

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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THE APPROACHING FESTIVAL OF THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

As the day approaches for celebrating the Anniversary Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, speculation as to the result becomes more varied and intense. Some there are who boldly disregard the earlier events of the present year, and declare that a large total will be forthcoming, because for an ordinary Festival the brethren who have volunteered their services in aid of the Boys' School on this occasion constitute a Board of Stewards which is above rather than below the average strength. Others again go to the opposite extreme, and assert that anything like a normal return is out of the question in the face of the tremendous drain on the resources of the Craft caused by the Jubilee Festival of the Benevolent Institution. For ourselves we are hopeful, not that such a sum will be obtained as we look to see when there is no special anniversary to celebrate in connection with one or other of our Charities, and all three Institutions stand on precisely the same footing in their appeals to the brethren, but because we have a strong and abiding faith in the tact and energy of the Secretary, Bro. J. M. McLEOD, on whose shoulders rests the responsibility of organising the Board of Stewards; and also because we are persuaded that the Craft generally, when the case is clearly and fairly stated, will not begrudge the amount required to maintain the School at its present high standard of efficiency. We have already shown that we fully recognise the difficulties which this particular Board of Stewards will of necessity experience in the fulfilment of their duties. We know the Benevolent Jubilee resulted in an immense subscription, and that the two Festivals already held during the present year have between them succeeded in realising more than the three Festivals realised in 1888, when the Girls' School celebrated the Centenary of its foundation. But we do not believe that brethren will regard this as a reason which justifies them in leaving unconsidered the claims which the Boys' School has upon their support, or that they will allow their contributions to fall to so low a figure as to neutralise to any extent the success that was achieved in 1891. To express our meaning still more clearly—if by any mischance the total announced on the 29th instant should fall short of the sum necessary for the year's requirements, then the Institution must either borrow of its bankers or make an inroad into its capital. But it is in respect of its capital that the Boys' School compares so unfavourably with the other Institutions. The Benevolent Institution, when it has completed the investments which the Committee of Management have resolved on making, will have upwards of £100,000, while the Girls' School has nearer £70,000 than £60,000 in the funds; but the Boys' School, speaking roughly, has only about £25,000 invested. It follows, as a matter of course, that the permanent income of the Boys' School is appreciably smaller than is the case with the other Charities, and that the amount of its annual expenditure, which must be defrayed by voluntary subscription, is proportionately greater. Thus, as between the two Schools, if, in ordinary circumstances, the Girls' School expenditure is between £10,000 and £11,000 a year, its Festival need only yield from £8,000 to £9,000, in order to establish a balance between income and outlay, without leaving, of course, any margin for contingencies. If, however, the Boys' School, under similar circumstances, expends £12,000 a year, then in order to establish the same balance there must be raised at the Festival, in round figures, £11,000. It is needless to add that if it does not succeed in obtaining this sum, it must, as we have said, either run into debt or trench upon its capital. The question to be solved at Freemasons' Tavern on Wednesday, the 29th inst., is whether the Craft will be generous enough to prevent or inconsiderate enough to permit either of these unfortunate contingencies happening.

As regards the probable result of the Festival which is now close at hand, we can say little more than we did last week in our "Masonic Notes." The Board of Stewards is over 300 strong, a few names having been added to the list, but its constitution is not materially altered. The London section is still weak as regards lodge and chapter representatives and the array of Unattached brethren is more numerous than usual. The Provinces, however, are in proportion stronger. Gloucestershire in particular, looks as if it intended to surpass all its previous efforts in support of its Prov. Grand Master, who will be the Chairman of the day. Great enthusiasm over the event was exhibited at the annual meeting of its Provincial Grand Lodge a short while since, and its contingent of Stewards is undoubtedly formidable in point of numbers. Other Provinces also show up well, and had there been no Jubilee we imagine a higher total than usual might have been looked for. As it is, we are content with hoping that such an amount will be subscribed as will enable the School authorities to meet the year's expenditure.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF MIDDLESEX.

A special meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Middlesex was held at the Town Hall, Twickenham, on Friday, the 10th inst., under the presidency of Bro. Raymond H. Thrupp, P.A.G.D.C., Deputy Provincial Grand Master in charge, for the purpose of passing a vote of condolence to Lady Burdett and family on the lamented death of Bro. Colonel Sir Francis Burdett, Bart., Provincial Grand Master of Middlesex. The Deputy Provincial Grand Master was supported by a number of brethren.

Provincial Grand Lodge having been opened, the circular convening the meeting was read by the ACTING PROV. G. SECRETARY. Letters were also read expressing regret for inability to attend from Bros. H. H. Room, Prov. G. Sec.; Edward Letchworth, G. Sec.; J. Tickle, P.P.G. Reg.; J. F. H. Woodward, P.P.G. Sec.; W. Taylor, Dr. Sansom, H. Woods, W. Preece, Dr. Beresford Riley, H. Clements, and many others.

The DEPUTY PROV. G. MASTER in charge then said: Brethren, the present occasion will form a very sorrowful epoch in the history of the Province of Middlesex. Sir Francis Burdett is dead! Simple words to the outside world, but what a sad echo they will find in the heart of every brother in the province. Sir Francis Burdett is dead! Yes, we have lost our dear old Provincial Grand Master under whose genial rule for nearly 25 years we have been delighted to serve. As a Provincial Grand Master, Sir Francis Burdett was *facile princeps*—earnest and firm in purpose—determined to discharge all the important duties connected with his office conscientiously and well, and exerting all his power to promote the welfare and prosperity of the province and the comfort and happiness of the brethren, rewarding merit, encouraging the younger brethren, and especially inculcating the principles and tenets of the Craft. Jealous of the good name of the Order, he was at all times impressing upon the lodges—particularly at consecrations—the duty of careful enquiry before admitting anyone for initiation. Good men and not a large lodge was his constant advice. During the time this province has been under his rule, and owing in a great measure to his zeal and assiduity, the number of lodges has increased from 12 to 40. If anything further was necessary to enhance his reputation as a Provincial Grand Master and a Mason, I will remind you that two years ago he proposed his own son in the Burdett Lodge, and in his old age he worked up the ceremony of initiation, and I am sure those present at that time will agree with me that Sir Francis then set a higher example to the working brethren of the province. As a friend who will ever forget him? Who cannot now recall that pleasant cheery face, that hearty greeting, that true fraternal grip of the hand extended alike to the young initiate as well as to the oldest Provincial Grand Officer? Oh, for the touch of a vanished hand, for the sound of a voice that is still! It was these traits in the character of the late Provincial Grand Master which endeared him to all our hearts, and taught us to look up to him with affection and esteem. In due course his Royal Highness the M.W.G.M. will appoint a new Provincial Grand Master, but he cannot give us another Sir Francis Burdett, and I am fully persuaded that long after this present generation has passed away, the name of Sir Francis Burdett will be remembered and cherished in the Province of Middlesex. It is now my duty to submit the following resolution:

To Lady Burdett—

We, the Freemasons of Middlesex in Special Provincial Grand Lodge assembled, desire to convey to your ladyship and the family the expression of our deep sympathy with you in the irreparable loss you have sustained by the lamented death of our R.W. Provincial Grand Master, Colonel Sir Francis Burdett, Bart., and at the same time to assure you of our own profound sorrow at the sad event.

No words can adequately express our high sense of the judgment and tact and the gentle sway with which our Provincial Grand Master ruled his province from its formation (nearly a quarter of a century ago), and raised it to its present important and flourishing position. But above all we gratefully cherish the recollection that while firmly maintaining the dignity of his high office he was ever ready to extend the right hand of brotherhood to the humblest member of the province, thus endearing himself to all who knew him.

It is in the hope that the knowledge of our sincere sympathy and of the high estimation in which we, the Freemasons of Middlesex, held our late Provincial Grand Master, may exercise a consoling influence in the midst of your sorrow, that we venture to approach your ladyship in the hour of your affliction with this expression of our feelings.

Signed on behalf of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Middlesex,
RAYMOND H. THRUPP,
Deputy Provincial Grand Master in charge.
HOWARD H. ROOM,
Provincial Grand Secretary.

Town Hall, Twickenham, 10th June, 1892.

Bro. A. à B. TERRELL, Prov. J.G.W., said that, in seconding this motion, he felt sure no brother present could undertake that task with greater sincerity than he did. The Deputy Prov. Grand Master in charge had told them and recalled to their memory the many services the late Prov. Grand Master had rendered the province. During his rule the province had prospered and the lodges had increased. With few exceptions every brother present in Prov. Grand Lodge had entered Masonry or had spent a greater part of his time under the rule of the late Prov. Grand Master, and they in their respective lodges had all had opportunities of seeing him come amongst them as he believed it would be difficult to find any other Prov. Grand Master in the world had done. During his (Bro. Terrell's) term of office as W.M., Sir Francis Burdett was the greatest possible support to him and the other brethren, attending their lodge and encouraging them by his

example. Always present at the commencement of all ceremonies, always genial at the banquet and throwing a charm over the whole meeting that few men could have done. At the present time Lady Burdett would be supported in her affliction by many expressions of condolence and sympathy, but from the way in which the late Prov. Grand Master loved this province there was no expression of condolence that would come to her that would be more acceptable than the resolution which they now proposed to pass. He therefore begged with all sincerity of feeling to second the motion put before Prov. Grand Lodge.

Bro. D. W. PEARSE, P.P.G. Reg., said that as the Secretary of the Burdett Lodge, it would not perhaps be out of place if he endorsed the remarks so well spoken by the Deputy Prov. Grand Master and the Prov. J.G.W. The brethren of the Burdett Lodge felt the loss of the Prov. Grand Master as a member of the lodge as well as the ruler of the province.

The motion having been unanimously carried,

The DEPUTY PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER in charge said he wished to tell the brethren that by his direction a beautiful wreath was sent to Chesham-place before the funeral, as coming from the brethren of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Middlesex.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was then closed, and, as the brethren dispersed, the Dead March in "Saul" was played by Bro. W. T. Peat, Prov. Grand Organist.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF NORTHANTS AND HUNTS.

The annual meeting of the above Prov. Grand Lodge took place at Stamford on Thursday, the 9th inst, under the banner of the Merit Lodge, No. 466, Stamford. The arrangements made by the W.M., Bro. J. C. Royce, Secretary, and the brethren were all that could be desired, and the proceedings of the day were of a most satisfactory and enthusiastic character. The Board of Benevolence and Charity Organisation Committee met at the George Hotel, when the usual business was transacted, and several grants made. The Provincial Grand Lodge was afterwards opened, and was presided over by Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Euston, D.L., Prov. Grand Master, who was assisted by Bro. Butler Wilkins, Dep. Prov. Grand Master.

The Provincial Grand Lodge having been duly opened, the minutes of the last Provincial Grand meeting were read by the Prov. Grand Secretary, Bro. F. G. BUCKLE.

Bro. A. Cockerill, upon the proposition of Bro. BUTLER WILKINS, seconded by Bro. T. W. HARRISON, was again re-elected Provincial Grand Treasurer, and duly invested.

The Provincial Grand Master then nominated the following brethren as the officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge for the ensuing year:

Bro. E. P. Monckton, P.M. 466	...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" J. Clayson, W.M. 360	...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" Rev. P. Royston, 442	...	...	Prov. G. Chap.
" R. F. Winch, P.M. 607	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" F. G. Buckle, P.M. 442	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" J. C. Royce, P.M. 466	...	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" F. B. Whitford, S.W. 2380	...	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" T. A. Watford, W.M. 466	...	...	Prov. G.S. of W.
" G. Ellard, P.M. 360	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" J. J. Hart, P.M. 360	...	...	Prov. A.G.D. of C.
" H. Hodges, Treas. 1764, P.P.G. Stwd.	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" J. L. Loweth, J.D. 466	...	...	} Prov. G. Std. Brs.
" G. Abbott, W.M. 455	...	...
" E. Solomon, 442	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" H. W. Giles, Sec. 445	...	...	Prov. G. Purst.
" G. F. E. Wilkinson, 360	...	...	} Prov. G. Stwds.
" W. H. Pentney, 442	...	...
" A. F. Mulliner, 2380	...	...
" A. G. Davison, 373	...	...
" M. Warwick, 1764	...	...
" P. Mitchell, 607	...	...	} Prov. G. Tyler.
" H. Plowman, 442	...	...

Each officer was invested by the Prov. Grand Master with his insignia of office. Bro. A. Cockerill, 360, was appointed Steward to the Girls' School Festival next year. The balance-sheet of the Masonic Benevolent and Provincial Grand Lodge Fund was presented and adopted. Bros. G. Ellard and F. G. Buckle were again appointed as Stewards to watch the interest of the province with respect to the Charities.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER congratulated the lodge on having done so well during the past year. He was pleased to be able to announce that they had succeeded on the first occasion in getting a Stamford brother elected as a recipient of the fund of the Masonic Benevolent Institution. He thanked the officers who had backed him up so well during the year, and was pleased that a warrant had been issued for the formation of another lodge at Kingsley Park, Northampton. He assured the brethren it was his wish to do all he could to promote Freemasonry in that province, and in the country generally, and he was glad to have such good officers to assist him in doing so. He announced that the Peterborough Lodge had invited them to hold the next annual meeting of Prov. Grand Lodge at Peterborough, and that had been decided upon. He had been asked to take the chair at the Festival of the Girls' School next year, and he hoped the province would do what it could to assist him in taking up a good round sum towards the funds.

The brethren subsequently sat down to a banquet at the George Hotel, the chair being taken by the Provincial Grand Master, Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Euston, who was supported by Bro. Butler Wilkins, D.P.G.M., Bro. the Rev. P. Royston, and the newly-invested Prov. Grand Officers. An excellent banquet was served by Miss Dawkins, the manageress of the hotel.

At the conclusion of the banquet, the PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER gave the toast of "The Queen and the Craft," which was followed by that of "The M.W. the Grand Master of England, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G.," the Provincial Grand Master expressing his sorrow at the loss their Grand Master had suffered during the year.

The toasts were musically honoured.

"The M.W. Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Lathom; the D.G.M., the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe; and the Officers of Grand Lodge, Present and Past," was also submitted from the chair. Both officers were spoken highly of by the PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER, and he said they had to thank the Earl of Lathom for the good and sound advice he was able to give them. While

they had officers such as they had at the head of affairs Freemasonry would prosper, and he heartily proposed their healths.

Bro. F. G. BUCKLE gave "The Provincial Grand Master, the Right Hon. the Earl of Euston, D.L." He spoke in terms of great praise of the manner in which his lordship fulfilled his office, and said the province under his guidance was in a better condition and position than it had ever been in the past. He hoped the Provincial Grand Master might long be spared to preside over that province, and that his efforts to promote Freemasonry might be followed up with continued success.

The toast was most enthusiastically received.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER, in reply, thanked the brethren for the manner in which they had received the toast. It had been his endeavour to learn all he could in connection with the Craft, so that if any defect arose he might be able to cope with it, but he was pleased to say that during the five years he had held office there had been no serious defection of any kind. The work in the province was going on slowly but steadily, and he was happy to see the increase they had made. He hoped that in the course of time the province, instead of being one of the smallest in point of numbers, would become equal to any other province in the country. It was his ambition to make it so, and he hoped they would help him all they could. During the five years he had presided over the province three new lodges had been consecrated, and another would soon be formed at Kingsley Park, Northampton. He also hoped that another lodge would be formed in Peterborough, as the lodge in that town now numbered nearly 90 members, and there was then but little chance of promotion. If a new lodge was formed out of the old one, he hoped the old officers would do what they could to support it. He thanked the members of the Stamford Lodge for the hospitality they had shown that day, and for the excellent arrangements made throughout. The Prov. Grand Lodge of that day had been largely attended, and everything had passed off well. He hoped the Stamford Lodge and Chapter would go on increasing in strength.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER then submitted the toast of "The Deputy Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Butler Wilkins, P.G. Std. Br." He said the Deputy Prov. Grand Master's work in the province was well known to them, and for some years he had the whole of the work on his shoulders, and had acquitted himself admirably. He thanked him for the great assistance he had given him in carrying out the duties of his office, and said he did not think there was another province in England possessed of a better Deputy Grand Master.

The toast was accorded a most hearty reception.

The DEPUTY PROV. GRAND MASTER, in reply, thanked the brethren for the manner they had received the toast, and then said it was 16 years since he was presented to the brethren by the Duke of Manchester, the then Provincial Grand Master, in the very room in which they were assembled. The retrospective view came vividly before him, and he missed many of the brothers who were present at that time. He spoke of the pleasure he felt at the progress the province had made, and was making, under the guidance of their Provincial Grand Master, who was most attentive to the duties of his office, and who left very little for him to do as deputy, and he hoped that progress would still go on increasing.

"The Grand Officers of the Province, Present and Past," was next submitted by the PROV. GRAND MASTER, and the manner in which they had carried out their duties was remarked upon with great satisfaction. He trusted the officers invested that day would still carry on the good work, and in advancing Bro. Monckton to the office of Prov. Senior Grand Warden he felt he was advancing a brother who had shown himself thoroughly capable in every work he undertook. He was pleased he had such an array of good officers, and coupled the name of Bro. Monckton with the toast.

Bro. E. P. MONCKTON, in the course of his reply, said he hoped the officers invested that day would rise to a sense of their duty, and would do what they could for the benefit of the Craft generally. Whatever services he had rendered had been given willingly and for the good of the Craft. They had a good leader to serve under, and he hoped they would support him in every way they could in the future, and so promote the welfare of the Order.

Bro. COCKERILL proposed "The Masonic Charities," which was duly acknowledged.

The remaining toasts were "The Visiting Brethren," "The W.M. and Brethren of the Entertaining Lodge and the other Lodges in the Province," and the Tyler's toast.

Songs were sung at intervals, and a most pleasant evening was spent.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF DEVONSHIRE.

The annual meeting of the above Provincial Grand Lodge was held on the 6th inst., at the Royal Public Rooms, Exeter, the Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Viscount Ebrington, M.P., presiding, the Deputy P.G.M., Bro. W. G. Rogers, 112, and a large number of brethren being also present.

Provincial Grand Lodge was opened, Bro. the Rev. J. Henning acting as P.G. Chaplain.

The Prov. G. Sec., Bro. DAVIE, presented a report, which showed the strength of the province to be: Lodges, 52; members, 3254, an increase of 192 members over the previous year. There had been 244 initiations, an increase of 25; 538 members were reported in arrears, an increase of 61.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER said lodges would do well either to get in the arrears, or to get rid of the members.

The PROV. GRAND TREASURER reported a small balance in hand.

Bro. F. POLLARD presented the report of the Fortescue Annuity Fund. The Governors reported that since the last Provincial Grand Lodge at Tavistock a vacancy had arisen by the death of Bro. George Curzon, 39. There would be several applicants for the annuity, and the Governors urged on the province the necessity of further donations and subscriptions in order that the number of annuitants might be permanently increased.

The report having been moved and seconded,

Bro. E. H. SIBBOLD said he believed there was scarcely a brother in the province who would not be ready and willing to support this fund if only the matter was properly submitted to them. He ventured to say further that there were hundreds of brethren who hardly knew of the existence of this admirable institution. He thought he could substantiate that by pointing to the splendid success which had attended the kindred movement in the province for the Devon Masonic Educational Fund. That was supported by a large body of regular subscribers; there were 50 subscribers in his lodge; and he did not see why, in time, the Annuity Fund should not be similarly supported. He therefore moved this rider to the report: "That,

with a view to obtaining a larger number of subscribers, copies of this report and the Treasurer's report, together with a statement of the objects and regulations for the management of the fund, be forthwith sent to every lodge in the province."

This rider was seconded by Bro. CORNISH, and, with the report, was adopted.

Bro. GOVER presented the report of the Committee of Petitions. The Committee stated that they had been enabled during the year to repay a large debt of 2968 votes incurred to secure the election of their candidates, and had now a balance of 561 votes owing to them available for next year's elections. The votes received this year had been 424 more than last, attributable to the exertions of the Devon Stewards at the Jubilee meeting of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, presided over by the much esteemed Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, D.G.M. of England, and P.G.M. of Cornwall, when a sum of £67,000 was raised. Bro. Dr. Lemon, P.J.G.W., by a second donation of 100 guineas, made himself a Patron of the Institution, giving him yearly votes of about 266, which are always given to your Committee. The Committee fraternally reminded the Prov. Grand Lodge that the amount subscribed to the grand Charities are still about one-third the sum annually received, and they wished also to ask Worshipful Masters of lodges and brethren having votes to send them as soon as possible after their receipt to their representative on this Committee, whose duty it was to collect and forward them to the Secretary for registration. It was a matter for congratulation that all lodges had faithfully sent their votes this year, some very late, of course, but just in time. At the meeting that day they recommended further grants, and that the Lodges 159, 303, 328, 1212, 1486, 1550, 1847, 105, 202, 710, 954, 1247, 2025, 223, 251, and 710, who, in accordance with the by-laws, had sent a deposit of 10 guineas to the Prov. Grand Secretary for the Masonic Charities, had their donations supplemented at the cost of the province to 160 guineas, that being the available balance in the hands of the Prov. Grand Treasurer.

Bro. STOCKER proposed the election of Bro. Robert Bird as Treasurer. Bro. Bird, he said, was an old Past Master, and the founder of the lodge he represented.

Bro. Major TRACY seconded Bro. Bird's nomination, although, he said, had Bro. Bird not been before them he could have supported the other brother who was a candidate with equal pleasure.

