

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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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1892.

[PRICE 3d.]

UNITED GRAND LODGE.

It will be seen from the programme we publish elsewhere of the business to be transacted at the regular Quarterly Communication of United Grand Lodge, on Wednesday next, that more than one question of interest will be brought under the notice of the brethren. In the first place, the M.W. Grand Master will move a resolution to the effect that in consideration of the very eminent services rendered to Freemasonry by the late Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, G. Secretary, a sum equal in amount to one-half of his yearly salary be voted from the Board of General Purposes, and paid into the London and Westminster Bank to the account of the Trustees of "The Shadwell Clerke Trust" for the purchase of a Government life annuity for Mrs. Clerke. We anticipate there will be no hesitation on the part of Grand Lodge in accepting this motion, which, seeing that the late Grand Secretary died in harness and in the very prime of life, must be regarded as a tribute of respect to the memory of his great services. Indeed, it is our opinion that if the grant proposed had been equal in amount to a full year's salary it would have commanded the ready and unanimous assent of Grand Lodge. Everyone knows that the late Colonel CLERKE devoted the whole of his energies and ability to the service of Freemasonry, and the general feeling will be that those he has left behind him should be well and even handsomely provided for. The next question to be considered will be the salary to be paid to Colonel CLERKE's successor. The Board of General Purposes recommend that this should be at the rate of £1000 per annum, which, considering the enormous increase in the duties and responsibilities now devolving on the Grand Secretary of United Grand Lodge, is by no means an excessive emolument, especially when we take into consideration that Grand Lodge is a wealthy body, and can afford to pay its principal executive officer a salary which is commensurate with the labours he is called upon to perform. But why not while Grand Lodge is about it, revise the salaries of the Grand Secretary's staff, so that all the brethren engaged in the office may receive emoluments which more nearly correspond with the increased labours now devolving upon them? Let the Assistant Grand Secretary be paid at the rate of £500 per annum and the junior members of the staff in proportion. Lastly, there will be the election of a Grand Treasurer for the ensuing year. There are two worthy candidates for the office—Bro. J. D. MURRAY, P.M., a prominent brother in the Province of West Lancashire, and Bro. J. S. CUMBERLAND, an equally prominent member of the Craft in North and East Yorkshire and London. We are of necessity neutral as between these brethren and we must, therefore, leave it to those present in Grand Lodge on Wednesday next to decide which of the two shall be the nominal custodian of Grand Lodge moneys for the next 12 months.

THE JUBILEE OF THE ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The great Masonic event of the present year—the event to which the whole body of English Masons has been anxiously looking forward—has at length taken place, and there is an end for ever to the doubts and anxieties by which many of the brethren have been influenced. Briefly speaking, the Festival exceeds in its results anything that has ever been achieved in the way of Masonic Celebrations, even the Centenary of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, which was held in the Royal Albert Hall in June, 1888, under the presidency of his Royal Highness the GRAND MASTER, having been outdone to the extent of some £9000. Thus the duty which more immediately devolves upon us now is to offer our very warmest congratulations to those who had part in securing the result. The noble Chairman is, indeed, fortunate in having had this splendid opportunity afforded him of publicly inaugurating his career as Deputy Grand Master of England. True it is that it was not so much in this capacity, but rather in that which he has filled with so much success for not far short of 20 years—that of Provincial Grand Master of Cornwall—that his lordship presided. But we cannot lose sight of the fact that this was the first occasion since his installation and investiture as Deputy Grand Master within the walls of Grand Lodge on which Bro. the Earl of MOUNT EDGECUMBE had enjoyed the opportunity of doing a great public service to the Craft, and it must be gratifying in the highest degree to his lordship, as well as the subject of gratulation to all members of the Craft, that the service he has rendered has been attended with such magnificent results. To the Stewards also, to whom we are indebted for this

amazing success, who for many months past have been exerting themselves to obtain donations and subscriptions, and who are now in a position to realise that their labours have not been in vain, our heartiest thanks are likewise due. The work of canvassing is by no means an agreeable one. The rebuffs which a man who undertakes it is apt to meet with every now and then are a somewhat severe strain upon his patience, and when, as not unfrequently happens, he finds himself again and again disappointed—it may be in quarters from which he had hoped to derive his greatest support and encouragement—he feels inclined to surrender his trust, or at all events to let things take their course, and look rather to the chapter of accidents than to any special exertions of his own for a heavy list of contributions. However, there is now an end to all their cares, and the knowledge that one and all of them have had a share in raising the sum of nearly £60,000 which was announced in Covent Garden Theatre on Wednesday, is indeed a consolation for the troubles and exertions which have been harassing them for the past few months. Lastly there is the worthy and indefatigable Secretary, Bro. JAMES TERRY, and his staff, and the Committee of Management of the Institution, who have been devoting all their energies towards the attainment of this grand result. They now have a fitting reward for all their labours in the knowledge that what they have had the honour of achieving is far in excess of anything that has ever before been achieved in the same field of labour. They have, too, this further cause for congratulation, namely, that what they have been able to accomplish will prove a permanent benefit to a most valuable Masonic Charity—that for all time to come—at all events for so long as Masonry maintains its present position in England—many and many a poor Mason and poor Mason's widow will have cause to bless them for the work which was carried to so magnificent an issue in the Theatre Royal, Covent Garden, on Wednesday of the current week.

UNITED GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND.

The following is the business to be transacted in Grand Lodge on Wednesday next, the 2nd prox.:

1. The minutes of the Quarterly Communication of the 2nd December, 1891, will be read and put for confirmation.
2. The minutes of the Special Grand Lodge of the 27th January, 1892, will be read and put for confirmation.
3. The M.W. Grand Master will move—

That, in recognition of the eminent services of the late Grand Secretary, Colonel Shadwell H. Clerke, a sum equal to six months of his salary be voted from the Fund of General Purposes, and paid into the Bloomsbury Branch of the London and Westminster Bank, to the account of the Earl of Lathom, the Earl of Mount Edgumbe, and Sir Albert W. Woods, Trustees of "The Shadwell Clerke Trust," for the purpose of purchasing a Government life annuity for Mrs. Clerke.

4. Election of a M.W. Grand Master.
5. Election of a Grand Treasurer. Bros. James Daniel Murray, P.M. No. 1335, Wigan, and John Speight Cumberland, P.M. No. 2128, London, the only nominations.
6. Report of the Board of Benevolence for the last quarter, in which are recommendations for the following grants, viz:—

The widow of a brother of the Cedewain Lodge, No. 1594, Newtown, Montgomeryshire	£50 0 0
A brother of the Cripplegate Lodge, No. 1613, London	50 0 0
A brother of the Paxton Lodge, No. 1686, London	100 0 0
The widow of a brother of the St. George's Lodge, No. 112, Exeter	150 0 0

7. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

To the United Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England.

The Board have had under consideration the salary of the Grand Secretary, which was fixed by Grand Lodge in 1874 at £500 per annum, rising by £50 per annum to a maximum of £800. In 1887 the salary of the late Grand Secretary, Colonel Shadwell H. Clerke, was raised to £1000.

The Board, taking into consideration the peculiar nature of the qualifications for the office of Grand Secretary, the important duties he is called upon to perform, the great increase in the work since 1874, and that there is no pension on retirement, unanimously recommend that the salary of Grand Secretary on appointment be £1000 per annum.

The Board also submit a statement of the Grand Lodge accounts at the last meeting of the Finance Committee, held on Friday, the 12th day of February instant, showing a balance in the Bank of England (Western Branch) of

£6041 11s. 10d., and in the hands of the Grand Secretary for petty cash £100, and for servants' wages £100, and balance of annual allowance for library £8 5s. 8d
(Signed) THOMAS FENN,
President.

Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.,
16th February, 1892.

8. Report of Bro. John Smith, Auditor of the Grand Lodge accounts, of receipts and disbursements during the year 1891.

List of lodges for which warrants have been granted by the M.W. Grand Master since the last Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge:

No. 2420, The Ferdinand de Rothschild Lodge, Waddesdon, Buckinghamshire.

2421, The Carrington Lodge, Amersham, Buckinghamshire.

2422, The Ebbisham Lodge, Epsom, Surrey.

KNIGHTS TEMPLARY IN MARYLAND.

The historian of the Grand Lodge of Maryland, Bro. E. T. Schultz, has written and published by the authority of the "Maryland Commandery, No. 1, Knights Templar," a valuable history of that organisation, stationed at Baltimore, State of Maryland, from 1790 to 1890, together with particulars of its various pilgrimages and its Centennial Celebration held in May, 1890.

The facsimiles of old documents, diplomas, medals, seals, and an extraordinary number of portraits of local celebrities considerably enhance the value of the large and imposing volume, now issued from the press of Bro. John B. Kurtz, and, doubtless, as its importance and exhaustive character become known to Masonic students in the United States, Canada, and Great Britain, the edition will soon be in the hands of many hundreds of readers, and much appreciated by all who desire authentic information of the origin and career of what is believed to be the oldest encampment, originated as such, in the whole of the United States.

If the Maryland brethren are as demonstrative and appreciative as they should be, Bro. Schultz would soon be preparing a second edition, for since the historian had examined the old records and made all needful extracts, nearly all the minutes and other valuables have alas! been destroyed by fire, and it is thus only by the fortunate circumstance of Bro. Schultz having been authorised to write the history of this venerable commandery, that we can now possess veritable reproductions of the originals once existing, but which subsequently perished in the devastating flames which consumed the Masonic Temple of Baltimore.

Knight Templary in America is first met with at Boston, Mass., in the year 1769, but, as Bro. Schultz points out, that was in connection with a Royal Arch chapter, and the continuity of its working is not apparent. Bro. Schultz's claim is that the "Maryland Commandery" is the earliest known body of Knights Templars meeting as an encampment or preceptory (as we should term it) in the United States, and, so far as I am able to judge and obtain information thereon, he still holds the field.

Copies of this fine volume of over 300 pages may be had direct from the author, Bro. E. T. Schultz, 215, W. German-street, Baltimore, Maryland, U.S.A., *post free* for eight, twelve, or sixteen shillings each, according to binding, and I hope that a number of this most interesting and valuable publication will be applied for by my English brethren.

W. J. HUGHAN.

PROVINCIAL GRAND MARK LODGE OF MIDDLESEX AND SURREY.

A special Provincial Grand Lodge of the above province was held at the Criterion, Piccadilly, on Friday, the 19th inst. Provincial Grand Lodge having been opened, the following were present: Bros. Col. Sir Francis Burdett, Bart., P.G.M.; C. Hammerton, D.P.G.M.; C. H. Neville, P.J.G.W.; L. G. G. Robins, P.G. Treas.; John W. Mash, P.G.R.; W. G. Brighten, P.G. Sec.; F. West, P.G.M.O.; W. M. Stiles, P.S.G.O.; L. P. Conbro, P.S.G.D.; H. A. Marshall, P.G.D.C.; P. H. Clisby, P.G. Std. Br.; C. Chauffourier and Dr. R. D. R. Sweeting, P.G. Stewards; and many Grand Officers, Past Provincial Grand Officers, Masters, Past Masters, Wardens, and Overseers of lodges in the province, and several visitors.

The PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER having been saluted, spoke in feeling terms of the death of H.R.H. the Duke of Clarence, and moved that the following address be sent to her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen.

The DEPUTY PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER seconded, and it was carried unanimously.

To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty.

May it please your Majesty,

We, the members of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Middlesex and Surrey in Special Grand Lodge assembled, humbly beg to approach your Majesty with expressions of deepest sympathy at the great loss your Majesty has sustained by the death of your grandson, H.R.H. Prince Albert Victor, Duke of Clarence and Avondale.

We humbly pray that the Great Overseer of the Universe may grant to your Majesty strength and comfort in this great trial, and continue to vouchsafe to you that good health which is so desired by all your Majesty's loyal and dutiful subjects.

Given at London under the seal of our Provincial Grand Lodge this 19th day of February, 1892.

FRAS. BURDETT, Prov. G.M.

C. HAMMERTON, Deputy Prov. G.M.

WM. G. BRIGHTEN, Prov. G. Sec.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER again rose, and in a most suitable manner proposed, and Bro. LOVEGROVE seconded, that the following address be sent to the Grand Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. Carried unanimously.

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

We, the members of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Middlesex and Surrey in Special Grand Lodge assembled crave permission to tender to your Royal Highness and her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales our heartfelt sympathy on the sad occasion of the death of your beloved son, H.R.H. Prince Albert Victor, Duke of Clarence and Avondale.

We are conscious of the great loss the nation has sustained and we humbly pray that the Great Overseer of the Universe may strengthen and comfort your Royal Highnesses and the members of your Royal House in this your great and severe bereavement.

Given at London under the seal of our Provincial Grand Lodge this 19th day of February, 1892.

FRAS. BURDETT, Prov. G.M.

C. HAMMERTON, Deputy Prov. G.M.

WM. G. BRIGHTEN, Prov. G. Sec.

The Prov. Grand Secretary, Bro. W. G. Brighten, was then called upon to give a short history of the province, and

The PROVINCIAL GRAND SECRETARY then read the following, a short descriptive history of this Provincial Grand Lodge since its formation: "This Provincial Grand Lodge was constituted at Guildford on the 2nd June, 1871, by the Rev. G. R. Portal, M.A., the Grand Master of the Order, and our present Provincial Grand Master received his patent of appointment, which he has held ever since, it having been renewed every three years since that time by the unanimous wish of the brethren of the province at each triennial election. At this first meeting it does not appear that there were sufficient brethren to fill up all the offices, seven of which, with four Stewardships, were accordingly left vacant. The roll of lodges was ascertained on the 11th July, 1871, but only three lodges made any returns to this Grand Lodge. Brother C. Hammerton was Provincial Grand Secretary for the first year. In 1872 there were no returns from lodges; Brother James Stevens was appointed Secretary, and in August, 1873, he was able to report that he had received returns from six lodges, but only two of these had rendered any dues. At this meeting the office of Senior Deacon was conferred upon me, and I have since that date attended all meetings. There is no record of any meeting in the year 1874, although the minutes of 6th February, 1875, show that it was summoned by Brother S. C. Dibdin, as Provincial Grand Secretary, who reported the names of seven lodges as attached to this province, but the minutes show that only two lodges had made returns and paid dues to the end of the preceding year. The minutes of the annual meeting of the 19th June, 1875, show that the number of lodges had been reduced to five, as two of the older lodges had ceased working. Brother S. C. Dibdin was re-appointed Provincial Grand Secretary, but shortly afterwards intimated his intention of retiring, and Bro. Hammerton, who from the first evinced a most lively interest in the prosperity of the Provincial Grand Lodge, exerted himself to find a suitable brother to present to our Provincial Grand Master as Provincial Grand Secretary, but he was unable to find anyone willing to undertake the office except myself, and I was duly rewarded with the letter of appointment, and I have carried on that part of the business for the province from June 1875. All three previous Secretaries had had to bear the brunt of the work of the early years, and their work must have been heavy yet most unsatisfactory to them as their labours did not then appear to bear any fruit, but the newly-appointed Secretary was placed in office just in time to reap the harvest sown by his predecessors. There was much to do, the province had no funds in hand, there were several debts and outstanding liabilities, the old lodges, with two or three noble exceptions, would not affiliate themselves, and the only lodges then existing which were bound to belong to the province were the Percy, the Panmure, and the Grosvenor, and whether from oversight or from a belief that the province was doing nothing, Grand Lodge had itself consecrated a lodge, the Temple, independent of this province. Your Secretary felt that he had undertaken too much but determined to try and succeed. It was necessary to stir up the brethren to found new lodges if this province were ever to attain any position, and your Secretary found good men and true, year by year, to aid in the work, so that in his first year of office the Era and the Francis Burdett were the first new lodges added, and at the annual meeting in July, 1876, the Deputy P.G.M., Bro. F. Davison, was able to report that there was a balance in hand on general account of £1 1s. 4d., on Charity account £1 7s. 9d., and that he knew of no outstanding liabilities. The returns and dues had been received from nine lodges, and negotiations and arrangements were on foot for reviving the Mallet and Chisel, No. 5. At the annual meeting, July, 1877, your Provincial Grand Secretary was able to report that not only was the Mallet and Chisel, No. 5, in full working order, but that in addition three new lodges had been consecrated, viz., the Croydon, the Studholme, and the Duke of Connaught, bringing the total of lodges to 13. At the meeting in June, 1878, your Secretary reported the addition of the Hammersmith, the West Smithfield, and the Menatschim Lodges, and in July, 1879, five more, viz., the Brixton, the Clapton, the Prince Leopold, the Royal Naval, and Trinity College. In July, 1881, two more, viz., the Tenterden and the High Cross, and in that year the Provincial Grand Master rewarded his Provincial Grand Secretary with the distinguished rank and office of Provincial Senior Grand Warden. Another brother held the office of Provincial Grand Secretary for that year, and as all the papers remained at my office, we carried on the duties there. In July, 1882, I was again appointed Secretary on the expiration of my year of office as Warden, and in July, 1883, your Secretary had the pleasure of reporting not only the addition of a new lodge, the Henniker, but also that after a protracted discussion of several years, the brethren of the Temple Lodge had seen their duty and pleasure lie in the direction of complete affiliation to this province, and had sent in returns and paid dues. From that time until now the Temple has been an active, useful, and prosperous lodge. In July, 1884, the addition of two

lodges was reported, viz., the Davison and the Kintore. In June, 1885, your Secretary reported the addition of the Temperance-in-the-East and the Royal Savoy as new lodges, and also that the members of the province had during the past year the pleasure of being present at the revival and enrolling of the Prince of Wales Mark Lodge, No. 4. In June, 1886, we reported the addition of the Chiswick and the Onslow as new lodges, and in 1887, 1888, and 1889 the addition of one new lodge only—the King Solomon. In January, 1890, this Provincial Grand Lodge was called upon to record our loss by death of Bro. F. Davison in the previous year. He had been our Deputy Provincial Grand Master for 19 years. At that meeting Bro. C. Hammerton was installed Deputy Provincial Grand Master. At the annual meeting in June, 1890, your Secretary reported the addition of the Euston and Egerton of Tatton as new lodges, and at the annual meeting in June, 1891, the addition of the Bisley and Ubique Lodges during the previous year was duly reported, bringing the grand total of the lodges in this province to 37, with a membership of 822. For years past we have been able to subscribe to the Mark Benevolent Fund, besides giving relief to the distressed of our own members; we have considerably over £100 in hand, which is quite as much as we need or ought to have; we have all necessary furniture, and are free from debt. The above are the facts and figures hastily culled from the minute book at an hour's notice this morning, and, owing to the fact that from the date of the constitution of this Provincial Grand Lodge we have had but one Provincial Grand Master, Colonel Sir Francis Burdett, to rule over us, and his record is that of one who has ruled with firmness, and yet with gentleness, one who has been most just, yet always kind, and one who has always evinced the keenest interest in the affairs of this province—these are the causes which make our history one of steady successful advance, but otherwise uneventful. As I turned over the pages of the minute book I saw the names of those who, in early days, had upheld the hands of our Provincial Grand Master, and, year by year, as they fell out of the ranks, by death or other causes, their places have been filled by worthy brethren, and it must now be a pleasure to our Provincial Grand Master to preside at the goodly gathering of the past few years. Long may Sir Francis Burdett live to be our Provincial Grand Master and share in the prosperity of this Provincial Grand Lodge."

