

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
RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF HADDINGTON, M.W. GRAND MASTER OF SCOTLAND; AND THE GRAND MASTERS
OF MANY FOREIGN GRAND LODGES.

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JURISDICTIONAL RIGHTS OF GRAND LODGE.

We have read with considerable satisfaction a paper compiled by Bro. GEORGE GORDON, Past G. Registrar of South Australia, in which he has endeavoured to lay down certain general principles to be adopted by Grand Lodges established in English-speaking communities in respect of the rights of jurisdiction pertaining to them severally. It is undoubtedly most desirable that some such principles should be agreed to. At present, as Bro. GORDON points out, they are "very ill-defined and for want of a clear understanding between Grand Lodges much harm has accrued to the Craft." It is quite true, as he says, that "during the last 20 or 30 years the English-speaking Masonic world, from this cause, has been constantly more or less agitated by disputes accompanied by wordy war, much bitter writing, and dissolution of friendship, and too often these disputes have resulted in Masonic schism." Equally true is it that "the troubles" of this character "in which the Grand Lodges of the United Kingdom have been immediately concerned far outnumber those of any other Grand Lodge;" nor do we see any ground for taking material exception to Bro. GORDON'S suggestion that as these conflicts "have principally been with Grand Lodges or large bodies of Masons in the British Empire, it is to the Grand Lodges of that Empire that the Masonic world has a right to look for the initiatory steps to be taken for a clearer definition of the principles of inter-jurisdictional Masonic law." Whether in the event of such initiatory steps being taken by the Grand Lodges located within the British Empire, the result would be the establishment of an "inter-jurisdictional Masonic law" so far as they are concerned, is a problem we shall not attempt to solve; nor shall we waste time in speculating as to whether, if such a code of Masonic law were adopted throughout the British Empire, it would be accepted by the English-speaking Grand Lodges outside its limits. It certainly would be a great benefit to the Craft of Masonry if some general law, or failing that, a general understanding, were adopted by the Grand Lodges in the United States and British Empire for defining their inter-jurisdictional rights, and great credit is due to Bro. GORDON for having boldly grappled with the subject and explained his views so clearly. But let us follow him through the various sections of his paper and see what his opinions are, and how far it will be possible for us to accept them.

The questions which Bro. GORDON first of all considers are—"(1) What is unoccupied territory, and what does the term imply?" and "(2) On what principles must a Grand Lodge be founded to entitle it to recognition as such?" In answering these questions he states in general terms certain doctrines that have met with considerable support, and then to what extent the several groups of Grand Lodges agree or disagree with them. His first doctrine is that "a Grand Lodge properly established in any coherent, autonomous state or territory, is solely entitled to charter new lodges therein, to the exclusion of all other Grand Lodges"—Ireland and Scotland being, for the purpose of this paper, considered as autonomous States. This doctrine, he says, is universally accepted by the Grand Lodges of the United Kingdom, the United States and Canada, and Australasia. His second proposition is that when a Grand Lodge has been established in a state or territory where no local Grand Lodge exists, such Grand Lodge alone is entitled to charter fresh lodges, but the lodges already established do not necessarily come under the jurisdiction of the new Grand Lodge, it being open to them to remain in their old allegiance "during their own pleasure or that of their mother Grand Lodges." His third proposition is that "any distinct division of the world, whether autonomous or not, which is not already "the seat of a recognised Grand Lodge, is 'unoccupied territory,' and any Grand Lodge may charter lodges therein until a Grand Lodge is locally formed as hereafter stated." The second proposition, we are told, is "strenuously upheld by the Grand Lodges of the United Kingdom," and is "acquiesced in" by the Australasian Grand Lodges and by a large majority of those in the United States and Canada; while, as regards the third proposition, it is accepted by the various groups of Grand Lodges, but under conditions which vary materially. There is, however, a condition preliminary to the acceptance of these propositions which must not be lost sight of. When the War of American Independence was closed in 1783, and what had been a part of the British Colonial Empire became a sovereign and independent State, under the designation of "the United States," the Masonic lodges in those States severed their connection with their parent G. lodges in Great Britain and Ireland, and established for themselves independent Grand Lodges. A proposition subsequently made to establish a General Grand

Lodge for the whole of the United States never came to anything. There is, therefore, no supreme Masonic authority in the United States, but each state and territory has its own Grand Lodge, which is in itself sovereign and independent of all others. Only in a territory which has no Grand Lodge of its own is there to be found what is Masonically known as "Unoccupied Territory," and in such it is open to any of the Grand Lodges in the United States to grant warrants for the constitution of new lodges, there being no instance that we are aware of in which any Grand Lodge outside the United States has attempted or even dreamt of granting such a warrant. In the British Empire the co-ordinate supremacy of the three Grand Lodges of the United Kingdom has always been recognised, nor until quite recently has any case occurred in which a British local supreme Masonic authority has in any way attempted to question that supremacy outside its own immediate locality. There is nothing unreasonable or unjust still less is there anything absurd, about this claim of the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, and Scotland to be supreme over all those portions of the British Empire in which local Grand Lodges are not established. When the original United States were British Colonies, they derived their Freemasonry from us and their lodges were content to remain in allegiance to our Grand Lodges. When they became politically independent, their lodges, or Provincial Grand Lodges, sooner or later, formed or established themselves as Grand Lodges, and the sovereignty and the independence of these latter has been recognised and respected by the Grand Lodges of the United Kingdom. So far all is clear, and the United States and the British Empire severally went their way Masonically as well as politically. But in 1856 troubles arose between the private lodges in Canada and their parent Grand Lodges in the United Kingdom, in which it is impossible to say the latter were wholly free from blame. The result of those troubles was the establishment of the Grand Lodge of Canada, whose supremacy over Canada we recognised on the condition that any of our lodges which might desire to do so should be free to remain in their old allegiance, while we on our part agreed to issue no more warrants for the constitution of new lodges on Canadian territory. Then arose difficulties in Canada which culminated in the establishment in 1869 of the Grand Lodge of Quebec as independent of the Grand Lodge of Canada of which it had previously formed part. In this case we expressed our willingness to recognise the new Grand Lodge on the same conditions as had been accepted by Canada, but Quebec would have none of them, though such of her lodges as had seceded from the Grand Lodge of Canada must of necessity have been immediately or mediately parties to the treaty between that body and our Grand Lodge. Other Grand Lodges have also been established in British North America, with which, so far as we are aware, no difficulties have arisen. But the co-ordinate supremacy of the Grand Lodges of the United Kingdom over the rest of the British Empire remained unquestioned until quite recently. True, the Grand Lodge of Manitoba chartered a lodge a few years ago at Gibraltar, but on its being represented to her that Gibraltar was Masonically "occupied" by the Grand Lodges of the United Kingdom, the warrant was withdrawn. Subsequently, but before Victoria became independent of our Grand Lodge, the Grand Chapter of Canada issued warrants for the establishment of certain chapters in the city of Melbourne; but when remonstrance was made by us on the ground that Victoria was within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodges of the United Kingdom, it set our authority at defiance, and declined to cancel its warrants. Now that Victoria is independent of the United Kingdom, having its own Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter, this particular question no longer affects us but the Victorian Constitution; but the claim of Canada to share in the supremacy, hitherto freely acknowledged, of the Grand Lodges of the United Kingdom, remains, and must be disposed of before a satisfactory code of "inter-jurisdictional Masonic law" can with advantage be established among the Grand Lodges in English-speaking communities. For ourselves, we are content with things as they are, if other Grand Lodges will only let them remain so. The policy we have followed has been in the main a judicious one, of which we have no reason to be ashamed. We have never attacked the supremacy of other Masonic powers. The various questions of jurisdiction which have cropped up from time to time, as in the case of Quebec, Gibraltar, and Melbourne have not been of our seeking, but have been forced upon us, and all we have done has been to defend what we conceive to be, and what, as we have said, were till quite recently recognised as, our rights. We say, therefore, with reference to this paper by Bro. GORDON, let there be first of all a clear understanding among the several English-speaking Grand Lodges as to what are and what are not their respective rights, and the way will be prepared for the adoption of an "inter-jurisdictional Masonic law."

UNITED GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND.

An Especial Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England was held on Wednesday, at Freemasons' Hall, to consider and resolve upon addresses of condolence on the death of his Royal Highness the Duke of Clarence and Avondale, K.G., Provincial Grand Master of Berkshire, Past Grand Warden, and to arrange for their presentation. Grand Lodge, which was draped for the occasion, was attended by over 500 brethren, including a large number of Grand and Past Grand Officers. The Right Hon. the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, Deputy Grand Master, presided. Bro. Col. Le Gendre Nicholas Starkie, Provincial Grand Master for East Lancashire, acted as Deputy Grand Master; Bro. Thomas F. Halsey, M.P., Provincial Grand Master for Hertfordshire, as Past Grand Master; and Bros. Sir Francis Beilby Alston, K.C.M.G., P.G.W., as S.G.W.; Admiral Sir E. Inglefield, K.C.B., J.G.W.; and others.

Grand Lodge having been opened in due form, Bro. PENDLEBURY, Assistant Grand Secretary, by direction of the Grand Master in the chair, read the notice convening the Special Grand Lodge.

Bro. F. A. PHILBRICK, Q.C., Grand Registrar, said: Most Worshipful Grand Master on the Throne, I regret to have to state to Grand Lodge that I have received this morning a letter from the Most Worshipful the Pro Grand Master, stating that he is prevented by severe indisposition from being present in Grand Lodge on this mournful occasion.

Bro. PENDLEBURY said: Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, letters have been received from Lord Henniker, Prov. Grand Master for Suffolk; Lord Valentia, P.G.W.; the Earl of Limerick, P.P.G.M. for Bristol; Lord Dungarvan, Prov. G.M. for Somersetshire; and Bro. Powell, Prov. G.M. for Bristol, expressing their deep regret at not being able to attend the Special meeting of Grand Lodge through sickness and other causes. Bro. Tyssen-Amherst, P.G.W., and numerous other Provincial Grand Officers and Grand Officers of the Grand Lodge of England have also written.

Bro. the Earl of MOUNT EDGCUMBE then rose and said: Brethren, the occasion which has brought us here to-day is, perhaps, the saddest upon which the Grand Lodge of England has ever been assembled, not only within the memory of those here present, but at any period in its past history. From time to time we and our fathers have had cause to mourn the loss of brethren in high place in Masonry and in the affection of their brothers in the Craft; but in such cases we can recognise how all must learn that the departed brother had in a greater or a less degree accomplished his mission in this life before he was called away. To our finite vision it would seem that the brother whom we mourn to-day had only passed the probationary stage of life, which we fondly hoped was to have prepared him for a long career of public usefulness in his high station, and of unalloyed domestic happiness, when he was taken from his country, from his parents, from his betrothed bride by the inscrutable decree of the Most High. We dare not question the wisdom and mercy of that decree. We know that the young Prince lived long enough to win the love of all who knew him well by his unselfish kindness, his affectionate disposition, and his sensitively conscientious character. Those qualities and the universal sympathy which his death has evoked throughout not only England, but the world, and especially throughout her Majesty's wide dominions, cannot be without a far-reaching influence, which makes us feel that short as has been his life, untimely as his death must seem to us, he has not lived or died in vain. But it is to those in the bereaved home that our thoughts turn most sadly to-day. Brotherly love, however munificent in deeds, would be little worth if it could be severed from that instinctively human sympathy which can truly rejoice with those who rejoice and mourn with those who grieve. Three days before the telegraph announced to the world the fatal news, our thoughts had been only of rejoicing. We were rejoicing with our Queen in the prospect of an event which promised to add a new and cheery interest to the remainder of her life. We were rejoicing with our Grand Master, whose constant sympathy in the sorrows and the joys of others tends to, I believe, his receiving a cordial return from the people of England. And I need scarcely say to those in the ranks of the Craft over whom he rules, we were rejoicing with the gentle lady, the Princess of Wales, whose smile we have ever been wont to associate with all that is bright and happy. We were rejoicing to think, or we trusted, that a time of gladness was coming to her after the strained period of anxiety and care through which she had so recently passed. We had been thinking what we could best offer as a token of our congratulation to their beloved son and to his future bride, the fair young English princess upon whom his choice had fallen—a choice which had been received throughout the country with such general pleasure and joy. In three days from that time all was changed. We cannot now speak of the happiness that might have been without intensifying the pain of the present sorrow. We are not here to discuss it or to analyse that sorrow; it would be a profanation; we are not here to parade our sympathy in sensational language; we are here simply to record it as the only offering that we can make to those to whom we would give comfort if we could. I shall venture now to read to you the resolutions that have been drafted of addresses of sympathy both to the Queen and to his Royal Highness the Grand Master. His lordship then read the addresses, which were adopted.

Bro. LE GENDRE N. STARKIE, Prov. G.M. for East Lancashire: Most Worshipful Grand Master on the Throne, I rise to second those motions of condolence to our Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, and our Most Worshipful Grand Master, his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. Those words of sympathy which have been uttered from the Throne by the M.W.

Grand Master on the Throne must, I feel, be echoed in the hearts of all the assembled brethren who on this melancholy occasion come to testify their sympathy to those bereaved members of the Royal Family. As the Most Worshipful Grand Master on the Throne has said, it is no ordinary occasion; and I believe when we look upon this assembled multitude of Freemasons we look on a universal multitude outside not only of the English-speaking nations but of the Fraternity all over the world. There has been a sympathetic feeling extended in this calamity not only by the Colonies and Dependencies of this mighty Empire, but from all parts of the world. It seems as if the Creator had designed the ocean to convey the feeling all round the world that Nature should bring back to them their sympathetic feelings of sorrow. Brethren, it may be hoped that those kind expressions which have been embodied in those resolutions may be a solace to a certain degree to the Royal Family in the loss which it has pleased Providence to place on them; and if it is in our power on this occasion to extend the charity and benevolence of our kin to those who are so deeply afflicted, let us do so as far as we possibly could to alleviate their sorrow, and they will find by that that loyalty, benevolence, charity, and sympathy with the great heads of the nation, are the principles that actuate the Masonic Order. Most Worshipful Grand Master, I have great pleasure in seconding both those votes of condolence to her Majesty and his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales.

The motion was put and carried.

The Earl of MOUNT EDGCUMBE, the addresses have been unanimously voted: I will undertake that they shall be presented with the usual formalities.

Grand Lodge was then closed.

The following music was played by the Grand Organist, Bro. Cutler: Dead March in "Saul" (Handel); Rière r  Offertoire sol mineur (L. W ly); Funeral March from the Sonata in A flat (Beethoven); and Siegfrieds Tod G tterd mmerung (Wagner).

GRAND MARK LODGE.

A Special Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales and the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown was held on Wednesday, at Mark Masons' Hall, to consider and resolve upon addresses of condolence on the much regretted death of the Duke of Clarence and Avondale, K.G., and to arrange for their presentation. The Earl of Euston, D.G.M., presided, as Grand Master; Bro. T. F. Halsey, M.P., Prov. G.M. Herts, as Deputy Grand Master; Lord Cremorne, as S.G.W.; Sir Reginald Hanson, Bart., M.P., J.G.W.; Bros. Robert Grey, R. Clowes, and C. H. Driver, as Grand Overseers; Col. Harding, as D.C.; Col. A. B. Cook, Pres. General Board, as Grand Secretary. Apologies for non-attendance were received from the Marquis of Hertford, Pro G.M.; Lord Limerick, P.G.M.; Lord Henniker, P.G.M.; Lord Egerton of Tatton, P.G.M.; Viscount Valentia, Prov. G.M. Berks and Oxon; W. A. F. Powell, Prov. G.M. Bristol; R. V. Vassar-Smith, Prov. G.M. Gloucestershire and Herefordshire; R. C. Else, Prov. G.M. Somersetshire; Rev. Thomas Robinson, Prov. G.M. Kent; Rev. R. P. Bent, P.G. Chap.; Rev. J. A. Lloyd, P.G. Chap.; and others.

Bro. Col. A. B. COOK, by direction of the Acting Grand Master, read the notice calling the meeting.

The Earl of EUSTON said: Brethren, I have to announce to you that I have had a communication from the Pro Grand Mark Master, the Marquess of Hertford, stating that he deeply regrets he is prevented by illness from attending. He is forbidden by the doctors to leave the house, and is thus prevented from taking the chair to-day.

The Earl of EUSTON then said: Brethren, we are met here to-day to express, I may say, our devotion, and to show our true spirit of Masonry towards those who are in trouble and distress—those whom we look up to in England—our Most Gracious Queen, his Royal Highness the Most Worshipful Grand Master, the Princess of Wales, and also one who was to have been the wife so shortly of the Duke of Clarence and Avondale. We are met here to express our feelings of condolence with them, and I am certain quite that any man in this assembly can well sympathise with the great grief which has stricken not only his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales as a father, the Princess of Wales as a mother, and her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen as a grandmother, who had been training up her grandson to follow in their footsteps, till the day came when it pleased the Grand Overseer of the Universe to take him to himself. We are met here to-day to sympathise with them, and I am sure no words of mine can fully express that condolence to her Majesty, to the Grand Master, and to the Princess of Wales. They all have our most heartfelt feelings of sympathy. Anyone who knew the late Duke of Clarence and Avondale, and came across him since he was a boy, as I had many opportunities of doing, would know he was one of the most charming young men one could meet; one who was the soul of honour and well fitted to occupy the position he was supposed to be destined for. All the facts in connection with this untimely death are too sad for us to dwell on. But as they are so tragic, and as so sad and heavy a blow has fallen not only on England, but on all the dominions where the British flag flies, and wherever the English language is spoken, we all desire to express our sympathy with the heartfelt grief of the Royal Family in the sudden and bitter calamity which has overtaken them. I propose that an address shall be presented to her Majesty, to his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and to her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, recording our hearty condolence and our great grief, and that we sympathise with them most deeply, and I trust that the Grand Overseer of the Universe will give them strength to bear the grief well. In a future day they may look back upon the addresses not

without pain, but without the deep sense of pain they now feel. I move that we present addresses to the Queen, to the Prince of Wales, and to the Princess of Wales, emphasizing most deeply our sympathy in their sorrow and bereavement, and may God give them strength to get out of it well and safely in due course of time.

Bro. Col. A. B. Cook then read the three following addresses :

To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty.

May it please your Majesty.

We, the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales and the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown in Grand Lodge assembled, humbly beg to approach your Majesty with the expression of our most sincere sympathy and deep grief at the loss which your Majesty has sustained by the untimely death of our dearly beloved and much lamented brother, his Royal Highness the Duke of Clarence and Avondale. During his connection with the Degree of Mark Master Mason, his Royal Highness always took a most lively interest therein, and by his gracious and brotherly kindness had endeared himself to every member.

We humbly pray that the Great Overseer of the Universe may bestow on your Majesty fortitude to support you in the hour of your affliction, and that he may vouchsafe to you a continuance of that health and strength which is so precious to all the loyal and faithful subjects of your Most Gracious Majesty.

PRO GRAND MASTER.

GRAND SECRETARY.

To his Royal Highness Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, K.G., &c., &c., &c., &c., Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales, and the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown.

We, the Pro Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Officers, and members in Grand Lodge assembled, crave permission to approach your Royal Highness with our heartfelt expression of the deepest sorrow at the untimely death of your Royal Highness's beloved son, the Duke of Clarence and Avondale, K.G., Past Grand Warden, and our most sincere and loyal sympathy with your Royal Highness. We are deeply conscious of the great loss which the whole nation has sustained in the premature removal from amongst us of one whose most earnest desire was to promote the welfare of his fellow men, and who ever took a lively interest in the Degree of Mark Master Mason.

We humbly pray that the Great Overseer of the Universe may soften this crushing blow to your Royal Highness, and that He may ever protect your Royal Highness and the members of your Royal house.

PRO GRAND MASTER,
DEP. GRAND MASTER.

GRAND SECRETARY.

To Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales.

May it please your Royal Highness,

We, the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales and the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown in Grand Lodge assembled, beg to express to your Royal Highness our profound sorrow at the great loss you have sustained by the untimely death of your beloved son, our much esteemed and greatly lamented brother, his Royal Highness the Duke of Clarence and Avondale, K.G.

In this sad hour of your grief we humbly beg to offer you our most sincere condolence on that loss which we as Mark Master Masons most deeply deplore. And we pray that the Great Overseer of the Universe may support and comfort your Royal Highness in this the time of your great affliction.

PRO GRAND MASTER.

GRAND SECRETARY.

Bro. T. F. HALSEY: Most Worshipful Grand Master in the chair,—I rise to second the motion which you, sir, have proposed from the chair, and I do so with the very great sense of responsibility that falls upon me to do this. But, at the same time, feeling as I do the difficulty to express in adequate language the sentiments which animate, I may say not only my breast, but the breast of every brother present and every Mark Mason throughout the world, I feel there are occasions of sorrow when we can hardly adequately express that feeling. We feel most deeply the sorrow and the distress which our Royal Family and our Most Worshipful Grand Master are suffering at this moment—a distress which is shared, I may venture to say, by the whole country at large—a grief which falls in the first place upon them, and secondly upon the whole nation, in a manner in which we at any rate in our recollection have no remembrance of, and I trust no person will in future have. I am well aware that no words of ours can really bring comfort and consolation to our Most Worshipful Grand Master, our Queen, and the Royal Family in the loss from which they are suffering; but this at least one may venture to hope, I think, that the universal expression of sympathy from all classes of the subjects of the Queen, and not the least from this body which I have now the honour to address, may afford them in the future as time passes on, some slight consolation and some feeling that their grief is shared by the whole nation. I cannot do better in concluding these few remarks than say we hope after this sorrow brighter days may dawn upon the Royal Family, that having sown in tears they may reap in joy, and go on their way rejoicing more and more.

The motion was put and unanimously agreed to.

Grand Lodge was then closed.

THE LATE DUKE OF CLARENCE AND AVONDALE.

MEMORIAL SERVICES AND MASONIC MEETINGS, &c., IN HONOUR OF HIS LATE ROYAL HIGHNESS.

A special meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Lancashire will be held in the Town Hall, Liverpool, to-day (Friday) at 12 noon, for the purpose of considering and resolving upon addresses of condolence on the death of H.R.H. the Duke of Clarence, Prov. G.M. of Berkshire, and Past S.G.W. of England.

A special meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Leicestershire and Rutland has been called for to-morrow (Saturday), and will be held in Freemasons' Hall, Leicester, at 4 p.m., for the purpose of considering and

resolving upon an address of condolence with H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., on the death of his son, the Duke of Clarence and Avondale, P.G.M. Berkshire, and P.S.G.W. England, and to arrange for its presentation.

A special meeting, on the 20th instant, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of the Isle of Man was held in Douglas, under the presidency of Bro. T. H. Nesbitt, Town Clerk of Douglas, Dep. Prov. Grand Master, who occupied the chair in the unavoidable absence through indisposition of Bro. Major J. S. Goldie-Taudman, Prov. Grand Master. There was a numerous gathering of the brethren who all wore the customary mourning, and when Prov. Grand Lodge had been opened, the Dep. P.G.M., in moving resolutions of condolence with the Prince of Wales, M.W. Grand Master, and the Princess of Wales, her Majesty the Queen, and her Serene Highness Princess Victoria of Teck, spoke in eloquent and feeling terms of the great loss which the British Empire at large and English Freemasonry had sustained by the lamented death of the Duke of Clarence and Avondale, P.G.M. Berkshire, and P.S.G. Warden of England. These resolutions, which were in each case seconded by the Prov. S.G. Warden, and carried unanimously, were as follows:

To the Prince and Princess of Wales.

That the members of this Provincial Grand Lodge of the Isle of Man of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England, in special meeting assembled, tender their most respectful sympathy to, and their sincere condolence with, his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Order, and her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, in the great bereavement which a dispensation of Divine Providence has called upon their Royal Highnesses to sustain in the premature death of his Royal Highness the Duke of Clarence and Avondale, K.G., Provincial Grand Master of Berkshire, and Past Grand Warden of England, and in respectfully expressing the deep sorrow and regret which pervades their hearts, the members of this Provincial Grand Lodge, in indissoluble bonds of respectful loyalty and fraternal affection, sincerely pray that the Almighty Architect and Supreme Ruler of the Universe, of His unbounded wisdom and goodness, will afford relief and consolation in the time of severe tribulation, and they further express the fervent hope that the present dark hour of deep affliction will be the forerunner of a more brilliant light, which shall assuredly follow at the resurrection of the just, when these mortal bodies, which have been long slumbering in the dust, shall be re-united to their kindred spirit, and clothed with immortality.

To her Majesty the Queen.

That the members of this Provincial Grand Lodge of the Isle of Man of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England, her Majesty's faithful and attached subjects, in special meeting assembled, humbly beg to give loyal and respectful expression to the profound feeling of sorrow and sympathy, which the sad death of her Majesty's beloved and promising grandson, the Duke of Clarence and Avondale, K.G., and the affecting circumstances surrounding the mournful event have awakened in their hearts, and in dutifully tendering their respectful condolence to her Majesty, they sincerely trust the Almighty Creator in His great goodness and mercy may accord her Majesty the comfort and consolation afforded to those who sorrow not without hope, and that the universal expressions of respectful sympathy and loyal affection which have emanated from all classes of her Majesty's subjects in the lamentable loss to her Majesty, and to the illustrious parents and relatives of the deceased Prince, may in some slight degree, alleviate the sorrow and affliction caused by the sad bereavement, exhibiting as they do, the high esteem, and loyal, and dutiful feeling entertained for her Majesty and all the members of the Royal Family.

To the Princess Victoria of Teck.

That the members of this Provincial Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England, in special meeting assembled, respectfully express their deep sorrow and heartfelt sympathy with her Serene Highness Princess Victoria Mary of Teck, in the sad bereavement her Serene Highness has sustained in the lamented death of his Royal Highness the Duke of Clarence and Avondale; and they fervently trust that the Almighty Architect of the Universe will endue her Royal Highness with fortitude to bear the afflicting trial.

The brethren then marched in procession to St. George's Church, where a most admirable sermon was preached by the Bishop of Sodor and Man, after which the brethren returned to their hall, and after passing a vote of sympathy with the Provincial Grand Master in his illness, and one of thanks to Bro. Rev. R. B. Bason, vicar of St. George's, for providing accommodation for the brethren, the proceedings terminated, and Provincial Grand Lodge was closed.

The Prov. Grand Master (Bro. the Earl of Zetland) of North and East Yorkshire has intimated his intention of holding a Special Prov. Grand Lodge for the like purpose. Nevertheless our brethren of the four York lodges—the York, the Eboracum, the Agricola, and the Albert Victor, of which the late Duke was a founder and honorary member having previously obtained a dispensation from the Prov. Grand Master, assembled at their hall in Duncombe-place, under the D.P.G.M., Bro. the Hon. W. T. Orde-Powlett, P.G.W., and under the able directions of Bros. J. Todd, P.P.S.G.W.; T. B. Whythead, P.G.S.B.; W. B. Dyson, &c., marched in procession to the Minster, where a special service was held, and the Very Rev. the Dean (Bro. Purey-Cust, P.G. Chap.) offered up the special prayers prepared by the Archbishop of the Diocese, and invoked the Divine blessing on the Queen and the Royal Family in their affliction.

In order to commemorate the same event, the brethren of Leeds held a Lodge of Sorrow, the Prov. Grand Master of West Yorkshire being absent through illness, but being represented by his worthy and able D.P.G.M., Bro. Henry Smith, P.G.D., who offered a few remarks, after which an eloquent tribute of affectionate respect was paid to the late illustrious Prince by Bro. C. Letch Mason. A procession was then formed of about 200 members of the Fidelity, Philanthropic, Alfred, Excelsior, Goderich, Defence, Zetland, and Prudence Lodges, who marched in their clothing, &c., to the parish church, and took part in the memorial service.

The members of the Stockport Lodge, under the direction of Bro. James Cookson, P.P.G. Treas. Cheshire, having previously obtained the necessary

dispensation from Lord Egerton of Tatton, Prov. Grand Master, attended in Masonic clothing the parish church of St. Mary. A special form of prayer was offered by the rector, who afterwards preached an eloquent sermon appropriate to the mournful occasion.

