the purpose of managing and carrying on the Institution, and to report from time to time the mode in which the recommendations of the Committee of Investigation could best be carried into effect. We have endeavoured to carry out in every detail the duty placed upon us, and feel that we can confidently leave to our successors the task of continuing the work of perfecting the Institution.

It will be observed that the whole of the recommendations of the Committee of Investigation have been dealt with, although some, not yet as completely as could be desired.

Since our appointment an entire alteration in the administration of the Institution has taken place, the whole of the staff has been changed, and it will be observed from the report and balance-sheet recently published, that economy in the expenditure connected with the Institution has been effected.

The Head Master has been established as the one head authority at Wood Green, and the entire establishment there has been made subject to him.

We have taken and kept the control of the Institution in our own hands, been in touch with the daily life of the School, and given special personal attention to all matters relating to the Institution.

The playground accommodation at the School has been enlarged, although more requires to be provided, and proper appliances for the health and cleanliness of the boys have been secured.

The Finance Committee have been thorough in regulating the expenditure of the Institution, and in investigating in the strictest possible manner all the accounts.

The accounts have been kept on a new and complete system laid down by an accountant of experience, and the duties of the Secretary have been altered and defined.

Having thus briefly dealt with the recommendations of the Investigation Committee, we may point out to the Court the further reforms that have been effected.

The whole of the main buildings at Wood Green have been thoroughly examined and repaired, and the sanitary arrangements placed in an effective condition.

The lavatory and washing accommodation has been extended and improved, and whilst affording increased facilities for cleanliness, waste of water has been prevented. The present arrangements enable every boy to have at least one hot bath a week.

Additions have been made to the fire appliances, and new escapes and shoots provided and fixed to prevent loss of life in the event of an outbreak of fire.

The dietary and clothing have been altered and improved, and as a result the boys are healthier and happier.

A sound system of technical education has been introduced, which already promises to bear good and useful practical results.

The School has now been appointed one of the centres for holding the Cambridge Local Examinations, and also for the Science and Art Department of South Kensington. The result of the Cambridge Local Examination recently held at the School was very satisfactory, out of 25 candidates 23 having been successful.

The course of study has been modernised, and is gradually being extended, so as to give wider openings for the various tastes and abilities of the boys.

A printing press has been established, and all the printing for the School is done there in the hours of recreation.

A School Magazine has been started, printed by the boys, in order to give full information of what occurs at the School, to maintain the interest of old boys, and to excite the interest of the subscribers and friends of the Institution.

Many of the boys employ themselves in play time in gardening, engineering, and carpentering, under proper supervision.

Greater freedom is given to the boys, hence we look forward to the growth of something like public spirit and sense of responsibility.

The enlargement and use of the field in front of the Institution has provided an excellent cricket and football ground.

A series of evening entertainments in winter have been started—quite a new departure—with excellent effects on the spirits and character of the boys.

There is an undoubted improvement in the tone of the School.

These and other minor but no less necessary improvements have been effected with rigid economy, and although involving extraordinary expenditure the saving in other departments has enabled the cost per boy to be materially reduced.

There is still great need for increased class room accommodation, the desirability of which has been fully recognised and considered. The completion of this very essential work has remained in abeyance owing to the want of funds.

One of the most important tasks undertaken by this Committee, was the revision of the laws of the Institution, a work ultimately passed by the General Committee, substantially in the form submitted for their approval. By the broader representation created in the managing body of the Institution, it will, doubtless, receive from both London and the provinces greater support than heretofore.

The Institution is to be congratulated upon the particularly fortunate selection that has been made in the appointment of the principal and other officers of the establishment. The Head Master more than fulfils the high promise that his previous career led the Committee to hope for. The Assistant Masters are discharging their duty in a satisfactory and loyal manner. The Matron is efficient and careful in her department.

With regard to the Secretary of the Institution, we especially desire to emphasise the peculiar ability and energy Bro. McLeod has brought to bear in conscientiously discharging the duties of his important office, and to record that we are strongly of opinion that this officer's salary should be increased to £400 per annum from the commencement of the year. It will be remembered that at the time of his election it was generally felt that the salary then stated was inadequate to allow the Secretary to maintain an equal position with those holding similar appointments.

In conclusion, we earnestly desire to express our cordial appreciation of the manner in which the Craft and the supporters of the Institution have recognised our work as well as the ready manner in which they have from time to time given effect to our recommendations.

By order of the Provisional Management Committee.

EUSTON, Chairman.

FRED. A. PHILBRICK, Vice-Chairman.

RICHARD EVE, Deputy-Chairman.

STANLEY J. ATTENBOROUGH, Hon. Secretary.

Wood Green, 20th March, 1891.

AN "AT HOME" OF THE ST. CECILIA LODGE, No. 1636, BRIGHTON.

On Tuesday evening, the 31st ult., this lodge gave an "At Home" in the banqueting room with the suite of rooms at the Pavilion, Brighton. The company on arriving were received by the following brethren, who acted as Stewards: Bros. D. T. Boslet, W.M.; W. D. Isworth, I.P.M.; G. Cole, P.M.; H. S. Gates, P.M.; J. Wood, J.W.; F. W. Hollands, S.D.; F. Guy, J.D.; E. Mitchell, D.C.; J. Jeffries and F. J. Culley, Stwds.; J. Sayers, A. Gregory, and H. C. Collins, Sec., and H. F. Dovey, I.G., Hon. Secs.