Bro. TWOSE supported the nomination of Bro. Bird, who, he said, had been twice Junior Warden of No. 70, and who, in 1875, founded Lodge Prudence, No. 1550, of which he became the first W.M.

On a division Bro. Bird was elected Prov. Grand Treasurer.

Bros. Lord and Cornish were elected Auditors.

The Prov. Grand Master then proceeded to invest the Provincial Grand Officers for the ensuing year as follows:

Bro. W. G. Rogers ... D.P.G.M.	Bro. W. Southwood ... P.A.G.D.C.
" Major Dick ... P.S.G.W.	" E. Tout ... P.G.S.B.
" W. S. Mortimer ... P.J.G.W.	" R. Blight ... P.G. Std. Brs.
" Rev. Dr. Lemon ... P.G. Chaps.	" J. Catford ... P.G. Org.
" Rev. J. Henning ... P.G. Treas.	" E. Binding ... P.A.G. Sec.
" R. Bird ... P.G. Reg.	" W. H. Apling ... P.G. Purst.
" A. S. Truscott ... P.G. Sec.	" S. Panter ... P.A.G. Purst.
" G. C. Davie ... P.S.G.D.'s.	" Jesse Sergeant ... P.G. Stwds.
" R. Beasley ... P.J.G.D.'s.	" F. C. Frost ... P.G. Stwds.
" S. B. Harvey ... P.J.G.D.'s.	" Mark Whittle ... P.G. Stwds.
" J. Parkhouse ... P.G.S. of W.	" P. J. Dunn ... P.G. Tyler.
" E. H. Littleton ... P.G.D.C.	" W. Bickle ... P.G. Tyler.
" G. S. Sandford ... P.G.D.C.	" T. R. E. Oliver ... P.G. Tyler.
" J. R. Lord ... P.D.G.D.C.	" F. Hex ... P.G. Tyler.
" T. J. R. Challice ... P.D.G.D.C.	" H. Shooter ... P.G. Tyler.

The P.G.M. explained that as there was often a difficulty in getting a Chaplain, he proposed that Bro. Dr. Lemon should be a sort of perpetual Chaplain of Prov. Grand Lodge. Unfortunately, Dr. Lemon was that day ill in bed, and therefore unable to be present. With regard to the appointment of Bro. Lord as Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies, the P.G.M. also explained that they had often felt that the services of a brother who knew all about Grand Lodges, and who could direct the ceremonies, would be valuable, and he had therefore asked Bro. Lord to hold the office with some degree of permanency.

The business was then brought to a close.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

INSTALLATION OF DEPUTY PROV. GRAND MASTER.

On Thursday, the 9th inst., there was a large gathering of brethren at the Town Hall, Newark, the occasion being the annual meeting of the Newton Lodge, and the installation, at a Provincial Grand Lodge meeting, of the new Deputy Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Lieut.-Col. Newton, who has been appointed to the office by his Grace the Duke of St. Albans, P.G.M., in succession to the late Bro. Rev. F. Vernon Bussell.

The Newton Lodge met early in the afternoon, and Bro. H. W. Hutchinson was installed W.M. for the year, in succession to Bro. G. Atter, the other appointments being as follows: Bros. W. Bradley, S.W.; H. Friend, J.W.; Rev. F. C. Ewbank, Chap.; G. Atter, Treas.; H. George, Sec.; E. F. Milthorp, SD.; H. Paine, J.D.; J. M. Walker, D. of C.; S. Reay, Org.; H. Shaw, I.G.; R. P. Almond and H. J. Smith, Stwds.; J. Dooly, Tyler; and W. P. Warr, Asst. Tyler.

At the close of the business of the Newton Lodge a meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge was held, representatives being present from all the lodges in the province.

Amongst those present were:

Bros. Edward Letchworth, G. Sec.; Frank Richardson, P.G.D.; H. George, P.S.G.W.; R. C. Wills, P.J.G.W.; Revs. T. B. B. Ferris and H. W. Wynne Ffoulkes, Chaplains; J. A. H. Hirst, Treas.; A. Stubbs, Sec.; R. F. Watson, P.S.G.D.; J. G. Dimock, P.J.G.D.; H. Walker, P.G.S. of W.; Thomas Roberts, P.G.D.C.; E. G. Loverseed, P.G.S.B.; G. G. Bonser and J. Gale, P.G. Std. Brs.; George Essex, Org.; J. Levy, Purst.; H. E. Wilson, Asst. Purst.; C. H. Benham, Tyler; G. S. Fish, G. W. Dominy, W. H. Farmer, H. E. Hartshorn, S. Ironmonger, and J. Townrow, Stewards; J. Sansom, P.P.G.S.B.; J. H. Faulconbridge, P.A.G.T.; R. Moore, P.G.T.; J. Mason, P.P.G.D. Middx.; J. M. McLeod, P.P.S.G.W., Sec. R.M.I. for Boys; and others.

The Grand Secretary occupied the chair, and the patent of appointment having been read, Bro. Lieut.-Col. Newton was installed into the high office of D.P.G.M.

In the course of an eloquent reply, Bro. Lieut.-Col. NEWTON thanked the brethren for the many kind congratulations he had received, and hoped to

have their assistance in discharging his responsible duties in a way that would be satisfactory to the Prov. Grand Master and themselves, and beneficial to the interests of Freemasonry in the province.

At the close of the business, which included the passing of a unanimous vote of sorrow and condolence on the death of Bro. the Rev. F. V. Bussell, D.P.G.M., the brethren adjourned to the large hall, where a banquet was served, at which Bro. H. W. Hutchinson presided.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were honoured, and a special feature of the evening was the presentation of a silver salver and silver epergne to Bro. H. George, P.P.G.D.C., together with an illuminated address in recognition of his valuable services to Masonry in the province. Bro. Lieut.-Col. NEWTON made the presentation on behalf of the numerous subscribers, and Bro. H. GEORGE made a suitable and impressive reply.

The proceedings throughout were of a very interesting and successful character.

LIBRARY OF WEST YORKSHIRE.

Bro. William Watson, the honorary and most efficient Librarian, has just published another of his interesting and instructive annual reports respecting the Masonic library of West Yorkshire. This time the particulars afforded respecting the various additions during the past year are not only important, but appear to be the most valuable collection made during any year since the start of this wonderful organisation.

The donations are numerous and costly, headed, as usual, by the esteemed Prov. Grand Master. It is pleasant to note the support received from brethren of other provinces, and all may be assured that their gifts are much appreciated and duly welcomed.

The purchases described by Bro. Watson, though not numerous, are of considerable interest, such as the second edition of "Cole's Constitutions" of A.D. 1731, and the fifth edition of the "Ahiman Rezon" of A.D. 1800. Three issues are still wanted to complete the series, viz., 1778, 1787, and 1801. The one of 1787 is about the scarcest Masonic work going, as respects Constitutions.

Of the later Books of Constitutions there are still needed 1865, 1866, and 1867 (large paper). Surely these copies are knocking about somewhere, and could be sent to the Librarian, 28, East Parade, Leeds, so as to complete the set. Since the publication of the report the rare 1746 "Constitutions" has been purchased, so only the three editions named are lacking.

The "Hughan MS." of the "Old Charges" has been edited and published by Bro. Wm. Watson, on behalf of the province, and at the expense of Bro. T. W. Tew, J.P., who has now been the means of having all these MSS. in Yorkshire reproduced, with portraits in facsimile. This is a great boon for all Masonic students, and though entailing considerable labour on the editor, has been the means of scattering far and wide accurate information concerning these treasures. Four are in the possession of West Yorkshire, and one is of priceless value, viz., the "William Watson" MS. We append the report by the Honorary Librarian, not only because of its interest, but we cannot see our way to make selections from the capital account of the progress made during the past year, so give it in full.

THE LIBRARY REPORT.

The report for the official year now ended shows that the contributions to the library as regards number and importance will bear favourable comparison with those of previous years. Many desirable additions have been made, and West Yorkshire may now justly claim to have one of the finest and rarest collections in existence. We are again heavily indebted to our R.W.P.G.M. for generous pecuniary and other support. A glance at the accompanying list of donations will indicate in some degree how the library has been further enriched by his liberality. Amongst the more important of the R.W.P.G.M.'s gifts may be mentioned another of those old rolls of the Ancient Constitutions, which were indited in a period anterior to the existence of a Grand Lodge or other comprehensive organisation of the Craft. R.W. Bro. Tew conferred upon this scroll the title of "The Hughan MS.," in just recognition of the many inestimable services rendered to Freemasonry in general, and this province in particular, by Bro. Wm. James Hughan, of Torquay, P.S.G.D. England, the distinguished Masonic writer and authority. The Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire is now the enviable possessor of four of these priceless relics of the olden time in Masonry, viz., the "T. W. Tew," the "Clapham," the "William Watson," and the "Hughan" MSS.

Reprints of these in pamphlet form (with facsimile frontispieces) have been published at the entire cost of the R.W.P.G.M. A copy of each has been presented by him to every lodge in the province, and duly forwarded at his desire by the Honorary Librarian. It is confidently hoped by the Provincial Grand Master that the issue of these and similar publications will foster and disseminate a taste for a higher and more extended knowledge of Masonry.

With the exception of these old manuscripts, no addition to the library approaches in importance to the latest gift of R.W. Bro. Tew, secured for him by your Librarian, viz., a work styled "A Serious and Impartial Enquiry into the Cause of the Present Decay of Freemasonry in the Kingdom of Ireland, &c., &c., by Fifield D'Assigny, M.D., &c., Dublin, A.D. 1744." This is the sole copy known to be in existence in the Eastern hemisphere, the only other which has come to light for a century back being in the celebrated library of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, U.S.A. As containing the first known reference to the Royal Arch Degree, the work is necessarily of supreme value to the Craft.

Another disastrous fire, unfortunately, has to be announced; in this instance having caused during the past year the destruction of a Masonic temple in South Africa. As happens with deplorable frequency in such calamities, irreparable injury has fallen not only on the owners of the property, but upon the Craft at large, by the destruction of important documents, books, &c., a loss for which nothing can fully compensate.

These misfortunes should draw the attention of lodges to the desirability of depositing in some place of real security their minute books and other valued documents.

The thanks of this Provincial Grand Lodge are again due to many brethren at home and abroad for their interest in the welfare and success of the library, expressed in the practical shape of contributions.

A catalogue is now in course of preparation presenting the contents of the library, classified in such a manner as to form an instructive guide to the student, and to be useful generally as a ready means of reference. It will be issued at the earliest moment consistent with the accuracy and comprehensiveness essential in such a work.

Your Librarian ventures to look forward again with confidence to the support of the brethren of the province, and begs to offer his sincere acknowledgments for the hearty encouragement received in the past. It may be fairly claimed that the desire which has been frequently evinced by a large number of distinguished brethren in this country, and in far distant places, has approached realisation—that of seeing the library become an institution worthy of this great province, and its beloved and distinguished Ruler.

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ALDRSGATE STREET.

NOTICE TO SECRETARIES OF MASONIC LODGES, CLUBS, AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS.

The Proprietors of the above Hotel, having recently added a number of commodious Rooms to the Establishment, suitable for LODGE MEETINGS, BANQUETS, DINNERS, &c., will be glad to furnish Terms and Particulars for the use of same on application.

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APPEAL FOR FUNDS.

For the purpose of establishing Colonies of Jews in Palestine and the Neighbouring Countries.

The CHOVEVI ZION has purchased, as a first step towards the attainment of the objects of the Association, a tract of Land in Gilead, situated on the borders of Hauran and Jaulan. This land is 2,400 acres in extent, and it is proposed to settle thereon 50 Families to form the First Colony. The cost of the land is £2,000, and the bulk of this amount has already been paid.

Funds are now required to complete the purchase and to provide Houses, Implements, Young Trees, Seeds, a Few Head of Cattle, and also the means of sustenance for the Colonists during the time that must elapse before the Settlement can become self-supporting and the Settlers can commence to repay the outlay incurred for them. The land purchased has been most carefully selected as eminently suited for colonisation. It is well watered, and adjoins lands purchased by Continental Colonisation Societies, with whom our Society will act in concert.

No difficulty is anticipated from the Turkish Government, which, while prohibiting the influx of pauper immigrants, raises no obstacle to the establishment of properly organised Colonies in a portion of the country which is at present sparsely populated.

The Society of CHOVEVI ZION appeals to all well-wishers of Israel to help this work. Every Jew and every Christian ought to assist this Society to find a permanent home for the outcasts of Israel in the land which is dear to both alike.

We want help to found a home for our people in a land where they can return to the service of the soil and be free from the ever-haunting dread of persecution. To all who believe that Israel's destiny is indissolubly bound up with the land hallowed by the history of a glorious past and the promise of a greater future, and also to those whose feelings of humanity prompt them to succour the oppressed, we appeal to help us to forward this great undertaking.

Donations can be sent to, and all information obtained from:—

E. H. D'AVIGNOR, Esq., B.A., Chief, 35, Lancaster Gate, W.; JOSEPH PRAG, Esq., Vice-Chief, 120, Fore-street, E.C.; S. MONTAGU, Esq., M.P., Chief Treas., 60, Old Broad-street, E.C.; Capt. H. LEWIS-BARNED, Chief Sec., 10, Cambridge-square, W.; Dr. S. A. HIRSCH, Secretary, 11, Bevis Marks, E.C.

Offices of the Association—11, BEVIS MARKS, E.C.

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THE NINETY-FOURTH
ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL

Will be held at

THE FREEMASONS' TAVERN, LONDON, W.C.,
On WEDNESDAY, 29TH JUNE, 1892,

UNDER THE DISTINGUISHED PRESIDENCY OF
THE RIGHT HON. SIR MICHAEL E. HICKS-BEACH,
Bart., M.P., Past Grand Warden, and R.W. Prov.
Grand Master for Gloucestershire.

Dinner on Table at 6.30 precisely.—Evening Dress.

Brethren to appear in full Masonic Craft Clothing.

On this occasion the Ladies will Dine with the Brethren.

Tickets: LADIES 10s. 6d., BRETHREN £1 1s.; may be obtained from the Stewards or at the Office. Early application is requested.

Musical Arrangements under the direction of Bro. E. P. Delevanti.

By Order,

J. MORRISON MCLEOD,

P.P.S.G.W. Derbys., V.-Pres. and Sec. of Inst.,
Hon. Secretary Board of Stewards.

6, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.,

2nd June, 1892.

The services of Brethren and Ladies as Stewards are earnestly solicited, and will be gratefully acknowledged.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

Saturday, 25th inst., being ex-Pupils' Day, all ex-Pupils able to visit the Institution on that day will be heartily welcomed by the Committee.

ROYAL LONDON OPHTHALMIC HOSPITAL,

BLOMFIELD STREET, MOORFIELDS, E.C.

The Committee earnestly appeal to the Benevolent for Help to raise

A SPECIAL FUND TO REBUILD

This most necessary Hospital.

How immensely the Hospital is appreciated may be seen from the following figures for the past year:—

New Out-Patients treated, 25,558.
In-Patients „ 1,892.

The total attendances of Out-Patients were 109,756, and 2126 operations were performed, in many instances restoring their sight to those who had been deprived of it.

All Patients are admitted free and without letters of recommendation, necessity being the one credential.

The necessity for the erection of a New Building is most urgent, as the accommodation at present is totally inadequate to the ever-increasing calls upon its resources.

Contributions to the Building Fund and Annual Subscriptions will be thankfully received by JOHN DEACON, Esq., Treasurer and Trustee at the banking house of Messrs. WILLIAMS, DEACON, and Co., 20, Birchin-lane, and at the Hospital by

ROBERT J. NEWSTEAD,
Secretary.

ORDER of the SECRET MONITOR.

GRAND FESTIVAL, 1892.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the GRAND FESTIVAL of the ORDER will be held at MARK MASONS' HALL, GREAT QUEEN STREET, W.C., on

WEDNESDAY, 22ND JUNE, 1892,

At Five o'clock precisely,

WHEN

M. WORTHY BRO. DR. ISSACHAR ZACHARIE
Will be re-installed as Grand Supreme Ruler for the Year, AND WHEN

M. WORTHY BRO. EDWARD LETCHWORTH,
Grand Secretary of Craft Masonry,
Will be installed as a Past Grand Supreme Ruler of the Order.

AT THE SAME TIME

The other GRAND OFFICERS and GRAND STEWARDS for the Year will be invested and proclaimed.

All Princes of the Order are entitled to be present, and all Bro. Secret Monitors are invited on this important occasion.

Brethren belonging to a foreign jurisdiction, and desiring to be present, should apply to

Bro. W. J. SPRATLING,
Grand Recorder,
74, Wickham Road, Brockley, S.E.

The Grand Festival will be followed by a BANQUET at the Holborn Restaurant, for which Tickets (price One Guinea each, inclusive) may be obtained of the Grand Stewards attached to the various Conclaves, or of the Grand Recorder.

ROYAL ORDER OF SCOTLAND.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF LONDON AND METROPOLITAN COUNTIES.

The Knight Companions will meet in Council at 33, GOLDEN SQUARE, W., on WEDNESDAY, the 22nd day of JUNE, 1892, at 5 p.m. precisely, where W. Bro. the EARL OF EUSTON will be installed as Prov. Grand Master by M.W. Bro. the EARL OF HADDINGTON, M.W. Dep. G.M. and Governor of the Order, and the Dep. Prov. G.M. desires the attendance of all duly qualified Brethren.

Names and Addresses of Candidates, with the name and number of Craft Lodge and R.A. Chapter, must be sent to me not later than SATURDAY, the 18th June, 1892.

The ANNUAL BANQUET will be held at the CAFE ROYAL, Regent-street, at 8 p.m. precisely.

By order.

FRANK RICHARDSON,

28, Golden-square, W., Prov. Grand Secretary,
27th May, 1892.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF MIDDLESEX.

W. BRO. RAYMOND H. THRUPP, P.A.G.D.C.,
Deputy Provincial Grand Master in charge.

THE ANNUAL MEETING

WILL BE HELD AT

THE PARISH ROOM, TEDDINGTON,

ON SATURDAY, JUNE 25th,

At Half-past Three o'clock p.m. punctually.

The Parish Room is about seven minutes' walk from Teddington Station in the direction of the river, and adjoins the New Parish Church.

A DINNER (Cold) will take place at the TOWN HALL (opposite the Clarence Hotel and close to the Railway Station), immediately after the Provincial Grand Lodge.

TICKETS, 6s. each (exclusive of Wine).

Brethren intending to dine must apply for Tickets to Brother R. W. FORGE, Twickenham (who has kindly undertaken this matter), not later than JUNE 21st, and to insure the comfort of those Brethren who have obtained Tickets, none can be issued after that date, and covers will only be laid for the number applied for. This arrangement will be rigidly observed, and no one will be able to obtain Tickets at the Meeting. No Ticket will be sent unless a Remittance accompanies the application.

The Town Hall affords ample accommodation for a large number, and arrangements have been made for efficient attendance.

Trains leave Waterloo for Teddington at 2.5 (South Station), 2.20 (North Station).

Trains leave Teddington for Waterloo at 8.14, 8.31, 8.59, 9.12, 9.39, 10.22.

As the Trains on Saturdays are greatly crowded, Brethren are advised to start as early as possible.

In consequence of the much lamented death of R.W. Bro. Col. Sir Francis Burdett, Bart., J.P., P.G.W., Prov. Grand Master of Middlesex, the Brethren will appear in Masonic mourning.

By command of the

R.W. Deputy Provincial Grand Master in charge.

HOWARD H. ROOM, P.M.,

Prov. Grand Secretary.

GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY.

SUMMER HOLIDAY EXCURSIONS.

MONDAY, JUNE 20th, for 4 days, to NEWCASTLE (Races), Northallerton, Richmond, Darlington, and Durham, from LONDON. Returning June 23rd.

FRIDAY, JUNE 24th, from LONDON for 11 days to Northallerton, Darlington, Newcastle, Richmond, Durham, Berwick, Edinburgh, and Glasgow, returning July 4th; and for 5 or 11 days to Stirling, Perth, Dundee, Montrose, Aberdeen, Inverness, &c. Returning June 28th or July 4th.

SATURDAY, JUNE 25th, from LONDON for 3 or 6 days to Spalding, Sleaford, Gainsboro', Lincoln, Nottingham, Derby, Burton, Tutbury, Stoke, Newark, Manchester, Stockport, Southport, Liverpool, Huddersfield, Hull, York, Scarborough, Whitby, Bridlington, Darlington, Durham, Newcastle, &c. Returning June 27th or 30th.

EVERY SATURDAY AFTERNOON to ST. ALBANS, WHEATHAMPSTEAD, and Harpenden, from Moorgate-street, 2.15 p.m., Aldersgate, 2.17, Farringdon, 2.19, King's Cross (G.N.), 2.40, Finsbury Park, 2.45.

For further particulars, see bills, which can be obtained at Company's Stations and Town Parcels Receiving Offices; at the Offices of Swan and Leach, 3, Charing Cross, and 32, Piccadilly Circus; at the Army and Navy Stores, 105, Victoria-street, S.W.; and of William Whiteley, 151, Queen's-road, Bayswater.

HENRY OAKLEY, General Manager.

King's Cross, June, 1892.