A special meeting of the St. John's (328) and Jordan (1402) Lodges was held at the Masonic Hall, Torquay, at which, after Bro. W. J. Hughan, P.G.D., had delivered an appropriate address, the following resolution of sympathy was passed, viz.:

The W.M.'s, P.M.'s, Wardens, and brethren of the Torquay lodges desire to express their respectful and heartfelt sympathy and condolence with H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Princess of Wales, and the members of their family, in the great loss which has fallen upon them by the decease of H.R.H. the Duke of Clarence and Avondale, K.G., P.G.M. of Berkshire, P.G.W. of England, and pray that the Great Architect of the Universe may graciously sustain and comfort their Royal Highnesses under their very sad bereavement.

Among those who attended the memorial service at St. Lawrence, Reading, to which we referred last week as having been held on the 20th inst., were Bros. the Rev. J. M. Guilding (vicar of St. Lawrence), P.G. Chap.; R. E. Goolden, P.J.G.W.; Charles Stephens, P.G. Treas.; J. W. Martin, P.G. Sec.; S. G. Kirchoffer, P.P.S.G.W.; E. Margrett, P.P.S.G.W.; F. J. Ferguson, P.P.S.G.W.; J. T. Dodd, P.P.J.G.W.; W. Flanagan, P.P.J.G.W.; J. C. B. Tirbutt, P.S.G.D.; G. Milward, P.P.G.S.B.; Stephen Knight, P.P.S.G.D.; E. Baker, P.P.G.S. of W.; J. E. Sydenham, P.P.G.S. of W.; Rev. J. Stewart, P.P.G.C.; A. Welch, P.P.G. Reg.; H. Creed, P.P.G. Reg.; C. Oades, P.P.G. Reg.; F. Blackwell, P.P.S.G.D.; Thomas Cook, jun., P.P.S.G.D.; M. J. Withers, P.P.S.G.D.; E. J. Blackwell, P.P.S.G.D.; C. G. Hawkes, P.P.A.G.D.C.; B. W. Bennett, P.P.A.G.D.C.; George J. Cosburn (Newbury), P.P.A. G.D.C.; G. H. Stubington, P.P.A.G.S.; J. Greenaway, P.P.A.G.S.; J. T. Stransom, P.P.G.S.B.; C. Slaughter, P.P.G.P.; A. Parry, P.P.G.S.; E. W. Ridley, P.P.G.C.; W. G. Millar, W.M. 414; T. P. Stewart, W.M. 1101; F. J. J. Harrold (Newbury), W.M. 574; J. Miller, P.M.; R. Bunce, P.M.; J. N. Day and Hubert Knight (Newbury), H. J. Simonds, Major Edwards, A. W. Hitchcock, Frank Cooksey, John Stroud, R. E. Hodden, Theo. White, H. Dunlop, B. P. Alnatt, H. H. Jones, W. W. Williams, R. H. Bradley, H. Partridge, E. Farrer, W. G. Galt, W. Thomas, Lawes, C. H. Dodd, the Rev. D. Amos, C. O. Fullbrook, W. Dorchester, C. P. Silver, E. C. Skurray, Grant, and others.

All Souls' Lodge, No. 170, Weymouth, held an emergency meeting on Friday, the 22nd instant, at which Bros. G. J. Davis, W.M., presided, and Bros. W. E. Brymer, M.P., Dep. P.G.M.; Z. Milledge, P.M., P.J.G.W., and others were present, when a resolution of sympathy with the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., the Princess of Wales, the Princess Victoria of Teck, and the Royal Family, was unanimously passed on the motion of the W.M., who delivered a most eloquent address appropriate to the occasion, seconded by the D.P.G.M.

The Prov. Grand Chapter of Dorsetshire held a special convocation on Wednesday, the 27th instant, when a resolution of condolence was passed. The three Principals, Bros. M. J. Guest, G. Supt.; W. E. Brymer, M.P., Prov. G.H.; and J. A. Shervin, Prov. G.J., presided, when the following resolution to the Prince and Princess of Wales was unanimously adopted:

We the members of the Royal Arch Chapter of Dorset beg very respectfully to approach your Royal Highnesses on the sad occasion of the death of your illustrious son, his Royal Highness the late Duke of Clarence and Avondale, and offer the assurance of our deep regret and sympathy on the irreparable loss which your Royal Highnesses and your Royal House have so suddenly and unexpectedly sustained.

A similar resolution to the Queen was also adopted.

Addresses to a similar effect to the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., were passed by the Montefiore Lodge, No. 1017, and the Victoria Lodge, No. 473, Enniskillen (I.C.).

SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER.

The following is the business to be transacted on Wednesday next:

The minutes of the last Quarterly Convocation to be read for confirmation.

THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

To the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of England.

The Committee of General Purposes beg to report that they have examined the accounts from the 21st October, 1891, to the 19th January, 1892, both inclusive, which they find to be as follows:—

To Balance Grand Chapter...	£488	1	10	By Disbursements during the			
„ „ Unappropriated				Quarter	£289	0	10
„ „ Account	187	13	10	„ Balance		614	17
„ „ Subsequent Receipts	426	18	9	„ „ Unappropriated			
				Account	198	16	4
	£1102	14	5			£1102	14
							5

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

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

1st. From Comps. Ernest Edmund Newnham, as Z.; Osborn Hambrook Bate, as H.; George Charles Stapylton Adkins, as J.; and six others for a chapter to be attached to the Rocky Park Lodge, No. 2252,

Barkly East, South Africa, to be called "The Apex Chapter," and to meet at the Masonic Rooms, Barkly East, South Africa (E.D.).

2nd. From Comps. William Shurmur, as Z.; Charles Rawle, as H. Christopher George Cutchey, as J.; and 12 others for a chapter to be attached to the Guelph Lodge, No. 1685, Leyton, to be called the Guelph Chapter, and to meet at the Red Lion Hotel, Leytonstone, in the London district.

3rd. From Comps. Augustus Frederick Clarke Alport, as Z.; William Brooks Coburn, as H.; Thomas Patrick James May, as J.; and six others for a chapter to be attached to the Charles Warren Lodge, No. 1832, Kimberley, South Africa, to be called the Charles Warren Chapter, and to meet at the Masonic Temple, Dutoitspan-road, Kimberley, Griqualand West, South Africa.

4th. From Comps. Frederick Hilton, as Z.; Henry George Martin, as H.; Frank Williams, as J.; and eight others for a chapter to be attached to the Rose Lodge, No. 1622, Camberwell, to be called the Rose Chapter, and to meet at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, London.

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

The Committee have also to report that they have received a memorial from the Principals and members of the Holy Mount Chapter, No. 121, Penzance, Cornwall, praying for a charter of confirmation, the original being lost.

The Committee recommend that a charter of confirmation be granted to the above-named chapter.

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

The Phoenix Chapter, No. 904, from the Ship Hotel, to the Masonic Hall, Domene-lane, Rotherham, Yorkshire (W.D.).

The Chapter Good Intent, No. 307, from the White Horse Hotel, to the Masonic Rooms, Hebden Bridge, Yorkshire (W.D.).

The Tyne Chapter, No. 991, from the Masonic Hall, Willington Quay, to the Masonic Hall, Wallsend, Northumberland.

The Macdonald Chapter, No. 1216, from the Head Quarters 1st Surrey Volunteer Rifles, to the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, London.

The Cable Chapter, No. 1704, from the Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, to the Café Royal, Regent-street, London.

The Mozart Chapter, No. 1929, from the Griffin Hotel, Kingston, to the Greyhound Hotel, Croydon, Surrey.

The Victoria Chapter, No. 1056, from the Masons' Hall, Masons'-avenue, to the Holborn Viaduct Hotel, Holborn, London.

The Derby Chapter, No. 1055, from the Masonic Rooms, Cheetham, to the Victoria Hotel, Manchester, Lancashire.

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

The Committee beg to recommend, and the President will move: "That the sum of one hundred guineas be granted from the funds of this Grand Chapter as a donation to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons.

(Signed) ROBERT GREY, President.

Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.

20th January, 1892.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF DURHAM.

A special Provincial Grand Lodge of Durham was held on Thursday, the 21st instant, at the Masonic Hall, Durham, to adopt an address of condolence to the Prince of Wales on the death of the Duke of Clarence. The lodge room was draped in crape, and the brethren appeared in Masonic mourning. There was a very large attendance of members of the Craft. The Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Sir Hedworth Williamson, Bart., presided, and in the absence, through illness, of the Deputy Prov. G.M., Bro. the Rev. Canon Tristram, Bro. Babington Boulton, P.P.G.T., officiated in his stead. The other Prov. Grand Lodge Officers who were present were Bros. C. H. Backhouse, P.S.G.W.; Rev. R. H. Yeld, P.J.G.W.; Rev. W. Bowker, P.G. Chap.; J. R. Cutter, P.G. Treas.; J. D. Marshall, P.G. Reg.; R. Hudson, P.G. Sec.; J. R. Pattison, P.A.G. Sec.; J. G. Marshall, P.S.G.D.; A. Peters, P.J.G.D.; G. S. Shaw, P.A.G.D.C.; G. Wanless, P.G. Std. Br.; T. Henderson, P.G.S.B.; and T. Grieve, P.G. Tyler.

The following brethren were also present:

Bros. E. Francis Smart, 490; J. Smith, P.M. 124; W. Coxon, P.M. 124, P.P.G.S.B.; J. C. Moor, P.M. 97, P.P.I.G.D.; T. Henderson, P.M. 94, P.P.G.S.B.; T. G. Garrick, P.M. 94; F. E. Gibson, W.M., and J. R. Thompson, J.W., of 1230; J. Barnett, S.W. 2415; S. Chadwick, P.M. 1643, P.P.G.S.B.; D. Finlay, P.M. 1230, P.P.G.P.; F. S. Cowper, P.M. 2039; T. R. Short, W.M. 424, P.P.G.S.B.; A. E. Graham, Stwd. 124; E. Milburn, P.M. 2019, P.P.S.G.D.; W. Barlow, W.M. 1862, P.P.G. Std. Br.; W. Vincent, W.M. 94; C. F. Dawson, 124, P.S.G.W.; J. Robinson, P.M. 1650, P.P.G.S.B.; R. W. Halfnight, P.M. 949, P.P.G. Treas.; R. Haxwell, P.M. 1334, P.P.G.S.B.; J. W. Hedley, W.M. 1389; G. Harland, W.M. 1970; W. R. Staveley, W.M. 764; W. Birch, W.M. 97; Rev. R. Crookall, Chap. 1274; W. C. Barron, P.M. 111; A. Carr, P.M. 124; S. B. Grant, 124; N. Elsdon, P.M. 1235; G. Roots, 1334; W. J. Mackay, J.W., G. T. Hyden, Sec., and W. Elliott, of 2135; W. Mitford, 111, P.P.G.S.B.; W. H. Patterson, 124; L. Booth, 1334, P.P.S.G.W.; W. C. Blackett, P.M. 124, P.P.S.G.D.; W. J. Brown, P.M. 1274; W. C. Harris, 240 and 1970, P.P.G.C.; C. Rowlandson, P.P.S.G.W.; T. Bell, P.P.S.G.D.; and Canon H. Kynaston, P.P.S.G.W.

The Provincial Grand Lodge having been opened,

Bro. Sir HEDWORTH WILLIAMSON expressed his sadness at the circumstances under which they were met. He referred with satisfaction to the large attendance, notwithstanding that so many brethren were suffering from illness. They all deeply regretted the absence of Canon Tristram.

The PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER said: I little thought only yesterday week, when in my old Palatine Lodge, we were holding our little festival to wish success and prosperity in his Masonic career to my oldest son, whom I had just initiated into Masonry, and whilst we were pledging the youngest and most inexperienced of our Craft, I little thought that the next time I wore Masonic clothing it would be as now—to express to the head of our

Craft, our Royal Grand Master, or rather I should say try to express, our sympathy with him and his in this their terrible affliction, for I fear no words or acts of ours can go far towards alleviating that distress; but it may please our gentle and beloved Prince, the Grand Master, to know that his brother Masons of Durham are thinking of him. Indeed, I may ask who, throughout the length and breadth of the land, has not been thinking, and thinking with love and affection, of him and his. That splendid wave of sympathetic loyalty that has swept over the length and breadth of the land, undisturbed, I believe, except by one incident so contemptible as to bear no more effect on the loyal wave than would a straw against the mighty billows I have lately seen falling and thundering on our coast. That wave of sympathetic loyalty from the highest to the humblest, the richest to the poorest, all shows that Old England is still loyal to the core. And I may surely say that in loyal England there are none more loyal than the Freemasons of Durham. Our Prince and our Grand Master has lost his eldest son in the flower of his age, and with the brightest prospects of happiness before him. We Masons have lost a true as well as a beloved brother. For a true brother he was, if kindness of disposition, geniality of temper, and absence of affectation, and the sincere respect for and admiration of the Craft, make a true brother. This was the Duke of Clarence and Avondale, and Grand Master of Berkshire, whom we this day mourn and whose loss we deplore. As a brother we loved him, and as a ruler of the Craft we respected him. Brethren, I have asked you, but I fear in but feeble terms, to sympathise with our Grand Master. Alas, there are others to be thought of whose grief must be, if possible, greater than his. What can we think of the Princess of Wales, that all-beloved lady, our future Queen, who seems to rival even our Gracious Sovereign, if such be possible, in the good she does, and in the affection in which she is held by one and all of her future subjects? Our Princess has lost her eldest son, who, as has been so touchingly described, was never so happy as when with his mother. The Royal family has lost one of the greatest and most lovable of its members. Can anything in history, romance, or the drama compare with the situation of that beautiful English girl, on whom only a few days since appeared to be opening the prospect of almost perfect happiness, the almost certain attainment of the highest position in this mighty empire that can be held by woman, and the still far greater happiness of being still more speedily allied to the man of her choice. Not an alliance such as seems inevitable in persons of Royal rank, but an alliance that recommended itself to every English man and woman; an alliance prompted by mutual love and affection, not of to-day or yesterday, but for persons so young of long standing. These words from me would be superfluous over such a catastrophe, for it is nothing else. It would almost seem best for us to maintain a respectful yet sympathetic silence, or to humbly pray that the G.A.O.T.U. may be pleased to give health and strength to all those who are now so deeply afflicted, and that he may support and comfort them in this, their hour of trial and distress.

Bro. the Rev. Canon KYNASTON, P.P.S.G.W., begged to second the resolution. They were all fully sensible of the great loss which had been sustained both nationally, and Masonically, and domestically, and he thought that perhaps the domestic aspect of the tragedy was the one which had been felt most by all classes and orders of English people. This was the aspect of affliction most likely to touch the hearts and draw the tears of all who know what an English home is; but if it was a domestic tragedy, it was, therefore, too, the very one to be deplored by us Masons, because they knew that the one great principle of Freemasonry is Charity, and Charity they might define as love practically shown towards labour. It was this feeling in their hearts which prompted them to approach those who were most seriously, and nearly, and intimately afflicted by this terrible calamity.

Bro. Sir HEDWORTH WILLIAMSON spoke under feelings of deep emotion in moving the following address:
To his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, K.G., Most Worshipful Grand Master of England, &c.

Sir,—We, the undersigned, by request and on behalf of the Free and Accepted Masons of the Province of Durham, in Grand Lodge duly assembled, humbly approach your Royal Highness, requesting you to receive from us the assurance of our deepest sympathy with your Royal Highness, her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, and all the other members of your Royal Family in the great affliction which you are at present suffering. In his Royal Highness the Duke of Clarence and Avondale, you, sir, and your august family mourn the loss of an affectionate member, the country a beloved Prince, and the Masons of England a true and worthy brother. That it may please the Great Architect of the Universe to preserve, strengthen, and support you and yours in this your great affliction, is the sincerest prayer of your Royal Highness's most loyal and devoted servants, the Freemasons of the Province of Durham.

Given under our hand this 21st day of January, 1892.

HEDWORTH WILLIAMSON, Prov. G.M.
H. B. TRISTRAM, Dep. Prov. G.M.
R. HUDSON, Prov. G. Sec.

The motion was carried in silence.

The PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER, having again expressed his satisfaction at the good attendance, hoped it would be a long time before they were called together again on such a sad occasion.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was then closed.

PROVINCIAL GRAND MARK LODGE OF
NORTHUMBERLAND AND DURHAM.

A special meeting of the Provincial Grand Mark Lodge of Northumberland and Durham was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Grainger-street, Newcastle, on Monday, the 25th instant, to consider an address of condolence to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G., G.M.M., on the death of H.R.H. the Duke of Clarence and Avondale. In the absence, through illness, of the Prov. G.M., Bro. the Rev. Canon Tristram, D.D., the Deputy Prov. G.M., Bro. R. B. Reed, P.G.S.B., presided. He was supported by Bros. Col. Addison Potter, C.B., P.P.S.G.W.; J. Straker Wilson, P.P.S.G.W.; John Strachan, P.P.S.G.W.; Thomas Bell, P.P.S.G.W.; C. B. Ford, P.G. Sec.; R. Hudson, P.P.G.M.O.; Robert Whitfield, P.P.G.R. of M.; T. Purvis, P.G.R. of M.; T. Dinning, P.P.G.R. of M.; Faraday Spence, P.P.G.O.; W. F. Carmon, P.S.G.W.; John Page, P.G. Std. Br.; Seymour Bell, P.G.D.C.; F. Corder, P.P.G.O.; W.

M. Lyon, P.P.G.M.O.; T. J. Armstrong, P.P.J.G.W.; R. Ferry, P.P.G.O.; J. C. Moor, P.P.G.M.O.; Major Bentham, Colonel Angus, F. Schnitzer, and others.

The Prov. Grand Lodge was opened by the Acting P.G.M., Bro. R. B. Reed, whilst Bro. John Strachan acted as D.P.G.M.

The ACTING P.G.M. referred in feeling terms to the illness of the P.G.M., and expressed the hope that he would soon recover his health and strength. An address of condolence, which they had met to pass that day to the Grand Master of the Order, his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, had been submitted to the P.G.M., and approved of. He read the address as follows:

To His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, K.G., Most Worshipful Grand Mark Master Mason of England, and the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown.

May it please your Royal Highness, we, the Mark Master Masons of Northumberland and Durham, in Grand Lodge assembled, venture to approach your Royal Highness, and desire you to accept from us the assurance of our respectful and heartfelt sympathy with your Royal Highness, her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, and all the other members of the Royal Family, in your great sorrow, caused by the death of your beloved son. The lamented Duke of Clarence and Avondale was an illustrious member of our Order, and his memory will ever be revered by us.

That the Great Overseer of the Universe may deign to give you and your august family strength to bear this great trial is the prayer of your Royal Highnesses' dutiful and loyal servants, the Mark Master Masons of the Province of Northumberland and Durham.

Given under our hands this 25th day of January, 1892.

H. P. TRISTRAM, P.G.M.M.
R. B. REED, D.P.G.M.M.
C. B. FORD, P.G. Sec.

Bro. JOHN STRACHAN proposed the adoption of the address, which was seconded by Bro. Col. ADDISON POTTER, and agreed to.

The Acting P.G.M., Bro. REED, proposed the following resolution: That this Grand Mark Lodge of the Province of Northumberland and Durham deeply deplores the illness of its beloved Grand Master, the Rev. Henry Baker Tristram, D.D., LL.D., and requests him to accept the fraternal sympathy of the brethren of the province, in the hope that the Great Overseer of the Universe may see fit soon to restore him to his wonted health and usefulness.

Bro. T. PURVIS seconded the resolution, which was unanimously carried.

At the close of the business Bro. REED expressed the thanks of the Prov. Grand Lodge to Bro. J. Gibson Youll, for permission to hold their meeting in the hall that evening.

The proceedings then terminated.

MASONIC REPRINTS, VOL. III.

(LODGE "Q.C.," No. 2076, LONDON.)

The publication of the third volume of the remarkable series of "Masonic Reprints," calls for special acknowledgement and congratulation. Its excellence, variety and value, render it in not a few respects, one of the most important and interesting works ever issued respecting Freemasonry of the olden time. The subscription still remains at the ordinary half a guinea per copy, but how that small sum can possibly clear the heavy cost of production, will be the subject of marvel to brethren who overlook the fact that such magnificent books can only be supplied at the stipulated subscription, when large editions are printed. The ever increasing roll of members of the "Correspondence Circle," should lead, and has led, to a corresponding increase in bulk of the Transactions, as well as the present extraordinary volume, which as respects facsimiles of the ancient rolls, is far ahead of all its predecessors.

The five parts of this choice work are thus arranged, 1, "Harleian MS., No. 2054;" 2, "Sloane MS., No. 3848;" 3, "Sloane MS., No. 3323;" 4, "William Watson MS.," and 5, the "Cama MS." The first four contain complete facsimiles as well as transcripts and introductions, and the fifth has one page in facsimile, with a full transcript, &c, as the others.

There are thus five complete transcripts and four full facsimiles of valuable Masonic rolls, three being in the British Museum, one in the West Yorkshire Library, and the other in that of the Quatuor Lodge, respectively.

The "Harleian MS." is not the value of the two Sloane's of A.D. 1646 and 1659, and much inferior in importance to the "William Watson" roll, which comes third in order of textual significance; yet because of the additions to the "Old Charges," on folios 33-4, containing a copy of the O.B. to keep secret the "words & signs of a free Mason, and what appears to be a Treasurer's account for a lodge, that particular scroll has long been much appreciated by students, and in Bro. W. H. Ryland's competent hands has been most ably treated, besides being carefully considered in Bro. Gould's great history.

This volume three, gives such exact reproductions of this noted "Harleian, 2054," the two "Sloane's," and the now famous "William Watson" MS., that for all practical and critical purposes we are as well off as if we possessed the originals. As they are unobtainable, we may all rest content as subscribers with the special privileges thus afforded by the publication of this grand series of the "Old Charges." The volumes issued, additional to the foregoing, supplies us with the "Regius" and "Cooke" MSS., and the "Lansdowne" and "Harleian" (No. 1942) scrolls.

The editing throughout has been done by our esteemed Secretary, Bro. G. W. Speth (from whom copies of Volumes 3 and 7 may still be obtained), and I presume he is also responsible for the useful transcripts, which add much to the interest of the work.

Bro. C. C. Howard has written at considerable length in a most scholarly manner as to several points concerning the text of the "William Watson" MS., and by way of analysis and comparison has instituted a most careful examination of the Roll, about which doubtless Dr. Begemann, and others will have something to say, myself included.

My present intention is to simply add my testimony to the doubtless uniformly hearty expression of approval, which will be reaching our Secretary daily, for sometime to come, and to express the hope that numerous brethren and lodges in this country, will secure copies of this magnificent work before the limited edition is exhausted.

W. J. HUGHAN.

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MAY ELECTION, 1892.

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ROYAL HOSPITAL FOR
INCURABLES,
WEST HILL, PUTNEY HEATH.

The favour of your Vote and Interest is earnestly solicited on behalf of

JAMES HENRY GABALL,

Candidate for the Pension,

Married, aged Sixty-one Years, who for nine years has been afflicted with Paralysis Agitans, and has entirely lost the use of both hands, walking with great difficulty. He is dependant upon the precarious earnings of his wife, who lets apartments in a small house in Worthing.

Applicant was formerly Journalist and Overseer-Printer in various London establishments, and was for many years Printer and some time Editor of *The Artisan* (Engineering Journal), *The Freemasons' Magazine*, and afterwards Printer of *The Freemason*, *Civil Service Gazette*, and other publications.

Being for some years a member of a Freemasons' lodge, he applied for the benefits of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, when it was discovered that his subscriptions fell three months short of the qualification necessary to be placed on the list of Candidates.

The Case is recommended by

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The Rev. C. DOUGLAS CROUCH, Pastor of Worthing Baptist Church, Newton Villa, Cambridge-rd., Worthing.
F. HINDS, Esq., M.D., B.S. (Lond.), The Steyne,
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Miss M. H. GREER, Woodlawn, Upland-road, Dulwich.

JAMES ROY, Esq., 102, Chapel-road, Worthing.

Proxies will be thankfully received by the Applicant,
17, Wenban-road, Worthing, Sussex.

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The presentation plate which was issued in connection with the Christmas Number of the *Freemason* contains an admirable portrait of the late Duke in Masonic dress. A few copies are still on sale at the office, 16, Great Queen-street, W.C.

NOW READY.

THE LATE COL. SHADWELL CLERKE.

At the request of numerous correspondents we have reprinted the Biographical notice, together with the portrait, of the late Grand Secretary in pamphlet form on superior paper, with emblematic cover, price 1s. Orders may be given to any bookseller, or sent direct to the office of the *Freemason*, 16 and 16A, Great Queen-street, London, W.C.

To Correspondents.

The following communications unavoidably stand over: CRAFT.—Union Lodge, No. 127; All Souls' Lodge, No. 170; Israel Lodge, No. 205; Union Lodge, No. 414; Scarstone Lodge, No. 681; Lodge of St. John, No. 1306; St. Nicholas Lodge, No. 2259; Viator Lodge, No. 2308; and St. John's Lodge, No. 891 (I.C.).

INSTRUCTION.—Prince Frederick William Lodge, No. 753; Ranelagh Lodge, No. 834; Islington Lodge, No. 1471; West Middlesex Lodge, No. 1612; Covent Garden Lodge, No. 1614; Kensington Lodge, No. 1767; Creaton Lodge, No. 1791; William Shurmer Lodge, No. 2374; and Star Chapter, No. 1275.

Presentation to the Earl of Euston at Northampton. District Grand Lodge and District Grand Chapter of the Punjab.

Provincial Grand Lodge of Tyrone and Fermanagh (I.C.).



SATURDAY, JANUARY 30, 1892.

Masonic Notes.

It is a satisfaction to us to be able to report that at a meeting of the Hall Committee of the Board of Stewards of the approaching Jubilee Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, it was decided to recommend to the Executive Committee that the celebration should take place in the Theatre Royal, Covent Garden, in accordance with the terms offered by Bro. Sir Augustus Harris, Past G. Treas., the lessee of the Theatre. Thus, subject to the action of the Executive Committee, all the most important requirements are now settled, and the Festival will be held at the theatre in question on Wednesday, the 24th February, under the presidency of Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, D.G.M. England, and Prov. G.M. of Cornwall. Be it added that the Board of Stewards has been very greatly strengthened and musters now close on 1150 brethren.

It will be seen from the programme of business to be transacted at the Quarterly Convocation of Supreme Grand Chapter on Wednesday next, the 3rd prox., that it will be proposed to vote a contribution of 100 guineas towards the Jubilee Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. Grand Chapter is an annual subscriber to the funds of the Charity to the extent of £150.

We are not surprised when a non-Masonic journal writes somewhat confusedly about the different Degrees of Modern Freemasonry, but we are hardly prepared to find a similar confusion of Degrees in the columns of a Masonic paper. The other day a "profane" contemporary, after announcing that the installation banquet of the Studholme Lodge, at which the late Duke of Clarence was to have been present, had been postponed in consequence of his death, added that his Royal Highness was to have taken the "Rose Croix Degrees" in the same lodge during the following—that is last—week.

We thought nothing of this mistake, and passed it by unnoticed. On Saturday last, however, a Masonic contemporary made precisely the same announcement, entirely oblivious of the fact that Antient Free and Accepted Masonry as defined by our Book of Constitutions consists of only three Degrees, including the Royal Arch, while the Rose Croix is the 18th Degree of the Ancient and Accepted Rite, and has nothing whatever to do with Craft Masonry.

The *Evening News* and *Post* announces that a scheme is on foot for the erection of a Masonic Temple, Hotel, and Club on the site of her Majesty's Theatre at a cost, including the purchase of the lease of the ground, of three-quarters of a million sterling. Prodigious!

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.]

THE FUTURE OF FREEMASONRY.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

The letter of a "P.P.G. Officer," taking up nearly two columns of your issue of the 16th instant, has hardly anything to do with the "evil" pointed out in Bro. Whythead's letter, although he writes under the title of that letter.

The complaint of this "P.P.G. Officer" appears to be that all the "reigning Masters" he has come across are incompetent, and from the way his letter is worded he leaves it open to be inferred that he has his own lodge in his mind's eye. Of course, as everyone knows, the election of Master depends on the members of a lodge, and it must indeed be a curious lodge who would elect a brother as Master knowing him to be "of the kind" pointed out at such length by "P.P.G. Officer."