It was moved by the DEPUTY PROV. GRAND MASTER, duly seconded, and carried unanimously, that the history just read be printed and circulated among the members of the province and also be entered on the minutes.

This being the festival of the province, it having existed upwards of 21 years, the arrangements for the remainder of the meeting were in the hands of a Special Committee, of which Bro. Capt. C. J. Knightley, P.P.G.O., was President, and Bro. W. A. Scurrah, P.P.G.R., was the Honorary Secretary. The rest of the proceedings were carried out by the Committee, who had prepared two testimonials for presentation within this Provincial Grand Lodge.

The first was an illuminated address enclosed in a silver gilt casket of elegant design, which also bore a suitable inscription.

These were presented to Col. Sir Francis Burdett, Bart., in the name of the Committee and brethren by Col. Cook in a most suitable speech, and the PROV. GRAND MASTER, in accepting these presents, expressed the great pleasure he had always felt during the past 21 years in presiding over this Provincial Grand Lodge, and asserted that it was due more to the assistance he had received not only from the Present and Past Deputy Provincial Grand Masters and Secretaries but from all the officers and brethren of the province than from any merit of his own.

The PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER then, in the name of the Committee, officers, and brethren, presented the Provincial Grand Secretary with a silver inkstand of the most elegant design, expressing the pleasure he felt at having Bro. Brighten for his Provincial Grand Secretary, and adding words of kindness and approval of services rendered during the past 17 years.

The inkstand bore the following inscription: "Province of Middlesex and Surrey Mark Master Masons. Presentation to Worshipful Bro. William Green Brighten, P.G.J.W., P.P.G.S.W., Provincial Grand Secretary, by the brethren of the Province as a mark of esteem and regard. 1892."

Numerous letters of regret for enforced absence were read, after which Provincial Grand Lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to a banquet and concert.

Before the banquet Sir Francis and Lady Burdett received the ladies and brethren in the drawing-room, where the Stewards presented magnificent bouquets to Lady Burdett, her daughter, Mrs. Knightley, and Mrs. Brighten.

The banquet was served in Spiers and Pond's best style, while an excellent string band gave forth sweet music.

After the banquet the usual loyal toasts were given, and then the ladies and brethren adjourned to the concert room.

(Copy of Address.)

Provincial Grand Lodge Mark Master Masons Middlesex and Surrey.
To the Right Worshipful Brother Col. Sir Francis Burdett, Bart.,
Provincial Grand Master.

We, the members of the Provincial Grand Lodge, congratulate you on the twenty-first year of your rule over this province. We are proud of being governed by a chief who has done so much honour to Freemasonry, and who so well knows what Freemasonry means. It is impossible to over-estimate the esteem and regard entertained for you, and it is most gratifying indeed for us to have the privilege of assembling this day to offer to you some tangible proof of the respect we have for one who has endeared himself not only by his Masonic virtues, but as a friend, a neighbour, a public man, and an officer in her Majesty's Army.

May you for many years to come continue to be a shining light in Freemasonry, ruling over this province with the same zeal and assiduity you have shown for the last twenty-one years, and when called off from your labours here may you be found worthy to receive the reward promised to those who work diligently in His Holy Temple.

"So mote it be!"

Signed, on behalf of the 800 members of this Provincial Grand Lodge,

C. J. KNIGHTLEY, President;
GEORGE PRICE, Treasurer;
W. A. SCURRAH, Hon. Secretary Festival Committee.

(Copy of inscription on casket.)

Province of Middlesex and Surrey Mark Master Masons.

This casket, containing an address, was presented to the Right Worshipful Bro. Col. Sir Francis Burdett, Bart., Provincial Grand Mark Master, to commemorate the 21st year of the existence of the province, during the whole of which period it has been under his guidance and direction. 1892.

JUBILEE FESTIVAL OF THE ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The Festival to celebrate the Jubilee of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons was held on Wednesday evening at Covent Garden Theatre under the presidency of the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, Deputy Grand Master, and Provincial Grand Master for Cornwall. A gathering of nearly 1800 brethren and ladies was one of the results of the strenuous endeavours put forth by the executive of the Institution, more especially Bro. Terry, its Secretary, to make the Festival a great success, and worthy of the great Craft which it ennobles. The theatre was well suited for a grand display, and it afforded plenty of scope for an artistic mind to design a picturesque show. Such a mind was found equal to the occasion, and the arrangement of the tables and the disposition of the company formed a most attractive spectacle. The brethren's dinner tables were on the ground floor of the building, while the ladies were formed into dinner parties in the several tiers of boxes on the stage, which had been specially prepared for the occasion, and in the saloon. The band of the Grenadier Guards, by permission of Col. Trotter, under the conductorship of Bro. Lieut. Dan Godfrey, 2190, played a beautiful selection of music during the dinner, and the dinner itself was one of the finest productions of Messrs. Spiers and Pond, Limited.

The company included Bros. Col. N. Money, P.G.M. Surrey; Sir J. B. Monckton, P.G.W.; J. Lewis Thomas, P.A.G.D.C.; R. Turtle Pigott, D.C.L., P.A.G.D.C.; Baron de Ferrieres, P.G.D.; Rev. C. W. Spencer Stanhope, P.G.C.; T. J. Ralling, Prov. Grand Secretary Essex; Col. A. Thrale Perkins, P.G.D.; Alderman Frank Green, P.G.D.; Col. H. Somerville Burney, P.G.D.; F. Sumner Knyvett, P.G.D.; Lennox Browne, Vice-President Board of Gen. Purps.; Dr. Strong, J. A. Farnfield, George Everett, Grand Treas.; S. V. Abraham, A.G.P.; Thos. Fenn, Pres. Bd. Gen. Purps.; Robert Grey, Pres. Board of Benevolence; J. Chadwick, Prov. G. Sec. East Lancashire; F. R. W. Hedges, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.I. Girls; J. M. McLeod, Sec. R.M.I. Boys; C. F. Hogard, Chairman Executive Committee; Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G.C.; W. F. Smithson, P.G.D.; C. Belton, P.D.G.D.C.; H. Brooks Marshall, P.G. Treas.; R. Eve, P.G. Treas.; R. Berridge, R. Clowes, G. Std. Br.; Admiral Markham, J. H. Matthews, P.D.G.D.C.; and others.

The brethren commenced dinner punctually at six o'clock, and at the termination of the repast, which was admirably served, the usual toasts followed the saying of grace.

The Earl of MOUNT EDGCUMBE, in proposing the toast of "The Queen," said he must ask the brethren's indulgence, as it was difficult to speak in so large a hall. It was impossible to propose the toast which now, as ever, stood first upon the list, without feeling the cloud of that sorrow which cast its shadow upon the happiness of their Sovereign and her family; but that sorrow had tended only to make their feelings of loyalty more personal, more loving, and more real. They could not forget the words of that letter, so touching in its sympathy, in which her Majesty thanked the people for their sympathy, or the impression which those words made upon the brethren's own minds. That letter was read by millions of their fellow subjects, and by thousands of their brethren in the Craft in every quarter of the globe, and it must have awakened a feeling of personal sympathy towards Queen Victoria in the minds of many to whom that name till then had been little more than an abstract idea, the symbol of the majesty of England, that he believed they could hardly imagine that there had ever been a more striking exemplification of the poet's words, "One touch of nature makes the whole world kin."

The Earl of MOUNT EDGCUMBE, in proposing "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," said that the remarks he had just made applied equally or even more strongly to the present toast. On H.R.H. the Prince of Wales and the Princess of Wales the blow he had spoken of fell with the greatest force. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales was connected with each one of the brethren by the ties of Masonry, as well as by the allegiance which they owed to him as the Grand Master of their Order. The Prince of Wales was associated especially with the object of the Festival, and that day as the Grand Patron of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. The sympathy of the Craft at large had been duly conveyed to his Royal Highness by the Grand Lodge of England, and the brethren now bore upon their Masonic clothing the badges of mourning for a brother Mason in the person of the lamented young Prince, the Duke of Clarence and Avondale. A doubt was felt at first whether, under the circumstances, the date of this Festival should be postponed, but he (the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe) decided otherwise, because he felt in the first place that the Festival was not less a work of mercy than an occasion of festivity, and also because he was sure that the deep interest always entertained by the Grand Master in the great Masonic Charities would lead him to think only of what would be best for the success of that meeting. He believed nothing would give the Prince of Wales greater pleasure than to have communicated to him the result of this Festival.

Bro. the Rev. C. J. MARTYN, P.G. Chap., proposed the toast of "The Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Lathom; the Deputy Grand Master, the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe; and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past."

Bro. Col. NOEL MONEY, Prov. G. Master for Surrey, in responding, said it was with great diffidence he rose to return thanks. Both the Earl of Lathom and himself took the highest degrees in Masonry on the same day. The Provincial Grand Master was the connecting link between Grand Lodge and the lodges of England, and he hoped it was because they, to the utmost of their ability, carried out the duties of their high office that they might look for such an assembly as they saw that night. If the connecting links did not do their duty there would not be that vital energy existing from the head and front of the Institutions down to their very lowest foundation. The officers of Grand Lodge did their duty in every way when they were called upon, and in returning thanks for them he could only say they did it to the utmost of their power, and were glad to see the body of Masons in general considered that the Grand Officers attempted to do their duty. He felt that he ought to say a word as regarded the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe in his position of Provincial Grand Master of Cornwall, but he need say very little. The name of the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe had been associated with Masonry for a long time, and the position of President of this Festival was one that did not require words from him to call forth the brethren's feelings.

The Earl of MOUNT EDGCUMBE, in proposing "Success to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons," said: Brethren,—You all know, and I believe the ladies who are with us know also, that we are met to celebrate the Jubilee of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, which was founded in the year 1842 at the suggestion of H.R.H. the Duke of Sussex, then Grand Master of our Order. To the younger brethren among us half a century which has elapsed since then may appear a very long space of time; but those who like myself can look back upon that year as within their own personal recollection, may well wonder that Masonry should have continued so long, up to so recent a date, without having established any system of permanent provision for its poorer brethren in their declining years, or for the widows of those who had faithfully served their Order during the term of their life, and had died in straitened circumstances. The children of Masons had been cared for long before. The Royal Masonic Institution for Boys had been established 44 years earlier, and the Institution for Girls celebrated its Centenary only four years ago at a magnificent Festival under the presidency of the Prince of Wales in the Albert Hall. No doubt grants in the nature of gratuities have long been given in cases of sickness and special misfortune—such grants continue to be awarded by the Board of Benevolence out of the revenues of Grand Lodge to the extent of from £8000 to £9000 a year in sums varying from £5 to £100—not often exceeding £150—and no doubt such gifts as these may be of great assistance in tiding over special times of need. But old age brings with it a permanent claim upon those who call themselves brothers. Among the thousands of whatever profession or business they may be, who have to rely for their own maintenance and for that of those dear to them solely upon their own personal energies, how many can say in confidence that the time shall never come when by sickness or calamity they may be brought low, or when they may have to look for a helping hand to lie down through the last stage of their life's journey, or to protect those whom they may leave behind to tread their path alone? To help such is a duty which is being recognised at the present time more fully, I believe, than it has ever been recognised before. The world outside Masonry is being exercised with schemes for old age pensions, and it is satisfactory to think that Masonry in this respect have been able to show that it is 50 years in advance of the world. (Applause.) We are justified in rejoicing at that fact; and it was determined to mark this date by an exceptional effort to enlarge the benefits of this Institution, which now is giving pensions of £40 a year to 180 aged Masons, and pensions of £32 a year to 230 widows. (Renewed applause.) Besides that, there are 27 widows of late annuitants who, by the rule of the Institution, are allowed half of their late husband's pension—that is £20 a year—for five years unless within that time they are elected themselves annuitants. That is 437 annuitants. Of those a small number—32—have rooms in an admirable asylum at Croydon, where with the attention of a most excellent matron, Miss Norris, and under the indefatigable care of the honorary surgeon, Dr. Strong—(loud applause)—they have a happy life which any one who likes to visit that Institution can judge of for himself, and where they feel unfeigned gratitude for the benefits they receive from the Order. It would be troublesome on such an occasion to trouble you with arithmetical statistics. I will only say that taking establishment charges, the maintenance of this home, and everything into consideration, the amount spent, roughly speaking, upon this Institution is about £18,000 a year, of which between £4000 and £5000 alone comes from permanent sources of income. In order to meet the deficit of each year it is customary for brethren to enrol themselves as Stewards, and to take upon themselves the arduous duties of collecting contributions. On this occasion the number of Stewards I believe is unprecedented; it is 1471, and many more would have offered their services, but they could not be accepted, because there was not room for them in this building. On this exceptional occasion no admittance could be given to any but Stewards. Your labours—for I can only speak of you, for you are all Stewards—as a results of your labours, have fully, and more than fully, justified the confidence of the Committee of Management of this Institution. That confidence was most practically shown. By the ordinary rules of the Institution dependent upon its resources there would have been at the next election in May only 32 vacancies for male and female annuitants, and there were 139 candidates. The Committee, in anticipation and in faith of the result of this meeting, added 20 annuitants to both classes. Their faith has been fully, as I said before, more than fully justified, for the amount which has been received, after paying all liabilities—after, I hope, providing a substantial reserve—will enable them to provide a fund which when invested at 3 per cent. will furnish annuities for these 20 annuitants for ever. (Cheers.) Now, brethren, you will be happy to hear that I have arrived at my peroration; but I am spared the necessity which generally falls upon speakers of having to prepare eloquent phrases in order to elicit at least the enthusiasm of their hearers; because in proposing the toast I now have to offer to you, which is "Success"—which I most heartily hope—"to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons," I know that no words of mine, however eloquent, would enable me to sit down amidst such a chorus of genuine applause as will greet the simple announcement which I am about to make, namely that as the result of all your labours—and I am sure you will forgive me if I specify especially the indefatigable exertions of Bro. Terry—(loud applause)—as a result of those labours the amount contributed by London brethren and lodges alone has been £27,543 5s.—(loud applause)—and by the contributions of the provincial brethren and lodges £32,050 10s., making a grand total of £59,593 15s.—(renewed applause, amidst which the toast was drunk).

Bro. J. A. FARNFIELD, Treasurer, in acknowledging the contributions which had been announced, said he was sure the success of the Institution was perfectly certain. The amount the Chairman had been able to announce, besides allowing for the extra annuitants who would be put on, which would take £25,000, would leave over £30,000 untouched. They would be able to invest £50,000 this year, but there would be a large increase in the permanent income of the Institution.

Sir JOHN B. MONCKTON proposed "The Health of the Chairman," to whom they owed their most sincere and hearty thanks for undertaking what his lordship had been good enough to call a great pleasure, but which must at the same time have been a great task, namely to preside over an assembly of such magnitude. However, there was this comfort to his lordship—he had the happy satisfaction, which could not be taken from him till time with him should be no more, of having presided over a meeting at which a collection had been announced which absolutely beat the record. They were all very proud of what was accomplished at the Centenary Festival of the Girls' School, and they thought it would not be reached in amount. But Masonry went ahead, and as it went ahead in numbers it went ahead

in heart and benevolence. Space would not admit of more brethren and ladies being present that night. When it was announced that Lord Mount Edgcumbe would preside the success of the Festival became a certainty.

The Earl of MOUNT EDGCUMBE replied, and thanked the brethren most heartily for what they had done that day.

Bro. RICHARD EVE, Past Grand Treasurer, proposed "The Other Masonic Charities," and said he remembered the time when £2000 or £3000 was considered a large subscription to announce.

Bro. HEDGES, Secretary Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, in reply, said: My Lord, Ladies, and Brethren,—I beg to thank you most sincerely on behalf of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys and the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls for the very cordial manner in which you have received this toast. I thank you in the name of the Committees of those Institutions, and I thank you no less heartily on behalf of the five hundred and upwards of the sons and daughters of the Craft who are now benefiting by the fostering care and educational advantage of those Institutions. I must also ask to be allowed to express on behalf of those Institutions my warmest congratulations on the magnificent result of this Jubilee Festival, which has beaten the record by some £8000. The Benevolent Institution has had to record many red-letter days in its annals, but I venture to think that this will be remembered as the capital red-letter day. Referring to the coming Festivals, while the Boys' School is happy and grateful in the memory of a most liberal support in the immediate past, little is needed from me to assure you of the pressing necessity for a successful Festival in June next. The Festival of the Girls' School will, however, be the first in order of succession, and on which occasion, as you are all aware, H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught has very graciously consented to preside. Although the splendid Centenary Celebration, to which reference has already been made, the Craft very naturally and properly gave its attention more particularly to the other two Institutions, with the result, however, that while the good work being done by the Girls' School has been materially increased, the three last Festivals have been considerably below the average. I do, therefore, most earnestly plead for such support at the coming Festival and in the near future as shall enable the Committee to carry out to its fullest extent the beneficent work for which the result of the Centennial Celebration has so admirably adapted the Institution. My Lord and Brethren, I once more thank you most heartily on behalf of the Boys' and Girls' Schools.

The Earl of MOUNT EDGCUMBE proposed the toast of "The Ladies," whose sympathies were with Masons and in every good work.

Bro. Col. THIRALE PERKINS responded to the toast, and the proceedings closed.

The Earl of MOUNT EDGCUMBE, after leaving the chair, returned and announced that he had received the following telegram from Eastbourne, from the Prince of Wales: "I wish all success to the Institution over whose Jubilee Festival you are presiding this evening.—ALBERT EDWARD."

The following is a Summary of the Returns for Town and Country. The full list will appear in our SPECIAL EDITION, which will be published on Monday, the 29th instant.

No. of Stwds.		£	s.	d.
3	Bedfordshire	113	8	0
22	Berkshire	716	14	6
15	Buckinghamshire	197	8	0
5	Cambridgeshire	201	3	6
72	Cheshire	1700	0	0
11	Cornwall	776	15	0
1	Cumberland and Westmorland			
41	Derbyshire	994	0	0
6	Devonshire	690	3	6
7	Dorsetshire	393	15	0
4	Durham	600	0	0
42	Essex	2068	19	6
3	Gloucestershire	31	10	9
28	Hampshire and Isle of Wight	1316	17	0
1	Herefordshire	2	0	0
27	Hertfordshire	1446	3	6
37	Kent	1382	8	0
54	Lancashire—East Division	2207	7	0
33	Lancashire—West Division	902	8	6
4	Leicestershire and Rutland	388	10	0
12	Lincolnshire	577	18	0
34	Middlesex	1326	12	0
2	Monmouthshire	21	0	0
3	Norfolk	431	5	0
7	North Wales	216	8	0
8	Northants and Hunts	107	8	0
1	Northumberland	105	0	0
2	Nottinghamshire	105	0	0
13	Oxfordshire	296	0	0
13	Shropshire	491	0	0
6	Somersetshire	491	15	0
1	South Wales—East Division	180	0	0
1	South Wales—West Division	21	0	0
10	Staffordshire	365	5	0
23	Suffolk	963	10	0
36	Surrey	2024	15	0
29	Sussex	1177	0	6
79	Warwickshire	2062	3	0
11	Wiltshire	476	9	0
7	Worcestershire	157	10	0
7	Yorkshire—North and East Ridings	674	8	0
138	Yorkshire—West Riding	3555	0	0
1	Channel Islands	241	10	0
1	Jersey	63	0	0
1	Isle of Man			
2	Cyprus	59	17	0

GENERAL SUMMARY.