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 The R.W. Bro. Sir ALBERT W. WOODS (Garter), P.G. Warden.
 CHAIRMAN.
 The V.W. Bro. THOMAS FENN, Pres. B. of G.P.
 TREASURER.
 The V.W. Bro. ROBERT GREY, Pres. B. of B.
 SECRETARY.
 The V.W. Bro. FRANK RICHARDSON, P.G.D.
 Cheques to be sent to the Treasurer, Bro. ROBERT GREY, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C.
 The next meeting of the Committee will be held here on MONDAY, 4th July, at FIVE o'clock, of which this is to be taken as notice.
 FRANK RICHARDSON,
 Freemasons' Hall,
 3rd May, 1892. Secretary.

TOWN HALL, WESTMINSTER, FRIDAY, JUNE 24, 1892.

"LORDS AND COMMONS"
 (From the Press Gallery).

An Entertainment by the well-known Political Caricaturist, MR. F. CARRUTHERS GOULD, WILL BE GIVEN IN AID OF THE HENWOOD THOMAS TESTIMONIAL FUND, ON FRIDAY EVENING, JUNE 24, NEXT.
 Mr. B. C. MOLLOY, M.P., in the Chair.

The Lecture will be freely illustrated with Caricature Portraits, shown by the Oxy-hydrogen Light.
 Doors open at 7.30 p.m. Lecture at 8 p.m.
 TICKETS, 5s. and 2s. 6d. each, may be obtained of the Hon. Secretary, Mr. TREGASKIS, 232, High Holborn.

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THE EVOLUTION OF SYMBOLIC MASONRY.

By BRO. JAMES STEVENS, P.M., P.Z.,
 Mem. C.C. Quatuor Coronati Lodge, No. 2076, &c.,

"This little brochure is a most welcome and opportune addition to the literature of the Craft; the treatise is useful in many ways, and is the best thing of the kind extant, its handy size and generally trustworthy character being special recommendations."—*Freemason.*

By POST FROM THE AUTHOR ONLY.—Address EVELYN, CATFORD, S.E.

GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.

SUMMER EXCURSIONS.

On SATURDAYS, JUNE 11, 18, and 25, SPECIAL FAST EXCURSIONS, for 3, 10, or 17 days, will leave PADDINGTON STATION at 7.45 a.m. to TAUNTON, TIVERTON, EXETER, Barnstaple, Torquay, Dartmouth, PLYMOUTH, Newquay, Truro, Falmouth, St. Ives, PENZANCE, &c., and at 1.5 p.m. to BATH, BRISTOL, Weston-Super-Mare, TROWBRIDGE, Frome, YEovil, Bridport, Dorchester, WEYMOUTH (for the CHANNEL ISLANDS, &c.)

Tickets and Bills may be obtained at the Company's Stations and Receiving Offices.
 H.Y. LAMBERT, General Manager.

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DEALERS IN ANTIQUE PLATE & JEWELLERY.
 6, SERLE STREET, LINCOLN'S INN,
 446, OXFORD STREET, NEAR ORCHARD STREET.

The *Freemason* of May 16th, 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."

To Correspondents.

The following communications amongst others unavoidably stand over:
 CRAFT LODGES.—Peace and Harmony, No. 199; Gresham, No. 869; Strawberry Hill, No. 946; Rose, No. 1622; Hendon, No. 2206; St. Nicholas, No. 2259; and Doric, No. 2359.
 ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER.—Duke of Connaught Chapter, No. 1524.
 Provincial Grand Lodge of Lincolnshire—Centenary Celebration.



SATURDAY, JUNE 18, 1892.

Masonic Notes.

The net addition to the Board of Stewards for the approaching Boys' School Festival since our last week's report is a clear dozen, of which London is benefited to the extent of one-third, and the Provinces by two-thirds. One more has been added to the array of represented Provinces, while the London lodge list is strengthened by five lodges. We trust this means a substantial addition to the total forthcoming on the appointed day.

Bro. George Everett, Past G. Treasurer, and the Treasurer of the Athletic Sports of "Our Boys," is most anxious that a good number of brethren, with their lady and other friends, should attend the gathering at Kempton Park on Saturday, the 25th instant. Arrangements of a special nature have been made with the railway company and caterers, &c. A good band has been engaged, and one and all of the friends of the Institution are invited to see "Our Boys" at play. Particulars of the arrangements, invitation cards, &c., may be obtained from Bro. McLeod, the Secretary of the Institution, at 6, Freemasons' Hall. Notwithstanding that a large number of invitations have been issued, it is possible that some friends of the Institution have been overlooked, in that case it is hoped that a reminder may be sent to the Secretary.

The Earl of Haddington, Most Worshipful Grand Master of Scotland, and his Grand Officers, have accepted invitations for Thursday, the 23rd inst., to the Scots Lodge, No. 2319, which will then hold a meeting at the Scottish Corporation Hall, London.

The Committee of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls will be "At Home" on Saturday, the 25th inst., to receive and heartily welcome all ex-pupils, and we trust those who are within measurable distance of Battersea Rise on that occasion will avail themselves of the invitation.

The Royal Masonic Institution for Girls well deserves the notice which is being so freely bestowed upon it by illustrious personages and civic functionaries of exalted rank. Last year the Princess Mary Adelaide, Duchess of Teck, and her daughter honoured the School with their presence, and they bestowed the highest encomiums on the arrangements made by the School authorities, and were gratified by the evidence the children themselves afforded of the care bestowed upon them. Bro. Sir Joseph Savory, Bart., when Lord Mayor, likewise exhibited his regard for the School by entertaining the children at the Mansion House, and now Bro. Lord Mayor Evans, accompanied by the Lady Mayoress and the Sheriffs, has followed the example set by his predecessors in office and added his commendations to those they so liberally and so cordially uttered. On Saturday last he paid the School a visit of state, and witnessing with equal pleasure what they had witnessed, was to the full as generous in recognising the merits of the Institution. May many similar visits be paid in future years, and may they always succeed in eliciting similar encomiums!

His Royal Highness the M.W. Grand Master has given his sanction to the formation of a literary and scientific lodge, to be called the Minerva Lodge, No. 2433, to meet on the first Friday during the winter months in the Masonic Chambers, Birkenhead. The lodge will be on the model of the Quatuor Coronati, with which it will be associated, a distinctive feature being the reading and discussion of papers on Masonic history and archaeology. A number of influential brethren from both sides of the Mersey are amongst the founders, and from the large support it is receiving it gives every promise of being a great success. The first principal officers recommended are Bros. Squire Chapman, P.P.G.D., as W.M.; Dr. Arthur Samuels, P.P.G.D., as S.W.; and Henry Buxton Browne, P.P.G.D., as J.W.

The annual festival of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Kent will be held at the Granville Hotel, Ramsgate, on Friday, the 24th inst., under the banners of the Royal Navy Lodge, No. 429, and the Lewises Lodge, No. 1209.

In our report of the proceedings at the Provincial Grand Lodge of Bedfordshire last week, we inadvertently omitted the name of the Grand Secretary, Bro. E. Letchworth, from the list of Grand Officers present.

Bro. T. W. Tew, J.P., Provincial Grand Master of West Yorkshire, whose long and severe illness has caused universal grief and anxiety amongst his numerous friends, Masonic and otherwise, is, we are rejoiced to say, so far improved in health that he is able to leave Carleton Grange, Pontefract, for change of air and scene. We sincerely hope that a sojourn of some weeks at Southport will restore him to health, and enable him to appear again amongst his West Yorkshire brethren, whose sympathy with their beloved Provincial Grand Master has been so generally shown.

The Hertford Lodge, No. 403, has recently sustained a great loss by the death of its senior member and Past Master, Bro. Stephen Austin, of whose career we gave a short account a fortnight since, and who was initiated within its walls on the 19th October, 1829, about six weeks after the lodge itself—which occupies the premier place on the roll of the Province of Hertfordshire—was consecrated. During the earlier part of his career, Bro. Austin occupied successively some of the minor offices, but it was not till some 15 years after his initiation that he set himself steadily in the road to become W.M. He was elected and installed W.M. towards the close of the year 1847, and in November, 1878, when the lodge was entering upon the jubilee year of its constitution, and he on the jubilee year of his connection with Freemasonry, the brethren again elected him to the chair, and in October of the year following he had the honour of presiding at the jubilee banquet of the Hertford Lodge.

His last appearance in connection with any Masonic function was at the annual meeting at Hertford in July, 1891, of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Herts, when he took his place in a bath chair in the procession which accompanied the Provincial Grand Master on his way to lay the foundation-stone of a new Parish Hall, his presence at the ceremony being the subject of hearty congratulation by his brother Masons not only of the Hertford, but likewise of the other lodges in the Province.

But the great feature about our late brother's connection with Masonry lies in the fact that from the date of his initiation in October, 1829, till the day of his death only a short while since, Bro. Austin remained a subscribing member of his mother lodge. Other brethren have been members of the Craft for a longer period—there is indeed still living a Past Grand Chaplain of England (Bro. the Rev. Sir J. Warren Hayes, Bart.), who was initiated in the Apollo University Lodge, No. 357, Oxford, in 1819, the year that lodge was consecrated. But the cases on record are few in which a brother has remained from first to last—and that, too, for a period of nearly 63 years—a member of one and the same lodge.

It is also worthy of note that Bro. Austin's career as a Mason was very nearly coeval with the career of Masonry in Hertfordshire during the present century. When he was a young man of 25 years there was not a single lodge in Hertfordshire. There was a Provincial Grand Master, the late Bro. George D. Harvey, who was appointed in 1803, in succession to Bro. Forssteen, but his office was a sinecure. Towards the close of 1829 the present Hertford and Watford lodges

were founded, and now the Province contains 21 lodges, to say nothing of its Royal Arch chapters, Mark lodges, &c. The death of so venerable a brother is, as we have said, a great loss, and will be felt as such by all Hertfordshire Masons.

We are glad to hear that the position of Freemasonry in the State of Louisiana is far more hopeful just now than it has been for some time past. Of the 247 lodges which have at different times been warranted, only 118 remain on the roll, but the statistical reports made at the annual meeting held in New Orleans in February last show a total membership of 4590, and a fairly good financial position. Bro. Charles F. Buck was re-elected Grand Master for the ensuing 12 months, and Bro. Richard Lambert Grand Secretary.

Masonry appears to be in a flourishing state in Florida. The latest statistics show a muster-roll of 129 lodges and an aggregate membership of 3910, while the receipts of Grand Lodge during the past year exceeded the disbursements by about \$900. At the annual meeting in Jacksonville on the 19th-21st January last, at which no less than 108 lodges were represented, Bro. Angus Paterson was re-elected Grand Master, and Bro. de Witt C. Dawkins Grand Secretary.

Correspondence.

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

LODGE RETURNS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

In the month of March in each year Secretaries of Masonic lodges are furnished with a printed form, to be filled in, signed by the Master and Secretary of the lodge, and transmitted to the Clerk of the Peace of the county in which the lodge is situated before the 25th of March. The form is prescribed by 39 Geo. III., cap. 79. May I ask, is there any penalty attaching to the non-compliance with this instruction? or any inconvenience arising from its non-observance? I enclose my card.—Yours fraternally,
June 8th. K.



FREEMASONRY IN SHROPSHIRE.

Bro. Alexander Graham (barrister-at-law, Shrewsbury) is the author of "A History of Freemasonry in the Province of Shropshire and of the Salopian Lodge, 262," and, though his first attempt of the kind, he has succeeded in doing full justice to the subject, and has written one of the best Masonic histories extant. Considering the paucity of materials and difficulties peculiar to the province, Bro. Graham may be heartily and most sincerely congratulated on the publication of his able and handsomely got up volume, which undoubtedly is a credit, both Masonically and typographically, to all concerned. The obscurity "that wraps up as with a veil" the history of the Craft in Shropshire during the last century, extends also to the first half of the present century, though not to such an extent, but fortunately Bro. Graham's lodge, No. 262, throws a brilliant light where otherwise darkness would reign supreme; the records of that lodge being in evidence from 1788, and those of other lodges are also made use of so as to present a full account of the local Craft for over 100 years. Shropshire is one of the oldest provinces in England, dating, as it does, from the year 1731. As the author points out in this very interesting volume, it is a question how far a Provincial Grand Lodge was really formed, according to modern notions either at this period or later on in 1774, when Bro. George Durant was appointed to that office, about whom several curious particulars are duly noted. It appears to us that Bro. Graham has established his claim that Sir Robert de Cornwall, Bart., should also be included in the roll of Provincial Grand Masters for his province, though his name only occurs for North Wales in the official Grand Lodge Calendar; not that he did much as a provincial ruler, but clearly that dignity held office for and in several provinces, including Salop. The work includes complete histories, as far as attainable, of all the present and extinct lodges in the county based upon official documents or from official sources, and conflicting testimony has been carefully sifted by the author and harmonised as far as possible, so that the history is reliable and exhaustive, according to circumstances have permitted. Bro. Graham very gracefully alludes to the help he received in the compilation of the volume from Bros. Hughan and Sadler, and especially to Bro. Hughan for "the introduction he has so kindly written, and which adds greatly to the value of my book, and will, I am sure, be much appreciated." Bro. Hughan's duty as the author of the introduction was not an easy one, seeing that Bro. Graham, as he says, "has managed to obtain so many facts concerning Freemasonry in Shropshire, and, moreover, has arranged them so well, that he has left nothing to be done." As a matter of fact, however, it will be seen that the veteran Masonic writer has contrived to introduce a number of interesting particulars into his portion of the volume. Only a few copies remain for sale at twelve shillings and sixpence each, say a dozen, owing to the small edition being so rapidly subscribed for. The members of Bro. Graham's province are much indebted to their able historian, and will be pleased to possess a capital portrait of their esteemed Prov. G.M., being the frontispiece to the History.



Craft Masonry.

METROPOLITAN MEETINGS.

Lodge of Amity (No. 171).—The installation meeting of this old centenary lodge, originally consecrated and held at Holywell-road, Shoreditch, was held on Tuesday, the 7th inst., at the Ship Hotel, Greenwich, under the presidency of Bro. Frederick George Sison Ham, the Master. The work before the lodge was heavy, there being four passings and three initiations to be performed, besides other business which necessitated discussion. The W.M. was well supported both by members and visitors. Among the former were Bros. Major Francis W. Frigout, I.P.M.; E. L. Gooding, P.M., Treas.; J. R. Tannahill, P.M., Sec.; Thomas Loring, P.M.; A. A. Frigout, P.M.; and E. Wendover, P.M. Among the visitors were Bros. Fredk. Carr, P.M. 1607; W. E. Wild, 1185; Edwin George, P.M. 1489; A. H. Carter, 144; H. Massey, 160, P.M. 619 and 1928; C. H. Cox, I.P.M. 1839; A. J. Neale, 228; Arthur W. Rolfe, 2147; F. W. Stephens, J.D. 1348; C. M. Syder, P.M. 79; H. T. Thompson, P.M. 742; Robert J. Harris, P.M. 1135; H. A. Boundon, P.M. 1718; W. J. Newell, P.M. 73; Fred. Hunter, 1879; G. Hayward, 936; F. Sadler Wood, P.M. 2029; G. B. Carlton, 1297; and Vivian Orchard, P.M. 79.

The Worshipful Master, with the assistance of accomplished Deacons and Past Masters, passed Bros. A. W. Graves, John Banks, H. L. Barfoot, and William Crawford, and after ballot duly and successfully taken, initiated Dr. Frederick John Smith, Dr. William Henry Gimblett, and Mr. David Daniel Dennis. Bro. David Keith Caithness, 299 (S.C.), was elected a joining member. On the motion of Bro. Major F. W. Frigout, P.M., seconded by Bro. Thomas Loring, P.M., a Past Master's jewel was voted to Bro. Ham, W.M., and presented to him by Bro. Major Frigout. After some discussion, the brethren, on the motion of Bro. Wheeler Brown, W.M. elect, resolved unanimously to take the steps required by the Book of Constitutions for the removal of the lodge to a more central position than its present habitation, the personnel of the lodge having materially changed, and a large majority of the members not being resident in the locality. The Worshipful Master afterwards installed Bro. Dr. F. Wheeler Brown as W.M. The following is a list of his officers for the year: Bros. F. G. S. Ham, I.P.M.; G. P. Carter, S.W.; H. G. Harper, J.W.; G. T. Gooding, P.M., Treas.; Thomas Loring, P.M., Sec.; N. J. Stanger, S.D.; J. W. Taylor, J.D.; C. O. Pook, I.G.; Sidney Stanger, D.C.; A. A. Frigout, P.M., Steward; E. L. Pembroke, Hon. Org.; and R. A. Goddard, P.M., Tyler. The brethren afterwards most cordially elected Bro. Joseph Clever, P.M., who had removed to Brighton, an honorary member of the lodge.

There being no other business before the brethren, the lodge was closed, and the labours of the evening were succeeded by one of those pretty banquets for which the Ship management is famous.

The usual toasts followed. The W.M., in a very few words proposed the first three toasts of the evening—"The Queen and the Craft," "The M.W.G.M.," and "The M.W. Pro G.M., the Dep. G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past."

Interspersed with these toasts were sung the National Anthem, by Bro. R. Harris; "God bless the Prince of Wales," by Bro. Thomas Loring, P.M. and Secretary; and "The gallant Salamander," by Bro. Harris, each of these productions being charmingly rendered by the executants, and winning rapturous applause.

Bro. F. G. S. Ham, I.P.M., proposed "The Worshipful Master," and in doing so said he was sure all the brethren would join with him in receiving the toast with enthusiasm. All the brethren had no doubt observed that Bro. Wheeler Brown was a go-ahead Master, for he had already brought into the lodge a large number of members—a larger number indeed than it had had for many years. The brethren must wish success to such a Master, and thank him for increasing their numbers. He hoped that the year of Bro. Wheeler Brown would be a great success.

The Worshipful Master, in reply, said five years ago he was initiated in the Lodge of Amity, and he little thought then that it would be his good fortune to be in the chair of the lodge so soon. He could consider himself but a boy in Masonry, but at the same time he was going to try to do the best he could for the lodge. He had already introduced into the lodge a few of his friends, and he had still some more who wanted to come in, but they were holding back for the simple reason that the meeting place was so far away from the centre of London in which they lived. It was his wish and anxiety to move the lodge to a more central position, because he believed his friends would come and make the lodge very strong indeed. He felt that it would be a disgrace if they did not try and make this very old lodge, the members of which wore a centenary jewel, larger in numbers than it was now. At the same time it was his duty to raise the tone of the lodge. He was very much obliged to the brethren for the kind way in which they had drunk his health.

The Worshipful Master next proposed "The Initiates," without whom any lodge would have to die of inanition. During the present year the Amity Lodge had had a good sprinkling of initiates, and from what the brethren had heard that night in the lodge, they would see there were more to come. He could assure the initiates there was nothing to prevent their getting on in Masonry. If they wanted to occupy the position he now occupied they could easily do so, and he hoped they would try to do so.

Each of the Initiates responded. The Worshipful Master next proposed "The Visitors," and coupled with the toast the names of Bros. Frederick Carr, 1607, and Sadler Wood.

Bro. Carr stated, in reply, that he had thoroughly enjoyed himself. He had taken some little interest in Freemasonry, and it had been a great pleasure to him to find the Amity Lodge had such a W.M. as it had that evening. He knew of no man more capable of doing the work of Masonry

than Bro. Wheeler Brown. He hoped the brethren would keep the W.M. well employed during his year of office, and at the end of his term the brethren would be grateful to him as the W.M. of the lodge and as the presiding officer at the table.

Bro. Sadler Wood said it was not the first time he had had the pleasure and privilege of responding in that lodge on behalf of the visitors. That evening the visitors had had a great treat in lodge, and a more congenial treat at the banquet table. But there were other things to be considered. In days gone by perhaps the lodge was not always prosperous, but the present W.M. and other indefatigable members had raised it to prosperity, and from what he saw of it it seemed to be going on in such a way that there would be no difficulty in obtaining the approval of the Grand Master to a removal of its meeting place. He hoped the lodge would be successful, and in that sentiment he was sure he had the hearty wishes of all the visitors.

The W.M. proposed "The Masonic Charities," and said he intended during his year to go up as Steward for the Old People. He trusted the brethren would enable him to take up a good list, and as the Festival did not take place till next February there was plenty of time for them to do so.

The W.M. next gave "The Installing Master and the Past Masters," to which Bros. Sison Ham, I.P.M., and Major Frigout responded. The latter brother, in the course of his observations, said that as an old member of the lodge of 10 years' standing, he thought he might take credit during his membership of feeling some interest in the lodge and of having done something for it. He was exceedingly glad to find that they had had, and were likely to have many recruits; but with all deference and humility, he would remind members of this lodge and of other lodges of a remark made by the late Grand Secretary, who said: "I desire to see Masonry flourish, but I would impress upon the members of private lodges to be very careful about the selection of members," and he went on to say that Masonry was not a community like the Oddfellows and Foresters, and that Masons ought to be careful, when they elected members, to make due enquiries. When he first became a member of the Amity Lodge it was increasing rapidly, but it afterwards more rapidly decreased. He did not think it would do so in the future.

Bro. Thomas Loring, P.M., Secretary, replied to the toast of "The Treasurer and Secretary" in the absence of the Treasurer. He said he did not accept the collar of Secretary without pressure and due consideration. He hoped the members would assist him in carrying out his duties, and he would endeavour to the utmost to give satisfaction. He looked round to the Past Masters in case he should need help, but it should not be his fault if a single thing was neglected.

Bros. Pook, I.G., and Pembroke, Org., replied to the toast of "The Officers," and the Tyler's toast closed a charming evening's entertainment.