The Book of Constitutions is not perfect—what book is?—but, in my humble opinion (based on 30 years' Masonry), it is well compiled, and meets all that is required of it, which I am afraid would not be the case if it was to be "corrected" up to date by "P.P.G. Officer." The election of undesirable candidates still goes on, and until each member of our Fraternity sees and understands that his own credit and that of his lodge depends on him when proposing a candidate, I am afraid this evil will continue.

You cannot legislate in such a matter, and the wholesale espionage advocated by some could not for a moment be entertained—bah! the brother who could advocate such a thing can be but a poor Freemason at heart.—Yours fraternally,

OLD PROVINCIAL.

THE GREAT NORTHERN LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I am anxious to find out the present meeting-place of the Great Northern Lodge of Instruction, recently removed from the Berwick Arms, Berners Street, W. Can any brother through your medium kindly inform me.—Apologising for troubling you, I am, yours faithfully and fraternally,

T. W. HUDSON, 957.

18th January.

"OLD MASONIANS."

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir,

I am receiving several applications from old pupils of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys who are wanting situations. I should therefore be glad if gentlemen having vacancies would kindly communicate direct with me.—I am, dear sir, yours faithfully,

R. S. CHANDLER, Hon. Sec.

Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.



970] THE ANCIENT CRAFT CHARGES.

BRO. HOWARD'S THEORIES AND THE LANSLOWNE MS.

In my short article, which you were good enough to insert in last week's *Freemason*, I alluded to the bearing of the new theory upon the Lansdowne and Antiquity MSS., and as their text differs very materially from all the other versions, a few lines upon them may not be out of place. The date 1560 is assigned to the Lansdowne in Bro. Hughan's work on the "Old Charges," and the MS. is believed to have formed a part of the collection of Lord Burghley, who died in 1598. The Antiquity MS. is in strict agreement with it, and is dated 1686. Owing to the peculiarity of the text, which seems designed to bring into prominence the Temple of Solomon and a strictly Judaic system, I have advocated the opinion that there was some error in the date assigned to the Lansdowne MS., and that it must be much nearer the time of the Antiquity copy, and the result of a Puritan line of thought. But with the new light that has been sprung upon us by recent investigations, and especially by Bro. Howard's two papers, I think now it was a mistaken view, and that the special points on which I relied to prove their modern nature may be equally used, in the light of the Nisemesian theory, to support the view of the superior antiquity of its peculiarities. It may even throw a new light upon the object of the *New Atlantias* of Lord Bacon, or Verulam (the Roman name of St. Albans) and his advocacy of a House of Solomon. It is very possible that the author of much of our confusion was the ancient writer of the original of the Cooke MS. in his revision of the St. Alban legend. In the Lansdowne the first departure from the general text is the entire omission of the Euclid Charge. This portion in all the MSS. has the appearance of an interpolation, and is out in chronological sequence. He (Euclid) is twice casually mentioned by name in the Lansdowne, and it may be that this is the foundation which expounded into what we have left of the Athel-

stan version in the remainder of the Modern charges, but it is more probable that the Lansdowne writer omitted the Euclid charge as outside his range. The Masonic claims of the charter of Athelstan is through the Romans to the Egyptian Ptolomey's, and therefore Euclid, as a master of geometry, is made the principal person who obtains a charter and gives a Charge. But the claims of the St. Alban legend is wholly semitic, derived through Nimrod, Asshur, Abraham, David, Solomon, and Namus Gricus, and might well derive its origin at Nismes. Still, there would be no great improbability in Saraconic Masonry appropriating Euclid, except that the manner in which it is introduced in the English documents, has every appearance of interpolations. Bro. Howard advocates the view that the Lansdowne is a purer and more ancient text than our other versions for which I advocated a York origin; and though the Lansdowne admits a York charter also, it causes Edwin to be made a Mason at Windsor, and when Athelstan is mentioned it is without special necessity, as Edwin is said to be the son of a worthy King of England (of his time) from whom Edwin obtained a rule for the Masons. Bro. Howard draws marked attention to the fact that the Lansdowne makes mention of Hebrew MSS., but this is surely only one amplification of the writer who had before him these Jewish legends. It is more important to note the fact that the new brother is pledged by an invocation to Almighty God, or Almighty God of Jacob, as it appears in the Antiquity MS. of 1686. This is a form so consonant with modern usage, that I have hitherto relied upon it, in part, to prove the late 17th century origin of the Lansdowne version. In the light of the new theory we may now look upon these two MSS. as bearing a specially Southeran stamp, and, though modernised, as embodying an older St. Albans type (if even we go so far back) than that given in the first part of Cooke MS., which was revised to suit a Greco-Roman constitution, sanctioned only by Athelstan, and hence that they have preserved more correctly certain features which have been confused in all the copies that we possess. We must bear in mind that Islam, from the time of its prophet, has had its secret societies analagous to Freemasonry, and that Nismes in France had been thoroughly saturated by Semitic teaching during two centuries of Saracenic occupation, until this Arabic stock was ejected by Charles Martel, and that such Semitic legends as we have in these Masonic charges are of the sort that would be readily accepted and assimilated by a French stock that had become Christian. If we go back for our present system, beyond the time of the Crusades, there is no part of the world so likely as Nismes to have given it to us. Moreover, the two very widely differing versions of our constitutional Masonic legends point to a state of things widely divided north and south, when the country was unsympathetically disunited, as in the Heptarchial period. All my argument, of course, hinges upon the acceptance of the theory that St. Albans was built by Masons from France, and if the theory is allowed by general opinion, we must admit the Lansdowne to be a school which preserves the legend in a somewhat purer state than the other versions. Hitherto I have supposed the introduction of Charles Martel to be due to Norman Masons, but Bro. Howard's theory is so feasible, that in initiating this revised version of it I hope to ascertain the opinion of brethren qualified to decide upon it.

JOHN YARKER.

PICART'S LIST OF LODGES,

971] A.D. 1735 (Circa).

Your readers are much indebted to Bro. Hughan for his instructive letter in your last week's issue. His statements in all matters connected with the archaeology of the Craft may be always relied upon, as nothing comes from his pen which is not the result of painstaking and careful study. The information given by him as to the above list is therefore especially valuable as well as interesting to all those who pursue researches into the somewhat difficult and intricate subject of the existence, identity, and relative positions of lodges in the earlier years of the Grand Lodge of England. There is one slight modification which has recently taken place in the arrangements for the issue of the facsimile he mentions. It is now published by our zealous Bro. Richard Jackson, P.M., of Commercial-street, Leeds, at the very moderate price of 5s., and only 100 copies will be issued. I have inspected the facsimile, and can testify to it as one of the most beautiful and exact reproductions I have ever seen, so much so that, considering it is precisely the same size as the original, it is difficult to distinguish one from the other. The price at which it is to be sold, I am afraid, will leave Bro. Jackson much more honour than profit as his reward for placing this valuable work of art within easy reach of the studious.

WILLIAM WATSON, P.M., P.Z.

972] AN OLD CERTIFICATE.

My friend, Bro. Hughan, has kindly allowed me to inspect and report on a most interesting certificate which has been submitted to him (thanks to Bro. McLeod, the owner being Bro. Sydney W. Allen, of Hastings), and which is the oldest specimen issued by the Grand Orient of France which he has seen so far. The document in question is printed from an engraved plate on a large sheet of parchment, and the design is particularly handsome. It is enclosed in an elaborate border, and the lower part of the ornamentation con-

sists of a broad flight of seven steps, surrounded by a balustrade divided into nine panels, on which appear respectively a Corinthian pillar, an ewer pouring some liquid into a cup, a flaming heart, a sword and torch surmounted by a head and bust, the ark of the covenant and tables of the law, a mirror with a snake twined round its handle, an anchor, a balance, sword and sceptre, and a second Corinthian column. These emblems may all refer to Craft symbolism, or to higher Degrees, but if the former, their significance is in several cases unknown to me. On the left is a tall column decorated with a crown, sword, sceptre, wheat, and acacia, and surmounted by a nude female figure chained by both feet to a star, and holding a similar star in the left hand. The meaning of this is quite obscure to me. On the right is a similar column surmounted by another nude figure, with winged feet, and holding aloft a pair of compasses. On the upper part of the design is a group of clouds, in which appear the sun, moon, and five principal planets (indicated by their astronomical symbols), with a nude figure in the centre, holding a mirror in one hand and a flaming heart in the other (standing on a globe), and surmounted by an irradiated triangle, bearing the Hebrew letter Jod. This figure probably represents Truth. In the upper left-hand corner is the seal of the Grand Orient, bearing the square and compasses, with *fleur de lys*, and the letters "G.O.F." in floriated characters. Curiously enough, a lodge warrant of the former Grand Orient of Hungary, of about 1860, which I have in my own collection, is almost an exact reproduction of this valuable plate. The certificate was granted to Jacques Philippe Sevin of Lodge "Jeune D'Arc" at Orleans, and reads thus: "A La Gloire du Grand Architecte de l'Univers, sous les auspices et au nom du Sérénissime Grand Maître le Grand Orient de France, à tous les Maçons Réguliers Union, Force, Salut." Then on a separate plate which clearly shows itself. "Le Desir que nous avons de faciliter l'Entrée des Orient Etrangers, et des Loges Réguliers de France à ceux de nos freres qui nous paroissent dignes d'y être admis, nous porte à constater leur état maconique dans la douz confiente qu'ils repardent dans toutes les Villes qu'ils parcoureront l'esprit de liberté, de concorde et d'amitié fraternelle, qui fait l'essence de notre ordre, par ces motifs et sur le témoignage avantageux qui nous à été rendu du frere *Faques Philippe Sevin negociam*, membre de la loge de St. Jean Chambre des Province du (—) jour du *douzieme* mois de l'an de vraie lumiere Cin mil sept cent *soixante quatre* nous avons au dt frere *F. Phillip Sevin* accordé à accordans le present certificat Prions tous les Maçons regulier de luy faire l'aceuil fraternel qu'ils desireroient eux memes en pareille circonstance, et de l'admettre après examen, aux travaux de son âge, ainsi que nous avons coutume d'en user envers tous les freres qui se presentent en notre Orient murris de certificats autentiques des Orient Etrangers, on des loges reguliers de France. En foy de quoy nous avons delivré le present certificat de nous signe contre-signé par notre Secretaire Général, Scellé de notre Grand Sceau et des trois Sceaux particuliers de nos Chambres le *dixtriatieme* jour de *sixieme* mois de la vraie lumiere Cinq mil sept cent *soixante quinze*. Le *duc de Luxembourg*." The date of the certificate being, as shown, June 1775. The signatures are grouped under three headings, i.e., *Chambre des Provinces, Chambre d'Administration, and Chambre de Paris*. Under the first of these are the signatures of *Guillotin, Lamarique l'Americain, Pingre, Le Blanc, Tissot, and Foubert de la Bourdinier*, and cuts in the parchment show that there was originally a seal and ribbon there, but it has disappeared. Under the *Chambre d'Administration* are the names of *Delalandes, Fonne, Bondeau, Carboneau, Boettier, Poncetti*, and two others which I cannot decipher, and a seal attached to a red ribbon, the device being quite obliterated. The third group includes the signatures of *Mangan, Le Roy, Bouault, Targe*, and others, and the inscription: "Par mandement de Grand Orient de France, *Dauverin*, est abjemeendes Wj. Secretaire General du Grand Orient de France," with a seal on white ribbon, bearing the words *Chambre de Paris*, with a "glory" and stars. On the left side is the following: "Enregistré en la Chambre des Provinces à la date du *quatorzieme* jour du *Dixieme*, mois de l'an de la vraie lumiere Cinq mil sept cent *soixante quinze*. *Richard*." And on the right side: "Enregistre en la Chambre de Paris à la date du *Donzieme* jour du *Dixieme* mois de l'an de la vraie lumiere Cinq mil sept cent *soixante quinze* *quelque*. *Horn* Secretaire. As the signatures in several cases appear to be those of celebrated men, Bro. Hughan is engaged in finding particulars on this point, which he will doubtless communicate to the *Freemason*.

FRED. J. W. CROWE, Prov. G.O. Devon.

Bro. Lord Alexander Gordon-Lennox, a younger son of the late Charles, fifth Duke of Richmond, formerly Prov. Grand Master of Sussex, died after a protracted illness on Friday, the 22nd inst., at his residence in Pont-street. His lordship was born in 1825, and by his death the families of the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, &c., &c., &c., are placed in mourning.

The annual meeting of the Actors' Benevolent Fund was held at the Lyceum Theatre on the 22nd inst., under the presidency of Bro. Henry Irving, Bro. Harry Nicholls and other gentlemen of the theatrical profession being present, while Bro. Edward Terry and S. B. Bancroft were prevented attending through illness. The Secretary's report showed an income for the past year of £2613, and an expenditure among 193 cases of £2053, the result of the first annual dinner in behalf of the fund being nearly £700. The report was adopted, and the proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

METROPOLITAN MEETINGS.

Peace and Harmony Lodge (No. 60).—This old and distinguished lodge met at the Freemasons' Hall, on the 22nd inst., when there were present, among others, Bros. Horace Slade, P.M. 1479, P.G. Stwd., P.P.G.D., &c., W.M.; W. H. Kempster, G. Stwd., S.W.; F. Binckes, P.M., P.G.S.B., Sec.; Capt. Walls, P.P.G.W., S.D.; Masters, P.M., J.D.; W. H. Kempster, jun., I.G.; H. J. Lardner, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., Stwd.; E. Rogers, P.G. Stwd., P.P.G.D., I.P.M.; J. T. Chancellor, P.M., P.G. Stwd.; A. Andrade, O. Polenz, J. E. White, H. A. Slade, F. T. Slade, A. H. Debenham, and others. Bro. H. Higgins, P.M. 1381, was a visitor.

Lodge having been opened, and the minutes of previous meeting read and confirmed, the ballot was taken for Messrs. Walter Ford and W. Bramwell Reid, M.B., and it being unanimous they were subsequently initiated by the W.M. Bros. A. Andrade and P. Mecklenburg were impressively raised to the Third Degree. Bro. Capt. Walls having been elected to represent the lodge at the Jubilee Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, the sum of five guineas was voted to head his list, which was subsequently augmented by individual subscriptions. Numerous apologies were received from absent members, who were mostly detained by illness. Among them being Bros. H. Young, P.G. Stwd., P.M., Treas.; R. G. Barton, P.G. Stwd., P.M.; A. J. Joling, P.G. Stwd., P.M.; A. J. Altman, P.G. Stwd., P.M.; R. C. Clowes, G. Std. Br., P.M., J.W.; and others.

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

A few toasts were given, but in consequence of the recent deaths of H.R.H. the Duke of Clarence, P.G.W., and Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, P.G.D., Grand Secretary, the usual musical programme, &c., was abandoned.

Sincerity Lodge (No. 174).—The 124th anniversary and installation meeting of this old lodge was held at the Guildhall Tavern on Wednesday, the 20th inst., when Bro. T. A. Starnes was installed W.M. for the ensuing 12 months. As there was a considerable amount of business on the agenda paper, the lodge was opened at an early hour by the W.M., Bro. Henry Jay, assisted by the following officers: Bros. T. A. Starnes, S.W.; W. Phillips, J.W.; W. Lacey, P.M., Treas.; C. H. Webb, P.M., Sec.; W. Butcher, S.D.; W. J. Norman, J.D.; W. Harvey, I.G.; J. Bayley, D.C.; H. S. Sambrook, Stwd.; and J. Verry, Tyler. Amongst the brethren and visitors we noticed Bros. J. Bulmer, P.M.; G. Jones, P.M.; J. S. Fraser, P.M.; W. Gayton, P.M.; H. Magee, I.P.M.; J. Hattersley, W.M. 1607; C. Hubbard, P.M.; and also a good attendance of brethren.

After confirming the proceedings of the previous meeting, Bro. W. Lacey, P.M., in very feeling and eloquent terms, moved votes of condolence, which were ordered to be entered on the minutes, expressing the deep regret of the brethren at the lamentable death of the Duke of Clarence, and their heartfelt sympathy with the M.W.G.M., the Prince of Wales, and his family in their great bereavement, and also recording the sincere grief of the brethren at the great loss the Craft had sustained by the very sudden death of the late Grand Secretary. The W.M. then passed Bro. T. A. Matzinger to the Degree of F.C.; he afterwards initiated into the mystic rights Mr. Geo. Alan Griffiths. The W.M. then proceeded to install his successor, and it was the opinion of all who were privileged to witness the sound working of this good old lodge, that Bro. H. Jay performed the installation ceremony in a very impressive and efficient manner. The new W.M. then invested his officers, each of whom were raised a step towards the occupancy of the chair. A fresh initiate, Mr. W. J. Derby, was then duly obligated, and with the finish of the ceremony the Auditors' report was taken and approved of; this report showed the funds of the lodge to be in a most healthy condition, notwithstanding the large yearly contributions it makes towards the Masonic Charities. Expressions of much regret were evinced on all sides at the news of the severe illness of Bro. John Newton, P.M., V.P., who is acting as Steward for the lodge at the forthcoming Jubilee Festival of the R.M.B.I. Similar feelings were heard at the resignation of Bro. H. M. Hobbs, P.M., through illness. Bro. Hobbs has been for some years, and is now Secretary of the Benevolent Association connected with the lodge.

This being the day set apart for the funeral of H.R.H. the Duke of Clarence, the customary banquet was not held, it having been unanimously decided to postpone it till the February meeting.

Bank of England Lodge (No. 263).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, on Thursday, the 14th inst., when the following brethren were present: Bros. G. L. Kennaby, W.M.; A. Leighton, acting S.W.; J. W. J. Kennedy, J.W.; Col. James Peters, P.G.S.B., Treas.; H. Pritchard, Sec.; F. T. Rushton, S.D.; J. W. Drysdale, J.D.; J. Sharp, acting I.G.; R. C. Sudlow, P.M., P.G. Std. Br.; A. D. Parr Dudley, P.M.; G. A. Carter, P.M.; Minton-Senhouse, Butcher, and Waterhouse. The visitors were Bros. George Everett, I.G. Treas.; J. Terry, P.G.S.B.; T. B. Nichols, P.P.G.W. Northumberland; J. M. McLeod, P.P.G.W. Derbyshire, Sec. R.M.I.B.; G. A. Hughes, P.P.G. Reg. Middlesex; H. Pullman, W.M. 8; W. H. Kirby, W.M. 1965; Dr. A. W. Orwin, W.M. 1491; G. E. Wainwright, P.M. 165; W. Hicklin, P.M. 1261; G. Cook, P.M. 820; R. W. Steggle, I.G. 2398; F. J. Gordon, 534; C. H. Denny, 1671; E. Hall, 1793; D. M. Sherwill, 813; and L. Mantell, 1897.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. A ballot was taken for Mr. S. H. Waterhouse, which proved unanimous in his favour, and the W.M. initiated him. Bro. H. Pritchard having been unanimously elected Master for the ensuing year, was presented by Bro. Sudlow, P.M., when Bro. G.

L. Kennaby performed the ceremony of installing him as his successor in the chair of this old and eminent lodge. The much lamented death of H.R.H. the Duke of Clarence and Avondale having occurred on the morning of that day, Bro. G. L. Kennaby, I.P.M., proposed, and Bro. Col. J. Peters, Treas., seconded a vote of condolence to the M.W.G.M., his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and the Princess of Wales, on the great bereavement which had fallen upon them that day, and that a record of the sympathy of this lodge be made in the minutes of the meeting. This was carried unanimously, and the sentiments of the brethren found expression in the heartfelt remarks of condolence made by both the W.M. and the I.P.M., who spoke somewhat at length upon the sad bereavement that had overtaken our M.W.G.M. in the death of his first born son. The W.M., Bro. H. Pritchard, presented Bro. G. L. Kennaby, I.P.M., with the Past Master's jewel of the lodge, and said it was one of the most pleasing duties he had had to perform during his Masonic career. Bro. Kennaby had won the goodwill of every member of the lodge by the able manner in which he had conducted the business, both inside and outside the lodge, and also by his general courtesy and kind heartedness, and he trusted that Bro. Kennaby would have a long and happy life in which to wear the jewel which he now presented him with on behalf of the lodge.

The brethren adjourned to the large hall where an excellent banquet was served, after which the customary toast list received due attention, but all of the remarks were tempered by the sad event of the morning, which could do no other than cast a gloom over every meeting of the brotherhood which fell upon this date.

In proposing the toast of "The Queen," the Worshipful Master said that he did so with very great pleasure, and should as usual combine it with that of the Craft, because her Majesty always showed great interest in the Craft, especially by the support she accorded to the Institutions, and by permitting her son to occupy the first position in the Craft.

The W.M. then rose to propose the toast of "The Most Worshipful Grand Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," and said he did so with very deep feelings. It was unnecessary for him to refer to the sad calamity which had befallen the M.W.G.M. that morning, and any calamity of that kind must of necessity fall on them also as members of the Craft. Scarcely had the M.W.G.M. and the Princess of Wales recovered from the anxiety caused by the serious illness of their second son, than their first born was seized with a sudden illness, and before the country had fully realised how dangerous it was, it had pleased the G.A.O.T.U. to take him away. He (the W.M.) should ask them to drink this toast in perfect silence.

The next toast was that of the "Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Lathom; the Dep. G.M., Earl Mount Edgumbe; and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past." The W.M. proposed this toast with very great pleasure, for one present Grand Officer and a number of past ones had honoured them with their presence that evening. He coupled the toast with the name of Bro. George Everett, Grand Treas., a Grand Officer whose popularity was proved, as he had been elected to office by the members of the Craft.

Bro. George Everett, Grand Treas., in responding, said it gave him great pleasure to be present at the installation of his friend, Bro. Pritchard, with whom he was associated in another sphere of Masonic work, and he thanked the W.M. and brethren for the cordial manner in which they had given and received the toast of the Grand Officers.

Bro. G. L. Kennaby, I.P.M., proposed the next toast in the following terms: It is indeed a very great pleasure to me to propose the health not only of our W.M., but of a very dear old friend. I have had the extreme pleasure of placing him in the chair of our lodge to-night, and it has been to me a great satisfaction. We have worked very closely together in Masonry for some years, and I can, therefore, speak with confidence regarding his qualifications, which will win for him the sincerest regard of every member of the Bank of England Lodge. I do not think it necessary to dilate on his many excellencies, but I will ask you to be upstanding, and show your appreciation of him in the way you support the toast of our W.M., Bro. Henry Pritchard.

Bro. Pritchard, W.M., in responding, assured the brethren that a month ago he had no idea he would occupy that honourable position. He had only hoped to continue as Secretary, in which position he had always been quite happy. He had especially to thank them that his election to that office had been unanimous. He had looked forward to that day as promising to be one of special pleasure and brightness, but the G.A.O.T.U. had willed it differently. He had willed that one of our principal Masons in England, a Provincial Grand Master, should be taken away from us, therefore we could not meet with the same heartiness and joviality as if this gloom had not been spread over us. He was sure every brother present deeply sympathised with the M.W.G.M. in the loss he had sustained that day. He regretted it was impossible for his response to be in the tone or spirit he could have wished, but thanked the brethren heartily for the goodwill and fellowship they had shown him, and he trusted the manner in which he might conduct the lodge during his year would prevent any member from regretting he had voted him (Bro. Pritchard) into that chair.

The toast of "The Initiate" was next proposed, and the W.M. believed Bro. S. H. Waterhouse gave promise of becoming an excellent Mason, for he had been well introduced into that lodge, and further had paid such admirable attention during his initiation, which had been so ably performed by the I.P.M. He extended a very hearty welcome to him on joining the Craft in general, and on becoming a member of the Bank of England Lodge in particular.

Bro. Waterhouse, replying, thanked the W.M. and brethren for the cordial welcome and kindness they had extended to him that day, and while he was just about to enjoy the pleasures of Masonry, the events of that day showed him that Masons had serious responsibilities and duties. He hoped that while he enjoyed the one the others would receive due and full attention from him in the future.

The toast of "The Past Masters" was next duly honoured, and responded to by Bro. G. L. Kennaby, I.P.M. "The Visitors" was proposed in terms of cordial welcome, and responses to this toast were made by Bros. Everett, G. Treas.; Pullman, W.M. No. 8; W. H. Kirby, W.M. 1965; Dr. Orwin, and J. McLeod.

The W.M. then proposed "The Masonic Charities," to

which he thought sufficient attention had hardly been paid by the Bank of England Lodge in years gone by, but he hoped this would be made up for by special attention to those excellent Institutions in the future.

Bro. J. Terry, Secretary of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and Bro. McLeod, Secretary of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, replied at length to this toast, speaking in tones of highest praise of the way in which the Masonic Charities, although such large Institutions, and requiring such large sums of money for their maintenance, were generously supported by the members of the Craft so nearly associated with them.

Whilst proposing "The Officers of the Lodge" the W.M. recognised that in the Treasurer, Bro. Colonel J. Peters, P.G.S.B., and Secretary, Bro. R. Clay Sudlow, P.G. Std. Br., he had two officers who would each do everything that could be expected of them; brethren who had the full ability as well as the disposition to give him assistance in any capacity in which he might require it. He also felt that he might rely on every brother who had accepted other offices to perfect themselves in their respective work, so that he might feel every confidence in any work undertaken in that lodge during the year.

Bro. Colonel J. Peters, Treasurer, and Bro. R. Clay Sudlow, Secretary, responded, the latter stating that as he had been selected to return thanks for the toast of the officers of the lodge, he pledged them as well as himself to do everything possible to support the W.M. during the coming year to their fullest power and ability.

The Tyler's toast brought the proceedings to a close. The musical arrangements for the evening were not carried out in consideration of the much lamented bereavement of the Royal household as previously alluded to.

Fitz-Roy Lodge (No. 569).—A meeting of this lodge was held at the Armoury House, Hon. Artillery Company, Finsbury, E.C., on Friday, the 22nd inst., when there were present Bros. W. E. Williams, W.M.; Prendergast, S.W.; Pash, acting J.W.; Hawkins, S.D.; Carpenter, J.D.; Mosford, I.G.; Hillman, Org.; Stohwasser, Sec.; and others.

The lodge having been opened, and the minutes confirmed, the W.M. proposed that it be resolved to forward to the M.W.G.M. a vote of sympathy in the following terms: "The W.M., Wardens, and brethren of the Fitz-Roy Lodge, in open lodge assembled, beg to tender to your Royal Highness and H.R.H. the Princess of Wales their sincere sympathy in the great loss sustained in the death of H.R.H. the Duke of Clarence and Avondale, Past Grand Warden, and to express the hope that the G.A.O.T.U. will afford your Royal Highnesses His support and comfort in your bereavement." Letters of sympathy were also sent to Bros. Helsham, P.M., Treas., and Dr. Goulland, P.M., who have respectively lost a wife and a son. Bros. Farrington and Hammond were then passed to the Second Degree, after which the lodge was closed.

The banquet which should have followed the work was, in consequence of the death of the Duke of Clarence, adjourned *sine die*.

Panmure Lodge (No. 715).—The monthly meeting was held at the Cannon street Hotel on Saturday, the 16th inst. Bro. J. Sims White, W.M., presided. Three gentlemen were initiated by the W.M., after which the usual banquet was held, at which the brethren, by request of the W.M., wore Masonic mourning. In proposing the loyal toasts, the W.M. referred in eloquent and feeling terms to the serious calamity which had befallen H.R.H. the Grand Master and his family, and the toasts were drunk in solemn silence. The usual Masonic toasts followed.