There were upwards of 250 ladies and brethren present, and amongst the many visitors we noticed Bros. V. P. Freeman, P.G.D.; Alderman A. J. Hawks, L. P. Styer, J. H. Cureton, and George H. Reynolds.

The ball was opened by the W.M., Bro. D. T. Boslet, and his lady in a valse—"For you"—a very appropriate title to welcome what was termed a homely gathering of friends to an "At Home."

The supper was provided by Bro. John Sayers, and gave every satisfaction, and dancing was kept going with great spirit till two o'clock. The company on parting expressed themselves highly delighted with the pleasures of the evening, and great credit was given to the brethren (the Stewards and Committee) who had so kindly exerted themselves to make the "At Home" a success.

Masonic clothing was worn by the brethren present, by dispensation from the Prov. Grand Master.

MASONIC LECTURE BY BRO. R. F. GOULD, P.G.D.

A lecture was given in the Starkie Installed Masters' Lodge of Instruction, in the Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester, on Tuesday, the 24th ult., by Bro. Robert Freke Gould, P.G.D. England, on "Freemasonry." Bro. A. Clegg, P.P.J.G.W., presided. Bro. Gould dealt in the first place with the period from 1717 to 1817, the year of the formation of the Grand Lodge of England. The former year was an important one as forming the dividing point between ancient and modern Masonry. It was not until the example set in London was followed in Edinburgh in 1736 that the old system was practically supplanted by the new. This was a deeply interesting one to all students of the Craft. Freemasonry had come down in two distinct channels, the English and the Scottish one, but ultimately the two became united, and from 1736 the universality of Freemasonry dated. The Grand Lodge of England was designed at first as a governing body for London and Westminster, but it soon spread, and the Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason soon radiated to all parts of North Britain. In 1717 the first Book of Constitutions was published, which mentioned only two Degrees—the Entered Apprentice and Fellow Craft—although later on the Master Mason's Degree was recognised, with the condition that it should be communicated in Grand Lodge only. The importance of observing the ancient landmarks was duly impressed, and while the Grand Lodge would be powerless to dispense with the three Degrees, it

became an interesting question as to how far they could deal with them. The ancient ceremonial was preserved in modern Masonry, and that of Installed Master had also an existence in times equally remote. Between 1717 and the years following, however, there was in existence no such Degree. It was not adopted by the mother Grand Lodge of the world until 1810. The lecturer however, showed how this could be accounted for by the Grand Lodge; Grand Lodge Officers only in the first instance performing the ceremony, but afterwards giving authorisations to provincial officers, which would become the constitution or, as they termed it, the charter of the new lodge. Afterwards the custom fell into disuse. Masters in those early days were elected for three months only and were installed with practically no ceremony. No other recognised Degrees existed. The "fancy" Degrees, such as the Mark, Rose Croix, Knights Templar, were first met with in connection with French Masonry, and they speedily became the fashion throughout the world and remained so. The great schism was healed by the union of the two Grand Lodges in 1813, but in 1810 it was stated that the Installed Master was one of the few landmarks of the Craft and ought to be observed. At this union it was decreed that Masonry, consisted of three Degrees, namely, Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Royal Arch. Whether what was called the "Higher Degrees" exercised a beneficial influence upon Freemasonry or the reverse was not the point. The question must be asked—were they Masonic, and was there any limit to the Three Degrees? The lecturer gave it as his opinion on the authorities he had quoted that the Grand Lodge of England could not add to the Degrees, and that what was beyond the power of the Grand Lodge to confer was beyond the power of any other Masons to carry on in a similar manner. Both the Royal Arch and Installed Master were recognised, however, as Masonic in 1813 and in 1817, and from the facts he had formulated certain conclusions which he hoped would be ratified by those present.

At the close Bro. GOULD invited questions, and, in reply to one put by Bro. Sillitoe as to a ceremony common in Lancashire and Yorkshire connected with the opening of a Board of Installed Masters, he said there was no such ceremony, and that all emergencies could be met by asking all below the rank of installed Master to retire, and seeing that that was done. This ceremony, he added, was irregular, and might lead to the impression in cases where brethren came from places where it was not carried out, that they were not installed Masters.

In answer to other questions, he said that "Emulation" working was now tacitly recognised by the Grand Master and Grand Officers as a body.

At the close a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Freke Gould for his interesting and instructive address.

The following brethren were present: Bros. Alfred H. Williams, P.M. 2156, P.G.O.; R. F. Gould, P.M. 92, P.G.D.; E. G. Harwood, P.M. 1723, P.P.G.W.; J. Broadbent, P.M. 1868; John Booth, P.M. 37; A. Ingham, W.M. 2144, P.P.G. Stwd. Cheshire; James Milton, W.M. 1868; Edwd. Farrar, P.M. 350; James Newton, P.M. 37, P.P.G.D.; Jno. Waring, Sec., D.C., P.M. 1134, P.A.G.Sec.; Thos. Stopford, P.M. 1077; Nathaniel Nicholson, P.M. 1723; J. H. Andrew, P.M. 1011, 2085; Richd. Duxbury, P.M. 146; F. W. Lean, P.M. 2156; A. T. McGregor, P.M. 654, P.J.G.D. Derby; E. T. Wagg, P.G. Chap.; Hy. Dawson, P.M. 1083, Tyler; Abm. Clegg, P.M. 277; A. H. Jefferis, 1161, P.P.G. D.C.; J. H. Dalglish, I.P.M. 1147, Sec.; Chas. Swinn, I.P.M. 1633; J. H. Sillitoe, 648; Jas. Cookson, 287, P.G. Treas. Cheshire; John Stovold, P.M. 993; Arthur Middleton, P.M. 645; Abm. Pemberton, P.M. 1030, P.P.G.D., D. of C.; J. E. Radford, I.P.M. 336; J. D. Murray, P.P.G.D. of C.; and D. Conway, P.M. 152.