617 STEWARDS—LONDON	£27,543	5	0
854 STEWARDS—PROVINCES	£32,470	10	0
GRAND TOTAL	£60,013	15	0

SECOND MASONIC BALL OF THE PRINCE FREDERICK WILLIAM LODGE, No. 753.

A large number of members and friends, numbering over 250, attended the second Masonic ball of the Prince Frederick William Lodge, No. 753, at Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, on Monday, the 22nd inst. With Bro. James Stephens, W.M., as President of the Stewards, and Bro. J. J. Thomas as Honorary Secretary, it was anticipated that success was assured, and these anticipations were more than realised in the great success which attended their exertions. Bro. Delevanti's band played an excellent selection of dance music, and the floor being in first-class condition, nothing more was desired by the devotees of Terpsichore to spend a most enjoyable evening.

The programme was interrupted about midway, when supper was served in the Crown Room, under the personal superintendence of Bro. Mantel, whose efforts gave complete satisfaction.

"The Queen and Royal Family" was heartily honoured, and Bro. J. J. Thomas, P.M., then gave "The W.M." He said Bro. Stephens, the W.M., had much to congratulate himself upon in seeing the enormous gathering around him. The W.M. had worked nobly for it, and had left no stone unturned to make the affair a success. A great success it was they would all admit, and they congratulated the Master on the happy results of the second ball in connection with this lodge. Last year they mustered something like 140, and on the present occasion they had advanced on that and numbered over 250. Bro. Stephens, W.M., had earned some distinction in Masonry, and had done a great deal for the cause of Masonry since he joined it.

Bro. JAMES STEPHENS, W.M., returned thanks, and said he feared Bro. Thomas had somewhat intruded upon the lines of flattery in having said so much. That brother had referred to the great success of the evening, but he (the W.M.) had had excellent officers as Stewards, who had done good work. It was a great gratification to know they had been instrumental in bringing about one of the most successful balls which, owing to recent circumstances, had been held in that establishment during the present season. He thanked all sincerely for the generous support accorded the second ball of the lodge of which he had the honour and privilege of being Worshipful Master.

Bro. DAVEY, P.M., proposed "The Ladies," which was responded to by Bro. S. H. BESING.

Dancing was then resumed and continued until the small hours of the morning, when the company separated with mutual congratulations on the success of the evening. It only remains to add that Bro. Stephens, the W.M., performed the onerous duties of M.C. with geniality and general satisfaction.

ANNUAL BALL OF THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH LODGE, No. 1182, LIVERPOOL.

The 22nd annual ball (in aid of the local Masonic Charities) of this popular lodge was held on Thursday evening, the 18th inst., at the Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool, when a good muster of the members and their friends were present. Much to the regret of all, the W.M., Bro. Andrew Morris, was unable to attend, owing to illness, but his position was ably sustained by Bro. W. Rawsthorne, I.P.M., who was supported by an efficient body of Stewards, captained by Bro. G. Johnston.

Bro. A. BARCLAY, P.M., acted with his usual skill as Master of the Ceremonies, and after supper proposed "The Health of the W.M." in felicitous terms, which was responded to by Bro. W. RAWSTHORNE.

The toast of "The Health of the Ladies," which was accepted with great enthusiasm, was proposed by Bro. W. F. FERGUSON, S.W., and responded to in a humorous speech by Bro. G. JOHNSTON.

Great credit is due to Bro. R. Tunnicliffe, J.W., for the admirable manner in which he fulfilled his duties as Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.

The splendid band was supplied by Mr. T. Quillan, and the catering, under the supervision of Mr. T. Mercanton, gave the highest satisfaction.

LADIES' NIGHT OF THE WEST SMITHFIELD LODGE, No. 1623.

A very successful ladies' banquet and ball was held in connection with the West Smithfield Lodge, No. 1623, at Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, on Thursday, the 18th inst. The company—numbering about 160—sat down to an excellent banquet under the genial presidency of Bro. P. H. Clisby, W.M., and justice having been done to the good fare provided, a limited toast list was proceeded with.

"The Queen and the Craft" and "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales" were heartily honoured, after which the I.P.M. proposed "The Health of the W.M.," congratulating Bro. Clisby, W.M., on the ability with which he discharged his duties, and the desire he evinced to promote anything for the benefit of the lodge.

Bro. P. H. CLISBY, W.M., returned sincere thanks for the kindly proposition and reception of the toast, and assured the brethren of the pleasure it always gave him to work for the lodge. He also thanked all present for their kind support that evening, and concluded by observing that he would not set a bad example by making a long speech as he knew they were all desirous of dancing.

Bro. FAIRCHILD, P.M., replied for "The Visitors," after which

The Worshipful Master gave "The Ladies" in appropriate terms. He said it afforded the members great pleasure to see the ladies present, and he hoped they would also attend in goodly numbers the summer outing, which would take place later on. As he was sure he should be complying with their wishes, he would simply give the toast with all heartiness and sincerity, and couple the name of Bro. Worrall.

Bro. M. W. WORRALL, S.D., briefly replied, and an adjournment was made to the Drawing Room. Musical selections were well rendered by Miss Foxcroft and Bros. H. Clinch, Egbert Roberts, Org.; J. A. Hoffmann, and R. Evans, and Signor Moro.

Dancing was subsequently enjoyed in the large hall, to the music of an excellent band conducted by Mr. Bamberger, and the company separated in the early hours of the morning, having spent a thoroughly enjoyable evening.

THE LATE GRAND SECRETARY.

The following address of condolence has been sent by the five Craft lodges and three Mark lodges at Hull

"To Mrs. Shadwell H. Clerke,

"Madam,—On behalf of the Freemasons of Hull, we beg respectfully to offer our heartfelt sympathy and condolence with yourself and family upon the sudden and lamentable bereavement you have sustained by the loss of your beloved husband, the late Colonel Clerke, Grand Secretary of England, who by his great Masonic acquirements, administrative ability, courtesy, and kindness had endeared himself to the members of our Order, and whose memory will ever be cherished by us with affectionate regret. Sincerely trusting that the Great Architect of the Universe may comfort and sustain you under this sad affliction,—We beg to remain, yours respectfully,

CRAFT LODGES.

MARK LODGES.

"A. E. Kessen, W.M. 57, R. R. Hauley, W.M. 12,
"L. B. Brekke " 250, John Walton " 182,
"H. Woodhouse " 1010, G. W. Greenwood " 329,
"J. W. Tindell " 1605,
"G. W. Greenwood " 2134.
"Hull, 16th February, 1892."

Royal Ark Mariners.

Prince Leopold Lodge (No. 238).—This lodge held a meeting at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on the 16th inst. Among those in attendance were Bros. N. Prower, M.A., W.C.N.; C. Chaffourier, J.; F. W. Driver, M.A., S.; Capt. T. C. Walls, P.G.C., P.W.C.N.; Scribe; Harvey, Guardian; T. O. Harding, M.A., P.W.C.N.; and Goddard, Warder. Bro. H. H. Shirley, M.A., P.W.C.N. 1, &c., was a visitor.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. Chaffourier was elected W.C.N.; Bro. N. Prower, M.A., Treasurer; and Bro. Goddard, Warder. A vote of thanks was passed to Bro. N. Prower for his services as W.C.N., and a similar compliment was passed to Bro. F. Farrington for his services as Treasurer. Apologies for non-attendance having been received from Bros. W. Drew, Holroyd, and others, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to banquet, under the genial presidency of Bro. C. Chaffourier, W.M. of the Prince Leopold Mark Lodge.

The customary toasts were duly honoured.



To do it even bare justice in relating the story of "Lady Windermere's Fan," Mr. Oscar Wilde's new play at the St. James's Theatre, would take up space which at present cannot be spared in the *Freemason*. We shall, therefore, not spoil the treat in store for those who are going to see it, or our own impressions after seeing it, by any attempt at elucidation or repetition of the countless smart epigrams with which the whole play abounds to overflowing. It bristles with wit, its dialogue is brilliant, its story is thrilling with interest from start to finish without a moment's monotony, its stage-mounting is exquisite in the extreme, the acting is perfection by one and all; in fine, in spite of its construction as a dramatic work of art being here and there shaky, and in two or three places situations occur which have often been used before, we confidently say that everybody who is anybody will go to the St. James during the next few months to see for themselves this very clever play, which they will hear everyone talking about. At every dinner party or ball during the coming London season "Lady Windermere's Fan" is sure to be the topic of conversation. Mr. George Alexander may reckon on extensive booking of his stalls and dress-circle, for Mr. Wilde's play is essentially one that interests the upper-ten. Being precluded from going into details, we must content ourselves by observing that Mr. Alexander has secured an undoubted financial success in this brilliant, though not faultless, play. The efficient company engaged include Miss Marion Terry, Miss Lily Hanbury, Mr. Ben Webster, Mr. Malcolm Gould, Miss Maud Graves, Miss Fanny Coleman, Mrs. A. Vane Tempest (a scion of the Londonderry family), and Miss de Winton, who, we believe, is a daughter of Sir Francis de Winton, K.C., K.G., just appointed Comptroller and Treasurer to the household of Prince George of Wales.

The construction of "A Bohemian" is so faulty that we fear its lot cannot be a very happy one, even though it is greatly relieved by the acting of Mr. Lewis Waller, Miss Florence West, Mr. Percyval, Mr. Aynesworth, and Miss Maud Millett. The pivot of the plot on which the interest of this four-act play turns is a false motive, and though Mr. L. Parker, the author, charms, he never wisely pleases his audience by his dialogue, and he cannot hope to attain satisfactory results from so crude a piece of dramatic craftsmanship. A play, the basis of whose plot deals with matters which occurred years before the play opens, can never work up much enthusiasm amongst an audience, and, as in this case especially, when the foundation is an unnatural one. We are told that a young lady who has made a great name as an opera singer, is loved by an officer, and on the day of the marriage they are separated by a former admirer, who declares that she is not what she should be. When challenged for proofs he produces a birth certificate of a child, registered in her name. She will not say it is a fraud; to do so would break her old blind father's heart, and he is present. Her sister, who is dead, had sinned, but to preserve her good name this girl took upon herself the shame, as her sister was her father's favourite, no reason being given by the author why she is. She had confided this secret to her old admirer, and handed him the false certificate to post, but the villain that he is kept it for years for his own ulterior vile purposes. When her father dies there is no further need to conceal this fact. Her innocence is established by her would-be betrayer, who, relating the old story to her, is overheard by the husband (an old dramatic device). The tempter meets his doom at the hands of some gipsies, who had years before sworn to avenge an accidental homicide of one of their comrades—a somewhat romantic melodramatic introduction in what is supposed to be a play of the present time. The erring sister does not personally appear in the play, so why should we feel any particular sympathy for her. True, it is very self-sacrificing of her sister to take the guilt of the other upon her, but then it is quite unnatural and uncalled for. Why should a good husband be sacrificed? and why should the father's feelings be studied for one daughter more than another? Surely an ordinary parent would feel the disgrace equally in one child as the other! Miss Florence West, as the heroine, is all that we can desire. It is a somewhat unsympathetic part well acted. Mr. Lewis Waller, as the villain, is, as always, conscientious in his action and perfect in his elocution. Mr. Aynesworth and Miss Millett play the comedy part, and in their hands these parts go well with the audience. They vastly help the author, one as the namby-pamby young curate, and the other as his fiancée—daughter of a country rector—who is frank, good, mischievous, and a true English girl. Miss Maude Millett reminds us of her delightful acting in "Sweet Lavender," "The Idler," "Sunlight and Shadow," and "May and December." "A Bohemian" is so well acted that, in spite of its defects in construction, we hope to see it again at the Globe.

Obituary.

BRO. WILLIAM HAMMOND.

We record with deep regret the decease of Bro. William Hammond, aged 70, which took place, after a long illness, at Hampton on Tuesday last. Bro. W. Hammond was initiated in the Jordan Lodge, No. 201, in 1858, and became Master in 1864. He held probably the unique position of being a founder and first W.M. of three lodges in Middlesex—the Lebanon, No. 1326, in 1870; the Hemming, No. 1512, in 1875; and the Wolsey, No. 1656, in 1878—occupying the chair in the latter lodge for two years in succession. He also served as M.E.Z. of the Lebanon Chapter in 1877, and of the Era in 1880—81, whilst in Mark Masonry he was a founder and third W.M. of the Francis Burdett Lodge, No. 181, in the year 1882. He was appointed Provincial Grand Deacon of Middlesex in 1875, and the same year A.G.S. of Provincial Grand Chapter. To our late departed brother many brethren, some of whom have since gained promotion in the province, are indebted for their admission to Masonic light, and his family of initiates will ever remember with affection his impressive rendering of the ritual and faultless interpretation of our beautiful ceremonies. Bro. Hammond was not unmindful of his obligations to the Institutions. He served as Steward for "Our Boys," and qualified as a Life Governor; he also subscribed to the R.M.B.I., and made his five children Life Governors of one or more of the Charities. Of late years his affliction has necessitated his withdrawal from Masonic circles, but there has never been a meeting of any of his lodges or chapters without many kind enquiries from sympathising brothers after "Bro. William." He was churchwarden of Hampton for over 20 years, and greatly respected in the parish and neighbourhood. The funeral service will take place at Hampton Parish Church to-morrow (Saturday) at 2.30, and the interment at Hampton Cemetery. There will also be a celebration of the Holy Communion by the Rev. R. Digby Ram, M.A., vicar, in the church at 11.45 a.m.

The Duchess of Hamilton, whilst hunting with Mr. Fernie's hounds on Tuesday, met with rather a serious accident. Her horse slipped and fell, rolling over her Grace. She was taken to Gurnley Hall, and attended by Dr. Marriott, who found one of the shoulders dislocated. Her Grace was afterwards removed to Glen, and was reported on Wednesday evening to be going on favourably.

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MAY ELECTION, 1892.

TO THE GOVERNORS OF THE

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 Artizan* (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

Sir ARTHUR BLACKWOOD, Secretary General Post Office.
GEORGE KENNING, Esq., Proprietor of *The Freemason*,
16 and 16a, Great Queen-street, London, W.C.

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, Worthing.

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.

NOW READY.

"IN MEMORIAM."—R.W. the Duke of CLARENCE AND AVONDALE, K.G., P.G.W. Published in *Freemason*, 23rd January. Words by F. W. DRIVER, M.A., P.M. 45; Music by F. W. GOODRICH, Organist and Choir Master St. Clement's, Kensington. Dedicated to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G., Most Worshipful Grand Master. Price 1s. 6d. per copy (nett), to be obtained of Bro. F. W. DRIVER, M.A., 62, Lancaster-road, Notting Hill, W.

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"(Signed) J. W. HALL."

Sworn at 16, Berners-street, in the County of Middlesex, this 3rd day of December, 1891.

(Signed) T. C. FENWICK,
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THE SHADWELL CLERKE TRUST.

FREEMASONS' HALL,
GREAT QUEEN STREET, W.C.,
8th February, 1892.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,

We regret to inform you that the Widow of our late much lamented Grand Secretary, Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, has been left very inadequately provided for.

A Committee of Grand Officers and others, who have had many opportunities of knowing how conscientiously, efficiently and courteously Col. Clerke discharged all the duties of his important office, and the eminent services he has rendered to Masonry, has been formed for the purpose of inviting Lodges and Brethren to show their appreciation of his high character and services by joining with them in raising a Fund for the purchase of a Government Life Annuity for Mrs. Clerke.

We send herewith a List of the Committee who have already given their names, to which additions are solicited.

The Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Lathom; the R.W. Deputy Grand Master, the Earl of Mount Edgumbe; and Sir Albert W. Woods (Garter), P.G.W., G.D.C., have kindly consented to act as Trustees, and an account will be opened immediately in their names at the Bloomsbury Branch of the London and Westminster Bank.

Personal Subscriptions are limited to a maximum of £5 5s. In the case of Lodges, Chapters, and other Masonic Bodies there is no limit. Cheques are requested to be sent, addressed to the Treasurer, Bro. Robert Grey, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C., made payable to him, and crossed "London and Westminster Bank, Bloomsbury Branch, o/a Shadwell Clerke Trust."

Inasmuch as Bro. George Kenning has kindly undertaken to insert advertisements in the *Freemason* free of expense, and as the cost of Printing, Stationery, Postage and Receipt Stamps, &c., will be paid by Members of the Committee, the whole amount of Subscriptions, without any deduction, will be available for the proposed object.

We remain, Dear Sir and Brother,

Yours fraternally,

THOMAS FENN, Pres. B. of G.P., Chairman.

ROBERT GREY, Pres. B. of B., Treasurer.

FRANK RICHARDSON, P.G.D., Secretary.

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 " " Sir H. TRUEMAN WOOD, P.A.G.D.C.

The next meeting of this Committee, with the addition of those Brethren who, in the meantime, may have signified their wish to join, will be held here on MONDAY, 7th March, at FOUR o'clock, of which this is to be taken as notice.

FRANK RICHARDSON,
 Secretaries.
 Freemasons' Hall,
 8th February, 1892.

THE MASONIC AND MILITARY ORDERS OF KNIGHTS OF ROME

AND OF

THE RED CROSS OF CONSTANTINE, K.H.S.,

AND

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST.

COLONEL SIR FRANCIS BURDETT, BART.,
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 RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF EUSTON,
 M. Eminent Grand Viceroy and Deputy Grand Commander
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OF THE

GRAND IMPERIAL CONCLAVE

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MARK MASONS' HALL, GT. QUEEN ST., W.C.,

ON MONDAY, MARCH 7TH, 1892,

At Five o'clock in the Afternoon.

At the conclusion of the business of the Grand Imperial Council, a Commandery of St. John the Evangelist will be held, and the Orders of K.H.S. and St. John, will be conferred on all eligible Candidates who may notify their intention to the Registrar-General, not later than the 2nd of March; Fee, One Guinea.

A BANQUET will be provided at Seven o'clock. Tickets, One Guinea each; and it is requested that every Knight Companion intending to dine will forward his name to the Grand Recorder with as little delay as possible.

Knights will not be admitted unless they appear in the insignia of their rank in the Order, Knights of St. John in White Sashes.

CHARLES FITZGERALD MATIER,
 Grand Recorder and Registrar-General.

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The *Freemason* of May 10th, 1891, says—"Messrs. Gilliam Bros., Gold and Silversmiths, of 6, Serle Street, Lincoln's Inn, have been very fortunate in securing so fine a site for their new establishment as 446, Oxford Street (near Orchard Street), and we congratulate them on the beauty and artistic design displayed in their new premises; the stock is of the most rare and choice kind, and our brethren, who are fond of old and good things in precious metals, would do well to pay them a visit."