Great Northern Lodge (No. 1287).—This flourishing lodge held its installation meeting at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C., on Thursday, the 21st inst., when there was a large attendance of members and visitors. The former included Bros. Hy. Bell, W.M.; G. Flint, S.W.; F. Osborne, J.W.; S. Webb, P.M., Treas.; W. Cleghorn, P.M., Sec.; G. Ridout, S.D.; J. Bastow, J.D.; H. T. Reed, P.M.; E. Lancaster, P.M.; P. G. Jope, P.M.; C. Kempton, P.M.; J. Edgar, P.M.; J. Hemming, P.M.; J. Paul, P.M.; Rev. J. H. Rose, P.M., Chap.; A. C. Doughty, J. C. Smith, P.M., Org.; and others. Visitors: Bros. R. C. Wills, P.P.J.G.W. Notts; F. Purkiss, W.M. 742; R. F. Sleeford, 1572; E. W. Ward, S.D. 76; R. C. Wilson, S.D. 766; W. Downing, P.P.D.G.D.C. Kent; C. F. Sharnam, 700; F. J. Hubbard, S.W. 1032; T. R. Hewett, 917; W. R. Parker, P.M. 742; F. G. Newton, P.M. 569; F. Ricardo, 226; G. J. Buzzard, 1524; W. F. Wilkinson, 742; C. Ohren, P.M. 452; W. R. Capes, P.M. 190; A. Stephens, P.M. 1425; H. Horner, P.M. 1362; S. Marsh, 2234; C. Wheeler, 1529; G. Biggs, P.M. 435; J. H. Passmore, 2205; J. Avery, P.M. 511; W. Beresford, 1056; T. H. Roberts, W.M. 1538; G. H. Castle, J.W. 1538; T. W. Fisher, J.D. 192; F. J. Sheppard, 3; and W. W. Lee, S.W. 2381.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes confirmed, after which Messrs. J. O. Milledge and H. P. Allen were impressively initiated into Freemasonry. Bro. G. Flint was then presented as W.M. elect, and was duly installed into the chair by Bro. Bell. The following officers were appointed and invested: Bros. F. Osborne, S.W.; G. Ridout, J.W.; Rev. J. H. Rose, P.M., Chap.; S. Webb, P.M., Treas.; W. Cleghorn, P.M., Sec.; J. Bastow, S.D.; C. Davis, J.D.; A. C. Doughty, I.G.; H. T. Reed, P.M., Stwd.; C. Kempton, P.M., D.C.; J. C. Smith, P.M., Org.; and C. Rawles, Tyler. The usual addresses were ably rendered by the Installing Master, and a very satisfactory audit report was received and adopted.

Lodge was closed, and an excellent banquet was served in the Crown Room, Freemasons' Tavern.

In proposing the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, touching reference was made by the W.M. to the sad loss sustained by H.R.H. the M.W. Grand Master, and the heartfelt sympathy evinced by the Craft.

Bro. H. Bell, I.P.M., proposed "The Worshipful Master," and said the promise given by Bro. Flint as an officer would be fulfilled in the position of W.M., to which he had been installed that evening. Their W.M. would no doubt prove as good an occupant of the chair as had gone before, for he was gifted with a dogged perseverance that would serve him in good stead. He (the I.P.M.) was sure that what he had said of the W.M. would be realised 12 months hence, when he hoped they would all be present again.

Bro. George Flint, W.M., in reply, said he scarcely knew what to say, as he was overcome by their kindness in placing

him in his present position, also by the manner in which they had drunk his health. That was the proudest moment of his life, and he felt it. He was a great enthusiast when he first entered Freemasonry, and in the second year it was increased, but he was cooled down by older Masons telling him that every Mason must serve his apprenticeship. He did not know what special qualifications he had to fill the chair, except it was the loyalty existing in that lodge. He had done the best he could for the lodge, and had always been proud of it, for he had always been received with the right hand of fellowship when he had been miles away, and had mentioned the name of the Great Northern Lodge. He had a difficult position to fill, but he would claim, as many had done before him, that native modesty which made him sensible of his own shortcomings. He hoped and trusted that in the ritual he should not bring discredit on the lodge, and that he should perform his duties in a manner that would meet with their approbation.

"The Initiates" having been duly honoured, and appropriately responded to,

The W.M. gave "The I.P.M. and Installing Master," and said Bro. Bell, I.P.M., had had a wonderful year of office, and no Master before him had been more successful. From the manner in which the I.P.M. conducted the ceremonies—although they had seen them done as well—they had never had a better Master than Bro. Bell, who had been regular in his attendance, and most perfect in his rendering of the ritual. If they had not the assistance of such brethren their lodge would not now be what it is. They had seen the installation ceremony that night, which redounded to the great credit of the I.P.M. and the lodge. It was a most pleasurable duty to present the I.P.M. with a Past Master's jewel, which the brethren hoped to see him wear for many years to come.

Bro. Hy. Bell, I.P.M., returned thanks, and said he could only assure them as he had done on former occasions that he had endeavoured to do the best he could for the lodge. When he was initiated some eleven or twelve years ago, it was his ambition to occupy the chair. He had done so and was now the I.P.M., and had to thank them for the many great favours he had received at the hands of the brethren. He was deeply grateful, and must also thank them for the handsome jewel which they had been pleased to decorate him with. He returned sincere thanks to the Past Masters for the manner in which they had assisted him, and wished he was a better speaker in order to adequately thank them. He wished to tell the brethren that he was going up as Steward for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and was grateful to those who had supported him. He had now on his list £158, which he hoped would be increased by those who had not subscribed.

"The Visitors" was given in cordial terms by the Worshipful Master, and responded to by Bros. Purkiss, W.M. 742; Roberts, W.M. 1538; Wills, P.P.J.G.W. Notts; Biggs, P.M. 435; and others.

Bro. Rev. J. H. Rose, P.M., Chap., responded to the toast of his health, and said that the lodge had greatly assisted him in doing his work, and if he had been helped in trying to do good to those amongst whom he lived he owed it greatly to Freemasonry. Freemasonry meant that brotherly love should exist, and that they should love one another, and if they did not do that all their teaching went for very little. If they had been in sorrow or in joy he had been glad to be with the brethren. They could not help that night feeling somewhat of the cloud surrounding their M.W.G.M., and they could not help feeling as they read the story that it was somewhat like Ajax crying out for more light. He hoped that that light which had been expressed as the heart's desire of the Initiates had come to the M.W.G.M., in the sense of the love and sympathy of his brother Masons throughout the length and breadth of the land. He had been pleased to be a member of that lodge and had always rejoiced to be their Chaplain, and he hoped to be with them for years to come.

"The Past Masters" and "The Treasurer and Secretary" were given, and the Tyler's toast concluded the proceedings.

Kennington Lodge (No. 1381).—This lodge met for the dispatch of business at the Horns Tavern, Kennington Park, on the 5th inst. Among those present were Bros. J. La Feuillade, W.M.; Foals, P.M., acting S.W.; Lardner, J.W.; George Everatt, P.M., Grand Treas., Treas.; W. Stuart, P.M., Sec.; Hearn, S.D.; Mechan, J.D.; Milson, I.G.; Colwell, D.C.; Burrows, Stwd.; H. Higgins, P.M.; Capt. Walls, P.M.; Cockburn, P.M.; and R. La Feuillade, P.M. Bros. Hudson and Bonner were visitors.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. E. E. Life, was passed to the Second Degree. The by-laws having been read, Bro. Dennis was unanimously elected W.M.; Bro. George Everatt, Treas.; and Bro. Reinardt Tyler. The Audit Committee having been elected to audit the accounts on the 18th inst., a Past Master's jewel was unanimously voted to the out-going Master. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Bros. D. Ann's, S.W.; W. W. Westley, I.P.M.; Lingley, P.M.; and others.

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

A few toasts were given and honoured.

In response to the health of "The Grand Officers," Bro. George Everatt, G. Treas., made an excellent speech. In the course of his remarks he touched upon the great loss the Craft had sustained by the painfully sudden death of Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke. He went on to say that a more genial, courteous and effective exponent of the various Masonic ceremonials than the late Grand Secretary would be difficult to find. As the Grand Treasurer, he the speaker, had had many recent opportunities of knowing how well and how excellently Bro. Col. Clerke had performed the multifarious duties appertaining to his position as chief executive officer of the Grand Lodge of England.

"The Healths of the W.M.," "The Visitors," "The Past Masters," and "The Officers," having been given and acknowledged, the proceedings terminated at an early hour.

Bromley St. Leonard's Lodge (No. 1805). The installation meeting of this lodge had been arranged to take place with the customary accompaniment of festival, but in consequence of the death of H.R.H. the Duke of Clarence and Avondale, the festival was deferred, and the lodge met in mourning for the purpose of business on the 16th inst., when there were present Bros. Ben Johnson,

W.M.; Tom Green, S.W.; W. Maxfield Mead, J.W., John Collier, Treas.; W. J. Roberts, Sec.; G. E. Warn S.D.; W. T. Potts, J.D.; John Bussey, I.G.; Jackman, Org.; Hainbridge and Horne, D.C.'s.; Peterken, P.M.; McLaren, P.M.; Toole, P.M.; Barley, P.M.; Thornton, Flinn, Fennell, Hutcheson, Sheffield, R. J. Boorer, J. Boorer, A. S. Davis, Shadrake, G. W. Holmes, Murrell, Moss, Lewsey, Ives, and Bird. Visitors: Bros. Leo. Potts, P.M. 1716; J. Holland, 1804; T. G. Scott, J.W. 933 and 1928; Oxley, P.M. 1306; J. W. Gibbs, Org. 1804; E. A. Gibbs, 1804; Kirk, W.M. 1716; Paterson, S.W. 1804; Keddell, S.W. 1185; Nevin, 27; Riche, 2400; March, 861, Tyler 898; Eschevege, 1347; and Laughlin, 164 (I.C.)

The lodge having been opened, and the minutes read and confirmed, Bro. Murrell was passed to the Degree of F.C. The W.M. elect was then presented, when Bro. Ben Johnson, W.M., duly installed as his successor to the chair of K.S., Bro. Tom Green, S.W., assisted by Bros. Oxley, S.W.; Kirk, J.W.; Peterken, I.G.; and L. Potts, D.C. The W.M. then appointed his officers for the year as follows: Bros. W. Maxfield Mead, S.W.; G. E. Warn, J.W.; John Collier, Treas.; W. T. Potts, S.D.; John Bussey, J.D.; Edwd. Hainbridge, I.G.; Horne and Fennell, D.C.'s.; and A. S. Bird, Stwd. The I.P.M. gave the charges to the W.M. and Wardens, and Bro. Peterken charged the brethren. The following vote of sympathy was unanimously passed and telegraphed to his Royal Highness, the Most Worshipful Grand Master: "The brethren of the Bromley St. Leonard Lodge, No. 1805, in meeting regularly assembled, beg most respectfully to tender to your Royal Highness, to your loving Princess and family, and to the Princess May, our most sincere and heartfelt sympathy and condolence on the lamentable death of your dear son and our esteemed and Right Worshipful Brother, H.R.H. the Duke of Clarence and Avondale, and may the G.A. of the U. comfort, support, and solace you all in this your very sad bereavement." The pleasing duty of presenting the Past Master's jewel to the I.P.M., Bro. Ben. Johnson, was next performed by Bro. Tom Green, W.M., after which, in a few well-chosen and pathetic words, referred to the great loss all Freemasons had sustained in the death of the illustrious Prince. The lodge was then closed.

London Rifle Brigade Lodge (No. 1062).

—The installation meeting of this famous lodge was held on the 15th inst. at Anderton's Hotel, Bro. John Green, W.M., presiding. There were also present, among others, Bros. N. Green, P.M.; H. F. Bing, P.M.; L. Walker, P.M.; J. C. Tilt, P.M.; J. Terry, P.M., P.G.S.B. (Hon. Member); and the following visitors: Bros. J. B. Burnard, P.M. 1602; H. Massey, P.M. 1928; G. Booker, J.D. 228; D. L. Scott, J.W. 1935; H. S. Whalley, 425; S. Wheeler, P.M. 151; A. G. Hunt, 134; G. S. Duberty, I.G. 475; R. F. Tyler, 913; G. March, P.M. 1360; G. Rice, 1744; B. R. Gotch, W.M. 30; C. Knowles, 279; J. B. S. Evens, 1743; A. V. H. Pauncefort, I.P.M. 862; F. Lewis, S.W. 1599; V. Day, 862; C. Allen, W.M. 1056; W. D. Pinchier, 2374; W. Cropley, 1559; R. C. Sudlow, P.G.S.B.; H. Turley, J.W. 1139; B. Hoddnut, S.D. 2025; and R. P. Angel, 179.

The W.M. first passed Bro. T. R. Saxton to the Second Degree, and on the completion of that ceremony installed Bro. G. Gregory, S.W., W.M. elect, as W.M. for the ensuing 12 months. Bro. Green was invested with the collar of I.P.M. The brethren invested as officers for the year were: Bros. H. H. Nuding, S.W.; W. G. Lowe, J.W.; A. McDowall, P.M., Treas.; W. C. Claridge, P.M., Sec.; C. Stein, S.D.; H. L. Thomas, J.D.; D. McNish, I.G.; A. Haig Brown, P.M., Director of Ceremonies; S. W. Norris, Asst. Director of Ceremonies; R. T. Swinscow and C. F. Elles, Stwds. Bro. Green, I.P.M., presented to the lodge a beautiful ivory gavel, for which gift a hearty vote of thanks was passed. Afterwards a handsome Past Master's jewel was handed to Bro. Green by the W.M., with best wishes for long life and good health that he might wear it in the lodge as a memento of the brethren's appreciation of his Worshipful Mastership.

The lodge was then closed and an excellent banquet partaken of. The usual toasts followed, but the customary singing between them was dispensed with on account of the lamented death of the Duke of Clarence and Avondale, P.G.W.

The Worshipful Master in giving "The M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," said that under ordinary circumstances he might mention in proposing this toast what the Prince of Wales had done in the cause of Masonry, but that was now swamped entirely in the sadness of the death of the Duke of Clarence; the event was a national calamity, and it was felt to be such throughout the length and breadth of the land, more especially considering the late Duke's youth and that his wedding bells were almost ringing. It seemed to him that the brethren might unofficially express their very deep and sincere sympathy with the M.W.G.M. and her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales and the Family, on their bereavement. It was a matter the brethren could hardly contemplate—that of so young a life being taken away. Seeing the trouble the Prince of Wales had undergone for some days past, the brethren might without trespassing on conventionality drink the health of the M.W.G.M. which undoubtedly they hoped for.

Bro. R. Clay Sudlow, P.G. Std. Br., responded to the toast, which include "The Grand Officers," and in doing so said that at the end of last year they were able to congratulate themselves that the hand of death had not during the year removed any very prominent and active members of the Order, but during the last few days of the year the brother who perhaps next to the head ruler of the Order was before the Craft as the most active and energetic of its members was taken away suddenly, and the brethren would agree with him that it would be very very difficult indeed to find any brother who would supply Colonel Shadwell Clerke's place. He (Bro. Sudlow) had been much touched by the very feeling allusion that had been made to the double loss the Craft had sustained. It was a grievous calamity the Craft were suffering under, and it must call forth their liveliest sympathy with the Grand Master. He hoped that the Grand Master being such a true Mason at heart, the London Rifle Brigade Lodge at one of its meetings would see its way to give some formal expression of sympathy with him in his grievous trouble, because he felt certain the Grand Master would very highly appreciate expressions of that kind coming from the brethren over whom he ruled. Bro. Sudlow then referred to the working of the lodge, which he had visited that evening for the first

time, and said that as soon as he came into the room he was struck by the very harmonious, brotherly, Masonic feeling which seemed to prevail. He rejoiced in that, because it was just the spirit which should animate a lodge of Freemasons, and in the lodge no doubt they who were comrades outside the lodge would find one other and closer bond of union.

The W.M., in responding to the toast of "The W.M.," which was proposed by Bro. Green, I.P.M., said he hoped with the support of his officers to have a very successful year. He hoped the brethren would provide him with plenty of work. He knew there were several members of the London Rifle Brigade who wished to join the lodge.

Bro. Green replied to the toast of "The I.P.M. and Installing Master," and thanked every officer of the lodge for the assistance they had rendered him in the chair of W.M. He especially thanked the brethren for the Past Master's jewel. He was sure the brethren would give the same assistance to the new W.M. that they had extended to him.

Bros. Wheeler, Allen, and Scott responded to the toast of "The Visitors;" Bros. Neville, Green and Bing to that of "The Past Masters;" Bro. James Terry replied for "The Masonic Charities," and solicited the help of the lodge at the Jubilee Festival of the R.M.B.I.; Bros. A. McDowall and W. C. Claridge responded to the toast of "The Treasurer and Secretary;" the S.W. replied for "The Officers;" and the Tyler's toast closed the proceedings.

Empire Lodge (No. 2108).—On Tuesday, the 26th instant, this lodge held its installation meeting at the Criterion, Piccadilly, and Bro. Geoffrey C. Herbert, the W.M., presided. A large and distinguished party assembled on the occasion, and among the brethren who composed that party were Bros. Arthur J. R. Trendell, C.M.G., P.M.; Lennox Browne, P.M. and Treasurer; Andrew Miller, P.M.; and Charles Moses, P.M. The visitors included in their ranks Bros. H. P. Thomasset, 18; Hamon Le Strange, J.G.D.; H. Massey, 160, P.M. 619 and 1928; Arthur B. Hudson, I.P.M. 1657; I. Peter Fenouillet, 2099; Rear-Admiral A. H. Markham, W.M. 1593; E. Letchworth, P.G.D.; E. Cutler, Q.C., G. Org.; Gen. J. W. Laurie, P.G.M. Nova Scotia; Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, P.G. Chap.; H. C. Roberts, W.M. 162; C. N. Clarke, J.W. 1106; R. Clowes, G. Std. Br.; David Walsh, 1296; Richard Kershaw, S.D. 2246; H. O. Mordaunt, P.M. 90; F. A. Philbrick, Q.C., G. Reg.; E. E. Wendt, G. Sec. for German Correspondence; W. C. Jameson, 46; Richard Eve, P.G. Treas.; Sir John B. Monckton, P.G.W.; J. A. P. Ingoldby, 1871; and C. R. Mayo.

The Worshipful Master initiated Mr. Frederick George Mellows, and afterwards installed Bro. Edward Ernest Harding, the S.W. and W.M. elect. Bro. Harding having invested Bro. Herbert as I.P.M., proceeded to invest his officers, and the following brethren had the honour of bearing the different collars for the year: Bros. Frank Jameson, S.W.; E. Berlandina, J.W.; Lennox Browne, P.M., Treas.; Charles J. Harrison, Sec.; E. Warden Dennis, S.D.; Walter Clifford, J.D.; I. Shard, I.G.; Ernest Turner, P.M., Stwd.; and Henry Evenden, P.M., Tyler. On the motion of Bro. Lennox Browne, P.M., Treas., seconded by Bro. Trendell, P.M., a vote of condolence with the widow and family of the late Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, Grand Secretary, who consecrated the lodge six years ago, and was an honorary member of the lodge, was unanimously passed, and the same was ordered to be conveyed to them. After a very complimentary and well-merited tribute to the able services of the I.P.M. had been paid by the W.M. in a neat speech, a Past Master's jewel was presented to Bro. Herbert, who made an acknowledgment, in which he assured the brethren that his services had been most cheerfully rendered, as he desired that the Empire Lodge should hold a foremost place in the ranks of Masonry seeing that its objects were the binding still closer together the Colonies and the mother country. Bro. Lennox Browne then took up the cause of the Masonic Charities, and referred to the circulars which had been received from the three Institutions asking for a Steward. The lodge, he said, had adopted the plan of sending a Steward to each of them in rotation, and had already sent one for the Benevolent Institution; but as the present year was the Jubilee of the Benevolent, he thought it right that the Steward this year should stand for that Charity. He therefore offered himself, unless the W.M. would like to take the office. The W.M. said he would yield to Bro. Lennox Browne, and a notice of motion was then given for the February meeting that twenty-five guineas be voted from the lodge funds to his list.

Other Masonic business was afterwards disposed of, and the lodge having been closed, the brethren adjourned to banquet.

The usual toasts followed.

The W.M., in giving "The M.W. Grand Master," said he had hoped on this occasion to congratulate the Prince of Wales on an approaching happy event. Unfortunately that event had not happened, and they had to sympathise with the M.W.G.M. in the terrible loss he had sustained. Of course it was only those who were parents who could appreciate the awful blow the Prince of Wales had sustained.

Bro. Lennox Browne, P.M., proposed "The Pro Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," and in doing so, said the Empire Lodge was always very fortunate in seeing many Grand Officers at its meetings, and they took it not only as a great kindness on their part, but as a recognition that the lodge was in a small way, which it endeavoured to make as great as it could, to fulfil a special function, to afford a home for colonial brethren. If brethren in the Colonies wished to be affiliated and asked to be made colonial brethren of the Empire Lodge, they could become members. The lodge had not only in England many members, but it had many brethren in the Colonies who were subscribing members. During the Mastership of Bro. Trendell that lodge had been recognised as being very useful in consolidating and extending the limits of Masonry abroad and in the Colonies, and the lodge always had the honour of having visitors from the Colonies. These brethren would reply to another toast, although some of them were Grand Officers, but for the present he would not include them as respondents to that toast.

Bros. Sir John B. Monckton, P.G.W., and Le Strange responded, the latter brother referring to the death of the Duke of Clarence, which all the brethren deplored. The late Duke of Clarence was associated with Masonry in a

peculiar manner. No doubt at the wish of his father he was initiated in one lodge, passed in another, and raised in a third, so as to make himself in the early days of his Masonry acquainted with different workings. Masons had hoped that some day he might be their head when Providence should call his father to higher functions, but it had been otherwise ordained.

Bro. Gen. Laurie responded to the toast of "The Kindred Grand Lodges." He was a member of an independent Grand Lodge, but the Prince of Wales was kind enough to appoint him his representative there, and in that respect he must consider himself a Grand Officer. He hoped the interests of the different Grand Lodges would be identical, would never conflict, and would always be discharged harmoniously. Referring to the death of Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, he said it was a great loss, for Col. Clerke, by his judicious management, had prevented anything like friction. When he (Gen. Laurie) went to Nova Scotia, the District Grand Lodges, English, Irish, and Scotch, were not working in such harmony as they should, and they were pointed at by non-Masons in this way—"See how these Masons love one another." Bro. Fenn was sent out to heal the trouble, and he brought back very valuable information to the Board of General Purposes. They were dealt with very carefully by Col. Clerke, and it was not out of place to refer to the loss sustained by his death. This Empire Lodge welcomed Masons from whatever part of the world they came, feeling that they were all bound together, and on behalf of all Masons throughout the world he thanked the brethren of the Empire Lodge for their hospitality.

Bro. Herbert, I.P.M., proposed "The W.M." In the new W.M. the brethren had one who was so glib and ready a speaker that it was always a pleasure to listen to him. There was very little to be said on this toast beyond what had been said by the Past Masters over and over again, and therefore while proposing it he would just wish the W.M. a happy year of office, a good time, and plenty of work; indeed, he hoped the W.M. would be over-worked, because if he was it would be for the prosperity of the Empire Lodge, which they had all loved, which they all strove to make better and stronger, and to justify the object for which it was established.

The Worshipful Master, in reply, said he trusted the wishes of Bro. Herbert would be fulfilled. When he passed out of the chair in a year's time he hoped he might be by Bro. Herbert to congratulate the lodge on being even more prosperous than he found it when he was installed. Last year they inaugurated a little rehearsal; he hoped that would be continued. With regard to the dining portion of the lodge meetings, it was his intention to cut the speeches short, for after going through the ceremonies in lodge, if the brethren heard much more of his voice they would wish him dead. He trusted he should have a pleasant year of office.

Bro. Mellows responded to the toast of "The Initiate." Bro. Herbert, I.P.M., replying for "The Installing Master and Past Masters," said they had each, one and all, tried to do the Empire Lodge good. If he had succeeded he was only copying—he was not originating anything—he was only copying the best models. He promised at first to do his best, and although he had been afraid ill-health would force him to give it up, he managed to pull through his year, and he was glad to say he was none the worse for it. He had worked up the ceremony of installation, although he was 250 miles away from London, and he was glad he had got through with so few mistakes.

Bro. Philbrick, Q.C., Grand Registrar, in the course of his reply to the toast of "The Visitors," said the Empire Lodge stood in a unique position and fulfilled a special duty. It was at once a connecting link between the numerous Masons who acknowledge the supremacy of the Grand Lodge of England; and wherever the English flag floated, English Masonry went, and the great principles which had made this Order so strong were spread. The Empire Lodge fulfilled, and rightly fulfilled, one of the great functions of the Order, recognising first the Fatherhood of God, and next, the universal Brotherhood of man. They had in the lodge an exemplification of the thorough carrying out of the principles of the Order. As visitors he (Bro. Philbrick) and his brethren, rejoicing at the success of the lodge, congratulated the members upon the happy principles which it carried out; they rejoiced at the success of the lodge, but they were sure it was a success which had been well won, because it was founded on that which must attract the heart of man unless he be a purely selfish individual. As long as a man felt that he was not sent into the world for himself alone, but that he had a heart which in times of sorrow wanted the consolation and condolence of his friends, in times of joy was anxious to share it with those who were willing to participate in it with him, so long would the principles of Freemasonry permeate the civilised world.

Bro. Rear-Admiral Markham also responded.

The toast of "The Officers" was also given and replied to, and the Tyler's toast closed the proceedings.

A capital musical programme was carried out under the direction of Bro. Hermann Klein, Organist of the lodge, assisted by Bros. Wm. Nicholl and James H. Ley.

St. Mark's College Lodge (No. 2157).—A regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Holborn Restaurant on Friday, the 15th inst., when there were present Bros. John Tidmarsh, P.M. 2163, W.M.; W. R. Carter, P.P.G. Stwd. Herts, I.P.M.; W. Goulden, S.W.; A. Prece-Lye, J.W.; Rev. J. H. Smith, P.M., P.P.G.C. Leicester and Rutland, Treas.; John Stanton, Sec.; J. Raper Phillips, S.D.; W. T. Thompson, as J.D.; T. Simpson, as I.G.; J. O'Connell, P.M., P.P.G.O. Surrey; H. R. Elkin, and E. Cox.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes of the last regular meeting were read and confirmed. Before entering upon the business of the evening the W.M., in feeling terms, alluded to the heavy bereavement which had befallen our M.W.G.M. and the nation, and an expression of deep regret and sympathy was ordered to be recorded on the lodge minutes. The Tyler of the lodge having left England, Bro. Whiteman was unanimously elected to the vacancy, and was duly invested with the insignia of his office. The W.M. having announced his intention of acting as a Steward at the Jubilee Festival of the R.M.B.I., the sum of 10 guineas was voted from the lodge funds, the same to be paid in the name of Bro. Rev. J. H. Smith, the father of the lodge. Bro. O'Connell, P.M., in proposing the

resolution, referred to the many excellent qualities of Bro. Smith which had endeared him to every member of the lodge. Bro. Carter, P.M., seconded the resolution in a similar strain, and it was unanimously carried. Bro. Rev. J. H. Smith sincerely thanked the brethren for the compliment, which he assured them he valued very highly, and he was additionally pleased that the donation had been made to this particular Institution. A brother, who was to have been passed to the Second Degree was unfortunately unable to be present that evening, so the W.M. gave the explanation of the second tracing board, and then closed the lodge.

In consequence of the lamented death of the Duke of Clarence and Avondale, the customary banquet was dispensed with.

Duke of Fife Lodge (No. 2345).—The usual meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, the 20th inst., at the Alexandra Hotel, Clapham Common, when there were present Bros. S. Cochrane, I.P.M., as W.M.; Folkard, S.W.; J. Lyell, D.C., as J.W.; R. Steele, P.M., Treas.; C. Woods, Sec.; A. Harvey, S.D.; J. Langdon, I.G.; Robertson, Morris, H. Lynn, Lawrence, Rashleigh, H. Mitchell, and Patrick, Tyler. Apologies for absence were received from Bros. G. Everett, G. Treas.; W. W. Westley, W.M.; J. Wyer, P.P.G.D.C. Kent; Daoust, J. Mitchell, and others.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Notice of motion was given by Bro. R. Steele, Treas., for giving 10 guineas from the lodge funds to be placed on the list of the W.M., who is a Steward for the R.M.B.I. Bro. C. Woods, Sec., drew the attention of the lodge to the fact of being in mourning for the late Grand Secretary, an hon. member of the lodge. The W.M. commented on Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke's great work for the Order, and it was decided to record on the minutes the serious loss that the lodge and Freemasonry had suffered by his death. On the motion of Bro. Folkard, S.W., seconded by Bro. Harvey, S.D., it was unanimously agreed "in silence" that the Secretary be instructed to express the deep sympathy of the lodge with his Grace the Duke of Fife and H.R.H. the Duchess at the great loss that had recently fallen upon them and the nation by the death of H.R.H. the Duke of Clarence.