AN ORATION.

The following oration was delivered by Bro. the Rev. R. J. SIMPSON, LL.D., P.G. Chap., at the consecration of the Columbia Lodge, No. 2397, on the 19th ult.:

W.M. in the chair, Wardens, and Brethren.—This lodge, the Columbia, is to be consecrated to-day under circumstances of peculiar interest, for it not only adds one more member to our great and world-wide Fraternity, but it is to bear an historical title of great significance, and to aid in strengthening that real union of hearts which should ever be found characteristic of two mighty nations of a kindred race. Let me say a few words upon a topic naturally suggested by this fact, as well as by the remarkable history and development of the Order to which we all have the advantage and happiness to belong. Progress is a term used in a variety of senses. The patriot, the orator, the student of art and science, the atheist, the theist, the sceptic, the philosopher, the man of letters, and the Freemason, each advocates and professes to rejoice in "progress." Those who attended the last Communication of Grand Lodge will remember the use of this term under very remarkable circumstances. A member of the Grand Lodge of England, who is also Deputy Prov. Grand Master in New Zealand, became Master of a lodge which, though established in a British colony, and under the English Masonic Constitution, violated its allegiance, repudiated its honourable relationship, and affiliated itself to a foreign Grand Lodge which had expunged the sacred name of the Deity from its charter and was therefore excommunicated by the Grand Lodge of England. The reason given by those Masons

for taking such an unnatural course was, that in the Grand Orient of France there was more scope for Progress. There are, as I have already implied, many kinds of Progress, but I propose to touch only upon two, namely: 1, The National Progress of the two cognate nations to which I have referred and represented here to-day, and, 2, The Progress of Freemasonry as a moral and religious bond of union. Touching the former, I prefer to adduce more accurate and authentic evidence than any I could myself set forth, namely, the testimony borne on the occasion of the celebration of American Independence, on July 4th, 1885, at Sydney, by the Attorney-General of N.S.W. and the Consul of the U.S., a record well worthy of being engraven on the minds of us all. Mr. Dalley said: "Our British Empire at this moment embraces more than one-sixth part of all the land of the earth, and comprehends nearly one-fourth of its population; and of this population 50,000,000 are of Anglo-Saxon descent. Its area is 9,000,000 square miles. Its population 313,000,000 of persons. Its annual revenues are £205,000,000; and its exports and imports are £1,060,000,000 per annum. Its armed forces, including militia, are more than 1,500,000, and its navy consists of 60,000 men. The United States of America have an area of 3,602,990 square miles, with a population of 55,000,000, a revenue of £73,000,000 per annum, of which £30,321,630 are surplus. She has an annual trade of £292,000,000, of which fully one-half is carried on with the British Empire. She has an army of regular soldiers and organised militia of 150,000, with a navy of 8,250 men. She holds a fifteenth of the land of the earth, and almost a twenty-third of its population. Unite these stupendous forces and you will have an area of 12,600,000 square miles, a population of 368,000,000 persons, revenues amounting to £278,000,000, a trade of £1,352,000,000 a year, armies of 1,700,000, and navies of 68,000 men. You will have a fourth of the globe, and more than a fourth of the human race." Mr. Griffin, in reply, said that Mr. Dalley, with great force and eloquence, had "Referred to the wonderful material progress which has been made by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and by the United States of America respectively, during the present century. With your permission, I will point out what appears to be a still more remarkable development. When Queen Victoria ascended the throne, in 1837, the trade of England, according to the most trustworthy statistics, was about £100,000,000. To-day the trade of the Australian colonies exceeds that amount by £20,000,000 sterling. An idea of the power and influence of the Anglo-Saxon race can be formed from the fact that, of all the newspapers and periodicals published, more than two-thirds are printed in the English language. No matter which is the greater or richer country, I love to think that the day is not far distant when the two great branches of the Anglo-Saxon race will be so united that they can always stand shoulder to shoulder, ready to do battle for the cause of civil and religious liberty and human progress throughout the world. You will have 100,000,000 men of Anglo-Saxon descent, and you will have 42,000,000 men capable of bearing arms." And why have I thus quoted these official and authoritative statements? That as citizens and subjects of these two mighty nations (Anglo-Saxon) we are thankful to acknowledge, admire, and adore the power, the wisdom, and the love of that Almighty Architect and Ruler of the Universe, whom we love and whom we serve, and under whose gracious providence and beneficence we have prospered beyond any nations or empires that have existed since the foundation of the world. As to the progress of Freemasonry, especially amongst our English-speaking race, I need say but little; it is, brethren, well known to you all. Suffice it to say, Masonry has made great progress in numbers, as well as in the promotion of Institutions for the education of its dependent children, and the relief of the aged, the infirm, and the widow. But I think I am warranted in asserting that it has made still greater and nobler progress in all those virtues which adorn life, whether public, domestic, or personal, and which find their source in the only true and living spring of truth or happiness—I mean in the Volume of the Sacred Law. This Holy Volume is, as we know, the foundation-stone of our glorious fabric. Its sacred precepts are interwoven with our beautiful ritual, and it points not only to the promise of "the life that now is," but to "that which is to come." It is impossible for us time after time to hear those great thoughts, those pure principles set forth in our lodges without their leaving some impression on the heart and mind, and surely, though perhaps insensibly, influencing our life and actions. And this is true progress. It is the kindly light of Divine truth that kindles the good desire, leads on to noble deeds of self-sacrifice for others, stays the harsh word, prompts the forgiving thought, pours consolation into the wounds of the afflicted, and calms the storms of passion that too often make shipwreck both of the bodies and the souls of men. And when the sands of life are running out and the final warning comes to point out to us the close of our earthly life, Oh! How bright the promise of a glorious rest when the labourer's work is done and an "exceeding great reward" for the "good and faithful servant" almost appears in view. This will be the last and best step in the progress which we, as Godly men and true Masons, aspire to. Let others seek progress in blind chance and blank negation, let others worship progress as the Goddess of Reason, let them proclaim agnosticism as a panacea for life's troubles; let a cold philosophy succeed in dispelling every ray of light from man's mind