The singing and recitations were given by Bros. F. Stephens, Neale, R. Harris, Charles Randolph, and Thomas Loring, P.M., and displayed some excellent bass and tenor voices, which were highly appreciated.

John Hervey Lodge (No. 1260).—The June meeting of this lodge was held on the 5th instant at Freemasons' Hall. Present: Bros. Walter C. Fox, W.M.; Walter F. Potter, I.P.M.; F. Varley, S.W.; E. G. Packman, J.W.; J. Brockett Sorrell, P.M., Treas.; J. R. Reep, Sec.; James Evans, S.D.; G. Collins, Asst. Org.; Dr. Jabez Hogg, P.M., P.G.D.; Major J. Heaton, P.M.; S. H. Baker, P.M.; F. Dangerfield, P.M.; Serre, Charlton, and a large number of brethren and visitors.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the W.M. presented Bro. W. F. Potter, the I.P.M., with the Past Master's jewel, he having been unavoidably absent on the installation meeting. Bro. Serre was then passed to the Second Degree, and Mr. T. Charlton was afterwards duly initiated, the ceremonies in each case being ably rendered by the W.M. in a very impressive manner. After some further business had been transacted, the W.M. rose, and, in tones of deep emotion, referred to the sudden death since the last meeting of Bro. Frank Taylor, C.C., P.M., proposing at the same time a vote of condolence to the widow and family of the deceased. He said Bro. Taylor had endeared himself to all the members of the lodge, and, in fact, to all who knew him, while his services in Freemasonry, and particularly to the lodge, would keep his memory green for a long time to come. Bro. Baker, P.M., followed with some further remarks, stating that the late brother was one of his oldest and closest friends, and a man whose loss would be widely felt and deeply deplored. Expressions which received the sorrowful approval of all present, the Secretary being directed to convey to the widow the condolences of the lodge. After this mournful matter had been disposed of and a fitting interval had elapsed, the W.M. rose and referred to a matter of satisfaction to himself, and to what he felt would be also one of satisfaction to the lodge, viz.—the presentation to Bro. Dr. Jabez Hogg, P.G.D., of a testimonial on his retirement from the duties of the Treasurership of the lodge, services which he had ably and faithfully rendered for nearly a quarter of a century. The testimonial took the form of a large and massive silver salver, and the W.M., in presenting it, read the following inscription: "Presented to P.M. Dr. Jabez Hogg, P.G.D., and one of the founders of the John Hervey Lodge of Freemasons, No. 1260, by the members of the lodge, as a mark of their affectionate esteem for him and to testify their appreciation of the services rendered by him for so many years as the Treasurer of the lodge." Bro. Dr. Hogg, who was visibly touched by the kindly and fraternal remarks of the W.M., then rose and said: "W.M. and Brethren,—I am unable to find words to give expression to the sincere and heartfelt thanks I owe to you for this further mark of your favour and affection, and your appreciation of any services I have endeavoured to render to the John Hervey Lodge, and which have simply been that of a father to the child of his creation. It is true that those services have now extended over the period of manhood (23 years) during 21 of which I have by your good will filled the important post of Treasurer of the lodge, and the duties of which I have discharged to the best of my ability. To find I have given you satisfaction is in itself a sufficient reward; but even more, have they not already met with full acknowledgment? The portrait that hangs on the wall of the lodge testifies to the affection and regard heretofore extended to me by one and all the brethren, and I ask you to permit the picture

to occupy its niche in remembrance of one of the most devoted founders of the John Hervey Lodge. The gift you offer for my acceptance to-night will be even more cherished by me, inasmuch that it will be hereafter handed down to my children as a precious heirloom, ever reminding them of the great respect in which their ancestor was held by the brethren of the John Hervey Lodge, a united band of Masons striving to attain happiness in this life, and conferring a greater amount of happiness on others. I am indeed grateful to you, W.M. and brethren, at the same time I cannot forget how much I owe to those who have for so many years worked heartily with me to place the lodge in its present position in the Craft. I am thankful to the G.A.O.T.U. for sparing me to see not only the success which has attended our efforts, but also to see that losses sustained in the ordinary course of events are certain to be repaired by the energetic and earnest band of younger brethren who are determined to maintain the reputation of the lodge.

Some matters relating to the Benevolent Fund, and cases of distress having been dealt with, the lodge was closed, the W.M. intimating that as a tribute of respect to the memory of the late lamented Bro. Taylor, the usual banquet would on this occasion be postponed.

Farringdon Without Lodge (No. 1745).

—This lodge held its installation meeting on the 30th ult. Among those present were Bros. N. Prower, M.A., W.M.; J. Young, P.M., acting S.W.; E. Schultz, P.M., acting J.W.; H. J. Lardner, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br., Treas.; W. H. Jackson, P.M., Sec.; P. N. Lardner, S.D.; H. Herbert, J.D.; C. Bachoffner, I.G.; Capt. T. C. Walls, P.M., P.P.G.W., D.C., W.M. elect; J. W. Hinton, Mus. Doc., Asst. Org.; T. Simpson, P.M.; G. Herbert, P.M.; and G. Manners, C.C., F.S.A., P.M. Amongst the visitors were Bros. T. Fenn, P.B.G.P.; Baron de Ferrieres, P.G.D.; Major W. B. Williamson, J.P., P.P.S.G.W.; T. A. Woodbridge, C.C., P.P.G.R.; H. T. Bing, P.P.G.D.; W. Maple, P.P.G.D.; S. Cochrane, P.M.; W. Martin, P.M. 879; C. Gray, P.M. 1385; H. H. Shirley, M.A., P.M. 1491; E. Burrett Lane, Mus. Doc., P.M. 1765; Weinel, P.M. 1828; T. H. Tilton, P.M. 2191; J. Cummings, 733; W. J. Crough, 733; Newell, 860; T. Wildash, C.C., 942; J. Adam, 1189; Rev. P. O. Ashby, M.A., 1523; Coles, 1744; Hedley Carus, 1891; Armfield, 2395; and C. E. Roraback, 55, U.S.A.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken on behalf of Bros. T. A. Woodbridge, C.C., P.M. 1589, &c., and W. Lucas as joining members. Bro. Chapman was then raised to the Third Degree. The W.M. having vacated the chair in favour of Bro. H. J. Lardner, P.M., that brother impressively installed Bro. Capt. T. C. Walls as W.M., assisted by Bros. Young, P.M., as S.W.; E. Schultz, P.M., as J.W.; and G. Herbert, P.M., as I.G. The officers were appointed and invested as follows: Bros. P. N. Lardner, S.W.; H. Herbert, J.W.; H. J. Lardner, P.M., Treas.; W. H. Jackson, P.M., Sec.; C. Bachoffner, S.D.; Woodhill, J.D.; S. Shapcott, I.G.; Murphy, D.C.; C. B. Brown, A.D.C.; Dr. E. M. Lott, Mus. Doc., P.G. Org. England, Org.; J. W. Hinton, M.A., Mus. Doc., Asst. Org.; J. Evans, W. R. Witt, H. Harden, and J. D. Webb, Stwds.; and E. Mallett, P.M. 1623, Tyler. A vote of thanks was passed to the Installing Officer. Bro. N. Prower, I.P.M., was presented with a handsome Past Master's jewel. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Bros. Col. Sir Francis Burdett, P.G.M. Middx.; H. B. Marshall, C.C., P.G. Treas.; Sir John B. Monckton, P.G.W.; E. Terry, P.G. Treas.; George Everett, P.G. Treas.; E. Letchworth, G.S.; F. A. Philbrick, O.C., G.R.; Dr. Lott, P.G. Org.; W. Lake, P.P.G.R.; Egbert Roberts, P.P.G. Org.; George Read, P.M.; W. P. Treloar, C.C., B. Turner, P.M., C.C., and many others.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet. The menu card was headed, "Read o'er this, and then to dinner with what appetite you have," and finished with "Serenity full, the epicure would say—Fate cannot harm me: I have dined to-day." The Treasurer and Secretary had devoted a great deal of time and trouble to make this meeting a success out of compliment to the W.M., the founder of the lodge and its first Junior Warden, and their efforts were crowned with success.

Upon the removal of the cloth, the usual toasts were given. The W.M. first called the attention of the brethren to the trite quotation that headed the toast list ("Words once spoken can never be recalled").

"The Queen and the Craft" ("Heaven defend your Majesty") having been duly honoured, "The M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," followed. ("Dear to thy land and ours, a Prince indeed.")

In giving the toast of "The Pro G.M., Dep. G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," the W.M. congratulated the lodge upon being honoured by the presence that day of two very distinguished members of Grand Lodge, namely, Bros. Fenn and Baron de Ferrieres. He regretted exceedingly that other eminent Masons had been prevented by prior engagements from attending. He was very grieved that a sudden attack of illness had also caused Bro. Sir Francis Burdett's absence. He had received a letter only that day from the genial Provincial Grand Master of Middlesex regretting that illness kept him from attending the lodge.

Bro. T. Fenn replied to the toast in a happy vein, as did Bro. Baron de Ferrieres also.

The I.P.M. proposed "The Health of the W.M." in most cordial terms.

The W.M. having replied, gave "The Immediate Past Master," and framed his speech on the text on the toast list ("A kinder gentleman treads not the earth").

Bro. Prower having responded, "The Masonic Institutions" came next. ("The drying up of a single tear has more of honest fame, than shedding seas of gore.") The W.M. said that he had to thank the brethren who had been so good as to embellish the list of toasts with such *apropos* quotations, as it furnished him with subject matter, and made speech-making easier. Having spoken at length on the Masonic Charities, the W.M. called upon Bro. Major Williamson to reply, who treated the brethren to an impromptu speech of a most interesting and clever character.

"The Visitors" ("Welcome as a draught of water to a thirsty man") followed, and was acknowledged by Bros. W. Maple, H. H. Shirley, H. T. Bing, T. H. Tilton, and E. B. Lane.

The toast of "The Past Masters" ("Men endowed with worthy qualities; call them generally man by man according to the scrip") was coupled with the names of Bros. Jackson, Lardner, Simpson, and Schultz, who responded.

"The Health of the Officers" ("They know their master") was acknowledged by Bros. P. N. Lardner, H. Herbert, and C. Bachoffner.

During the proceedings Bros. Dr. Hinton, E. Burrett Lane, Hedley Carus, J. Young, G. Herbert, H. Harden, and E. Schultz instrumentally and vocally entertained the brethren.

The Past Master's jewel was manufactured by Bro. George Kenning.

Old England Lodge (No. 1790).—The installation meeting of this successful lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Thornton Heath, on the 2nd instant, when there was a good attendance to witness Bro. Horsnail, W.M., install his successor. The members present included Bros. G. S. Horsnail, W.M.; E. C. Symmons, S.W.; W. Turpin, J.W.; W. Foulsham, Treas.; W. J. Day, Sec.; J. Bolton, S.D.; C. Tarry, Stwd.; F. R. Rayner, I.G.; R. G. Fleming, P.M.; W. H. Ransom, P.M.; F. W. Baler, P.M.; J. Kilvington, P.M.; Hugh M. Hobbs, P.M., P.P.G.W. Surrey; and many others. Visitors: Bros. J. Rhodes, P.P.G. Org. Surrey; A. J. Phillips, 463; T. R. Porter, W.M. 1360; G. Milton, P.M. 1987; W. Pile, P.M. 1812; W. D. Hayward, D.C. 2096; C. W. Ridpath, 2096; W. G. Goode, I.P.M. 2096; W. W. Lee, W.M. elect 2381; and others.

Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Mr. T. W. Haycroft having been successful at the ballot, was then impressively initiated. Bro. G. Carthew, 706, was unanimously elected a joining member. Bro. J. T. Stratford was raised to the Third Degree, after which a satisfactory audit report was received and adopted. Bro. E. C. Symmons was presented as the W.M. elect, and was duly installed into the chair by Bro. G. S. Horsnail who performed the ceremony in a very effective and able manner. The following officers were appointed and invested: Bros. G. S. Horsnail, I.P.M.; W. J. Turpin, S.W.; J. Bolton, J.W.; Rev. R. Patterson, M.A., Chap.; W. Fortescue, P.M., P.P.G.W., Treas.; H. C. Sherry, Sec.; W. J. Day, S.D.; F. R. Rayner, J.D.; W. A. Andrews, I.G.; J. Grew, D.C.; C. Tarry and G. Pearson, Stwds.; and W. Lane, Tyler. It was unanimously resolved that the Secretary should be instructed to write a letter to the widow of the late Bro. Clarke, expressing the sympathy of the members in her sad bereavement. The sum of five guineas was unanimously voted from the lodge funds to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, to be placed on the list of Bro. Ransom, P.M. Bro. Fortescue, P.M., Treasurer, in supporting the motion, remarked that in consideration of the excellent services rendered by Bro. Ransom to the lodge, it would be extremely undesirable to send that brother up empty-handed when acting as Steward for the Masonic Institutions.

The lodge was closed, and an excellent banquet was subsequently served, under the direction of Bro. Tarry, Steward.

The usual toasts were afterwards given and received with the customary heartiness.

Bro. G. S. Horsnail, I.P.M., said that owing to the position he held as I.P.M., he had the honour of proposing "The Health of the Worshipful Master," which was a toast always well received in their lodge, and he hoped it would always continue to be so. The new Worshipful Master had commenced his new duties, and he hoped those duties would be expanded every time they met by new work. Bro. Symmons, W.M., was most anxious to perform his duties to the satisfaction of himself and with advantage to the lodge, and he (the I.P.M.) was sure it was the wish of the brethren as well as his own that the W.M. would have health, strength, and prosperity during the time he presides over the lodge.

Bro. Edward C. Symmons, W.M., thanked the brethren most sincerely for the hearty manner in which they had received the toast of his health, and also thanked the I.P.M. for the kind expression he had thought fit to use. He could assure them he deeply appreciated the confidence reposed in him in electing him as W.M. It would be his endeavour to promote the interest of this, his mother lodge, as far as lay in his power, and he trusted his year of office would be a successful one in everything connected with the good of the lodge.

Other toasts followed, the speeches being necessarily brief owing to the lateness of the hour.

An excellent programme of music was arranged, under the direction of Bro. J. Kilvington, P.M., and considerably enhanced the enjoyment of the brethren. Amongst those who assisted were Bros. A. Wilmot, F. R. Rayner, J. Rhodes, P.P.G. Org., J. Grew, and J. Kilvington.

United Northern Counties Lodge (No. 2128).

—A regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Inns of Court Hotel, Lincoln's Inn Fields, on Tuesday, the 7th inst. The W.M., Bro. H. J. Giller, P.M., occupied the chair. There were also present Bros. F. Wright, S.W.; C. R. Lee, J.W.; W. B. Hextall, P.M., Treas., as I.P.M.; W. Masters, P.M., Sec.; Davidson, J.D.; Leonard, I.G.; W. Enden, Tyler; Cumberland, P.M.; and other members of the lodge; also the following distinguished visitors: Bros. W. J. Hughan, P.G.D., &c.; the Rev. C. H. Malden, I.P.M. 1841, P.D.G.C. Madras; and Wittstock, Deputy Master Baldwin Lodge, Leipzig.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes of the last regular meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Geo. P. Pringle, W.M. 1009, was elected a joining member. Bro. Thos. Marriott was passed to the Second Degree, Bro. Cumberland, P.M., giving the tracing board. The report of the Committee altering the months for meeting, and also the time for election and installation of the W.M., was received and adopted, subject to confirmation at the next regular meeting and the approval of the M.W.G.M. On the motion of Bro. Cumberland, P.M., seconded by Bro. Giller, W.M., and supported by Bro. W. J. Hughan, it was resolved to send a letter of condolence to the relatives of the late Bro. Clifford Paynter MacCalla, Past Grand Master of Pennsylvania, U.S.A., who was an honorary member of the lodge, on the bereavement they had sustained by the very sad and sudden death of Bro. MacCalla in Egypt on the 24th April last. "Hearty good wishes" having been given by the visitors, and all business being ended, the lodge was closed.

The brethren afterwards met at supper, and a very enjoyable evening was spent.

The Worshipful Master proposed in very happy terms "The Health of the Visitors."

This was responded to in very eloquent and fraternal terms by Bros. Malden, P.G.C. Madras, and Wittstock, of the Baldwin Lodge, Leipzig.

Several of the brethren enlivened the proceedings with songs during the evening.

Cornish Lodge (No. 2369).

—A meeting of this lodge took place at Mark Masons' Hall, Great Queen-street, on the 11th inst. There were present Bros. Roberts, W.M.; J. Curnow, acting as S.W.; W. Molesworth St. Aubyn, J.W.; W. Lake, Treas.; R. Greenwood, Sec.; C. O. Burgess, S.D.; C. Rawle, J.D.; R. Bullen and E. Geard, Stwds.; W. J. Hughan, P.G.D., P.P.G.W. Cornwall, &c.; E. Richards, Redman, Hawken, Dale, Lory, Symons, Penberthy, Jas. Thomas, Brailey, Widger, Rogers, Mably, James, Pool, Hockin, Williams, Moody, Hill, Hamlyn, E. Trevenen, and H. Bullen. Visitors: Bros. General J. C. Smith, Past Grand Master Illinois; Wittstock, Deputy Master Baldwin Lodge, Leipzig; Fleck, P.M. 172; Mann, P.M. 1452; Jordan, Org. 2424; Rich, P.M. 65; E. Arnold, 355; May, 771; and Kempton, 1706.

The agenda of business was a full one. After the reading and confirmation of the minutes, Bro. Ernest Dale was passed to the Second Degree, and Messrs. Edward Trevenen and Henry Bullen were introduced and initiated. Bro. G. M. Hamblyn was elected as a joining member, and Bro. G. B. Treverton, of Bodmin, as a Cornwall member. The Worshipful Master having called upon the members to salute General J. C. Smith as P.G.M. of Illinois, that zealous Craftsman responded, and warmly thanked the brethren for their hearty reception. Though never in Cornwall himself, he was familiar with the name of that county, and knew of worthy men who were proud to hail from Cornwall. Only recently an aged brother had died who was well known to him, and was initiated in Penzance, Cornwall, more than 50 years ago, and prior to his decease the General had obtained from the lodge held in that town a certificate of his membership. The W.M. then explained that it was the first time Bro. Hughan, P.G.D., had visited the lodge, and as he had lately been elected one of their honorary members, he felt assured the brethren would like to hear a few words from that distinguished Craftsman. Bro. Hughan, in reply, expressed his appreciation of the honour conferred upon him by the Cornish Lodge, and said he had taken the first opportunity to personally attend and thank the members for the compliment thus paid him. He was all the more pleased to be thus connected with this "class" lodge, as several of its members were amongst his oldest associates, and he was pleased to see in open lodge one of his oldest Masonic friends in the Treasurer, who had for many years been a dear friend of his, and was much esteemed by him. Bro. Hughan suggested that more was expected from a "class" than from an ordinary lodge, and he was therefore all the more gratified to note the success and continued prosperity of the Cornish Lodge, which had already proved its right to exist. Bro. Hughan then gave an interesting sketch of the origin of the Province of Cornwall in 1752, and traced its successive Provincial Grand Masters, from William Pye, in 1752, down to the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, who had been the beloved ruler of the Cornish Craft from 1873. He also referred to those Cornish brethren who had held office in Grand Lodge, beginning with Sir John St. Aubyn, as S.G.W., late last century, and then, later on, the Earl of St. Germans, Sir Frederick Martin Williams, Bart., the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe (now the Deputy Grand Master of England, and honoured and beloved by all who knew him), and Sir Charles B. Graves-Sawle, Bart., M.P., P.G.W. (the present Deputy Prov. G.M. of Cornwall). The W.M. thanked Bro. Hughan for his opportune address, and pointed out the important fact that both Lord Mount Edgcumbe, D.G.M., and Sir C. B. Graves-Sawle, Bart., were founders and members of No. 2369.

The important business of electing the W.M. for the ensuing year was then proceeded with. Much to the regret of the brethren present, a letter was received from the S.W., Bro. J. Henwood Thomas, to the effect that, although his health was improving, he did not feel justified in accepting the office, and desiring that his name should not be submitted for election. It is needless to say that many expressions of sympathy and goodwill were forthcoming with one who, as a founder and a zealous promoter, had done so much for its success. A ballot then took place, and the J.W., Bro. Walter Molesworth St. Aubyn, was unanimously elected W.M. Bro. Wm. Lake was also unanimously re-elected Treasurer. A Past Master's jewel was voted to the retiring W.M., Bro. John Roberts, in recognition of the services he had so faithfully rendered to the lodge during his year of office. An Audit Committee was then appointed, and the lodge was closed.

The brethren afterwards dined together at Freemasons' Tavern, and a very pleasant evening was spent. Bro. R. Bullen again undertook the musical arrangements, which added considerably to the enjoyment of those present.

Columbia Lodge (No. 2397).

—The first installation meeting of this Anglo-American lodge was held at the Café Royal, Regent-street, on Thursday, the 9th inst., when there was a good attendance of members, together with many visitors from English and American lodges. The lodge was formed about a year ago, the principal organiser being Bro. Jessurun, and the general idea was to form a lodge that would be not only Anglo-American in name, but also in the number and nationality of its members. The Columbia Lodge was started with the happy idea that the Worshipful Masters should be alternately Englishmen and Americans. There are about 60 members, and each member as he is elected is given a number—the even numbers to the Englishmen and the odd numbers to the Americans. In this way the lodge is composed of English and American brethren, the offices being occupied by brethren of both continents, and with this happy mixture of the English-speaking race on both sides of the Atlantic, a most pleasant lodge has been formed on the true lines for success. In order to ensure the admission of good and worthy men only, a candidate has to give three references in addition to the brethren proposing and seconding him.