As a mark of respect and to show the sympathy of the lodge the usual dinner was not held after the lodge meeting.

Woodgrange Lodge (No. 2409).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Princess Alice Hotel, Forest Gate, on Wednesday, the 20th instant, under the presidency of the W.M., Bro. A. R. Trew, P.P.G.D. of Suffolk, supported by the following officers and members of the lodge: Bros. John G. Stevens, acting I.P.M.; G. Pidduck, jun., S.W.; Rob. J. Tucker, J.W.; Henry Wm. Clarke, Sec.; A. J. Hardwick, S.D.; Jas. H. Brown, J.D.; O. E. Riche, I.G.; Wm. Wilkinson, Organist; Jas. Everett, Stwd.; A. K. Turbefeild, Tyler; J. F. Reade, John Bastow, A. P. H. Fisher, C. Slater, and C. T. Knowler. Visitors: Bros. Rob. Ayton, I.P.M. 933; C. H. Cary, W.M. 1625; Edwd. Triggs, W.M. elect 2291; J. Moore Smith, 2291; Rev. W. H. W. Caseley, 1580, P.P.G. Chap. Hertfordshire; J. E. Blandford, 2262; C. J. Coltee, 781; and A. L. Dale, P.M. 1076, P.G. Sec., Essex. The brethren wore Masonic mourning as a mark of respect to the memory of the late Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, Grand Secretary of England, who so recently as September last consecrated this lodge, and was elected its first honorary member.

After the minutes had been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken for Mr. Frederick Thomas Lapham and Capt. Frederick Thomas Butter, and the same proving unanimous in their favour, they were initiated. Bro. John Bastow was passed to the Degree of F.C. Bro. J. G. Stevens alluded in very feeling terms to the death of H.R.H. the Duke of Clarence and Avondale, and the following resolution was unanimously carried and ordered to be engrossed and forwarded to the M.W. Grand Master: "That this lodge begs to offer the expression of its deep and profound sympathy to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G., &c., &c., M. Worshipful Grand Master, and the rest of the Royal Family, on the loss they have sustained by the lamented death of H.R.H. the Duke of Clarence and Avondale, K.G., Provincial Grand Master of Berkshire and Past Grand Warden." It was resolved to send a vote of condolence to Mrs. Clerke and family upon the death of the late Grand Secretary, Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke. After the Organist, Bro. W. Wilkinson had, in a very efficient manner, played the Dead March in "Saul," the lodge was closed.

PROVINCIAL MEETINGS.

BATTLE.

Abbey Lodge (No. 1184).—A meeting was held on Thursday, the 21st inst., at the Masonic Hall, when the following were present: Bros. J. B. Foster, W.M.; W. I. Pepper, S.W.; T. W. Avis, J.W.; H. G. F. Wells, P.M., P.P.G.P., Treas.; R. Hughes, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br., Sec.; W. T. Jordan, P.M., D.C., acting S.D.; F. Gorham Ticehurst, J.D.; Geo. Smith, I.G.; W. J. Newman, Tyler; W. A. Raper, I.P.M.; Walder, and others.

The brethren assembled in mourning, and the lodge having been opened and the minutes confirmed, apologies were read from several brethren who, from sickness and other causes, were unable to be present. To the prevailing complaint is also to be attributed the unusually small muster of brethren, but, although absent in the flesh, their sympathies were undoubtedly with the W.M. in proposing, with much eloquence and feeling, the principal business of the evening, viz., the expression of the heartfelt sympathy and grief of the brethren in the loss the nation and Freemasonry had sustained in the death of H.R.H. the Duke of Clarence, and their sincere sympathy with her Majesty the Queen and the sorrowing parents and relatives of the deceased Duke, and with the Princess Mary in their bereavement. This was very ably seconded by Bro. Raper, and carried unanimously. A similar resolution of sorrow at the death of Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, G. Sec., and sympathy with his widow and family was also unanimously carried. The lodge was then closed.

BEAMINSTER.

Beaminster Manor Lodge (No. 1367) —

The installation meeting of the above lodge was held in the lodge room, White Hart Hotel, on Tuesday, the 12th inst. Visitors had been expected from Weymouth, Dorchester, Bridport, and Crewkerne, but at the last moment the W.M. received numerous letters and telegrams to the effect, that in consequence of the prevailing epidemic and state of the weather, the various brethren were unable to attend. The lodge was, however, honoured with the presence of Bro. W. E. Brymer, P.M. 417, D.P.G.M., a compliment under the circumstances which the brethren fully appreciated. The D.P.G.M. was supported by Bro. W. Frost, J.W. 707, who was the only other visitor present. Many of the members of the lodge were also absent through illness. In consequence, the meeting was one of the smallest installation meetings that this lodge had ever held. The installation ceremony was performed by the retiring W.M., Bro. H. M. Maunder; the charges to the W.M., Wardens and brethren being given by Bro. Charles G. Purkis, P.M., P.P.J.G.D. The newly-installed W.M., Bro. Richard Robert Samson appointed and invested his officers for the year as follows: Bros. Harry Maunder, I.P.M.; Albert Hann, S.W.; Oliver M. Beament, J.W.; Rev. E. G. Austen, P.P.G. Chap., Chap.; James Andrews, P.M., P.P.J.G.W., Treas.; William Oxley, Sec.; Francis P. Kitson, S.D.; William R. Pile, J.D.; Charles Toleman, P.M., D.C.; Charles G. Purkis, P.M., P.P.J.G.D., Org.; Rev. E. H. G. de Castro, I.G.; Samuel Cox, P.M., P.P.G.P., and Charles Hann, P.M., Stewards; and Joseph Keech, Tyler.

At the conclusion of the business, the brethren sat down to an excellent banquet, provided by Bro. G. Squire, in the market room, under the genial presidency of the newly-installed W.M.

The usual toast list, including the toast of the worthy and distinguished visitor, Bro. W. E. Brymer, D.P.G.M., which was duly acknowledged by that brother, was gone through.

The D.P.G.M. was obliged to leave early in order to catch his train at Maiden Newton, and on leaving the banqueting room he was accorded the usual Masonic honours.

The remainder of the evening was passed in pleasant social intercourse.

BRADFORD.

Acacia Lodge (No. 2321).—A very interesting regular meeting of the members of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Darley-street, on Thursday, the 14th inst.

The lodge was opened by Bro. E. Pearson Peterson, W.M., who was supported by the following officers: Bros. S. A. Auty, I.P.M.; John Niven, S.W.; John T. East, J.W.; Chas. H. Ellis, Treas.; James B. Fearnley, Sec.; S. A. Bailey, P.M., Chaplain; Alfred Stephenson, P.M.; P.P.G.D.C., D.C.; Thos. Jowett, as S.D.; John Morton, as J.D.; Samuel Robinson, I.G.; A. Sykes, 1522; as Tyler; Thos. Wainman Holmes, P.M., P.P.G.O., Org.; Geo. Althorp, P.M., P.P.G.P.; Joseph Wilson, P.M., P.P.G. St. Br., R. J. Hird, and Wm. Sangwine, Stwds. Visitors: Bros. Henry Smith, P.M. 387, P.G.D. England; Deputy and acting P.G.M.; Rev. T. Cartwright Smyth, D.D., P.M. 2069, P.D.D.G.M. Eastern Archipelago, P.G. Chaplain England; Wm. Smith, 47; John Ingleby, W.M. 302; G. Beanland, 302; J. Hill, 302; Wm. Oddy, P.M. 387; Wilkinson Greenwood, W.M. 439; E. Hallas, P.M. 439; A. W. Ramsden, P.M. 439; P.P. A.G.D.C.; Wm. Kingdon, W.M. 600; Thos. Norfolk, P.M. 600; E. Mackay, S.W. 600; Wm. Moxon, Sec. 600; G. C. Gamble, S. of W. 600; J. T. Mugglestone, 600; C. W. Hudson, 600; M. Hayes, 600; R. A. Pullan, 600; James Tilley, 600; Tom Holdsworth, 600; Abraham Sharp, 600; Wm. Foster, 600; S. Smithies, 600; Isaac Mossop, W.M. 974; Henry Sawyer, S.W. 974; Claud Taylor, Sec. 974; Wm. H. Hale, W.M. 1018; J. W. Monckman, P.M. 1018, P.P.G.D.C.; H. Holland, Sec. 1018; H. J. Sutherland, P.M. 1018; W. S. Smith, 1018; W. Heron, 1018; Joseph Matthewman, P.M. 1019, Prov. A.G. Sec.; J. H. Walker, 1476; Wm. R. Bates, P.M. 1522; Thos. M. Holmes, P.M. 1545, P.P. G.S.B.; Wm. Nutt, P.M. 1545; T. Earp Greenough, Sec. 1545; T. Atkinson, W.M. 2069; and C. Middleton, P.M. 2069. After the lodge had been opened, Bro. Henry Smith, the Deputy and acting Prov. G. Master, with the Prov. G. Officers, Present and Past, in attendance were admitted, and the Deputy Prov. Grand Master was saluted in due form. The Worshipful Master then rose and reminded the brethren of the great calamity that had that day befallen the nation and the Craft by the death of H.R.H. the late Duke of Clarence and Avondale. Death, the great leveller of all, visited alike the palace and the cottage, and that day the death chamber at Sandringham Hall had touched the hearts of all true Britons and all true Masons, that they must beat as with one pulse in universal sympathy with those connected in close relationship with the departed Prince, and he (the W.M.) had it in command from the W.D.G.M. to order the "Dead March" in Saul to be played as a mark of fraternal regard for the memory of their lamented brother, the Royal Duke, and he therefore called upon Bro. T. Wainman Holmes, P.P.G.O., the lodge Organist, who solemnly played the "Dead March," the brethren standing to order meanwhile.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, after which the W.M. called upon Bro. Rev. T. Cartwright Smyth, D.D., P.G. Chap. England, who then delivered a most thrilling and interesting address to the brethren on his personal reminiscences of the Indian Mutiny, our reverend brother having been stationed at Meerut, where and at the time the Mutiny first broke out, and there and elsewhere for a considerable time their esteemed brother carried his life in his hands; the brethren listened with unabated interest as he (Bro. Smyth) recounted the many dangers and providential escapes that he and his friends experienced during that terrible struggle, and afterwards, when peace had again been restored, how at their lodges the brethren who had survived "fought all their battles o'er again." On the motion of Bro. A. Stephenson, P.P.G.D.C., the first W.M. of the lodge, seconded by Bro. S. A. Auty, I.P.M., a very hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the reverend brother for his address, which had been so thoroughly enjoyed by the brethren and visitors present. The ballots were then taken in Sections A and B of the Lodge Benevolent Association in support of the Masonic Charities. The D.P.G.M. kindly officiated at the drawing, which resulted in Bros. John Niven, S.W., and Goodman Root being successful; both brethren will accordingly represent the lodge as Stewards at the approaching Jubilee Festival of the R.M.B.I.

Three propositions of candidates for initiation in the lodge were received, and after "Hearty good wishes" from the visiting brethren, the lodge was closed.

The brethren subsequently assembled for refreshment, when the W.M., Bro. E. Pearson Peterson, was supported on his right by the D.P.G.M.

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

The W.M. proposed the toast of "The R.W.P.G.M., the W.D.P.G.M., and the rest of the Prov. Grand Officers, Present and Past." He stated that the visit of the Deputy P.G.M. that evening was a great honour conferred upon the lodge so early in its existence, which was much appreciated by the brethren. That was a very young lodge, and as yet had not much behind it to boast of, but the members had put their feet down, and hoped as time went on to merit the approval of those in authority, and the respect and good will of all the other lodges in the neighbourhood. The members of the lodge, in common with all the other lodges in the province, deeply regretted the painful and protracted illness of their esteemed P.G.M., Bro. F. W. Tew, J.P., P.G.D. England, and he (the W.M.) asked the D.P.G.M. to convey to him at his early convenience the assurance from Acacia Lodge; that almost the latest lodge that owed its existence to his consecrating hands, was not behind any other lodge in the province in respectful loyalty to, and sympathetic affection for, him (the P.G.M.) in his affliction. The lodge welcomed most heartily the Provincial Grand Officers, and were much encouraged and gratified by their presence.

The D.P.G.M., Bro. H. Smith, in responding to the toast, expressed the pleasure it had afforded him to visit the lodge, and his gratification at the progress the lodge had made since its consecration. He also referred to a visit he had made to the P.G.M. on the previous day, and regretted that he found him in such a feeble and delicate state of health, although hopes were entertained that there might soon be a change for the better.

The toast of "The Visiting Brethren" was proposed by the Worshipful Master, and responded to by the W. Masters of Lodges Nos. 302, 600, 974, and 1018, and by Bros. Thos. M. Holmes, P.M. 1545, P.P.G.S.B., and Wm. Oddy, P.M. 387, who respectively expressed the pleasure they had experienced in being privileged to listen to the admirable address of Bro. Dr. Thos. Cartwright Smyth, P.G. Chap. England, and at the hearty fraternal welcome they had received at the lodge.

The toast of "The Worshipful Master" was proposed by Bro. Isaac Mossop, W.M. 974, in complimentary terms, and the W.M. briefly responded.

The Worshipful Master, in proposing the toast of "The Officers of Lodge Acacia," remarked that this toast might, perhaps, be considered somewhat selfish, as he naturally wished good health to all his officers, as he (the W.M.) would be unable to do much himself without their fraternal assistance. He coupled with the toast the names of Bros. Last, J.W., and Sangwine, Stwd. He trusted the former would have health and prosperity for many years to support the lodge he had done so much to assist in founding, and that while he regretted the removal of the latter brother to another town, he wished him every prosperity in his new sphere of life.

Bros. Last, J.W., and Sangwine, briefly responded to the toast.

The Tyler's toast brought a very happy meeting to a termination.

Bros. T. Wainman Holmes, W. Greenwood, Frank Lees, T. M. Holmes, E. Hallas, Wm. Smith, and others, contributed songs, duets, solos, and recitations to the harmony of the evening.

BURJLEM.

St. Martin's Lodge (No. 98).—The usual monthly meeting of the above lodge was held at the Town Hall on Thursday, the 21st instant. The lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. John Mason, assisted by the following officers and brethren: Bros. W. Garner, I.P.M.; E. Pearson, P.M., acting S.W.; W. Boulton, J.W.; Rev. L. C. A. Edgeworth, LL.D., Chap.; R. Dain, P.M., Treas.; T. K. Pedley, P.M., Sec.; J. Beech, S.D.; R. Wilkinson, J.D.; R. Owen, I.G.; J. B. Davis, Org.; F. C. Gill, Stwd.; J. Boardman, Tyler; Godwin, P.M.; J. Pierpoint, P.M.; W. Bell, P.M.; W. Brickel, P.M.; and John Garner, W. Skellern, and W. Bentley.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been confirmed, the W.M., Bro. John Mason, said it was with the deepest regret he had to announce that since their last meeting the M.W. Grand Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, had sustained a very severe loss by the sad and melancholy event of the death of H.R.H. the Duke of Clarence and Avondale. It is long since so great a sorrow had befallen them, and the whole nation will sympathise with their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales and the Princess May in their terrible bereavement. The W.M. on hearing the sad account immediately telegraphed the sympathy and condolence of the members of this lodge to H.R.H. Albert Edward Prince of Wales, K.G., &c., M.W.G.M., which he (the W.M.) moved, and Bro. Weston seconded, that a copy of the telegram and reply to same be entered upon the minutes, in which all the brethren present acquiesced. A vote of sympathy was passed to Bro. E. Sherratt in his bereavement by the death of his wife. The W.M. opened the lodge, and the Secretary read the by-laws of the lodge, and after some discussion the usual greetings were tendered, and the lodge was closed.

The brethren adjourned for refreshment, after which the usual loyal and personal toasts were honoured. The brethren then separated. There was no singing or harmony of any kind.

CHERTSEY.

Abbey Lodge (No. 2120).—The installation meeting of this comparatively young but very flourishing lodge was held at the Masonic Hall on Wednesday, the 13th instant. The W.M., Bro. A. W. Crewdson, presided, and was supported by the following officers: Bros. E. T. Madeley, S.W., W.M. elect; H. J. Bidwell, P.M., Sec.; C. Welch, S.D.; J. Webb, I.G.; T. Dix and W. J. Fletcher, Stwds.; and G. J. Mason, Tyler. The following brethren were also present: Bros. W. H. Gardener, P.M., W.M. 771; J. Wilson, P.M.; R. J. Hunt, J. Colman, T. J. Rawlings, G. Gardener, E. Squire, C. Head, Disney-Fisher, A. G. Hutchins, E. A. Brown, J. Hunt, W. Bates, H. G. Nesmyth, C. Nesmyth, F. Winkworth, Newton Spyer, Brooks, Woodley-Smith, Harper, and McCormick. The visitors included Bros. Colonel Noel Money, P.G.M.;

Rev. J. Cater, P.G. Chap.; J. B. Lancaster, W.M., Passmore, J.W., and E. H. Gale Crowdy, I.P.M., of 2317; Gilbert White, J.W. 1395; Robinson, 1512; Catt, I.P.M. 1558; Carpenter, J.D. 1507; E. Head, 1681; Hunt, 194; and Davey, 1312.

The lodge having been opened, the minutes of the last regular meeting and of a lodge of emergency were read and confirmed. The W.M. elect was duly presented for installation by Bro. Bidwell, P.M. The Prov. G.M. then entered the lodge, and was received by the brethren and duly saluted. The ceremony of installation was impressively performed by Bro. Crewdson, and the newly-installed W.M. then invested the following officers: Bros. C. Welch, J.W.; H. J. Bidwell, P.M., Secretary; J. Webb, S.D.; T. Dix, J.D.; W. Brooks, D.C.; F. Harper, I.G.; Woodley-Smith, Org.; and McCormick and Hutchins, Stwds. A handsome Past Master's jewel was presented to the retiring W.M. for his excellent work in the chair.

At the banquet that followed, a table which was excellently served by Bro. Mason, Tyler of the lodge, the usual toast, were given, and a very excellent musical programme was gone through, in which Bros. Squire, Welch, Webb, Heads Hutchins, Bidwell, Woodley-Smith, Brown, Disney-Fisher, Harper, and other brethren took part.

DEVONPORT.

Friendship Lodge (No. 202).—The installation banquet was held in the refectory attached to the lodge in Granby-street. The W.M., Bro. H. Holman, presided, and was supported by Bros. Rev. Dr. Lemon, P.M. 189, P.P.J.G.W.; J. R. Lord, P.M. 1247, P.P.G. Treas.; H. R. Langmead, P.M., P.P.G.S.B.; E. J. Knight, P.M., P.P. G. Purst; E. Aitken-Davies, P.M. 1099, P.P.G.S. of W.; J. F. Burns, P.M., P.P.G.S. of W.; R. W. Pitcher, P.M. 230, P.P.G.P.; J. D. Sandy, P.M., Sec.; J. Leonard, P.M., Treas.; J. R. H. Harris, P.M. 230; R. Carter, P.M.; C. Price, P.M.; N. Radmore, P.M. 159; F. R. Thomas, P.M. 189; J. Oldfield, I.P.M.; W. Allsford, P.M.; A. G. Akenhead, W.M. 1136; Charles Organ, P.M.; and a large number of members and visitors.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured. In replying to the toast of "The P.G.M., and the rest of the P.G. Officers, Present and Past," Bro. J. R. Lord expressed his gratification at the improved health of the P.G.M., and trusted Lord Ebrington would rule the province for many years to come. He congratulated the W.M. and brethren on having initiated that evening a new principle with a view of retrenching expenses in order to vote more to the Masonic Charities, and commended to their particular attention the claims of the Royal Masonic Institution for Aged Masons and Widows, which was celebrating its Jubilee this year.

"The Health of the W.M." was most heartily drunk, as was also that of "The I.P.M., Bro. J. Oldfield," and "The Past Masters of the Lodge."

Bro. Oldfield, in reply, said he was proud to be one of the Past Master's of the Friendship Lodge, who were known to rank among the most ardent, zealous, and genuine Masons in the province.

Bro. Knight also responded in an appropriate speech.

Bro. W. Allsford gave in complimentary terms "The Treasurer and Secretary."

Bro. J. Leonard, in reply, said his successful efforts were mainly due to the energy and ability of their esteemed Secretary, Bro. Sandy.

The toasts of "The S.W." and "J.W." and "Assistant Officers" followed.

Bro. Charles Taylor, R.N., delivered a capital speech in response to the toast of "The Visitors."

Bro. J. R. Lord, who also replied, said they had at present 17 children on the Devon Masonic Educational Fund, which had a balance of £1100.

"The Health of Bro. J. B. Gover, the Secretary of the Fund," was then enthusiastically drunk.

A capital musical evening followed, those who contributed being Bros. R. H. Penberthy, J. A. Collings, J. Leonard, A. E. S. Akaster, Hutchings, Hedger, Burns, C. A. Organ, B.A., and R. Brickwood. Mr. F. W. Harris ably presided at the pianoforte.

HALIFAX.

Probity Lodge (No. 61).—On Monday, the 11th instant, this lodge celebrated its 154th anniversary with a banquet at the Masonic Hall, when Bro. Fred. Buckley was installed as W.M. in succession to Bro. W. Wright, I.P.M., by Bro. G. Buckley, P.P.G.D.C., assisted by Bros. J. W. Balme, P.M.; H. Crossley, P.M.; and W. Gaukroger, P.M. The lodges of St. John, St. Warren, and St. James were represented by their respective Worshipful Masters and Senior and Junior Wardens, and there were present representatives from Leeds, Bradford, Sowerby Bridge, and Elland.

After dinner, which was served by Mr. Hack, a lengthy toast list was submitted.

The Worshipful Master proposed "The Queen and the Craft" and "The Prince and Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family."

Bro. H. Crossley, P.M., proposed "The Army, Navy, and Reserve Forces," which was responded to by Bro. W. Gaukroger, P.P.S.G.D.

Bro. J. W. Davis, P.M. (Mayor), proposed "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G., M.W.G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," which was responded to by Bro. W. F. Smithson, P.S.G.W.

Bro. F. Walker, P.M., P.G.R., proposed "The R.W. Prov. G.M. of West Yorkshire, Bro. T. W. Tew, and the rest of the Prov. Grand Officers, Present and Past," which was responded to by Bro. Hy. Smith, Deputy Prov. Grand Master.

Bro. Hy. Smith, D.P.G.D., proposed "The W.M. of the Probity Lodge, No. 61," which was responded to by the W.M.

Bro. W. Cash, P.M., proposed "The Sister Lodges and our Visiting Brethren," which was responded to by the visiting Worshipful Masters.

Bro. F. Horton, S.W., proposed "The Past Masters of the Lodge of Probity," which was responded to by Bro. W. Wright, I.P.M.

Bro. J. Leach, P.M., P.P.G.T., proposed "The Officers of the lodge," which was responded to by Bro. R. Patchett, J.W.

Bro. A. Scott, D.D.C., proposed "The Ladies," which was responded to by Bro. Ackroyd, L.S.

Bro. J. W. Balme, P.M., proposed "Poor and Distressed Masons."

The list of officers for the ensuing year, as appointed by the Worshipful Master, are: Bros. Fred Buckley, W.M.; Walter Wright, I.P.M.; F. B. P. Horton, S.W.; R. Patchett, J.W.; the Rev. H. F. Wonnacott, Chap.; J. W. Balme, P.M., Treas.; Walter Emmott, Sec.; Alfred Binns, S.D.; W. Dobson, J.D.; G. H. Smith, I.G.; R. M. Kerr, Assistant Secretary and Librarian; J. H. G. Davis, D.C.; James Duff, Almoner; Scott, Deputy D.C.; G. W. Baxter, Org.; B. Rowley, Dep. Org.; J. Sagar, Tyler; S. Goodman, W. Ackroyd, J. H. Murgatroyd, W. Broadhead, R. H. Singleton, L. Crossley, A. S. White, F. W. Anderton, and L. P. B. Murgatroyd, Stwds.

Bro. J. H. Sykes furnished an excellent orchestra, which performed amongst other selections, excerpts from the opera "Sylvia," Mr. J. H. Calvert conducting. Songs were given by Messrs. Ehud Hanson, W. Milligan, F. Anderton, and Smith, and recitations by Messrs. Scott and Broadhead.

Bro. W. H. Firth, Northgate Hotel, gave great satisfaction in catering for the wines.

HEATON MOOR.

Prince Edward Lodge (No. 2109).—The members of this lodge held their annual Festival of St. John in the Conservative Hall on Thursday evening, the 14th inst., when Bro. J. W. Berra, S.W., was installed as W.M. for the ensuing year by Bro. S. I. Thomson, W.M., who performed the ceremony in a highly creditable manner. Many visitors from other lodges were present at the installation, amongst whom were Bros. J. Chadwick, P.G.S.B. England, Prov. G. Sec.; A. W. Slack, P.G.R. Derbyshire; M. Thomas, P.J.G.D.; J. Laidlow, P.P.J.G.D.; W. Webster, P.P.S.G.D.; A. Pemberton, P.P.G.D.C.; J. G. Bromley, P.M. 1375; A. Nall, I.P.M. 1375; J. Parker, W.M. 903; H. J. Small, W.M. 2363; Wollaston, W.M. 44; and others.

The following were invested as officers for the ensuing 12 months: Bros. T. T. Shann, J.P., S.W.; A. W. Reynold, J.W.; J. H. Wells, P.M., Treas.; E. Broadbent, P.M., Sec.; Rev. J. Henn, B.A., Chap.; J. Hurst, S.D.; G. Garnett, J.D.; T. A. Hopewell, P.M., P.D.G.D.C., D.C.; W. H. Mortimer, Org.; W. Coffey, I.G.; W. McElroy, J. Spilsbury, Dr. F. W. Jordan, and E. Hallwork, Stwds.; and Birchall, Tyler.

A banquet, provided by Mr. W. H. Mortimer, was afterwards partaken of by upwards of 90 brethren. The usual toasts were given and honoured during the evening.

A shade of melancholy was cast over the proceedings by the lamented death of the honoured patron of the lodge, the Duke of Clarence. But a few weeks ago the members had written to the Prince congratulating him on his betrothal with Princess May, and shortly afterwards received the kindly acknowledgment which had been read that evening in the minutes.

KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.

Dobie Lodge (No. 889).—The installation meeting of this lodge fell upon the 20th instant, the day of the funeral of the Duke of Clarence, at the Griffin Hotel, and in consequence the banquet which follows the business on that occasion was postponed until the March meeting. It was highly complimentary to the lodge and to the W.M. elect to find so many visitors attending, although the fact that there would be no festivities to follow work was made known to all invited, and their number would have been greater but for illness. Amongst those prevented was the Prov. G.M., Bro. Col. Noel Money, who was attacked by influenza, so also was the W.M. of the lodge, Bro. F. J. Hayward, in whose absence Bro. Colbron, I.P.M., took the chair of K.S., while Bro. J. Drewett, P.M., Treas., had to plead inability to attend through recent illness. Having dispatched the preliminary business, Bro. Colbron gave way to Bro. Chapman, P.M., who acted as the installing Master, and did the work which Bro. Hayward had hoped to do. Bro. Long, the senior P.M. (and member) presented the W.M. elect, Bro. A. M. Levy, and the ceremony of installation was admirably performed by Bro. Chapman. The W.M. was unable to invest all his officers owing to the illness of several of those selected, but the following received their collars: Bros. Jas. Edgell, S.W.; Joseph Bond, J.W.; C. Gardiner, J.D.; F. Honeywell, P.M., Org.; T. White, Stwd.; Edgell Westmacott, D.C.; and J. Gilbert, Tyler. A brief "call off" was made to enable all to congratulate the W. Master, and then Bro. Chapman gave the addresses in an eloquent manner. The S.W., in a most impressive manner proposed that humble addresses of condolence and sympathy be sent from the lodge to her Majesty the Queen, Patron of the Craft, and to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family, upon the death of H.R.H. the Duke of Clarence. This was seconded by Bro. Long, P.M., and when the proposition was read, every brother rose in silent assent. The addresses, with suitable letters, were drawn by Bro. Edgell, and sent off the next morning by Bro. W. Drewett, P.M., acting Sec. The sympathy of the lodge was also tendered to Bro. Tom Wilkinson, P.M., the S.D. designate, upon the loss of his father, who was a worthy man and Mason. Ten guineas were voted to Bro. Long's list for the R.M.B.I. Festival, and the lodge was closed.