and every gleam of comfort from his heart let them treat with contempt the conclusions of Newton, who esteemed the structure of the universe so "complete a proof of the existence and Providence of an Almighty, wise, and good Architect of Nature" that he "never pronounced the word *God without a pause*," but be it ours to glory in the belief, in the thought, in the hope, in the power, and in the love of our own and our Nature's Guardian, God, feeling sure that a plan *must* have a *planner*, a *designer*, a *designer*, and a *world fearfully and wonderfully made must* have had a *maker* who must *rule* that world. He has made it, and thus we conclude that as He has formed that world in wisdom, strength, and beauty, it is the truest progress to seek to do His will, and to feel that the true "Brotherhood of man" (one of the stock phrases of the atheist), can only be founded on the *Fatherhood of God*. Be it ours, brethren, whether we look to our *present lot* or our *future destiny*, whether as Masons or men, to follow the precepts of the inspired Prophet, "to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with our God," and to echo with reverent and grateful hearts those words of the sweet Psalmist of Israel, the father of our Grand Master Solomon, "All Thy works praise Thee, O God, and Thy Saints give thanks unto Thee; they shew the Glory of Thy kingdom and talk of Thy power; that Thy power, Thy glory, and the mightiness of Thy kingdom might be known unto men, Thy kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and Thy dominion endureth throughout all ages." And to the preacher's theoretical and empty progress let us say in well-known words on behalf of our united nations and our progressive race, the rulers we honour are the people's choice—the laws we reverence are our brave fathers' legacy, the faith we follow teaches us to live in bonds of Charity with all mankind, and die with hope of bliss beyond the grave. Tell your "Progressists" this, and tell them, too, we seek no change, and *least of all* such change as *they* would bring us.

ST. MUNGO PRECEPTORY OF KNIGHTS OF MALTA.

This body, which was only founded about a year ago by some fratres of the St. Mungo Priory of Knights Templar, has thus far had a most successful career. On Saturday, the 28th ult., a very interesting and enjoyable function was held in St. Mark's Hall, 213, Buchanan-street, when Fratres Carruthers, Marshall, Richards, and Ruddock were duly installed by the Venerable Preceptor, Frater Edward Macbean, assisted by Fratres D. R. Clark, M.A., Captain-General; John Foulds, Lieutenant-General; W. S. Hunter, Chancellor; and other officers. The ritual of this religious and Chivalric Order was rendered with a precision and completeness that proclaim the energy and ability of those responsible for the rite, far surpassing anything hitherto attempted in Scotland. Five beautiful silk banners enhanced the appearance of the Chapter House, and elicited warm encomiums from the members, who congratulated Bro. James Marshall on their production. The musical part of the service was under the direction of Frater Emile Berger, to whom the fratres, on the motion of the venerable Preceptor, accorded a presentation jewel in recognition of his continued kindness. Apologies for absence from several intending neophytes, and some routine business brought a very pleasant gathering to a conclusion.

CYCLORAMA OF JERUSALEM ON THE DAY OF THE CRUCIFIXION.

The subject of this Cyclorama, after the celebrated picture of Herr Bruno Piglhein, is closely associated with the present season, and the large number of visitors attracted by the splendid representation of the great event we are now about to commemorate clearly shows how the public appreciate a genuine work of art. The details of the picture have been carefully studied, and in the most vivid and realistic manner Oriental life and character are brought before the spectator. The Jewish High Priests, the Roman soldiers, the crowds of common people, the group of women and disciples beneath the cross, the malefactors on either side of the grand central figure of our Lord, must all be seen to be fully appreciated, as no description can do justice to the marvellous reality with which the events and surroundings of the first Good Friday are portrayed. Bro. T. Hunter Boyd gives lucid and interesting lectures at regular intervals during the day, having evidently made himself thoroughly acquainted with the topography of ancient Jerusalem and the many different opinions of writers upon the actual site of Calvary, the exact route of the mournful procession along the Via Crucis, and other disputed points, he gives well-considered reasons why the sites selected by the artist are probably correct. The lecture is full of information, and not the least interesting feature, at all events to Masons, is the description of King Solomon's Temple, and the building of Herod that now stands upon its site. We strongly recommend the brethren to pay a visit to York-street and see and hear for themselves.