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THE LATE DUKE OF CLARENCE AND AVONDALE.

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.

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 amongst others unavoidably stand over:
 CRAFT.—Industry Lodge, No. 48; West Middlesex Lodge, No. 1612; and Duke of Fife Lodge, No. 2345.

INSTRUCTION.—Neptune Lodge, No. 22; Hyde Park Lodge, No. 1425; Ivy Lodge, No. 1441; Kensington Lodge, No. 1769; St. Ambrose Lodge, No. 1891; and Hornsey Chapter, No. 890.



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1892.

Masonic Notes.

In reference to the announcement by the Chairman of the total of the Stewards' lists at the Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution on Wednesday evening, we are requested to state that the amount of £59,593 15s., was a clerical error. The actual sum was £60,013 15s. Seeing that the lists came pouring in up to the very last moment this is not much to be wondered at. Further lists to come in will no doubt add a considerable sum even to this large amount.

The Board of Management of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys availed themselves of the opportunity afforded by the great influx of Freemasons from the Provinces, on the occasion of the Jubilee Festival of the R.M.B.I. on Wednesday last, by issuing a circular inviting subscribers to the Institution, accompanied by ladies and friends, to visit the School at Wood Green on Wednesday. A goodly number availed themselves of the privilege, and were very favourably impressed with the excellent arrangements and the improved surroundings of the Institution.

The Committee of the Girls' School, too, were possessed with the same idea, and the result was a very enjoyable afternoon at Clapham on Thursday. The calisthenic exercises, &c., at which the children of the Girls' School are so proficient, afforded the utmost gratification to those who had journeyed to the School, and the visitors left with the feeling which all who visit this admirable Institution acquire, that it is one of the best, if not the very best, Institution of its kind, and worthy in every respect of the confidence and support of the Craft.

We regret to learn that the much-respected Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Nottinghamshire, Bro. Rev. F. Vernon Bussell, M.A., Past Grand Chaplain, died on Sunday last, the 21st inst. The funeral took place yesterday (Thursday), and was attended by a large number of brethren of the Province. We hope to give some particulars of our deceased brother's Masonic career in our next.

By command of the Prov. Grand Master of Cumberland and Westmorland, a Provincial Grand Lodge will be held at Maryport on Tuesday, 1st March; also the Provincial Grand Chapter will be held the same day, under the banner of the Nicholson Chapter, No. 371.

A special Provincial Grand Mark Lodge of Middlesex and Surrey was held at the Criterion, Piccadilly, on Friday last, the 19th instant, to commemorate the 21st year of the constitution of the province under the genial rule during the whole of that period of the Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Col. Sir Francis Burdett, Bart. Bro. Brighten, Provincial Grand Secretary, read a short history of the Provincial Grand Lodge since its formation, which was ordered to be printed.

A Committee, of which Bro. Capt. Knightley, P.P. G.O., was President, and Bro. W. A. Scurrah, P.P.G. Reg., Hon. Secretary, had been formed to present an address to Sir Francis, the terms of which will be found in our report of the proceedings. It was handed to the Provincial Grand Master in a silver-gilt casket which bore a suitable inscription. Col. Cook performed this pleasant duty in a most suitable speech, which Sir Francis Burdett as suitably acknowledged.

Another large fine autograph case, costing over \$300, has lately been added to the Iowa Masonic Library for the Parvin collection of autograph letters and manuscripts. As each of these several cases contain about 150 good-sized flat drawers, with glass covers, some idea of the vast collection may be gained when one thinks of the space this number of drawers covers. Contributions of rare old letters and manuscripts would be most thankfully received at the Iowa Masonic Library for this collection.

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.]

"SHADWELL CLERKE TRUST."

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

The reference in the newspapers to Col. Shadwell Clerke's will having caused some misconception as to the income left to Mrs. Clerke, we think it right to state that we have been furnished with a list of the securities in which the personal estate was invested. Their value at present prices is £10,461 8s. This includes the £1000 mentioned in the will, of which Mrs. Clerke has the testamentary disposition, and also a policy for £1000, payment of which is in question. The sum of £10,461 8s. invested in securities suitable for trusts would yield a yearly income of £310. Out of this by the will £100 a year is to be paid to each of the sons, and the balance to Mrs. Clerke on condition she provides a home for and maintains the daughter. Should the policy money not be received, the balance will be reduced to £80 a year. Mrs. Clerke has a small entailed property of her own in Ireland which brings in a precarious income, the average of the last two years being £133 10s.

So far as we are able to learn, the whole of her income will therefore be either £243 or £213 to provide a home and maintain herself and daughter, which is sufficient to show that for a lady in her position she "has been left very inadequately provided for."

When the will was read it was believed that Mrs. Clerke was left a life interest in her husband's real estate in Ireland, but this appears not to have been legally carried out, and it is to fulfil, to some extent, the evident intention of Col. Clerke that "The Shadwell Clerke Trust" has been formed.

The brethren to whom our circular was addressed are reminded that the case was not put before them as one of *Charity*, nor were they solicited for subscriptions. They were invited to join with the Committee in testifying by the purchase of a life annuity for Mrs. Clerke "their appreciation of Col. Clerke's high character and services."—Yours fraternally,

THOMAS FENN, Pres. B. of G.P., Chairman.
ROBERT GREY, Pres. B. of B., Treasurer.
FRANK RICHARDSON, P.G.D., Secretary.

A CAUTION.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

In the last issue of the *Freemason* I notice a letter from the P.G. Sec. of Hants and Isle of Wight Province cautioning the brethren against a man hailing from the Newstead Lodge, No. 47, Nottingham. I very much sympathise with our Bro. E. Goble, and hasten to ask all concerned, through the medium of your paper, not to place any reliance on the name given by the individual in question, as doubtless it is an assumed one, no one of the name of Dawson having been connected with the Newstead Lodge, to my certain knowledge, for the last 28 years.—Fraternally yours,

O. J. WEEKS, W.M. 47.

February 20th.

WHEN TO BALLOT FOR A CANDIDATE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

May I be allowed to back up what "Rough Ashlar" has to say on this subject by stating that it is the custom in all the English lodges in the River Plate (and as far as I could find out in the foreign lodges there, too) to propose a candidate at one meeting, ballot at the next, and initiate at the next, if the business of the lodge permitted, but never under any circumstance initiate on the same night that the candidate was balloted for.—Yours fraternally,

J. KEMSLEY.

Late Secretary Lodge No. 2329, &c.

February 24th.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I have read the letter on the above subject in last week's *Freemason*, and learn with considerable surprise what a pernicious system must exist in some lodges.

I will briefly explain to "Rough Ashlar" the *modus operandi* of balloting for candidates in the lodge to which I belong, and which, I believe, is the practice now being generally adopted by the majority of lodges in the Province of West Lancashire.

Our lodge meets, say, on the second Thursday in every month, when, after all the business is done, candidates for initiation are proposed. The usual lodge summons is posted so as to be in the hands of members seven days prior to the next meeting, that is, it is received on the first Thursday in the following month, when, after the "instruction lodge" is held, a Committee meeting is formed consisting of all members of the lodge present, and including the proposer of a candidate, and the merits of the candidate are fully enquired into. Should everything prove satisfactory, a proposition is made by some member of the Committee "that the candidate be recommended to the lodge for

acceptance," and a special circular is sent to the candidate requesting his attendance at the lodge meeting, when he will "be balloted for, and if duly elected, be received into the Order according to ancient custom."

It very rarely indeed happens that anyone is proposed that is not a fit and proper person to be received into the Order, but should such an occurrence arise, the proposer is requested to withdraw his name, which, as "Rough Ashlar" will readily perceive, saves unpleasant discussion at a regular lodge meeting and before visitors.—Yours fraternally,

PERFECT ASHLAR.



Craft Masonry.

METROPOLITAN MEETINGS.

Westbourne Lodge (No. 733).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on the 18th instant at the Holborn Restaurant, Bro. James W. Curtis, W.M., presiding. There was a very large attendance of brethren. These included Bros. John Welford, P.M., Treas.; S. R. Walker, P.M., Sec.; C. A. Cottebrune, P.M.; W. Drew, P.M.; C. J. Brown, P.M.; W. Hallett, P.M.; L. Ascutt, P.M.; T. W. Allen, P.M.; E. Collins, P.M.; and the following visitors: Bros. J. Aird, M.P., P.M. 259, S.G.W.; W. J. Francis, 860; H. Massey, 160, P.M. 619 and 1928; E. W. Reed, 2021; C. Godfrey, S.W. 2021; B. Thomas, 511; J. S. Adkin, 991, P.P.G. Reg.; E. M. Lander, P.M. 1642; H. E. Dehane, 1543, P.P.S. G.D. Essex; W. H. Chalfont, P.M. 1425; J. A. Oliver, 902; H. Armfield, 1642; R. H. Dillon, P.M. 1567; H. Campbell, I.G. 742; H. Windeatt, J.W. 1793; Wm. Middleweek, W.M. elect 1793; A. Ellenden, 1623; T. Middleweek, 1614; T. W. Mogford, D.C. 2362; E. Rogers, I.P.M. 60, P.G. Stwd.; J. Garton, 890; J. W. Harvey, P.M. 25; T. M. Lambie, 511; S. Pocock, P.M. 1614; L. Von Hill, 1441; H. Flower, 172; E. T. Gindal, 1653; Thomas W. Heath, W.M. 1642; R. Pierpoint, P.M. 1828; C. Wise, P.M. 1158; W. Back, J.D. 2395; A. Shaw, 362; G. H. Holland, 2128; G. H. Reynolds, I.P.M. 1614; T. Payne, I.G. 2163; Henry Wells, 1507; A. Walker, 2032; H. J. Phillips, P.M. 205; G. H. Irish, 340; H. B. Chamberlain, P.M. 1364; E. Gibb, S.W. 1017; J. Thomson, 2362; A. G. Reminson, 1305; J. Martin, 201; J. Herow, P.M. 1056; John C. Pratt, 1623; G. W. Mogford, 2362; A. J. Hawkes, P.M. 315, 1560, and 1636; F. J. Deaton, W.M. 25; J. Pullen, 1614; W. Herlitt; F. J. Done, 2098; W. H. Handow, 1642; W. H. Kerr, 194; and Curtis D'Alton, 2191.

After the opening of the lodge, and the preliminary business had been performed, the W.M. installed Bro. J. W. Belsham, S.W. and W.M. elect, as Master of the lodge. The following brethren were invested as officers: Bros. J. W. Curtis, I.P.M.; R. Rogers, S.W.; A. Arrow-smith, J.W.; J. Welford, P.M., Treas.; S. R. Walker, P.M., Sec.; W. H. Faircloth, S.D.; J. Cumming, J.D.; G. Goddard, I.G.; J. Rees and G. W. Hughes, Stwds.; C. A. Cottebrune, P.M., D.C.; and W. M. Roberts, A.D.C. The new W.M. afterwards initiated in excellent style Messrs. Hector McNeill, Joseph J. Hough, and F. Wortham, and subsequently presented Bro. Curtis, I.P.M., with a beautiful jewel of a Past Master, and a Past Master's collar and jewel. The W.M. announced that he was going up as Steward at the Jubilee Festival of the Benevolent Institution, and that to his list the lodge had voted 26 guineas. He also solicited further individual assistance by the brethren to his list.

Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to a choice banquet.

The usual toasts followed.

The W.M. in opening the proposition of the toasts by introducing "The Queen and the Craft," announced that he was going to make all his speeches short to give the programme of music which had been arranged for the brethren the better opportunity of hearing the beautiful delectation. In giving "The M.W.G.M.," he referred to the death of the Duke of Clarence and Avondale, Prov. G.M. for Berkshire, P.G.W., and said all the brethren sympathised with the Prince of Wales in the loss of his eldest son, whom he was bringing up to follow his footsteps in Freemasonry.

Bro. C. A. Cottebrune, P.G.P., in replying to the toast of "The Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Lathom; Dep. Grand Master, the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe; and Officers of Grand Lodge, Present and Past," said he had always taken the deepest interest in the Westbourne Lodge, and he always should take that interest.

Bro. Curtis, I.P.M., in proposing "The W.M.," said most of the brethren had known the W.M. for some years, and they knew, as he knew, that Bro. Belsham had done his duty well in whatever capacity he had been placed in the Westbourne Lodge. From the very lowest rung of the ladder up to the highest in which they found him that night he had always done his duty—he had, indeed; and he (Bro. Curtis) hoped and believed Bro. Belsham would remain with them for many years to assist those who required his assistance and to instruct those who required his instruction.

The Worshipful Master, in reply, said he did not think he deserved all the kind words the I.P.M. had used concerning him. It was quite true he had worked up from the lowest rung of the ladder, but he did not know that he deserved praise for doing it. But now that they had placed him in the position of W.M., he trusted the G.A.O.T.U. would give him health and strength to discharge his duty to the satisfaction of all the brethren of the lodge.

The Worshipful Master, in proposing "The I.P.M. and Installing Master," said the brethren all knew the good qualities of Bro. Curtis. They had seen his able work in the lodge during the last year, although he had not had so much work to do as he would have liked. Still they had had the opportunity of seeing him work in lodges of instruction, doing initiations, passings, and raisings, and also the ceremony of installation. He had done them all well. It was a pity he had not had more to do in the mother lodge,

for he was quite ready and able to do it. He hoped they would have him with them for many years to come.

Bro. Curtis, I.P.M., in reply, said he thanked the W.M. very much for his kind remarks, and also the brethren for the very handsome present they had given him that evening, the beautiful jewel of a Past Master and the Past Master's collar and jewel, and he should value them as long as he was a member of the Westbourne Lodge, which he hoped would be as long as he lived. He could tell them as he had told them on many occasions when responding as an officer of the lodge, that whatever duty devolved upon him he should do it to the best of his ability. He had certainly not had a great deal to do during the past year, but he had had a very pleasant time of it for the brethren had all been very kind to him. It had been a labour of love to him what he had done, and how he had done his work he hoped would be an incentive to those brethren who were coming on to do their duty so as to merit the approbation of the brethren. Perhaps as a reward they would receive a similar testimonial to that which he had received that evening. He hoped the Westbourne Lodge would long continue to prosper and to maintain its prestige, and be honoured by the visits of as many distinguished brethren as the lodge had had that evening.

Each of the Initiates responded to the toast of "The Initiates," and Bros. Heath, Deaton, W.M. 25; E. Rogers, I.P.M. 60, P.G. Stwd.; G. H. Reynolds, I.P.M. 1614; and Wise, P.M. 1158, replied to the toast of "The Visitors."

"The Masonic Charities," "The Past Masters," "The Treasurer and Secretary," "The Officers," and the Tyler's toast were the other toasts, and they were all received with the greatest heartiness, and the brethren then separated.

A beautiful programme of music was performed during the evening under the direction of Bro. Barry Lindon (conducted by Bro. W. Clarke), by Bro. Barry Lindon, Mr. Dyved Lewys, Miss Marion Evans, Bro. George Goddard, Miss Nora Lyne, and Mr. H. R. Abbot.

Covent Garden Lodge (No. 1614).—The regular meeting of this prosperous and popular lodge was held at the Criterion, Piccadilly, on the 9th instant, when there were present Bros. G. H. Foan, W.M.; G. H. Reynolds, I.P.M.; S. Hewett, P.M., acting as S.W.; A. L. Bullen, J.W.; E. Jacobs, P.M., Treas.; G. Reynolds, P.M., Sec.; G. C. Bond, S.D.; J. W. Belsham, J.D.; J. Mayo, D.C.; W. J. Thrussell, acting as Org.; H. J. Keen, acting as I.G.; W. A. Dowling, Stwd.; R. F. Potter, Tyler; J. Jacobs, P.M.; G. Coleman, P.M.; S. Jacobs, P.M.; A. Bush, C. O. Burgess, W. M. Carter, H. G. Walker, W. Unwin, A. Oddennino, F. Costa, W. Humphrey, J. Wise, W. R. Faulks, J. C. Citron, W. J. Green, C. Liddiard, W. Downes, T. Middleweek, H. Price, J. Alexander, J. Woodward, A. Packham, J. Pullen, J. Nathan, J. W. Davis, L. Isaacs, W. J. Morgan, A. Freeman, G. C. Howard, S. Jacobs, and others. The visitors were Bros. J. Williams, 2146; C. E. Gray, 2146; J. W. Burgess, P.M. 1325, P.P.G.P. West Lancs.; T. J. Hubbard, S.W. 1032; B. Holeyman, I.G. 73; F. R. Jarvis, J.W. 511; W. Dennis, 9; J. Hearsman, I.P.M. 167; J. Stait, J.W. 1743; W. Middleweek, S.W. 1793; and J. Smith, 733.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Letters of regret at not being able to be present on account of illness were read from Bros. Sheriff H. Foster, A. T. Dickson, P.M., and a letter from Mrs. Shadwell Clerke returning thanks for the sympathy the lodge had shown in the loss of the late Grand Secretary. Ballots were taken for the following gentlemen as initiates: Messrs. S. Jacobs, C. Liddiard, Wm. V. Morgan, and Jas. W. Davis, and, being unanimous, those gentlemen were initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry. A ballot was also taken for Mr. Charles Morrell as an initiate, which was unanimous. Bros. A. Oddennino and F. Costa were passed to the Degree of F.C., and Bro. W. Downes was raised to the Degree of a M.M. A notice of motion was given by Bro. Edward Jacobs, P.M., to the effect that the installation meeting be held in the month of February instead of January. A sum of ten guineas was unanimously voted to the list of Bro. G. Reynolds, P.M., Sec., who represents the lodge at the forthcoming Jubilee Festival of the R.M.B.I.

The Worshipful Master having received the "Hearty good wishes" of the visitors, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the Prince's Room, when a capital banquet was served under the personal superintendence of Bros. G. P. Bertini and A. Aubenal.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were most heartily received. Bros. J. W. Burgess, P.M. 1325, P.P.G.P. West Lancashire, and J. Hubbard, S.W. 1032, replied for "The Visitors," and a selection of music was given under the direction of Mr. H. Foan, son of the W.M., which was greatly appreciated.

Bromley St. Leonard Lodge (No. 1805).