The visitors included Bros. W. D. Pearse, P.M., Sec. 1872; J. H. Wade, W.M. 1360; J. H. Joseph, P.M. 43; E. Lewis, W.M. elect 1604; K. P. Hill, P.M. 2147; H. J. Shelley, P.M. 1081; M. L. Isaacs, W.M. 185; J. H. Willis, W.M. 1638; F. Lyons, W.M. elect 105; M. Emden, W.M. 105; A. E. Lyons, P.M. 105; T. H. Beck, S.W. 2146; and G. Budden, J.W. 2146.

LANCASTER.

Lodge of Fortitude (No. 281).—The annual installation meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, the 13th instant, in the Masonic Hall, Church-street. Bro. Gooch presided, the other officers present being Bros. Relph, L. D. Price, W. Atkinson, Heald, Pilkington, Parker, Grime, Armstrong, Lee, and Huntington. Amongst other members present were Bros. Nicholson, Shaw, Bayley, McRath, Harrison, Eccles, Wood, Morcom, Hatton, Sumner, Compston, and Birkett. The visitors included Bros. Goodacre, P.G. Sec.; A. L. Price, Morge, and Acton, of 1353; Wilson, Gorton, Turner, Duff, Abbot, and Baxter, of 1501; and Dixon, 46 (I.C.).

After transacting the regular business of the lodge, a Board of Installed Masters was constituted, and Bro. L. D.

Price, S.W., the W.M. elect, was presented for installation by Bro. Heald. The duties of Installing Officer was performed by Bro. Gooch, the retiring W.M., and who installed his successor into office with all the formalities of the Craft. The addresses to the Master, Wardens, and brethren were delivered by Bro. Heald, and the working tools in the Three Degrees presented by Bros. Shaw, Nicholson, and Relph respectively. The newly-elected Master subsequently appointed and invested his officers for the ensuing year as follows: Bros. Gooch, I.P.M.; W. Atkinson, S.W.; Parker, J.W.; Heald, P.M., Treas.; Pilkington, P.M., Sec.; Armstrong, S.D.; Grime, J.D.; Lee, Organist; Huntington and Compston, Stwds.; and Hamer, Tyler. The remaining business was then transacted, including the appointment of Bro. Pilkington as Charity Representative for West Lancashire, and the lodge was closed.

The brethren then adjourned to the King's Arms Hotel, where the installation banquet was held, and for which capital provision had been made by Messrs. Ducksbury. Bro. Price, the newly-installed Master, presided, and was supported by Present and Past officers of the Craft.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts consequent on such a gathering were given and responded to, the proceedings being of an interesting character.

The pleasures of the evening were augmented by the harmony contributed by Bros. Lee, Parker, Relph, Gooch, and Wood, and the performances of Bro. Eccles on the banjo.

LEWES.

South Saxon Lodge (No. 311).—The 96th installation meeting of this old and popular lodge, was held at the Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday, the 20th inst., when there were present Bros. W. Wright, W.M.; W. Stone, S.W.; A. Russell, J.W.; J. Adames, P.M., Treas.; G. Holman, P.M., Sec.; J. Peters, S.D.; W. Flint, J.D.; R. Weston, W.M. 1303, I.G.; S. Starnes, Org.; H. Hall, Tyler; G. E. Chapman, P.M.; S. Stone, P.M.; J. Every, P.M.; S. Tanner, P.M.; J. Farncomb, P.M.; R. H. Ellman, J. A. Day, W. Gates, R. A. Stock, J. Farncomb, jun., H. Granger, G. Wilson, G. H. Levett, E. H. Hales, T. Kenward, R. H. Hollyman, G. S. Phillips, J. H. Bull, and G. T. Lenny. Visitors: Bros. R. Clowes, Grand Std. Br.; V. P. Freeman P.G.D., Prov. G. Sec.; J. Creighton, W.M. 1110; G. Masters, W.M. 1797; J. H. Ranies, 52; R. Kittey, 879; W. W. Turner, P.M. 1303; P. P. Pearce, 1303; J. D. Snellgrove, 1303; and others.

After opening his lodge, reading and confirmation of the minutes, the W.M. rose and said, brethren, before we proceed further with the business of the evening, I ask your indulgence for a short time whilst I refer briefly to the sad event which has cast a gloom over the whole nation. It has pleased the God of Nations to remove from our midst one whom we all looked forward to as the probable head of the State and the Empire. We as Freemasons especially grieve for the young life thus cast off, and on the eve of that which promised so much happiness, and we deeply sympathise with our beloved M.W.G.M. his Royal father, H.R.H. the Princess of Wales, and all the members of the Royal Family, and it is my sad duty to ask you brethren in solemn silence to be upstanding whilst I read the following resolution: The W.M., officers and brethren of the "South Saxon" Lodge, No. 311, meeting at the Freemasons' Hall, Lewes, on 20th January, 1892, desire most respectfully to express their sympathy with the Most Worshipful Grand Master of England, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, H.R.H. the Princess of Wales, and all the members of the Royal House in their great sorrow at the lamented death of their eldest son H.R.H. the Duke of Clarence and Avondale, and pray that Almighty God may graciously vouchsafe every needed consolation. After the usual preliminary business, Bro. John Ansell Day was then raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason by the W.M. A Board of Installed Masters being formed, the Installing Master, Bro. W. Wright, placed Bro. W. Stone in the chair of K.S., and after salutation, he appointed the following as his officers: Bros. W. Wright, Prov. J.G.W., I.P.M.; A. Russell, S.W.; J. H. Bull, J.W.; J. Adames, P.M., P.P.G.D., Treas.; J. Peters, Sec.; W. Flint, S.D.; R. Weston, W.M. 1303, J.D.; G. Lloyd, D.C.; E. G. Hales, I.G.; S. Starnes, Org.; and H. Hall, Tyler. The addresses to the W.M., Wardens, and brethren were given by the retiring W.M., who at once proceeded to say: I have now a very sad duty to perform, namely, to move a resolution of condolence with the family of our late beloved Grand Secretary, Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke. If I may be permitted to refer to that which I conceive was the dominant feature in our late brother's character, I should say it was duty. From the time when as a young officer of 18 he climbed the heights of Alma, and in the face of a fierce foe planted the colours of his regiment on the top, to that wretched Tuesday when, although very ill, amidst the cimmerian darkness of a London fog such as has seldom been witnessed, he made his way to his office in Great Queen-street, which he left only to return to his residence and die—this characteristic prevailed. Brethren, his loss seems almost irreparable, and will be more felt as time progresses. Every English Freemason, aye, every Freemason the world over is a loser by his death, for his sympathies were cosmopolitan. In silence, brethren, and upstanding whilst I read the resolution. The W.M., officers, and brethren of the South Saxon Lodge, No. 311, meeting at the Freemasons' Hall, Lewes, on 20th January, 1892, beg to offer their sincere condolence with Mrs. Shadwell H. Clerke and family in the sad bereavement they have been called to sustain in the death of Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, Grand Secretary of United Grand Lodge of Freemasons of England, and pray that the Great Architect of the Universe may be pleased to comfort and sustain them in their sad affliction. The W.M. then, in very happy and eulogistic terms, presented the I.P.M. with a handsome Past Master's jewel, unanimously voted to him by the lodge, as a mark of the esteem of the brethren and in recognition of the manner in which he had carried out the duties of his office during the past year. Bro. Wright suitably responded. Bro. J. C. Lucas, P.M., P.P.G.W., was unanimously elected Steward to represent the lodge on the Provincial Charities Committee. The W.M. announced that, in consequence of the lamented death of H.R.H. the Duke of Clarence and Avondale, the usual annual installation banquet was postponed until Wednesday, the 17th prox., and would be at the London and Paris Hotel, Newhaven. Several candidates for initiation having been proposed, the lodge was closed.

The jewel was manufactured by Bro. George Kenning.

LIVERPOOL.

Ancient Union Lodge (No. 203).—The annual installation meeting of the members of this lodge took place on the 21st inst. at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, when a large number of brethren and Masters assembled. Bro. J. Clarke was installed W.M. by Bros. George J. Clough and Housell, the presentation being made by Bros. James, P.M., P.P.J.G.D., and B. W. Rowson, P.M., P.P.G.S. of W. The following were subsequently invested as officers: Bros. George J. Clough, I.P.M.; J. Worthington, S.W.; F. K. R. Tester, J.W.; John N. Housell, P.M., Treas.; James G. Highfield, Sec.; R. Craig, S.D.; Wm. Hudson, Org.; B. W. Rowson, P.P.G.S. of W., D.C.; J. Craig, I.G.; and D. Nicholson, A. Walters, and A. Allsopp, Stewards. The W.M. presented, on behalf of the lodge, a most handsome Past Master's jewel to Bro. Clough, I.P.M. The brethren who contributed to the musical programme were Bros. Eaton Batty, J. Griffiths, 1620; George Smith, and A. Saunders, while Bro. W. Hudson accompanied.

Subsequently the brethren adjourned to an excellent repast, catered for by Bro. J. Casey, P.M., House Steward.

Alliance Lodge (No. 667).—The annual installation meeting of the members of this lodge took place at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, on the 19th instant, when about 100 members and visitors assembled. Bro. John Procter was very effectively installed by Bro. G. Willings, P.P.S.G.D., the presentation being made by Bros. Bowyer, P.M., and T. Willings. The following were subsequently invested officers for the ensuing year: Bros. Thomas R. Willings, I.P.M.; Thomas Littlebury, S.W.; Charles Colenso, J.W.; Thomas Mason, P.M., Treas.; Richard A. Parkin, Sec.; James Bowyer, P.M., D.C.; John F. Grindley, S.D.; William Mason, J.D.; John B. Antwis, I.G.; Henry B. Wright, Org.; George Pollard and Andrew S. Cain, Stwds.; and Bro. Arthur Bucknell, P.M., was again appointed Charity representative. In the course of the evening the I.P.M. was presented with a jewel as a mark of the esteem of the brethren.

LUDLOW.

Lodge of the Marches (No. 611).—The installation festival of this flourishing lodge, took place at the Masonic Hall, on the 13th inst. Unfortunately Bro. Wicksteed, P.S.G.W., W.M., was unable to attend owing to illness, but the chair with its attendant duties was taken at very short notice by Bro. R. G. Venables, P.A.G.D.C., D.P.G.M., and the work carried out with the efficiency for which that brother is celebrated. After the transaction of routine business, which on this occasion included the presentation of the annual balance-sheet, which showed a marked increase in the wealth of the lodge, Bro. S. H. Valentine, S.W., was presented and installed in the chair of K.S., Bros. Cox, T. Roberts, McBean, Townsend and Sharp assisting Bro. Venables in the ceremony. There was an unusually large attendance of the members of the lodge and visiting brethren from Shrewsbury, Wellington, Trowbridge, Bridgnorth, Leominster, Kington, and Scotland. The W.M. appointed his officers as follows: Bros. T. J. Salwey, S.W.; T. Everall, J.W.; J. D. Cranston, Chap.; F. Cox, Treas.; R. McBean, Sec.; A. Lacey, S.D.; R. R. E. Roberts, J.D.; R. G. Venables, D.C.; C. R. Valentine, Org.; C. B. Cranston, I.G.; R. Peele and C. B. Edwards, Stwds.; J. H. Williams, Almoner; T. Roberts, Charity Representative; and J. Prince, Tyler.

Refreshment was partaken of at the Town Hall, and the usual toasts received due honour, but the disquieting news about the state of the Duke of Clarence caused a feeling of depression to be manifest.

OLD TRAFFORD.

Talbot Lodge (No. 2231).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Stretford Local Board Offices, Talbot-road, on the 15th instant. Bro. A. Shirley, W.M., presided, and was supported by the following: Bros. F. W. Goodacre, I.P.M.; Fred. Batty, S.W.; R. E. Stringleman, Sec.; J. Roberts, S.D.; Chas. Mackay, J.D.; Chas. Martyn, D.C.; E. Faulker, I.G.; W. Chesshyre, Tyler; Frank Green, H. Nickson, S. J. Silverster, W. Lowsby, J. J. Kent Fairclough, and Henry Hapgood. Visitors: Bros. C. Heywood, P.G.S.; R. Swindells, W.M. 1730; T. W. Wilson; John S. Law, W.M. 1357; E. L. Litter, P.M., P.P.G.P.; J. E. Radford, P.M. 336; G. S. Smith, P.M., W.M. 1134; J. W. Leathley, P.M. 1126; M. Thomas, P.M., P.P.J.G.D.; W. F. Farrington, W.M. 1633; and J. M. Graham, P.M. 935.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. F. W. Goodacre, I.P.M., by the Worshipful Master's permission, proposed the following resolution, which was unanimously carried: "That the members of the lodge hereby record their sincere grief at the unexpected death of H.R.H. the Duke of Clarence and Avondale, and their heartfelt sympathy with the M.W. Grand Master and the Royal Family at the great affliction which has befallen them." Bro. Fred. Batty, S.W., W.M. elect, was presented by Bro. G. R. Lloyd, P.M. The Installing Master then appointed Bros. E. L. Litter, P.M., P.P.G.P., as S.W.; Martin Thomas, P.M., P.J.G.D. East Lancs., as J.W.; and G. S. Smith, P.M., as I.G., and Bro. Fred. Batty was duly installed into the chair of K.S. The W.M. then invested Bro. A. Shirley as I.P.M., assisted by Bro. F. W. Goodacre, P.M., who presented the working tools. The W.M. invested his officers as follows: Bros. R. E. Stringleman, S.W.; John Roberts, J.W.; F. G. Goodacre, P.M., Treas.; Chas. Mackay, Sec.; Edwin Faulker, S.D.; Wm. Lowsby, J.D.; Chas. Martyn, P.M., D.C.; W. S. Batey, Org.; Harold Nickson, I.G.; James Renshaw, G. Unsworth, H. Hapgood, and Frank Green, Stwds.; and W. Chesshyre, Tyler. Bro. G. R. Lloyd addressed the Wardens, and Bro. Charles Heywood, P.M., P.P.G.S., addressed the other officers. The W.M. and brethren were addressed by Bro. A. Shirley, and the Wardens by Bro. F. W. Goodacre. "Hearty good wishes" were expressed by numerous visitors, and the lodge was closed.

At the banquet which subsequently followed, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded.

Bro. A. Shirley, I.P.M., proposed "The Health of the W.M., Bro. Fred. Batty," and said there was a deal he could say, but he would make his remarks as short as possible. It had given him great pleasure to install Bro. Batty into the chair of that lodge. They were all aware of

his sterling worth in every office, and he was quite sure he would do great credit to the high office they had placed him in that day as Master of the Talbot Lodge. He concluded by wishing the W.M. a happy year of office and a successful term in the chair.

Bro. F. Batty, W.M., in responding, said he was not a speech-maker by any means. School Boards did not exist in the days when he was a boy. Therefore they must excuse him, but he quite appreciated the high honour the brethren had conferred upon him. He found it difficult to express himself adequately, but he assured the brethren he would do his best to maintain the high standard the lodge had attained. He then proposed the toast of "The I.P.M., Bro. Shirley," and said whatever anticipations had been formed of Bro. Shirley they had been fulfilled. He entered in the office of W.M. with the good feelings of every member, and he had conducted the affairs so well that the same feelings still existed to such an extent that the brethren of the lodge had decided to subscribe and present him with the very handsome Past Master's jewel he had now in his hand. He desired in the name of all the brethren to present it to Bro. Shirley, and he hoped he would live long to wear it as a token of how much he was esteemed by the members of the lodge.

Bro. A. Shirley thanked the brethren for their great kindness to him during the past year, and although it had not been as successful as previous ones, yet he had been quite prepared to do anything that would be required. Circumstances over which he had no control had arisen that he was not able to attend as regularly as he would have desired. But he was pleased to see that the brethren had such good feelings towards him, and which they had shown by presenting him with the beautiful jewel which had just been placed on his breast. He should always wear it with pride, and consider it as an heir-loom in his family. And he hoped it would be handed down to his son, whom he trusted one day would be one of the Craft.

The jewel bore the following inscription: "Presented by the brethren to Bro. A. Shirley, P.M., in recognition of his services as W.M. during 1891."

A capital musical programme added much to the evening's enjoyment, songs being given by Bros. Seth Wrigley, P.M., Edwin Faulkner, Frank Green, Batey, Wilson, G. S. Smith, P.M., Martin Thomas, P.J.G.D., and Charles Mackay, Bro. Batey acting as accompanist. Bro. Seth Wrigley, P.M., also gave a delightful solo on the zither-harp, which was much appreciated.

The jewel was manufactured by Bro. George Kenning.

ROMILEY.

Oakwood Lodge (No. 1126).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Saturday, the 10th inst., at the Nantioal Schools. The following brethren were present: Bro. T. Walker, W.M.; J. W. Leathley, P.M.; H. Leathley, S.W.; J. Taylor, J.W.; J. H. Hartley, Treas.; H. Woodall, P.M., Sec.; J. Brine, S.D.; Hy. Greenhalgh, I.G.; W. Connor, P.M.; J. Rosser, P. H. Mitchells, P.M.; R. W. Baker, P.M., P.P.G. Org.; W. H. Ross, T. M. Draper, T. R. Margison, and H. White. Visitors: Bros. H. Finch, P.G. Reg.; Hawthorn Thornton, W.M.; T. Gillibrand, W.M.; C. H. Andrew, W.M.; J. G. Bromley, P.M.; William Booth, P.P.G.D.C.; G. S. Smith, P.M.; J. E. Radford, P.M.; W. Dumville, P.M.; and Mark Stafford, P.M.

The lodge was opened by the W.M., and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The Auditor's report was received and adopted. Bro. H. Finch, P.G.R., took the chair as Installing Master. Bro. Rev. H. Leathley, S.W., W.M. elect, was presented by Bro. J. W. Leathley, P.M., and was installed into the chair in a most effective manner. The W.M. was proclaimed and saluted in the Three Degrees. The working tools were presented respectively by Bros. W. Connor, P.M.; J. W. Leathley, P.M.; and W. F. Brownrigg, P.M. Bro. Hy. Woodall, P.M., presented the warrant, Constitution, &c. The W.M. invested his officers as follows: Bros. Thomas Walker, Charity representative, I.P.M.; John Taylor, S.W.; John Brine, J.W.; Rev. Herbert Moore, Chap. (Hon.); J. H. Hartley, P.M., P.P.G.P., Treas.; Hy. Woodall, P.M., Sec.; E. Clough, S.D.; Henry Greenhalgh, J.D.; J. W. Leathley, P.M., D.C.; J. H. Hartley, P.M., P.P.G.P., Org.; Harry White, I.G. James Rosser, Thos. Henry Margison, and F. Walker, Stwds.; and Jos. Jas. Wilton, Tyler. The officers were afterwards addressed by Bros. J. H. Hartley, P.M., and H. Finch. Bro. Finch addressed the W.M. and brethren, and Bro. J. W. Leathley, P.M., the Wardens. The W.M. said it was with extreme regret he had to announce that Bro. H. Howard, who was to have installed that day, would not be present on account of the death of his wife, and a vote of condolence was unanimously agreed upon, which was forwarded to Bro. Howard. Bro. Rev. H. Leathley, W.M., said he had now a most pleasing duty to perform, inasmuch as the brethren had decided to mark the esteem they had for Bro. Thomas Walker, I.P.M., and they had subscribed spontaneously towards purchasing a handsome Past Master's jewel. During the year he had presided over the lodge he had been loyal and had done his duty to the satisfaction of everyone. He had had a very successful year, and he trusted that same success would continue with him through life, and asked him to accept the jewel, and he trusted he would long be spared to wear it.

"Hearty good wishes" were expressed from very many visitors, and the lodge was closed.

Subsequently a banquet was prepared to celebrate the Festival of St. John, at which Bro. Rev. H. Leathley, P.M., W.M., presided. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to.

"The Health of the W.M." was proposed by Bro. Thos. Walker. He said: We are, as a body of men and members of this lodge, indeed glad that we have this day installed another Leathley to preside over us. Whilst your brother was Master the lodge was prosperous and happy, and I feel sure that you also will add great lustre to this lodge, and we have every confidence that in your hands the brethren will have good treatment and the lodge worked successfully, and it is very gratifying to know that all of us feel we have a good and kind Master.

Bro. H. Leathley, in response, said he had heard of the popularity which his brother enjoyed during his year of office, and he was also cognizant of the fact that other of his predecessors had presided with great ability, and he should endeavour all in his power to give satisfaction to the brethren during his year of office, and he assured them that nothing but illhealth would prevent him from attending regularly. He thanked them for reposing in him the

guidance of the lodge, and assured them it was with great pleasure he presided over them, and concluded by wishing every member God-speed.

Other toasts followed, but on account of some delay in the installation ceremony the time was very limited, as many of the brethren had to go long journeys, so that they were all very brief.

The pleasure of the evening was very much enhanced by the charming glee singing of Bros. Mark Stafford, P.M.; W. Dumville, P.M.; W. Alcock, and W. Booth, P.M., P.P.G.D.C.; and Bro. R. W. Baker, P.P.G.O., acted as accompanist in a most delightful manner and with great ability.

The jewel was manufactured by Bro. George Kenning.

SOUTHEND.

Priory Lodge (No. 1000).—The installation meeting was held on Thursday, the 14th inst., at Middleton Hotel, when there were present Bros. G. Berry, P.M.; W. D. Merritt, P.M., P.P.S.G.W.; C. Floyd, P.M., P.P.A.G.P.; G. J. Glascock, P.M., P.P.G.S.B.; T. Hood, P.M., Prov. G. Stwd.; A. Prevost, H. Brown, jun., L. Warren, F. Cantor, W. T. Darke, G. Brown, G. F. Vander-vord, H. O. Grenfell, G. L. Wood, P.M. 160, P.P.A.G.D.C.; W. Burton, J. A. Mason, J. Pritchard, W. Trigg, W. Elam, and E. Wright. Visitors: Bros. W. Willson, P.M. 160, P.P.G.S.B.; G. Palmer, P.M. 781; J. Walker, 160; W. J. Light, P.M. 209, P.P.G.D. Kent; G. J. Thomas, P.M. 1194; W. Clarke and R. F. Bourn, 160; C. Tichaz, P.M. 917; W. Fowler, 1728; T. Mayes, 1613; G. Moss, P.M. 1851, P.P.G.D.C. Surrey; C. J. Russell, 1837; W. S. Miller, 2264; W. H. Judd, 1734; R. G. Settenfield, 1817; W. J. Chignell, A. J. Arthy, W.M.; H. Harper, P.M., Sec., P.P.G.S.B.; and W. Taylor, 160.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes of the preceding meeting were read and confirmed. The Auditors' report, which showed the lodge to be in a flourishing state, was adopted. Bro. F. A. Philbrick, Q.C., D.P.G.M., G. Reg., was announced and received with the honours due to his rank, and afterwards installed Bro. B. Thomas as W.M. for the ensuing year. A vote of thanks was unanimously accorded to the D.P.G.M. The following officers were invested: Bro. A. Vandervord, S.W.; C. W. Barnard, J.W.; Rev. T. W. Herbert, P.P.G.C., Chap.; F. Wood, P.M., P.P.S.G.W., Treas.; A. Sucking, P.G.P., Sec.; T. J. Cumine, S.D.; E. J. Bowmaker, J.D.; G. R. Dawson, P.M., P.P.S.G.D., D.C.; R. J. Smith, I.G.; B. Fearnside, Mus. Bac., Org.; J. A. Hobday, S.W. 160, and W. Tyler, Stwds.; and A. W. Martin, P.G.T., Tyler. Bro. F. Wood, P.M., Treas., was re-elected to represent the lodge on the Charity Committee of the Province, and 40 guineas were voted out of the General Fund of the lodge to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution to be placed on the lists of Bros. F. Wood, P.M., Treas., and A. Lucking, P.M., Sec., who represent the lodge as Stewards. A vote of condolence with the M.V.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, on the death of his son, H.R.H. the Duke of Clarence and Avondale, P.G.W., and Prov. G.M. Berkes, was unanimously agreed to, and a copy ordered to be transmitted to his Royal Highness the M.V.G.M. Three candidates for initiation were proposed. A Past Master's jewel was presented to the I.P.M., Bro. T. Hood, for his services during the past year. "Hearty good wishes" having been given by the visiting brethren the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to a banquet presided over by the Worshipful Master.

The jewel was manufactured by Bro. George Kenning.

TIPTON.

Noah's Ark Lodge (No. 347).—The members of this lodge, which is one of the oldest in the province, held their annual festival in the lodge room at the Star Hotel, Bloomfield, on Friday, when there was a large attendance of members and also visiting brethren. Amongst those present were Bros. A. Smith, W.M.; W. H. Smith, S.W.; E. W. Smith, J.W.; W. Brown, Treas.; R. Mason, Sec.; G. Bott, S.D.; W. H. Fellowes, J.D.; J. Powell, P.M., D.C.; G. H. Newns, I.G.; J. Totty, Tyler; G. M. Waring, P.M.; J. Whitworth, P.M.; J. Powell, P.M.; J. Stanford, P.M.; and J. Collins, P.M. The members and visiting brethren present were Bro. Dr. Belcher, P.G.O. Warwickshire; M. Smith, T. Clulee, E. M. Scott, Bailey, Bolt, James Jones, J.W. Harmonic, Worcestershire; the Rev. J. W. Down, Prov. G. Chap. Worcestershire; H. J. W. Ince, R. Dainty, M. Fletcher, J. Tyler, W. Stansfield, W. Whitehouse, A. Morton, W. Hall, J. Hall, J. Pasfield, J. Hamblett, W. C. Palethorpe, T. Harper, and others.

The lodge having been opened, it was announced that Bro. W. H. Smith, S.W., had been unanimously elected Worshipful Master, and the usual questions having been put to him by the Secretary, Bro. A. Smith performed the ceremony of installation in a highly impressive manner, the addresses to the Wardens and brethren being given in a very pleasing manner by Bro. G. M. Waring, P.P.G.W. The Worshipful Master afterwards invested the following brethren as his officers, to each of whom he delivered a very appropriate address on his respective duties: Bros. A. Smith, I.P.M.; E. W. Smith, S.W.; G. Bott, J.W.; Brown, P.M., Treas.; E. Deering, Sec.; W. H. Fellowes, S.D.; R. Mason, J.D.; James Powell, P.M., D.C.; M. Fletcher, I.G.; Alex. Smith, P.M., Org.; H. W. J. Ince, Stwd.; and F. Totty, Tyler. The Secretary announced that a letter of apology had been received from the Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Lieut.-Col. Foster Gough, regretting his inability to be present. Apologies were also received from a number of brethren regretting their absence through illness.

After the lodge had been closed, the brethren adjourned to the banquet room.

At the conclusion of the banquet the Worshipful Master gave the toast of "The Queen and the Craft," which was heartily received, after which he gave the toast of "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G., M.V. Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," and in doing so referred to the sad bereavement which had befallen the Grand Master of England, the Princess of Wales, and the Princess May by the death of the Duke of Clarence. He remarked that as Masons and Englishmen they deeply sympathised with the Royal Household, the whole of the circumstances being of an exceedingly painful character. In the Duke of Clarence the Craft had lost a very worthy brother, he having since his initiation taken the greatest possible interest in the work, and no doubt had he lived he would have occupied a much higher position in the Masonic world. He was quite sure that the Grand Master

of England had the sympathy of every Mason in England in the very great loss he had sustained.

Bro. J. Whitworth proposed "The R.W. Bro. Colonel Foster Gough, P.G.S.B., P.G.M.; the V.W. Bro. Colonel Brindley, D.P.G.M.; and the Officers of the Prov. Grand Lodge, Present and Past." He referred to the great amount of work done by the Prov. Grand Master throughout the Province of Staffordshire, and said the members of the Craft had reason to be highly pleased that Col. Foster Gough had undertaken such important duties.