The lodge was opened by Bro. Adolphus Clark, W.M., supported by Bros. Col. J. T. North, S.W.; Capt. Alfred Cooke, J.P., J.W.; J. B. Cumming, P.M., Treas.; W. J. Spratling, P.P.G. Treas. Middx.; H. S. Wellcome, S.D.; F. S. Hobson, P.M., J.D.; E. Jessurun; B. Crumplen; W. Henry, P.M., Org.; F. C. Van Duzer; Rev. R. J. Simpson, P.G.C.; Colonel W. Bristow,

P.G.S.B.; Major F. W. Frigout, U.S. Deputy Consul-General; and many other well-known members. Visitors: Bros. R. Clay Sudlow, P.G. Std. Br.; Dr. W. H. Kempster, P.G. Stwd.; T. Barrett, P.M. 3; E. J. Moffatt United States Minister for Agriculture; Frank Lincoln, 454, New York; Brent Good, New Jersey; J. Bird, Adelphi Lodge, New York; G. H. Clements, W.M. 1311; G. J. Gissing, 1056; R. P. Skelton, 454, New York; W. Watson, 61; J. N. Hawton, 289; W. Lloyd, 145; W. E. Hayman; W. W. Lee, W.M. elect 2381; and others.

After the usual preliminaries, the minutes were confirmed, and Bro. W. H. Toone was passed to the Second Degree. Bro. Capt. Alf. Cooke, J.P., was then presented as W.M. elect, and was installed into the chair by Bro. A. Clark, I.P.M., in an able and impressive manner. The following officers were appointed: Bros. Col. John T. North, S.W.; H. S. Wellcome, J.W.; J. B. Cumming, P.M., Treas.; W. J. Spratling, P.P.G. Treas. Middx., Sec.; F. Statham Hobson, P.M., S.D.; Elias Jessurun, J.D.; B. Crumplen, I.G.; J. M. Richards, D.C.; W. Henry, P.M., Org.; F. C. Van Duzer, A.D.C.; and Major F. W. Frigout, P.M., A. W. Chapman, P.M., and V. Le Huray, Stwds. Bro. Col. J. T. North, on being invested as S.W., expressed his great pleasure at being honoured with such a high position in the lodge, and assured the brethren he would always be pleased to attend the meetings, and do his best to support the Columbia Lodge. The W.M. presented Bro. Adolphus Clark, I.P.M., with a very handsome Past Master's jewel as a mark of the esteem in which he is held by the brethren by reason of his kindness, courtesy, and readiness at all times to forward the interests of the lodge. Bro. Clark, I.P.M., acknowledged the gift in appropriate terms, and thanked the brethren from the bottom of his heart. A very satisfactory audit report, showing a balance in hand, was received and adopted.

Lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet room, where the W.M. was supported on his right by the Grand Officers and by Bro. Colonel North, S.W., who requested Bro. E. Jessurun, J.D., to occupy the S.W.'s chair, and thus enable him to sit with a number of his friends at the head of the table.

After banquet the usual toasts received hearty recognition. Bro. Rev. R. J. Simpson, P.G. Chap., responded for "The Grand Officers," and thanked the brethren for drinking this old toast. It afforded the Grand Officers great pleasure to be present at the first installation meeting after the consecration, and to find it prospering so well, not merely in number, but in harmony and Masonic feeling. What they had heard that night from the I.P.M., in the shape of the installation ceremony, had given them immense pleasure, satisfaction, and delight.

Bro. Col. Bristow, P.G.S.B., having replied, Bro. R. C. Sudlow, P.G. Std. Br., said that the oration delivered by Bro. Rev. R. J. Simpson at the consecration was well within their memories. He was privileged to be present at the consecration of this very famous lodge, and was particularly gratified to find it had attained such a position in the Masonic world. He had listened with a great deal of gratification and pleasure to the admirable working of the I.P.M.

"The Sister Lodges of the United States" was next submitted by the I.P.M., who said there were several American visitors present, and he hoped they had not only been entertained, but instructed. Masonry in the United States was a little different to Masonry in this country. He did not mean to say it was not carried out on the same principles, but there was more interest, more attention, and more "go" in it than was found here. In the United States there were ten times as many lodges, some of which contained 600 or 700 members. Although we thought we were doing something grand in adding to the number of lodges here, still we were not "in it" with the American brethren. If a brother went to the United States and proved himself to be a Mason, he was received with the greatest cordiality, and nothing was too good for him. The Columbia Lodge was formed to receive American brethren coming to this country, and give them a welcome, and they tried to do so in a satisfactory manner. He had great pleasure in calling upon Bros. Brent Good and Frank Lincoln to reply.

Bro. Brent Good, in response, said he had never seen the work done better. On looking round he saw many friends, and it was a proud distinction to be called upon to reply. There were 44 States, and each had a Grand Lodge. In New York there were 485 lodges, and in New Jersey 103. On behalf of all these lodges he thanked Columbia Lodge for the fraternal reception accorded the toast.

Bros. Frank Lincoln and J. Bird also replied. Bro. Adolphus Clark, I.P.M., then said he had the honour of proposing "The Worshipful Master," and he thought they would all say they now had in the chair the right man in the right place. He predicted for Bro. Alf. Cooke, W.M., a very brilliant and successful year of office. The W.M. was well known to them all, and, taking a great interest in the lodge, would do everything he could to advance its welfare. He would, however, remind the officers that it would be necessary for them to attend the meetings regularly, and assist Bro. Cooke, for a W.M. was powerless unless the officers supported him. He was sure the W.M. had selected good officers, and that he would have all the assistance he required.

Bro. Capt. Alf. Cooke, J.P., W.M., in reply, first expressed his personal appreciation of the remarks so kindly made by the I.P.M. The toast was in orthodox form, but he should prefer to sink absolutely his individuality in responding, and reply on behalf of his county. On behalf of Yorkshire he asked them to be pleased to transfer the kind words to his dear county. He and his friend Colonel North appreciated the courteous remarks with a strong degree of feeling, and regarded them as a compliment to the West Riding of Yorkshire. Their position was unique, the lodge was unique, and that gathering was unique. The cosmopolitan character of the brethren who composed this lodge was also unique, and where they had that combination, he could assure them the Yorkshire brethren would regard his being placed in his present position as a compliment to his county. They regarded it as a county recognition and not as an honour to an individual man. They spoke of America and England, but he was afraid the American people were not sufficiently and fully recognised. The expedition of the Pilgrim Fathers in the May Flower 300 years ago might be said to be the mother of every man present. He ventured to say the course struck in that maternity existed still. There was no better feeling, there should be no better feeling, there should be no higher nor nobler feeling than that of those Puritan days which made

America, and from which America had made a position second to none in any clime. He had the pleasure of visiting the States in 1885, and thought he had a knowledge of America, but found he was, as a little boy, learning the position and feelings of American men. Hospitality, generosity, and broad feeling, a keen commercial acumen and intellect, had been handed down from those who landed at the Plymouth rock. He was proud of the brethren on the other side, and was sure they would never destroy the one chord which existed between the English and American people. He should never forget Beecher's definition of true love: "True love is the heart that gives up itself to another, receiving in return that other heart; neither belonging to each, but each possessing both."

"The Worshipful Master in cordial terms then proposed 'The Installing Master, Bro. A. Clark, I.P.M.," who, he said, had been his guide, mentor, and friend.

Bro. A. Clark, I.P.M., said that during his year he had simply endeavoured to do his duty in a satisfactory manner. He had taken a great interest in Masonry, and whenever he accepted an office, endeavoured to perform his duties efficiently. He trusted they would excuse any shortcomings of his, but during his year he had done the best he could, and in the future the W.M. might rest assured of his assistance. He prized very highly the jewel presented to him, and should make it a point to do nothing to cast discredit upon the lodge or the confidence placed in him.

Bros. Clements, W.M. 1311, and Watson, responded for "The Visitors," and having expressed their thanks for the generous hospitality bestowed upon them, spoke of the high place which the W.M., Bro. Cooke, held in the affection of the people of Leeds, and the pleasure it had afforded them personally to see him installed as the W.M. of the Columbia Lodge.

Bro. Moffatt, United States Minister of Agriculture, also briefly replied.

"The Treasurer and Secretary" having been duly honoured, the W.M. gave "The Officers" in an appropriate speech.

Bro. Col. J. T. North, S.W., desired very much to address the brethren and express his great pleasure at seeing his old friend, Bro. Alf. Cooke, installed as W.M., and also to assure the members of his happiness and delight at enjoying the company of the many friends surrounding him, but unfortunately he was obliged to leave before the officers was proposed in order to catch the last train to Eltham that night.

Bro. E. Jessurun, replied for "The Officers," and expressed his gratification at the brilliant success which this lodge had attained.

The Tyler's toast then closed a highly successful and enjoyable evening, the remembrance of which the American and other visitors will doubtless cherish for some time to come.

Under the direction of Bro. Henry, P.M., Org., an excellent programme of music was carried out.

PROVINCIAL MEETINGS.

BROXBOURNE.

Kingswood Lodge (No. 2278).—The fourth annual meeting of this lodge for the installation of a W.M. was held on Saturday, the 11th inst., at the Crown Hotel, under the presidency of Bro. John G. Cobb, W.M. The meeting was very well attended, and at their new quarters, with the beautiful and well-kept adjacent grounds, the brethren had every opportunity, in charming weather, of enjoying themselves. The brethren who attended were, besides the W.M. already named, Bros. G. E. Lake, D.P.G.M., an honorary member of the lodge; J. Petch, P.M., Treas.; C. M. Coxon, S.W.; H. T. Nell, P.M., J.W.; J. F. Bell, P.M., Sec.; T. Wye, S.D.; E. H. Moore, J.D.; G. T. Chretien, D.C.; R. W. Nicole, I.G.; F. Williams, Tyler; J. L. Mather, P.M., P.A.G.D.C.; E. W. Blinkhorn, P.M.; A. C. Halestrap, P.M.; T. B. Smoothy, N. Pearce, J. B. Lester, A. Ingram, A. J. Robinson, W. Kennedy, J. Gravett, and W. Sammes. Visitors: Bros. W. Hancock, W.M. elect 2191; T. Berg, P.M. 1613; H. Massey, 160, P.M. 619 and 1928; A. Streeter, D.C. 2157; E. Monday, 1641; T. Taylor, 45; R. Jeremy, Stwd. 1766; A. Cumner, 1426; N. Reed, P.M. 1671; and W. R. G. Emmerson, Org. 45.

Bro. J. B. Lester was passed to the Second Degree, after which the Treasurer, Bro. Petch, read the Audit Committee's report, which showed the splendid balance of over £47, there not being a single liability. After this the brethren unanimously voted a Past Master's jewel to Bro. Cobb. The ceremony of installation was then performed, and Bro. Cobb in perfect style duly installed Bro. Charles Merriman Coxon, S.W., as W.M. of the lodge for the ensuing year. The following brethren received the collars: Bros. J. G. Cobb, I.P.M.; H. T. Nell, P.M., S.W.; T. Wye, C.C., J.W.; John Petch, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br., Treas.; J. F. Bell, P.M., Sec.; E. H. Moore, S.D.; R. W. Nicole, J.D.; T. Chretien, I.G.; A. C. Halestrap, P.M., D. of C.; E. Blinkhorn, P.M., and W. Sammes, Stewards; and T. Williams, Tyler. The Past Master's jewel which had been voted was presented to the I.P.M., who was afterwards elected representative of the lodge on the Masonic Charity and Finance Committees for the province. The Secretary then read communications, among which were two very pleasing ones from absent brethren, Bro. Rawson Kelley, the first Master, who had gone to Australia, and Bro. W. Ball, who is in Ontario, the letters showing that these brethren had not forgotten the installation day of the Kingswood Lodge. Bro. Lake, D.P.G.M., then informed the lodge that Bro. Halsey, the P.G.M., would not hold his Provincial Grand Lodge till October. He would be too much engaged in July to hold it in that month. In October it would be held at Hatfield, and the entertaining lodge would be the Cranbourne, No. 1580.

Lodge was then closed, and the Deputy Prov. Grand Master expressed his regret that he was unable to remain to the banquet.

After a nice stroll in the grounds, the brethren sat down to a choice repast, and subsequently honoured the usual toasts.

Bro. J. L. Mather, P.A.G.D.C., responded to the toast which included "The Grand Officers."

Bro. Petch, Treasurer, responded to the toast of "The Deputy Prov. Grand Master, and the rest of the Prov. Grand Officers, Present and Past," the lodge having been honoured by the appointment of Bro. Petch as Prov. Grand

Standard Bearer. He said they had that day had a proof of the interest the Prov. Grand Officers took in the lodge by the Deputy Prov. Grand Master visiting it. That Provincial Grand Officer was perfectly satisfied with the manner in which the work of the lodge was conducted. He (Bro. Petch) was only a recent Grand Officer, but from what he had seen he could safely say there was that unanimity and concord among those who had attained to Provincial Grand Lodge rank that every province, if conducted on the same principle, must flourish.

Bro. Cobb, I.P.M., proposed "The W.M.," who, he said, would do credit to and advance the Kingswood Lodge beyond any point which it had yet reached. He had known Bro. Coxon well for many years, and what of Masonry he had acquired he had learned from him. Bro. Coxon was perfect in all the Degrees, and if the officers under his direction would follow his example the whole of the work of the officers of the lodge would be done perfectly. Anything he could say in praise of Bro. Coxon would fall far short of what he deserved, and when the history of the Kingswood Lodge came to be written the page which recorded the Mastership of Bro. Coxon would be the brightest. Bro. Coxon would promote the harmony of the lodge in every way and make the lodge go on as it should. It was only a young lodge, and the brethren wanted to show the provincial authorities that it was worthy of the interest they took in it. There was no one more calculated to do that than Bro. Coxon.

The Worshipful Master, who on rising to respond was received with loud applause, said the kindness he had received at the hands of the brethren made it very difficult for him to thank them adequately. He owed them a great deal. The position he held that evening was the summit of his Masonic ambition—an ambition which had possessed him ever since he had the honour of being admitted into Freemasonry and initiated by Past Master Nicole in the Islington Lodge. On that occasion he (Bro. Coxon) addressed a few halting words to the brethren, but he remembered that he said his ambition was only bounded by the chair of W.M. which Bro. Nicole then occupied. The G.A.O.T.U. had been pleased to grant him health and strength to reach his present position, in which the favour of the brethren had placed him in. He had that day experienced the proudest moment of his life in being installed as W.M. of a lodge of Freemasons. At the same time he had undertaken the duties of the chair with much self distrust. He felt that he required all the assistance and support the brethren of the lodge could give him, and he knew that that assistance and support would not be withheld. It was the desire of his heart that the lodge should prosper and flourish under his guidance, and if, when his short year of office should have expired, he was able to resign his position with the knowledge that progress had been made, and the Masonic ties which bound them together had been more firmly cemented, and that the duties which fell to his lot as W.M. had been performed with credit to himself and satisfaction to the brethren, he should indeed be content. He would quote now a short sentence which the late Charles Dickens expressed when he was responding to the toast of his health at a dinner given in his honour in Edinburgh—"Brethren, I drink to you with a heart as full as my glass, and far less easily emptied."

The W.M. next proposed "The I.P.M. and Installing Master, Bro. Cobb." As he understood the duties of Freemasonry, if each brother acted in conformity with the principles of the Craft, the closer the connection the warmer the feeling should be. He was sure that the feelings which actuated the brethren of the Kingswood Lodge were the warmest possible towards their I.P.M. They who had been closely in contact with him knew that he deserved every commendation which could be given to him. The I.P.M. and himself came from the same mother lodge; their connection was Masonic in its origin and Masonic in its continuance. He knew the unceasing attention Bro. Cobb had devoted to the affairs of the Kingswood Lodge; he was at all times ready and willing to do anything to further its interests; he had done his duties by representing it as Steward at the Charities, when the lodge was honoured by the good list he took up. The Past Master's jewel he had had the privilege of attaching to Bro. Cobb's breast that afternoon was never more worthily bestowed. He wished him many happy years to wear it and the many other honours of the Craft which could not fail to fall to the lot of so distinguished, energetic, and worthy a brother.

Bro. Cobb, I.P.M., in reply, said he did not feel deserving of all the kind and good things the W.M. had said of him. He was not fishing for compliments, he was the wrong man for that. He could assure them he had done his very utmost; yes, a good many brethren there knew he had done the best he possibly could to fulfil the duties of the chair for the last 12 months, though it had cost him a great deal of effort. He hoped that what he had done had been to the satisfaction of the brethren. He took it as some little proof that it had been that they had presented him with that very handsome jewel. It was a jewel he should wear with the greatest amount of pride, and it would call up recollections of a very happy year of office. He had tried to do the best of his poor abilities to carry out his duties. Masonry taught its followers to be unselfish, to sink self in every way, and he had tried to do that. He hoped he had succeeded to a great extent, and he only felt proud and flattered to think he had achieved that end, and he was encouraged to think so by the expressions he had heard that night. His year of office had been a very pleasant one; much too short; he wished it was as long again; he was retiring from the chair just as he was learning his duties. The W.M. had said many kind things of him as to what he had done, but he could assure the brethren that anything he could do in the future to further the interests of the lodge and the brethren he should always be glad to do.

The W.M. then proposed a toast which was not on the list, but the old members of the lodge would quite understand why he did it. He wished all the brethren to rise and drink with the utmost cordiality and kindness "The Health of our Absent Brethren." They had to regret that night the absence of two brethren—Past Masters—one a P.M. of that lodge, and the other the Secretary of the lodge; these brethren were now wandering brethren. Bro. William Ball was a brother who, as he had expressed in a letter which was read in lodge would like to return to his native land. The other was Bro. Rawson Kelley, the first Master of the lodge—a brother to whom the lodge owed so much. When the lodge was founded Bro. Rawson Kelley put his hand into his pocket

like a genuine Yorkshireman, when his feelings could be touched, and helped them most liberally. Without him he did not know how the lodge would have started free of debt, but Bro. Raws on Kelley assisted most generously, and the lodge was launched free from debt. He did not know what part of the world Bro. Rawson Kelley was now in—somewhere in mid-ocean, perhaps, between Australia and San Francisco—but wherever he was he was thinking about the brethren, and the Kingswood Lodge was not out of his thoughts; he would now be drinking the health of the Kingswood Lodge. Poor dear Bro. France was with them last year, and 11 months ago also at the first meeting at the present house, but the G.A.O.T.U. had been pleased since to call him to the Grand Lodge above. Perhaps he ought not to have mentioned Bro. France's name in connection with this toast, but a dear brother was Bro. France. Bro. William Ball, known to so many of them, loved by all of them, was a genuine brother. He was a Past Master of the Strong Man Lodge, No. 45, and the letter from him read in the lodge expressed every wish of his heart. There was not a word in that letter that might not be construed as a compliment. He only regretted that Bros. Ball and Rawson Kelley were not with the brethren now.

The toast was most cordially received, and "The Health of the Visitors" was then proposed, and duly responded to. Bros. Petch and Bell replied to the toast of "The Treasurer and Secretary," and Bros. Nell, Wye, Moore, Nicole, Halestrap, Blinkhorn, and Sammes to that of "The Officers."

Bro. T. Williams gave the Tyler's toast, and the brethren separated after spending a delightful evening. Music formed by no means an inconsiderable part of the enjoyment of the brethren, with Bro. Emerson at the piano, and Bros. E. H. Moore, Tom Taylor, and H. T. Nell performing the vocal parts.

A remarkable feature of the lodge is that during its three years of existence it has contributed nearly £300 to the Charities. The brethren are resolved to follow up these efforts in the good cause, and make Herts a powerful voting province.

CROWLE.

Isle of Axholme Lodge (No. 1482).—This lodge was held on Tuesday, the 7th inst., at the Masonic Hall, when there were present Bros. J. M. Behrendt, W.M.; J. Constable, I.P.M.; R. N. Brunyee, S.W.; C. Fox, J.W.; R. Wood, P.P.G.S.B., Sec.; J. F. Watson, Treas.; W. Chamberlain, D. of C.; T. C. Horobin, P.P.S.G.D.; W. Burtonshaw, P.M.; S. H. C. Ashlin, P.M.; J. Meadley, J. Turner, Steward; C. Cundall, J. Batty, J. Franks, T. Oates, and G. Naylor, Tyler.

The question of inviting Prov. Grand Lodge to Crowle in 1894 was left to a Select Committee to be appointed on some future day. The election of W.M. for the ensuing year resulted in a unanimous ballot for Bro. R. N. Brunyee, S.W., and a ballot for Treasurer resulted in a similar manner for Bro. J. F. Watson, Treas. Bro. G. Naylor was re-elected Tyler, and Auditors were appointed to prepare the balance-sheet for installation day. The W.M. elect, the Treasurer, and Tyler each thanked the brethren for the honour conferred upon them.

After business of a routine nature, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to partake of a light repast, which was well served by Bro. Cundall, and much enjoyed. This was the last occasion on which the W.M. would preside as Master.

CROYDON.