The Prince of Wales, who came to London with the Empress Frederick and her daughter, returned to Sandringham on Wednesday evening. The same day the Duke of Cambridge arrived at the Hall, where Bro. Christopher Sykes, M.P., is also a guest.

CRYSTAL PALACE.

The Great Triennial Handel Festival will be held at the Crystal Palace in June next. The "Messiah" and "Israel in Egypt" will, as on former occasions, be performed on the first and third days, while the middle day will be devoted to a selection from other sacred and secular works of the great composer. Some old favourites will be given, such, for instance, as choruses and airs from "Acis and Galatea," "Jephthah," "Samson," "Solomon," &c. Among the numbers given for the first time will be a sonata for orchestra, air for tenor, and two choruses from the 95th Psalm, overtures to "Semele" and "Giustino," a charming minuet from "Berenice," and a graceful bourrée from the celebrated Water Music. Mr. W. T. Best, of Liverpool, will play the Fourth Organ Concerto in F. The chorus and orchestra will number 4000, while the solo music will be entrusted to such eminent artists as Mesdames Albani, Nordica, Macintyre, Marian McKenzie, Belle Cole, Messrs. Edward Lloyd, Barton McGuckin, Brereton, Bridson, and Santley, the great musical army being under the generalship of Mr. August Manns.



"If at first you don't succeed try again" has been practically carried out by Mr. H. Lee, who, after two failures at the Avenue, has a promise in Mr. Bronson Howard's comedy—"The Henrietta"—of some luck. On Saturday the audience received this play with warm approval on all sides. In this the author exposes the vice of gambling on the Stock Exchange. The scenes are laid in New York. In America the comedy was received very favourably a few years ago. Whether the technicalities of Wall-street about "bulls and bears," and the mysteries of the telephone and the tape will be understood by a general audience is a question, but on Saturday everyone seemed to relish the vocabulary of stock operators. We take it that Mr. Howard had in his mind a well-known New York millionaire financier when he wrote "The Henrietta," as the names of the chief character is good evidence to go by. The play, while it points a moral in its serious side, is well supplied with a number of comedy scenes. Mr. Vanalstyne has two sons, the eldest is a partner in the stock broker's business and has his father's confidence, whilst the younger is looked upon by his parent as an idle scamp. But before the play ends the true character of each comes out and the reverse is the case. The elder son is proved to be a traitor to not only his father but a woman as well, and is so mean that he lays upon his younger brother his own delinquencies of honour. The revelation of his treachery is made known when he seeks to ruin his father by secretly "bearing" the market regarding a mine called the Henrietta, of which his father is the possessor, in order that he may oust old Vanalstyne from his place as head of the Stock Exchange. The father having gone on a yachting trip, the son seizes the opportunity to bring his father's firm to bankruptcy. Here is the great scene of the play. The shares of the Henrietta are steadily going down and a panic seems unavoidable, at the moment old Vanalstyne returns unexpectedly and discovers the traitor to be his own son, in whom he had trusted. Vanalstyne, jun., having staked all is desperate, and whilst the tape instrument is clicking the rise in the shares owing to the younger son having saved the firm, he falls out of his chair lifeless. This gruesome scene of the tick, tick of the telegraph in the presence of the corpse brings down the curtain upon a situation which caused deep applause amongst all sections of those in the auditorium. The play might well end at this—the third act—for it is virtually over. A bye-play runs through the piece about Henrietta being a ballet girl, and the name of a filly, and thus causing unpleasantness between a pair of lovers. The acting is fairly good all round. Standing out from the rest is the excellent representation of Mr. W. H. Vernon and Mr. Lewis Waller as Messrs. Vanalstyne, father and son. Messrs. J. L. Shine and Yorke Stephens are not so well suited to their parts. Miss Fanny Brough, as usual, made quite a hit in a low comedy part, but Miss Florence West, Miss Marion Lea, and Miss M. Jocelyn scarcely helped the play. Mr. Bronson Howard received a vociferous call, which he wisely responded to by merely coming forward and making a grateful bow without the inevitable speech.

Bro. Edward Terry on Easter Monday revived one of his great successes, "The Rocket," which Mr. Pinero wrote for him some eight years since, and became very popular at the Gaiety. As the Chevalier, Bro. Terry seems even better than before. As long as this talented comedian is on the stage the fun of the play never flags. The lessee is ably supported by the pretty Miss Eleanore Leyshon, Misses Sophie Larkin, Rose Dearing, and Adrienne Dairrolles, and Messrs. R. Soutar, Ian Robertson, and H. V. Esmond. Many will be glad to go to Terry's to refresh their memories with the humours of "The Rocket," and there are numbers to whom Mr. Pinero's farcical comedy will be quite new. Another successful run may be expected for "The Rocket."

Death.

BARFIELD.—March 30th, Sarah, the beloved wife of Asher Barfield, of 26, Clarges-street, London, W., and Maylings House, Fareham, Hants.

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The Committee of Management of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution will hold their next monthly meeting at Freemasons' Hall on Wednesday next, the 8th instant, at 4 p.m.

The regular monthly meeting of the Council (General Committee) of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys will be held at Freemasons' Hall to-morrow (Saturday) afternoon at 3 p.m.

On account of failing health, Bro. the Rev. J. Jackson Wray has resigned the pastorate of the Whitfield Tabernacle, Tottenham Court-road.