—The installation banquet (postponed from the regular meeting of the lodge in January in consequence of the death of the Duke of Clarence and Avondale) was celebrated on Tuesday, the 16th inst., at the Holborn Restaurant, when the W.M., Bro. Tom Green, presided, supported by the following officers and brethren: Bros. W. Maxfield Mead, S.W.; G. E. Warn, J.W.; John Collier, Treas.; W. J. Roberts, Sec.; W. F. Potts, S.D.; John Bussey, J.D.; W. Horne, D.C.; G. H. Fennell, A.D.C.; Percy Jackman, Org.; A. S. Bird and E. R. Speirs, Stewards; A. Peterken, P.M.; J. E. McLaren, P.M.; J. Bailey, P.M.; R. Toole, P.M.; Ben. Johnson, I.P.M.; Wood, Flynn, Shadrake, Mamford, Thornton, Murrell, Chilmade, Gabriel, Holmes, Hooper, Miners, Sheffield, Hutchenson, Hankey, Hopson, Ives, Marriott, Carpenter, A. S. Davis, W. Davis, H. W. Boarer, R. J. Boarer, J. Boarer, F. Allen, Barnes, and Skinner; and the following visitors: Bros. C. J. R. Ijhou, P.M. and Sec. 1804; L. Potts, P.M. 1716; R. Francis, 1110; A. J. Harvey, 9; J. Adams, P.M. 1194; J. Holland, I.G. 1804; J. G. Milbourn, P.M. 13; H. J. Smith, P.M. 548; F. J. Southgate, 548; P. Sharpe, P.M. 869; G. F. Wheeler, P.P.G.S.B. Herts; C. H. Callaghan, 1278; I. Isaacs, 1624; J. H. Pearson, P.M. 1567; Jas. Smyth, 40; R. Foskett, 1625; W. Harris, W.M. 1062; E. C. Hayns, 1816; J. Oxley, P.M. 1306; T. Warren, 1625; J. W. Gibbs, S.W. 1804; E. G. Cormack, 1540; J. F. Jansen, 1185; R. A. Germaine, L.C.C., 2033; Geo. Jackson, 1625; A. Cox, S.D. 1471; W. Loden, 1287; J. J. Tyler, 898; James Young, 349 (S.C.); G. King, 212; J. Purvis, 504; E. A. Gibbs,

J.D. 1804; J. March, 861; S. Kirk, W.M. 1716; J. Spraggs, J.D. 865; F. Boyton, 858; F. H. Smyth, 34; A. Paterson, W.M. 1804; and Professor Leipold, 1929.

The menu being fully approved and justice administered to the contents, the usual list of toasts was fully gone through, and the W.M., in introducing "The Queen and the Craft," expressed the great regret all Freemasons felt at the untimely death of the Duke of Clarence and Avondale; also with H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., whose irreparable loss was softened by the kind sympathy of all Freemasons.

After the "Grand Officers," the toast of "The Worshipful Master" was responded to in a most eloquent speech, enjoining all the members to carry out the principles of the Craft, and exhorting the officers to apply themselves to efficiency for the benefit of the Order generally and the lodge in particular.

"The Installing Officer, Bro. Ben. Johnson," was duly honoured, who in reply, thanked the brethren for the handsome vellum which had just been presented to him, together with the Past Master's jewel, which he would value to the end of time.

In responding to "The Masonic Charities," Bro. Tijou pleaded most earnestly on behalf of the funds of the "Old Folks," who this year were celebrating their Jubilee.

For "The Visitors" Bro. R. A. Germaine, L.C.C., in a humorous speech, congratulated the lodge on the efficiency of its officers, and the hearty manner in which they received the brethren of other lodges.

"The Officers" was responded to by the S.W., who claimed the assistance of the members to make his list as Steward representing the lodge at the Festival of the Old People worthy of the Bromley St. Leonard Lodge, and proposed a vote of thanks to Miss Jessie McLaren (of the Guildhall School of Music), Bro. Professor Leipold, and the other brethren who kindly assisted to make the meeting one of very brilliant success by contributing the following programme of music: Piano duet, "Gallop di Bravura," Miss Jessie McLaren and Bro. Professor Leipold; song, "Out in the deep," Bro. Fred. Allen; violin solo, "Mazurka," Miss Jessie McLaren, accompanied by Bro. Professor Leipold; ventriloquist sketch, Bro. Frank Boyton; song, "Mona," Bro. J. W. Gibbs; song, "The Diver," Bro. Fred. Allen; violin solo, "Souvenies d'Amerique," Miss Jessie McLaren, accompanied by Bro. Professor Leipold; Bros. Bussey, Spraggs, and Boarer also contributed songs.

PROVINCIAL MEETINGS.

BURSLEM.

St. Martin's Lodge (No. 98).—The above lodge held its usual monthly meeting on Thursday, the 18th inst., at the Town Hall, when there were present Bros. J. Mason, W.M.; J. Scarratt, S.W.; A. Boulton, J.W.; R. Dain, Treas.; W. Garner, I.P.M.; T. K. Pedley, Sec.; J. Beech, S.D.; R. Wilkinson, J.D.; F. Weston, D.C.; R. Owen, I.G.; H. W. Critchlow, Stwd.; and J. Boardman, Tyler. Visitors: Bros. J. T. Howson, W.M. 451, S.D. 418; Cornish Worcester, and a large number of brethren, all of whom appeared in mourning, and the lodge furniture was also draped in crape on account of the deaths of the Duke of Clarence and Avondale and the Provincial Grand Master of Staffordshire.

The W.M., Bro. John Mason, performed his first ceremony (an initiation) since his installation, the work of the W.M. and his officers being carried out in a highly creditable manner. The W.M. in very feeling terms moved a vote of sympathy to the following effect, which was passed unanimously: "The W.M., officers, and brethren of St. Martin's Lodge, No. 98, most deeply regret the great loss the Province of Staffordshire has sustained by the death of the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, Colonel Foster Gough, LL.D. They beg to record their high appreciation of his earnestness and zeal in the cause and progress of Freemasonry, and offer their condolence to his relatives in their great and sudden bereavement." The Organist played the Dead March in "Saul" on the completion of lodge business.

DOVER.

Corinthian Lodge (No. 1208).—The annual installation meeting in connection with this lodge took place at the Freemasons' Hall on Monday, the 15th inst. The attendance was again a very large and representative one, upwards of 80 brethren being present, including a large number of Past Masters and several brethren holding distinguished positions in Masonry. Amongst those present were Bros. Geo. Everett, Grand Treasurer of England; J. M. McLeod, P.P.G.S.W. Derbyshire, Sec. R.M.I.B.; Rev. H. M. Maughan, P.M. 1915, W.M. 31, P.P.G. Chap.; W. O. Kennett, P.M., D.C., W.M. 1208; Edward Lukey, P.M. 199, P.P.S.G.D.; F. W. Prescott, P.M. 199, P.P.S.G.D.; Christopher Sims, W.M.; W. W. Burckett, I.P.M.; W. B. Baker, S.W.; J. J. Wright, Treas.; W. A. Smeeh, P.M., P.P.G. Purst., Sec.; Joseph Cresswell, S.D.; E. W. Barclay, J.D.; G. Burckett, I.G.; L. Marsh, Tyler; G. W. Thorp, H. H. Toms, R. Howard, N. B. Sims, D. H. Wilson, Charles Bendle, Joseph Hyde, G. Bick, G. Spicer, R. W. Philpott, P.M.; E. Marsh, P.M.; T. J. Perkins, P.M.; C. L. Adams, P.M.; H. Warren, C. M. Wood, E. M. Johnson, H. T. Page, W. Bissett, H. M. Baker, P.M.; W. Bussey, P.M. 199; W. B. Baker, 2195; J. Plant, P.M., P.P.G. Org.; J. Lloyd, W.M. 125; W. Cessford, P.M., P.P.G.P., C. N. Weston, Stwd.; J. Falconer, I.P.M., R. Pay, J. G. Whorwell, H. H. Goodwin, J.D., J. Parsons, J. Beach, F. A. Clarke, and G. N. Chidwick, of 199; W. J. Lock, 2147; J. H. Higgins, 31; W. T. Buxton, W.M. 2308; H. Salter, P.M. 861; E. Allen, P.M. 784; Thos. Bent, P.M., P.P.G.S.; E. T. Dixon, W.M. 429; T. Easton, W.M. 972; G. Pope, W.M. 1449; O. H. Smith, W.M., and T. H. Goddard, J.W., of 1436; C. Mills, I.P.M. 972; F. Hicks, W.M. 558; H. G. West, W.M. 1209; J. Wood, W.M. 1915; A. Boyle, A. T. Wilson, G. J. Bussey, P.M.; and W. G. Lambert.

The lodge was appropriately draped in black, out of respect to the memory of the late Duke of Clarence.

The reading of the minutes and several formalities having been carried out, the first business of the lodge was proceeded with. This consisted of the initiation of the Rev. S. M. Statham, the ceremony being impressively performed by the W.M., Bro. Christopher Sims. At the close of the initiation, the installation of Bro. Baker, the S.W. and

W.M. elect, was proceeded with, the Installing Officer being Bro. Christopher Sims, who rendered the service with an impressiveness which has rarely been excelled. The ceremony was supported by a choral service. The choir consisted of the following brethren: Bros. J. Plant and J. Higgins (Canterbury Cathedral), G. R. Igglesden, W. O. Kennett, E. W. Barclay, G. Spicer, and G. Burckett, with Bro. F. A. Clarke as Organist. Upon being installed, the W.M. invested the following brethren as his officers for the year: Bros. Christopher Sims, I.P.M.; Joseph Cresswell, S.W.; Edwin Wilfred Barclay, J.W.; John J. Wright, Treas.; William A. Smeeh, P.M., P.P.G. Purst., Sec.; George W. P. Burckett, S.D.; George N. Thorp, J.D.; Woldemar O. Kennett, P.M., D.C.; G. R. Igglesden, P.M., Org.; David Henry Wilson, I.G.; and Wm. Wood Burckett, P.M., and W. B. Sims, Stwds.

Bro. Christopher Sims was presented with a Past Master's jewel, and in addition had the honour to receive the distinction of a W.M.'s collar and jewel, given by the initiates whom he had during his very successful year of office introduced into the lodge. Bro. W. O. Kennett was elected Charity representative.

After the ceremony between 60 and 70 brethren sat down to the annual banquet, Bro. G. Dartnall being the caterer.

In the course of the complimentary speeches which followed, the I.P.M., Bro. Sims, was highly congratulated by the Grand Treasurer and other brethren on his impressive rendering of the installation ceremony during the afternoon. A very enjoyable evening was spent.

FRODINGHAM.

St. Lawrence Lodge (No. 2078).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Friday, the 19th inst., when there were present Bros. G. Spilman, W.M.; W. Langbridge, P.G.S. of W.; Rev. E. M. Weigall, P.P.G. Chap.; J. Reed, P.M.; W. Campbell, S.W.; S. M. Peace, J.W.; F. Chatterton, Sec.; J. McCullum, S.D.; A. J. Wilkins, J.D.; J. E. Cheesman, I.G.; J. S. Bust, Stwd.; J. Swaby, J. Weigall, and S. Hadley, Tyler. Visitors: Bros. G. Clough, W.M. 1282; W. Cooper, C. A. Cheesman, G. Goldthorpe, P.M. 242; J. Constable, I.P.M. 1482; and J. Liversidge, P.P.S.G.D.

The Rev. Bro. Weigall duly installed the W.M. elect, Bro. W. Campbell, assisted by Bro. Langbridge. The officers appointed were Bros. G. Spilman, I.P.M.; S. M. Peace, S.W.; J. McCullum, J.W.; J. Reed, Treas.; F. Chatterton, Sec.; A. J. Wilkins, S.D.; J. E. Cheesman, J.D.; Rev. E. M. Weigall, Chap.; W. Langbridge, D.C.; J. S. Bust, I.G.; and S. Hadley, Tyler.

The banquet was held in the dining room of the Bell Hotel, and was ably catered by Bro. J. Swaby.

HALIFAX.

St. James's Lodge (No. 448).—The installation of Bro. Thomas Woods as W.M. of this lodge took place on Tuesday, the 16th instant, at the Masonic Hall. There was a very large assembly. The W.M., Bro. Walter Hanson, moved a resolution stating that the lodge desired to convey to their Most Worshipful Grand Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, and family, their most respectful and sincere sympathy in the bereavement they had sustained by the death of the Duke of Clarence, and they hoped and trusted that the Great Architect of the Universe would be their stay and comfort in so severe a trial. The installation ceremony was ably performed by the I.P.M., Bro. Walter Hanson, assisted by Bros. Alfred Robertshaw, P.M., and W. D. Shoebridge, P.M. The W.M. afterwards appointed his officers as follows: Bros. R. Hodgson, S.W.; J. W. Normanton, J.W.; Rev. H. Williams, Chap.; Richard Jessop, Treas.; Jonathan Jessop, Sec.; T. Robertshaw, Asst. Sec.; W. S. Milligan, S.D.; T. H. Thompson, J.D.; J. W. Sykes, D.C.; J. S. Vost, I.G.; Allan Haigh, Org.; Henry Wilson, Almoner; A. E. Spencer, R. C. Sykes, C. E. Rose, W. Fielding, and E. Hanson, Stewards; and W. J. Morris, Tyler.

Amongst the many friends who assembled to do the new W.M. honour were Bros. H. Green, P.M., P.G. Sec.; J. Holt, P.M., P.P.G.P. East Lancs.; J. Howarth, Weatherspoon, Ambler, Suddick, Bacon, Fawcett, W. H. Harrell, Rev. T. H. Flynn, Milnes, Balme, P.M.; Wright, P.M.; Pole, W. H. Bailey, Capt. Thompson, F. Buckley, W.M., and F. Horton, S.W., of 61; and the W.M.'s of De Warren and St. John's Lodges.

At the close of the ceremony Bro. Edwin Walshaw, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., presented to Bro. Walter Hanson, I.P.M., a very handsome Past Master's jewel, which had been subscribed to by all the brethren of the lodge, and which was acknowledged in suitable terms by Bro. W. Hanson.

The W.M. having closed the lodge, the brethren adjourned to the banquet hall, where a sumptuous repast was partaken of, which was provided by Bro. Webb, of the Old Cock Hotel.

The menu card was in the form of a book, and included a portrait of the W.M., a list of officers for the year, and a list of every W.M. who has occupied the chair since the warrant was issued in 1838.

HAMPTON COURT.

Hemming Lodge (No. 1512).—This influential and prosperous lodge met at the Greyhound Hotel on the 18th instant. Among those present were Bros. Chief Supt. W. Fisher, P.M. 834, W.M.; J. Smith, S.W.; J. W. Clarke, J.W.; J. C. Jeasett, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., Treas.; Capt. Walls, P.M., P.P.G.W., Sec.; H. Robinson, S.D.; Trotter, J.D.; Hopkins, I.G.; G. Ransford, P.M., D.C.; Cronin, Stwd.; R. Eales, P.M.; E. Clarke, P.M.; and A. F. Scholding, I.P.M. Among the visitors were Bros. Fisk, W.M. 1733; Nelson Prower, M.A., W.M. 1745; Oliver, S.W. 820; Cather, J.D. 1733; Ulemann, 2011; and Beardmore, 2032.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. Ruff was impressively raised to the Third Degree. It was proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously, that the sum of 10 guineas be voted to the R.M.B.I. (Jubilee Festival Fund), per the W.M., who is a Steward for that Institution. A vote of regret at the death of Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, G. Sec., was passed. The resignation of Bro. Foes was received with regret. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Bros. W. Spearing, P.M., P.P.G.S.B.; G. J. Tagg, A.D.C.; and R. Kent, Stwd. Previously to the lodge being closed, the W.M., in the name of the lodge, presented Bro. A. F. Scholding, I.P.M., with a Past Master's collar and jewel,

suitably inscribed. The I.P.M. having returned thanks for this useful gift, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet.

The W.M. gave the usual toasts with commendable brevity.

Bros. N. Prower and Fisk responded on behalf of "The Visitors." The proceedings were brought to a close at an early hour.

HORSHAM.

Mid-Sussex Lodge (No. 1141).—The annual installation meeting of this lodge was held at the King's Head, on Monday, the 15th inst. The influenza had a decided effect upon the attendance which, owing to the epidemic, was smaller than it has been for many years past. Bro. J. G. Buttifant was duly installed W.M. for the ensuing 12 months, the ceremony of installation being ably performed by the outgoing Master, Bro. E. D. Sapey. The W.M. appointed the following as his officers, those present being invested with their insignia: Bros. R. Gallier, S.W.; E. Smith, J.W.; W. Lintott, Treas.; R. Henwood, Sec.; W. H. B. Lintott, S.D.; T. Kirsopp, J.D.; F. W. Butler, D.C.; G. Myers, I.G.; J. Williams, Org.; W. S. Fieldsend, Stwd.; and W. Randall, Tyler. The following members of the lodge were also present: Bros. J. Barnett, C. J. King, S. A. Pocock, P.M. 414; G. B. Simpson, P.P.G.S.; H. R. Woodcock, J. R. Thornton, H. Smith, and George Dendy. The visitors present were Bros. W. H. Brown, P.M. 1619 and 1821, P.G.S.B.; Alfred King, W.M. 2201; L. W. Paynter, P.M. 851; George Wilson, W.M. 1619; J. A. Rivington, W.M. 56, P.P.G.P. Oxfordshire; W. H. Sadler, P.M.; E. Molyneux Ffennell, Sec. 1829; and Thomas Cash, 1719.

After the lodge was closed an exceptional ceremony was performed by the W.M., the outgoing W.M. being presented with a silver cradle in commemoration of the birth of a son during his year of office as W.M. The cradle was a chaste work of art on an ebony stand and in a glass shade. The presentation is one that has been seldom made in the province, indeed it is understood that there have been only one or two instances at most as far as the Province of Sussex is concerned.

At the banquet the Worshipful Master proposed "The Queen and the Craft," "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W. Grand Master," "The Earl of Lathom, Pro Grand Master; the Earl of Mount Edgumbe, Deputy Grand Master; and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," and "H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught and Strathearn, Earl of Sussex, K.G., Prov. Grand Master of Sussex."

The following toasts were also submitted and responded to: "Bro. the Right Hon. Sir William T. Marriott, Q.C., M.P., Judge Advocate-General, Deputy Prov. Grand Master of Sussex, and the Prov. Grand Officers, Present and Past," proposed by Bro. S. A. Pocock; "The Worshipful Master," proposed by Bro. Simpson; "The Visiting Brethren," proposed by Bro. King; "The Immediate and other Past Masters," proposed by the W.M.; "The Masonic Charities," proposed by Bro. Henwood; "The Officers of the Lodge," proposed by the W.M.; and the Tyler's toast.

MANCHESTER.

Virtue Lodge (No. 152).—The installation meeting was held on Friday, the 19th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street. The Installing Master was Bro. David Conway, P.M., assisted by the Past Masters of the lodge. There was an exceptionally large attendance of brethren. The chair was occupied by Bro. T. Gillibrand, W.M., who initiated Mr. William H. Daniels. Bro. Conway, P.M., took the chair, and appointed as his Installing Officers Bros. G. C. Williams, P.M., as S.W.; H. Daniels, P.M., as J.W.; and N. Dumville, P.M., P.P.G. Stwd., as I.G. The installation ceremony of Bro. William Batt was performed by Bro. Conway in such a manner that brought forth the unanimous praise of all who had the pleasure of listening to it. He also gave the address to the W.M. in a most effective manner, although suddenly called upon to do it. The officers were invested and addressed by Bro. Jaffray, P.P.G.D., in the following order: Bros. J. Cantrill, S.W.; A. A. Millington, J.W.; J. Watson, P.M., P.P.G.C., Chap.; J. Pritchard, P.M. Treas.; J. Crompton, Sec.; J. Campbell, S.D.; C. Kay, J.D.; H. Norton, I.G.; G. C. Williams, P.M., D.C.; J. H. Yates, Org.; E. Froggatt and J. W. White, Stwds.; R. A. Kinder, Librarian; and J. Sly, Tyler. Bro. Daniels addressed the Wardens, and Bro. G. E. Williams, P.M., the brethren. The whole of the installation was widely spoken of as the most successful one ever held. Before the lodge was closed, Bro. Conway presented Bro. Gillibrand with a very handsome Past Master's jewel, subscribed for by the brethren. The two are very old friends, and Bro. Conway's remarks were most congenial to himself, and the genuine sentiment of what he said sank into the hearts of all present. At the close so effective was his speech that the brethren gave way to hearty cheers. Bro. Gillibrand responded in a short but neat speech, thanking them all for the valuable jewel they had presented him with, and he presented a gold charm to his Secretary, Bro. J. Crompton, for the great services he had rendered to him during his year of office, and in his remarks he observed that Bro. J. Crompton was a Secretary who was equalled by few and excelled by none. Bro. J. Crompton responded, and all business being completed, the lodge was closed. A most enjoyable evening was spent at a banquet which was subsequently held.