George Price Lodge (No. 2096).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Public Hall, on Saturday, the 11th inst., under the presidency of Bro. J. H. Price, W.M., supported by Bros. F. Cambridge, P.M., P.P.G. Org., acting S.W.; F. W. Leaver, J.W.; J. D. Langton, P.M., P.P.J.G.W., Sec.; G. Pearson, acting S.D.; E. C. Leaver, J.D.; Dr. Wayte, I.G.; F. T. Ridpath, P.M., P.P.G.D., Stwd.; and W. Lane, Tyler. The following members were also present: Bros. Frederick West, P.G.D., D.P.G.M.; Crew, J. D. Hunt, E. Ballard, W. G. Sheldon, Thos. Whitford, J. Jones, Herbert A. Brown, T. W. Hall, C. W. Ridpath, and J. T. Fielder. The visitors were Bros. Col. G. Noel Money, C.B., P.G.M.; W. D. Merrett, P.M. 1000; J. C. Leaver, J. H. Evans, I.G. 1321; Bertram Williams, W.M. 463; William Burn, I.P.M. 858; Marcus R. P. Dorman, 190; F. C. Atkinson, P.M. 1648; W. H. Sutton, 463; S. G. Budd, J.D. 1818; Holliday, 1475; Gates Shepley, 1706; W. B. Fendick, P.M. 2300; H. B. Spaul, 145; Walter Coward, 2000; and H. M. Leslie, 187.

The lodge having been opened, and the minutes of the last meeting confirmed, Bros. C. W. Ridpath, T. W. Hall, and W. A. Brown were raised. Bro. F. W. Leaver was then installed in the chair of the lodge, Bro. Frederick West, D.P.G.M., acting as the Installing Master, assisted by Bro. J. H. Price, I.P.M., who acted as Director of Ceremonies. The newly-installed W.M. then appointed his officers and invested them and the Treasurer and Tyler as follows: Bros. J. H. Price, I.P.M.; C. Holden, S.W.; E. C. Leaver, J.W.; F. T. Ridpath, P.M., Treas.; J. D. Langton, P.M., Sec.; J. Wayte, S.D.; Hayward, J.D.; Jones, I.G.; N. C. Crew, D.C.; Cambridge, P.M., Org.; Goode, P.M., and G. Pearson, Stwds.; and Wm. Lane, Tyler. Bro. Fraser, P.M., proposed, and Bro. Ridpath, P.M., Treas., seconded, and it was carried unanimously—"That in order to concentrate the voting power of the province and to assist in the election of selected candidates from the province for the three Charitable Institutions and to provide a fund for the relief of deserving cases within the province, it is in the opinion of this lodge desirable that there should be established a Charity Committee and a Charity Fund in connection with the Province of Surrey, and in the event of the motion carrying out these objects, of which Bro. J. D. Langton has given notice, being adopted at the next meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge, this lodge shall subscribe such amount per member as shall be decided by the Provincial Grand Lodge, and that Bro. J. D. Langton be the Charity Representative of this lodge." The Prov. Grand Master having been unanimously elected an honorary member of the lodge, Bro. Col. Money thanked the brethren for having elected him, and expressed his approval of the manner in which the work of the lodge had been carried out. Other business having been transacted, the lodge was closed.

The brethren having enjoyed an excellent banquet, the newly-installed Master proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, those of "The Grand Officers" and "The Prov.

Grand Master" being responded to by Bro. Col. G. Noel Money, who also proposed "The Health of the W.M.," and in doing so wished him every success during his year of office, and said that his work that afternoon augured well for the future, and he hoped that the W.M. would have a very hard-worked year.

The W.M. having replied, the toast of "The I.P.M., Bro. J. H. Price," was given, and, in responding,

Bro. Price said that his year of office had been very enjoyable to him, and he thought that it might be considered an eventful year for the lodge. They had during the past year assisted in presenting a testimonial to their Deputy Prov. Grand Master, the idea of which originated in this lodge, and which was so well supported throughout the province. He had with the assistance of the members been enabled to take up the premier list to the Benevolent Institution Festival. The lodge had moved to its present quarters, and he thought that the members could be congratulated upon the change. The average attendance during the year had been 35, and no meeting had been held without plenty of work to do. He thanked the brethren for the Past Master's jewel with which he had been presented.

Other toasts followed, and it was at a late hour when the Tyler's toast brought the very successful meeting to an end. The music at the banquet was arranged by Bro. Fred. Cambridge, P.M., P.P.G. Org., the Organist of the lodge, and was much appreciated by the brethren, especially a violin solo by Master Cambridge and a solo whistled by Bro. Bertram Williams.

FRAMLINGHAM.

Fidelity Lodge (No. 555).—The annual meeting of this lodge was held at the Crown Hotel on Friday, the 10th inst., when Bro. Tyrwhitt Drake was installed W.M. for the ensuing year. The installation ceremony was most impressively performed by Bro. J. B. Fraser, P.M. 376, P.P.S.G.D., who for 18 years has favoured the lodge with his presence as Installing Master. Bro. G. Abbott acted admirably as D.C. The W.M. afterwards appointed his officers for the year as follows: Bros. W. T. Brunger, I.P.M.; W. Vernon, S.W.; Rev. J. H. Pilkington, J.W.; Rev. C. A. Sinclair, P.G.C., Chap.; S. G. Carley, P.M., P.P.J.G.W., Treas.; J. Marten, P.M., P.P.G.P., Sec.; C. S. Kidall, S.D.; W. G. Connor, J.D.; T. W. Read, P.M., P.P.G.P., D.C.; E. W. Lynch, I.G.; W. Simpson, Stwd.; and C. Goodwin, Tyler.

At the banquet which followed, the Worshipful Master, Bro. Tyrwhitt Drake, presided.

Upon the removal of the cloth, the Worshipful Master gave the toasts of "The Queen and Craft," "The M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," and "The Grand Officers, Present and Past."

In proposing the toast of "The Provincial Grand Master, Lord Henniker," the Worshipful Master observed that his lordship's name was a household word amongst Suffolk Masons, and the generous hospitality which he had dispensed at Thornham last year was evidence of the great interest he took in the Craft.

The toast was received with lodge honours.

Bro. W. T. Brunger, in proposing "The Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and the rest of the Provincial Grand Officers," said that he had only to mention the name of Bro. the Rev. C. J. Martyn to elicit the most hearty response to the toast, which at the present time had especial significance from the fact that they were soon to lose their Deputy Provincial Grand Master. As they were perhaps aware, Bro. Martyn was to take up his residence in Gloucestershire, but how far that would affect his connection with Suffolk Masonry they did not yet know; indeed, he did not think Bro. Martyn yet knew himself.

He coupled with the toast the names of Bros. Rev. Tighe Gregory and Walter Cocks, both of whom suitably responded, the former expressing his feeling towards the members of the lodge as the Irishman did towards the other sex: "That he wished they had but one rosy mouth, that he might kiss them all from north and south."

Bro. Dr. G. E. Jeaffreson, in submitting the toast of the evening, "The W.M., Bro. Drake," remarked that he had attended many of these gatherings, but he did not think he ever had more satisfaction in proposing a toast than he had on that occasion. Their friend, Bro. J. B. Fraser, had that day installed a Master who they all knew would be an honour to the old lodge to which he belonged—a lodge which had survived various migrations, but which, he ventured to say, never had a worthier home than that of the old town of Framlingham. They had all seen Bro. Drake's work in the lodge, and had seen the courteous and kindly way in which he conducted himself towards all, and he (the speaker) was sure that kindly conduct would inspire fidelity and activity in the officers of the lodge, and which would help him considerably in performing the duties of his office.

The Worshipful Master, in returning thanks, said he felt they had conferred a great honour upon him in electing him Worshipful Master of the lodge. He assured them that it would be his endeavour to do his utmost for the lodge in particular and Freemasonry in general. The Immediate Past Master had set a high ideal before him of what a Master should be, and which he felt it would be impossible for him to attain, but at the same time he would do his best, and he knew that he had a set of officers who would assist him in carrying out that object.

In conclusion, he proposed "The Health of the Immediate Past Master, Bro. W. T. Brunger," who, he testified, had filled the chair with zeal and energy.

Bro. Brunger acknowledged the compliment in appropriate terms.

The other toasts were "The Officers of the Lodge," coupled with the names of Bros. Vernon and Lynch, "The Installing Master, Bro. J. B. Fraser," "The Visitors," &c.

ROTHERHAM.

Phoenix Lodge (No. 904).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 26th ult., at the Masonic Hall, Domine-lane, there being present Bros. J. France, W.M.; M. Le Pall, S.W.; G. A. Illston, J.W.; A. Robinson, Sec.; H. J. Bingham, Asst. Sec.; D. Pagett, S.D.; E. Isle Hubbard, J.D.; D. G. Davy, D.C.; T. C. Royle, Org.; T. France, I.G.; G. Foster, Stwd.; T. Chester, Tyler; R. J. Buttenshaw, I.P.M.; T. W. Roome, P.M., P.P.G.S. of W.; J. Jenkin, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C.; J. Gibbs, P.M.; and a number of other brethren.

The minutes of the last regular meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. T. P. Hewitt was impressively raised to the Third Degree by Bro. J. France, W.M., the charge

being delivered by Bro. R. J. Buttenshaw, I.P.M., and the working tools explained by Bro. T. W. Roome, P.M., P.P.G.S. of W. Bro. T. Chester, Tyler, was called into the lodge by Bro. J. France, W.M., and congratulated on his appointment as Provincial Assistant Grand Tyler, and informed that it was the wish of the brethren to show their appreciation of his long service, and the honour conferred upon him by presenting him with a suit of Provincial Grand Lodge clothing. The W.M. then called upon Bro. J. Jenkin, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C., to invest Bro. T. Chester with the same. Bro. T. Chester, in suitable terms, thanked the W.M. and brethren for their great kindness and good wishes they had shown towards him. The lodge was then closed.

SUTTON.

Lorne Lodge (No. 1347).—The last meeting of the session of this well-known lodge was held at the Greyhound Hotel, on Saturday, the 11th inst., when there were present Bros. C. A. Hardwick, W.M.; T. A. Hill, P.G. Org., I.P.M.; J. Hosking, S.W.; H. T. Byard, J.W.; Rev. W. H. Turner, P.M., P.P.G. Chap., Chaplain, Treas.; J. J. Slade, P.M., P.P.G.S., Sec.; Frost, P.M., P.P.G. D.C.; G. C. Burry, P.M., P.P.G. Org.; E. J. Lowther, P.M.; G. Dixon, P.M., P.P.S.G.D. Berks and Bucks; W. Pile, P.M., P.P.G.S.; F. Ward, P.M.; G. Chandler, A. Stribling, H. Taylor, W. Forster, T. C. Cookes, H. Griffiths, T. R. Porter, H. Leaver, W. Dennett, D. Napper, J. H. Asman, H. Smith, C. Price, H. L. Cole, G. Plumb, and L. G. Reinhardt, Tyler. Visitors: Bros. T. T. Bucknill, Q.C., P.M. 136, and W.M. 2422; J. B. Watt, P.M. 764; G. Free, P.M. 73; A. Greening, P.M. 1426; A. L. Dodd, 271; J. H. Hayes, 1457; J. Husbands, 23; G. L. Henderson, 1641; and A. R. Jackson, 1347.

The lodge was opened, and Bros. Price, Cole, and Plumb were most impressively raised by the W.M. The brethren then proceeded to the election of the W.M. for the ensuing year, and the ballot proved unanimous in favour of Bro. Hosking, S.W. Bros. Rev. W. H. Turner and J. J. Slade were re-elected to the respective offices of Treasurer and Secretary. Bro. Reinhardt was also elected Tyler. The W.M. then read a letter from the Provincial Grand Master, expressing his regret at not being able to accept the kind invitation to be present, as he was engaged at the installation meeting of the George Price Lodge. After which the W.M. received the hearty congratulations of the brethren, and the lodge was closed.

The brethren then adjourned to an excellent banquet, admirably served by the host, Bro. Thorn.

On the removal of the cloth, the W.M. gave the loyal and Masonic toasts in his usual able manner, which were cordially received.

Bro. T. A. Hill, I.P.M., proposed in suitable terms "The Health of the W.M."

The Worshipful Master, in reply, thanked the I.P.M. for the flattering way in which he had proposed his health, and the cordial manner in which the brethren had received it. He would like to give a short retrospective view of the past year. At the installation they were honoured by the presence of the Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Colonel Noel Money, C.B., and Bro. F. West, P.G.D., Dep. Prov. Grand Master, this being the first lodge the Prov. Grand Master had attended since his installation as Grand Master of the province. At the next meeting, in November, six gentlemen were initiated into the Craft, thereby breaking the record with regard to this lodge. In December a telegram of congratulation was sent to the M.W. Grand Master of England, on the betrothal of his son, to which his Royal Highness was graciously pleased to reply by telegram. In January, at an emergency lodge, called especially to raise Bro. Rev. Hawker, previous to his leaving England for South Africa, the lodge had the melancholy duty of sending a letter of respectful condolence to the M.W. Grand Master, to which his Royal Highness was pleased to reply. On this occasion the brethren were hospitably entertained by Bro. Cookes. In February, the record of the lodge was again broken by the Three Degrees being worked; a remarkable coincidence happened, as the charter of the lodge was signed 21 years ago on that very day. In April, the brethren welcomed a member of the Greenwich Lodge as a visitor, that lodge having lately removed to Sutton. During the year there had been nine initiates, again breaking the record of the Lorne Lodge. The W.M. said it had been his one object to further the welfare of the lodge and the comfort of the brethren, and if that had been done he should retire from the chair contented.

The Worshipful Master then proposed "The Health of the Visitors," and Bro. T. T. Bucknill, Q.C., responded in an able speech, in which he congratulated the W.M. on the excellent way the lodge was conducted, and expressed his regret at not being able to be present to see the raising.

Bros. Watt and Hayes also responded.

In giving the toasts of "The Past Masters" and "The Treasurer and Secretary," the W.M. thanked the officers for the kind assistance he had received during his year of office.

The Tyler's toast closed a most enjoyable evening.

The musical programme was, as usual, most ably carried out under the direction of Bro. A. Stribling, I.G., assisted by Bros. Hill, Barry, Asman, Ward, and Dennett.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.

Stranton Lodge (No. 1862).—On Wednesday, the 1st inst., this lodge assembled, under the presidency of Bro. Wm. Barlow, P.P.G. Stwd., W.M., the occasion being signalled by an official visit on the part of the P.G. Sec., Bro. R. Hudson, P.G.S.B. England, in connection with their new Masonic Hall, now in course of construction. The P.G. Sec. was accompanied by Bros. Thos. Bradley, P.P.J.G.D., P.P.S.G.W.; Robert Singleton, P.P.G.D.; R. Woodliffe Simpson, P.P.S.G.D.; F. H. Bennett, P.P.J.G.D.; M. Harrison, P.P.S.G.D.; T. Atkinson, P.P.A.G.D.C.; J. Metcalfe, P.P.G. Std. Br.; and A. Farmer, P.S.G.W. North and East Yorkshire. Amongst the brethren in attendance were Bros. E. Nixey, G. Stwd. England; T. Richardson, J.P.; and representatives of the Harbour of Refuge, St. Helen's, Isaac Newton, Philanthropy, Fraternity, Samaritan, North York, and Tees Lodges; also Bros. W. Mayson, P.M.; J. Abbey, P.M.; G. T. Walker, P.M.; Thomas Gibbons, P.M.; E. Hudson, P.P.G.D.C.; W. R. Staveley, W.M. 764; J. Monkman, W.M. elect 764; whilst Bro. J. Johnson officiated as S.W., and Bro. Albert Boddy as J.W.

The Prov. Grand Secretary, who was cordially received, expressed his great pleasure and that of his brother officers in being privileged to attend, the more so after an illness in

his own case lasting some 18 months, during which he had only been able by correspondence to keep himself in touch with the various lodges throughout the province. He was the more pleased because of such a large muster, and he owned it might be to his own shame that he had not until now renewed his acquaintance with Stranton Lodge, which he made at its consecration 11 years ago as Director of Ceremonies. He remembered his cordial reception at that time, and he could only hope that a similar function might occur before long to bring them together again. He would take that opportunity of saying how glad he was that there were so many connected with Stranton and the other lodges in the locality to take the lively interest that they did in the welfare of the Boys' Institution, for although they might in the past have found themselves dragging, so to speak, at the end of the rope, they had of late taken up a more prominent position in the province in that respect, and he had no doubt that they would all do their part to take two hundred guineas to the support of the Boys' School when next they reported on the state of the funds, the brethren in this county contributing, he should think, from twenty to twenty-five guineas for that object. Thus far, Stranton and the other lodges as well as individual brethren, had done well hitherto, and he had no doubt but that in course of time they would realise upwards of a thousand guineas towards free education in their Institutions, and that, without interfering with the admirable cause so ably represented by Bro. Bradley. He knew indeed one lodge in particular that was going to send eighty guineas, and with such an example he had no fear of the result generally. They counted 2400 subscribing members. They were especially strong in the Provinces of West Yorkshire and East Lancashire. The largest number, he believed, was seventy-five per lodge, whilst in the other great provinces, they ranged about forty. Nor could he doubt that the brethren of this district would continue to contribute a loyal share of this truly charitable work. He had the less doubt on this point since they were about to erect a new hall, and might surely rely on the fraternal co-operation of the mother lodge (the Harbour of Refuge). Now that he had been spared to come out again, he trusted at no distant day to be able to repeat his visit to West Hartlepool. It was by pure accident that he chose Stranton on this occasion, but he desired to bear equal testimony to the fidelity of all the lodges, and expressed a hope that they might all go on and prosper. Subsequently Bro. Bennett proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Provincial Grand Secretary for his timely visit and encouraging remarks. He also wished on the part of the brethren to offer their sincerest congratulations to Bro. Hudson on his restoration to health, and to express an earnest hope that he might be long spared to direct the affairs of this important province. He moved further that a minute to that effect be recorded on the books. Bro. Matthew Harrison seconded. They all knew the immense services which their honoured brother rendered to the Brotherhood, and they truly rejoiced at his restoration. Bro. Hudson, in response, said he assured the brethren that he felt deeply the kind remarks that had been made, and especially the complimentary allusions of the seconder. He certainly felt extremely glad to be present amongst them, and to receive their congratulations. He anticipated at one time the presence of Bro. Canon Tristram, D.P.G.M. of Durham, but that good brother was unfortunately prevented by having to be in Manchester that evening. He was sure they all regretted his absence, as he was personally known to many in that hall, but he (Bro. Hudson) would take care to inform him of the gratifying position of Freemasonry in their locality.

Subsequently the brethren dined together to the number of 70, under the presidency of the Worshipful Master, when the usual loyal, Masonic, and patriotic toasts were proposed and duly honoured, interspersed with musical harmony, contributed by Bros. Thompson, Woolley, Holt, Braybrook, and others, Bro. J. E. R. Hurworth playing the accompaniments.

Mark Masonry.

Earl of Carnarvon Lodge (No. 211).—This lodge met for the dispatch of business at Ladbrooke Hall, Notting-hill, on the 26th ult. Among those in attendance were Bros. S. H. Parkhouse, W.M.; Huish, S.W.; Monson, J.W.; Wadham, M.O.; Dr. Kiallmark, S.O.; J. N. Frye, P.M., Treas.; Capt. T. C. Walls, P.M., P.G.S.B., Sec.; G. W. Larter, S.D.; F. C. Pocock, M.D., I.P.M.; and Skinner, P.M.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken on behalf of Bro. Bear, 1642, and it being unanimous, he was ably advanced to the Degree of a M.M. by the I.P.M. The resolution as to the removal of the lodge to Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, was unanimously confirmed, and the dates of meeting amended as follow: February and November, instead of January and October. The Secretary was directed to obtain the approval of Grand Mark Lodge to these important alterations. The W.M. having reported that Bro. G. Gardner, J.O., was very unwell, a vote of sympathy was passed, and the Secretary was requested to forward same to Bro. Gardner. Communications regretting inability to attend were received from Bros. Rickwood, P.M.; J. Taylor, P.M.; F. C. Frye, P.M.; D. P. Cama, P.M.; G. Gardner, J.O.; and others.

The lodge was then closed and adjourned till November next.

Refreshment followed labour, the toasts were ably given by the W.M., whose genial efforts to make the proceedings interesting and convivial were successful to a degree.

HULL.

Humber Lodge (No. 182).—On Thursday, the 19th inst., at the Freemasons' Hall, Osborne-street, Bro. John Clark, who had been unanimously elected as W.M. for the ensuing year of the above lodge, was duly installed into the chair of K.S. by Bro. G. Wilson, P.M., ably assisted by Bro. E. Corris, P.M. A large number of the brethren of the lodge were present, as well as representatives from the sister lodges. The ceremony of installation having been performed, Bro. Clark appointed and invested the following brethren for the ensuing year: Bros. John Walton, I.P.M.; R. J. McLeavy, S.W.; J. Henderson, J.W.; H. J. Oldroyd, M.O.; F. Eustace, S.O.; G. Lamb, J.O.; E. Corris, P.M., Chap.; G.

Wilson, P.M., Treas.; J. R. Ansdell, P.M., Lecture Master; J. Thyer, Sec. (re-appointed for the eighth year); Dr. J. W. Mason, R. of M.; H. Glassman, S.D.; E. Kenningham, J.D.; W. C. Bradley, D.C.; J. R. Stringer, Org.; Thos. Hart, I.G.; Peter Atkinson, Stwd.; and D. Swallow, Tyler.

The lodge was then closed, and the usual banquet was afterwards held, a choice menu having been prepared by the Steward, Bro. P. Atkinson, and at which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, being interspersed by songs, &c., contributed by several of the brethren.

Lodges and Chapters of Instruction.