Bro. the Duke and the Duchess of Abercorn embarked on Friday, the 27th ult., at Dartmouth, on board the Roslin Castle for an excursion to Tenerife.

We are glad to hear that Bro. the Archbishop of York, who had been suffering from a severe cold, has sufficiently recovered to be able to resume his official work, which is just now very onerous.

It has been officially intimated to the Mayor of Derby that her Majesty will visit that town on Thursday, the 21st May, for the purpose of laying the foundation-stone of the new Derbyshire Infirmary, which is about to be erected at a cost of £74,000.

Bro. Fred J. Horniman, of Wormwood-street, has just erected at Shrewsbury, entirely at his own cost, a handsome cabman's shelter. The inaugural ceremony took place on Monday, the 23rd ult., when the Mayor of the borough formally opened the shelter.

Saturday last was the seventh anniversary of the death of the Duke of Albany, the sad event occurring at Cannes on the 28th March, 1884. The Queen and the Duchess of Albany inspected the various memorials to the late Prince on the day in question.

The funeral of the late Lord Albert Charles Seymour, brother of Bro. the Marquis of Hertford, took place on Saturday last, the remains being interred in the parish churchyard of Arrow, near Alcester. Bro. the Marquis of Hertford was one of the mourners.

Bro. ex-Sheriff Harris has loaned to the Corporation, for exhibition in the Guildhall Library, his unique collection of war medals, mostly British. Amongst the number is a very rare medal, viz., one of those given by George III. in 1814, to North American Indian Chiefs "for loyalty and military service."

The preparations for the opening of the Royal Naval Exhibition are making great progress, and it is hoped that all will be in readiness by the 2nd May, the day appointed for the ceremony to take place. The profits are to be devoted to naval charities, and it is hoped that the Prince of Wales, if not the Queen, will preside at the inauguration.

For the first time for 160 years the distribution of the Royal Maundy took place within the precincts of Westminster Abbey. The distribution was made on Thursday, the 26th ult., and was carried out in the usual manner under the personal direction of the Lord High Almoner. A detachment of the Yeomen of the Guard was on duty on the occasion.

Bro. William Salmon, of Penlyne Court, Cowbridge, Glamorganshire, was 101 years of age last week, having been born in the parish of Wickham Market, Suffolk, on March 16th, 1790. Bro. Salmon is a J.P. and D.L. of Glamorganshire, is said to be the oldest Freemason in the kingdom, and is a member of the Royal College of Surgeons.

The Prov. Grand Master of East Lancashire, Bro. Col. Le Gendre N. Starkie, has appointed Wednesday, the 6th day of May next, as the day on which he will hold his Provincial Grand Lodge at Bolton. The Provincial Grand Lodge will be opened at 2.30 p.m. prompt, in the Baths Assembly Rooms, Lower Bridgman-street. The banquet will be held in the Town Hall.

The new Lyceum Theatre at Ipswich was opened on Saturday last, Mr. A. W. Pinero's comedy, "In Chancery," being performed by Bro. Edward Terry and his company before a crowded house, while Mrs. Keeley, who was born in Ipswich in 1806, and made her first appearance in 1824, when Miss Goward, in that town, was present, and recited some lines composed for the occasion, to the great delight of the audience.

Early this month the Prov. Grand Master of Cheshire, Bro. Lord Egerton of Tatton, will consecrate the Avondale Lodge, No. 2389, at the Town Hall, Middlewich. This will make the number of lodges in Cheshire 44. The first W.M. of the new lodge will be Bro. John Plant, Bro. R. S. Cross, S.W., and Bro. Peter Hancock, J.W. His lordship will be assisted by Bros. Sir Horatio Lloyd, D.P.G.M., James Salmon, P.S.G.W., and J. Clayton P.J.G.W., and other Provincial Grand officers.

The approaching visit of the Queen to Derby is exciting a great deal of interest in the town and neighbourhood, and preparations are already being arranged to give her Majesty a right loyal reception. It will be the fourth time she has visited the town, the first occasion being in August, 1832, when as Princess Victoria she passed through it, in company with her mother, the late Duchess of Kent, on her way to Chatsworth. Her second visit was in 1845, when she was accompanied by the Prince Consort, and was again bound for the same seat, and her third four years later, when en route for Scotland.

In Monarchical countries, especially, the expulsion of Freemasons for not approving of Republican institutions, is a step which can meet with but a very limited approval, and it characterises the wide difference which separates French Freemasonry from that of other European nations. A product of the Revolution, and coincident with the emancipation of the Jews, the influence of Freemasonry in France has been mainly in the hands of persons whose interests are of a financial character. Power, when wielded by this class, is apt to be wrongly applied. It has been exercised on this occasion in a manner which most Freemasons will repudiate.—*Morning Post.*

The annual Amateur Art Exhibition in aid of the Parochial Mission Women Fund and the Working Ladies' Guild, will be held towards the end of May at Bath House, Piccadilly, by the kind permission of Bro. and Mrs. Henry Brassey.

The annual convocation of the Metropolitan College of the Rosicrucian Society will be held at the Mark Masons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C., on Thursday, the 9th inst., at 5 p.m. W. Fra. Rev. Dr. T. W. Lemon will read a contribution on "Rosicrucianism."

The Clothworkers' Company have given £10 and the Salters' Company £5 5s. to the Day Home Society for the children of the Widowed Poor, and the Leathersellers' Company £5 5s. to the London Commercial Travellers' Benevolent Society.