The following brethren were present: Bros. W. Batt, W.M.; T. Gillibrand, I.P.M.; J. Cantrill, S.W.; A. A. Millington, J.W.; J. Watson, P.M., P.P.G.C., Chap.; J. Pritchard, P.M., Treas.; J. Crompton, Sec.; J. Campbell, S.D.; C. Kay, J.D.; H. Norton, I.G.; G. C. Williams, P.M., D.C.; J. Herbert Yates, Org.; E. Froggatt and J. W. White, Stwds.; R. A. Kinder, Librarian; W. Jaffray, P.M., P.P.J.G.D.; G. V. Blackie, P.M.; J. Sly, Tyler; J. C. Pearce, E. G. Constantine, A. G. Cook, G. Wragge, C. Kay, W. Kelley, J. Stephenson, R. A. Kinder, A. Kennedy, M. Ingram, J. Saunders, E. Hobbs, B. Morton, and R. W. Fletcher. Visitors: Bros. J. W. Leathley, P.M. 1126; B. Whitam, 1219; C. H. Normanton, W.M. 204; R. Armitage, I.P.M. 1083; J. W. Jepson, P.M. 1715; Thomas Wood, W.M. 1345; Thos. Walker, P.M. 1126; Robert Beresford, P.M. 1993; A. Ashworth, S.D. 999; A. H. Williams, P.M. 1170, P.P.G. Org.; J. H. Marsh, J.W. 1730; E. Williams, P.M., P.P.G. Supt. of Wks.; N. Dumville, P.P.G.S.; J. H. Clerke, P.M.; T. Hulme, 812; J. Robinson, 812; and Sam Locke, 1387.

Caledonian Lodge (No. 204).—A meeting was held on Wednesday, the 10th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, when there were present Bros. C. H. Normanton, W.M.; S. Bramwell, S.W.; W. G. Bagnall, J.W.; Rev. P. Hains, P.M., Chap.; I. Roberts, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., Treas.; G. T. Mullock, P.M., Sec.; E. A. Bretey, S.D.; R. A. Eldershaw, P.M., D.C.; W. H. Maxfield, P.M. 1957, P.P.G. Org. Cheshire, Org.; C. Duckworth, I.P.M.; W. Bagnall, P.M., P.P.S.G.D.; M. Thomas, P.M., P.J.G.D.; J. Cliffe, P.M., Charity Representative; T. Shorrocks, P.M.; J. Hill, P.M.; Rev. J. W. Challenor, Asst. Chap.; J. Parker, J. Cottingham, E. Orrell, G. R. Ward, J. Tennant, F. C. Sugden, and W. K. Taylor. Visitors: Bros. C. P. Dunkerley, W.M., and J. H. Dalglish, P.M., Sec., of 1147; J. Taylor, 1083; and W. Sanderson, 1392.

After the lodge had been opened, and the transaction of the usual routine business had been completed, Bro. W. K. Taylor was raised to the Third Degree by Bro. T. Shorrocks, P.M. Bro. Wm. Bagnall, P.M., P.P.S.G.D., by command of the W.M., and on behalf of the lodge, then presented to Bro. C. Duckworth, I.P.M., a handsome "Tantalus" decanter, in recognition of his valuable services, and as a token of esteem and regard. In doing this he referred in eloquent terms to the many services of Bro. Duckworth in various offices, and more especially during his year as W.M. Bro. Duckworth, in a few choice words, gratefully thanked the brethren for their expression of goodwill, which he fully appreciated, and he then presented to the lodge a set of silver-mounted gavel to commemorate his Mastership. Reference was made to the much lamented death of H.R.H. the Duke of Clarence and Avondale. Bro. M. Thomas, P.M., P.J.G.D., Charity Representative 2363, having signified that Bro. G. T. Mullock, P.M. and Sec., was a candidate for the post of Secretary to the East Lancashire Systematic Masonic Educational and Benevolent Institution, it was unanimously agreed that a strong recommendation in his favour be signed by the W.M., officers, and Past Masters, and forwarded to the Hon. Sec., which was done.

"Hearty good wishes" were expressed by the visitors, and this being the date of the annual soirée a short interval was passed, after which the brethren introduced their friends into the lodge room now prepared for dancing. The officers and Past Masters were well represented by their wives and daughters, amongst them being Mrs. Normanton, Mrs. Roberts, Mrs. and Misses Bagnall, Mrs. Bramwell, Mrs. Cliffe, Mrs. Hill, Mrs. Tennant, Miss Hains, Miss Thomas, and Miss Mullock. A most enjoyable evening was passed, and 61 brethren, ladies, and friends, were seated at the supper table.

At the supper table there were several of the usual toasts, including "The Ladies" by Bro. Rev. P. Hains, P.M., Chap.; and Bro. Thomas gratified the company by singing in his well-known style "Here's to his health in a song." After supper those brethren who were companions were allowed to wear the R.A. clothing.

At intervals between the dances songs were sung by Mrs. Tennant and Bros. Shorrocks and Thomas, which were greatly enjoyed, and after a hearty vote of thanks to the M.C., Bro. J. Hill, P.M., this most successful meeting was brought to a close.

NEWMARKET.

Etheldreda Lodge (No. 2107).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 18th inst., at the White Hart Hotel, and was attended by about 40 brethren, including Bros. Colonel R. T. Caldwell, Prov. G.M.; Oliver Papworth, P.S.G.W.; G. F. Rogers, W.M. 859, P.J.G.W.; W. P. Spalding, W.M. 88; Jos. Royston, W.M. 441; E. H. Jennings, P.M. 441; W. Purchas, P.M. 88; Cornish, Leach, Harvey, Chapman, Hodges, and other visiting brethren from Haverhill, Wisbech, &c.

Bro. Geo. Tindall, P.P.G.S. of W., W.M., occupied the chair, and performed the ceremony of initiation, the candidate being Mr. R. L. V. Sherwood. The installation of Bro. William Benjamin Sheppard, P.A.G.D.C., then took place, the Board of Installed Masters consisting of 20. The ceremony was very ably performed by Bro. Benjamin Chennell, P.M., P.P.S.G.W. The newly-installed W.M. afterwards appointed and invested the officers for the year as follows: Bros. G. Tindall, I.P.M.; A. H. Ruston, P.P.G.P., S.W.; Rev. L. R. Tuttle, P.G. Chap., Chap. and J.W.; T. Jennings, jun., P.M., P.P.G.S. of W., Treas.; B. Chennell, P.M., P.P.S.G.W., Sec. and D.C.; J. A. Dawson, S.D.; John Turner, P.P.G.O., J.D.; J. Gordon Chennell, I.G.; G. H. Cowell, Org.; and C. Stearn, Tyler.

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

PLYMOUTH.

Fortitude Lodge (No. 105).—The annual banquet of this lodge was held on Friday, the 19th inst., at the Masonic Hall. An excellent banquet, which gave complete satisfaction, was provided by Bro. Harvey, the Steward of the club, and Mrs. Harvey. An interesting feature in connection with the proceedings was the presentation of a handsome and costly testimonial to Bro. C. H. Cooper, P.P.J.G.D., for a long series of years the active and popular Secretary of the lodge. Over 60 brethren attended, and a larger number would have been present but for the inclement weather. Bro. H. A. McBryde, W.M., presided, and the company included Bros. S. Jew, P.M., P.P.G.T.; R. B. Twose, P.M., P.P.G.T.; C. H. Cooper, P.M., P.P.J.G.D.; H. J. Kitt, P.M., P.A.G.P.; J. W. Parson, P.M.; S. Edgumbe, P.M.; W. J. Sweet, P.M.; T. W. Soper, S.W.; C. Luke, J.W.; A. W. Spinney, P.M., Treas.; S. H. R. Gibbons, S.D.; T. H. Taylor, I.G.; F. Maitland, D.C.; C. F. Cooper, A.D.C.; A. T. Lidiard, Org.; W. D. B. Symons, Asst. Org.; A. F. Matthews, A. R. Stancombe, and C. Brown, Stewards; F. Mabin, Charity Steward; and W. H. Phillips, Tyler. Among the visitors were Bros. the Rev. Dr. Lemon, P.P. J.G.W., P.P.G.C.; J. R. Lord, P.P.G.T.; F. B. Westlake, P.P.S.C.D.; W. F. Westcott, P.P.J.G.D.; P. G. L. Pearce, P.P.S.G.D.; R. Hambly, P.P.G.S. of W.; J. Kinton Bond, P.P.G.D.C.; L. C. J. Livermore, P.P. G. Purst; W. Sweet, P.M. 1212; J. T. Rook, P.M., and J. Lose, P.M., of 1847; W. Thomas, P.M. 156; J. Wallis, P.M. 1255; H. Rogers, P.M. 223; W. L. Collings, P.M. 70; F. R. Thomas, P.M. 189; A. Parkhouse, P.M.; B. Elliott, P.M. 1247; G. Perkins, W.M. elect 1205; S. A. Maitland, S.D.; F. A. James, I.G.; and H. Williams, of 1247;

T. Leigh, R. E. White, and J. Mitchell, I.G., of 1847; F. Holt, 230; S. H. Woolland, 202; C. H. Coles and J. Mansfield, of 1099; and F. T. Ellis, 1205.

After the banquet the usual toasts were given. Bros. Twose and Kitt replied for "Lord Ebrington and the Provincial Grand Lodge of Devon," and Bro. Geo. Perkins for "The Earl of Mount Edgumbe and the Provincial Grand Lodge of Cornwall."

The Worshipful Master made the presentation to Bro. Cooper, which consisted of a handsome repeating chime clock, in an ebony case mounted with gold, and striking the hours and quarters on five cathedral gongs. An inscription on a silver plate read, "Presented to W. Bro. C. H. Cooper, P.P.G.D., by Lodge Fortitude, 105, in recognition of his 16 years of faithful and valuable services as Secretary. February 19th, 1892. H. A. McBryde, W.M." The W.M. said he made the presentation with much pleasure, for no one recognised more fully than he did that Bro. Cooper had long deserved some such recognition of his services, and they were indebted to the perseverance of Bro. Kitt in getting up the presentation.

Bro. Cooper thanked the lodge for the gift, and those personally who had moved in the matter. He hoped to be spared for some time yet to be of further service to the lodge.

Between the toasts several brethren gave recitations and songs, and a very pleasant evening was passed. Among the entertainers were Bros. Jew, Twose, White, Gibbons, J. Kinton Bond, James, Symons, Cummings, and Pearce. A choice selection of music was played by an excellent band.

SUTTON.

Lorne Lodge (No. 1347).—This lodge has greatly improved in numbers of late. In 1890 there were 22 members, now there are 41, all of whom are good and true brethren. In addition to the usual subscription a sum of 5s. is paid by each member to the Lorne Lodge of Benevolence. At the last regular meeting, which was held at the Greyhound Hotel, on Saturday, the 13th inst., one brother was raised, one passed, and three initiated. Bro. C. A. Hardwick, W.M., presided, and was supported by Bros. James Hosking, S.W.; H. T. Byard, J.W.; Rev. H. W. Turner, P.M., P.P.G. Chap., Treas. and Chap.; and J. J. Slade, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br.

TEIGNMOUTH.

Benevolent Lodge (No. 303).—This lodge held its annual meeting on Monday, the 8th inst., at the Masonic Hall. In the absence of Bro. T. J. B. Sandercock, W.M., the chair was occupied by Bro. F. C. Hallett, P.M., P.P.S.G.D., Installing Master. The W.M. elect, Bro. G. H. Johnson, was presented by Bro. R. C. Musgrave, acting I.P.M., and ably installed by Bro. Hallett, the Board of Installed Masters comprising Bros. J. U. Valentine, P.P.G.D.C., G. N. Burden, P.P.S.G.W., J. J. O. Evans, F. C. Frost, and R. C. Musgrave, of the lodge; William Taylor, 328, P.P.G.D.C.; John Drennan, P.P.G.S.B., and W. Adams, P.P.D.G.D.C., of 710; J. Oliver, 1138, P.P.G.S.B.; J. Lane, P.P.G.R., P.S.G.W. Iowa, T. H. Wills, and John Taylor, F.C.S., I.P.M., of 1402; and W. Pearce, 2195, P.P.S.G.W. Malta. The Board of Installed Masters having been closed, the Worshipful Master appointed and invested his officers as follows: Bros. F. C. Hallett, Treas. and I.P.M.; F. E. Little, S.W.; A. T. Crossley, J.W.; J. Pomeroy, Chap.; J. U. Valentine, Sec.; H. H. Cordes, S.D.; J. J. Hayman, J.D.; G. E. Curtis, D.C.; G. French, I.G.; J. S. Fowler and E. Silk, Stwds.; W. A. Thomas, Org.; and W. H. Huggins, Tyler. The reports of the Treasurer and Secretary were presented and adopted, being considered very satisfactory, and Bro. F. C. Frost was re-elected representative on the Committee of Petitions. Bro. J. U. Valentine was elected Trustee in the room of the late Bro. Major Kersteman, P.P.S.G.W., whose regretted decease took place recently. The singing arrangements were very perfectly rendered under the able superintendence of Bro. Loam, 710, who presided at the organ.

A banquet afterwards took place at the Queen's Hotel, where a large number gathered round the festive board, and an excellent repast was served. The W.M., supported by Bros. Col. Morrison, H. H. Johnson, and others, occupied the chair, and the S.W., supported by Bros. Dr. Lake, Rev. G. J. Ford, and others, the vice-chair. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly observed.

YATTON.

Agriculture Lodge (No. 1199).—The installation meeting of this lodge, for many years past held at Congressbury, was held at the Assembly Rooms, on Monday, the 15th inst., under most favourable circumstances, and a numerous attendance of distinguished brethren. After the preliminary business of the lodge was disposed of, Bro. C. L. F. Edwards, P.M., P.G.T., was installed into the chair of K.S. by the D.P.G.M., Bro. R. C. Else. The W.M. at once proceeded to appoint and invest his officers as follows: Bros. S. P. G. Cox, I.P.M.; H. W. Collins, S.W.; G. W. Knowles, J.W.; R. H. Maunsell Eyre, Chap.; W. Reece, P.M., Treas.; J. A. Smith, P.M., Sec.; R. W. Statham, S.D.; H. S. Smith, J.D.; Evans, P.M., D.C.; E. Thatcher, P.M., Org.; W. Counsell, I.G.; and C. J. Inglis, Tyler. The usual votes of thanks to the Installing Master and to the retiring W.M. were carried, and duly acknowledged, the former alluding in felicitous terms to the fact that this was the fourth occasion on which he had had the pleasure of installing Bro. Edwards as W.M. A welcome was given to the visiting brethren, who, with the members of the lodge, fully appreciated the better accommodation which the splendid new rooms afford. A special feature of the evening was the presentation by Bro. C. L. F. Edwards, W.M., of a magnificent silk banner, bearing the name of the lodge and other appropriate mottoes very chastely and richly worked. It was much admired, and will be highly valued.

The brethren afterwards sat down to a *recherché* banquet in the new room adjoining the lodge. Bro. J. Mountstevens's catering elicited the highest praise, and gave great satisfaction to all. The tables were graced with costly fruits, flowers, &c. The usual Masonic toasts were duly honoured, songs were sung, and the brethren spent a very happy evening.

The meetings in future will be held at the Assembly Rooms, which are close to the Railway Station, and very convenient for brethren from all points. The P.G. Master, the Right Hon. the Viscount Dungarvan, who signified his intention of being present, was prevented by illness.

Royal Arch.

La France Chapter (No. 2060).—This most successful chapter held its installation meeting on the 15th inst. at the Café Royal, Regent-street. A distinguished company met to do honour not only to the Principals elect, Comps. St. Clair, Fenn, and Mead, but also to the two candidates who were to be exalted the same evening, viz., Bros. E. Cutler, Q.C., G. Org., and Lacoste, I.P.M. 2060. The following were present: Comps. Gen. Lawrie (Nova Scotia), Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, G. Supt. Bucks; Col. N. Money, G. Supt. Surrey; H. D. Sandeman, P.G. Supt. Bengal; T. Fenn, P. Pres. B. of G.P.; F. Richardson, P.A.G.S., G.D.C.; W. C. Beaumont, P.G.S.B.; E. Letchworth, P.G. Std. Br.; W. F. Nettleship, P.G. Std. Br.; C. Hammerton, P.G.D.C.; H. Bué, D.G.D.C.; E. Monteuuis, P.D.G.D.C.; R. C. Sudlow, P.D.G.D.C.; M. Maybrick, G. Org.; E. M. Lott, P.G.O.; Reid Taylor, Z. 26; Gordon Smith, Z., and H. Nicholls, of 1319; Creatorex, P.Z., and Major Probyn, of 31; Masters, P.Z.; also the following members of the chapter: Comps. Letord, Cassal, Delacoste, Daoust, Cubitt, Saillard, Thorne, Wheeler, Bohers, Benoist, Regester, Pouard, Hopkinson, and Gallizia.

The chapter having been opened, the candidates were exalted in a perfect manner by Comp. H. Bué, who was ably seconded by Comp. Mead, as P.S. The first and second lectures were given respectively by Comps. St. Clair and Fenn, and, useless to say, nothing could have been more perfect. Owing to the amount of work to be gone through, the third lecture was deferred to the next meeting. Comp. E. St. Clair was then installed in the chair of M.E.Z.; Comp. T. Fenn, as H.; and Comp. F. Mead, as J. The other officers were invested as follows: Comps. G. Hopkinson, P.Z. S. Treas.; E. Monteuuis, P.D.G.D.C., S.E.; W. Regester, S.N.; P. Saillard, P.Z. 1657, P.S.; L. Clerc, 1st A.S.; E. Pouard, 2nd A.S.; F. Richardson, G.D.C., D.C., and H. Evenden, P.Z., Janitor. The M.E.Z. then presented the jewel of P.Z. to Comp. H. Bué, D.G.D.C., alluding to the great services he had rendered to the chapter, and adding that Comp. Bué, who had already been awarded with Grand Chapter honours, would be the first to feel that he should not have deserved that distinction had he not also fully merited the slight token which was presented to him by the companions that evening. Comp. Bué having returned thanks in a few well-chosen words, the M.E.Z. then alluded in feeling terms to the loss sustained by the Craft through the untimely death of Comp. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, one of the Consecrating Officers and *membre d'honneur* of the chapter. The late Grand Scribe E. had been one of their best friends; he had always taken a deep interest in both La France Lodge and Chapter; he had been most gratified at their success, and never missed an opportunity to come amongst them. The M.E.Z. then explained the circumstances which had led members of Grand Lodge to raise a fund in favour of Mrs. Clerke; and he trusted, as the chapter had the honour to number amongst its members the Chairman, the Treasurer, and the Secretary of the fund, that every companion would help them in the object they had in view, namely, to insure against the cares and anxieties of the genteel poverty which stared her in the face, the widow of the distinguished brother who for so many years had given all his time and energies to the welfare of the Craft.