CLARENCE LODGE (No. 263).—The usual weekly meeting was held on Thursday, the 9th inst., at 1A, Fitzroy-square, when the following brethren were present: Bros. J. Hart, W.M.; Jas. Corp, S.W.; C. J. Frost, J.W.; W. H. Kirby, Preceptor; W. Baker, Sec.; M. M. Taylor, S.D.; A. Leighton, J.D.; R. C. Edwards, I.G.; J. H. Passmore, H. Neville, J. Tidmarsh, F. W. Crohn, D. D. West, M. B. Evans, and H. Jay. Visitors: Bros. J. Liscombe, 1818; A. Goodinge, 1818; and T. Davison, 200.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. West having volunteered to act as candidate, the W.M. very ably rehearsed the ceremony of initiation, and delivered the charge. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and Bro. Jas. Corp, S.W., worked the 1st Section of the Second Lecture. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and closed in the Third and Second Degrees. Bros. J. Liscombe, A. Goodinge, and T. Davison were proposed and seconded as joining members. Bro. Jas. Corp was unanimously elected W.M. for the next meeting. He appointed his officers, and announced that the work would be the ceremonies of passing and installation. Upon the proposal of Bro. Kirby, a very hearty vote of thanks was unanimously accorded to Bro. Hart, upon the occasion of his first occupying the Master's chair, for the admirable manner in which he had performed the work and conducted the meeting. Bro. Hart returned thanks, and the lodge was closed.

The Committee are glad to be able to announce that, with the exception of a few dates, the future meetings of this lodge will be held in the large dining room at 1A, Fitzroy-square, and they trust this additional comfort and convenience to the members will ensure well-attended meetings during the summer months.

RANELAGH LODGE (No. 834).—A meeting was held on Friday, the 10th inst., at the Six Bells Hotel, Queen-street, Hammersmith, when the officers of the mother lodge occupied their respective offices as follows: Bros. J. F. Williams, W.M.; R. H. Williams, P.M., S.W.; J. Sims, P.M., J.W.; D. S. Long, Sec.; R. Reid, S.D.; R. Phillips, J.D.; J. Banks, I.G.; F. Craggs, I.P.M.; H. Scharien, C. Woods, H. Wake, and G. C. Stafford (visitor).

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Stafford acting as candidate. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree. Bro. Wake offering himself as a candidate for raising, was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and the ceremony rehearsed. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree. The W.M. having risen, it was announced that Bro. J. Banks had been duly elected W.M. for the ensuing meeting at the previous one. After "Hearty good wishes" had been given, the lodge was closed.

SOUTHERN STAR LODGE (No. 1158).—A meeting was held on Thursday, the 9th inst., at the Sir Sidney Smith, Chester-street, Kennington-road, S.E. Present: Bros. Knight, W.M.; Green, S.W.; Witney, J.W.; Wise, P.M., Treasurer and Preceptor; Wooll, Secretary; Caley, S.D.; Mann, J.D.; Moss, I.G.; Burton, and Whiting.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Burton answered the usual questions leading to the Second Degree, and was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the ceremony of passing rehearsed, Bro. Burton officiating as candidate. Bro. Witney worked the 1st Section of the Lecture, and the 2nd Section was worked by Bro. Wise. The lodge having been closed in the Second Degree, the W.M. rose for the first time, and dues were collected. The W.M. rose for the second time, and Bro. Green was unanimously elected W.M. for next meeting, and having returned thanks, appointed his officers. The W.M. rose for the third time, and all Masonic business being ended, the lodge was closed.

BLACKHEATH LODGE (No. 1320).—The usual weekly meeting was held at the Milkwood Tavern, Milkwood-road, Loughborough Junction, on Monday, the 13th inst., when there were present Bros. Turner, W.M.; Barr, S.W.; Telling, J.W.; F. Hilton, P.M., Preceptor; Stone, Sec.; Rice, Asst. Sec.; Dawson, S.D.; Clarke, J.D.; Beccroft, I.G.; Lake, Tyler; Alex. Martin, P.M.; Stunt, P.M.; Hooper, Hill, Niblett, Youens, Sly, Dr. Raw, and H. G. Martin.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Niblett having offered himself as candidate, answered the usual questions, and was entrusted and retired. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and Bro. Niblett was passed to the Degree of F.C. The lodge was called off and on. The W.M. vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Hooper, who worked the installation ceremony. Bro. Dr. Raw being installed into the chair of K.S., invested his officers. The addresses were ably rendered by Bro. Hooper. Bro. Niblett, 1622, was elected a joining member. Bro. Barr, S.W., was elected W.M. for next meeting. A cordial vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Hooper for so ably rehearsing the installation ceremony with the addresses. The lodge was then closed.

HYDE PARK LODGE (No. 1425).—A meeting was held on Monday, the 13th inst., at the Prince of Wales Hotel, corner of Eastbourne-terrace and Bishop's-road, Paddington, W., when there were present Bros. J. C. Conway, W.M.; W. Hillier, S.W.; Major E. J. Reed, J.W.; W. J. Ferguson, P.M. 177; Deputy Preceptor; H. Dehane, P.M. 1543; Sec.; E. T. Cunder, S.D.;

W. Edlestein, J.D.; J. Bartlett, I.G.; T. M. Lamble, Steward; J. J. Thomas, P.M. 753; W. J. Mason, P.M. 1328; C. S. Mote, P.M. 1732; G. Davies, P.M. 167; S. Stretch, P.M. 753; W. J. Stretton, P.M. 753; W. Chapple, H. Campbell, W. L. James, G. Weaver, and T. S. Franklin.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Campbell acting as candidate. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the usual preliminaries having been observed, the lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and the ceremony of raising rehearsed, Bro. Chapple acting as candidate. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree. Bro. Hillier was elected W.M. for the next meeting—officers to be in rotation. Bros. Thomas and Mason thanked those brethren of the lodge who so materially assisted them in their election on the Board of General Purposes. "Hearty good wishes" were given to Bro. Stretch, who is about leaving to reside in America, which compliment he feelingly acknowledged. Votes of condolence were passed with the widows and families of the late Bros. Cruttenden, P.M. 1425, and Major E. F. Ferris. After "Hearty good wishes" to the W.M., the lodge was closed.

CREATON LODGE (No. 1791).—A meeting was held on Thursday, the 2nd inst., at the Wheatsheaf Hotel, Goldhawk-road, Shepherd's Bush, W., when there were present Bros. J. Brown, P.M., W.M.; T. Kington, S.W.; W. G. Jennings, J.W.; John Davies, P.M., Preceptor; G. E. Higginson, Deputy Preceptor; E. Austin, P.M., Treas.; F. Craggs, P.M., Sec. (pro tem.); R. N. Larter, S.D.; G. W. T. Kirkham, J.D.; H. R. Elkin, I.G.; H. Gane, Leonard Cox, Louis Lee, A. W. R. Atkins, J. Sims, P.M.; and E. W. Scolding.

The lodge was duly opened, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed. Bro. Atkins having offered himself as a candidate for passing, he was examined and entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the ceremony rehearsed. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree. Bro. Kington was elected W.M. for the next meeting. Bro. Cox was elected Asst. Secretary, and the lodge was closed.

ST. AMBROSE LODGE (No. 1891).—A meeting was held on Monday, the 13th inst., at the Scarsdale Arms Hotel, Edwardes-square, Kensington, when there were present Bros. T. C. Dyer, W.M.; E. Clare, S.W.; C. G. Hatt, J.W.; Jesse Collings, P.M., Preceptor; F. Craggs, P.M., Sec.; Joseph Cox, S.D.; C. E. Betts, J.D.; S. Sidders, I.G.; W. C. Williams, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br. Middx.; C. C. Barber, T. E. P. Bell, E. J. Gibbs, P. Howard, and T. W. Lightfoot.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree. Bro. Barber then offered himself as a candidate for raising, and proving proficient on examination, was entrusted. Bro. Dyer vacated the chair of W.M. in favour of Bro. Clare. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and the ceremony rehearsed. The lodge was resumed to the Second Degree, and closed in that Degree. Bro. Clare rehearsed the investiture of officers, and the addresses incident to the ceremony of installation were delivered by Bro. W. C. Williams. Bro. Dyer was elected W.M. for the next meeting. A vote of thanks was passed to Bro. Clare for the excellent manner in which he had conducted the duties of W.M. for the first time in this lodge. The lodge was then closed.

HORNSEY CHAPTER (No. 890).—A meeting of this chapter was held on Friday, the 10th inst., at the Prince of Wales Hotel, corner of Eastbourne-terrace and Bishop's-road, Paddington, W., when there were present Comps. I. C. Edmonds, P.Z. 1507, M.E.Z.; J. Cruttenden, 779, H.; A. J. Turner, 1st A.S., 1196, J.; W. Dehane, P.Z. 890, S.E.; J. C. Tilt, P.S. 862, S.N.; H. Hillier, P.S.; J. H. Cuff, P.Z. 862; and J. Bailey, H. 1602.

The chapter was opened, and the minutes were read and confirmed. The ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, Comp. Bailey being the candidate. Votes of thanks were passed to Comps. Edmonds and Bailey, who both acknowledged the compliment. The M.E.Z. having risen the usual number of times, "Hearty good wishes" were accorded, and the chapter was closed.

Red Cross of Rome and Constantine.

Premier Conclave.—This distinguished conclave met at Mark Masons' Hall, Great Queen-street, on the 7th inst., when there were present Sir Knights Nelson Prover, M.A., F.G.S., M.P.S.; C. E. Keyser, J.P., M.P.S. elect; Purrott, S.G.; Robinson, J.G.; J. Mason, P.G. Gen., P.M.P.S., Recorder; H. H. Shirley, M.A., P.M.P.S., G.C.; Dr. Mickle, P.M.P.S., P.G. Gen.; Capt. T. C. Walls, P.M.P.S., P.G. Gen.; H. J. Lardner, P.M.P.S., G.C.; Heard, P.M.P.S., G.C.; Scurrah, L. Steele, and others.

The minutes of the previous conclave having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken for Bro. G. Ingleton Phillips, 225, and he being in attendance, was impressively installed a knight of the Order. Sir Knights H. H. Shirley, P.M.P.S., at the special request of the M.P.S., ably installed Sir Knight C. E. Keyser as Most Puissant Sovereign, and inducted Sir Knight Purrott as V.E. Among the sir knights appointed and invested as officers were Sir Knights Robinson, Senior General; Pakes, Junior General; Thomas Cubitt, Treas.; John Mason, Recorder; Scurrah, Prefect; George Graveley, Lawrence Steele, the Rev. R. C. Fillingham, M.A., G. J. Phillips, and Frater Reinhardt, Sentinel. A vote of thanks was passed to the Installing Sovereign. A vote of condolence was passed to Lady Burdett and family on the great loss they have suffered by the sudden death of Sir Knight Col. Sir Francis Burdett, Bart., who was a member of the Premier Conclave and Grand Sovereign of the Order. Before the vote was taken Sir Knights John Mason, T. C. Walls, C. E. Keyser, H. H. Shirley, and others made touching allusions to the social qualities of the late revered chief of the Order, and the interest he took in all branches of Freemasonry. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Sir Knights T. Cubitt, P.G. Gen.; J. J. Pakes, the Rev. R. C. Fillingham, M.A., W. Lake, P.M.P.S., and others.

The conclave was then closed, and the sir knights adjourned to the banquet. The M.P.S. presided most effectively, but in consequence of the recent death of the Grand Sovereign the proceedings were necessarily shorn of their usual brightness, and the sir knights separated at an early hour.

DEDICATION OF A NEW ORGAN AT HULL.

On Wednesday, the 8th inst., a very large attendance of brethren from the Province of North and East Yorkshire assembled at the new Masonic Hall, Kingston-square, Hull, on the occasion of the dedication of the new organ, which has been built by Bros. Forster and Andrews, the eminent organ manufacturers, Hull, to the joint order of the Kingston (No. 1010) and De La Pole Lodges (No. 1605). A procession was formed, and Bro. F. Bentley, Mus. Bac. Oxon. (Organist of the Hull Parish Church), Organist of the lodge, presided at the fine instrument. The decorating of the pipes and the organ case have been specially arranged to harmonise with the interior of a Masonic hall, and make a very striking effect.

The following were amongst those present: Bros. H. Woodhouse, W.M.; F. S. Brodrick, I.P.M.; M. C. Peck, P.M., P.G.S.B. England, P.G. Sec.; H. H. Briggs, S.W.; E. G. Hewerdine, J.W.; Canon McCormick, D.D., P.P.G.C., Chap.; F. Fullerton, P.M., P.P.G.R., Treas.; Carlill-Savill, Sec.; T. W. Mason, S.D.; R. Barton, J.D.; R. Carson, D.C.; F. Bentley, Mus. Bac. Oxon, Org.; W. J. Close, I.G.; F. C. Bishop, Librarian; F. J. Lambert, P.G.T., Tyler; C. J. Todd, P.M., P.P.G.R.; W. H. Wellsted, P.M.; G. Bohn, P.M., P.P.G.R.; R. Hodgson, P.M., P.P.G.W.; J. Bilson, P.M.; Col. H. Fawcett Pudsey, P.M.; J. G. Smithson, P.M.; G. Lamb, P.G. Stwd.; W. D. Keyworth, P.P.G.S. of W.; A. E. Peasegood, W. F. Harris, C. Judge, T. A. Baldwin, M.D., G. H. Lodge, J. H. Peters, and A. E. White, C.E. The visitors were Bros. H. W. Meggitt, P.M. 1447, P.A.G. Sec. Lincolnshire; L. Brekke, W.M., J. A. Brown, S.W., Torr, J.W., J. E. Walker, D.C., F. Blackburn, P.M., Stephenson, I.P.M., Hollis, J. K. Andrews (builder of new organ), Jessop, Douglas, Massam, Palethorpe, and V. King, of 250; Wilbore, S.W., Tesseyman, P.M., G. Wilson, P.M., and Priest, of 57; J. Edgar, W.M. 297; and Tindall, W.M., Cooper, S.W., Peat, I.P.M., and J. Sugden, P.M., of 1605.

The W.M., Bro. H. Woodhouse, LL.D.; the Chaplain, Bro. Canon McCormick, D.D., P.P.G.C. (vicar of Hull); Bro. F. Fullerton, P.P.G. Reg., Lecture Master; and Bro. J. Bilson took part in the proceedings, and Bro. R. Barton sang the solo in "Hail Masonry divine," and Bro. Brown played a cornet solo, "I know that my Redeemer liveth," Bro. Bentley playing the organ accompaniment during the proceedings.

Bro. M. C. Peck, P.G. Std. Br. England, P.G. Sec., said the very charming instrument which had just been dedicated would add to the beauty and dignity of the working of the lodge. Greater attention being given to music, the due solemnity of the meetings would attract the members, and Masonry necessarily improve. They had 31 lodges in the province, and of these 30 meet in their own Masonic halls, and only one in a licensed house. After some humorous remarks, the speaker expressed his gratification of being present at so interesting an occasion.

The W.M., Bro. H. Woodhouse, LL.D., said: Brethren,—I cannot allow the labours of this evening to end without saying a few words which I trust you will regard as not inappropriate on the present occasion. This evening we are celebrating the opening of the new organ, which has been purchased at the joint expense of our own and the De La Pole Lodge, and it may here be interesting to some of the brethren present (and I am pleased to see so many distinguished members of our noble Craft amongst us), to know briefly its history. It is an old saying that "it's an ill-wind that blows no one any good," and I am bound to admit that the fire which occurred on these premises in December last was just one of those "ill-winds." It kept us out of our lodge for some two months at the beginning of the year, and caused us to seek other quarters for a time elsewhere. The W.M. and brethren of the Minerva Lodge, No. 250, who are honouring us with their official visit this evening, very generously placed their lodge at our convenience. What has been the result? As your W.M. I held my first lodge under their roof, and you are all aware that they are the only lodge in Hull who can boast of a proper organ. I felt that it was quite time the Kingston had one also. I was not slow to perceive that an organ would prove a great acquisition to us, and would materially add to the solemnity and beauty as well as to the dignity of our ceremonial. I am proud to say that I had barely to breathe the suggestion to the brethren to find them unanimous in lending me their support for carrying out the project. Then, as we join with the De La Pole, No. 1605, in the occupancy of our Masonic Hall, it became necessary to consult with them on the subject. They likewise most readily fell in with the idea, and where so much unanimity was displayed little wonder is it that within so short a space of time the idea has expanded into the fact, and that we are here tonight to inaugurate the opening of the new organ. I think we have great cause for congratulation. The organ has, I am sure, given evidence of the excellency of the workmanship of the builders, Bros. Forster and Andrews, of this town. I feel it my duty to mention some of the brethren who have given special attention and assistance. Bro. F. Fullerton, P.M., P.P.G. Reg. East Yorkshire, kindly placed his office at the Savings Bank at our disposal for holding the meetings of the

joint committee of the two lodges, and rendered me very great help in obtaining estimates and going to inspect various instruments in the town. When it was ultimately decided to accept Bros. Forster and Andrews' tender to build an entirely new organ, Bro. J. Bilson, P.M., was good enough to give them instructions so as to have the framework to harmonise in design and colour with the furniture of the lodge. Bro. R. G. Smith, P.M., P.P.S.G.W. East Yorks, designed the decorations of the front pipes so that they should be emblematical of Freemasonry, and Bro. F. Bentley, Mus. Bac., our excellent Organist, has been unremitting in his attentions in the care he has taken that the tone should be suitable for the lodge and its general purpose: besides the help he gave by valuable suggestions to the builders as to the kind of instrument which would be most effective while at the same time inexpensive. And lastly I ought to add under how deep an obligation we feel to Bros. Forster and Andrews (the former a member of our own lodge and the latter of the Minerva) for the consideration they have extended to us. They have most cheerfully acted upon all the suggestions made to them, and in the result turned out a handsome and, I hope, useful instrument. To each and all I desire to tender my own personal thanks for their kind co-operation in working together so heartily and fraternally in this good work. The accompaniment of music must lend impressiveness to our beautiful ritual, and where that can be done so effectively as is only possible with an organ, the work of the Kingston Lodge will, I hope, add even additional prestige to the high reputation it has always borne.

The brethren then adjourned to the dining hall for the banquet. The evening was spent in a most happy and sociable manner, several brethren contributing harmony, which pleasantly interspersed the proceedings. We may add that Bro. W. J. Hughan, P.S.G.D., wrote Bro. Carlill Savill the following characteristic postcard: "On the wing. Wish much I could be present to-morrow, so as to make one of the many to take part in the proceedings. Hearty congratulations and best wishes."

A UNIQUE RAISING.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Norths and Hunts met at Stamford on Thursday, the 9th inst. This was also the day for the regular meeting of St. Peter's Lodge, No. 442, Peterborough, and as there was a candidate for raising, the W.M., Bro. A. M. Pentney, after consulting with his officers and some of the Past Masters, decided to summon the lodge for seven o'clock in the morning. The result was that about 25 of the brethren attended, and Bro. J. J. Wheeler, son of Bro. J. Wheeler, sen., P.M., was raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M.

The lodge was opened in the Three Degrees by the W.M., and the ceremony was performed by Bros. J. Hardy, P.M., and J. B. Vergette, P.M.

The lodge was closed, and the brethren were then hospitably entertained at breakfast by the Bros. Wheeler, after which they dispersed, most of them to meet again at Stamford in the afternoon.

The early morning experiment met with general approval, and the brethren expressed a hope that during the summer months the meetings would be held in the morning instead of the evening.

ANNUAL OUTING OF THE WEST OF SCOTLAND ROSICRUCIAN COLLEGE, GLASGOW.

The annual outing of the above was held on Saturday, the 4th instant, when the fratres proceeded to Dumfries. The weather was exceedingly fine, and the journey rendered pleasant through the kindness of the Glasgow and South-Western Railway Company attaching a saloon carriage for their use to the 10 a.m. train. On arriving at Dumfries, after luncheon they drove to Sweetheart Abbey, where they spent a most interesting hour among the old pile of its ruins.

On returning to the town, the V.W. Magister Temple, Frater D. R. Clark, M.A., opened the college at the Masonic Hall, assisted by the following office-bearers: Fratres W. S. Hunter, Deputy Master; T. R. Richards, Treas. and Sec.; J. W. Ruddock, P.A.; J. Oliphant, S.A.; J. Foulds, T.A.; J. A. S. Kerr, Q.A.; F. W. Larter, Precentor; E. Berger, Org.; and a competent number of fratres, when the following aspirants presented themselves for admission to the college from Glasgow and Dumfries: W. Falconer, John McQueen Barr, James Smith, W. A. Dimviddie, Joseph G. Coupland, Jas. Lennox, Geo. Crawford, and James Geddes.

After their admission, the Master of the Temple, Frater D. R. Clark, M.A., read a most interesting and instructive paper on "Cross and Symbolism of the Four Quarters," which will appear in the printed transactions of the college, at the close of which he was accorded a very hearty vote of thanks, proposed by Frater J. W. Ruddock, and seconded by Frater J. Foulds.

The college was then closed, and the fratres adjourned to the King's Arms Hotel, where a sumptuous banquet was served, afterwards returning to town by the 6.50 p.m. train, having spent the most enjoyable day in the history of the college.

The whole of the arrangements were admirably carried out by the indefatigable Secretary, Frater Thos. Richards.

PRESENTATION TO COMP. ROBERT JACKSON, P.Z. 169, M.E.Z. 2182.