Bro. Waring having responded, proposed the toast of "The W.M." He said he did so with a great deal of pleasure, because he well knew that it would be well received in the lodge, Bro. W. H. Smith having always since his initiation taken great interest in Freemasonry, and performed the duties of his respective offices in a very efficient manner. He was fully persuaded that the brethren would not have cause to regret the choice they had made in electing Bro. W. H. Smith to the very important office of W.M. of that lodge.

The Worshipful Master, in responding, said he very much appreciated the honour conferred upon him, and he hoped with the assistance of the officers and other brethren the lodge would make still further progress during the present year.

Bro. Powell proposed "The Installing Master," and in doing so paid him a high compliment for the very interesting manner in which he had performed the ceremony.

Bro. A. Smith, I.P.M., in responding, said he very much appreciated the kind remarks of Bro. Powell, and said his sole ambition had been to do his best in Masonry. He was glad to state that during his year of office there had been a considerable increase in the number of ceremonies, and also in the contributions to the Charities.

The W.M. proposed "The Visitors."

Bros. Dr. Belcher, M. Smith, T. Clulee, and E. M. Scott responded, the latter stating that the members of the lodge could boast of a very exceptional incident, viz., that of having had three brothers of one family in the three chairs in the same year. He referred to Bros. A. Smith, W. H. Smith, and E. W. Smith.

Bro. E. W. Smith proposed "The Past Masters," and Bro. J. Collins responded.

Other toasts were observed, which were interspersed with music rendered by Bros. Dr. Belcher, the W.M., A. Smith, E. W. Smith, G. M. Waring, W. H. Fellowes, W. Stansfield, and G. H. Newns.

TRURO.

Phoenix Lodge of Honour and Prudence (No. 331).—The annual festival and installation meeting was held on Monday, the 18th instant.

The lodge having been opened, Bro. H. W. Hockin, S.W., W.M. elect, was presented to the W.M. by Bro. Anderton for the benefit of installation. The ceremony was most ably performed by the W.M., Bro. G. H. Chilcott, P.G.R., assisted by Bro. E. Forbes Whitley, and supported by the following large Board of Installed Masters: Bros. Rev. Edgar Hextable, P.P.G.C.; T. H. Lake; J. J. Hawken, P.P.G.T.; Joseph Rogers, P.P.G.D.C.; John Brewer, P.P.A.G.S.; E. D. Anderton, P.P.S.G.W.; Charles Bryant William Lidgely, P.P.J.G.D.; W. H. Christie, P.P.S.G.D.; P. Colville Smith, W.M. 357, P.S.G.W. Oxford; E. W. Carus-Wilson, W.M. 1529; Rev. R. F. Fraser-Frizzell, W.M. 131, P.P.G.C.; J. W. Middleton, P.P.S.G.D.; John Roberts, W.M. 2369; G. M. Downing, P.P.A.G.D.C.; N. B. Bullen, P.P.G.O.; T. C. Mack, P.P.S.G.D.; J. R. C. Crewes, P.P.A.G.D.C.; Bernard F. Edyvean, 330, P.S.G.W.; and T. R. Grylls, 75, P.P.G.S.B. The W.M. then invested his officers as follows: Bros. G. H. Chilcott, I.P.M.; R. J. Newby, S.W.; E. Rundle, J.W.; E. W. Carus-Wilson, Chap.; C. Bryant, P.M., Treas.; E. L. Carlyon, Sec.; W. E. Kilminster, S.D.; W. H. Bücher, J.D.; B. Carter, D.C.; F. J. Mountford, I.G.; E. F. Whitley, P.M., Org.; and W. H. Liddicoat, Stwd.

Following the closing of the lodge the installation banquet was held, an excellent repast being served by Bro. W. F. Clarke.

The newly-installed W.M. presided, and dinner being over, the usual loyal and Masonic toast list was gone through, the first-named being drunk in silence, and many complimentary references were made to the Master on his having attained to so high a position in such a distinguished lodge.

A pleasant evening was thus brought to a conclusion, several of the brethren contributing to the harmony of the meeting with songs.

YORK.

York Lodge (No. 236).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, the 18th instant, at the Masonic Hall, Duncombe-place, the W.M., Bro. E. W. Purnell, presiding, supported by his officers as follows: Bros. Jno. Sampson, S.W.; A. Jones, J.W.; C. Linley, Chap.; J. Todd, P.M., P.P.S.G.W., Treas.; C. Anderson, Sec.; G. Carter, S.D.; M. Bryson, J.D.; A. Procter, D.C.; F. W. Laughton, acting I.G.; A. Sample, Org.; J. A. Askew and W. N. Stimpson, Stwds.; and J. Hall, Tyler. The following Past Masters were present: Bros. T. S. Brogden, I.P.M.; J. Sykes Rymer, P.P.G.R.; S. Border, P.P.G.R.; and Mark Rooke, P.P.G.D. Amongst others present were Bros. A. F. King, P.S.W.; H. Scott, E. R. Turner, Thos. Smith, H. Churchill, T. Archey, A. Stead, C. Wardle, and T. Rawling.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes of the last regular meeting having been confirmed, Bro. J. Todd, P.M., Treas., said that before the business of the lodge was commenced, he felt sure that the brethren would agree with him that something should be said with regard to the sad event which had happened within the last few days—he referred to the death of his Royal Highness the Duke of Clarence. This melancholy event was at once a national calamity, and a deep loss to Freemasonry. In York this was especially felt, Prince Albert Victor having resided nearly four years in the old city whilst attached to his regiment. The late Prince was a true Mason, and it was only a short time ago that the hall in which they were assembled was graced with his presence, when the annual festival in aid of the Education Fund for the province took place. Many of them had also met him on other occasions in connection with city affairs or in Masonic gatherings—hence his lamented death became a very personal matter with them, both as citizens and Masons, and he was sure that the terms of the resolution he had to propose would express the feelings of the brethren. He moved "That this lodge desires to record its deep sense of the

great loss sustained by the nation and the Craft through the lamented death of the R.W. Bro. H.R.H. Prince Albert Victor of Wales, Duke of Clarence and Avondale, P.G. Warden, Prov. G.M. of Berkshire, and Citizen of York, and its sincere sympathy with the M.W. Grand Master, the Prince of Wales, the Princess of Wales, the Princess Victoria Mary of Teck, and the other members of the Royal Family, in their heavy bereavement." Bro. Rymer, P.M., P.P.G.R., seconded the resolution in sympathetic terms, and touched upon the fact that he had had the honour of entertaining the Prince several times at the Mansion House during his mayoralty, and it had also been his privilege to make Prince Albert Victor a freeman of the city of York. The Worshipful Master, in supporting the resolution, said that the late Prince was endeared to them as a fellow citizen and a Mason. In no place in this country would his loss be felt more than in York. It was a shock to the nation, and everyone must feel the deepest sympathy with the bereaved ones, especially with the Princess whom he was about to raise to a position of domestic happiness. The resolution was then adopted in the usual manner of Masons. Bro. S. Border, P.M., moved, and Bro. T. S. Brogden, I.P.M., seconded the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted: "That this lodge desires to record its regret at the loss sustained by the Craft through the death of V.W. Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, Grand Secretary, and hon. member of this lodge."

Bro. J. Sykes Rymer, P.M., P.P.G.R., then proceeded with an address "On his recent Masonic experiences in America," and in the course of an instructive and, in some respects, humorous lecture, he traced his journey in the "City of Berlin" across the "herring pond," and described his visits to Washington, Brooklyn, New York, George Town, Chicago, &c. He spoke in warm terms of the kind reception he met with at the hands of American Freemasons, and paid a tribute to the work done by General Pike, Bro. Webber, and General John C. Smith. He expressed his thanks to Bros. W. J. Hughan, T. B. Whythead, and Jos. Todd for their letters of introduction to prominent Masons in America, who, in consequence, conducted him through various interesting events. He told of a curious custom at Washington with regard to wearing "top hats" at certain ceremonies, and he stated that a lodge at Nottingham worked in this way. A question was put "Where does the W.M. place his hat?" and the answer was "On Nature's peg." The lecturer described what he had seen in connection with American installations, and urged the desirability of adopting the American plan of admitting ladies to certain social entertainments occasionally in which Masons' wives and other members of their families could take a part. Why should they be enjoying themselves and their wives and families, or sisters, be left at home. He spoke highly of the hospitality extended to him by the American Masons. The lecturer presented several valuable books to the lodge which he had collected in America. Bro. J. Todd, P.M., proposed a vote of thanks to the lecturer for his address and for his present of books, and endorsed the suggestion of Bro. Rymer as to the desirability of having ladies present at social entertainments. He said that American Masons looked upon York with deep respect as the mother city of Masonry not only in England, but the world. Thus Bro. Rymer being a prominent member of that lodge, would naturally meet with the cordial reception he received from Americans. Bro. Rymer had made an excellent impression on his American brethren. Bro. H. Foster, P.M., seconded the vote of thanks, and endorsed some of Bro. Rymer's remarks from his several visits to America some years ago. The vote of thanks was passed with applause, and the lodge was closed.

In consequence of the death of the Duke of Clarence, the lodge was draped in mourning.

Royal Arch.

GUERNSEY.

Loyalty Chapter (No. 243).—The members of this flourishing chapter assembled at the Masonic Temple, on Thursday, the 14th inst., to aid in the ceremony of installing the Principals and investing the officers for the ensuing year. The installation ceremony was confided to the hands of Comp. Balfour Cockburn, P.Z., who has for some years past acted as Installing Principal of this chapter, of which he is an honorary member. Comp. Thorn was installed as Z., Comp. Nicolle, as H.; and Comp. Stranger, as J. The officers were then duly invested. The Treasurer, Comp. Quick, P.Z., then in touching terms alluded to the melancholy news which had that day reached the island, and in brief but most appropriate and feeling language, proposed that an expression of condolence should be forwarded to the Grand Superintendent. This was seconded by Comp. Smythson, P.Z., and carried without a dissentient voice. The banquet which usually attends this annual ceremony passed off very quietly; the sad intelligence of the Duke of Clarence's death having thrown a gloom over the whole of the comparisons, which it was impossible to dispense.

MANCHESTER.

Caledonian Chapter (No. 204).—The regular convocation of this chapter was held on Thursday, the 21st inst., at Freemasons' Hall. There was a large assembly of comp nions present. Comp. R. A. Eldershaw, Z., presided. The chapter having been opened, and the minutes of the previous convocation read and confirmed, the ballot was taken for Bro. J. Townley Trotter, and having been elected, was exalted by Comp. J. Cliff, P.Z., with very great effect. Comp. W. B. Russell, P.S., performed his important duty in a most masterly manner. Comp. A. H. Jefferis, P.G.J., took the chair, and called upon Comp. Andrew to read the dispensation granting Comp. C. Swinn entitled to be installed into the Second Principal's chair. Comps. Willis, C. Swinn, and Russell were presented to the Installing Officers by Comp. R. A. Eldershaw, Z., and they were installed—the Z. by Comp. A. H. Jefferis, P.G.J., and the H. and J. by Comp. J. Cliff, P.Z.

The following were present: Comps. R. A. Eldershaw, Z.; W. Willis, H.; Wm. Aldred, Treas.; Chas. Swinn, S.E.; Edgar Towell, S.N.; W. B. Russell, P.S.; M. Thomas, 1st A.S.; R. Hughes, 2nd A.S.; T. Sallon, P.Z.; Jno. Cliff, P.Z.; A. B. Bennett, P.Z.; T. D. Hooper, P.Z.; N. Dumville, P.Z.; Jas. Andrew, M. Miller, A. K. Boothroyd, J. M. Veal, J. Watson, J. Han-

cock, G. W. Thornhill, Joseph Hill, Thos. Shorrocks, Jas. Hargreaves, and Jas. Sty, Janitor. Visitors: Bros. A. H. Jefferis, P.G.J.; A. B. Outram, P.Z.; G. S. Smith, Z. 645; Henry Nall, J. 1387; F. C. Sugden, 21; and Wm. Richmond.

MARYPORT.

Nicholson Chapter (No. 371).—The regular convocation of this chapter was held in the Freemasons' Hall on Wednesday, the 20th instant, when the following were present: Comps. E. G. Mitchell, P.A.G.S., Z.; J. Dickenson, P.G.S.B., H.; J. Abbott, P.G. Std. Br., J.; P. De E. Collin, P.Z., P.P.G.H., Treas.; J. O. Scott, Scribe E.; T. Swainson, P.S.; J. Smith, Org.; J. Messenger, Janitor; J. Nicholson, P.Z., P.P.G.H.; R. Brown, P.Z., P.P.A.G.S.; J. Gardiner, P.Z., P.P.G.J.; Geo. Dalrymple, P.Z., P.P.G.H., P.G.S.E.; T. Mandie, P.Z., P.P.G.S.B.; and J. Kendal.

The minutes of last convocation were read and confirmed. Bros. Thos. Atkinson, I.P.M. 1002, and George Wood Turney, 144, were exalted to the Degree of Royal Arch Masons by Comp. Dalrymple, P.Z., P.G.S.E., &c., who also gave the three lectures in his usual well known and impressive manner. The following were elected Principals and officers for the ensuing year: Comps. Jas. Dickenson, M.E.Z.; J. Abbott, H.; H. Peacock, J.; P. de E. Collin, Treas. (for the 12th year); J. O. Scott, Scribe E.; T. Swainson, Scribe N.; T. Atkinson, P.S.; Geo. W. Turney, 1st A.S.; E. B. Penrice, 2nd A.S.; John Smith, Org.; and J. Messenger, Janitor.

There being no further business to transact, the chapter was closed, and at the invitation of the Principals the companions adjourned to the ante-room, where refreshments were partaken of, and a very pleasant evening was spent.

Mark Masonry.

HULL.

De la Pole Lodge (No. 329).—The installation of the Worshipful Master of this lodge, Bro. G. W. Greenwood, took place on Friday, the 15th inst., in the Humber Lodge, Osborne-street (by kind permission of the W.M., Bro. A. E. Kessen), their own lodge in Kingstonsquare being rendered untenable through the late fire at the Public Rooms. There was a fair attendance of the members of the lodge and several visiting brethren, including Bros. George Wilson, P.M.; W. Tesseyman, P.M.; M. Haberland, P.M.; R. Beevers, P.M.; Andrew King, P.M.; E. Corris, P.M.; J. Mackrill, P.M., P.S.W.; and J. Thyer, P.M., Secretary of the Humber Lodge. The ceremony was ably performed by Bros. G. Wilson, P.M., and E. Corris, P.M., who received the hearty thanks of the Master and brethren. The following are the officers for the ensuing year: Bros. W. Stratford, I.P.M.; R. W. Cooper, S.W.; J. W. Wood, J.W.; Stoddart, M.O.; A. East, S.O.; Gibb, J.O.; J. R. Ansdell, P.M., P.P.G.S.B. Lincolnshire, Treas.; C. W. Cheesman, P.M., P.P.G.O. Lincolnshire, Secretary and Lecture Master; Snowden, Org.; A. Moody, D.C.; R. Marks-Hellyer, S.D.; Harker, J.D.; Cox, I.G.; H. Hirst, P.M., Stwd.; and Lambert, Tyler. The death of the Duke of Clarence was feelingly alluded to, and a vote of condolence with the Grand Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, was unanimously passed.

The business of the lodge having been concluded, the brethren adjourned to the handsome dining-hall, where the creature comforts was liberally catered for by the Steward, Bro. J. K. Gibb, and the loyal and Masonic toasts duly honoured.

MARYPORT.

Whitwell Lodge (No. 151).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 24th inst., at the Masonic Hall. Bro. J. O. Scott, P.J.G.O., W.M., presided, supported by his officers, the following brethren being also in attendance: Bros. Jos. Nicholson, P.M., P.P.S.G.W., P.J.G.D. England; J. Gardiner, P.M., P.P.S.G.W., P.G. Sec., P.G.S. England; E. B. Penrice, P.M., P.J.G.W.; T. Swainson; and R. Leach, P.P.A.G.D.C.

The lodge having been opened, the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. One candidate was proposed for advancement. The following resolution was moved by the W.M., seconded by Bro. Gardiner, P.M., &c., supported by Bro. Leach, P.P.A.G.D.C., and carried unanimously: "That this meeting respectfully approach his Royal Highness the M.W.G.M.M.M., and her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales with the expression of our most sincere sympathy and sorrow at the loss which her Majesty the Queen, your Royal Highnesses, and the rest of the Royal Family have sustained by the untimely death of his Royal Highness the Duke of Clarence and Avondale." After the transaction of other business, the lodge was closed.

TWICKENHAM.

Sir Francis Burdett Lodge (No. 181).—This lodge met at the Albany Hotel on the 20th instant. Among those present were Bros. A. J. R. Simmonds, W.M.; H. Higgins, P.M., acting S.W.; Davis, J.W.; Woodruff, M.O.; Von Joel, S.O.; George Everett, J.O.; Capt. T. C. Walls, P.M., Secretary, P.G.S.B.; W. W. Westley, J.D.; C. H. Köhler, P.M.; J. T. Briggs, P.M., P.G. Std. Br.; and others.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the Secretary reported that he had just received a telegram that Bro. W. Thomas, S.W., W.M. elect, had been suddenly taken ill, therefore the installation would have to be postponed. A telegram of sympathy having been dispatched to Bro. Thomas, a vote of regret was also passed and ordered to be entered on the minutes. A resolution was likewise passed regretting the great loss sustained by the Mark and other Degrees in Masonry by the death of H.R.H. the Duke of Clarence and Avondale, P.G.W. (Mark), &c. A Past Master's jewel was presented to the W.M., who duly returned thanks. Bro. Simmonds having been elected to represent the lodge at the forthcoming Festival of the Mark Benevolent Fund, the Secretary gave a notice of motion to vote the sum of three guineas to that excellent Institution. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Bros. W. Fisher, P.M., G.S., Treas.; E. Hopwood, P.M., P.P.G.S. of W.; W. Porter, P.M.; and others.

Lodge was then closed, and the brethren partook of refreshment.

Lodges and Chapters of Instruction.

NEPTUNE LODGE (No. 22).—A meeting was held on Monday, the 25th inst., at the Gauden Hotel, Clapham, when there were present Bros. King, W.M.; Sandberg, S.W.; Langdon, J.W.; Westley, Preceptor and Treas.; Poole, acting as Sec.; Russell, S.D.; Nettleship, J.D.; Lyle, I.G.; Folkard, Cheese, Laker, Ellison, Steele, Lipscombe, Lyell, W. T. Perkins, Chesterton, Rankin, Barclay Perkins, Windsor, and Broomfield. Visitors: Bros. C. Lock, 1028; H. Wakeford, 1558; E. J. Howard, 1331; and W. E. Bennett, 1058.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation being announced, and Bro. Lock having offered himself as a candidate, was initiated. The ceremony of passing being announced, and Bro. Lyell having offered himself as a candidate, and having answered the usual questions, was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree. The 1st Section of the Lecture was worked by Bro. Westley. Bro. Lyell was passed to the Second Degree. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree. The W.M. rose for the first time, and dues were collected. Bros. C. Lock, W. E. Bennett, E. J. Howard, and H. Wakeford were unanimously elected joining members. Bro. Sandberg was elected W.M. for the next meeting. The W.M. rose for the second time, and Bro. Westley was unanimously and with applause re-elected Treasurer and Preceptor for the ensuing year, and Bro. Poole was elected temporary Secretary. An Audit Committee was appointed on Monday, the 1st prox., and a Committee was appointed to arrange for the annual supper. The W.M. rose for the third time, and the lodge was closed.

BLACKHEATH LODGE (No. 1320).—The usual weekly meeting was held at the Milkwood Tavern, Milkwood-road, Loughborough Junction, on Monday, the 25th inst., when there were present Bros. Jenkins, W.M.; Hill, S.W.; Lord, J.W.; Hooper, Preceptor; Stone, Sec.; Turner, S.D.; Gaze, J.D.; S. J. Martin, P.M., I.G.; Lazenby, Orton, Spicer, and Durie.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, and Bro. Durie having offered himself as a candidate, answered the usual questions, and retired. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the ceremony of passing was rehearsed. Bro. Spicer having offered himself as a candidate, answered the usual questions, and retired. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and the ceremony of raising was rehearsed by Bro. Hooper, W.M. 1320. The lodge was resumed in the First Degree. Bros. J. Jenkins, W.M. 1269; C. Lazenby, P.M. 297; and Gaze, 1922, were elected joining members. A vote of sympathy was passed to Bro. Hilton, P.M., and Preceptor, on his illness. After "Hearty good wishes," the lodge was closed.

HYDE PARK LODGE (No. 1425).—A meeting was held on Monday, the 25th instant, at the Prince of Wales Hotel, corner of Eastbourne-terrace and Bishop's-road, Paddington, W., when there were present Bros. J. Bartlett, W.M.; J. C. Conway, S.W.; G. A. Boughton, J.W.; Geo. Read, P.M. 511, Treas.; H. Duhané, P.M. 1543, Sec.; H. Barnett, S.D.; T. M. Lamble, J.D.; W. R. Hutton, I.G.; H. J. Birch, P.M. 511, 1295; D. Gellion, P.M. 1425; and B. R. Thomas.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Thomas being candidate, who was afterwards instructed in the questions leading to the Second Degree. Bro. Read, assisted by the brethren, worked the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Sections of the Lecture. The following communication was read:—"Windsor Castle. General Sir Dighton Probyn, Comptroller and Treasurer of the Household, is desired to convey to the members of the Hyde Park Lodge of Instruction the best thanks of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales for the lodge's kind fraternal resolution, sympathising with his Royal Highness on the occasion of the death of H.R.H. the Duke of Clarence. D. P., 23 Jan., 1892." Bro. Conway was elected W.M. for the next meeting—officers to be in rotation. Bro. Birch complimented the lodge of instruction, as one of its earliest members, on its prosperity and the manner the ceremony and lectures had been worked. After "Hearty good wishes," the lodge was closed.

COVENT GARDEN LODGE (No. 1014).—The usual weekly meeting of this lodge was held at the Criterion, Piccadilly, S.W., on Thursday, the 14th inst., when there were present Bros. C. O. Burgess, W.M.; H. J. Keen, S.W.; F. S. Jarvis, J.W.; G. Reynolds, Treas. and Sec.; G. H. Foon, Asst. Preceptor; A. Cogliati, S.D.; W. Hoggins, J.D.; A. Dukas, I.G.; T. C. Seary, Org.; R. Hoggins, S. Moss, R. Kirk, R. W. Jones, E. Harris, A. Schwerk, J. Rowe, A. L. Bullen, and others.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The W.M. rehearsed the 1st and 2nd Sections of the First Lecture. Bro. W. Jones having offered himself as a candidate to be passed to the Second Degree, was duly examined, entrusted, and retired. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree. The W.M. rehearsed the Degree of F.C., with the lecture on the tracing board. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree. On rising for the second time, Bro. H. J. Keen, S.W., was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed his officers in rotation. On rising for the third time, Bro. G. Reynolds, Sec., moved a vote of condolence to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., on the sad loss of his dear son, the Duke of Clarence and Avondale, P.G.M. of Berkshire, and they pray that T.G.A.O.F.U. will support and comfort H.R.H. the Princess of Wales, the Princess Victoria Mary of Teck, yourself, and all in your great affliction." Seconded by Bro. G. H. Foon, Asst. Preceptor, and carried unanimously. The lodge was then closed.

CHISWICK LODGE (No. 2012).—A meeting was held on Saturday, the 23rd inst., at the Windsor Castle Hotel, King-street, Hammersmith, W., when there were present Bros. W. Hillier, W.M.; Pocock, S.W.; J. Walden, J.W.; J. Sims, P.M., Deputy Preceptor; A. Williams, acting Sec.; R. Reid, S.D.; W. S. Whiteley, J.D.; R.

J. Williams, I.G.; Powell, Stwd.; J. Brown, P.M. 2012; M. Speigel, P.M. 185; J. Davies, P.M. 169; E. C. Mulvey, P.M.; R. Wimpey, W.M. 2012; and Fox.

The lodge was opened in the First Degree, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Fox offering himself as a candidate for initiation, the W.M. rehearsed that ceremony. Bro. Mulvey, P.M., offering himself as candidate for passing, was examined and entrusted. Lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the ceremony rehearsed. Lodge was resumed to the First Degree. Bro. Wimpey received the congratulations of the brethren upon his installation as W.M. of the mother lodge. The lodge was then closed.

TWICKENHAM.—CRESCENT LODGE (No. 788).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 14th inst. After the reading of the minutes, Bro. Forge, Sec., in feeling terms, referred to the sad bereavement sustained by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., by the untimely death of his eldest son, the Duke of Clarence and Avondale, P.G.M. Berks, a brother who was held in high esteem, not only by Freemasons in particular, but by all classes of the community, and moved—"That we, representing numerous lodges, including Middlesex and Berks, beg to tender to H.R.H. the Most Worshipful Grand Master our sincere sympathy and condolence." This was seconded by Bro. Skinner, W.M. 2309, and carried. It was then resolved, on the motion of Bro. Hanham, W.M., seconded by Bro. Warner, Preceptor—"That the lodge do now adjourn, and that the Secretary be requested to transmit a copy of the above resolution to the P.G. Secretary Middlesex." The working set down for this evening was the ceremony of installation, which, however, was postponed till the 28th inst.

Knights Templar.

Mount Calvary Encampment (D).—This very old encampment, one of the most ancient on the roll of Great Priory, met at the Inns of Court Hotel, Lincoln's Inn-Fields, on the 8th inst. Among those present were Sir Knights H. J. Lardner, P.E.C., acting E.C.; L. Steele, 2nd Captain; Major F. J. Stohwasser, P.E.C., P.G.S.B.; Capt. T. C. Walls, P.G.C. of Gds., P.E.C., P.E.P., Reg.; Slater, Expert; N. Prower, M.A., C. of Gds.; W. Maple, Herald; H. Hills, D.C.; F. W. Driver, M.A., P.E.C., acting Prelate; G. Graveley, P.E.C.; and Egbert Roberts, Org. Sir Knights H. H. Shirley, M.A., P.E.P., and the Rev. J. Fillingham, M.A., were visitors. In consequence of the recent deaths of the Great Sub-Prior, Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, and Sir Knight Sir L. Jones-Parry, Bart., 1st Captain, the encampment was in mourning.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Sir Knight L. Steele, was impressively installed as E.C. by Sir Knight Lardner. The following appointments were then made: Sir Knights Slater, 1st Capt.; N. Prower, 2nd Captain; Thomas, Expert; Maple, Captain of Gds.; Major Stohwasser, Treas.; Capt. Walls, Reg.; H. Hills, Std. Br.; O. Berry, Herald; Egbert Roberts, Org.; and Frater Knowles, Equerry. Through severe indisposition Sir Knight T. Ward, P.E.C., was absent, and the presentation of a Past Commander's jewel to him was postponed. The Auditors' report was received and adopted. The sum of two guineas was voted to the Gould Testimonial Fund. Letters of condolence were ordered to be sent to the widows of Sir Knights Col. Shadwell H. Clerke and Sir Love Jones-Parry, and letters of Sympathy to Sir Knights T. Wood and J. H. Thomas, wishing them a speedy restoration to health. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Sir Knights F. Philbrick, Q.C.; G. Chandler, E. Letchworth, P.E.P.; Col. C. Harding, P.G.B.B.; Dr. Lott, P.G. Org.; W. Paas, P.G.B.B.; Major Richardson, and many others. A banquet followed, but in consequence of the melancholy events that had taken place, the proceedings were necessarily shorn of their usual brightness and conviviality.

Red Cross of Rome and Constantine.

COCKERMOUTH.

Dykes Conclave (No. 36).—The quarterly assembly of this conclave was held in the Masonic hall, on Friday afternoon, the 22nd inst. E. Sir Knight Geo. Dalrymple, P.S., Grand Herald, presided, in the absence through illness of E. Sir Knight J. Paterson, M.P.S. Several Sir Knights were also absent from the same cause, while telegrams of apology were received from others.