The chapter was then closed, and the companions adjourned to a banquet such as Comp. Delacoste knows how to prepare for the patrons of the Café Royal.

After grace, the M.E.Z. proposed "The Health of S.M. La Reine and la Maçonnerie de l'Arche Royale" and that of "La France et Son Représentant, M. Le Président Carnot," both toasts being enthusiastically received, and followed respectively by the National Anthem and "La Marseillaise."

The next toast was "S.A.R. Le Prince de Galles, Grand Z. de l'Arche Royale." Comp. St. Clair mentioned that in La France Lodge they had at first intended to send an address of condolence to his Royal Highness on his terrible bereavement, but as Grand Lodge had been specially convened to vote the address in the name of all English lodges, the brethren thought it was best to maintain a reserve, which he thought should certainly be appreciated by all. However, the M.E.Z. wished to declare publicly, in the name of the French members of both the lodge and chapter, that every one of them had, associated, sympathised from the bottom of their hearts with the sentiments so nobly expressed by the Deputy Grand Master on the voting of the above address. All they could do now was to hope that the G.A.O.T.U. might grant that Prince George of Wales should become the consolation of his Royal parents as he was now their hope.

The next toast was that of "The Grand Officers, Present and Past," and the M.E.Z. thanked all those distinguished companions who had been so willing to help to the success of the evening.

The senior Grand Officer present—Comp. the Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, G. Supt. Bucks—replied in a humorous speech in French, and was much applauded.

The I.P.Z., Comp. H. Bué, then proposed "The Health of the Three Principals," extolling on the merits of each, and stating how pleased he was to see the first initiate of La France Lodge in the exalted position he now so deservedly occupied. They were all proud to see such distinguished Masons as Comps. Fenn and Mead following up in the other chairs, and a splendid future seemed assured to the chapter.

Comp. St. Clair replied for the Three Principals, and assured the companions that nothing would be found wanting on their part to maintain the prestige of the chapter. In the name of Comp. I. H. Fenn, he then invited the French members to the festival of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement.

The M.E.Z. then welcomed "The Visitors" in the name of the companions, and reminded them that the restriction as to French nationality did not extend to the chapter, and that as several of them were such good French linguists, perhaps some day they might be tempted to join the ranks of La France Chapter.

Comps. Gen. Lawrie, Reid Taylor, and Gordon Smith replied, all testifying to the splendid work witnessed, and the consequent enjoyment to themselves.

The next toast was that of "The Exaltees," the M.E.Z. stating that the chapter was particularly fortunate in its new members that evening. On the one side they hailed a distinguished Mason, Bro. Cutler, Q.C., Grand Org., who had astonished them by his perfect knowledge of the French

language; on the other they welcomed Bro. Lacoste, the I.P.M. of La France Lodge.

Comp. Cutler, in replying, said: M.E.Z., it would require the fire of a Beryer to thank you worthily for the too flattering terms in which you have drunk my health, and to tell you how sweet it is to me to find myself in the heart of a French chapter. The evening which I spent in the La France Lodge two years since left me a souvenir of pride, tempered with wounded self-love. Pride, because it is an honour to see our rites adopted by Frenchmen as their model. Mortification, to see that those foreign brethren throw us into the shade (as is proved by their admirable president, Comp. St. Clair) by the good taste, fluency, and dignity which adorns their mode of performing Masonic rites.

Here, Most Excellent, we contribute our traditions, yourselves bring fluency and grace in giving them expression. As in marriage, the husband and wife learn from one another, and seem to improve with years, so it will be with us; we shall be like the carbon points of an electric light, relatively insignificant while apart, we will shine brightly when we are in touch.

Comp. Lacoste also replied, and said that he was greatly impressed with the ceremony, and very pleased to see the success attained by the French chapter.

The M.E.Z. then proposed "The Health of the Past Principals," mentioning that all the companions knew their worth, and that no Masons had more thoroughly deserved the honours of Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter bestowed upon them than the two Comps. Monteuis and Bué, whom they trusted would long be spared to share their honours with the companions of La France Chapter.

Comps. Monteuis and Bué having both replied, the M.E.Z. gave the toast of "The Officers," which was replied to by Comp. Saillard, P.S., and the Tyler's toast ended one of the most enjoyable Masonic evenings of the year.

All the speeches were given in French, and the translations very inadequately represents the thoroughness of sentiments expressed.

Mark Masonry.

Prince Leopold Lodge (No. 238).—This lodge met for the dispatch of business at Anderson's Hotel, Fleet-street, on the 16th inst., when there were present, among others, Bros. C. Chaffourier, W.M.; H. H. Shirley, M.A., P.M., 1, P.P.G.O., acting S.W.; Arthur Clemow, J.W.; Harvey, M.O.; T. O. Harding, M.A., P.M., acting S.O.; F. W. Driver, M.A., P.M., P.G. Stwd., acting J.O.; Capt. Walls, P.M., P.G.S.B., Sec.; and N. Prower, M.A., P.P.G.O., I.P.M.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. A. Clemow, J.W., was elected W.M. subject to dispensation being obtained; Bro. N. Prower, M.A., Treas.; and Goddard, Tyler. A Past Master's jewel was voted to Bro. C. Chaffourier, W.M. A vote of condolence was passed to H.R.H. the M.W.G.M. A vote of thanks was passed to Bro. F. Farrington for his past services as Treasurer. The name of a brother for advancement at the next meeting having been handed in, communications regretting inability to attend were received from Bros. W. Drew, S.W.; Holroyd, S.O.; Sir C. J. Palmer, Bart., P.G.W., &c.; and others.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment. A few toasts were given. Bro. Captain Walls responded on behalf of "The Grand Officers," and Bro. N. Prower for "The Provincial Grand Officers."

Bros. H. H. Shirley and F. W. Driver acknowledged the toast of "The Visitors" in speeches of some merit.

The proceedings were not protracted.

JERSEY.

Cæsarean Lodge (No. 74).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Temple on Wednesday, the 17th instant; but before we proceed further, a few words of congratulation must be offered to the Craft in Jersey on the admirable manner in which they have recently renovated and embellished their large and commodious lodge room. This splendid hall, most tastefully painted and panelled in proper Masonic colours, and adorned with numerous banners, paintings, portraits, old warrants, and various Masonic curios, now presents one of the most striking and handsome lodge rooms with which we are acquainted, and we strongly recommend all members of our Institution, who may for a time be sojourners in this delightful island, not to fail to pay a visit to this beautiful and appropriately-furnished lodge room.

After the minutes of the preceding meeting had been duly disposed of, the first work was to advance Bros. Baudoux, 244, and Capt. Sumner, 877. The ceremony was conducted by the W.M., Bro. P. Bois, in a most admirable manner. Bro. Bois has excellently fulfilled the promises made on his installation; he has worked well and worthily, much to his credit and greatly to the advantage and satisfaction of the lodge. The advancement ceremony having ended, the W.M. announced that the installation of the W.M. elect would then take place, and he called upon Bro. Balfour Cockburn, P.S.G.D., who had come over to Jersey for that purpose, to occupy the chair and assume the gavel, which he accordingly did, and Bro. F. J. Godfray, W.M. elect, having been duly presented by the I.P.M., Bro. Bois, was regularly placed in the chair of A. by the Installing Master in his usual impressive and felicitous manner. The following officers were then nominated and duly invested: Bros. P. Bois, I.P.M.; C. Marett, S.W.; P. G. Hamilton, J.W.; J. Goldsmith, M.O.; J. C. Barette, S.O.; Capt. H. Stevenson, J.O.; W. T. Pugsley, Treas.; H. Becker, R. of M.; J. W. Hamling, Sec.; S. Gilley, S.D.; C. E. Malet de Carteret, J.D.; F. Vincent, D. of C.; H. Broadbent, I.G.; L. Wilson, Org.; and G. Rogers, Tyler.

In consequence of the prevailing sickness, several brethren were unavoidably absent, but the Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Col. Malet de Carteret, who is a P.M. of this lodge, was present, as were also Bros. Stone, P.M., and Pugsley, P.M. The D.P.G.M., Bro. Dr. De Cronier, a very senior Mark Mason, also attended. The Cæsarean Lodge is to be congratulated on still retaining the services of its indefatigable Secretary, Bro. J. W. Hamling. In a quiet unostentatious manner Bro. Hamling is ever studying the welfare and prosperity of the lodge, and with great success, as all the members cordially unite in allowing. Too much praise also cannot be given to Bro. Wilson; his great musical abilities and his perfect

knowledge of the ceremonials enables him to add greatly to their impressiveness and solemnity.

After the lodge was closed, the brethren adjourned to the banquet hall, where an excellent supper had been provided.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts followed, being proposed and responded to, among others, by the W.M., Bro. Godfray, Bro. Colonel Malet de Carteret, Bro. Dr. Balfour Cockburn, P.M., Bro. P. Bois, and Bro. Dr. J. Le Cronier, the latter, in a most feeling manner, alluding to the losses which Freemasonry had sustained this winter in the deaths of the Duke of Clarence, Bro. Colonel Shadwell H. Clerke, and many others, and as far as this particular lodge was concerned in the melancholy and untimely death of their Bro. H. M. Godfray.

Before the lodge was closed the Installing Master requested permission to read a telegram which he had just received from Bro. Quick, P.M., of Guernsey, and Secretary of the Sarnian Lodge, desiring "Hearty good wishes" and a prosperous year of office to the new W.M. on behalf of No. 425.

MARYPORT.

Whitwell Lodge (No. 151).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held at Freemasons' Hall on Thursday, the 18th instant. Bro. Jos. O. Scott, P.J.G.O., W.M., presided, supported by his officers and the following brethren: Bros. T. Swanson, J. Abbott, P.M., P.P.I.G.O.; J. Reed, T. Annison, J. Gibson, P.G.I.G.; E. B. Penrice, P.M., P.J.G.W.; J. Dickenson, P.M., P.P.J.G.W.; T. Brown, R. Leach, P.P.A.G.D.C.; J. Holmes, T. Atkinson, I.P.M. 229; and others.

The minutes of the last regular meeting were read and confirmed, after which Bro. Geo. Wood Turvey, 144, was balloted for to be advanced to the Honourable Degree of a M.M.M., and was unanimously elected, and, he being present, was advanced by the W.M. in a very able manner. The lodge was then closed.

Lodges and Chapters of Instruction.

CLARENCE LODGE (No. 263).—The usual weekly meeting was held on Thursday, the 18th inst., at 1A, Fitzroy-square, when the following brethren were present: Bros. D. G. Inlay, W.M.; G. Noakes, S.W.; W. H. Bourke, J.W.; W. H. Kirby, Preceptor; W. Baker, Sec.; J. Hart, S.D.; A. Leighton, J.D.; F. Feller, I.G.; H. S. Wellcome, H. E. Jay, Jas. Corp, J. W. Drysdale, Henry Sadler, and C. F. Cox. Visitors: Bros. G. T. Cox, E. F. Fox, and Dr. A. G. Sandberg, all of 3.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Drysdale, acting as candidate, was examined, entrusted, and retired, while the lodge was opened in the Second Degree. On his return to the lodge the ceremony of passing was rehearsed, and Bro. W. H. Kirby delivered the explanation of the tracing board. The lodge was closed in the Second Degree. Bro. Jas. Corp assisted in working the 2nd Section of the First Lecture. Bros. G. T. Cox, E. F. Fox, and A. G. Sandberg, all of 3, were proposed and seconded as joining members. The work appointed for the next meeting was the opening and closing of the lodge in the Three Degrees, the ceremony of installation, and the 3rd Section of the First Lecture. All business being ended, the lodge was closed.

RANELAGH LODGE (No. 834).—A meeting was held on Friday, the 19th inst., at the Six Bells Hotel, Queen-street, Hammersmith, when there were present Bros. H. J. Williams, W.M. elect 834, W.M.; W. Hide, S.W.; R. Reid, J.W.; R. H. Williams, P.M., acting Preceptor; A. Williams, P.M., acting Sec.; C. C. Barber, S.D.; J. Banks, J.D.; H. Blackman, I.G.; W. Cummings, P.M.; F. Craggs, W.M. 834; H. Forman, Flexman, Pearson, Uniacke, Dickey, and Thorpe.

The lodge was opened in the First Degree, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed. Bro. H. Forman offering himself as a candidate for initiation, the W.M. rehearsed that ceremony. Bro. Pearson offering himself as a candidate for passing, was examined and entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the ceremony of passing rehearsed. Bro. Thorpe being F.C. answered the questions leading to the Third Degree. Bro. R. H. Williams, P.M., then delivered the lecture on the tracing board. The lodge was closed in the Second Degree. Bro. Thorpe was elected a member. Bro. Hide was elected W.M. for the next meeting, and the lodge was closed. The brethren received with regret the news of the death of Bro. Scharien's wife, and the Secretary was directed to write and express their sympathy and condolence.

BLACKHEATH LODGE (No. 1320).—The usual weekly meeting was held at the Milkwood Tavern, Milkwood-road, Loughborough Junction, on Monday, the 22nd inst., when there were present Bros. E. A. Rice, W.M.; T. H. Salmon, S.W.; John Morgan, J.W.; F. Hilton, Preceptor; T. R. Cass, Treas.; C. H. Stone, Sec.; Turner, S.D.; Cass, J.D.; Lord, I.G.; Lake, Tyler; Hill, Hubbard, Harr, Clarke, Hooper, R. Kimpton, Pullen, H. G. Martin, Butcher, and Reichenheim.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Hill candidate. The lodge was called off and on. The 2nd Section of the Lecture was worked by Bro. Hilton, Preceptor, assisted by Bro. Cass; also the 4th Section, assisted by Bro. F. H. Salmon. Bro. R. Kimpton, P.M. 1728, was unanimously elected a member. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Turner for presenting the lodge with a Charity-box. The lodge was then closed.

CREATON LODGE (No. 1791).—A meeting was held on Thursday, the 18th instant, at the Wheatheat Hotel, Goldhawk-road, Shepherd's Bush, W., when there were present Bros. C. H. Hagan, W.M.; A. J. Taylor, P.M., S.W.; Jennings, J.W.; G. Higgins, Deputy Preceptor; E. Austin, P.M., Treas.; H. P. Gilbert, P.M., Hon. Sec.; L. Cox, S.D.; H. Kingston, J.D.; P. J. Larter, I.G.; C. C. Cramp, H. Elkin, F. Craggs, W.M. 834, Stonnill, G. W. B. Rogers, J. Arnott, H. Gane, and H. Cotton.

The lodge was duly opened, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Second and Third Degrees, and resumed to the First Degree, when the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Arnott acting as candidate. The 1st Section of the

First Lecture was worked by the brethren, with the assistance of the Deputy Preceptor. The W.M. rose for the first and second times, and Bro. A. J. Taylor was elected W.M. for the next meeting. The Secretary reported that the funds of the lodge were sufficient to ballot for a Life Governorship to one of the Charities, which was thereupon taken, and resulted in favour of Bro. Gane. The lodge was then closed.

CHISWICK LODGE (No. 1012).—A meeting was held on Saturday, the 20th inst., at the Windsor Castle Hotel, King-street, Hammersmith, W., when there were present Bros. M. Spiegel, P.M., W.M.; W. H. Tucker, W.M. 144, S.W.; W. C. Dickey, J.W.; Arthur Williams, P.M., acting Preceptor; G. Gardner, P.M., Treas.; F. Craggs, W.M. 834, Sec.; R. J. Williams, S.D.; W. R. Hatton, J.D.; W. Hide, I.G.; J. R. Cumming, P.M.; R. H. Wimpey, W.M. 1012; E. Nash, R. Reid, G. W. Kirkham, F. Walden, and E. E. Gellowski.

The lodge was duly opened, and Bro. Nash offered himself as a candidate for passing, and proving proficient on examination, was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the ceremony rehearsed. Bro. Cumming offered himself as a candidate for raising, and was examined, and entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and the ceremony of raising rehearsed. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree. Bro. Tucker was elected W.M. for the next meeting, and Bro. Gellowski elected a joining member. Bro. M. Spiegel was elected Secretary, and the lodge was closed.

STAR CHAPTER (No. 1275).—The usual weekly meeting was held at the Stirling Castle Hotel, Camberwell, on Friday, the 19th inst., when there were present Comps. Murché, M.E.Z.; Hill, H.; North, J.; Stone, S.E.; T. Grummant, S.N.; Pullen, P.S.; F. Hiltan, P.Z., Preceptor; R. Davis, Phillips, and Moss.

The chapter was opened, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, Comp. Phillips personating the candidate. Comp. Moss, M.E.Z. 1216, was elected a member. It was suggested to hold the annual supper on Friday, May 27th, at 7 p.m. Comp. Hill was elected M.E.Z. for the next meeting, when an installation will be worked.

Ancient and Accepted Rite.

Mount Calvary Chapter (No. 3).—This old chapter met at 33, Golden-square, on the 12th instant. Among those present were Bros. H. J. Lardner, 30°, P.M. W.S., M.W.; F. W. Driver, M.A., P.M.W.S., acting Prelate; Grimwood, 2nd Gen.; W. Paas, 30°, P.M.W.S., Treas.; Capt. T. C. Walls, P.M.W.S., Recorder; N. Prower, M.A., 30°, Raphael; L. Steele, C. of G.; W. Maple, Herald; Dr. E. M. Lott, 30°, Organist; Cornie Jackson, F.R.C.S., Francis Smith, and Speller. In consequence of the recent and lamented death of Ill. Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, 33°, the chapter and brethren were in mourning.

The minutes of the previous chapter having been read and confirmed, a vote of regret at the great loss sustained by the Supreme Council, 33°, and the Order generally by the demise of Ill. Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke was unanimously passed, and ordered to be entered on the minutes. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Ill. Bros. W. Roebuck, 31°; Major F. J. Stöhrwasser, 30°; W. B. Williamson, J.P., G.M.; G. Grayley, 30°, P.M.W.S.; Ex. Bros. Egbert Roberts, Asst. Org.; G. A. Berkeley, P.M.W.S.; C. Tayleur, M.A., P.M.W.S.; Holland, W. Fisher, and many others. Two names having been submitted for ballot at the next meeting, the chapter was closed.

The banquet was held at the Café Royal. The M.W.S. ably presided, and the usual toasts were duly honoured.

Ill. Bro. Dr. Lott and Ex. Bro. F. Smith greatly entertained the brethren by their instrumental and vocal selections.