We remind our readers that Bro. James Stevens will deliver a lecture on the ritual and ceremonial of Symbolic Freemasonry this (Friday) evening, in the Priory Lodge of Instruction, No. 1000, at the Middleton Hall, Southend-on-Sea, at 7.30 p.m.

The 21st annual ball in aid of the Metropolitan and City Police Orphanage will be held at the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, on Thursday next, the 9th inst., under the patronage of Bro. Lord Mayor Savory and the Lady Mayoress, the Sheriffs, and the police authorities.

The Duke of Cambridge, after his prolonged visit to Malta, Egypt, &c., &c., has returned to England, having arrived at Dover on Sunday night. On Monday his Royal Highness witnessed the Volunteer Manœuvres, and the following day he resumed his official duties at the War Office.

Fully 20,000 visitors were present at the Crystal Palace on Good Friday to hear the grand concert provided as usual on that day for the delectation of the public. The programme was an admirable one, and the principal members were enthusiastically applauded.

Handel's "Messiah" was given by the Royal Choral Society in the Royal Albert Hall on Good Friday, a vast audience being present and loudly applauding the efforts of the principal singers, but especially those of Madame Albani, who took the soprano music.

"Mrs. Kean," writes Miss Terry, in the *New Review*, "was my principal mistress in the most difficult art of clear articulation. 'A, E, I, O, U, my dear,' she used to say, 'are five distinct vowels, but don't mix them all up together as if you were making a pudding. If you want to say 'I am going on the river,' say it plainly, and don't tell us you are going on the rivah.'"

Prince and Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein and their daughters have been spending Easter at Cumberland Lodge. The children of Prince and Princess Henry of Battenberg will shortly leave England for the Continent. While the Empress Frederick and the Princess Margaret of Prussia, on concluding their visit to this country, will go to Homburg.

Bro. James Terry, P.G.S.B., and Secretary Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, will perform the ceremonies of consecration and installation in the Hornsey Lodge of Instruction, No. 890, at 7 p.m. on Thursday, the 10th inst., at the Lewisham Masonic Rooms, White Hart Hotel, High-street, Lewisham, S.E. A large gathering of the Craft is anticipated. Brethren are to attend in morning dress with Craft clothing.

There has been much comment in Roman Catholic circles in New York, regarding the fact that Father Sherman, a Roman Catholic priest administered the Last Sacraments to Lawrence Barrett, notwithstanding the fact that he was a Freemason, and, therefore, not entitled to receive them. Father Sherman replies that Archbishop Corrigan consented to his administering the Sacraments to the dying actor, on condition that there should be no Masonic rites at the funeral.

The foundation-stone of a new Masonic Hall was laid on Wednesday, the 25th ult., at Wallsend. The new structure, which when completed will form a distinguishing feature of this growing mid-Tyne town, is a combination of the Elizabethan and Queen Anne styles of architecture. Bro. Sir M. W. Ridley, Bart., M.P., performed the foundation-stone laying ceremony. Bro. W. Hope, of North Shields and Newcastle, is the architect, and Bro. W. T. Wear, of Howdon, has been entrusted with the contract for the erection of the edifice.

M.W. Bro. J. Ross Robertson, Grand Master of Masons in Canada, has just added another gem to his Masonic crown by the magnificent gift of \$10,000 to the Lakeside Home, Toronto. This gift will be a perennial source of beneficence to the little children for whom the home is provided. Bro. Robertson is a personal sun in our Masonic system, and we pray that the brilliancy of his virtues and noble deeds may bring warmth and life to the hearts of many brethren blessed with abundance of wealth, and that we shall live to see the precious fruits of such revivification in numerous homes for neglected children.—*American Tyler.*

The annual meeting of the shareholders of the Portsmouth Freemasons' Hall and Club Company was held on Tuesday, the 24th ult. Bro. H. Clouner, F.C., presided, and moved the adoption of the report and balance-sheet, which were regarded in a satisfactory light, a dividend of five per cent. being declared. Bro. W. Miles seconded, and the resolution was passed unanimously. The retiring directors (Bros. George Farney Brown, F.C., James W. Willmott, and George Frampton) and the retiring Auditors (Bros. T. Pratt Wills and T. H. Casey) were unanimously re-elected. A vote of thanks to the Chairman and directors for their services to the Committee was submitted by Bro. Beale, F.C., seconded by Bro. Johnson, and passed, and on the motion of Bro. Miles, seconded by Bro. Willmott, a similar compliment was paid the Secretary for the admirable manner in which he discharged the duties of his office.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Abscesses, Erysipelas, Piles.—Unvarying success attends all who treat these diseases according to the simple printed directions wrapped round each pot and box. They are invaluable to the young and timid, whose bashfulness sometimes endangers life. Though apparently local, diseases of this nature are essentially blood diseases, but a little attention, moderate perseverance, and trifling expense will enable the most diffident to conduct any case to a happy issue without exposing secret infirmities to any one. The Ointment checks the local inflammation and alleviates the throbbing pains. These directions also clearly point out when and how Holloway's Pills are to be taken, that their purifying and regulating powers may assist by adjusting and strengthening the constitution.

Second-class fares were abolished on the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincoln Railway from Tuesday last, except locally between Manchester and the neighbouring towns. The first-class fares have been reduced to a uniform rate of 1½d. per mile.