We are taught that "the hope of reward sweetens labour," and it was with the view of giving a practical illustration of this time-honoured Masonic proverb that several members of the Temperance Chapter, No. 169, assembled at the White Swan Hotel, High-street, Deptford, on the evening of Thursday, the 9th inst. The occasion was a dinner and the presentation of a handsome P.Z.'s jewel and an illuminated address to the I.P.Z., Comp. Robert Jackson, as a small testimony of the respect in which he is held by the companions, and in appreciation of the exemplary manner in which he had discharged the duties of the various offices he had filled in the chapter, including the installation of his successor.

Comp. HENRY MOORE, P.Z., presided, and with some appropriate and kindly remarks made the presentation on behalf of the several subscribers whose signatures were appended to the address.

Amongst those present were Comps. H. Sadler, P.Z.; G. L. Moore, P.Z.; J. G. Dale, M. L. Carpenter, and others.

The Craft Abroad.

MELBOURNE.

Combermere Lodge (No. 752, E.C.)—The 35th anniversary of this lodge (the only one remaining under the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of England in Victoria), took place at the Freemasons' Hall, Collins-street, on Thursday, the 21st April, in the presence of a large gathering of visiting brethren and members. The United Grand Lodge of Victoria was represented by Bros. George Baker, D.G.M., acting G.M.; Dr. C. Ryan, S.G.W.; Angell Ellis, G. Treas.; John Braim, G. Reg.; T. H. Lempriere, G. Sec.; and other Grand Officers; also Past District Grand Officers of Victoria, New South Wales, South Australia, and New Zealand, including Bro. M. E. Robinson, P.D.G.M. of Tasmania, and brethren from England, India, Hong Kong, New Zealand, and Fiji.

Bro. Dr. J. J. E. Willmott, P.M., P.G.D. of England conducted the ceremony, assisted by Bros. W. R. N. Virgoe, F. B. Force, J. F. Crane, and Dr. J. Talbot Brett, Past Masters of the lodge. Bro. Arthur Knight, J.W., was installed W.M., and the following officers were invested: Bros. F. B. Force, acting I.P.M.; Andrew Thomson, P.M., S.G.D. of Victoria, S.W.; E. L. Oldfield, J.W.; C. B. Williams, re-elected Treas.; Fitzgerald Snowball, Sec.; Dr. C. H. Molloy, S.D.; Dr. F. W. W. Morton, J.D.; Dr. J. Talbot Brett, P.M., D.C.; Dr. George Cuscaden, I.G.; G. H. Palfrey, R. G. Spall, and J. M'Naughton, Stewards; Ernest H. E. Wood (Organist of St. Paul's Cathedral), Choirmaster; Charles Dumerque, B.A., Org.; and James Paul, re-elected Tyler.

The Theatres.

"Hero and Leander," Mr. Kyrle Bellew's version of the well-known classical story adapted from the Austrian poet's (Grillparzer) work, is as poor in its so-called blank verse as it is pretty in its scenic effects and music, and we are afraid Mr. Lart will have some difficulty in filling the Shaftesbury Theatre on these summer evenings with such a meagre bill of fare. Mr. Bellew's adaptation has no literary merit whatever; his dialogue is bald, and his construction bare, and yet the story is simple and pretty, and in the hands of a skilled dramatist has the ground work in it of a good play. Mr. Kyrle Bellew's is one of the most fervent lovers we have on the stage, but he is dragged down as Leander by Mrs. Brown-Potter, who essays the character of Hero. Mrs. Brown-Potter has not improved by experience. When she first appeared three or four years ago in London at the Gaiety she gave some signs of making a name, but she has become prosy and inelegant in her acting and enunciation. The best features in the play were Mr. Bellew's casting up from the sea, Mrs. Brown-Potter's dive into the sea, the incidental music, and chanting of the chorus, and the pretty dresses and dances of the ballet.

Having heard in all quarters but one opinion of Mr. Paulton's mythological modern comedy, "Niobe (All Smiles)," we, though late in the day, journeyed forth to the Strand Theatre to form our own conclusions, and we are glad to endorse everything we have heard in its favour. As the Niobe of ancient Greek history was all tears, this Niobe makes her audience all smiles, and it is no exaggeration of words to say so. All through this fantastic piece the little theatre resounds with natural laughter at seeing Mr. Peter Amos Dunn and his statue Niobe, which has come to life owing to the electric wires having come into contact with it, the original having lived 3000 years ago. Niobe, of course, makes much confusion in the domestic household of Mr. Dunn, specially amongst the female element. If we were asked by a provincial brother who is passing through London where to go to do nothing but laugh for one evening, we would say go to the Strand and see Miss Beatrice Lamb and Mr. Harry Paulton, and if he does not laugh at their playing, nothing will make him.

Death.

BERTOLLE.—On the 9th inst., at 268, Caledonian-road, Bro. James Lewis William Bertolle, P.M. Southern Star Lodge, No. 1158. Friends will please accept this intimation.

In Memoriam.

In fond and loving memory of ELLEN CONSTANCE (Connie) GOTTLEB, who fell asleep on Saturday, the 16th June, 1888.



The Montefiore Lodge of Instruction will be in vacation until the 1st September.

Bro. J. Blundell Maple, M.P., has accepted the invitation of the Commissioners to open the Penge Free Library to-morrow (Saturday) afternoon at 4 p.m.

The St. John's Lodge of Instruction, No. 167, hitherto held at the York and Albany, Camden Town, has been removed to the Court House, Harlesden, N.W., where it is opened every Thursday evening, at 7.30 o'clock.

The Hon. C. H. Tupper, Canadian Minister of Marine and Fisheries, who has been appointed British Agent in connection with the forthcoming arbitration on the Behring Sea Fisheries question, arrived in London on Saturday last.

Among the party entertained by Bro. the Duke and Duchess of Portland at Portnall Park, Virginia Water, during the present week in connection with the Ascot meeting, have been Bro. the Marquis and Marchioness of Granby, and Bro. the Earl and Countess of Zetland.

It has been arranged that the marriage between Major the Hon. J. T. St. Aubyn and the Lady Edith Edgcombe, daughter of Bro. the Earl of Mount Edgcombe, shall take place at the Guards' Chapel, Wellington Barracks, on Thursday next, the 23rd inst.

It was announced by the Secretary of State for War in the House of Commons on Friday evening, the 10th inst., that Her Majesty had been graciously pleased to sanction the issue of a special decoration to be conferred on Volunteer commissioned officers of 20 years' standing and proved capacity.

At a meeting of the Crescent Lodge of Instruction, No. 788, held at Twickenham on Thursday last, a vote of condolence and sympathy was passed to Lady Burdett and family on the much lamented death of Bro. Col. Sir Francis Burdett, Bart., P.G.W., &c., Provincial Grand Master of Middlesex.

Bro. Sheriff Foster presided at the annual dinner held at the Guildhall Tavern, on Monday evening, in aid of the Waiters' Provident and Pension Society. Among the guests was Bro. Lieut.-Col. Lambert, who is President of the society, and to whom a special ovation was accorded. The subscriptions amounted to about £200.

Gluck's "Orfeo" will be produced at the Grosvenor Club on the 28th and 30th inst., the performances being in aid of the Gordon Boys' Home, and under the patronage of the Duke of Connaught. There is, therefore, every likelihood of there being a large attendance of members and their friends.

Mr. Gladstone has written to the editor of *The Gentlewoman* to say that he regards "The Children's Salon" as a most excellent plan for the advancement of art, literature, music, and all good works among the 2000 graduates, members, and associates who belong to it, and he wishes it all success.

Bro. the Earl of Mount Edgcombe, Lord Steward, Bro. the Earl of Lathom, Lord Chamberlain, Bro. the Duke of Portland, Master of the Horse, Bro. Lord Arthur Hill, M.P., Comptroller of the Household, Bro. Lord Churchill, Lord in Waiting, and Bro. Col. A. Egerton, Comptroller and Treasurer to the Duke, were among those in attendance on the Duke of Connaught at the levee at St. James's Palace on Monday.

After providing for the amortisation of leases, depreciation of plant, sinking fund for the redemption of debentures, and the payment of debenture interest, the report of Spiers and Pond, Limited, recommends the payment of a dividend of 10 per cent., less income tax, for the year ending the 31st March, 1892, leaving £5233 17s. 4d. to be carried forward to next year. The warrants will be posted after the shareholders' meeting, to be held on the 11th July. The share transfer books are closed from the 27th June to the 11th July, both inclusive.

Bro. Edward Terry and Company will commence their provincial tour at Brighton, July 4th, with "The Magistrate," "In Chancery," "Weak Woman," "The Rocket," "The Churchwarden," &c., returning to London with a new play in October. Mr. Eille Norwood has taken Terry's Theatre for a summer season, and will produce on Wednesday, the 22nd inst., the farcical comedy, "A Noble Art," for which he has engaged Messrs. Arthur Williams, H. Reeves Smith, Julian Cross, Sydney Valentine, Mesdames Blance Herlock, Reechman, Goodchild, and others.

The new Fruit Market in connection with the London Central Markets was opened by the Lord Mayor on Monday last. This completes the series of markets erected by the Corporation under the Act of 1875, at an expenditure of nearly two millions. It was built from the designs of the late City Architect, and the foundation-stone was laid in October, 1890, by the then Lord Mayor. Bro. Lord Mayor Evans attended in State, and was accompanied by Bro. Alderman and Sheriff Tyler and Bro. Sheriff Foster. On arrival, Mr. Greenwood presented his lordship with a gold key, with which he requested him to open the market gates. This having been done, a procession was formed, and the civic dignitaries, preceded by the Sword and Mace Bearer and the City Marshal, were conducted to a platform erected at the northern end of the market, and after an address by Mr. Greenwood the Lord Mayor declared the market open and the proceedings terminated amid the cheers of the spectators. The gold key presented to the Lord Mayor was designed and manufactured by George Kenning.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT.—Influenza, Coughs, and Colds.—In diseases of the throat and chest, so prevalent in our changeable climate, nothing so speedily relieves, or so certainly cures, as these inestimable remedies. These disorders are too often neglected at their commencement, or are injudiciously treated, resulting in either case in disastrous consequences. Whatever the condition of the patient, Holloway's remedies will restore, if recovery be possible; they will retard the alarming symptoms till the blood is purified and nature consummates the cure, gradually restoring strength and vital nervous power. By persevering in the use of Holloway's preparations, tone is conferred on the stomach and frame generally. Thousands of persons have testified that by the use of these remedies alone they have been restored to health after every other means had failed.

On the occasion of their visit to Cardiff on the 1st and 2nd prox., Bro. Lord Mayor Evans and the Lady Mayoress will be the guests of the Marquis and Marchioness of Bute at Cardiff Castle.

It is announced that Thursday, the 30th inst. will be the last day for receiving entries for the Queen's Prize at Bisley, and for the St. George's Vase. The entries already greatly exceed those of last year.

A polo match took place at the Hurlingham Club on Monday between a home team and the representatives of the Derbyshire County Club, in which, after a hard struggle, each side scored four goals and the match therefore ended in a tie.

The Prosperity Lodge of Instruction, No. 65, has been removed from the City Arms Restaurant, to Bro. C. Martin's, Old Parr's Head, Knight-riding-street, Doctors Commons, where the meetings will be held every Wednesday throughout the year at 7 p.m.

Bro. Sir H. Trueman Wood, Secretary of the Royal Commission for the Chicago Exhibition, started for the United States on board the Allan Line steamer City of Paris on Wednesday, to make certain final arrangements relating to the British space at Chicago.

The Duke of Cambridge presided at the annual dinner of the Royal Regiment of Artillery, of which he is colonel, at the Hôtel Métropole, on the evening of the 10th inst., and the following evening at the same place at that of the Royal Engineers. On both occasions there was a full attendance of the officers of the respective corps.

The festivities at Albury Park, Surrey, in honour of the coming of age of Lord Warkworth, eldest son of Bro. Earl Percy, and grandson of the Duke of Northumberland, were brought to a conclusion on the 10th inst. with a garden party in the afternoon, which was very numerous attended, and a grand display of fireworks on Albury Heath.

About 15,000 Metropolitan Volunteers were under arms on Saturday last, among them being the London Rifle Brigade, which was inspected by the Duke of Cambridge, and the South Middlesex inspected by Colonel Gascoigne, in Hyde Park; the North Middlesex inspected in Regent's Park by Colonel Wood; and the 2nd Middlesex Artillery by Colonel Swinton at the Tower.

The funeral of the late Bro. Bristowe M.P. for the Norwood Division of Lambeth, was solemnised in Norwood Cemetery, on the 10th inst., there being present representatives from all the political associations in the neighbourhood, both Liberal and Conservative, and several of the late member's parliamentary colleagues, including Bros. the Marquis of Carmarthen and J. Blundell Maple.

"The Old English Market Place and Fair" which will be held for three days next week at the Athenæum, Camden Town, in aid of the North-West London Hospital, will be opened on Monday, the 20th inst., by Bro. Lord Carrington and Bro. Lawson, M.P., and Mrs. Lawson, on the 21st inst. by Bro. J. Blundell Maple, M.P., and Mrs. Maple, and on the 22nd inst. by Bro. R. G. Webster, M.P., and Mrs. Webster.

By command of the Queen, a levee was held at St. James's Palace on Monday by the Duke of Connaught, at which presentations to his Royal Highness will be deemed equivalent to presentations to her Majesty. The Duke of Cambridge, Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, Prince Henry of Battenberg, Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar, and Prince Adolphus of Teck were present. The ministerial, diplomatic, and general circles were numerous attended.

At the installation meeting of Walpole Lodge, No. 1500, held at the Masonic Association Rooms, St. Giles, Norwich, on Thursday, the 2nd inst., Bro. W. J. Farrow, the retiring W.M., was the recipient of a very handsome Past Master's jewel and a beautifully illuminated address, subscribed for by the Past Masters and brethren, as some acknowledgment of the efficient and exemplary way in which he had discharged the many important duties during his term of office. The jewel was most unique, and was manufactured by Bro. George Kenning.

The Duke of Cambridge presided at the annual general meeting of the supporters of the Gordon Boys' Home, which was held in the theatre of the Royal United Service Institution on Monday. The report showed that the total expenditure for the past year amounted to £6496, while the annual income was £3882. The deficiency had been made good out of the donations. The average number of inmates had been 229, and the number who had left the Home 82. His Royal Highness made a stirring appeal for additional support, and a vote of thanks was passed to him by acclamation at the close of the proceedings.

At Ashburton Lodge, No. 2189, recently, Bro. S. Tozer was installed Worshipful Master, and he invested his officers as follows: Bros. W. Pengeley, I.P.M.; R. E. Tucker, S.W.; J. Eales, J.W.; J. J. Mitchell, S.D.; R. Ackley, J.D.; G. C. Foot, Sec.; H. M. Firth, Treas.; Rev. E. Penwarne Wellings, Chap.; S. W. Yolland, I.G.; J. Eddy, Stwd.; and G. Furneaux, Tyler; H. Steele, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., Almoner. Bro. C. J. S. Acock, P.M., was elected representative on the Committee of Petitions. The banquet was held at Bro. Sawdye's Golden Lion Hotel, the W.M. presiding. Among the visiting brethren were Bros. W. Vicary, P.P.G.R., J. Oliver, P.P.G.S.B., J. Cull, W.M., and J. Segar, all of 1138; J. Barrett, W.M. 710; J. Chegwidgen, P.M. 699; and F. J. W. Crowe.

The match between Gloucestershire and Middlesex, which was brought to a conclusion on Saturday last in favour of the latter county in one innings with 102 runs to spare, will be memorable for the innings of Mr. S. W. Scott, of the winning team, who compiled the grand score of 224 out of a total of 523 runs. Against this Gloucestershire made 244 and 177, Dr. W. G. Grace scoring 47 and 72 not out. This is the fourth first-class match won by Middlesex during the present season. The match between Lancashire and Kent at Manchester was not played out, owing to the rain which fell heavily on Saturday last. Lancashire in its one innings put together 260, while Kent having made only 127 in its first innings, had to follow on. However, by brilliant batting on the part of Mr. W. H. Patterson, who made 114 runs, and others, Kent put together 257 for the loss of six wickets, and thus had secured a lead of 124 runs with four wickets still to fall. The match thus ended in a draw.

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The Provincial Grand Lodge of Berkshire will be held at Windsor, on Tuesday, the 28th inst.

The munificence of Bro. D. P. Cama, P.G. Treasurer, is no confined to Masonic Charities. A drinking fountain presented by our generous brother to the inhabitants of North Kensington has just been erected in front of St. Helen's Church, facing St. Mark's-road and the residence of the donor.

On Saturday last at the Crystal Palace nearly 1800 prizes and certificates to London School children, given by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, were presented by the Duchess of Buckingham and Chandos, there being present to witness the interesting ceremony about 20,000 of their schoolfellows.

At the installation meeting of the Huguenot Lodge, No. 2140, on Wednesday night, three architects were installed in the three principal chairs for the coming year, viz.: Bros. R. St. A. Roumieu, A.R.I.B.A., P.M. 1537, W.M.; W. Grellier, F.R.I.B.A., W.M. 21, S.W.; and C. H. Shoppee, F.R.I.B.A., W.M. 5, J.W.

The marriage of the Earl of Huntingdon with Miss Maud Margaret Wilson, second daughter of Sir Samuel Wilson, M.P., was solemnised in St. George's, Hanover-square, on Saturday last, among those present at the wedding being the Dowager Duchess of Marlborough, Bro. Viscount and Viscountess Molesworth, Lord and Lady Escher, Lady Randolph Churchill, Lady Hothfield, Lady Fitzwygram, and others.

The Duchess of Portland opened a new wing of the East London Hospital for Children at Ratcliffe Cross, and in doing so expressed the hope that the additional accommodation would be the means of alleviating some of the suffering of the women and children at the East-End of London. Her Grace was presented with a silver key as a memento of the event. Among the offerings on the occasion was one of 1000 farthings collected by a working man, which were presented by seven children to her Grace.

The Exhibition of Saddlery and Harness, which has been organised by the Saddlers' Company, was opened in Saddlers' Hall, Cheapside, on Friday, the 10th instant, by Bro. Lord Halsbury, Lord Chancellor, who is a Past Master of the Company. The exhibition is a very successful one, and includes many articles lent by the Queen, the Prince of Wales, the Empress Eugenie, the Duke of Cambridge, Bro. the Duke of Portland, the Dukes of Buccleugh, Somerset, and Wellington, Bro. Viscount Powerscourt, and others.

The summer outing of the Whittington Lodge will take place on Thursday, the 30th inst. Bro. Valentine Day, W.M., has prepared a very attractive programme. Starting at 10.30 from Waterloo Station, the brethren and visitors will be conveyed in saloon carriages to Staines, where carriages will be in waiting for a country drive. After that, dinner at the Packhorse Hotel, a water trip in a steam launch on the Thames, and back to the hotel. The W.M. trusts all will spend a happy and agreeable day. With such a programme we certainly think they ought.

Bro. the Duke of Devonshire, who was installed as Chancellor of the University of Cambridge in succession to his father at Devonshire House in January last, presided in the Senate House on Saturday last, when honorary degrees were conferred on the Duke of Edinburgh, Viscount Cranbrook, the Earl of Northbrook, Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, M.P., Sir Henry James, M.P., Mr. John Morley, M.P., Sir R. E. Webster, M.P., and others, to the number of 15. Previous to the ceremony, the University dignitaries and the visitors were entertained at luncheon by the Vice-Chancellor in the Fitzwilliam Museum, while after the degrees had been conferred the prize exercises for the year were recited.

At the meeting of the Evening Star Lodge, No. 1719, held at the Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, on Monday last, the W.M., Bro. William A. Valon, P.M. 429, President of the Incorporated Gas Institute, entertained the Masonic members of that body, visiting London for the annual meeting of the Society held at Westminster on Tuesday. Previous to dining at the Holborn Restaurant, the lodge was duly opened, and Bro. James Stevens, P.M., delivered his lecture on the Ritual and Ceremonial of the First Degree to a very large assembly of Provincial and London brethren, and was accorded an unanimous vote of thanks for his interesting and instructive address. A full report of the proceedings will appear in our next issue.

"Mahomed Khan, M.D.," alias Prince Eusoff, alias William Robert Davis, &c., &c., whose identity and peculiarities were discussed with considerable freedom in our columns in March last, seems decidedly unfortunate in his endeavours to purify the moral atmosphere of the neighbourhood of Bloomsbury. On the 1st inst. a man and woman were charged at Bow-street on his information with having acted indecently near his dwelling place, No. 20, Silver-street, and he, being the only witness, was cross-examined by Mr. George Lewis, who defended the male prisoner. The witness admitted that he had brought other charges against people in that court, and that in March last he had charged a relative of his, and said that the case was dismissed as he did not press the charge. After the present prisoner was locked up he went to see his (the accused's) nephew. He could not say why he went there, but it was certainly not with the idea of obtaining money. Mr. Vaughan said he well remembered the charge brought by witness against a relative. It was not dismissed because he did not press it, but because it was utterly impossible to place any reliance upon any statement made by the witness. He hoped he would never see him at that Court again. The last time he was there he made some strong observations about him, and he was bound to do so again. The witness was utterly unworthy of credit; the charge would therefore be dismissed. The writer's recollection of the case referred to coincides with that of the worthy magistrate, and so far from not pressing the charge, the prosecutor had recourse to legal aid to enable him to do so the more effectually. He did not, however, go into the witness-box himself on that occasion.

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