The proceedings terminated at an early hour.

MASONIC BALL OF THE SHURMUR LODGE, No. 2374.

The first Masonic ball in connection with the above lodge was held on the 15th inst. at the Victoria Hall, Hoe-street, Walthamstow, and proved a complete success. A Committee, consisting of the following brethren, carried out the arrangements, and are to be congratulated on the result of their labours: President, Bros. W. P. Holness, P.M., W.M.; Vice-Presidents, Bros. Wm. Shurmur, P.P.G. Treas. Essex; H. F. Bromhead, P.G.S. of W., S.W.; and N. Fortescue, J.W.; Bros. W. P. Allen, S. C. Bateman, W. W. Cook, J. Collett, W. Fortescue, W. Goulding, J. Lewis Young, A. J. Stacey, W. J. Short, and C. Spurgeon. Bro. G. J. Westfield, P.P.G.S.B., was the energetic Hon. Sec.

The hall was tastefully decorated with flags and floral decorations by Bro. W. J. Short, and an excellent band was provided. Dancing was heartily enjoyed until a late hour, the programme appropriately concluding with a valse and galop—"Off we go."

The company, which numbered about 160, included the following brethren, in addition to the members of the Committee: Bros. J. H. L. Bishop, J. Cropley, S. Fortescue, C. Hoist, 1471; J. Holland, C. Henglies, G. W. Holmes, 2256; W. Johnson, G. R. Lambert, C. MacColla, T. Bagnell, J. T. Day, G. S. Fulford, C. H. Bestow, I.G., F. Matthews, P.M. 1766; W. F. Stauffer, 19; P. Trickett, J. Schummer, R. Perry, 1473; A. Oakden, W. C. Mann, B. Mann, G. Baltus, 1278; H. G. Brasted, Jno. Ives, P.M. 1472; S. B. Thorogood, J. Solomon, A. J. Stacey, J. Stephens, J. R. Peck, T. Lamb, J. Wilson, W. Job, P.M.; W. Watts, C. F. Barham, W. H. Caton, P.M.; and many others.

The M.C.'s during the evening were Bros. J. Clark, J. Hamilton, J. King, and F. Taylor.

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Bro. Percy Wallis, P.P.S.G.W., has been elected to the Chairmanship of the Charity Committee of the Province of Derbyshire, in succession to the late Bro. George T. Wright, P.P.S.G.W.

The Princesses Mary and Victoria of Edinburgh, attended by the Hon. Mrs. Keppell, visited the Water-Colour Exhibition at Messrs. Tooth's Galleries on Thursday.

At the Birkbeck Institution on Wednesday Mr. Charles Dickens gave readings from "David Copperfield" and "Bob Sawyer's Party," which were greatly appreciated by a large audience.

The Bishop of Exeter was riding along the Topsham-road, Exeter, on Thursday, when the horse stumbled, and his lordship was thrown over the animal's head into the road. He was able, however, to remount and ride home.

At a meeting of the Walthamstow Lodge of Instruction, No. 2192, on the 22nd inst., it was resolved to hold the meetings on and after 29th inst., at the Field House, High-street, Walthamstow, on Monday evenings, at eight o'clock.

"Blue-Eyed Susan" at the Prince of Wales's Theatre has during the last few days been preceded by the farce entitled "My Wife's Out," but owing to the sudden indisposition both of Miss Agnes Hewitt and Mr. Bantock, the management found it impossible to play the farce.

The Kensington Lodge, No. 1767, held their annual ball on Friday, the 12th inst., at Ladbroke Hall, Notting Hill, which proved a most enjoyable and successful meeting. Bro. Talbot, in conjunction with Bro. James Wiggins, W.M. of the lodge, acted as M.C.'s. At supper the usual toasts were given and responded to with the utmost cordiality.

The election of the Illustrious Sir Knight the Rev. Dr. Lemon as Secretary-General of the Grand Council of the Knights of Constantinople, in succession to the late Illustrious Sir Knight Vincent Bird, was unanimously confirmed at a meeting of the Grand Council held at the Freemasons' Hall, Plymouth, on Saturday, the 20th instant.

The officers and brethren of the Lodge of Union, at Reading, one of the oldest in the Province of Berkshire, of which the late Duke of Clarence was Grand Master, have resolved that 50 guineas shall be expended in providing a memorial of the late Prince at the Masonic Hall, and that 20 guineas be contributed to one of the Masonic Charities.

An assembly took place on Friday night, the 19th inst., in the Victoria Hall, Dunblane, under the patronage of the Master and brethren of Lodge No. 9, Dunblane. About 50 couples were present, and several hours of very lively dancing was varied by a number of songs, rendered, among others, by Miss Taylor, Mr. Taylor, and Mr. Alex. Syme. The music was supplied by the Dunblane Quadrille Band, under the leadership of Mr. Peter Brown.

At the Brunswick Mark Lodge, No. 48, at Stonehouse, Devon, on Wednesday, the 17th inst., Bro. T. Warledge, P.M., P.G.S.B., was re-elected W.M., and he invested his officers as follows: Bros. W. H. Williams, I.P.M.; J. Harvey, S.W.; J. Endicott, J.V.; W. J. Parsons, Chap.; C. Marshall, P.M., Treas.; R. H. Batstone, Sec.; W. J. Rowe, M.O.; T. Rogers, S.O.; W. Cutler, J.O.; J. Riddle, S.D.; T. Paynter, J.D.; J. Andrews, Org.; and J. Reddaway, I.G. A banquet followed.

The directors of Perry and Co., Limited, the well-known makers of steel pens, &c., of Birmingham and London, have recommended a dividend of 12½ per cent. for the year—the same as that paid for the last two years. The directors also recommend the payment of a bonus of 5s. per share on the ordinary fully paid shares. £2500 is placed to the reserve account, being the same amount as for the three preceding years.

Not every Mason is qualified and authorised to examine a visiting brother. This is evidenced by the Worshipful Master selecting a Past Master, and with him the most experienced brethren of the lodge, as the Examining Committee. We may be satisfied that a man is a Mason, but yet would not be willing to vouch for that man in the body of an open lodge. It is not proper to talk of the business of the lodge outside of the lodge to any one unless you can vouch for him in an open lodge. Stop and remember that Masonic business should only be talked over in a Masonic manner in the body of the open Masonic lodge. It is the safest to confine Masonry within the walls of Masonry to Masons only.—*Keystone*.

From "The Newspaper Press Directory" for 1892 we ascertain that "there are now published in the United Kingdom 2255 newspapers, distributed as follows: England—London, 401; Provinces, 1302—1763; Wales, 95; Scotland, 206; Ireland, 167; and Isles, 24. Of these there are 138 daily papers published in England; six in Wales; 20 in Scotland; 19 in Ireland; and two in the British Isles. On reference to the first edition of this useful directory for the year 1846 we find the following interesting facts, viz., that in that year there were published in the United Kingdom 551 journals; of these 14 were issued daily, viz., 12 in England and two in Ireland; but in 1892 there are now established and circulated 2255 papers, of which no less than 185 are issued daily, showing that the Press of the country has more than quadrupled during the last 46 years. The increase in daily papers has been still more remarkable; the daily issues standing 185 against 14 in 1846. The magazines now in course of publication, including the quarterly reviews, number 1901, of which more than 473 are of a decidedly religious character, representing the Church of England, Wesleyans, Methodists, Baptists, Independents, Roman Catholics, and other Christian communities."

INFLUENZA TONIC.—Nothing is more effective in keeping up nerve and strength during the prevalence of influenza than Grant's Morella Cherry Brandy. In cases of debility its marvellous restorative powers, derived from the peculiar properties of the Kent Morella, render it of great value in regaining strength after illness. Sold everywhere.

Bro. Lord Henniker was stated to be a little better on Wednesday, but his medical advisers forbid him to travel for a few days.

The Marquis of Salisbury arrived at Windsor Castle on Wednesday on a visit to the Queen, and returned to town on Thursday.

On Wednesday evening Bro. the Lord Mayor entertained the members of the Court of Common Council at dinner at the Mansion House.

The Duke of Rutland, who has been staying at Belvoir Castle, Grantham, since last Saturday, returned to town on Wednesday, and will remain in London for the next few days.

Bro. the Earl of Onslow has sailed from New Zealand for Australia, on his way home. Sir James Prendergast, Chief Justice, will act as Governor until the arrival of the Earl of Glasgow.

We are shortly to see another play by Mr. L. N. Parker, whose "Bohemian" is now the attraction at the Globe. The new piece is in the hands of Mrs. Lancaster-Wallis, who will herself appear in it, and who is now arranging the remainder of the cast.

We are asked to notify that the meetings of the Royal Standard Lodge of Instruction, No. 1293, and of the Royal Standard Benevolent Association will, on and after the 26th inst., be held at the Castle Tavern, 81, Holloway-road, N., at 8 p.m., instead of the Builders' Arms, St. Paul's-road, Canonbury, as heretofore.

The Board of Trade have awarded a gold watch to Capt. Carl Bahlke, master of the German sailing ship *Preussen*, of Hamburg, in recognition of his kindness and humanity to the shipwrecked crew of the sailing ship *Gareloch*, of Glasgow, which was abandoned off Cape Horn on the 26th November, 1891.

Dr. Klein, the value of whose laboratory work has obtained widespread recognition, is taking a leading part in the inquiry which is being conducted under the auspices of the Medical Department of the Local Government Board with the object of tracing the origin of the influenza epidemic and of discovering the best means of checking its fatal prevalence.

The 41st annual meeting of the governors of the Cancer Hospital (Free), Brompton, S.W., was held on Wednesday under the presidency of Sir George Samuel Measom. During the past year 1788 new patients were received, while the total number of attendances of out-patients was 7498, these figures being in excess of any previous year since the hospital was founded. As the reliable income was about £3000 a year less than the ordinary expenditure, the Committee made an earnest appeal for continued support.

Major William Vaughan Morgan, late of the 3rd Battalion Royal Fusiliers, whose death is announced from Grasse as having taken place, after a long and painful illness, a few days ago, was well known to the public as the Chairman of the London Homœopathic Hospital in Great Ormond-street, of which he had been a supporter since 1858, and to which in later years he was a munificent donor. The progress of the London Homœopathic Hospital during the past few years has been largely due to his administration.

The Duchess of Edinburgh and her two daughters arrived at Dover on Wednesday from Calais and proceeded to London. Her Royal Highness reached Charing Cross Station at 7.30. The Duke of Edinburgh was on the platform, attended by Colonel Colville, Captain Monson, and Lady Mary Fitzwilliam. The Royal party at once drove to Clarence House. The Duke and Duchess have made arrangements to leave Paddington to-morrow (Saturday) morning for Devonport, where the Duke resumes his duties as Commander-in-Chief.

Miss Annie Hughes, who has been making a short tour with her own company within easy reach of London, has been at Richmond appearing nightly as the heroine of "Sweet Nancy," and on Wednesday as Naomi in "School." She has been supported in both pieces by her husband (Mr. N. Devereux), Mr. Charles Bernard, Miss Constance Robertson, and Mrs. E. H. Brooke. On Wednesday afternoon Mr. C. Cooper, Mr. Gilbert Hare, and Miss Winifred Fraser went down to play the Beau, Krux, and Bella in the Robertson comedy.

A brilliant subscription ball was given on Wednesday evening at the Berlin Opera House, at which the Emperor, several of the Princes, and many other distinguished persons were present. The Empress was unable to attend, having only just recovered from her recent indisposition. His Majesty led off one dance with Princess Leopold, the other august personages present also joining in the dance. The Emperor maintained a lively conversation for some time in the Diplomatic box.

All lovers of Masonic unity will regret to learn that the well-meant effort of M.E. Comp. Major Murray to bring about unity in Royal Arch Masonry in this colony has failed. His motion for a conference of the three existing Constitutions, which we printed in our last issue, was considered at the last convocation of the Grand Chapter of New South Wales, and rejected by one vote. This is to be gravely regretted, and will tend to embitter the existing disunion. We wish wiser counsel had prevailed, as there was a golden opportunity to establish unity. Of course, it will come in time, but years will probably elapse. We sympathise with Comp. Major Murray in the failure of his earnest fraternal effort.—*Sydney Freemason*.

The Speaker gave his first Parliamentary full-dress dinner on Wednesday evening. Among those who attended were Mr. Balfour, Lord Burghly, Lord W. Lennox, Lord G. Hamilton, Lord A. Hill, Mr. H. Matthews, Mr. E. Stanhope, Mr. Brodrick, Mr. G. Curzon, Sir J. Fergusson, Sir M. Hicks-Beach, Mr. D. Plunkett, Mr. J. W. Lowther, Sir W. Hart Dyke, Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett, Mr. H. Chaplin, Mr. W. Long, Sir W. Marriott, Mr. C. Stuart-Wortley, Mr. C. T. Ritchie, Baron H. de Worms, Sir J. Gorst, Mr. W. L. Jackson, Mr. Akers-Douglas, Mr. A. B. Forwood, Sir H. Maxwell, Sir W. Walrond, the Attorney General, the Lord Advocate, the Attorney General for Ireland, the Solicitor General, the Solicitor General for Scotland, Mr. Hermon Hodge, Mr. Milvain, Archdeacon Farrar, and Mr. E. Ponsonby.

The Queen went out at Windsor on Wednesday accompanied by Princess Beatrice. Princess Louise has left the Castle for Kensington Palace.

The Duke of Cambridge will preside over the Royal United Service Institution meeting on Saturday, March 5th, when the gold medal for the naval prize essay will be presented.

The Sportsman's Exhibition and the Kennel Club Show of Sporting and other Dogs will be held at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, from Tuesday, the 7th, to Saturday, 11th of June.

The Johannesburg Lodge and the Transvaal Lodge of Pretoria sent cable messages of condolence on the death of the Duke of Clarence to H.R.H. the Grand Master, and received prompt replies expressive of thanks.

The District Grand Master of Natal promptly placed the lodges in his jurisdiction in mourning on receipt of the news of the Duke of Clarence's death. The District Grand Secretary likewise cabled a message of condolence, as did the Port Natal Lodge.

The Board of Agriculture has decided that it is no longer necessary to slaughter animals which may come into contact with other beasts suffering from foot and mouth disease. The most stringent precautions will, however, be enforced as regards disinfection and isolation.

Captain Pawson, Riding Master of the Royal Horse Artillery Brigade at Aldershot, on promotion to the rank of Major, has been appointed Senior Riding Master of the Royal Artillery to the Riding Establishment, Woolwich. Major Pawson, who has nearly 40 years' service, fought throughout the Crimean and China War.

At the opening of the Reichstag on Wednesday, the President mentioned that the first North German Parliament was opened on that day 25 years ago, and that five of the original members, viz., Herren Bennigsen, Richter, and Stumm, Count Hompesch, and Baron Unruhe, are still in the House.

Miss Sylvia Grey's many admirers will be glad to learn that she revisits the glimpses of the Gaiety footlights this (Saturday) evening. She has been absent from the cast of "Cinder-Elfen" for more than three weeks, owing to an attack of rheumatism, which change of air and scene has enabled her to repel.

A new lodge, under the Constitution of the Netherlands, was consecrated at Pretoria on the 10th ult. under the name Broederband, Bro. F. Kleijn officiating, assisted by Bros. T. V. Beckett and J. Wagner. We are not in possession of a complete report, but we understand that the following are the officers: Bros. C. Ueckermann, sen., P.M., W.M.; F. Kleijn, P.M., D.M.; Adrianus Kuipers, S.W.; M. De Wilde, J.W.; A. E. J. Krause, Orator; Jac. Bosch, Sec.; J. van Alphen and T. Krogh, Preparators; J. S. Smit and C. Ueckermann, jun., M.C.'s; and E. P. A. Meintjes, I.G. We wish "De Broederband" every success.—*South African Freemason*.

Frater William Taylor, of Torquay, P.P.G.O. of the Knights Templar of the Provincial Priory of Devon, has been presented by fratres of the province with a handsome gold jewel, the insignia of his office, bearing the inscription: "Presented to E.S. Kt. William Taylor, P.P.G. Treas., as a memento of the centenary of K.T., 1891." The presentation was made by E. Frater John Chapman, P.P.G. Reg. of Devon, and Captain of the Guards in the National Great Priory of England and Wales. Frater Chapman, in felicitous terms, referred to the Masonic zeal and ability of Frater Taylor, also to his liberality and hospitality during his year of office, a year which would ever be remembered in the Order as the centenary of the Grand Mastership of the Order under its present formation.

A Birmingham correspondent writes: A very enjoyable evening was spent on the 18th inst. by a large and appreciative audience of brethren, ladies, and friends in connection with the Athol Lodge, No. 74, Birmingham. Bro. Sydney S. Pridmore, P.M. 50, was in a very happy and humorous mood, and introduced several new and startling tricks. Bro. H. E. Maynard as an "amateur" mesmerist was exceedingly good, and is, in the opinion of many, far superior to many "professors" of that science. The musical portion, vocal and instrumental, was most ably given by the talented "Johnson" family and Mr. G. E. Franklin, of Derby, to the satisfaction and delight of everyone present. We are pleased to say, as a result, there will be a fairly good surplus to hand over to the fund for alterations and additions to the "home" of this old lodge, which have recently been carried out. This is the first gathering of the kind that has been held in this hall, and a hope was expressed by several that it will not be the last.

The installation meeting and banquet in connection with the Keystone Lodge, No. 107, was held on Monday, the 25th ultimo, at the Masonic Hall, Strada Stretta, Valletta, Malta, when there was a large attendance. Bro. Col. Marmaduke Ramsay, D.G.M. of the Mediterranean, was the Installing Officer. The W.M. elect, Bro. C. H. Horsfall, D.J.G.O., S.W., was presented by Bro. Cook, D.G.M.O., the retiring Master, for installation. After having been duly installed, he invested his officers as follows: Bros. Cook, I.P.M.; T. V. Quinn, D.G.D.C.; S.W.; D. M. Bates, D.G.S.B.; J.W.; T. Lucas, D.G. Std. Br., M.O.; R. M. Farmer, S.O.; A. W. Kemp, D.G. Std., J.O.; Rev. R. Dolby, D.G.C., Chap.; Pariente, P.M.; P.D.D.G.M., Treasurer; H. P. Wakefield, Secretary; J. Nicholson, S.D.; W. J. Phillips, J.D.; C. F. James, I.G.; and Beck, Tyler. The balance-sheet showed the lodge to be in a flourishing condition, 23 brethren having been advanced during the past year under the rule of Bro. W. E. Cook. This lodge is the oldest in the island, and has a roll of upwards of 100 members.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Enfeebled existence.—This medicine embraces every attribute required in a general and domestic remedy. It overturns the foundations of disease laid by defective food and impure air. In obstructions or congestions of the liver, lungs, bowels, or any other organs, these Pills are especially serviceable and eminently successful. They should be kept in readiness in every family, being a medicine of incomparable utility for young persons, especially those of feeble constitutions. They never cause pain or irritate the most sensitive nerves or most tender bowels. Holloway's Pills are the best known purifiers of the blood, the most active promoters of absorption and secretion, whereby all poisonous and obnoxious particles are removed from both solids and fluids.