The Duke of Cambridge, the Princess Mary Duchess and the Duke of Teck, and the Princess Victoria of Teck, have signified their intention of being present at the Military Tableaux which will be given at the Royal Military Academy on the 16th and 17th instant.

Bro. Earl of Amherst, Provincial Grand Master of Kent, who was formerly an officer of the Coldstream Guards, and wears the Crimean medal and clasps for his services at Palaeclava, Inkerman (severely wounded), and Sebastopol, was 55 years of age on Thursday, the 26th ult.

The Grand Master of Maine has recommended that the Grand Lodge of that jurisdiction purchase a sufficient number of phonographs to supply each lodge with one. These are to be filled by the Grand Lecturer, and thus uniformity of work assured throughout the jurisdiction? So says the *Freemason's Journal*. Can it be true?—*Keystone.*

Bro. C. Edgar Towell, S.W. Doric Lodge, No. 2359, presided at a meeting of the Conservative Club at Moss Side, on the 25th ult., when Mr. W. J. P. Benson delivered an interesting lecture, entitled "At Home and Abroad," illustrated by limelight views. The lecture gave great pleasure to all who had the privilege of being present.

We regret to have to announce the death of Bro. Hubert Joseph Leeuw, P.M. and Treasurer for many years of the Beadon Lodge, No. 619. The melancholy event occurred on Monday last at the worthy brother's residence, 28, Winslade-road, Brixton. He was 56 years of age. The funeral will take place to-morrow (Saturday), at the Roman Catholic Cemetery, Leytonstone, at 12.30.

Bro. Lord Mayor Savory received the Christ's Hospital boys at the Mansion House on Tuesday, and distributed among them the usual Easter gift of a guinea to each grecian, half a guinea to each probationer, half a crown to each monitor, and a shilling to each of the rank and file. His lordship afterwards attended divine service at Christ Church, Newgate-street, when the annual "Spital" sermon was preached by the Bishop of Ripon.

On Thursday, the 26th ult., the members of the Craigelachie Lodge (No. 241, S.C.) had the honour of receiving a visit of Bros. Major Johnston of Newmill, Grand Master, and of Colonel Culbard, Depute-Master of the Province of Moray. A special meeting to receive these representatives of the Provincial Grand Lodge was held, when Bro. Alexander Macpherson, R.W.M., presided, and there was a large attendance of brethren.

Bro. Joseph Greenway, of the Harrow Lodge, No. 1310, was unanimously elected Preceptor of the Manchester Lodge of Instruction, No. 179, last week. The zeal and energy of Bro. Greenway for the welfare of the Craft is shown by the fact that he is also Preceptor of the Covent Garden and Emblematic Lodges of Instruction, meeting at the Criterion and St. James's Hall Restaurant, Piccadilly, and member of the Board of Preceptors of the Queen's Westminster Lodge.

The Grand Master of Alabama has very properly decided that the Masonic ceremonies should not be performed in the laying of the corner-stone of a factory, storehouse, warehouse, office building, depot building, hotel, mill house, dwelling house, storage house, market house, machine shop, or other building of any and every description owned by private individuals, corporations, companies, societies, or other organisations, and intended for private uses and purposes, or for gain and profit to such private individuals, corporations, companies, societies, or other organisations.—*Keystone.*

Though the weather was bitterly cold there was plenty of sunshine, and the holiday folk were not slow to avail themselves of the opportunity afforded them on Easter Monday of visiting the principal holiday resorts in and around the Metropolis. It is estimated that Hampstead Heath was visited during the day by fully 100,000 people, while Epping Forest and the other open spaces were thronged in similar fashion. The Zoological Gardens were visited by close on 25,000, and the Natural History Museum, South Kensington, by over 10,700; while Madame Tussaud's attracted 31,000 to inspect its treasures, and the Crystal Palace over 75,000. The railways also did a large excursion traffic, so that Bank Holiday appears to have been a great success all round.

We regret to announce the death of Bro. Earl Granville, who expired on Monday, at 14, South Audley-street, the town residence of his brother, Bro. the Hon. F. Leveson-Gower. His lordship was born on the 11th May, 1815, and was, therefore, on the point of completing his 76th year. He had been a prominent figure in the political world for more than half a century, and had thrice occupied the important post of Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs. He was initiated into Freemasonry in the Apollo University Lodge, No. 357, Oxford, in the year 1833, when he was a student at Christ Church, but he never seems to have taken an active part in its doings. Indeed, his life was too busy a one to admit of his having time to devote to lighter pursuits.

The death on Monday is announced of Bro. Edwin Fox, founder of the firm of Edwin Fox and Bousfield. Bro. Fox was born in the year 1820, educated at the Philological School, and, after having been articled to an estate agent at the West-End, commenced business as an auctioneer and surveyor in Coleman-street, being soon afterwards joined by Mr. Bousfield, and the firm was further augmented 15 years ago by the accession of Bro. Fox's eldest son as a partner. Outside the extensive business his firm carried on, Bro. Fox paid considerable attention in years past to military pursuits, interesting himself deeply in the Volunteer movement in its early days, and receiving the Queen's commission as Captain of the Honourable Artillery Company. He retired from active service some 15 years ago. He was chairman of the Grand Junction Water-works Company, and a director of the Accident and other assurance and water companies. Bro. Fox died at his residence, Heatham House, Twickenham, of inflammation of the lungs, after less than a week's illness, and leaves a widow and four sons to mourn his loss, which will be keenly felt by a large circle of friends.