The minutes were read and confirmed. A ballot was taken for Bro. E. Loach, W.M. 962, P.G. Std Br., W.M. 282, M.M.M., P.G.D.C., and he being in attendance was regularly installed a knight of the Order, the historical oration being delivered by E. Sir Knight W. F. Lamony, P.S. It was resolved to forward a letter of sympathy and condolence to their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales in their late sad affliction. On the motion of Ill. Sir Knight W. H. Lewthwaite, P.S., Rec., Senior Grand General, seconded by the M.P.S. in the chair, a resolution of congratulation was passed to E. Sir Knight W. F. Lamony, on his recent appointment to the rank of Intendant General (Unattached). It was agreed to hold the next assembly at Whitehaven.

The conclave being closed the sir knights adjourned to the Green Dragon Hotel for refreshment.

Ancient and Accepted Rite.

LEEDS.

Leodiensis Chapter (No. 77).—The annual meeting of this chapter was held in the Masonic Hall, Great George-street, on Tuesday evening, the 19th instant, Ill. Bro. J. Barker, 30°, acting as M.W.S., in the absence of Bro. T. Bateman Fox. After the chapter had been duly opened, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed, Bro. Charles Letch Mason was impressively installed as M.W.S. for the current year by Ill. Bro. Baker, the following being appointed as officers: Bros. J. Walmsley,

Prelate; Tudor Trevor, 30° (S.C.), 1st Gen. Recorder; W. Armistead, 2nd Gen.; W. J. Beck, Treas.; J. H. Gration, Marshal; F. W. Reuss, Raphael; and Barker, 30°, D.C. and Herald. On the motion of the M.W.S., the chapter resolved to place on record their deep sense of the great loss sustained by the Order and the Craft in general by the death of their Ill. Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke. The Treasurer's balance-sheet having been received and adopted, and a sum of £3 3s. voted from the chapter funds in support of the T. W. Tew Presentation Fund, the chapter was closed, and the brethren adjourned to supper, where the loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured.

MEMORIAL SERVICE AT STOCKPORT.

A memorial service was held at St. Mary's Parish Church at 3 p.m. on the day of the funeral of the late Duke of Clarence and Avondale, K.G., Provincial Grand Master of Berkshire, P.G.W.

The Worshipful Masters and brethren of the five lodges in the Stockport Division of the Province of Cheshire met at the White Lion, Stockport, when Bro. C. H. Andrew, W.M. 104, occupied the chair of K.S. A dispensation having been obtained from Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Egerton of Tatton, Prov. Grand Master, to wear Masonic clothing, having been read, the brethren to the number of about 100 were then formed in procession, and along with the mayor and members of the corporation, volunteers, and gentlemen of the borough, marched through the Market-place to St. Mary's Parish Church, where a solemn service was held and a sermon preached by the Rector of Stockport.

On the return of the brethren from Divine service, and previous to closing the lodge, the following vote of condolence was proposed by Bro. JOHN BERESFORD, the oldest Past Master present, and seconded by Bro. RICHARD NEWHOUSE, Prov. G. Sec., and supported by Bro. J. SLACK, P.M., P.P.S.G.D., to be engrossed on vellum, and forwarded to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.:

The Worshipful Masters and brethren of the five lodges of Freemasons in the Stockport Division of the Province of Cheshire (on their return from the Memorial Service held this day in the Parish Church), in open lodge assembled, desire to express to your Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Most Worshipful Grand Master, and to Her Royal Highness Princess of Wales, their deep sympathy and condolence in the sad bereavement which your Royal Highnesses, and the nation at large, have sustained in the lamented death of His Royal Highness the Duke of Clarence and Avondale, K.G., P.G.W.

(Signed)

- C. H. ANDREW, W.M. St. John's Lodge, No. 104.
- HENRY SMITH, W.M. Unanimity Lodge, No. 287.
- WM. HARGREAVES, W.M. Peace Lodge, No. 322.
- EDWD. STEVENS, W.M. Concord Lodge, No. 323.
- J. H. FOSTER, W.M. The Grove Lodge, No. 1957.
- JAMES COOKSON, P.M., P.P.G. Treas., Acting Secretary.

A cordial vote of thanks was passed for the very able manner Bro. James Cookson had initiated and carried out the whole of the proceedings.

The following are names of some of the brethren who signed the attendance-sheets:

- Bros. C. H. Andrew, W.M. 104; Hy. Smith, W.M. 287; Wm. Hargreaves, W.M. 322; E. Stevens, W.M. 323; J. Herbert Foster, W.M. 1957; R. Newhouse, Prov. G. Sec.; James Cookson, P.M. and Sec. 287, P.P.G.T.; Herbert Finch, P.M. 104, Prov. G. Reg.; J. Berresford, P.M. 104, P.P.S.G.D.; W. Booth, P.M. 104, P.P.G.D.C.; Henry Darbyshire, P.M. 1999; Arthur Symonds, 287, P.P.G. Chap.; Edmund Johnson, P.M. 104, P.P.A.G. D. of C.; Geo. Gaskill, P.M. 104; J. Fox, P.M. 104, P.P.G.S.; Charles Clarkson, P.M. 104; Wm. Gleave, P.M. 104; John Leigh, P.M. 287, P.P.G.S.; T. E. Rigby, P.M. 287; Thos. Thornily, P.M. 287; A. Taylor, P.M. 237; J. Clack, P.M. 323; J. Gould, P.M. 322; Sidney May, P.M. 322; Thos. Whalley, P.M. 323; C. Atkinson, P.M. 323; Geo. Boothby, P.M. 323; Chas. Dawson, P.M. 287; G. Atkinson, P.M. 323; G. Roberts, S.W. 287; F. G. Brooke, I.G. 287; Jas. A. Cookson, Stwd. 287; A. J. Hewitt, 287; R. Clayton, P.M. 1957; H. Lomas, P.M. 1957; J. Wakefield, 287, P.P.G.S.; J. Foster Lomas, S.D. 104; G. Weidler, 18; H. Newton, J.W.; T. C. Caldwell, 323; J. H. Fletcher, J. A. Jones, 104; J. A. Beckett, Wm. Walmsley, S.D. 323; J. Jackson, 1957; C. Heggibottom, S.W. 1957; J. Stafford, 104; W. Rowbottom, 1757; T. Derbyshire, 322; J. Hudson, 287, P.P.G.S.; S. Lowe, P.M. 323; James Worsnup, P.M. 322; G. Ball, 322; W. Fielding, S.W. 336; D. Watson, 333; C. Bickerton, 1957; John Nicholson, P.M. 322; Wm. Dyson, P.M. 324; J. Lee Newton, 104; S. C. Barlow, 104; Wm. Hedden Browne, 1325; C. M. Armitage, 322; James Cookson, P.M., P.P.G.T., acting Sec.; and many other visiting brethren.

Ireland.

OPENING OF A NEW MASONIC LODGE (No. 91) AT CARLOW.

The interesting ceremony of opening a new Masonic lodge in Carlow was performed in the presence of a large gathering of the brethren on Monday, the 4th inst. All the necessary preliminaries having been complied with, a warrant (No. 91) was issued by the Grand Lodge of Ireland, and to the Worshipful Master and Wardens of Lodge No. 116, Carlow, was deputed the pleasing duty of dedicating the new lodge and of installing its officers. The ceremony was performed in true Masonic spirit, and in compliance with ancient ritual by Bro. R. O'Callaghan, W.M., assisted by several of the Past Masters of No. 116, and at its close Bro. Robert Malcomson, the senior Past Master

present, congratulated the Master, officers, and members of the newly-made lodge upon the very auspicious circumstances under which it had been called into existence, the present year being not only the centenary of the Female Masonic Orphan School, but also the centenary of Lodge 116, whose warrant (previously issued to a "Limbrick" Lodge) was transferred to Carlow in 1792, and has since been preserved unstained and unsullied by faithful members of the Craft. Having referred generally to the noble principles of Masonry, as exemplified in its motto—"Faith, Hope, and Charity"—he expressed the confident hope that the new lodge would ever maintain the glorious traditions of the Order. The brethren of Carlow Lodge and some visitors from Athy Lodge were subsequently entertained at supper by the W.M. and brethren of Lodge 91. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, and a thoroughly enjoyable evening was spent in "peace, love, and harmony."

Bro. R. MALCOMSON, P.M., read some verses (written by himself), as appropriate to the occasion.

Obituary.

BRO. WILLIAM HENRY HALES, P.P.S.G.W.

The members of the Craft in North Staffordshire, and more particularly those of the Menturia Lodge, No. 418, Hanley, have to regret the loss of an old and highly esteemed brother, in the person of Bro. William Henry Hales, P.P.S.G.W., who died on the 17th inst., in his 68th year. Bro. Hales was initiated in the Menturia Lodge on the 19th April, 1859, and continued a regular subscriber thereto until the day of his death, and was thus within three months of an uninterrupted membership of 33 years. During that time he filled (with reputation) every office within the lodge, excepting that of J.D., and was elected to the chair in 1865. For many years he had been recognised as the father of the lodge, watching all its interests with assiduity and zeal. No trouble was too great, no time too valuable, and no care too onerous for Bro. Hales to devote to the welfare of Menturia. He never missed a meeting of the lodge, excepting through sickness or absence from the district. In his home Bro. Hales was the soul of hospitality, and never was happier than when entertaining brethren who went to confer with him on Masonic matters in general or the affairs of the Menturia in particular. Naturally somewhat brusque in his manner he held imposters at arm's length, but for genuine distress he had always a helping hand, and his tongue, which sometimes had a rough edge, only thinly veiled, a warm-hearted sympathetic nature, true and trusty, honest and honourable in all things. Respective Provincial Grand Masters, Grand Superintendents, and Grand Mark Masters have for a long time sought the opinion of Bro. Hales on the affairs of the work of the province, and have recognised his worth by conferring upon him the highest provincial honours at their disposal. In 1884 the brethren of the Menturia presented Bro. Hales with a P.P.S.G.W.'s jewel and an illuminated address, both of which he highly prized, in commemoration of his "silver wedding" in Freemasonry, and to further mark the event the portrait of Bro. Hales was presented to the lodge by Bro. Thos. Bickley, P.P. J.G.W. Altogether the constant work and attention which for 33 years Bro. Hales gave *con amore* to Craft, Royal Arch, and Mark Masonry form an almost unique record, and richly entitle him to a foremost place in the annals of Masonry in Staffordshire. On the 21st inst. the Worshipful Master, Past Masters, Officers, and members of the Menturia escorted the remains of Bro. Hales to their resting place in St. John's Churchyard, Burslem, regretfully conscious that they had lost "a ruler of the Craft," a warm friend, a trusty and highly esteemed brother.

BRO. JOHN BETTS.

We regret to record the death of Bro. John Betts, Chief Inspector of the Locomotive Department, Waterloo Station, which took place on Thursday, the 14th inst., at the comparatively early age of 57. The deceased brother was well known to all the officials of the South-Western Railway Company. The mortal remains were interred at Brookwood Cemetery on Thursday, the 21st inst., when, in addition to Mrs. Betts, her three sons and three daughters, the obsequies were attended by a number of brethren and officials, including the Superintendent of the Locomotive Department, Nine Elms. The following were the brethren present: Bros. T. Higgs, P.M.; W. Brown, 106; John Davis, Locomotive Superintendent, Guildford; H. N. Willis, W.M., Yolden, P.M., W. Lane, P.M., Able Lawrence, P.M. and Sec., J. Sumner, R. Whittaker, R. Mann, W. Huggins, and F. Lockett, of 1638, of which our deceased brother was a member; H. Spooner and W. Allen, of 87; H. Almond, C. Long, and J. Leach, of 2234; and J. Parsons, W.M., and J. Gayton, of 1564. Bro. J. Betts was a prominent member of the Rose of Denmark Lodge of Instruction, No. 975, and the L. & S.W.R. Company's Institute, Brunswick House, Vauxhall. There were a number of handsome wreaths, including those from lodges. The ceremony was performed by Bro. Rev. J. Cater, Prov. G. Chaplain of Surrey, in a most impressive manner.

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The monthly meeting of the Council of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution will be held at Freemasons' Hall, on Saturday, the 6th prox., at three p.m.

Bro. T. Hastings Miller, C.C., has been elected Chairman of the Music Committee, Corporation City of London.

Bro. John Wakefield was installed W.M. of the Henry Mark Lodge, No. 216, at Frizington, on the 20th inst.

The Grand Duke Constantine, uncle to the Czar, and father of the Queen of the Hellenes, died at midnight on Monday, in his 65th year.

The Queen has been pleased to approve of the appointment of Bro. the Hon. Sir Edmund Monson, K.C.M.G., C.B., as Minister Plenipotentiary at Brussels.

Bro. Lord and Lady Brassey have arrived after a stormy passage at Teneriffe on board their yacht the Sunbeam, and will sail before the end of the present week for Barbados.

The Duke of Connaught returned for the purpose of resuming his military duties at Portsmouth on Tuesday, after visiting London to take leave of Prince Frederick of Prussia on his return to Berlin.

Messrs. James Pain and Sons, the well-known London pyrotechnists, have been appointed to carry out all the pyrotechnical displays at the forthcoming International Exhibition at Chicago.

The members of the Dyke's Conclave, No. 36, of the Red Cross of Rome and Constantine, held their quarterly meeting on Friday, the 22nd inst., at Workington, when Bro. Edwin Loach, W.M. 962, was installed a member of the Order.

The subscriptions raised by a Ladies' Committee at Harrogate for the purchase of a wedding present for the late Duke of Clarence are to be devoted to founding a ward in the Cottage Hospital, to be called the Albert Victor or Clarence Ward.

The Queen has been graciously pleased to direct that letters patent be passed under the Great Seal appointing the Marquis of Lorne, K.T., G.C.M.G. Governor and Constable of the Castle of Windsor in place of the late Admiral Prince Victor of Hohenlohe-Langenburg.

The "Devonians in London" have, in consequence of the death of the Duke of Clarence and the domestic bereavement of Mrs. Justice Kekewich, postponed their second annual reception and ball till Tuesday, the 22nd March, when it will take place at the Portman Rooms.

Bro. F. P. Alliston, C.C., presided at the adjourned general meeting of the City Dispensary, 48, Watling-street, held on Tuesday evening. At the same meeting Bro. Samuel White, of the firm of Messrs. Speckly, White, and Lewis, accepted the office of Sub-Treasurer of the institution.

At a special meeting of the Cotswold Hunt, held under the presidency of Bro. Lord Fitzhardinge, the question of Mr. W. F. Hicks-Beach's resignation of the Mastership was discussed. That gentleman expressed his willingness to act in co-operation with Mr. G. B. Watts, provided an increased subscription were forthcoming, but he did not feel justified in undertaking to bear the deficit on the current season. Ultimately, at the suggestion of the chairman, the matter was adjourned for a fortnight.

On Monday last the members of the Albert Edward Lodge, No. 1557, commenced their second week of their free breakfasts to a hundred poor children of Hexham. The following ladies and gentlemen have given their active assistance: Mrs. Milne, Mrs. Stephenson, Mrs. Moffatt (Tynedale-ter.), Mrs. Wedgwood, Miss Robinson, Miss M. Robinson (Seal Gates House), Misses Prudham, Stephens, Sewell, Kimpster, Oliver, and Dr. Duncan Stewart, Mr. Wedgwood, and Mr. E. Shield. In place of currant buns seven ounces in weight, on Saturday they had bread and butter along with milk, heated to 110 degrees and sweetened with sugar, and on being appealed to the children declared in favour of the bread and butter in preference to the buns.

Among the public institutions which will be especially affected by the recent lamented death of the Duke of Clarence and Avondale, may be mentioned the Great Northern Central Hospital, Holloway-road, which was opened by the Prince and Princess of Wales in July, 1888. The late Duke presided at the festival dinner held at the Hôtel Métropole in May, 1889, in addition to which he was President of the Hospital and took a deep interest in its prosperity. At the Committee meeting held just previous to his death it was resolved that the Chairman, Mr. C. T. Murdech, M.P., should invite his Royal Highness and the Princess Victoria of Teck to lay the foundation-stone of the new buildings which are about to be erected and which will complete the hospital.

The Sydney *Freemason* of December 1st has the following: "It will be remembered that some 18 months ago Grand Lodge voted 50 guineas for a Grand Representative's jewel to be presented Bro. Earl of Carnarvon, who was then the Grand Representative of our Grand Lodge near the Grand Lodge of England. The death of our distinguished brother before the jewel was ordered has enabled a change to be made, by which a lasting memento of his connection with our Grand Lodge has been secured. A copy of Bro. Earl of Carnarvon's portrait in the Grand Lodge of England has been made by a well-known London artist, through Bro. Colonel Shadwell Clerke, the Grand Secretary of England, and it has just been received and hung in the Grand Lodge room. It is deemed a life-like likeness, and will be valued as a memento of one who did much useful work in bringing about the unity of the Craft in this colony. The sum voted for the jewel covers the cost of the picture."

TONIC AFTER INFLUENZA. — Grant's Morella Cherry Brandy has again asserted its marvellous restorative powers. Taken in small quantities persistently, nothing else is so effective. Its great success after cholera in 1866 was proved in the London Hospitals. See testimonials. Sold everywhere.

Bro. Dr. Benjamin Ward Richardson has been adopted as the Liberal candidate for the Walton Division.

Prince Henry of Prussia, brother of the Emperor William, is fast recovering from his attack of influenza.

Bro. Albert J. Altman, C.C., has been elected Chairman of the Coal and Corn Finance Committee, Corporation City of London.

The Prince of Wales has directed the issue of letters patent for the appointment of Bro. E. W. Brydges Williams, of Carnanton, St. Colomb, as Sheriff of the county of Cornwall.

Bro. the Marquis of Tweeddale, who has been suffering from a cold and bronchitis, is making favourable progress towards recovery, but as yet is unable to leave his residence, at Gifford, Haddington.

Mr. and Mrs. Gladstone, who are sojourning on the Continent, are enjoying excellent health, and have recently had the pleasure of receiving a visit from the Right Hon. Hugh C. E. and Mrs. Childers.

The installation meeting of the Gladsmuir Lodge, No. 1385, Barnet, will be held to-day (Friday), at the Red Lion Hotel. The hour of meeting is fixed for 3.30 p.m., and the Master elect is Bro. S. Tryon, S.W. There is a considerable amount of business to be transacted.

The Fifteen Sections will be worked on Monday, the 1st prox., at the Carnarvon Lodge of Instruction, No. 1572, at the Salutation Tavern, Newgate-street, E.C. Bro. W. S. Whitaker, P.M. 1572, will occupy the chair.

We regret to announce the death of Bro. Sir Oscar Clayton, C.M.G., Extra Surgeon in Ordinary to the Prince of Wales. The sad event occurred on Tuesday last. The deceased was born in 1816. His loss will be severely felt.

The Committee of the National Memorial to General Gordon have, with the approval of the Prince of Wales, appointed Lieut.-Col. J. B. Walker (retired), R.A., to be Commandant of the Gordon Boys' Home at Chobham, where the number of inmates is 230.

Bro. Lord Halsbury (Lord Chancellor), Bro. Lord Ashbourne (Lord Chancellor of Ireland), and Bros. Lord George Hamilton, Sir M. Hicks-Beach, Bart., and the Right Hon. W. L. Jackson attended the Cabinet Council which was held at the Foreign Office on Tuesday.

We regret to hear that Lady Charles Beresford, who left England a short while since to join her husband, Bro. Lord Charles Beresford, at Cairo, has been detained at Alexandria, by the illness of her child, who was suffering from a bad attack of influenza.

Bro. Akers-Douglas, M.P., has resumed his duties at the Treasury in Downing-street as chief Government Whip, and was engaged during the whole of Tuesday in making the necessary arrangements for the opening of the session. So many members are laid up with illness that some time will elapse before there is a full House.

Bro. W. C. Smith, of Mohill, in the Masonic Province of North Connaught, has been promoted to the management of the branch of the Northern Banking Company, Limited, in that town. The brethren of Lodge No. 425, of which he is the S.W., and those who know him generally, congratulate him on his promotion and wish him success and prosperity in his new sphere.

On a motion brought forward by Bro. Deputy Bedford, which received the cordial support of Bro. Lord Mayor Evans, the Court of Common Council of the City of London has referred it to the City Lands Committee to consider and take such steps as may be necessary in order to place a stained-glass window in the Guildhall to the memory of the late Duke of Clarence and Avondale as a companion to the one already placed there to commemorate the late Prince Consort.

The death rate in London last week showed an increase from 40 to 46 per 1000, the number of deaths from influenza being set down as 506, while there were 80 cases in which the epidemic was returned as a secondary cause. Deaths from affections of the respiratory organs were 1,465, or 868 in excess of the corrected average. The death rate in Brighton was 69.9; in Norwich, 44.7; in Portsmouth, 44.3; in Liverpool, 40; and in Wolverhampton and Croydton, 39.3.

The annual assembly of the Edinburgh St. James Lodge, No. 97, took place on Friday night last in the Masonic Hall, George-street. There was a company of nearly a hundred couples—possibly the largest at any assembly of the lodge—and a very enjoyable evening was passed. Bro. Harry Lawson, R.W.M., and the other office-bearers of the lodge were present, and Bro. T. R. Gibson discharged the duties of M.C. Shepherd's band supplied the music, and the purveying was in the hands of Mr. Lamard, Castle Hotel.

The following is a list of the first 18 names in the succession to the English Throne: 1, Prince of Wales, 50 years old; 2, Prince George of Wales, 26; 3, Duchess of Fife, 25; 4, Lady Alexandra Duff, 13; 5, Princess Victoria of Wales, 23; 6, Princess Maud of Wales, 22; 7, Duke of Edinburgh, 48; 8, Prince Alfred of Edinburgh, 17; 9, Princess Marie of Edinburgh, 16; 10, Princess Victoria of Edinburgh, 15; 11, Princess Alexandra of Edinburgh, 13; 12, Princess Beatrice of Edinburgh, 7; 13, Duke of Connaught, 41; 14, Prince Arthur of Connaught, 9; 15, Princess Margaret of Connaught, 10; 16, Princess Victoria of Connaught, 5; 17, Duke of Albany, 7; 18, Princess Alice of Albany, 9.

On the 21st inst. the annual full and fancy dress ball, held under the auspices of the local Freemasons' Lodges, took place in the Royal Assembly Hall, South Shields. There was a large attendance of ladies and gentlemen from all parts of the district, and the proceedings past off most successfully. The Stewards were Bros. D. Cameron, J. F. Henderson, John Cosans, John Readhead, jun., S. W. Linsley, jun., G. R. Potts, J. W. Woolner, and George Robson. An excellent programme of dance music was performed by Mr. R. Smith's band from Newcastle, and the dance was greatly enjoyed by those present. Ald. Mabane and Mr. J. H. Morton officiated as M.C.'s. Messrs. J. Watt Henderson and John McDowell fulfilled the duties of Hon. Secretaries, and the arrangements in every respect were most complete. The refreshments were supplied from the Royal Hotel.

Of Waterloo veterans France has eight left. There are two who took part in the retreat from Moscow; and altogether there are now living 18 or 20 of Napoleon's veterans, of whom several are centenarians.

We are asked to announce that the William Preston Lodge of Instruction meet every Thursday from 8 to 10 at the Waterloo Arms, High-street, Marylebone. Old and new members will be heartily welcome.

Mr. David Cobb, who died last week at Dundee, has left the magnificent sum of £70,000 to be applied to benevolent and charitable institutions. The trustees can exercise their own discretion in the distribution of the money.

It is gratifying to learn that Bro. Sir Somers-Vine is reported by his medical advisers to be making favourable progress towards recovery. Among those who have been making constant inquiries are the Prince and Princess of Wales.

Bro. Henry Irving has kindly undertaken to preside at the anniversary festival, which will be held at the Hôtel Métropole on Saturday, the 28th May, in aid of the funds of the North London Consumption Hospital (Hampstead and London).

We are asked to state that the supper of the Corinthian Lodge of Instruction will take place at the George Hotel, Cubitt Town, on the 2nd prox., at 8 p.m., preceded by the installation ceremony worked by the Preceptor at 7 p.m., also a presentation to Bro. Bonner.

The irregular Grand Lodge of Ontario has now existed for 16 years, and the Grand Master, at its late annual meeting, suggested the possibility of a future union with the regular Grand Lodge by referring to the union of the two Grand Lodges of England.—*Masonic Token*.

A meeting of the Livery of the City has been convened by the Lord Mayor for Tuesday afternoon next, at two o'clock, when the election of a Chamberlain, in the room of the late Mr. Benjamin Scott, will take place.

At the invitation of Messrs. Moore and Burgess, the whole of the boys of the Royal Military Asylum, together with their officers and band, will attend the day performance of the Moore and Burgess Minstrels this (Friday) afternoon.

Mr. Pinero's most successful play, "The Times," reaches its 100th representation on Monday next, when it will be played by the original cast. The business continues so good that in addition to the usual evening performances, morning performances are given every Wednesday and Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Gladstone, Mr. Herbert Gladstone, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Gladstone, and Mr. and Mrs. Stuart Rendel will return to London on Saturday week. The party will arrive at Folkestone and proceed to Charing Cross, whence they will drive to No. 1, Carlton House-terrace, where Mr. and Mrs. Gladstone will stay for the opening of the Session.

At the annual general meeting of the Gresham Life Assurance Society, held on the 26th instant, the report stated that the new assurances for the year amounted to £2,108,056, the new premiums to £73,245, the annual income to £829,010, and the assets to £4,702,031. A surplus of £110,862 was declared upon the operations of the society for the past triennium.

The Prince and Princess of Wales, the Crown Prince of Denmark, Prince George of Wales, the Duke and Duchess of Fife, and Princesses Victoria and Maud, returned from Windsor Castle to Sandringham on Saturday last, the suite in attendance including Miss Knollys and Bro. Sir Francis Knollys. The Duke and Duchess of Teck, with the Princess Victoria and the Princes Adolphus, Francis, and Alexander of Teck, left the castle the same day for the White Lodge, Richmond.

LIVERPOOL MASONIC HALL COMMITTEE.—The annual meeting of the members of the Masonic Hall Committee was held on the 22nd instant at headquarters, Hope-street, Bro. Beesley presiding. The Honorary Treasurer, Bro. J. H. Tyson, read the following report of the Committee: The accounts of the past year show total receipts of £794 16s. 4d., and payments £817 5s. 4d., the latter including a transfer of £150 to the mortgage redemption fund, as recommended to and approved by the Hall Committee, leaving a balance of mortgage on the hall equal to £2350. In the matter of average income there does not seem any probability of increase, and careful consideration of the expenditure seems to leave only about three items there, which can be dealt with to practical effect. First, in the matter of gas for the building, the accounts show a total payment of £147 12s. 11d. for the year, being an increase of a little over £20 on the previous year, and of this extra amount about £12 8s. 11d. is for extra gas consumed in the building. It is believed such increase could be avoided, and the House Committee would be glad of the kind co-operation of every member of the Hall Committee to check this growing expense. The other two items of outgoings referred to are the interest and the mortgage. By the adoption of the mortgage redemption fund, and the preliminary arrangements already made, which we hope to have shortly confirmed, these will be practically dealt with in a manner to secure the total repayment of the mortgage in 16 years, and effect a total saving of about £780 in that time, equal to £42 10s. per annum—making, over the 16 years, an average of outgoings under these heads of £207 10s. per year, as against £250 at present, and at the end of this period (apart from anything else that might meantime be done to help the matter) leave the hall entirely free of this annual charge of £250—an attainment which it is trusted all will most heartily support, as it will place our Committee in a very improved position. To carry this out we will need lodges, &c., to kindly favour us with earlier payment of their rents.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Never at Fault.—In all irritations of the skin, sores, ulcers, burns, and scrofulous enlargements of the glands, Holloway's Ointment presents a ready and easy means of cure which never disappoints the most favourable expectations. It manifests a peculiar power in restraining inflammation, removing stagnation, cooling the heated blood, and checking all morbid and unhealthy discharges. Whilst thus acting locally, the Pills are no less remarkable for their power in improving the general condition and habit of body, which renders the cures complete and permanent. Under the general influence of these potent remedies the puny infant becomes the robust child; the pale and emaciated regain colour and rotundity; and the dyspeptic eats freely without fear.